Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report

Data as reported by national authorities by 23:00 local time 19th of January 2021

Situation Report No. 222 - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
20th of January, 2021

World Health Organization
WHO Office - Riyadh

	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	**COVID-19 Deaths**	**COVID-19 Cases**	**COVID-19 Deaths**
Total	94,124,612	2,034,527	5,382,718	128,644
New	312,202	8,316	22,214	417

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	**Recovered Cases**	**Deaths**	**Active Cases**	**Critical Cases**	**PCR Tests**
Total	365,325	357,004	6,335	1,986	327	11,770,347
New	226	156	6	-	-	56,351

HIGHLIGHTS

- Regions with the highest new infections: Eastern (59), Riyadh (53), Makkah (46), Madinah (14), Hail (11), Asir (10), Al Bhaha (8), and Najran (8).
- MoH: No intermediary allowed to obtain coronavirus vaccine.
- The Kingdom's fifth COVID-19 vaccination center will be opened this week in Makkah at King Abdullah Medical City.
- Interior Ministry: 20,502 violations of coronavirus preventive protocols have been detected in a week .
- Unicef publishes a "Vaccine Misinformation Management Field Guide", see link.
- WHO develops a practical guide for analysing and using routine data to monitor the effects of COVID-19 on essential health services, see link below.
- WHO publishes Interim recommendations for the use of the Pfizer–BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, under Emergency Use Listing, see link.

IMPORTANT LINKS

- **MoH COVID-19 updates:** https://twitter.com/saudimoh
- **WHO's COVID-19 global situation reports:**
https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports
- **WHO's COVID-19 dashboard:** https://covid19.who.int/
- **MoH COVID-19 dashboard:** https://covid19.my.gov.sa/ar/Pages/default.aspx
- **Unicef's Vaccine Misinformation Management Field Guide:**
https://www.unicef.org/mena/reports/vaccine-misinformation-management-field-guide
- **Analysing and using routine data to monitor the effects of COVID-19 on essential health services**: https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-essential_health_services-monitoring-2021.1
- **Background document on the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine:**
https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/background-document-on-mrna-vaccine-bnt162b2-(pfizer-biontech)-against-covid-19

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

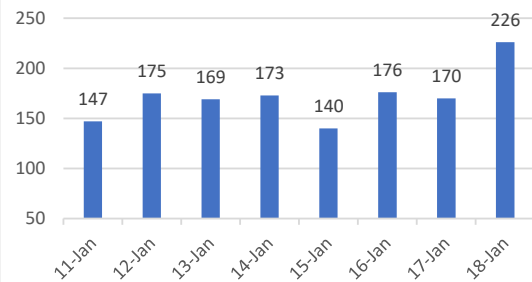**Who can take the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine?**

According to SAGE (WHO's Strategic Group of Experts on Immunization), the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 mRNA vaccine is safe and effective. Nevertheless, there are specific populations for whom vaccination is not recommended for a variety of reasons. These populations currently include people with a history of severe allergies, (particularly it is contraindicated for People with a history of severe allergic reaction to any component of the vaccine), most pregnant women (except for those with unavoidable high risk of exposure such as health workers), international travellers who are not part of a prioritized group (due to limited supplies of the vaccine at present), and children under 16 (due to lack of data). Further studies are needed for immune-compromized persons.
The priority is to start vaccinating health workers at high risk of exposure, followed by older adults, before immunizing the rest of the population. For more details see the link above.
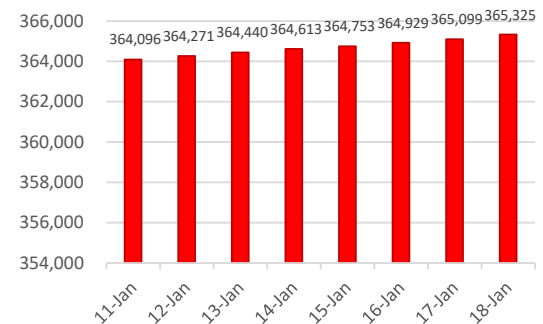
IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- **The National Focal Person for COVID-19 is Dr Abdullah Asiri, Assistant Deputy for Preventive Health, MoH, email:** AbdullahM.Asiri@moh.gov.sa

Number of New Cases

Date	Value
11-Jan	147
12-Jan	175
13-Jan	169
14-Jan	173
15-Jan	140
16-Jan	176
17-Jan	170
18-Jan	226

Total Number of Cases

Date	Value
11-Jan	364,096
12-Jan	364,271
13-Jan	364,440
14-Jan	364,613
15-Jan	364,753
16-Jan	364,929
17-Jan	365,099
18-Jan	365,325

Number of New Deaths

Date	Value
11-Jan	5
12-Jan	4
13-Jan	6
14-Jan	3
15-Jan	5
16-Jan	5
17-Jan	6
18-Jan	6