

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report

Data as reported by national authorities by 23:00 local time 20th of January 2021

Situation Report No. 223 - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
21st of January, 2021



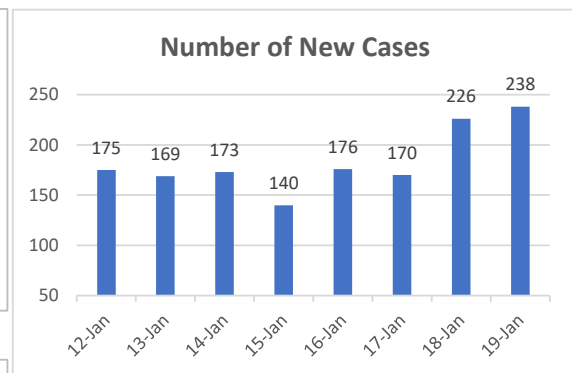
	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths
Total	94,963,847	2,050,857	5,408,924	129,171
New	496,206	12,933	24,991	473

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
Total	365,563	357,177	6,338	2,048	331	11,822,912
New	238	173	3	-	-	52,565

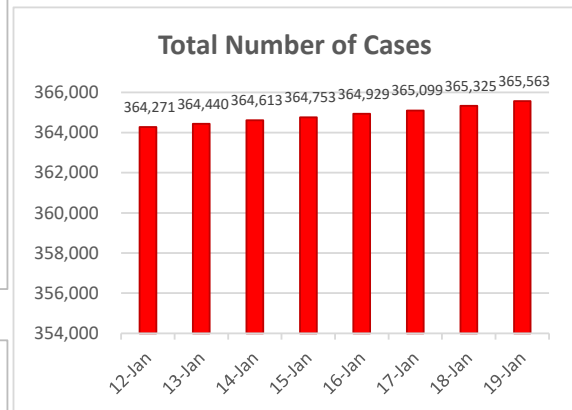
HIGHLIGHTS

- Regions with the highest new infections: Riyadh (86), Eastern (56), Makkah (38), Madinah (11), Hail (11), Asir (10), Northern Borders (10), and Al Baha (6).
- Ministry of Health announces the possibility of rescheduling receiving the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine due to the delay of the producing company in delivering it.
- The Municipality of Al Madinah carries out 2,184 inspections to ensure the implementation of health requirements.
- 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](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/background-document-on-mrna-vaccine-bnt162b2-(pfizer-biontech)-against-covid-19)

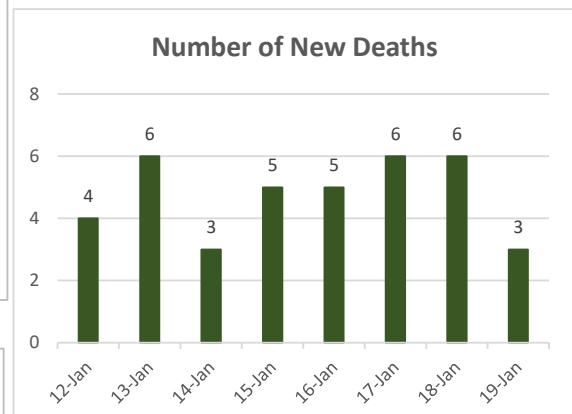


IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

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

