

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report



Weekly Report No. 244 - Saudi Arabia

17 - 23 June, 2021

	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths
Current	178,837,204	3,880,450	10,759,857	213,407
Last Week	176,303,596	3,820,026	10,553,445	209,929
In 7 days	2,533,608	60,424	206,412	3,478

Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
Total	478,135	459,091	7,716	11,328	1,472	21,219,115
In 7 days	8,721	7,904	95	-	-	610,973
16/6/2021	1,309	1,022	14	10,879	1,533	94,921
17/6/2021	1,236	1,050	15	11,050	1,496	86,695
18/6/2021	1,153	1,145	13	11,045	1,496	77,831
19/6/2021	1,079	1,214	14	10,896	1,516	84,652
20/6/2021	1,212	1,510	14	10,584	1,489	84,652
21/6/2021	1,479	920	12	11,131	1,487	97,195
22/6/2021	1,253	1,043	13	11,328	1,472	85,027

HIGHLIGHTS

- Regions with the highest new infections over the past 7 days: Makkah (2,585), Riyadh (1,641), Eastern (1,569), Asir (860), Jazan (615), Madinah (459), Al Qassim (327) and Najran (178).
- More than 16.9 million COVID-19 vaccine doses administered so far in around 600 vaccination centres covering 70% of Saudi Arabia's adult population. Nearly 45% of the Kingdom's population has received at least 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccines.
- MoH approved using different COVID-19 vaccines for the two doses and will resume scheduling appointments for 2nd doses starting from July, starting with those who are 50 years and above and have spent 42 days after receiving the first dose.
- Fully vaccinated travelers from Saudi Arabia can visit Germany starting from June 25th.
- Civil Aviation completed linking of domestic flight boarding pass to Tawakkalna App, boarding passes will be issued only for eligible persons.
- It has been decided to ban unvaccinated individuals (at least one dose) from entering shopping malls, attending sporting, entertainment and cultural activities, and entering various private and public establishments starting from August 1st, 2021.
- Civil Aviation: All foreign nationals coming to Saudi Arabia must register their vaccination status online before departure.
- Ministry of Hajj and Umrah: Registration to perform the Hajj rituals this year through the electronic portal has ended on Wednesday, June 23 at 10.00 pm. More than half a million requests have been registered from citizens and residents inside the Kingdom.
- WHO publishes a policy brief on young people and COVID-19: Behavioural considerations for promoting safe behaviours, see link.
- WHO launches guidance on developing a national deployment and vaccination plan for COVID-19 vaccines (NDVP), see link.
- WHO launches interim guidance on critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19, see link.
- WHO launches refugees and migrants in times of COVID-19: mapping trends of public health and migration policies and practices, see link.
- WHO publishes interim recommendations for use of the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine, CoronaVac, developed by Sinovac, see link.
- WHO publishes interim recommendations for use of the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine BIBP developed by China National Biotec Group (CNBG), Sinopharm, 7 May 2021, 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>
- **Young people and COVID-19: Behavioural considerations for promoting safe behaviours:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/978-92-4-002831-9>
- **Guidance on developing a national deployment and vaccination plan for COVID-19 vaccines:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Vaccine-deployment-2021.1-eng>
- **Critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/critical-preparedness-readiness-and-response-actions-for-covid-19>
- **Refugees and migrants in times of COVID-19: mapping trends of public health and migration policies and practices:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240028906>
- **Interim recommendations for use of the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine, CoronaVac, developed by Sinovac:** https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccines-SAGE_recommendation-Sinovac-CoronaVac-2021.1
- **Interim recommendations for use of the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine BIBP developed by China National Biotec Group (CNBG), Sinopharm, 7 May 2021** https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccines-SAGE_recommendation-BIBP-2021.1

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

WHO validates Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use and issues interim policy recommendations

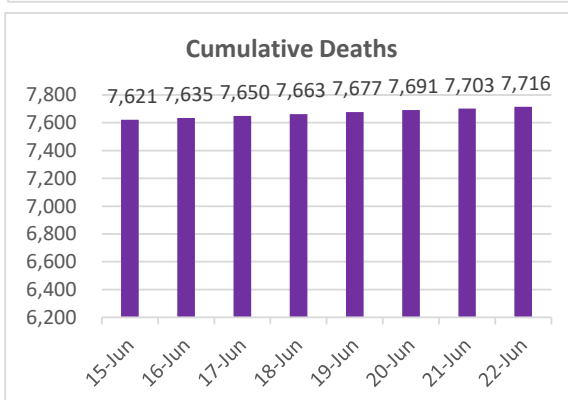
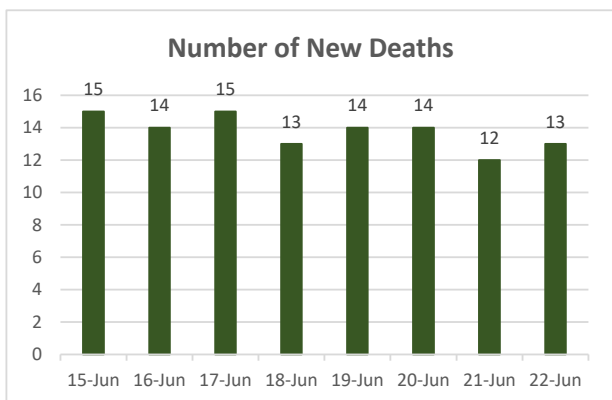
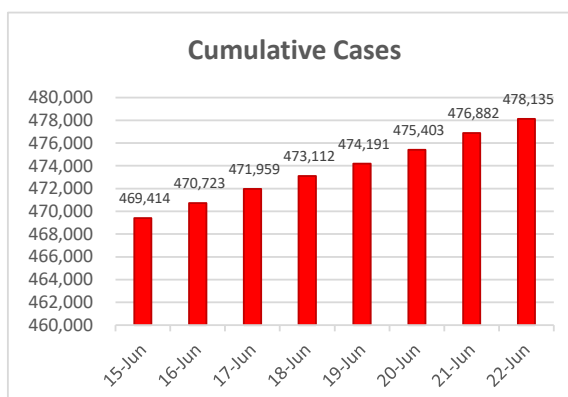
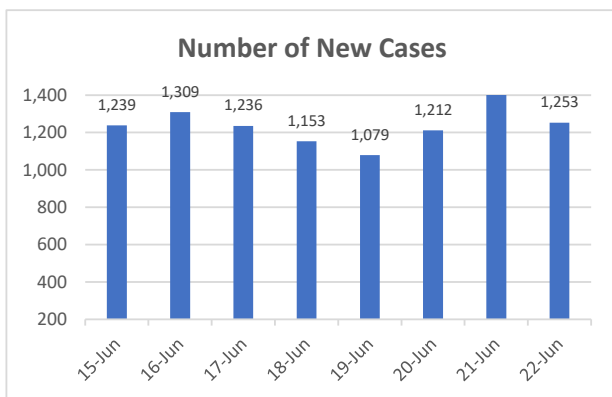
On 1st of May, WHO validated the Sinovac-CoronaVac COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use. The vaccine is produced by the Beijing-based pharmaceutical company Sinovac.

WHO's Emergency Use Listing (EUL) is a prerequisite for COVAX Facility vaccine supply and international procurement. It also allows countries to expedite their own regulatory approval to import and administer COVID-19 vaccines.

The EUL assesses the quality, safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines, as well as risk management plans and programmatic suitability, such as cold chain requirements.

The Sinovac-CoronaVac product is an inactivated vaccine. Its easy storage requirements make it very manageable and particularly suitable for low-resource settings. On the basis of available evidence, WHO recommends the vaccine for use in adults 18 years and older, in a two-dose schedule with a spacing of two to four weeks. Vaccine efficacy results showed that the vaccine prevented symptomatic disease in 51% of those vaccinated and prevented severe COVID-19 and hospitalization in 100% of the studied population.

Few older adults (over 60 years) were enrolled in clinical trials, so efficacy could not be estimated in this age group. Nevertheless, WHO is not recommending an upper age limit for the vaccine because data collected during subsequent use in multiple countries and supportive immunogenicity data suggest the vaccine is likely to have a protective effect in older persons. There is no reason to believe that the vaccine has a different safety profile in older and younger populations. WHO recommends that countries using the vaccine in older age groups conduct safety and effectiveness monitoring to verify the expected impact and contribute to making the recommendation more robust for all countries.



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