

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report



World Health Organization
WHO Office - Riyadh

Weekly Report No. 249 - Saudi Arabia

29 July - 04 August, 2021

	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths
Current	199,466,211	4,244,541	12,804,451	238,699
Last Week	195,266,156	4,180,161	12,330,231	233,088
In 7 days	4,200,055	64,380	474,220	5,611

Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
Total	529,995	511,318	8,284	10,393	1,396	25,443,550
In 7 days	7,869	8,790	84	-	-	760,464
28/7/2021	1,289	1,299	12	11,358	1,395	117,620
29/7/2021	1,187	1,176	14	11,355	1,395	115,269
30/7/2021	1,146	1,086	11	11,404	1,377	113,300
31/7/2021	1,084	1,285	12	11,191	1,403	98,642
1/8/2021	1,063	1,620	10	10,624	1,434	98,862
2/8/2021	1,057	1,113	11	10,575	1,433	110,254
3/8/2021	1,043	1,211	14	10,393	1,396	106,517

HIGHLIGHTS

- Regions with the highest new infections over the past 7 days: Riyadh (1,580), Makkah (1,542), Eastern (1,266), Jazan (648), Asir (636), Al Qassim (500), Madinah (465), and Hail (378).
- Around 28.7 million COVID-19 vaccine doses administered so far. 19.6 million individuals received one dose equivalent to 56% of the total Saudi population and around 9 million received two doses representing 26% of the population .
- Ministry of Education and Health: Students aged 12 years and above, as well as teachers and other staffers of educational institutions, should get 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine before August 29. The appointments of 1st dose have been booked in advance by MoH for this group.
- Civil Aviation: Fully vaccinated tourists from countries not facing travel ban will be allowed to enter into the Kingdom starting from Aug. 1.
- Ministry of Interior: 22,042 is the total number of violations of COVID-19 precautionary measures from 25/7- 10/8/2021, Riyadh recorded the highest while AlBahah recorded the lowest.
- MoH: 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine provide immunity against Delta variant. Pregnant women urged to get vaccinated.
- Ministry of Education: Offline classes for intermediate and secondary phases of public school education would be resumed for those students who received 2 doses of coronavirus vaccine but for students of elementary schools and kindergartens will be linked either to achieving herd immunity by receiving 2 doses of vaccine by 70% of the Saudi population or on Oct. 30, 2021, whichever comes first.
- Public Prosecution: 500,000 SR in fine will be imposed on passengers coming on board international flights from COVID-19 affected countries.
- MoH: People who have recovered from coronavirus can take 2 vaccine doses, the 1st dose can be taken 10 days after infection. Exemptions from receiving vaccines will be given only on valid medical grounds.
- WHO launches clinical features and prognostic factors of COVID-19 in people living with HIV hospitalized with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection), see link.
- WHO launches interim guidance on critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19, see link.
- WHO launches guidance on conducting vaccine effectiveness evaluations in the setting of new SARS-CoV-2 variants, see link.
- WHO COVID-19 Vaccines: safety surveillance manual. Module on safety surveillance of COVID-19 vaccines in pregnant and breastfeeding women , see link.
- WHO publishes guidance on utilization of COVID-19 vaccines before the date of expiry, 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>
- **Clinical features and prognostic factors of COVID-19 in people living with HIV hospitalized with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Clinical-HIV-2021.1>
- **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>
- **Guidance on conducting vaccine effectiveness evaluations in the setting of new SARS-CoV-2 variants: Interim guidance, 22 July 2021. Addendum to Evaluation of COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness:** https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccine_effectiveness-variants-2021.1
- **COVID-19 Vaccines: safety surveillance manual. Module on safety surveillance of COVID-19 vaccines in pregnant and breastfeeding women:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-MHP-RPQ-PVG-2021.1>
- **Guidance on utilization of COVID-19 vaccines before the date of expiry** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/guidance-on-utilization-of-covid-19-vaccines-before-the-date-of-expiry>

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

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

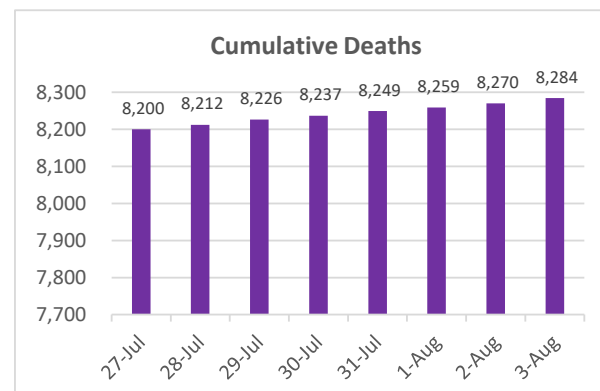
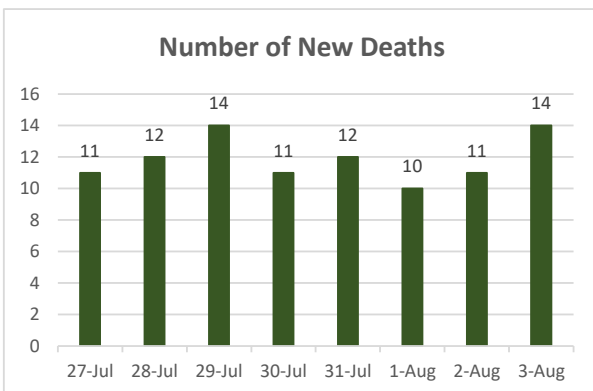
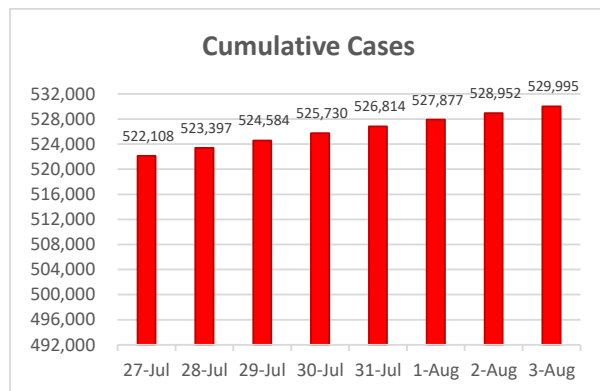
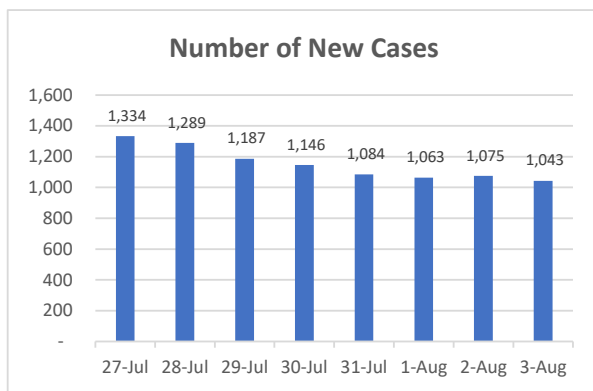
On 1st of May, WHO validated the Sinovac-CoronaVac COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use. The vaccine is produced by the Beijing-based pharmaceutical company Sinovac.

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

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