

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Weekly Update

Report No. 284 - Saudi Arabia

7 April, 2022



World Health
Organization

WHO Office - Riyadh

	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths
Current	492,189,439	6,159,474	21,609,468	341,074
Last Week	483,556,595	6,132,461	21,567,096	340,499

Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
Total	751,404	736,013	9,053	6,338	84	41,618,512

Vaccination in Saudi Arabia

Total Doses Administered	Total of 1 st Dose	Total of 2 nd Dose	Total of Booster Doses
63.3 million	26.3 million	24.6 million	12.4 million

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Global update:** After the increase observed during the first half of March 2022, the number of new COVID-19 cases has decreased for a second consecutive week, with a 19.6% decline during this week as compared to the previous week. The number of new weekly deaths also decreased by 18.3% as compared to the previous week, however last week had an artificial spike in numbers.
- **Regional update:** In the Eastern Mediterranean Region, new weekly cases have continued to decline after reaching a peak in early February 2022. Just over 42,000 new weekly cases were reported last week, a 3.9% decrease as compared to the previous week. However, 2 countries in the Region have reported increases in new cases of 20% or greater: Iran and Iraq. The number of new weekly deaths in the Region decreased by 26.8% when compared to the previous week, with 575 new deaths reported. The highest numbers of new deaths were reported from Iran, Tunisia and Egypt.
- **Saudi Arabia update:**
 - Saudi Arabia on April 5 for the first time in more than two years, records zero COVID-19 death.
 - It is mandatory for all those traveling to the Kingdom on various visas to have medical insurance to cover COVID-19 treatment expenses.
 - MoH has launched the "COVID-19 Long-term symptoms" clinic which serves patients who continue to have COVID-19 symptoms a month after confirming their infection.
- **COVID-19 variants:** The Omicron variant remains the dominant variant circulating globally in the last 30 days accounting for 99.8% of all circulating variants, 0.2% of samples were not assigned, while Delta accounts for 0.1%. The total number of submitted Omicron sequences continues to decline, a trend observed since the beginning of 2022. There is no evidence that the recombinant variant XD (Delta and BA.1) is associated with increased transmissibility or more severe outcomes. Early estimates of the recombinant variant XE (BA.1 and BA.2) suggests that it has a community growth rate advantage of 1.1 (a 10% transmission advantage) as compared to BA.2; however, this finding requires further confirmation.

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>
- **Important WHO publications / sources:**
 - [Tracking SARS-CoV-2 variants \(who.int\)](#)
 - [Considerations for implementing and adjusting public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19 \(who.int\)](#)
 - [About | View Hub \(view-hub.org\)](#)
 - [Statement on Omicron sublineage BA.2 \(who.int\)](#)
 - [COVID-19 \(openwho.org\)](#)
 - [WHO COVID-19 Case definition](#)