

## SITUATION IN NUMBERS (As of midnight GMT+2, 20 November 2021)



6

Countries reporting biweekly increase in numbers of cases



2

Countries reporting biweekly increase in numbers of deaths



16 659 190

Total laboratory-confirmed cases



15 947 239

Total reported recovered cases



307 368

Total reported deaths



266 701 465

Total tests performed



Launching the national COVID-19 mass vaccination campaign in Iraq, in partnership with the Iraqi Ministry of Health, covering all of Iraq including the Kurdistan Region, and targeting over 12 million people including children ages 12 and above.

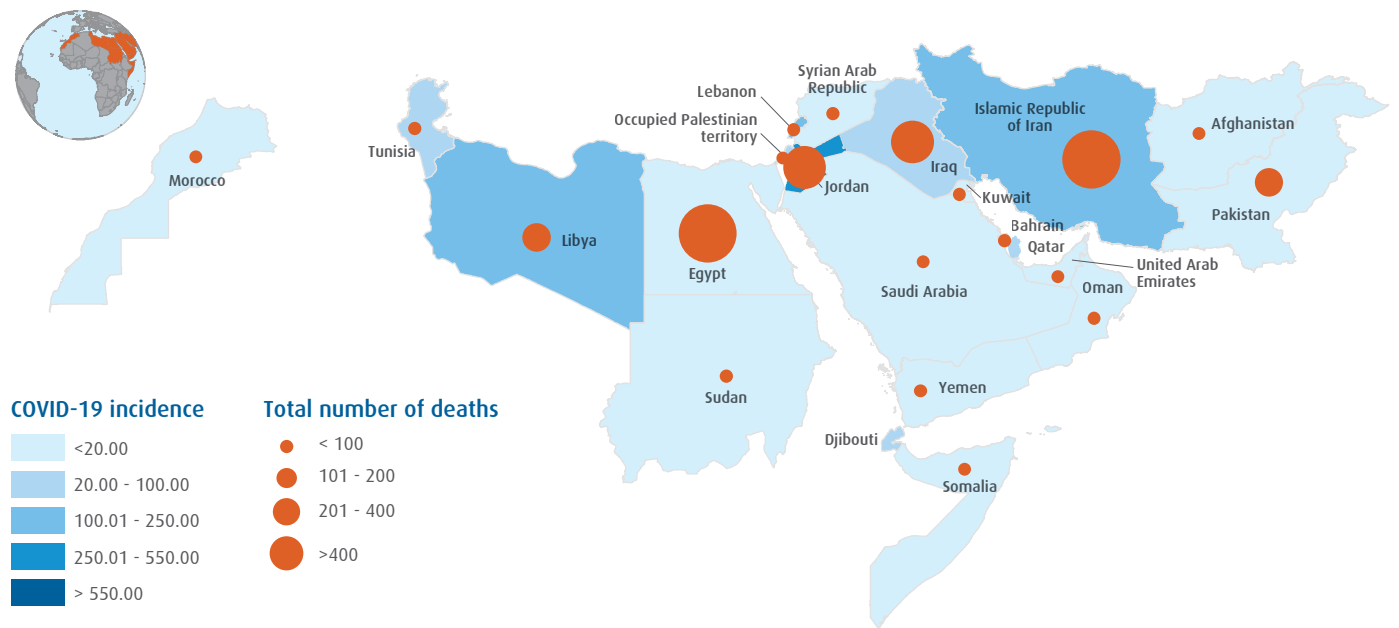
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## EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **COVID-19 cases and deaths:** As of 20 November 2021, the Eastern Mediterranean Region has reported 16,659,190 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 307,368 deaths since the start of the pandemic.
- **Epidemiological trend:** during the reporting period, in comparison with the previous two weeks:
  - The number of reported cases has decreased by 15%
  - Deaths have decreased by 11%
  - The number of conducted tests has decreased by 7%
  - Six and two countries have reported an increase in cases and deaths respectively
  - A decrease in both cases and deaths was reported by 14 countries
- **COVID-19 testing:** The total number of tests in the Region has reached 266,701,465, with a median cumulative positivity ratio of 8.4% (range from 0.8% to 30.8%).
- **Variants of concern (VOCs):**
  - 21 Countries/territories in the Region have officially reported the detection of the Alpha VOC.
  - 18 Countries/territories in the Region have officially reported the detection of the Beta VOC.
  - 6 Countries/territories in the Region have officially reported the detection of the Gamma VOC. During the reporting period, the Gamma VOC was reported in Iraq.
  - 16 Countries/territories have officially reported the detection of the Delta VOC.

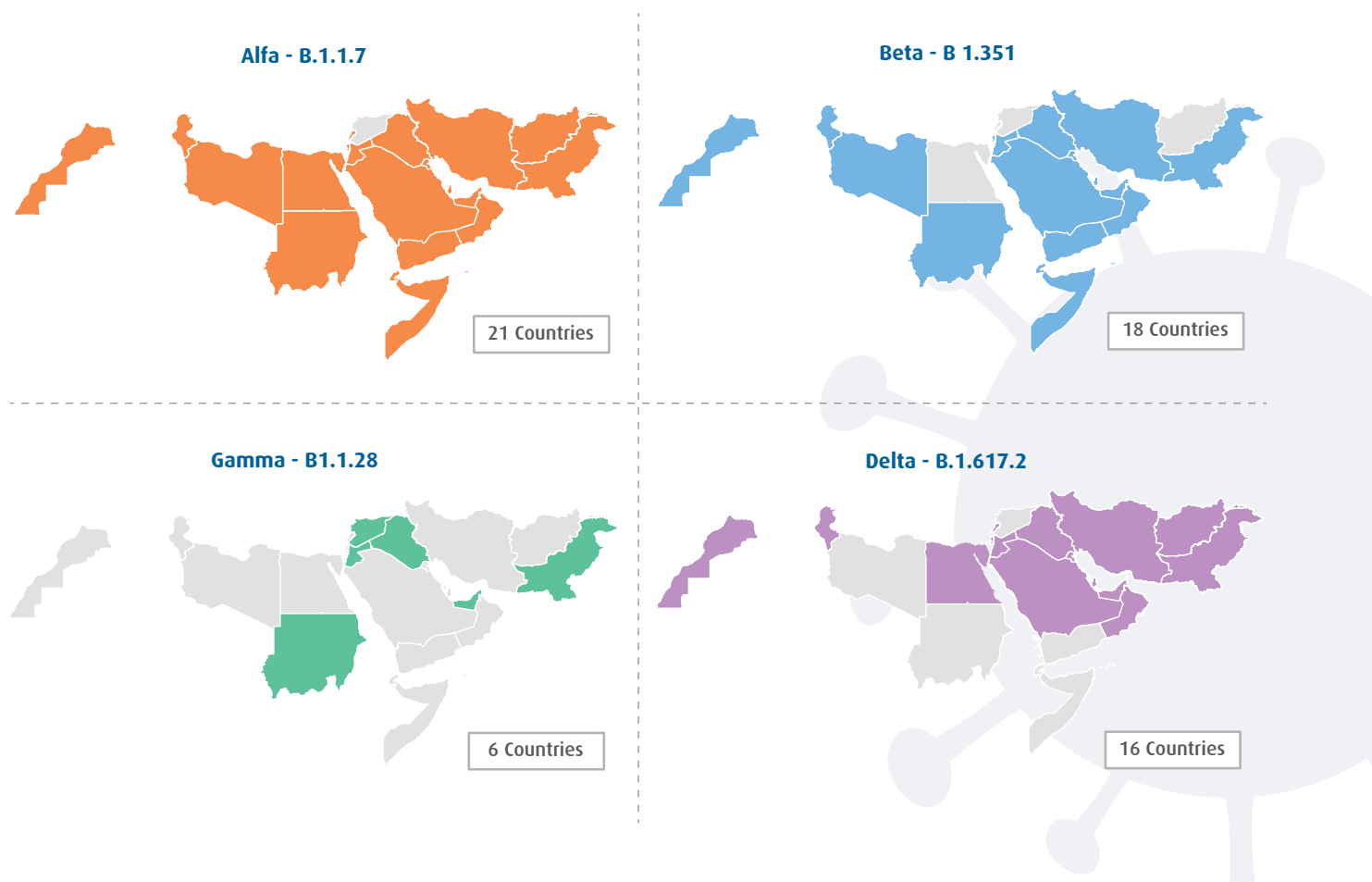
# Map 1: COVID-19 biweekly attack rate per 100,000 population and number of new deaths per country in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

7 – 20 November 2021



# Map 2: Countries/territories reporting SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern (VOCs) and variants of interest (VOIs) in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

7 – 20 November 2021



**Table 1: Epidemiological situation in the Eastern Mediterranean Region**

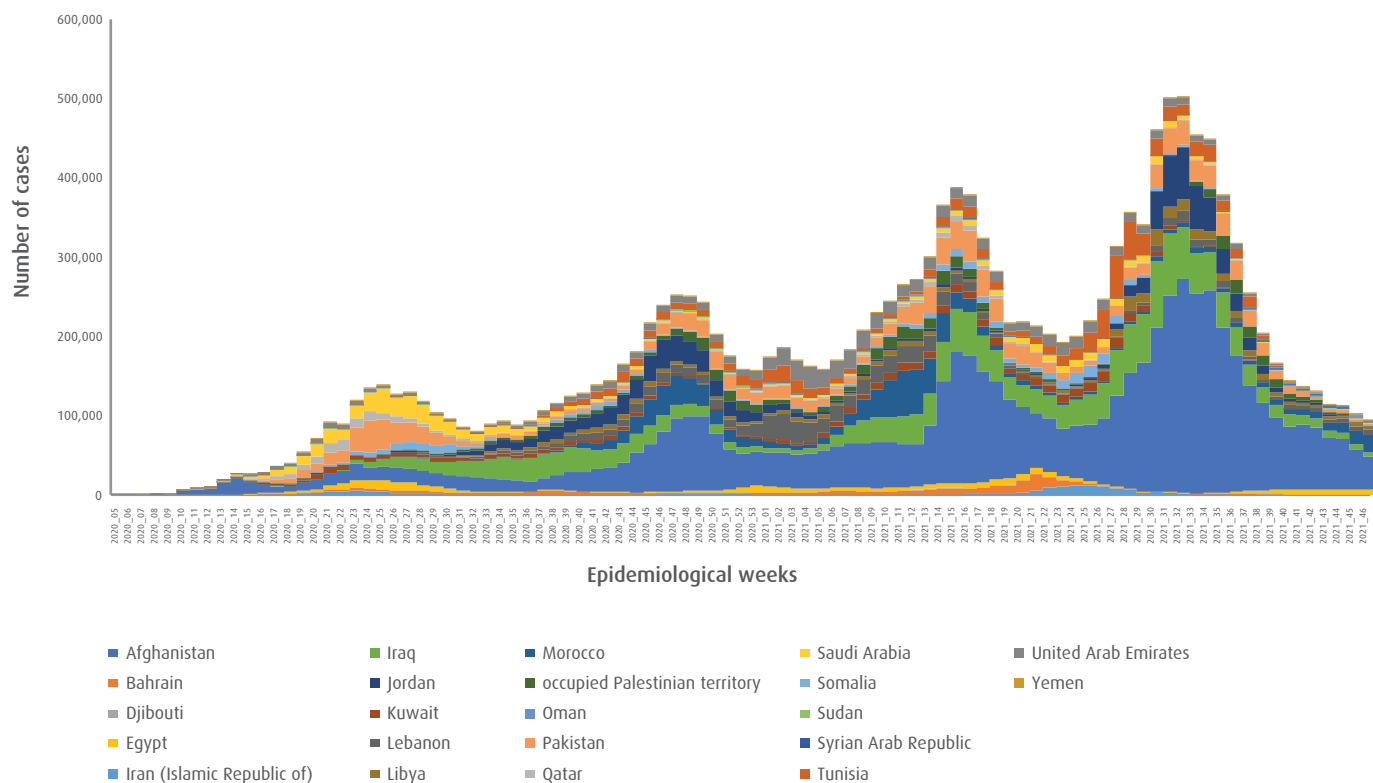
7 – 20 November 2021

Country	New Confirmed Cases	Total Confirmed Cases	New Deaths	Total Deaths	CFR	Total Recovered	Total Tests
Afghanistan	616	156,911	16	7,303	4.7%	140,188	784,620
Bahrain	307	277,348	1	1,394	0.5%	275,732	7,237,467
Djibouti	10	13,501	0	186	1.4%	13,286	243,511
Egypt	12,931	349,513	861	19,872	5.7%	291,214	5,635,493
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	92,838	6,073,098	1,679	128,852	2.1%	5,771,363	37,673,877
Iraq	11,896	2,073,835	323	23,642	1.1%	2,032,310	16,164,258
Jordan	37,563	911,270	233	11,347	1.2%	862,360	11,709,248
Kuwait	299	413,120	2	2,464	0.6%	410,404	5,161,824
Lebanon	12,662	658,467	95	8,635	1.3%	627,512	7,547,650
Libya	6,897	367,811	173	5,380	1.5%	328,866	1,892,310
Morocco	1,523	948,830	55	14,761	1.6%	930,885	9,377,549
Occupied Palestinian territory	2,782	458,273	58	4,774	1.0%	450,899	2,701,314
Oman	134	304,488	1	4,113	1.4%	299,884	1,986,264
Pakistan	5,161	1,281,872	121	28,659	2.2%	1,230,734	21,644,957
Qatar	1,974	241,969	0	611	0.3%	239,467	2,940,975
Saudi Arabia	553	549,443	20	8,823	1.6%	538,542	31,055,094
Somalia	276	22,969	30	1,324	5.8%	11,714	362,688
Sudan	793	41,794	40	3,103	7.4%	30,867	475,025
Syrian Arab Republic	2,192	47,091	86	2,699	5.7%	28,243	79,630
Tunisia	2,954	716,262	68	25,344	3.5%	689,948	3,144,553
United Arab Emirates	1,008	741,370	5	2,144	0.3%	736,081	98,553,566
Yemen	97	9,955	31	1,938	19.5%	6,740	329,592
<b>Total</b>	<b>195,466</b>	<b>16,659,190</b>	<b>3,898</b>	<b>307,368</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>15,947,239</b>	<b>266,701,465</b>



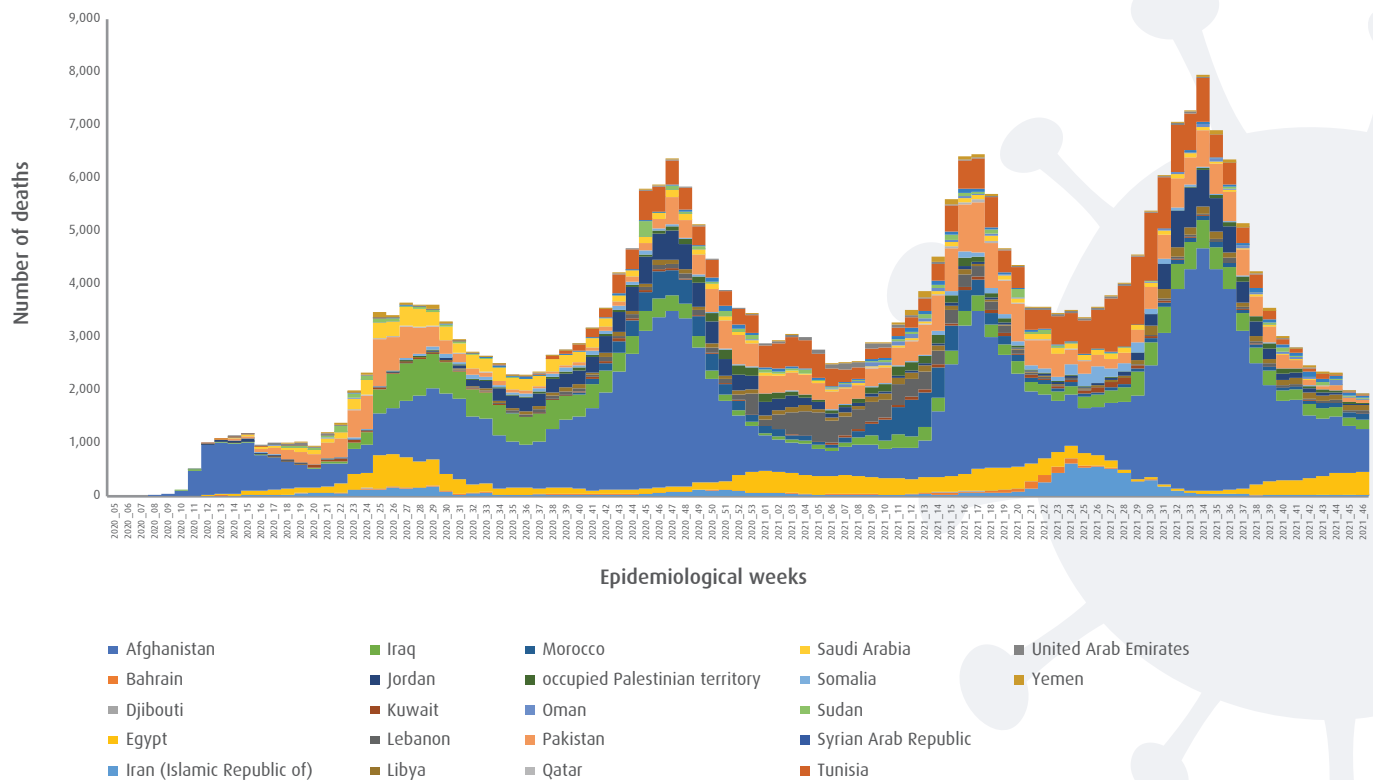
# Graph 1: Weekly distribution of COVID-19 cases in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

26 January 2020 – 20 November 2021



# Graph 2: Weekly distribution of COVID-19 deaths in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

26 January 2020 – 20 November 2021



## REGIONAL RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

### Partnership and Coordination

- Initiated the frontline services readiness assessment in Bahrain.

### Operations Support and Logistics

- Dispatched over US\$ 500,000 worth of health supplies to 21 countries/territories in support of COVID-19 and other health emergencies across five WHO regions.
- Supported the Genomic Surveillance Project by sending cold-chain equipment to seven countries in the WHO Africa Region.

### Health Operations and Technical Expertise

#### Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)

- Conducted a virtual regional webinar in collaboration with a WHO Collaborating Centre on the “Role of environmental IPC in Air and Water Management” on 11 November, attended by 100 participants from the Region.
- Conducted a one-day refreshment IPC training on IPC auditing methods for three national IPC focal persons in Afghanistan on 18 November.
- Implemented a one-week mission to Tunisia between 14 and 20 November to capacitate six hospitals’ IPC teams; 35 IPC professionals were trained.
- Conducted field visits to assess IPC implementation in response to COVID-19.

#### Case Management and Clinical Operations

- Launched the “Live Oxygen Platform” which enables the real-time identification of national oxygen production capacity and needs, so that countries can monitor and respond to the gaps identified in a timely manner.
- Conducted a surge support mission to Afghanistan to provide support to hospitals and assess COVID-19/non-COVID-19 hospitals, including the identification of gaps and needs.

### International Health Regulations (IHR, 2005) and Social Measures

#### Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

- Rolled out, jointly with the Jordanian Ministry of Health, UNICEF and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, an RCCE training for community health workers in Jordan to support the COVID-19 response and vaccine acceptance, as well as two rounds of training in Syria covering 14 governorates. The training package is being adapted to the needs of migrant and refugee communities.
- Supported the engagement of eleven civil society organizations (CSOs) in eight Member States in the COVID-19 response through the “Engaging CSOs in the COVID-19 Response at Local and National Levels” project.

### Research and Knowledge Management

- Reviewed vaccine effectiveness study proposals from Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Jordan.
- Contributed to the global systematic review and meta-analysis of WHO Unity sero-epidemiological studies.
- Presented emerging evidence from vaccine-related studies to the COVAX regional working group.

### COVID-19 Vaccine

- Monitored the COVID-19 vaccine supply, consumption, and fund utilization.
- Approached COVAX regarding the allocation of vaccines to Eastern Mediterranean Region countries.
- Held Country Support Team meetings focusing on supporting applications for COVID-19 Vaccine Delivery Support (CDS), the COVAX Country Profile (CCP) for vaccine allocation, the costing of National Vaccine Deployment and Vaccination Plans and RCCE activities.

Regional COVID-19 website: <http://www.emro.who.int/health-topics/corona-virus/index.html>  
For more information, contact [emrgonCoV@who.int](mailto:emrgonCoV@who.int)