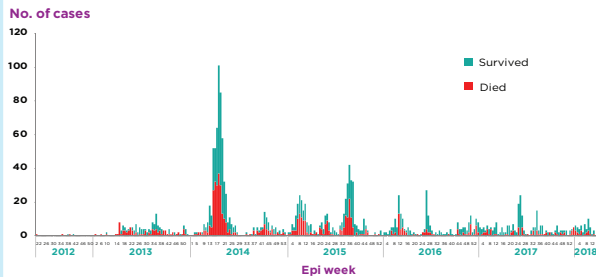


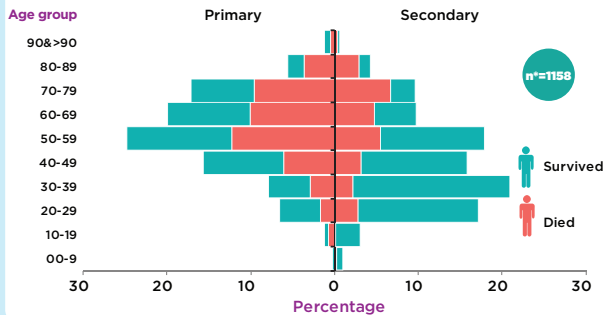
HIGHLIGHTS

- At the end of March 2018, a total of 2189 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), including 782 associated deaths (case-fatality rate: 35.7%) were reported globally; the majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia (1814 cases, including 708 related deaths with a case-fatality rate of 39%).
- In March, 7 laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS were reported in Saudi Arabia including 1 associated death. A cluster-case from a hospital in Riyadh region was reported, with 6 laboratory-confirmed cases including 3 associated deaths. The date of onset of the first case was 23 February 2018. The date of onset of the last laboratory-confirmed case from the hospital cluster was 3 March 2018; since then, there have been no new cases reported from this cluster. Further investigation on the nature of transmission is ongoing.
- The demographic and epidemiological characteristics of the cases reported in March 2018 do not show any significant difference compared to cases reported during the same period from 2012 to 2017. Owing to improved infection prevention and control practices in hospitals, the number of hospital-acquired cases of MERS has dropped significantly since 2015.
- The age group 50–59 years continues to be at the highest risk for acquiring infection as primary cases. The age group 30–39 years are most at risk for secondary cases. The number of deaths is higher in the age group 50–59 years for primary cases and 70–79 years for secondary cases.

MERS cases reported from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by week of symptoms onset, June 2012-March 2018

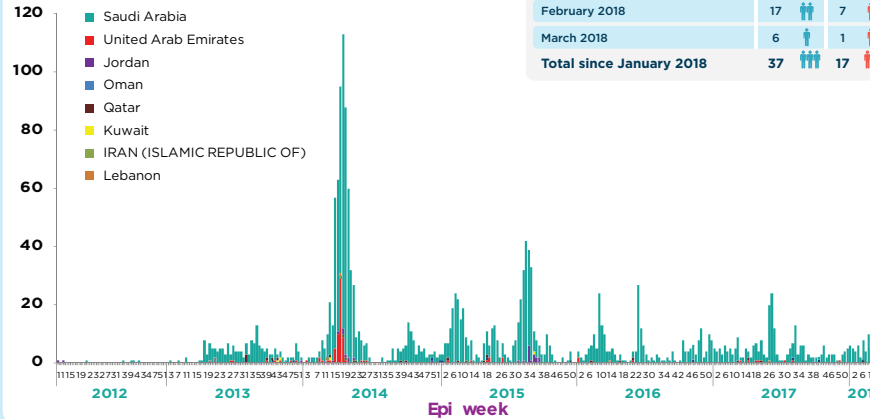


Age and fatality distribution of Primary and Secondary cases of MERS reported from Saudi Arabia, 2012-March 2018



Laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS reported in Eastern Mediterranean Region, April 2012-March 2018

No. of cases



MERS in Saudi Arabia (January-March 2018)

	Survived	Died
January 2018	14	9
February 2018	17	7
March 2018	6	1
Total since January 2018	37	17

Epidemiological characteristics of MERS cases reported globally between Oct 2012-Mar 2013 and Oct 2017-Mar 2018

Characteristic	Oct 12-Mar 13	Oct 13-Mar 14	Oct 14-Mar 15	Oct 15-Mar 16	Oct 16-Mar 17	Oct 17-Mar 18
Number	12	124	232	122	131	95
Median age in years	49	50	55	53	56	55
Gender (% male)	83	78	75	70	76	77
% of primary cases	50	30	24	20	39	34
% of secondary cases	33	31	36	36	16	13
(%) of unknown contact history	17	36	38	3	4	0
% of HCW	0	23	12	11	6	4
% of Fatal	58	50	46	36	33	36

Characteristics of MERS cases reported from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, June 2012-March 2018

Type of case	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Grand Total
Primary	3	36	164	52	74	71	16	416
Secondary	2	93	264	222	60	90	11	742
Missing		1	15	102	103	68	26	315
Unknown		28	219	78	11	5		341
Total	5	158	662	454	248	234	53	1814

SUMMARY

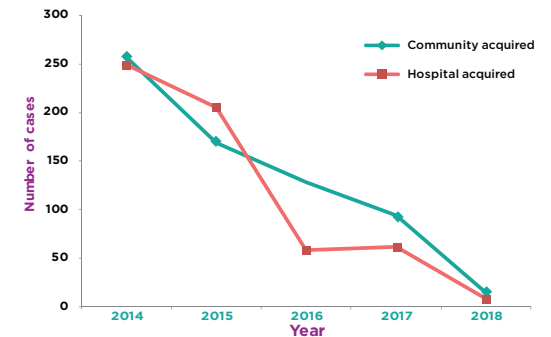
2189 Laboratory-confirmed Cases Reported Since April 2012

782 deaths reported since April 2012

27 countries reported cases globally

12 countries reported cases since April 2012 in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Community versus hospital acquired (symptomatic) MERS cases in Eastern Mediterranean Region, Jan 2014-Mar 2018



MERS cluster-case from a hospital in Riyadh region, Feb-Mar 2018

