



tion update for December 2018 [Read the MERS situa](#)

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During the month of December, a total of 5 laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS - were reported globally (all from Saudi Arabia) with no associated death. There were no healthcare workers affected and most of the cases were primary cases. One of the cases was a secondary infection through household contact. The demographic and epidemiological characteristics of reported cases, when compared during the same corresponding period of 2013 to 2018, do not show any significant difference or change. 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 highest risk for acquiring infection of primary cases. The age group 30–39 years is 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.

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