

## SITUATION IN NUMBERS (As of midnight GMT+2, 23 October 2021)



7

Countries reporting biweekly increase in numbers of cases



8

Countries reporting biweekly increase in numbers of deaths



16 238 500

Total laboratory-confirmed cases



15 349 101

Total reported recovered cases



298 837

Total reported deaths



248 637 601

Total tests performed



The WHO's Logistics Hub in Dubai plays an instrumental role by rapidly responding to health emergencies in the Eastern Mediterranean Region and around the world through provision of life-saving supplies including those for COVID-19.

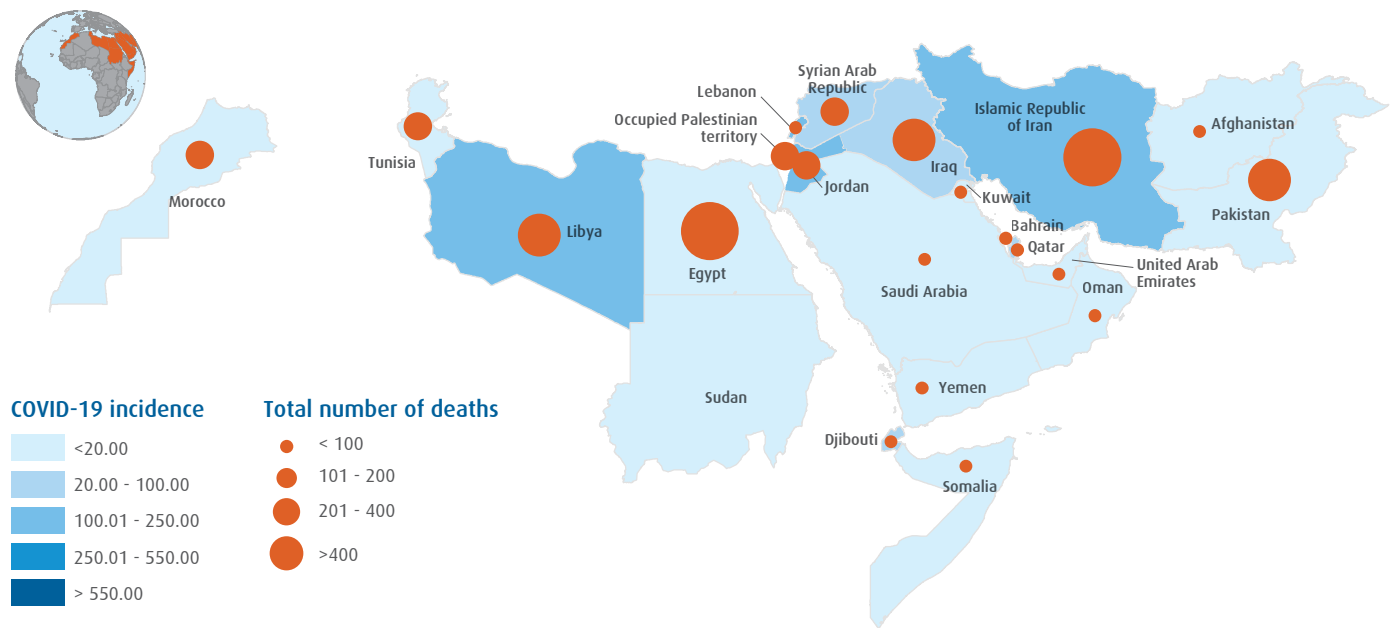
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## EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **COVID-19 cases and deaths:** As of 23 October 2021, the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) has reported 16,238,500 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 298,837 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 14%
  - Deaths have decreased by 20%
  - Testing rates have stabilized
  - 7 and 8 countries have reported an increase in cases and deaths respectively
  - A decrease in both cases and deaths was reported by 11 countries
- **COVID-19 testing:** The total number of tests in the Region has reached 248,637,601, with a median cumulative positivity ratio of 8.7% (range from 0.8% to 30.8%).

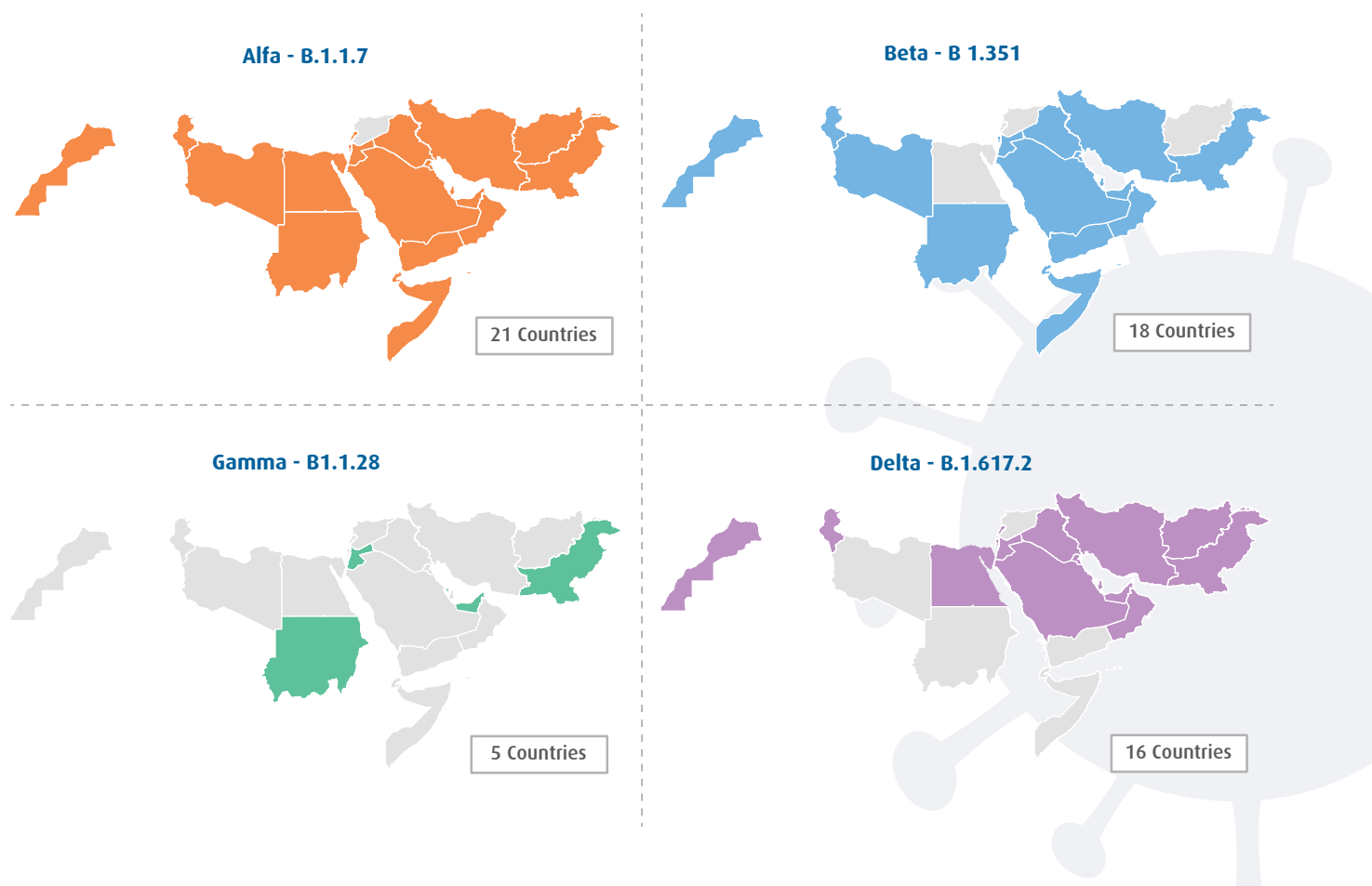
# Map 1: COVID-19 bi-weekly attack rate per 100,000 population and number of new deaths per country in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

10-23 October 2021



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

10-23 October 2021



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

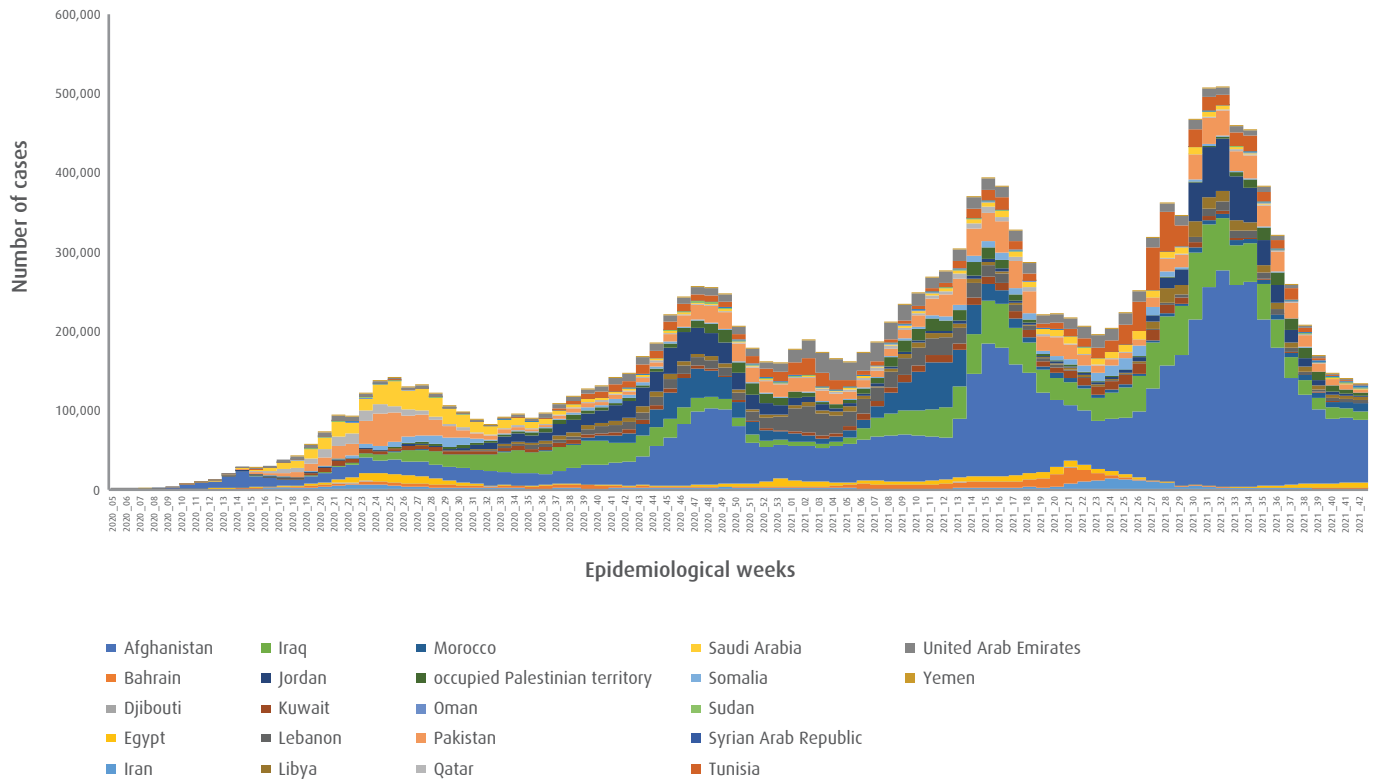
10-23 October 2021

Country	New Confirmed Cases	Total Confirmed Cases	New Deaths	Total Deaths	CFR	Total recovered	Total Tests
Afghanistan	476	155,985	31	7,257	4.7%	127,636	770,089
Bahrain	929	276,526	3	1,393	0.5%	274,473	6,796,811
Djibouti	228	13,444	4	181	1.3%	13,188	233,338
Egypt	12,157	323,733	584	18,242	5.6%	273,154	3,963,423
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	160,036	5,851,670	2,682	125,052	2.1%	5,402,865	34,658,805
Iraq	22,918	2,045,027	400	22,937	1.1%	1,984,439	15,660,404
Jordan	17,359	849,758	139	10,941	1.3%	821,458	10,713,324
Kuwait	458	412,506	6	2,460	0.6%	409,568	4,683,058
Lebanon	7,751	637,312	67	8,449	1.3%	612,103	7,132,942
Libya	7,450	353,626	231	5,006	1.4%	288,170	1,781,253
Morocco	5,275	944,076	163	14,606	1.5%	924,009	9,054,726
Occupied Palestinian territory	7,973	451,189	131	4,626	1.0%	437,127	2,605,470
Oman	190	304,145	8	4,109	1.4%	299,492	1,986,264
Pakistan	10,581	1,268,536	271	28,377	2.2%	1,216,242	20,488,058
Qatar	1,077	238,436	1	608	0.3%	236,840	2,787,349
Saudi Arabia	673	548,205	33	8,776	1.6%	537,246	30,018,274
Somalia	1,098	21,998	56	1,208	5.5%	9,927	329,200
Sudan	1,606	40,433	42	2,995	7.4%	30,867	475,025
Syrian Arab Republic	4,509	41,222	160	2,492	6.0%	25,606	79,630
Tunisia	1,987	711,821	127	25,155	3.5%	685,386	3,046,570
United Arab Emirates	1,535	739,190	16	2,129	0.3%	733,127	91,043,996
Yemen	317	9,662	63	1,838	19.0%	6,178	329,592
<b>Total</b>	<b>266,583</b>	<b>16,238,500</b>	<b>5,218</b>	<b>298,837</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>15,349,101</b>	<b>248,637,601</b>



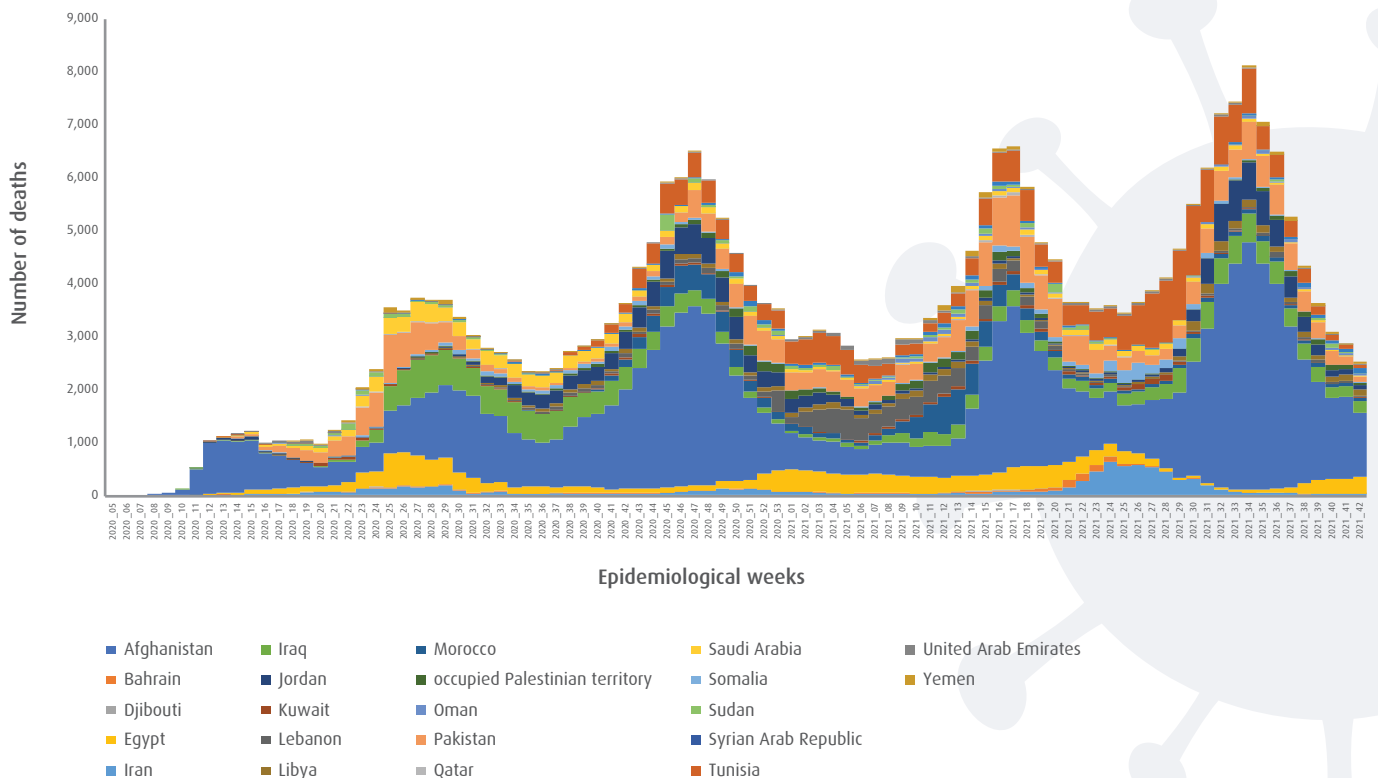
# Graph 1: Weekly distribution of COVID-19 cases in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

26 January 2020 – 23 October 2021



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

26 January 2020 – 23 October 2021



## REGIONAL RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

### Operations Support and Logistics

- Dispatched over US\$ 800,000 worth of health supplies to 12 countries in support of COVID-19 and other health emergencies.

### Health Operations and Technical Expertise

#### Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)

- Conducted a virtual regional webinar on the role of the environment in IPC on 7 October in collaboration with the National Guards Hospital in Saudi Arabia - a WHO Collaborating Centre- for 149 participants.
- Conducted an IPC refreshment training course targeting national IPC focal persons in Aden, Yemen.
- Trained 50 health care workers on basic IPC measures and IPC in the context of COVID-19 in primary health care centers in Amman, Jordan.

### Health Information Management and Surveillance

- Conducted technical exchanges on health information management and surveillance as part of the 17-21 October COVID-19 mission to Saudi Arabia..

### Research and Knowledge Management

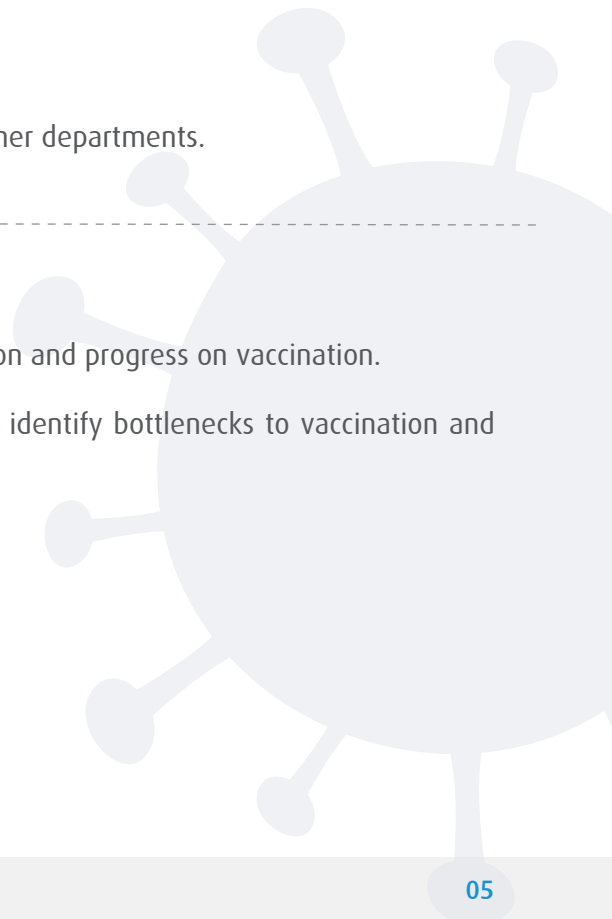
- Held technical meetings with Tunisia, Pakistan, and Jordan to discuss potential vaccine effectiveness studies.

### Essential Health Services and Systems

- Planned health facility assessments for Lebanon and Bahrain.
- Reviewed the Pulse Survey assessment tool in coordination with other departments.

### COVID-19 Vaccine

- Monitored the COVID-19 vaccine supply, consumption, fund utilization and progress on vaccination.
- Advocated to COVAX for the allocation of vaccines to EMR countries.
- Engaged with priority countries through Country Support Teams to identify bottlenecks to vaccination and improve coverage.



## In focus: Documenting Lessons Learned from Saudi Arabia's Response to COVID-19

Technical experts from WHO's Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean visited the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in a mission between 17 and 21 October 2021. The mission aimed to review the COVID-19 response through technical exchanges and identify lessons learned, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the Public Health Authority and other government institutions and partners in the Kingdom. Lessons learned identified during the mission could help improve aspects of the response in other countries, particularly with similar contexts.

Saudi Arabia has shown strong political leadership and commitment in implementing whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to limit the spread of the virus and minimize the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a member of the G20, Saudi Arabia continues to advocate for affordable and equitable access to diagnostics, treatments, and vaccines for all people.

Continue reading:

<http://www.emro.who.int/pandemic-epidemic-diseases/news/learning-from-saudi-arabias-covid-19-response-amid-its-health-sector-transformation.html>



WHO team visit a vaccination center in Riyadh International Convention and Exhibition Center, 17 October 2021.

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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)