COVID-19: WHO EMRO Biweekly Situation Report #22

Epi Weeks 43-44 (24 October – 6 November 2021)



SITUATION IN NUMBERS (As of midnight GMT+2, 6 November 2021)



5

Countries reporting biweekly increase in numbers of cases



7

Countries reporting biweekly increase in numbers of deaths



16 463 826

Total laboratoryconfirmed cases



15 649 888

Total reported recovered cases



303 470

Total reported deaths



258 566 455

Total tests performed



COVAX has dispatched 89 million vaccine doses to 21 countries of the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR). An additional 67 million doses are still needed to vaccinate 40% of the population of each EMR country by the end of 2021 – the goal WHO and partners are working towards Over 379 million doses have been administered so far.

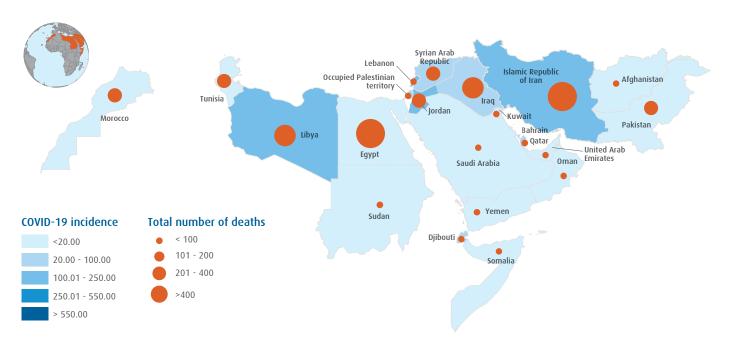
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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

- **COVID-19 cases and deaths:** As of 6 November 2021, the Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) has reported 16 463 826 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 303 470 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**%
 - **five** and **seven** countries have reported an increase in cases and deaths respectively
 - A decrease in both cases and deaths was reported by 10 countries
- **COVID-19 testing:** The total number of tests in the Region has reached 258,566,455, with a median cumulative positivity ratio of 8.4% (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

24 October - 6 November 2021



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

24 October – 6 November 2021

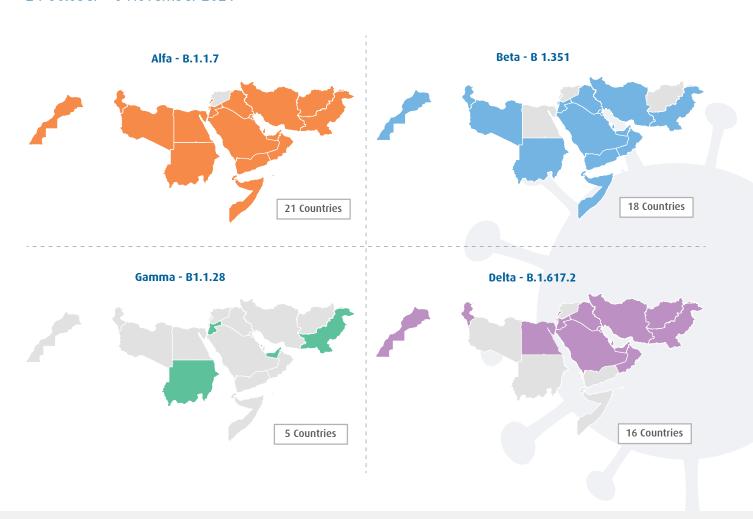


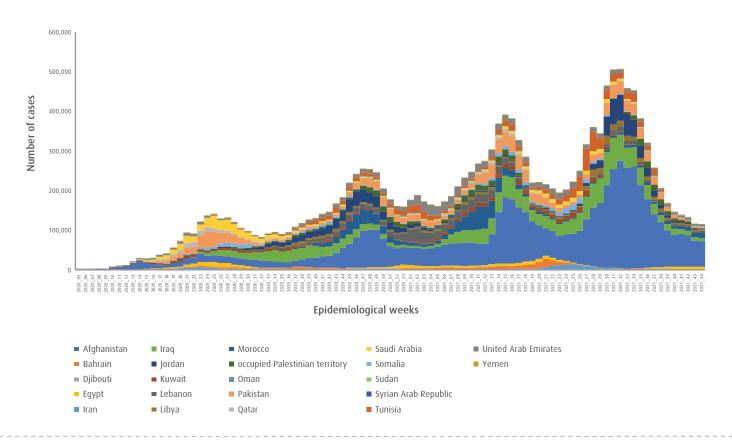
Table 1: Epidemiological situation in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

24 October – 6 November 2021

Country	New Confirmed Cases	Total Confirmed Cases	New Deaths	Total Deaths	CFR	Total recovered	Total Tests
Afghanistan	412	156,397	30	7,287	4.7%	128,954	776,358
Bahrain	515	277,041	0	1,393	0.5%	275,297	7,018,050
Djibouti	47	13,491	5	186	1.4%	13,269	238,619
Egypt	12,849	336,582	769	19,011	5.6%	282,514	5,566,875
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	128,590	5,980,260	2,121	127,173	2.1%	5,588,545	36,167,151
Iraq	16,912	2,061,939	382	23,319	1.1%	2,013,457	15,922,665
Jordan	23,949	873,707	173	11,114	1.3%	838,644	11,158,182
Kuwait	315	412,821	2	2,462	0.6%	410,058	4,923,238
Lebanon	8,493	645,805	91	8,540	1.3%	619,701	7,335,714
Libya	7,288	360,914	201	5,207	1.4%	306,720	1,836,049
Morocco	3,231	947,307	100	14,706	1.6%	928,445	9,227,081
Occupied Palestinian territory	4,302	455,491	90	4,716	1.0%	446,696	2,658,065
Oman	209	304,354	3	4,112	1.4%	299,699	1,986,264
Pakistan	8,175	1,276,711	161	28,538	2.2%	1,225,363	21,101,314
Qatar	1,559	239,995	3	611	0.3%	237,987	2,865,143
Saudi Arabia	685	548,890	27	8,803	1.6%	537,794	30,558,607
Somalia	695	22,693	86	1,294	5.7%	10,767	342,331
Sudan	568	41,001	68	3,063	7.5%	30,867	475,025
Syrian Arab Republic	3,677	44,899	121	2,613	5.8%	26,932	79,630
Tunisia	1,487	713,308	121	25,276	3.5%	686,886	3,097,624
United Arab Emirates	1,172	740,362	10	2,139	0.3%	734,796	94,902,878
Yemen	196	9,858	69	1,907	19.3%	6,497	329,592
Total	225,326	16,463,826	4,633	303,470	1.8%	15,649,888	258,566,455

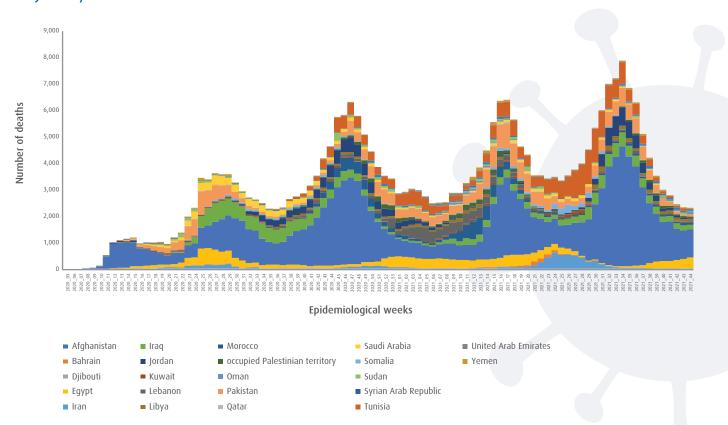
Graph 1: Weekly distribution of COVID-19 cases in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

26 January 2020 - 6 November 2021



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

26 January 2020 - 6 November 2021



REGIONAL RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

Operations Support and Logistics

- Continued supporting the Regional COVID-19 response. Almost 40% of all supplies shipped from the WHO Dubai logistics hub contain COVID-19 supplies.
- Planned shipments of health supplies to emergency countries such as Afghanistan, Sudan, and Yemen.
- Operations are on track to exceed a total of 500 shipments in 2021.

Health Operations and Technical Expertise

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)

- Conducted a one-day IPC training workshop on leadership targeting 15 national IPC officers in the Gaza Strip, occupied Palestinian territory, on 24 October 2021.
- Held IPC training workshops on basic IPC measures and IPC in the context of COVID-19, targeting 80 health workers in primary health care centres in Amman and Aqaba, Jordan, in October and November 2021.

Case Management and Clinical Operations

- Conducted a webinar series on clinical management on 18 and 27 October and 3 November 2021 attended by frontline health care workers and health authorities in the Region and moderated by speakers including WHO and regional and global clinical management experts.
- Contributed to the "Long COVID-19 Symposium" on 3 November 2021, organized by the Ministry of National Guard Health Affairs in Saudi Arabia.

Health Information Management and Surveillance

• Conducted the eighth round of the COVID-19 modelling analysis for Jordan.

Research and Knowledge Management

- Followed up on the Solidarity PLUS trial:
 - Egypt has obtained regulatory approval and received trial drugs.
 - Pakistan is waiting for the drug shipment.
 - Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Kuwait, Oman, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Jordan are undergoing the process for approval.
 - Qatar and Bahrain were approached for the study.
- Received and reviewed vaccine effectiveness study proposals from Egypt, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and Pakistan.

Essential Health Services and Systems

- Initiated the assessment: "Monitoring frontline service readiness capacities during the COVID-19 pandemic" in Lebanon and Bahrain, and invited Oman and Libya to participate.
- Provided feedback regarding the Pulse Survey questionnaire and initiated the Pulse Survey in all EMR Member States.

COVID-19 Vaccine

- Monitored the COVID-19 vaccine supply, consumption, and fund utilization of countries in the Region.
- Advocated with COVAX for the allocation of additional vaccine doses to EMR countries.
- Advocated with donors on supporting vaccination operational costs.

Regional COVID-19 website: http://www.emro.who.int/health-topics/corona-virus/index.html For more information, contact emrgonCoV@who.int