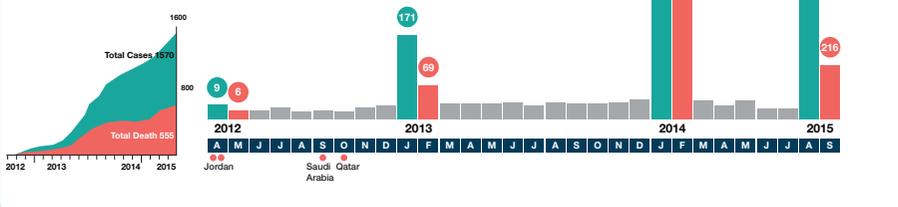


HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 508 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS) including 209 deaths (case-fatality rate: 41%) were reported from the countries of WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region between 01 January and 30 September 2015. The countries reporting cases of MERS from the region in 2015 include Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. In the month of August, a sudden surge in the number of cases were reported from Saudi Arabia (134 cases, including 47 deaths).
- Compared to 2014, the age and epidemiological characteristics of MERS cases reported in 2015 do not show any significant difference;
- The age group of 50-59 years continue to be the main risk group for acquiring infection for primary cases, while the risk group for secondary cases is observed to be 30-39 years. The majority of deaths among the secondary cases have been seen to have occurred in the age group of 50-59 and 70-79 years.
- Hospital outbreaks of MERS remain the major public health concern. A number of small to medium size hospital outbreaks from MERS have been reported from the countries in the region since January 2015.

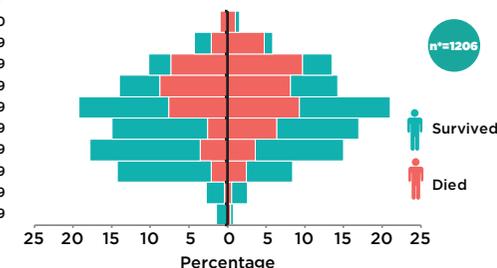
MERS: Global situation, April 2012 to 30 September 2015

CUMULATIVE

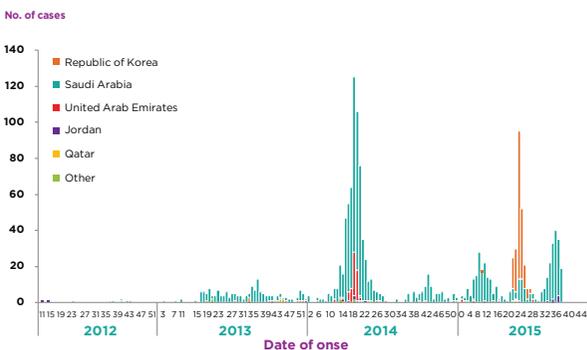


Age and gender distribution of reported MERS Cases, 2012-2015

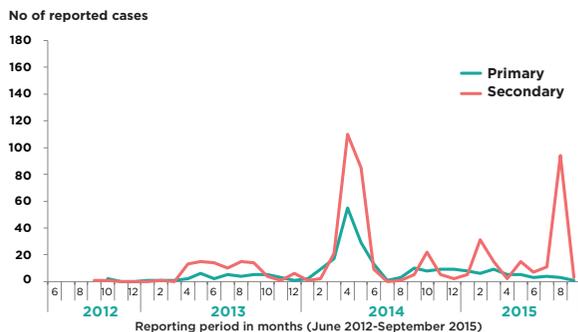
Age group



Global distribution of reported MERS cases



Reported MERS Cases by week of onset, 2012-2015



Epidemiological characteristics of MERS-CoV cases reported between Jan-Sep in 2013, 2014 and 2015

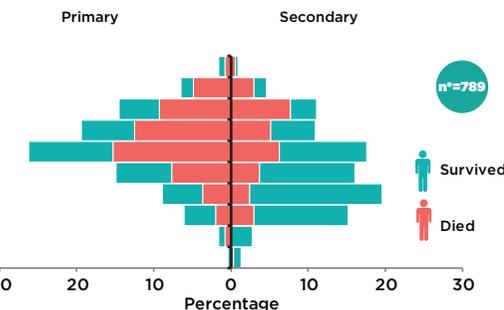
Characteristic	Jan-Sep 2013	Jan-Sep 2014	Jan-Sep 2015
Number	129	593	377
Median age in years	50	48	56
Gender (% male)	60	62	69
% of primary cases	21	23	12
% of secondary cases	64	39	42
(%) unknown contact history	15	35	21
% HCW	19	28	12
% Fatal	49	40	41

Reported MERS cases by outcome, 2012-2015

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	Grand Total
Death	6	69	273	216	564
Case	9	171	765	625	1570
CFR(%)	67	40	36	35	36

Age and fatality distribution of primary and secondary MERS cases, 2012-2015

Age group



Reported cases of MERS in health care workers

