

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report



WHO Office - Riyadh

Weekly Report No. 245 - Saudi Arabia

24 - 30 June, 2021

	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths
Current	181,521,067	3,937,437	10,985,785	216,788
Last Week	178,837,204	3,880,450	10,759,857	213,409
In 7 days	2,683,863	56,987	225,928	3,379

Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
Total	487,592	467,633	7,819	12,140	1,406	21,902,140
In 7 days	9,457	8,542	103	-	-	683,025
23/6/2021	1,255	1,247	14	11,322	1,451	91,021
24/6/2021	1,312	1,290	13	11,331	1,466	103,820
25/6/2021	1,301	1,376	17	11,239	1,450	92,192
26/6/2021	1,218	1,252	15	11,190	1,440	95,396
27/6/2021	1,318	1,290	14	11,204	1,438	86,824
28/6/2021	1,567	1,032	15	11,724	1,406	109,199
29/6/2021	1,486	1,055	15	12,140	1,406	104,573

HIGHLIGHTS

- Regions with the highest new infections over the past 7 days: Makkah (2,453), Eastern (1,915), Riyadh (1,825), Asir (1,166), Jazan (619), Madinah (439), Al Qassim (284) and Najran (207).
- Around 17.9 million COVID-19 vaccine doses administered so far. Ministry of Health starts reporting breakdown by number of doses received for the first time: around 14.7 million individuals received one dose and around 1.6 million received two doses.
- MoH starts vaccinating individual 12 - 18 years old on the 27th of June with the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine.
- Ministry of Hajj and Umrah announces that those participating in Hajj this year must take the second dose of COVID-19 vaccine before going to Hajj.
- Ministry of Health asserts that those going to Hajj should receive the influenza vaccine, and that there is no contradiction between taking the influenza and the COVID-19 vaccines.
- General Authority of Civil Aviation exempts domestic workers accompanying diplomats from institutional quarantine.
- Head of the King Salman Humanitarian Relief Center states that the Kingdom is uniquely equipped and ready to be a regional hub for the production of COVID-19 vaccines as well as for logistics activities.
- WHO publishes a policy brief on young people and COVID-19: Behavioural considerations for promoting safe behaviours, see link.
- WHO launches guidance on developing a national deployment and vaccination plan for COVID-19 vaccines (NDVP), see link.
- WHO launches interim guidance on critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19, see link.
- WHO launches refugees and migrants in times of COVID-19: mapping trends of public health and migration policies and practices, see link.
- WHO publishes interim recommendations for use of the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine, CoronaVac, developed by Sinovac, see link.
- WHO publishes interim recommendations for use of the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine BIBP developed by China National Biotec Group (CNBG), Sinopharm, 7 May 2021, see link.

IMPORTANT LINKS

- **MoH COVID-19 updates:** <https://twitter.com/saudimoh>
- **WHO's COVID-19 global situation reports:** <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>
- **WHO's COVID-19 dashboard:** <https://covid19.who.int/>
- **MoH COVID-19 dashboard:** <https://covid19.my.gov.sa/ar/Pages/default.aspx>
- **Young people and COVID-19: Behavioural considerations for promoting safe behaviours:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/978-92-4-002831-9>
- **Guidance on developing a national deployment and vaccination plan for COVID-19 vaccines:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Vaccine-deployment-2021.1-eng>
- **Critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/critical-preparedness-readiness-and-response-actions-for-covid-19>
- **Refugees and migrants in times of COVID-19: mapping trends of public health and migration policies and practices:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240028906>
- **Interim recommendations for use of the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine, CoronaVac, developed by Sinovac:** https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccines-SAGE_recommendation-Sinovac-CoronaVac-2021.1
- **Interim recommendations for use of the inactivated COVID-19 vaccine BIBP developed by China National Biotec Group (CNBG), Sinopharm, 7 May 2021** https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccines-SAGE_recommendation-BIBP-2021.1

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

WHO validates Sinovac COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use and issues interim policy recommendations

On 1st of May, WHO validated the Sinovac-CoronaVac COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use. The vaccine is produced by the Beijing-based pharmaceutical company Sinovac.

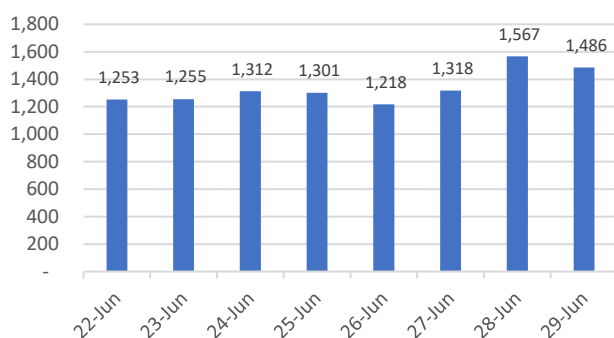
WHO's Emergency Use Listing (EUL) is a prerequisite for COVAX Facility vaccine supply and international procurement. It also allows countries to expedite their own regulatory approval to import and administer COVID-19 vaccines.

The EUL assesses the quality, safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines, as well as risk management plans and programmatic suitability, such as cold chain requirements.

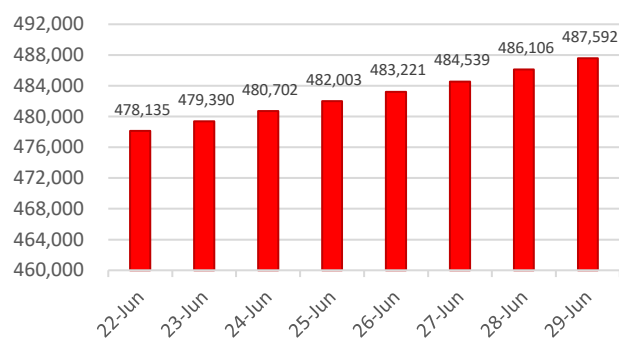
The Sinovac-CoronaVac product is an inactivated vaccine. Its easy storage requirements make it very manageable and particularly suitable for low-resource settings. On the basis of available evidence, WHO recommends the vaccine for use in adults 18 years and older, in a two-dose schedule with a spacing of two to four weeks. Vaccine efficacy results showed that the vaccine prevented symptomatic disease in 51% of those vaccinated and prevented severe COVID-19 and hospitalization in 100% of the studied population.

Few older adults (over 60 years) were enrolled in clinical trials, so efficacy could not be estimated in this age group. Nevertheless, WHO is not recommending an upper age limit for the vaccine because data collected during subsequent use in multiple countries and supportive immunogenicity data suggest the vaccine is likely to have a protective effect in older persons. There is no reason to believe that the vaccine has a different safety profile in older and younger populations. WHO recommends that countries using the vaccine in older age groups conduct safety and effectiveness monitoring to verify the expected impact and contribute to making the recommendation more robust for all countries.

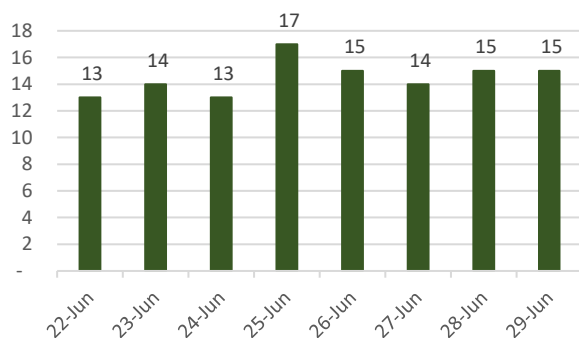
Number of New Cases



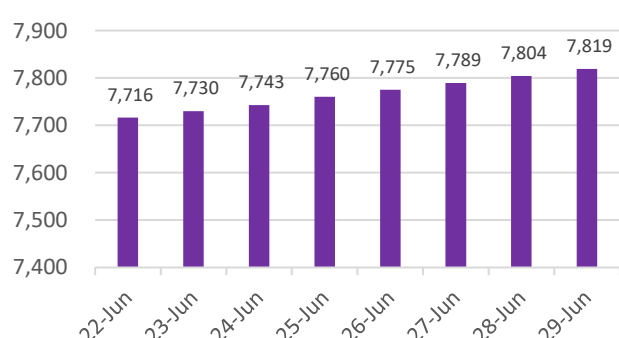
Cumulative Cases



Number of New Deaths



Cumulative Deaths



IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- **The National Focal Person for COVID-19 is Dr Abdullah Asiri, Assistant Deputy for Preventive Health, MoH, email: AbdullahM.Asiri@moh.gov.sa**