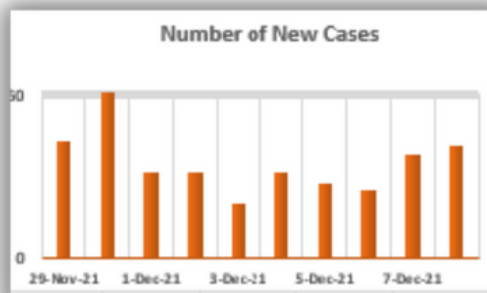
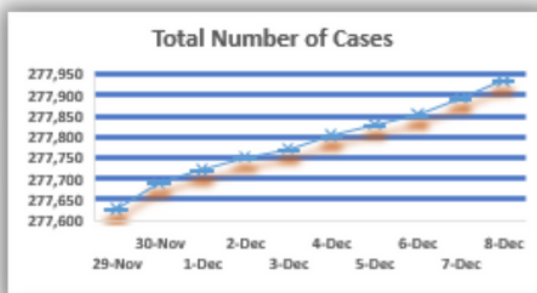




**Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**  
 Situation Report No. #289

Data as reported by national authorities by 24:00 local time 08 December 2021

The alert level is dependent on the rolling average of positive cases in Intensive Care Units. The Green Alert applies when the rolling average of positive cases in ICU is 50 or less for 14 days.



	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region				Kingdom of Bahrain		
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases		COVID-19 Deaths		Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths
<b>Total</b>	266,504,411	5,268,849	16,887,269		311,383				
<b>New (Last 7 Days)</b>	694,484	7,340	93,653		1,545				
			Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests	Vaccine First Dose	Vaccine Second Dose	Booster Dose	
<b>Total</b>	277,585	276,194	1,394	347	1	7,550,117	1,191,497	1,163,885	657,909
<b>New (08/12/2021)</b>	41	29	0	-	-	19,129	-	-	-

**HIGHLIGHTS**

**Bahrain 'free of new variant'**

30 November 2021

The Cabinet has affirmed its commitment to continuously monitor global developments following the discovery of a new Covid-19 variant in several countries. It said the Kingdom is currently free of the new variant, Omicron. The weekly session, chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, said necessary measures will always be taken to protect Bahrain's citizens and residents.

**Kingdom ready with plans to tackle Omicron**

Contingency plans are in place to tackle the newest variant of the coronavirus (Covid-19), the country's health chiefs said. Allaying fears over the spread of Omicron, which the World Health Organization (WHO) said 'carried a very high risk of infection surges', Bahrain's Covid-19 taskforce members said the team was monitoring the situation closely and was prepared. Measures include polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing of people at the borders and special lab checks for those testing positive.

**The National Medical Taskforce for Combatting the Coronavirus (COVID-19) provide updates on the COVID-19 response in the Kingdom**

- The Undersecretary at the Ministry of Health and Member of the National Medical Taskforce for Combatting the Coronavirus (COVID-19), HE Dr Waleed Khalifa Al Manea, noted that COVID-19 mitigation efforts will continue as planned to protect public health. HE Dr Al Manea highlighted that the Taskforce, and all concerned authorities, are keeping up to date on global developments, including the new Omicron strain identified in several countries.

**Parents Urged to Vaccinate their children**

Dr Jameela Salman: "We urge parents to take the initiative to vaccinate their children, and we thank those who have supported this awareness of the importance of vaccination in order to keep their children healthy and gain their immunity, which provides them protection against the coronavirus".

**Minimum gap for booster shots cut**

01 December 2021

Bahrain has reduced the minimum gap for Covid-19 booster shots from six to three months following the emergence of a new and more infectious variant. People aged above 40 who have taken the Sinopharm vaccine and with comorbidities (obesity, immunodeficiencies or chronic diseases) can take the booster just a month after the second shot. Senior members of the National Taskforce to Combat Covid-19 announced the change in vaccine protocol during a Press conference. "Following the approval of the Government Executive Committee and based on the latest developments, it has been decided to update booster protocol for the vaccinated and the recovered," said Health Ministry Under-Secretary Dr Waleed Al Manea.

Eligible individuals can receive their vaccinations across the Kingdom's health centres without the need for an appointment.

**Bahrain ranked first globally in the Nikkei Covid-19 Recovery Index for November**

Following the drop in active cases, the increase in vaccination rollout, and the continued adherence to health precautionary measures. Bahrain's top performance among 122 countries demonstrates its progressive role in spearheading Covid-19 mitigation efforts. The global ranking also follows Bahrain exceeding three million vaccination doses (first, second and booster), according to statistics from the Kingdom's Health Ministry. The index ranks 122 countries across three categories: infection management, vaccine rollouts and social mobility at the end of each month.

**TRAVEL UPDATES**

In response to recommendations made by the National Taskforce for Combating the Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Civil Aviation Affairs has added the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Bahrain's Red List countries.

5 December

**The Red List is regularly reviewed and updated by the National Medical Taskforce for Combatting the Coronavirus**

Federal Republic of Nigeria, Zimbabwe, the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Kingdom of Eswatini, the Republic of Malawi, the Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Angola and the Republic of Zambia.



**WHO BAHRAIN COUNTRY OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS**

***Dr Tasnim Atatrah, WHO Representative, featured on UNDP/University Of Bahrain Webinar Series***  
**30 November**

Dr Tasnim Atatrah, WHO Representative, was proud to be selected as the weekly feature personality, during the University Of Bahrain/UNDP Webinar Series: "Beyond COVID-19? An Opportunity to Build Back Better".

With an audience of students, academics, and professionals from across the nation, Dr Tasnim took the opportunity to share valuable WHO insight into the topic of "Achieving the Health-related SDGs: Together Towards an Inclusive, Equitable and Resilient COVID-19 Recovery".

**WHO Collaborating Center for Nursing Development**

Dr Tasnim Atatrah, WHO Representative, Bahrain and Dr Gulin Gedik, WHO EMRO, met with Dr Leena Khonji, Director of the WHO Collaborating Center for Nursing Development, Bahrain. The meeting discussed areas to advance the cooperation with the Collaborative Centre for Nursing, and identified strategic country and regional activities for the upcoming year. Dr Leena presented a copy of her PHD thesis to Dr Tasnim, who in turn acknowledged the great contributions Bahraini women have made to research and development.

***International Federation of Medical Students' Association (IFMSA)***

An introductory meeting was held with the International Federation of Medical Students' Association (IFMSA) - Bahrain. Members of the executive committee presented the aims and key accomplishments of the association's division in Bahrain. Collaboration opportunities were discussed with WHO Bahrain, with the aim of expanding the scope of work within the Standing Committee of Public Health. Dr Atatrah acknowledged the student's proactive contributions to the advancement of projects in health and wellbeing, and communicated her best wishes for the success of the student ambassadors, wishing them luck in all their endeavors.

***Dr Tasnim Atatrah, WR, invited to present opening address during UNDP seminar***

Dr Tasnim Atatrah, WR, was invited to present an opening address during a UNDP seminar, organized on the occasion of the Bahrain 2020 Asian Youth Paralympic Games, and in parallel to the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

Held under the Patronage of Shaikh Mohamed bin Duaij Al Khalifa, President of the Bahrain Paralympic Committee, with Ms Aikan Mukanbetova, UNDP Representative a.i, and special guest Mr Michael Haddad, Goodwill Ambassador for Climate Change, Dr Atatrah shared WHO perspectives on assistive technology, recommendation and SDGs, to enable and promote inclusion and participation, towards Health For All By All.

**National Press Coverage:** <http://www.akhbar-alkhaleej.com/news/article/1276996#.YbClNf4q8xa.twitter>

***Dr Tasnim Atatrah, WR, interview in "الطبي" (Medical) magazine***

"Bahrain can be classed as an incubator for success, sharing it's experience with other countries". Read the full interview here: Page 20 - 21: [Medical107-November-Small-2021.pdf \(dailypr-me.com\)](#).