

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report

Data as reported by national authorities by 23:00 local time 27th of December 2020

Situation Report No. 208 - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
28th of December, 2020



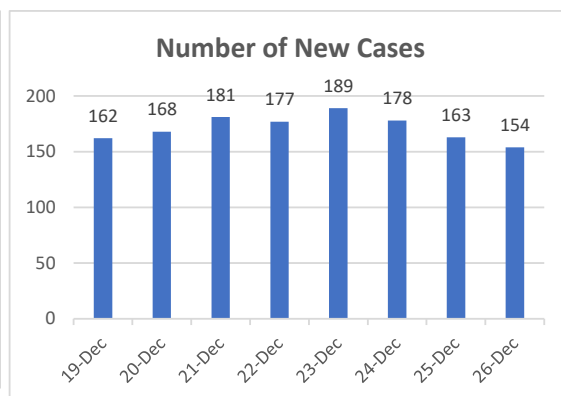
| | Global | | Eastern Mediterranean Region | |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| | COVID-19 Cases | COVID-19 Deaths | COVID-19 Cases | COVID-19 Deaths |
| Total | 79,232,555 | 1,754,493 | 4,823,157 | 119,004 |
| New | 434,779 | 7,393 | 19,966 | 410 |

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

| | Confirmed Cases | Recovered Cases | Deaths | Active Cases | Critical Cases | PCR Tests |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|--------------|----------------|------------|
| Total | 362,220 | 353,179 | 6,185 | 2,856 | 391 | 10,872,920 |
| New | 154 | 175 | 9 | - | - | 21,775 |

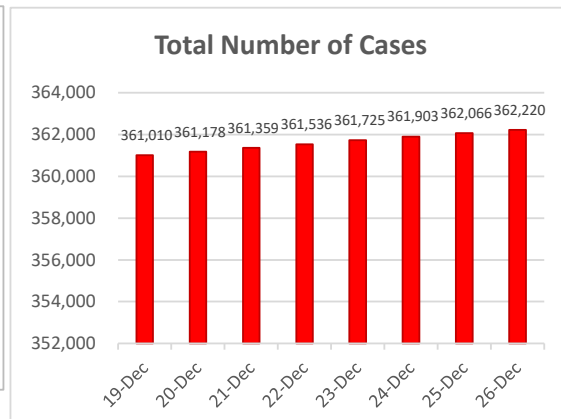
HIGHLIGHTS

- Regions with the highest new infections : Riyadh (42), Makkah (33), Eastern (17), Madinah (16), Asir (12), Tabuk (7), Nothren Borders (6), and Al Qassim (5).
- Ministry of Interior: Extending suspension of international flights, entering to Saudi Arabia through land, sea ports for another week.
- The civil aviation lifts the flight ban for non-Saudis leaving the kingdom immediately.
- Ministry of Health: 700,000 have been registered for COVID19 vaccine. Critical cases and deaths decreased by 83% and 85%.
- Ministry of Hajj and Umrah launched a new Hajj platform and smart card for each pilgrim containing his/her personal, medical and residential information.
- MoH publishes an awareness guidance in Arabic about the vaccine, see link.
- WHO produces Evidence to recommendations: Methods used for assessing health equity and human rights considerations in COVID-19 and aviation, see link.
- WHO Published guidance on COVID-19 Global Risk Communication and Community Engagement Strategy, see link.
- WHO produces a prepared daft by the SAGE on Immunization Working Group on COVID-19 vaccines.



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>
- MoH's Guidance of Vaccine in Arabic: <https://covid19awareness.sa/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/COVID-19VaccineGuidance.pdf>
- WHO Recommendations on methods used for assessing health equity and human rights considerations in COVID-19 and aviation: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/evidence-to-recommendations-methods-used-for-assessing-health-equity-and-human-rights-considerations-in-covid-19-and-aviation>
- WHO guidance on COVID-19 Global Risk Communication and Community Engagement Strategy: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/covid-19-global-risk-communication-and-community-engagement-strategy>
- Draft on Immunization Working Group on COVID-19 vaccines: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/mrna-vaccines-against-covid-19-pfizer-biontech-covid-19-vaccinebnt162b2>

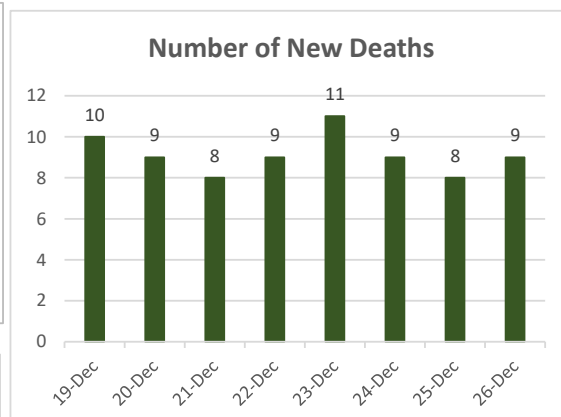


IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

What is the COVID-19 Infodemic?

An infodemic is an overabundance of information, both online and offline. It includes deliberate attempts to disseminate wrong information to undermine the public health response and advance alternative agendas of groups or individuals. Mis- and disinformation can be harmful to people's physical and mental health; increase stigmatization; threaten precious health gains; and lead to poor observance of public health measures, thus reducing their effectiveness and endangering countries' ability to stop the pandemic.

Misinformation costs lives. Without the appropriate trust and correct information, diagnostic tests go unused, immunization campaigns (or campaigns to promote effective vaccines) will not meet their targets, and the virus will continue to thrive. Furthermore, disinformation is polarizing public debate on topics related to COVID-19.



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

