

# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report



WHO Office - Riyadh

## Weekly Report No. 251 - Saudi Arabia

12 - 18 August, 2021

	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths
<b>Current</b>	208,470,375	4,377,979	13,813,261	252,418
<b>Last Week</b>	203,944,144	4,312,902	13,313,951	245,271

### Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
<b>Total</b>	<b>540,244</b>	<b>525,559</b>	<b>8,439</b>	<b>6,246</b>	<b>1,273</b>	<b>26,638,652</b>
<b>in 7 days</b>						
11/8/2021	766	1,532	12	9,404	1,387	85,106
12/8/2021	681	1,447	10	8,628	1,367	88,107
13/8/2021	609	1,651	11	7,575	1,360	69,636
14/8/2021	542	1,041	13	7,063	1,356	69,324
15/8/2021	604	1,011	7	6,649	1,332	78,416
16/8/2021	569	704	12	6,502	1,295	79,383
17/8/2021	546	794	8	6,246	1,273	72,968

### Vaccination in KSA

Total of Doses Administered	Total of 1 Dose	Total of 2 Doses
33 million	21 million	11.8 million

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Regions with the highest new infections over the past 7 days: Riyadh (1,071), Makkah (723), Eastern (523), Jazan (405), Asir (366), Al Qassim (338), Madinah (232), and Najran (210).
- New coronavirus vaccine center is inaugurated at Riyadh airport giving the results in 90 minutes.
- The number of students from 12-18 years who received 1st dose of the coronavirus vaccine, increased by over 80% in 10 days. MoH to administer COVID-19 vaccine to age group 70 years and older in their homes.
- MoH: Reaching herd immunity against coronavirus just 63 days away. First dose of COVID-19 vaccine brings down hospitalization by 71% and critical cases by 80%. 60% of the confirmed cases are women.
- MoH: The Delta variant of coronavirus is present in Saudi Arabia and it can only be countered by completing 2 doses of the vaccination.
- Public Health Authority: 99% of ICU inpatients are those not fully vaccinated.
- 55 establishments closed for violating COVID-19 protocols in Jeddah.
- First flights of Umrah pilgrims from abroad have arrived, the numbers of Umrah pilgrims to reach 120,000 daily from 60,000 at present.
- Ministry of Interior: 22,158 is the total number of violations of COVID-19 precautionary measures from 8-14 August, Riyadh recorded the highest while Najran was the lowest. 10,000 fine for family gathering that exceeds the specified numbers.
- Civil Aviation: The new procedures to allow use of full seating in domestic flights would come into force from Sept. 1.
- The health passport issued by the Tawakkalna App would be linked to the application of International Air Transport Association (IATA).
- WHO Publishes guidance for surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 variants: Interim guidance, 9 August 2021, see link
- WHO launches health financing for the COVID-19 response, see link
- WHO launches clinical features and prognostic factors of COVID-19 in people living with HIV hospitalized with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection, see link.
- WHO launches interim guidance on critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19, see link.
- WHO launches guidance on conducting vaccine effectiveness evaluations in the setting of new SARS-CoV-2 variants, see link.
- WHO publishes holding gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic: WHO policy brief,, see link.
- WHO publishes guidance on utilization of COVID-19 vaccines before the date of expiry, 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>
- **Guidance for surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 variants:** [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO\\_2019-nCoV\\_surveillance\\_variants](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO_2019-nCoV_surveillance_variants)
- **Health financing for the COVID-19 response:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240030527>
- **Clinical features and prognostic factors of COVID-19 in people living with HIV hospitalized with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Clinical-HIV-2021.1>
- **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>
- **Guidance on conducting vaccine effectiveness evaluations in the setting of new SARS-CoV-2 variants: Interim guidance, 22 July 2021.**
- **Addendum to Evaluation of COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness:** [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccine\\_effectiveness-variants-2021.1](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccine_effectiveness-variants-2021.1)
- **Holding gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic: WHO policy brief:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/holding-gatherings-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-who-policy-brief-2-august-2021>
- **Guidance on utilization of COVID-19 vaccines before the date of expiry** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/guidance-on-utilization-of-covid-19-vaccines-before-the-date-of-expiry>

## IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

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

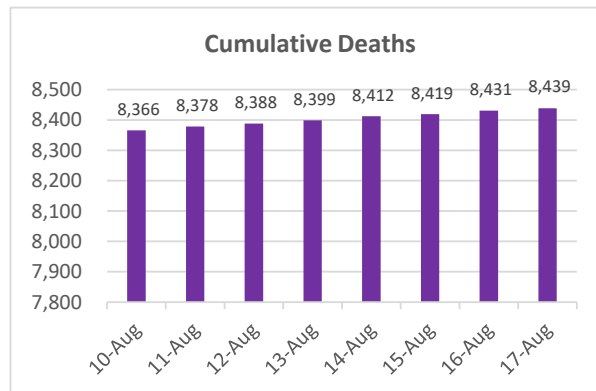
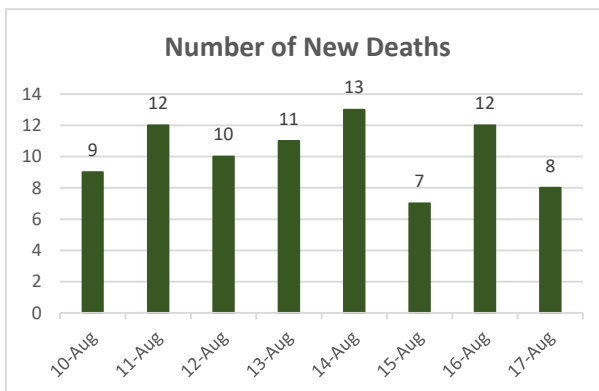
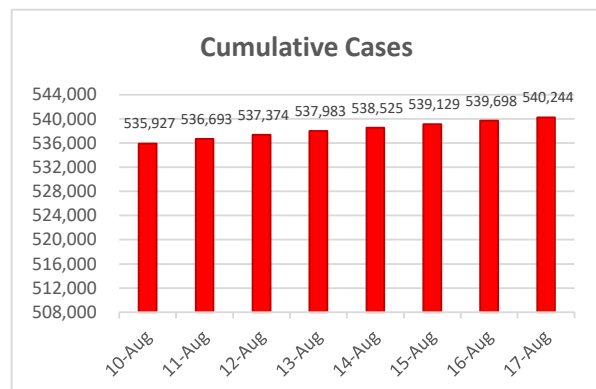
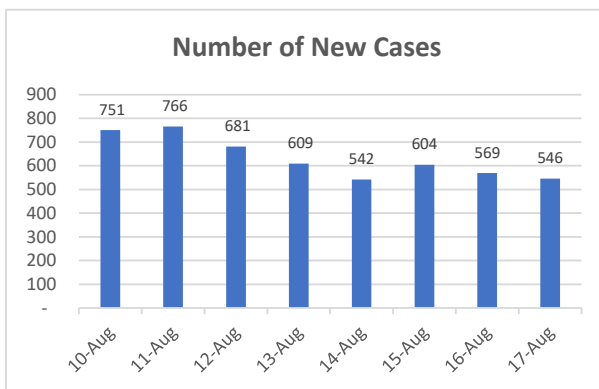
On 1st of May, WHO validated the Sinovac-CoronaVac COVID-19 vaccine for emergency use. The vaccine is produced by the Beijing-based pharmaceutical company Sinovac.

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.



## 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