

# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report



## Weekly Report No. 265 - Saudi Arabia

18 - 24 November, 2021

	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths
<b>Current</b>	258,164,425	5,166,192	16,698,128	308,130
<b>Last Week</b>	254,256,432	5,112,461	16,606,067	306,272

### Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
<b>Total</b>	<b>549,590</b>	<b>538,702</b>	<b>8,828</b>	<b>2,060</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>31,055,094</b>
<b>in 7 days</b>						
17/11/2021	38	51	1	2,093	43	36,678
18/11/2021	35	42	1	2,085	44	35,022
19/11/2021	31	37	1	2,078	47	32,753
20/11/2021	36	48	1	2,065	49	33,208
21/11/2021	39	50	2	2,052	52	33,584
22/11/2021	38	32	1	2,057	50	32,490
23/11/2021	34	30	1	2,060	47	24,275

### Vaccination in KSA

Total Doses Administered	Total of 1 Dose	Total of 2 Doses	Total of 3 Doses
47.2 million	24.6 million	22.3 million	0.3 million

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Regions with the highest new infections over the past 7 days: Jazan followed by Eastern Region.
- Saudi Arabia and Bahrain activate the health passport to facilitate passenger movement through the Saudi "Tawakkalna" and "BeAware" Bahrain application.
- MoH: The spread of influenza is expected to increase in Saudi Arabia due to the easing of the COVID-19 precautionary measures.
- A new icon titled "Tawaf" will be added on the Eatmarna and Tawakkalna app to facilitate booking appointment for the performance of tawaf for non Umrah performers.
- Ministry of Education announced the first semester vacation for 10 days.
- Minister of Health: Optimal use of digital technologies contributed to successful COVID-19 fight.
- Ministry of Interior records 869 violations against precautionary measures nationally in 1 week. The highest number was recorded in the Makkah Region whereas the smallest number was in Al-Qassim.
- WHO Publishes Injection safety in the context of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) vaccination.
- WHO launches Interim recommendations for use of the Bharat Biotech BBV152 COVAXIN® vaccine against COVID-19.
- WHO publishes WHO COVID-19 Excess Mortality Estimation Methodology, see link.
- WHO launches the Guidance on operational microplanning for COVID-19 vaccination, see link.
- WHO publishes recommendations on the Co-administration of seasonal inactivated influenza and COVID-19 vaccines, see link.
- WHO publishes technical specifications and implementation guidance for digital documentation of COVID-19 vaccination status, see link.
- WHO publishes holding gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic: WHO policy brief, see link.
- WHO publishes An overview of infodemic management during COVID-19, January 2020–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>
- **Injection safety in the context of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) vaccination:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Policy-brief-Vaccination-Injection-safety>
- **Interim recommendations for use of the Bharat Biotech BBV152 COVAXIN® vaccine against COVID-19:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccines-SAGE-recommendation-bbv152-covaxin>
- **WHO COVID-19 Excess Mortality Estimation Methodology:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/who-covid-19-excess-mortality-estimation-methodology>
- **Guidance on operational microplanning for COVID-19 vaccination:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccination-microplanning-2021.1>
- **WHO recommendations on the co-administration of COVID-19 and influenza vaccines:** [Coadministration of seasonal inactivated influenza and COVID-19 vaccines \(who.int\)](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccines-SAGE-recommendation-bbv152-covaxin)
- **Digital Documentation of COVID-19 Certificates: Vaccination Status:** [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Digital\\_certificates-vaccination-technical\\_briefing-2021.1](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Digital_certificates-vaccination-technical_briefing-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>
- **An overview of infodemic management during COVID-19, January 2020–May 2021:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240035966>

## IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

### WHO issues emergency use listing for COVAXIN® COVID-19 vaccine

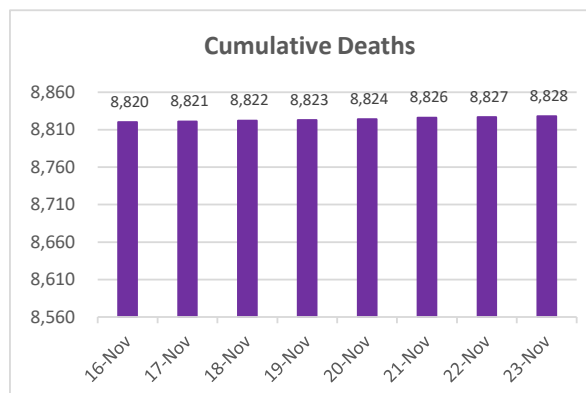
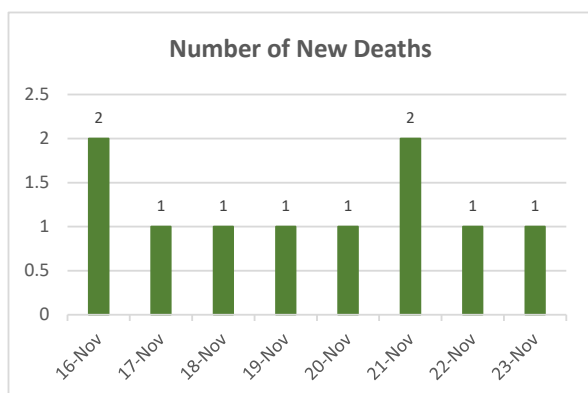
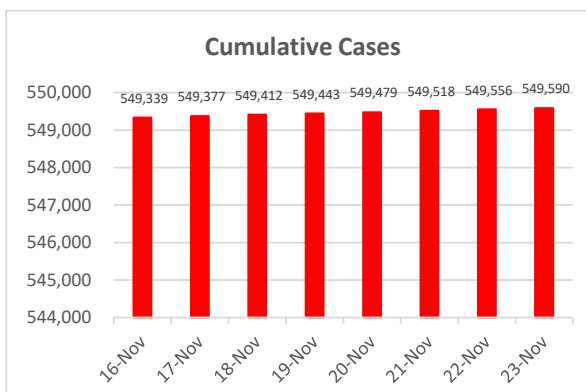
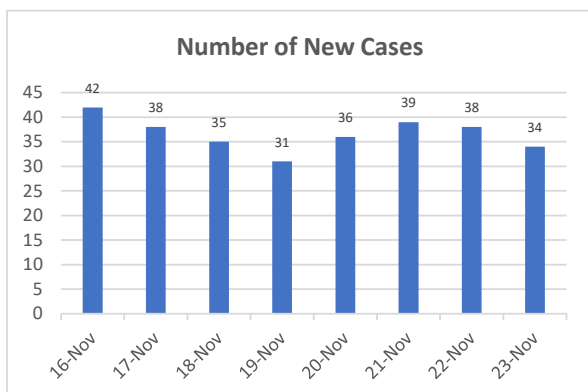
The World Health Organization (WHO) issued an emergency use listing (EUL) for COVAXIN® (developed by Bharat Biotech - India), on 3 November 2021 for the prevention of COVID-19.

COVAXIN® was assessed under the WHO EUL procedure based on the review of data on quality, safety, efficacy, a risk management plan and programmatic suitability. The Technical Advisory Group (TAG), convened by WHO has determined that the vaccine meets WHO standards for protection against COVID-19, that the benefit of the vaccine far outweighs risks and the vaccine can be used globally.

The vaccine is formulated from an inactivated SARS-CoV-2 antigen. WHO recommends the use of the vaccine in two doses, with a dose interval of four weeks, in all age groups 18 and above. COVAXIN® was found to have 78% efficacy against COVID-19 of any severity, 14 or more days after the second dose, and is extremely suitable for low- and middle-income countries due to easy storage requirements. Available data on vaccination of pregnant women with the vaccine are insufficient to assess vaccine safety or efficacy in pregnancy; studies in pregnant women are planned.

As part of the EUL process, the company producing the vaccine must commit to continue to generate data to enable full licensure and WHO prequalification of the vaccine. The WHO prequalification process will assess additional clinical data generated from vaccine trials and deployment on a rolling basis to ensure the vaccine meets the necessary standards of quality, safety and efficacy for broader availability.

Dr Mariângela Simão, WHO Assistant-Director General for Access to Medicines and Health Products said “This emergency use listing expands the availability of vaccines, the most effective medical tool we have to end the pandemic,”



## 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

