

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report



Weekly Report No. 280 - Saudi Arabia

03 - 09 March, 2022

	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths
Current	448,313,293	6,011,482	21,362,890	337,357
Last Week	437,333,859	5,960,972	21,219,909	334,421

Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
Total	748,121	729,206	9,013	9,902	354	41,140,513
in 7 days						
2/3/2022	407	685	2	11,677	501	58,238
3/3/2022	363	559	1	11,480	461	56,117
4/3/2022	283	525	1	11,237	443	45,757
5/3/2022	317	668	2	10,884	422	50,015
6/3/2022	279	645	1	10,517	410	41,505
7/3/2022	219	534	2	10,200	383	31,389
8/3/2022	187	483	2	9,902	354	27,913

Vaccination in Saudi Arabia

Total Doses Administered	Total of 1 st Dose	Total of 2 nd Dose	Total of Booster Doses
61.7 million	26 million	24.3 million	11.3 million

HIGHLIGHTS

- Regions with the highest new infections over the past 7 days: Riyadh followed by Jeddah.
- Saudi Arabia scrapped all COVID-19 restrictions in the country including following social distance, wearing masks outdoor, mandatory COVID-19 quarantine and PCR test upon arrival however "Tawakkalna" application is still mandatory to enter facilities, activities, events, planes and public transportation.
- Saudi Arabia lifted the suspension of direct flights and arrival to the Kingdom from (South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Eswatini, Mozambique, Malawi, Mauritius, Zambia, Madagascar, Angola, Seychelles, United Republic of Comoros, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Afghanistan).
- MoH has suspended daily statistical reports and the periodic press conferences on the latest developments of COVID-19 after 225 ones had passed.
- Ministry of Interior: Residents can enter Saudi Arabia regardless of their immunization status
- Minister of Health: The immunization rates against coronavirus have reached 99% among those aged above 12 years.
- Dr. Asiri: COVID-19 vaccines reduced deaths rate in Saudi Arabia from 267 to 1.4 cases . • MoH: COVID-19 is nearing an end in KSA; vaccination program covered more than 99% of targets. confirmed cases decreased by 95% while the critical cases recorded its highest levels of decline and dropped by 62%.
- Ministry of Hajj: No need for permit to perform prayer at Grand Mosque. Issuing permits will still be applied to perform Umrah and pray at Al-Rawdah Sharifa.
- Ministry of Interior records 21,144 violations against precautionary measures nationally in 1 week , Riyadh recorded the highest.
- WHO published Use of SARS-CoV-2 antigen-detection rapid diagnostic tests for COVID-19 self-testing, see link
- WHO updated Infection prevention and control in the context of coronavirus disease (COVID-19): A living guideline, see link
- WHO provides scientific brief on Mental Health and COVID-19: Early evidence of the pandemic's impact: Scientific brief, 2 March 2022, see link.
- WHO publishes Contact tracing and quarantine in the context of the Omicron SARS-CoV-2 variant: interim guidance, see link.
- WHO launches Public health surveillance for COVID-19: interim guidance, see link.
- WHO provides Questions and Answers: COVID-19 vaccines and pregnancy, see link.
- WHO publishes Global analysis of health care waste in the context of COVID-19, 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>
- **Use of SARS-CoV-2 antigen-detection rapid diagnostic tests for COVID-19 self-testing:** https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Ag-RDTs-Self_testing-2022.1
- **Infection prevention and control in the context of coronavirus disease (COVID-19): A living guideline:** [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/infection-prevention-and-control-in-the-context-of-coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)-a-living-guideline](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/infection-prevention-and-control-in-the-context-of-coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-a-living-guideline)
- **scientific brief on Mental Health and COVID-19: Early evidence of the pandemic's impact: Scientific brief, 2 March 2022:** https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Sci_Brief-Mental_health-2022.1
- **Contact tracing and quarantine in the context of the Omicron SARS-CoV-2 variant: interim guidance:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Contact-tracing-and-quarantine-Omicron-variant-2022.1>
- **Public Health Surveillance for COVID-19: interim guidance:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-SurveillanceGuidance-2022.1>
- **Questions and Answers: COVID-19 vaccines and pregnancy:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-FAQ-Pregnancy-Vaccines-2022.1>
- **Global analysis of health care waste in the context of COVID-19:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240039612>

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

The World Health Organization issued an emergency use listing (EUL) for Nuvaxovid™

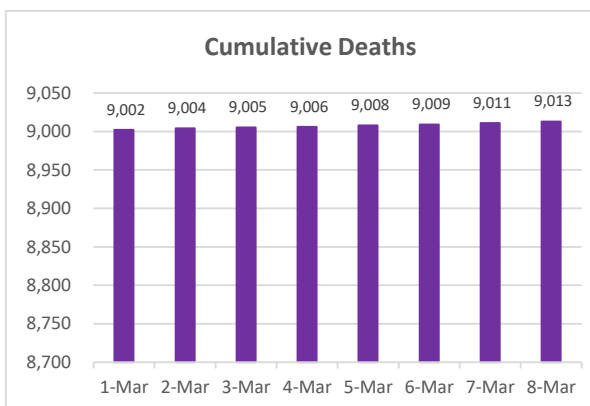
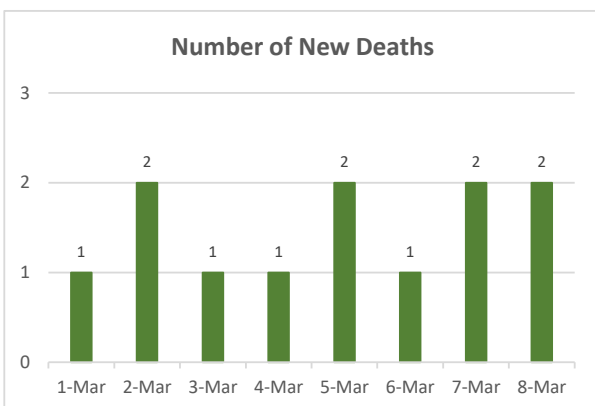
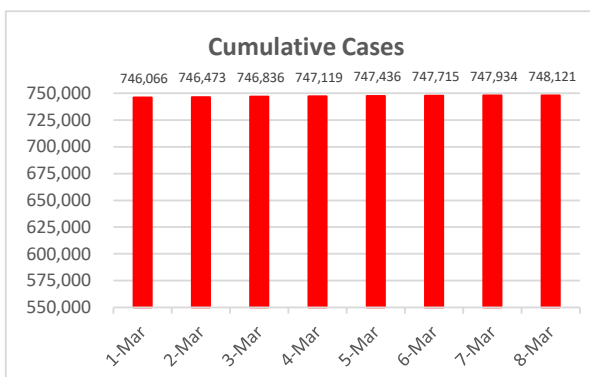
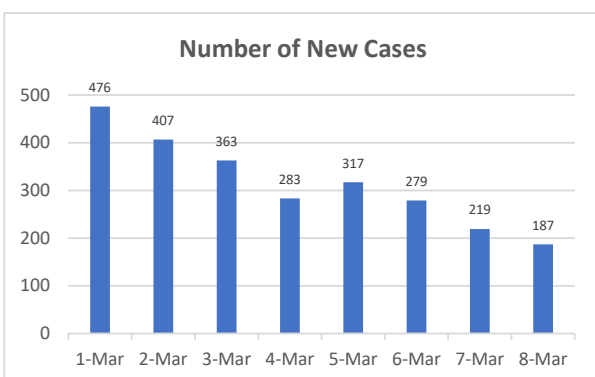
The new vaccine was developed by Novavax and the [Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations](#) (CEPI), and is the originator product for the Covovax™ vaccine that received WHO emergency use listing on 17 December.

Both vaccines are made using the same technologies. They require two doses and are stable at 2 to 8 °C refrigerated temperatures.

The Novavax vaccine (NVX-CoV2373) consists of a recombinant SARS-CoV-2 spike protein nanoparticle administered as a co-formulation with the adjuvant Matrix-M. Protein-based vaccines have been used against diseases such as pertussis, human papillomavirus, and hepatitis B. Matrix-M is a novel adjuvant that has been used in studies but has not previously been used in any licensed vaccine.

The efficacy of NVX-CoV2373 has been assessed in three phase 2 and phase 3 trials involving participants aged 18 years or older. In a phase 3 study conducted in the United Kingdom during a period in which the SARS-CoV-2 Alpha variant was predominant, vaccine efficacy (VE) against mild, moderate, or severe COVID-19 was 90% (95% CI: 80–95) from 7 days after the second vaccine dose, with a median follow-up of 56 days after the second dose. VE against mild, moderate, or severe disease in persons less than 65 years of age was 90% (95% CI: 80–95) and in those 65 years and older 89% (95% CI: 20–100). Studies of NVX-CoV2373 have demonstrated an acceptable safety and reactogenicity profile in adults ≥18 years of age, detailed data on the efficacy and safety of this vaccine can be found in the background document on the NVX-CoV2373 vaccine (see WHO website). The data reviewed by WHO support the conclusion that the known benefits of NVX-CoV2373 outweigh the risks that are known or considered possible. Therefore, WHO recommends the use of NVX-CoV2373 in persons aged ≥18 years. As sufficient vaccine supply will not be immediately available to immunize all who could benefit from it, countries are recommended to use the WHO Prioritization Roadmap and the WHO Values Framework as guidance for prioritized vaccine use, based on population subgroup.

The recommended primary vaccine series is two doses given intramuscularly into the deltoid muscle at an interval of 3–4 weeks. The vaccine should not be administered with an interval of less than 3 weeks. WHO is currently assessing the need for and timing of booster doses. Data on the duration of continued protection are currently still missing.



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