

# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Weekly Update

## Report No. 285 - Saudi Arabia

14 April, 2022



World Health  
Organization

WHO Office - Riyadh

	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths
<b>Current</b>	499,119,316	6,185,242	21,649,459	341,579
<b>Last Week</b>	492,189,439	6,159,474	21,609,468	341,074

### Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
<b>Total</b>	<b>752,188</b>	<b>738,011</b>	<b>9,062</b>	<b>5,115</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>41,704,690</b>

### Vaccination in Saudi Arabia

Total Doses Administered	Total of 1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	Total of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dose	Total of Booster Doses
63.6 million	26.3 million	24.7 million	12.6 million

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Global update:** During the past week, the number of new COVID-19 cases has continued to decline for the third consecutive week, with a 19.7% decrease as compared to the previous week. Also the number of new weekly deaths continue to decline, decreasing 4.6% as compared to the previous week.
- **Regional update:** In the Eastern Mediterranean Region, new weekly cases have continued to decline since early February 2022. Just under 40,000 new weekly cases were reported last week, a 5.6% decrease as compared to the previous week. However, three (14%) countries in the Region have reported increases in new cases of 20% or greater, with the largest observed in Iran. The number of new weekly deaths in the Region decreased by 12.2% when compared to the previous week, with 505 new deaths reported.
- **Saudi Arabia update:**
  - Dr Abdullah Asiri denied reports that Saudi Arabia will give a 4th dose of the COVID-19 vaccine to people in the age group 60 and above.
  - Foreign pilgrims will account for 85% of the total number of 1 million pilgrims who will be allowed to perform Hajj this year. This year's Hajj is open to those who are under 65 years old and have received approved COVID-19 vaccinations. Pilgrims coming from outside the Kingdom are required to submit a negative COVID-19 PCR test result performed within 72 hours of the time of departure to the Kingdom.
- **COVID-19 variants:** The Omicron variant remains the dominant variant circulating. Among the 379,278 specimens collected in the last 30 days, 99.2% were Omicron and less than 0.1% were Delta, the remaining 0.8% were not assigned. A small number of new Omicron sequences of BA.4 and BA.5 descendent lineages have now been detected in a few countries. Both have additional mutations in the Spike region and unique mutations outside of Spike. WHO is following up to assess their characteristics and public health consequences.

### 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>
- **Important WHO publications / sources:**
  - [Tracking SARS-CoV-2 variants \(who.int\)](#)
  - [Considerations for implementing and adjusting public health and social measures in the context of COVID-19 \(who.int\)](#)
  - [About | View Hub \(view-hub.org\)](#)
  - [Statement on Omicron sublineage BA.2 \(who.int\)](#)
  - [COVID-19 \(openwho.org\)](#)
  - [WHO COVID-19 Case definition](#)