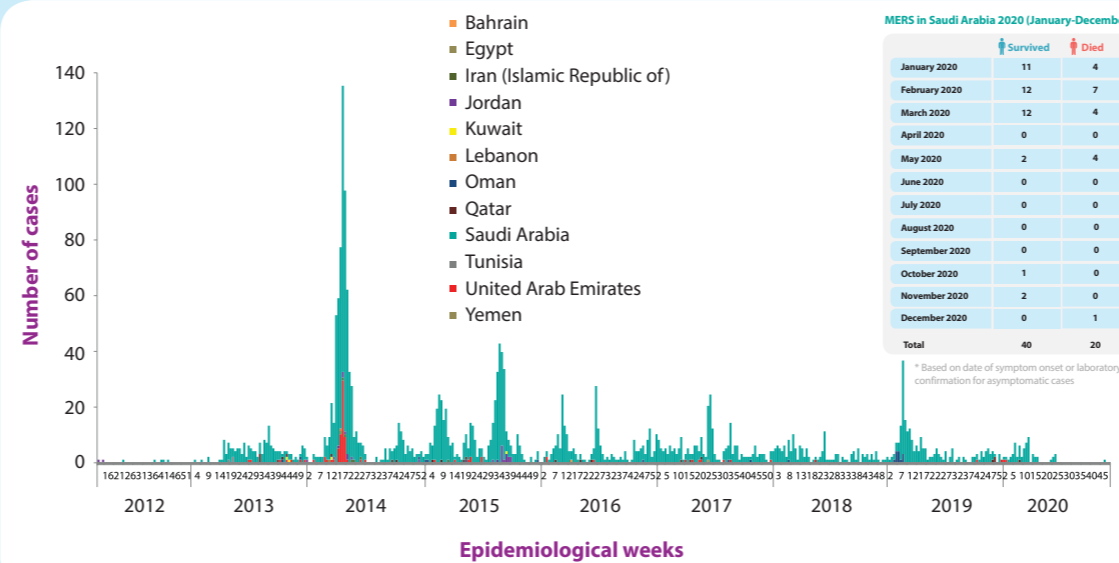


Highlights

- At the end of December 2020, a total of 2566 laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), including 882 associated deaths (case-fatality rate: 34.37%) were reported globally; the majority of these cases were reported from Saudi Arabia (2167 cases, including 804 related deaths with a case-fatality rate of 37.10%).
- During the month of December, three laboratory-confirmed cases of MERS were reported from Saudi Arabia with one associated death. The reported cases were not linked to any clusters. The reported cases were male, national and not healthcare workers.
- The demographic and epidemiological characteristics of reported cases, when compared during the same corresponding period of 2015 to 2020, do not show any significant difference or change.
- The age group 50–59 years continues to be at the highest risk for acquiring infection of primary cases. The age group 30–39 years is most at risk for secondary cases. The number of deaths is higher in the age group 50–59 years for primary cases and 70–79 years for secondary cases.

Distribution of MERS reported cases from EMR by week of onset, 2012-2020



Summary

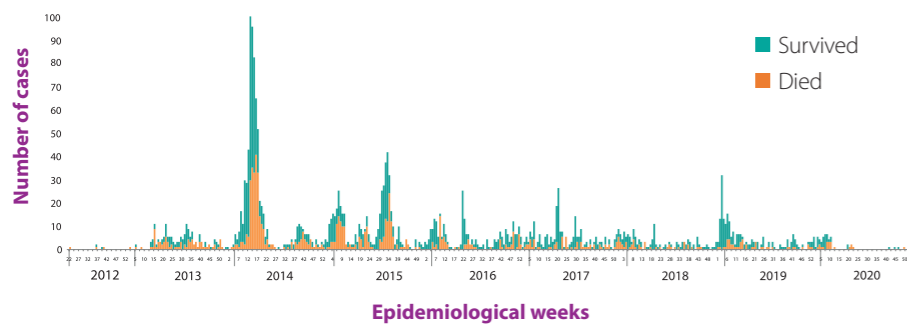
2566 Laboratory-confirmed cases reported since April 2012

882 deaths reported since April 2012

27 countries reported cases globally

12 countries reported cases since April 2012 in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

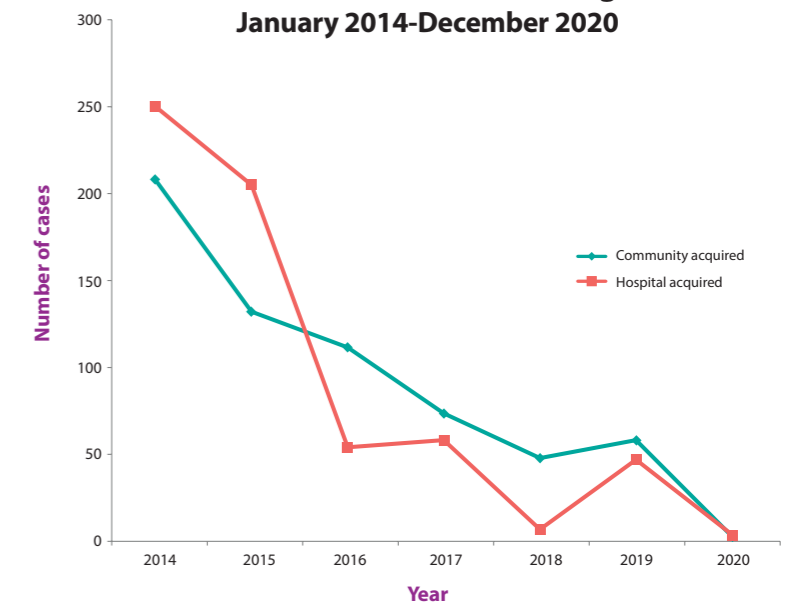
MERS cases reported from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by week of symptoms onset June 2012–December 2020



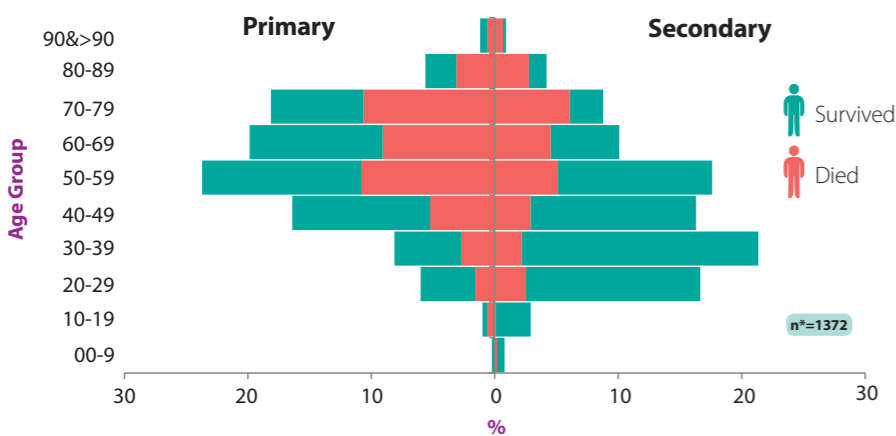
Characteristics of MERS cases reported from Kingdom of Saudi Arabia June 2012–December 2020

Type of case	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Grand Total
Missing		1	15	102	103	68	52	56	7	404
Primary	3	36	164	52	75	70	54	57	11	522
Secondary	2	93	264	222	60	90	35	75	9	850
Unknown		28	219	75	11	5	1	16	33	391
Grand Total	5	158	662	454	249	233	142	204	60	2167

Community versus hospital acquired MERS cases in Eastern Mediterranean Region January 2014–December 2020



Age and fatality distribution of primary and secondary cases of MERS reported from Saudi Arabia June 2012–December 2020



Epidemiological characteristics of MERS cases reported globally between July-December 2015 and July-December 2020

Characteristic	Jul - Dec 15	Jul - Dec 16	Jul - Dec 17	Jul - Dec 18	Jul - Dec 19	Jul - Dec 20
Number	257	99	94	50	54	4
Median age in years	53	56	51	56	57	52
Gender (% male)	60	77	72	88	85	100
% of Primary Cases	6	42	34	50	33	75
% of Secondary cases	60	11	21	20	9	0
(%) of Unknown Contact History	9			1	16	
% of HCW	18	6	9	0	4	0
% Fatal	36	31	35	28	30	25

Cases of MERS in healthcare workers reported from Saudi Arabia, January 2013–December 2020

