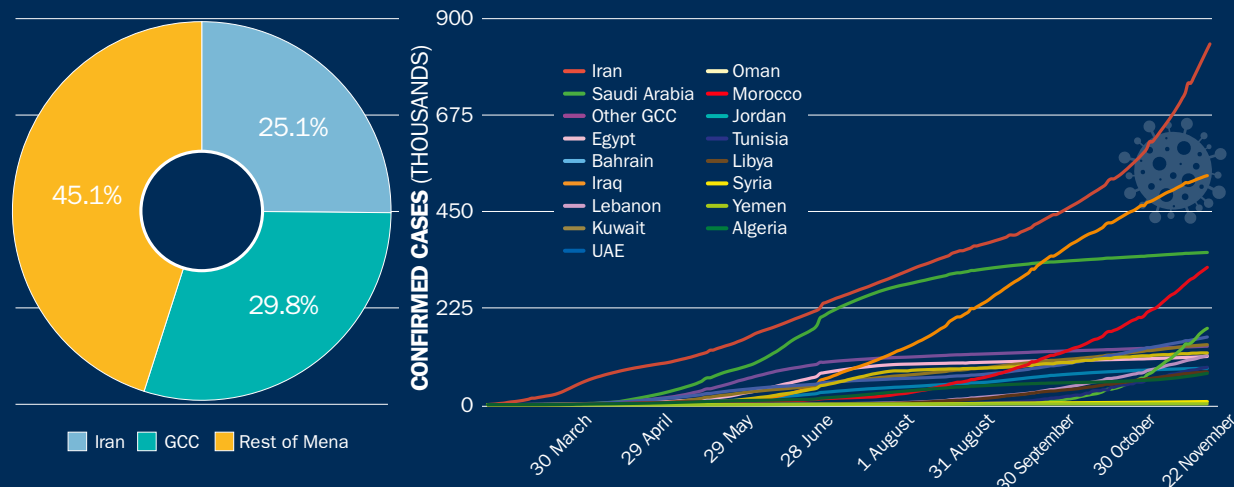


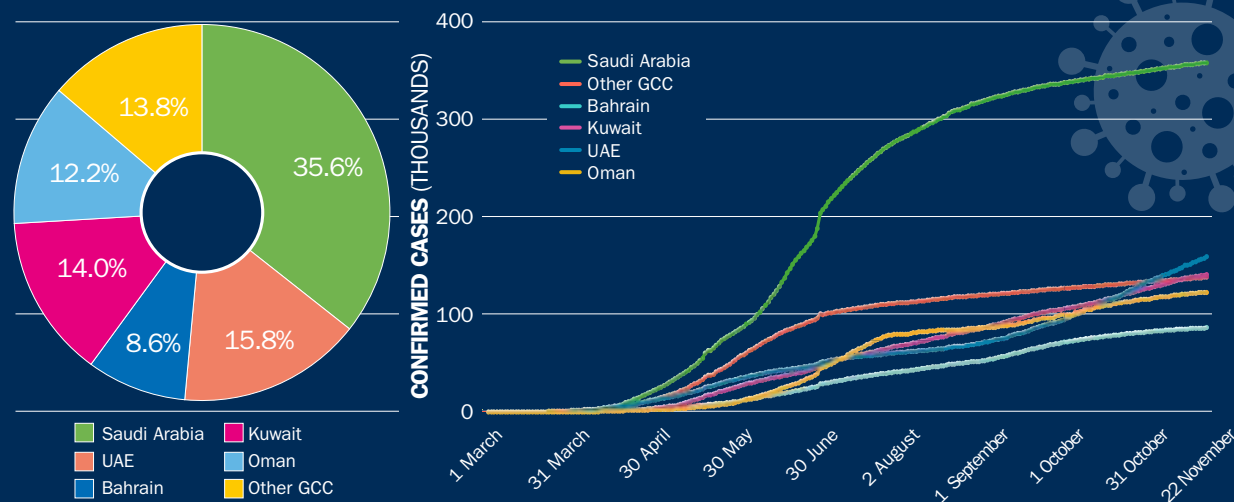
COVID-19 TRACKER

As the number of Covid-19 cases in the Middle East and North Africa region crosses 3.3 million, governments race to secure vaccines

COVID-19 CASES IN THE MENA REGION



COVID-19 CASES WITHIN THE GCC



COVID-19 SITUATION AND LATEST UPDATES

Country	Confirmed Cases
ALGERIA	73,775+
BAHRAIN	85,590+
EGYPT	112,675+
IRAN	841,310+
IRAQ	533,555+
JORDAN	178,160+
KUWAIT	139,730+
LEBANON	115,280+

ALGERIA
Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad says the closure of schools is ruled out and that contracts with foreign laboratories for the purchase of Covid-19 vaccines are under way.

BAHRAIN
Infectious diseases consultant and microbiologist at the BDF Hospital, Manaf al-Qahtani, says Bahrain placed an order in August to purchase more than 1 million doses of the Covid-19 vaccines being developed by BioNTech and Pfizer, AstraZeneca and Sinopharm.

EGYPT
Prime Minister Moustafa Madbouly warns of a harsher wave of Covid-19 and calls on residents to comply with precautionary measures. Face masks are mandatory in public and fines of \$256.8 will be issued to violators.

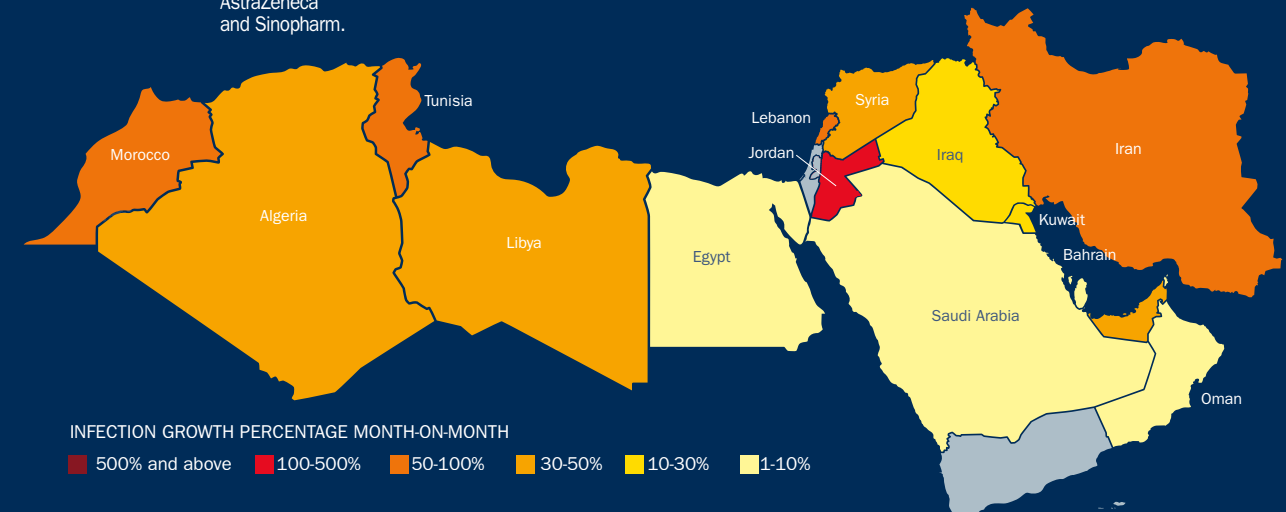
IRAN
Fresh curbs imposed on 21 November, but in the morning state TV said Tehran's streets were "crowded despite the restrictions". President Hassan Rouhani reportedly said the two-week restrictions could be extended if required.

IRAQ
Health Ministry calls on citizens to abide by protective measures against Covid-19, such as wearing masks and maintaining social distancing, adding there is "great negligence by citizens".

JORDAN
Health Ministry allowed to take charge of any hospital for Covid-19 treatment and fix treatment prices in private hospitals. The government plans to treat Jordanians with Covid-19 for free in private hospitals if their transfer was approved by the Health Ministry.

KUWAIT
Cabinet designs plan to bring back the country's domestic workers, approving the "urgent completion" of a two-phased approach as outlined by Kuwait's aviation regulator chief Sheikh Salman Sabah al-Salem al-Sabah.

LEBANON
Health Ministry inks agreement with Syndicate of Private Hospitals to raise tariffs for protective equipment and ventilators, provided private hospitals receive and treat all individuals infected with Covid-19.



Country	Confirmed Cases
LIBYA	76,810+
MOROCCO	320,960+
OMAN	121,360+
OTHER GCC	137,060+
SAUDI ARABIA	355,030+
SYRIA	7,150+
TUNISIA	87,470+
UAE	157,785+

LIBYA
Libyan Audit Bureau approves a contract by the Libyan Health Ministry to purchase Covid-19 vaccines worth \$9.1m.

MOROCCO
King Mohammed VI announces nationwide vaccination plan against Covid-19 in the coming weeks. The vaccination campaign will first target frontline workers from the health sector and security forces, as well as the elderly.

OMAN
Health Minister Ahmed bin Mohammed al-Saeedi says Muscat intends to obtain enough vaccines to cover 40 per cent of the population as a first stage "hopefully before the end of this year".

OTHER GCC
2020 Fifa Club World Cup, due to be held in December, is rescheduled to take place on 1-11 February 2021.

SAUDI ARABIA
Saudi Arabia will review its tripled rate of VAT after the pandemic ends, acting Media Minister Majid al-Qasabi reportedly said, adding the decision was a "painful" one.

SYRIA
Health Ministry launches campaign to distribute protective clothing and run Covid-19 testing for healthcare workers more frequently.

TUNISIA
Health Minister Faouzi Mehdi says Tunis has established contact with foreign laboratories to prepare for the acquisition of a Covid-19 vaccine, in line with WHO guidelines.

UAE
Central Bank of the UAE extends applicability period of Targeted Economic Support Scheme until 30 June 2021.

