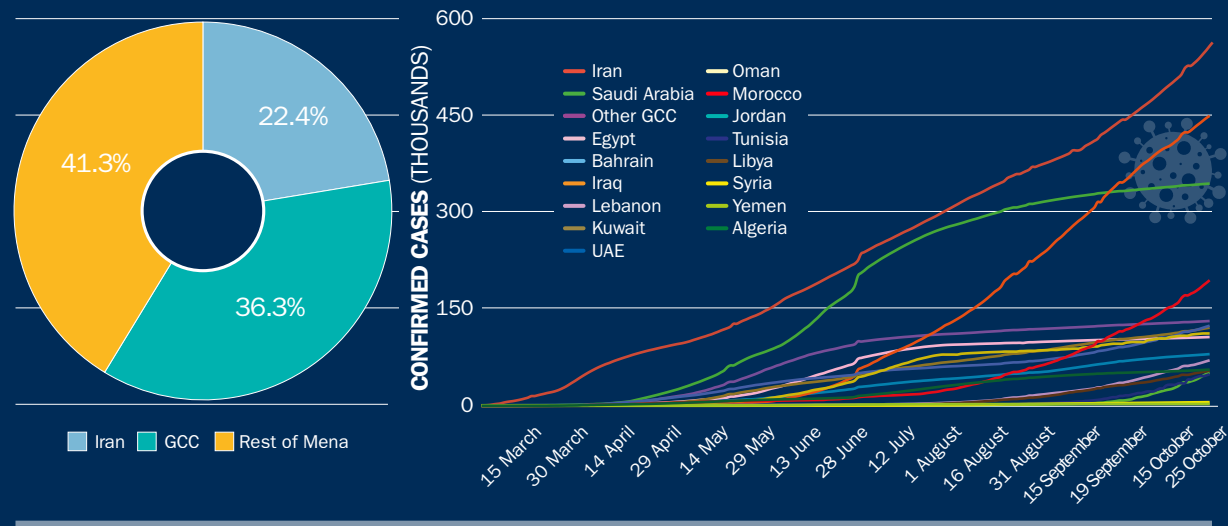


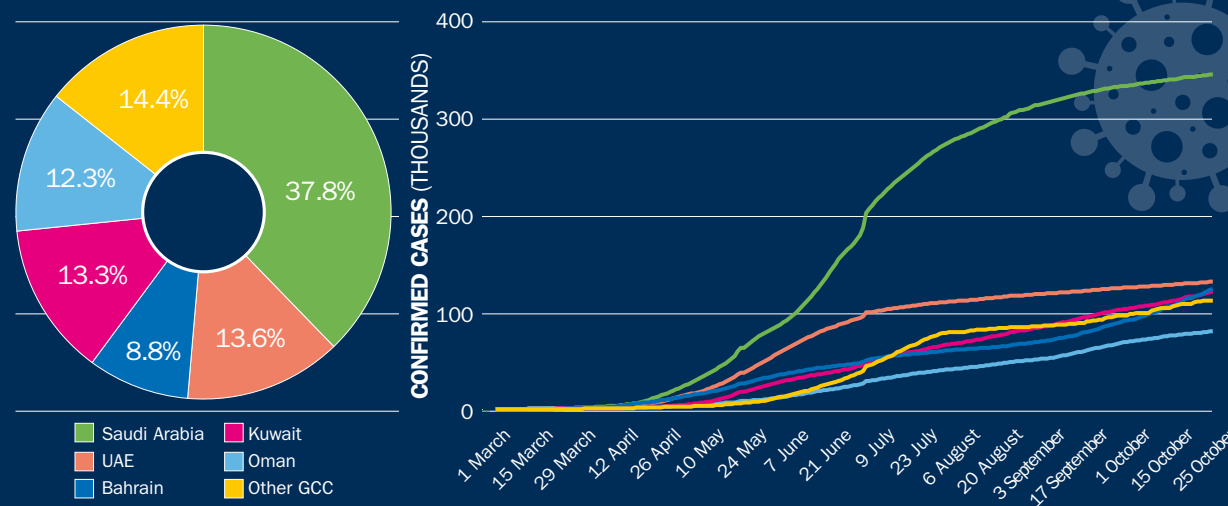
COVID-19 TRACKER

The total number of Covid-19 cases in the Middle East and North Africa region crosses 2.5 million as countries step up efforts to secure economies in 2021 and beyond

COVID-19 CASES IN THE MENA REGION

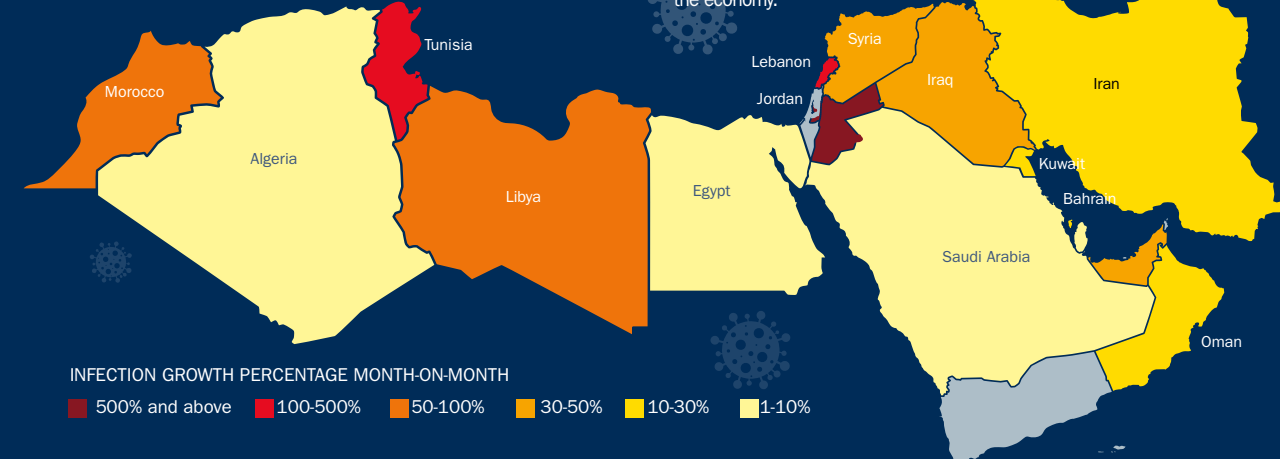


COVID-19 CASES WITHIN THE GCC



COVID-19 SITUATION AND LATEST UPDATES

Country	Cases	Update
ALGERIA	55,880+	Ministry of Energy plans measures to mitigate the financial impact of Covid-19, including cutting the investment budgets for national oil and gas companies Sonatrach and Sonelgaz, with the aim of saving \$1.2bn.
BAHRAIN	79,975+	Nurseries allowed to reopen. National Health Regulatory Authority licenses the first factory to produce medical face masks in Bahrain.
EGYPT	106,400+	Egyptian Doctors Syndicate has disbursed \$4.5m to support doctors infected with Covid-19 since February, and \$317,526 has been distributed to the families of doctors who have died from the illness.
IRAN	562,705+	President Hassan Rouhani has urged compliance with precautionary measures, saying: "Currently, there is no way to fight this virus other than observing health protocols."
IRAQ	449,150+	Baghdad reveals a white paper prepared by the Crisis Cell for Financial & Fiscal Reform that lists Covid-19 as one of the key factors causing Iraq's economic decline. The report includes proposals to boost the economy.
JORDAN	50,750+	Defence orders are issued to curb the spread of the virus, including a total curfew on Fridays. Selected land border crossings are reopened for travellers.
KUWAIT	120,930+	Health Ministry says allegations of patients being denied hospital admission are "divorced from reality", and urges continued adherence to precautionary measures to curb the spread of Covid-19.
LEBANON	69,910+	Lebanon inks agreement for the World Health Organisation to fund treatment of 800 Covid-19 patients from the Roumieh jail.



Country	Cases	Update
LIBYA	54,375+	State-held National Oil Corporation announces lifting of force majeure at Sidra and Ras Lanuf ports, adding instructions have been given to start production arrangements, taking into account general security and safety standards.
MOROCCO	194,460+	Tighter curbs are announced for the Greater Casablanca area. The Health Ministry is allocated almost MD20bn in the appropriation bill for 2021, to fund Rabat's response to Covid-19.
OMAN	111,840+	The supreme committee tasked with managing the Covid-19 response expresses "extreme anxiety" about individuals flouting precautionary measures and urges compliance to reduce instances of infections.
OTHER GCC	130,965+	State-backed bank's Covid-19 response package, launched as part of the government's programme to support local businesses, has received an additional \$549.3m, taking its total value to \$1.3bn.
SAUDI ARABIA	344,550+	Ministry of Hajj & Umrah announces plans for the second phase of the resumption of performing Umrah, which will allow a maximum of 15,000 Umrah performers and 40,000 worshippers a day.
SYRIA	5,360+	President Bashar al-Assad issues a decree approving an exemption on income tax amid tightening economic conditions. It exempts those earning \$40 or less a month from paying income tax and reduces the level of tax paid in the lowest income bracket.
TUNISIA	9,110+	Minister of Economy, Finance & Investment Support, Ali Kooli, says economic contraction of 8 per cent will lead Tunisia to a revenue loss of \$2.9bn in 2020. Additional spending this year will lead to a budget deficit of 14 per cent.
UAE	123,765+	Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council of Dubai, Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum, launches \$136.1m stimulus package to support various business sectors across the economy.



Mena=Middle East and North Africa region. Produced on 25 October. Sources: World Health Organisation, Worldometer, MEED

