

CDC in Saudi Arabia

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has worked with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for over 20 years. CDC has formed partnerships with the Ministry of Health, WHO, local partners, and other U.S. Government agencies to reduce the impact of emerging diseases, build capacity in laboratory systems and epidemiology, respond to public health emergencies, and conduct surveillance, surveys, and studies.



CDC STAFF

1 U.S. Assignee



AT A GLANCE

Population: 32,938,213 (2017)
Per capita income: \$54,770
Life expectancy at birth: F 76 /M 73 years

Infant mortality rate: 12/1,000 live births

Sources:
World Bank 2018, Saudi Arabia
Population Reference Bureau 2018, Saudi Arabia



TOP 10 CAUSES OF DEATH

- 1. Ischemic heart disease
- 2. Road injuries
- 3. Stroke
- 4. Chronic kidney disease
- 5. Lower respiratory infections
- 6. Alzheimer's disease
- 7. Conflict and terror
- 8. Cirrhosis
- 9. Neonatal disorders
- 10. Diabetes

Source:

GBD Compare 2018, Saudi Arabia



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention





Global Health Protection

To prevent the spread of disease regionally and around the world it is critical that countries respond to public health threats quickly and effectively within their borders. CDC works with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to strengthen its public health systems and build capacity for disease outbreak response, surveillance, laboratory systems, and workforce development.

Field Epidemiology Training Program

CDC supports strengthening Saudi Arabia's public health workforce to investigate and respond to disease outbreaks. In 1989 CDC assisted in the establishment of a Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) that trains field epidemiologists—or disease detectives—to identify and contain outbreaks before they become epidemics. FETP residents develop skills to gather critical data and use it to make public health program recommendations.

The two-year training program leads to a diploma in Field Epidemiology from King Saud University, which is recognized as equivalent to a Master's Degree by Saudi Council for Health Specialties. Since its establishment, the program has graduated 29 cohorts and 142 residents, many of whom have assumed public health positions in the country.

The Saudi Arabia FETP was the first program in the Middle East. It currently has four residents from Oman and is actively recruiting residents from other countries in the region.

CDC Impact in Saudia Arabia



More than 140 fellows have graduated from Saudi Arabia's Field Epidemiology Training Program, now working across Saudi Arabia to quickly contain outbreaks at their source.