

Virus cases top two million in wider Mideast: WHO

September 10 2020



Credit: Unsplash/CC0 Public Domain

Coronavirus cases in the wider Middle East from Morocco to Pakistan have topped two million, the World Health Organization said on Thursday.

The caseload for the 21 countries has more than doubled since July 1,

the UN agency said.

Regional director Ahmed Mandhari warned that even countries like Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia, which had kept their infection rates under control, were now facing significant upticks.

The WHO listed the hardest-hit countries as Iran with more than 393,000 cases, Saudi Arabia with more than 320,000, Pakistan with just under 300,000 and Iraq with nearly 274,000.

Mandhari said that a number of factors threatened to raise [infection rates](#) further—the resumption of international travel across much of the region, the start of the new school year and the beginning of the flu season.

It is now six months since the WHO declared the novel coronavirus a pandemic.

Worldwide, there have been more than 27.7 million confirmed virus cases, according to an AFP count based on official statistics, with the worst-hit region Latin America and the Caribbean, followed by Europe.

© 2020 AFP

Citation: Virus cases top two million in wider Mideast: WHO (2020, September 10) retrieved 5 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-09-virus-cases-million-wider-mideast.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.