

## CURRENT SITUATION

Somalia is experiencing worsening drought following three consecutive seasons of inadequate rains. According to the Food Security and Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and Famine Early Warning Network (FEWS NEST), Somalia received suboptimal amounts of drier rains than expected in October 2021. Currently, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) estimates that the number of people affected by extreme drought has risen from 4.9 million in March to 6.1 million in May, with 771,400 displaced from their homes in search of water, food, and pasture. Hunger is rising, with more than 6 million people now facing severe food shortages (IPC 3 or higher) from April through mid-2022. The current situation including the displacement have led to more people being vulnerable to epidemic-prone diseases, particularly acute



### DROUGHT KEY FACTS

<b>6.1</b>	Million people including
<b>771 400</b>	IDPs
<b>74</b>	Districts affected by drought
<b>626</b>	Health facilities Reporting to EWARN



### HEALTH SITUATION

16-17, 18/4 - 1/5/2022



**4 278**  
Acute diarrhoea cases



**1 316**  
Cholera cases



**19 912**  
Malaria cases<sup>7</sup>

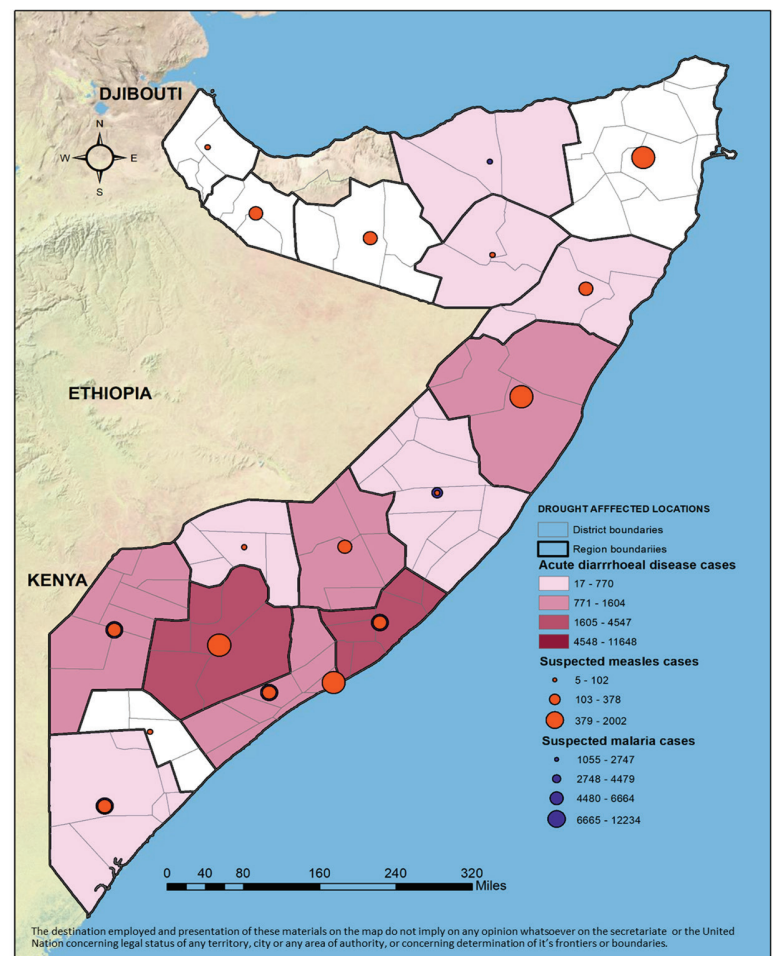


**987**  
Measles cases



**1 588**  
SARI cases

Reported cases of acute diarrhoeal disease, suspected measles, SARI and clinically diagnosed malaria cases in drought-affected region of Somalia, epidemiological weeks (1-17, 03 Jan to 01 May 2022)



The Federal Ministry of Health and WHO monitor the trends of epidemic-prone diseases in drought affected districts using data from the electronic-based EWARN, fever and rash surveillance system and community health workers deployed in drought affected districts. With support from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and in collaboration with state ministries of health, WHO is implementing activities aimed at preventing disease outbreaks, including the timely detection and response to alerts of epidemic-prone diseases reported among vulnerable communities in drought affected.

## CHOLERA IN DROUGHT-AFFECTED DISTRICTS

Recurrent cholera outbreaks have been reported in the drought affected districts of Somalia since 2017, with no interruption in transmission in Benadir region. The number of new suspected cases of cholera have increased in 2022 compared to the previous years due to an increasing number of people with limited access to safe water and safe sanitation practice (Figure 1). Since the epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 3720 suspected cases of cholera with nine associated deaths (CFR 0.24%) were reported from 21 drought affected districts. Of the 3720 suspected cases of cholera, 65% (2 418) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir(1762), Bay (1155) and Lower Shabelle (407) (see Table 1). Of the 263 stool samples collected and analyzed, 52 samples tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 serotype Ogawa. Culture and sensitivity studies conducted in the National Public Health Reference Laboratory in Mogadishu showed that the *V. cholerae* serotype Ogawa isolate is sensitive to chloramphenicol and tetracycline but resistant to ampicillin and nalidixic acid.

Fig. 1. Trends of acute watery diarrhoea/cholera cases reported in drought-affected regions of Somalia, 2020–2022

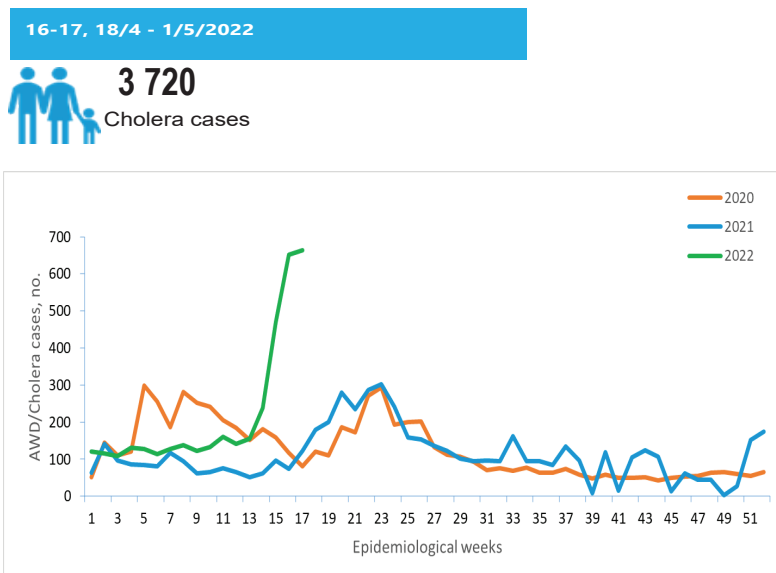


Fig. 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected regions of Somalia, 2020–2022

## ACUTE DIARRHOEAL DISEASE CASES

The number of new cases of acute diarrhoeal disease decreased in January 2022 compared to January 2021 and 2020 respectively (Figure 2). This reduction in cases might have been linked to the implementation of additional Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) interventions in drought-affected districts. However, the number of new cases of acute diarrhoea reported from drought affected districts has increased by 18% in the past two weeks in 2022 which can be attributed to new displacements or other factors contributing to deterioration of environmental sanitation situation. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 26 848 cases of acute diarrhoeal disease were reported from drought-affected districts through the Early Warning and Response Network (EWARN) and from the community. Of these, 68% (18 256) were children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (11 648), Middle Shabelle (4 547) and Bay (3 029) (Table 1).

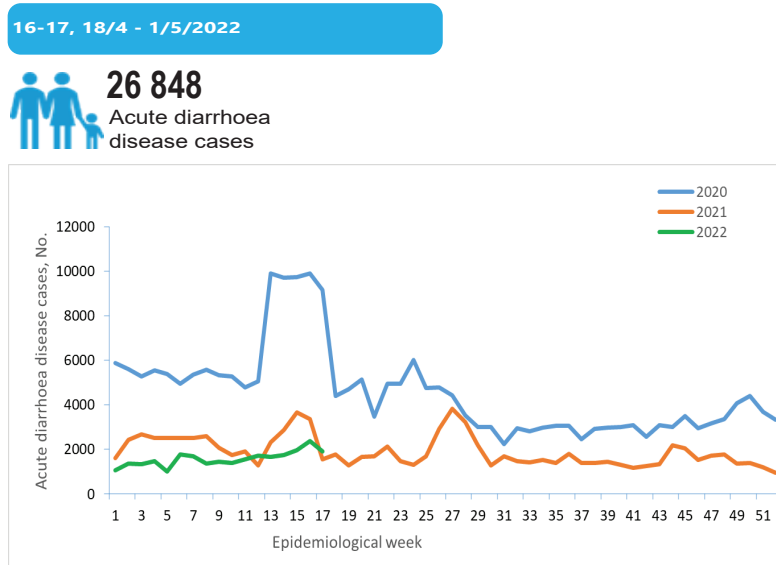
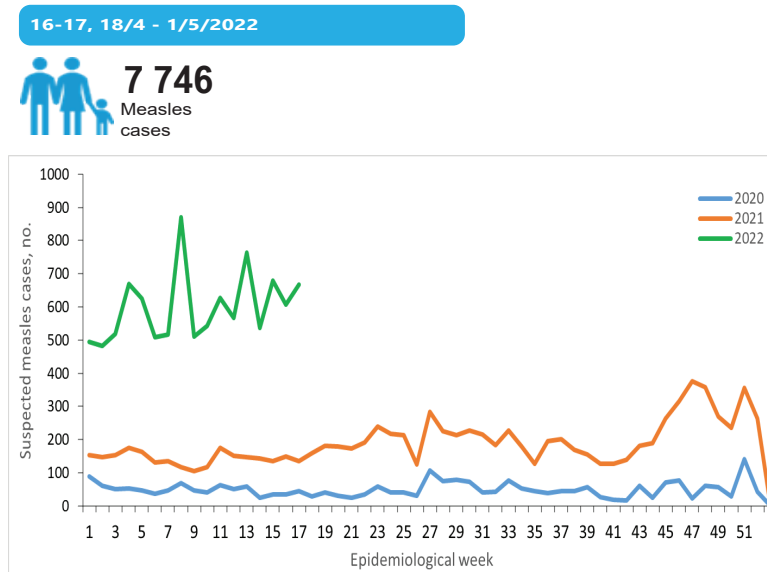


Fig. 3. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected regions of Somalia, 2020–2022

## SUSPECTED MEASLES CASES

The number of suspected cases of measles have increased in 2022 compared to the previous years. This surge in cases is linked to a decrease in measles vaccination coverage of children below five years of age in drought affected districts (Figure 3). Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 7 746 suspected cases of measles were reported in the fever and rash surveillance system used by from the Polio programme in drought-affected districts. Of the 7 746 measles cases reported 81% (6 274) are children below five years of age. The number of new cases of suspected measles has increased by 15% in the past two weeks of 2022. The regions reporting the most cases include Bay (2 002), Mudug (1 268), Banadir (1 238) and Bay (1 113) (see Table 1). Of the 249 blood samples collected from suspected cases of measles and analyzed in the laboratories, 57% (142) tested positive for measles-specific immunoglobulin M (IgM).



## MEASLES IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE

A total of 47 489 (89.2%) out of the targeted 53 239 children under one year of age received the first dose of measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) in drought-affected districts in February 2022 according to data from District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) (Fig. 4). From March 2019 to March 2022, the measles vaccination coverage ranged between 58% and 84% per month compared to the

## POLIO UPDATES

- One new case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV 2) was reported from Danyile district, Banadir region on 01 January 2021. One (01) cVDPV2 case was reported in 2021.
- No new cVDPV2 isolate from an AFP case or environmental surveillance (ES) samples was reported during this reporting week. In 2022, Eighty two (82) AFP cases (36 females and 46 males) were reported. Of these, 65 (79%) cases have laboratory results, and 17 (21%) cases are pending for processing. Of the cases with laboratory results, one (1) was cVDPV2 isolate, three were PV2 and sixty-one (61) tested negative.

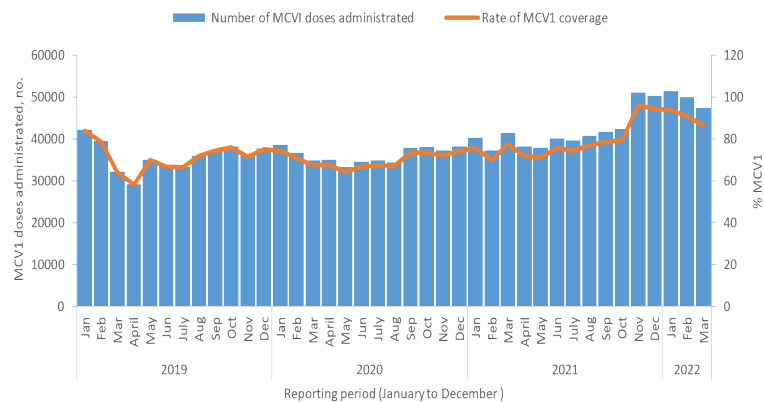
## SUSPECTED MALARIA CASES

The number of suspected cases of malaria reported through DHIS2 has decreased since January 2022 (Figure 5). This decrease is attributed to implementation of measles preventive measures in different regions. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 78 287 suspected cases of malaria have been reported of which 1 325 have been confirmed. Of the 1 325 confirmed cases, 337 (25.4%) cases were tested positive for malaria in March 2022 from the 71 drought-affected districts in 18 regions (Table 1). The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (12 234) Bay (8 766), and Bari (6 664), (Table 1).

## INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

The number of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) cases reported through the EWARN decreased in 2022 compared to the previous years (Figure 6). Since epidemiological week 1, 2022, a total of 9 909 SARI cases were reported from drought affected districts. Of these 63% (6 243) were children below five years of age. The districts reporting most of the cases are Banadir (4003), Bay (1 413) and Galgadud (920) (Table 1). A total of 116 SARI cases were enrolled in EMFLU reporting platform for Somalia since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 38 were tested in the National Public Health Laboratory in Mogadishu for Influenza of which 14 (36%) cases were positive for Influenza. 2 (5%) of them tested positive for influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; while 8(21%) were positive for influenza A (H3N2). No sample was tested positive for influenza type B.

Fig. 4. Number of children under 1 year of age vaccinated against measles by month, 2018-2021



\*The measles vaccination data for the month of Jan and Feb 2022 are not yet available

Fig 5: Trends of malaria cases reported in drought-affected regions, 2022-2022

16-17, 18/4 - 1/5/2022



**78 287**

Malaria

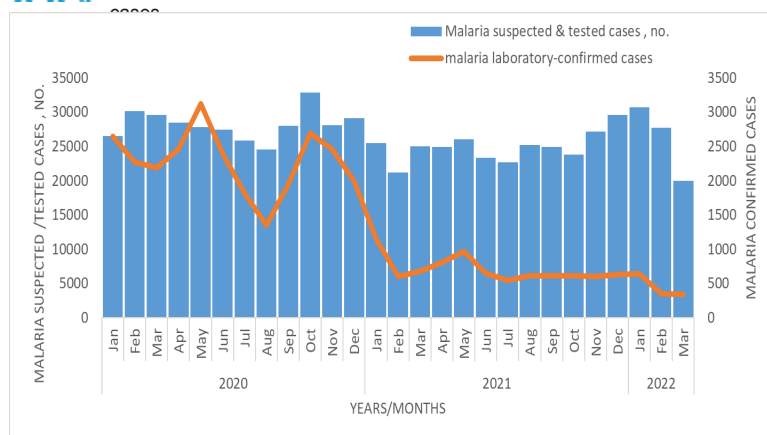


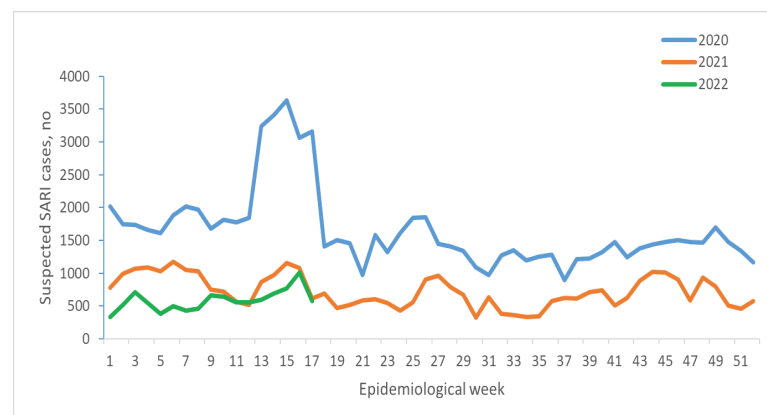
Fig.6. Trends of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) reported from drought-affected regions of Somalia, 2020-2022

16-17, 18/4 - 1/5/2022



**9 909**

SARI cases



**Table 1: Cumulative number of acute diarrhoeal disease, suspected measles, SARI, and suspected malaria cases in drought-affected regions of Somalia (epidemiological weeks 1-17, 03 Jan to 01 May 2022)**

Regions	Acute diarrhoeal disease[1]	Suspected Measles cases[2]	Suspected Malaria cases	SARI cases	Cholera cases[3]
AWDAL	0	5	2658	0	0
BAKOOL	770	41	2257	66	0
BANADIR	11648	1238	12234	4003	1762
BARI	0	1113	6664	0	0
BAY	3029	2002	8766	1413	1155
GALBEED	0	167	4479	0	0
GALGADUD	424	102	3229	920	0
GEDO	1231	300	6358	646	0
HIRAN	1,593	176	3220	654	0
LOWER JUBA	582	176	5174	874	0
LOWER SHABELLE	1604	307	6385	268	407
MIDDLE JUBA[4]	0	17	0	0	0
MIDDLE SHABELLE	4547	170	5064	177	396
MUDUG	923	1268	4211	610	0
NUGAL	17	378	1698	30	0
SANAG	390	0	2088	248	0
SOOL	90	98	1055	0	0
TOGDHER	0	178	2747	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>26 848</b>	<b>7 746</b>	<b>78 287</b>	<b>9 909</b>	<b>3 720</b>

[1] Data for acute diarrhoeal disease cases is extracted from EWARN as of epidemiological week 17 ending 1/05/2022, however health facilities in regions from Awdal, Bari, Galebeed, Middle Juba and Togdher are not reporting in EWARN

[2] Measles data has been updated and sources of data is AFP surveillance (fever with rash)

[3] Data for cholera is received from MOH as of epidemiological week 17 ending 1/05/2022

[4] Only 3 districts of Middle Jubba are accessible, the possibility of under reporting for malaria cases is highly likely

Note; Continuous data quality review has been conducted which may lead to variation of figures for new cases and cumulative cases of epidemic prone disease in each district.

Note: The total number of cases reported on EWARN may change after verification by surveillance teams. a) Banadir is a region not a state.

b) Non reporting districts (Garowe, Hargeisa, Hudun, Bandarbayla, Luuq, Saakow, Galdogob, Zaylac, Gebiley, Lughaye, Taleex, Rabdhure and Eyle).



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