

Current situation

Somalia is experiencing worsening drought following four consecutive seasons of failed rainy season. According to the Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and Famine Early Warning Network (FEWS NEST), Somalia received suboptimal amount of drier rains than expected since 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 7.8 million in August, with 1 million displaced from their homes in search of water, food, and pasture.

Some 7.1 million people - 45 per cent of the population - are acutely food insecure. For the first time since 2017, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification has confirmed pockets of catastrophic food insecurity (Phase 5) affecting more than 213,000 people. An estimated 1.5 million children under age 5 face acute malnutrition, including 386,400 who are likely to be severely malnourished. The current situation including the displacement have led to more people being vulnerable to epidemic prone diseases, particularly acute diarrheal disease, and measles.



SUMMARY STATISTICS FOR DROUGHT-AFFECTED DISTRICTS

7.8 million people estimated to be affected by the current drought; one million have been internally displaced by drought as of August 2022¹

More than **33 per cent** of the country is experiencing food crisis²

45 per cent children face acute malnutrition

An estimated **7.7 million** people in the country require humanitarian assistance and protection

Epidemiological weeks 34-35, 22/08/2022-04/09/2022



430 suspected cholera cases



6444 acute diarrhoeal disease cases



486 suspected measles cases



616 confirmed cases of Malaria in July 2022



2497 SARI cases

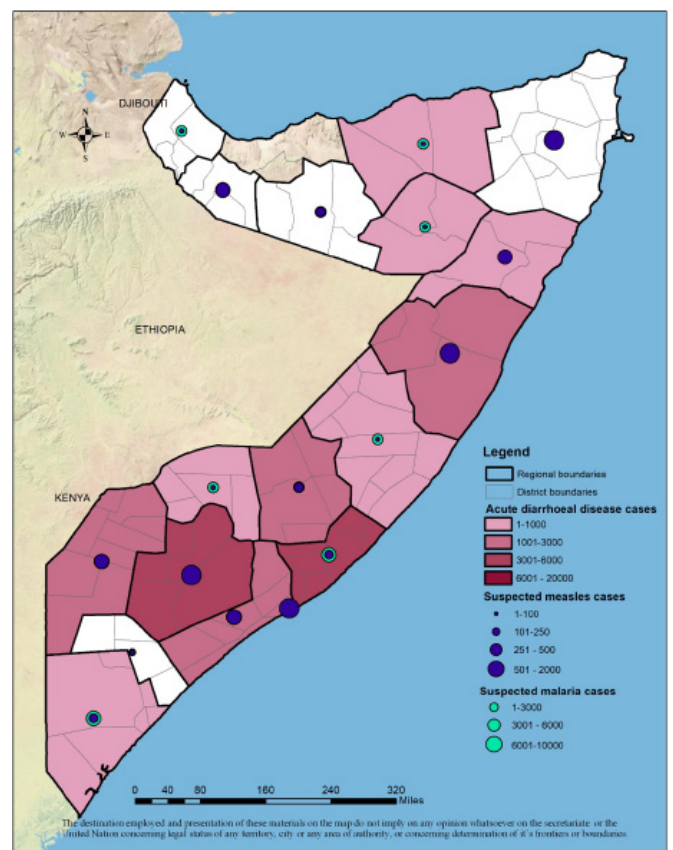


499 health facilities reporting through Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN)



2163 community health workers deployed in high

Reported cases of acute diarrhoeal disease, suspected measles, SARI and clinically diagnosed malaria cases in drought-affected region of Somalia, (epidemiological weeks 1-35, 03 Jan to 04 September 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 districts.

1 Somalia: 2022 Drought Impact Snapshot (As of August 2022) - Somalia | ReliefWeb
2 <https://fsnau.org/in-focus/somalia-updated-ipc-and-famine-risk-analysis-technical-release-4th-june-2022>

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 Banadir region. The number of new suspected cases of cholera have increased sharply in 2022 compared to the previous years due to an increasing number of people with limited access to safe water and safe sanitation practice especially in Internally Displaced People (IDP) camps (Figure 1). Since the epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 9677 suspected cases of cholera with 52 associated deaths (CFR 0.5%) were reported from 24 drought-affected districts. The number of cholera cases reported have increased by 19% from 196 cases reported in week 34 to 234 in week 35. Of the 9 677 suspected cases of cholera, 6470 (66.8%) cases were children below 5 years, 4 933(50.1%) are women and 2728 (28.2%) are severe cases. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (4 644), Bay (2 275) and Lower Shabelle (1393) (see Table 1). Of the 1147 stool samples collected and analyzed, 218(18.7%) samples tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 serotype Ogawa while 6 samples were tested positive for *Vibrio Cholerae* 0139 Inaba. Positive stool samples of *Vibrio Cholerae* 0139 Inaba were confirmed in Daynile district of Banadir region. Culture and sensitivity studies conducted in the national public health reference laboratory in Mogadishu showed that the *V. cholera* serotypes isolate is sensitive to chloramphenicol and tetracycline but resistant to ampicillin and nalidixic acid.

ACUTE DIARRHOEAL DISEASES

The number of new cases of acute diarrheal disease reported in the Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN) and from the community decreased in 2022 compared to the previous years (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 diarrheal disease reported from drought affected districts has increased from 2 094 cases in week 27 to 3213 cases in week 35 which represents a 53% increase in the past two months. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 78 841 cases of acute diarrheal disease were reported from drought-affected districts of which, 77% (56 637) were children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (39 782), Bay (8971), and Middle Shabelle (8731) (Table 1). Of the 328 stool samples collected from different location from children aged below 5 years, 98 were tested positive for Rotavirus infections. Of the 98 positive samples, 97 (98.9%) were reported from Banadir region.

INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

The number of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) cases reported through the EWARN decreased in 2022 compared to the previous years (Figure 3). Since epidemiological week 1, 2022, a total of 34 237 SARI cases were reported from drought-affected districts of which 65% (22 254) were children below five years of age. However, the number of new cases of SARI increased by 29% from 1 090 to 1 407 in the past two weeks. The region reporting most of the cases are Banadir (10 994), Galgadud (4 960) and Bay (4 899) (Table 1).

A total of 735 suspected cases of Influenza were enrolled at two sentinel sites in Banadir region and reported in the

Week 34-35, 22/08/2022-04/09/2022

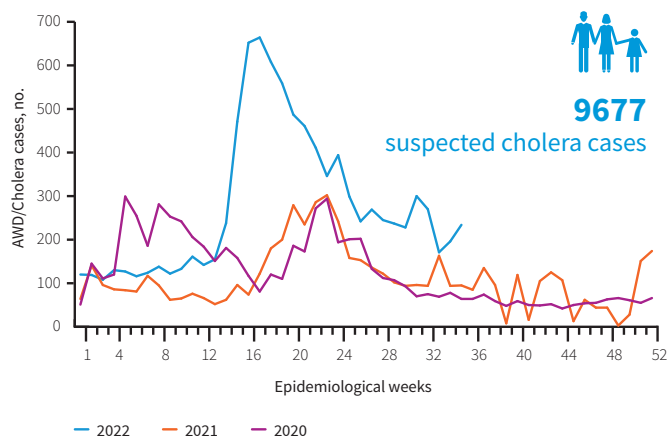


Figure 1. Trends of suspected cholera/acute watery diarrhoea cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

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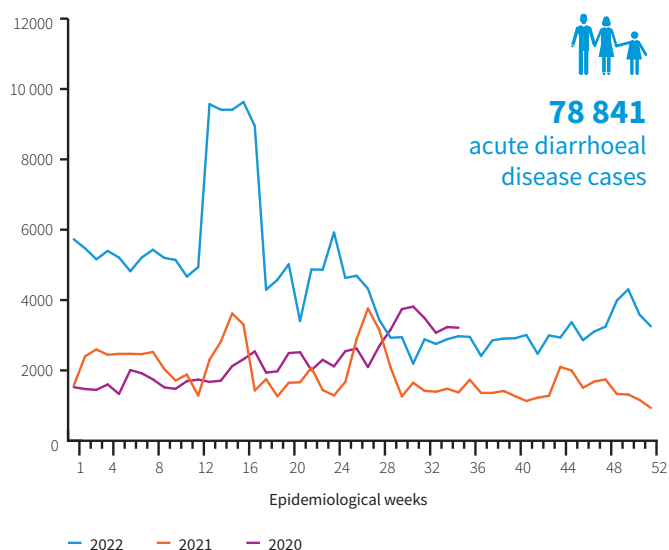


Figure 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

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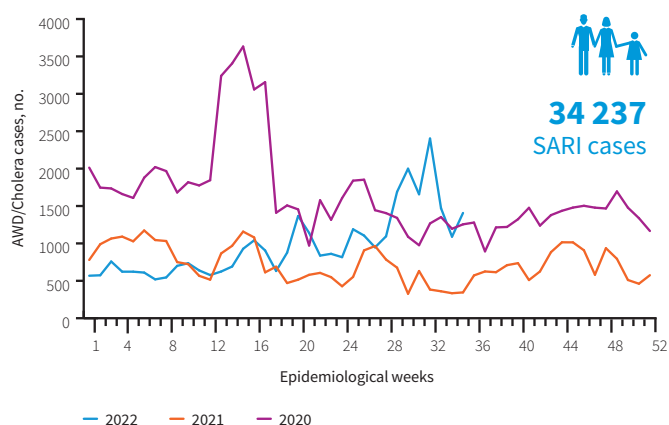


Figure 3. Trends of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) reported from drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

platform of Eastern Mediterranean Flu (EMFLU) network. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 668 cases were tested in the national public health laboratory of which 61(9.1%) were tested positive for Influenza; 3 (4.9%) were positive for seasonal Influenza A (H1N1); 20 (32.7%) were positive for Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; and 3 (4.9%) were positive for influenza A (H3N2), 34 (55.7%) were positive for Influenza B Victoria Lineage and 1(1.6%) were positive for Influenza Yagamata Lineage.

MEASLES UPDATES

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 4). Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 13 436 suspected cases of measles were reported through the surveillance system for fever and rash used by the polio programme in drought-affected districts. However, the number of new measles cases reported has increased from 179 in week 34 to 307 in week 35 which represents a 6% increase over the past two weeks. Of the 13 436 suspected measles cases reported, 77.8% (10461) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting the most cases include Bay (2729), Banadir (2433), and Bari (2 036), (see Table 1), Of the 777 blood samples collected from suspected cases of measles and analysed in the laboratories, 59.9% (466) tested positive for measles-specific immunoglobulin M (IgM).

MEASLES VACCINE UPDATES

A total of 46 387(85%) out of the targeted 54 836 children under one year of age received the first dose of measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) in drought-affected districts in May 2022 according to data from District Health Information Software 2 (DHIS2) (Figure 5). From May 2019 to May 2022, the measles vaccination coverage ranged between 70% and 85% per month compared to the national target of 95%.

MALARIA UPDATES

The number of suspected cases of malaria reported through DHIS2 has gradually decreased since January 2022 which might be linked to implementation of additional malaria control interventions in drought affected districts (Figure 6). This decrease is attributed to the increased implementation of preventive measures in different regions. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 178 685 cases of suspected malaria have been tested of which 5486(3%) have been confirmed positive by RDT and blood smear. Of the 5486 confirmed cases, 1177(21.5%) are children aged below 5 years while 706(12%) are female. In July 2022, of the 7227 suspected cases that were reported 616 (8.5%) were tested positive for malaria and which 112(18.2%) were children below 5 years. However, the number of confirmed cases of malaria decreased by 59% from 1509 cases in June to 616 cases in July 2022. Regions reporting most of the suspected of malaria cases in 2022 are Banadir (23 257) Bay (18 667) and Gedo (16 248) (Table 1).

Polio update

- In 2022, three circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) were isolated from acute flaccid paralysis cases, three circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus type

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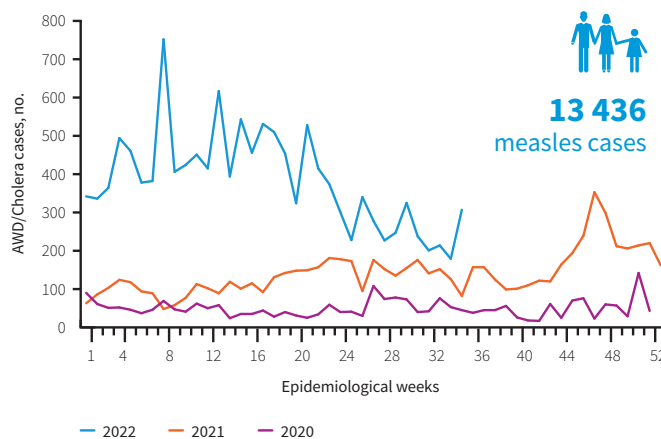


Figure 4. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

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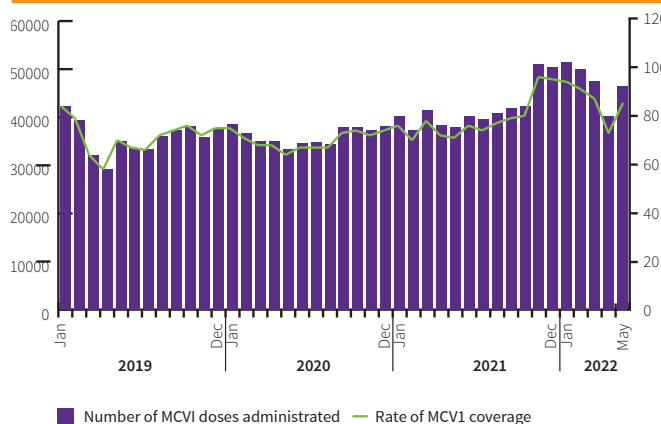


Figure 5. Number of children under 1 year vaccinated against measles by month, 2019-2022

*The measles vaccination data for June and July 2022 is not yet available

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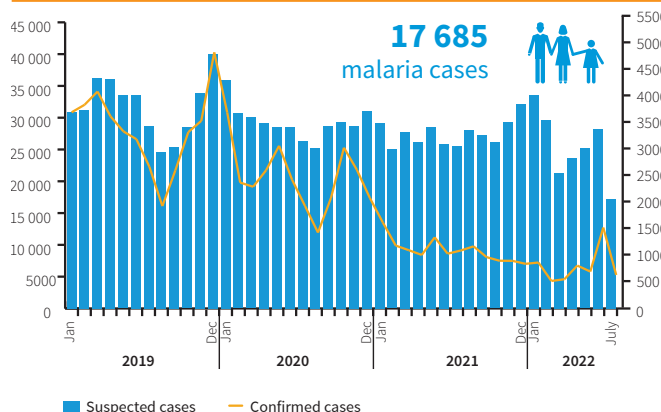


Figure 6. Trends of malaria cases reported in drought-affected regions, 2019-2022

- 2 (cVDPV2) were isolated from environmental samples (ES) while one Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus type 2 (VDPV2) was isolated from an environmental sample.
- A total of 226 cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases of which 102 were females and 124 males were reported

in 2022. Of the 226, 210 (94%) cases have laboratory results, and 16(6%) cases are pending for processing. Out of the cases with laboratory results, three (03) cVDPV2 isolate, two (02) PV2, nine (09) SL and one hundred ninety-six (196) cases were tested negative.

- A total 138 Environmental samples were collected from 16 sites and sent to the laboratory in 2022. Out of these

samples, three were cVDPV2, one was (01) VDPV2, 25 were None Polio Enterovirus (NPEV), one(1) was positive SL3 (Sabin like virus type 3), 13 Sabin like (SL) virus type, one SL2+NEV(Non enterovirus), 67 samples are negative, and 27 samples are pending for processing.

Table 1: Cumulative number of acute diarrheal disease, suspected cholera, suspected measles, SARI, and suspected malaria cases in drought-affected regions of Somalia (epidemiological weeks 1-35, 03 Jan to 04 September 2022)

Regions	Acute diarrhoeal disease ³	Suspected Measles cases ⁴	Suspected Malaria case ⁵	SARI cases ⁶	Suspected cholera cases ⁷
AWDAL	0	65	6 217	0	0
BAKOOL	1405	173	4 691	141	279
BANADIR	32 134	2433	23 257	10994	4644
BARI	3094	2036	11 523	417	0
BAY	8971	2729	18 667	4899	2275
GALBEED	0	392	6110	0	0
GALGADUD	1492	141	6234	4960	2
GEDO	2103	661	16 248	1812	1
HIRAN	4929	341	8949	1759	0
KARKAR	1088	0	4068	1111	0
LOWER JUBA	1011	676	12 420	1154	97
LOWER SHABELLE	4652	467	14 540	857	1393
MIDDLE JUBA	0	29	0	0	1
MIDDLE SHABELLE	8731	262	10 709	716	985
MUDUG	1785	1710	11 890	376	0
NUGAL	2136	655	5036	830	0
SOUTH MUDUG	2299	0	0	3537	0
SAHIL	0	37	4402	0	0
SANAG	1849	32	4700	501	0
SOOL	514	142	3363	173	0
TOGDHER	0	455	5661	0	0
TOTALS	78 841	13 436	178 685	34 237	9677

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 region.

3 Source of data is EWARN

4 Source of data is fever and rash surveillance system

5 Source of data is DHIS2

6 Source of data is EWARN

7 Source of data is suspected cholera/acute watery diarrhoea surveillance system managed by the FMOH

8 Source of data is EPI/Polio Weekly update sitrep report



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