

## 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 1.1 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

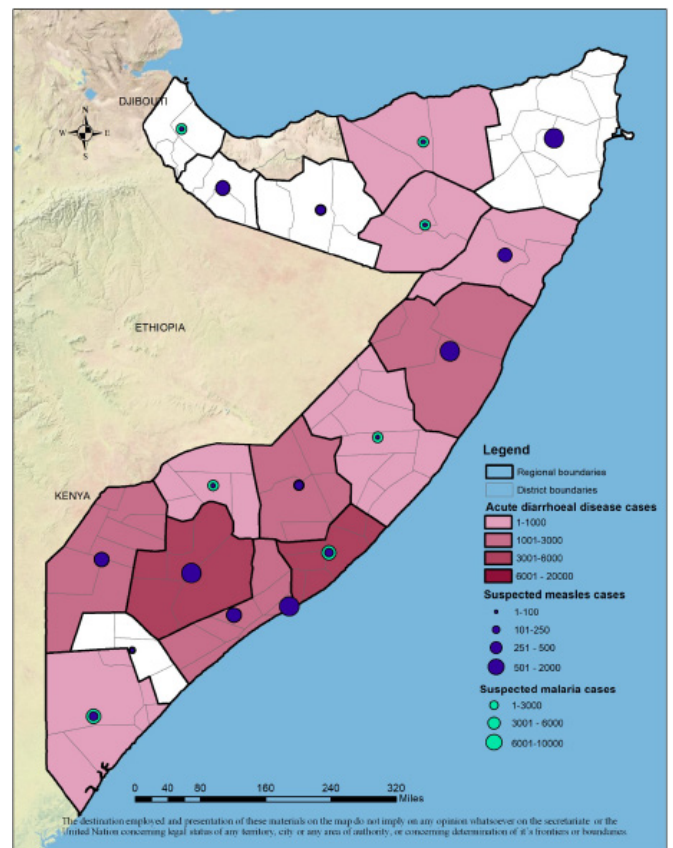
**7.8 million** people estimated to be affected by the current drought; one million have been internally displaced by drought as of August 2022<sup>1</sup>

More than **33 per cent** of the country is experiencing food crisis<sup>2</sup>








**45 per cent** children face acute malnutrition

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

### Reported cases of acute diarrhoeal disease, suspected measles, SARI and clinically diagnosed malaria cases in drought-affected region of Somalia, (epidemiological weeks 1-37, 03 Jan to 18 September 2022)



### Epidemiological weeks 36-37, 05/09/2022-18/09/2022

	<b>487</b> suspected cholera cases
	<b>5 425</b> acute diarrhoeal disease cases
	<b>364</b> suspected measles cases
	<b>616</b> confirmed cases of Malaria in July 2022
	<b>3348</b> SARI cases
	<b>491</b> health facilities reporting through Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN)
	<b>1 929</b> community health workers deployed in high risk areas including in drought affected districts

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 <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-situation-report-31-aug-2022>  
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 10 164 suspected cases of cholera with 56 associated deaths (CFR 0. 6%) were reported from 25 drought-affected districts. The number of cholera cases reported have decreased by 4% from 249 cases reported in week 36 to 238 in week 37. Of the 10 164 suspected cases of cholera, 6809 (67%) cases were children below 5 years, 5092 (50.1%) are women and 3151 (31%) are severe cases. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (4 744), Bay (2 325) and Lower Shabelle (1471) (see Table 1).

Of the 1 267 stool samples collected and analyzed, 220(17.4%) samples tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 serotype Ogawa, 7(0.6%) samples were tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 Inaba and 1(0.07%) sample positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 Hikojima. Positive stool samples of *Vibrio cholerae* 01 Inaba were confirmed in Daynile district of Banadir region while *Vibrio cholerae* 01 Hikojima was confirmed from Marka in SouthWest state.

Culture and sensitivity studies conducted in the national public health reference laboratory in Mogadishu showed that the *V. cholerae* 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 decreased from 3 255 cases in week 34 to 2 683 cases in week 37 which represents a 17% decrease in the past four weeks. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 84 339 cases of acute diarrheal disease were reported from drought-affected districts of which, 77% (64 941) were children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (34 085), Bay (9371), and Middle Shabelle (9140) (Table 1). Of the 368 stool samples collected from different locations from children aged below 5 years, 121 were tested positive for Rotavirus infections. Of the 121 positive samples, 121 (100%) 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 37 597 SARI cases were reported from drought-affected districts of which 65% (24 353) were children below five years of age. However, the number of new cases of SARI

Week 36-37, 05/09/2022-18/09/2022

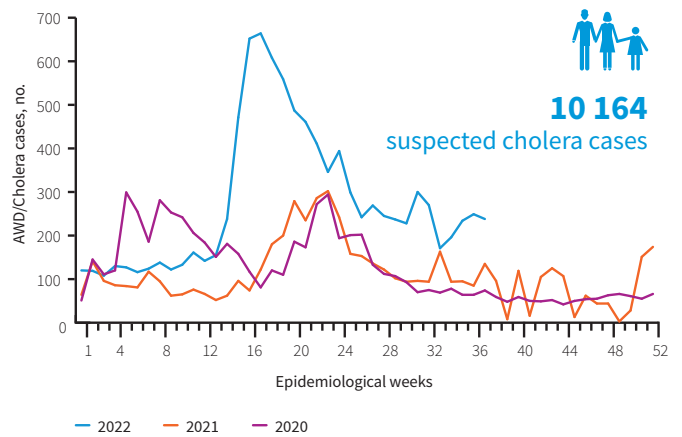


Figure 1. Trends of suspected cholera/acute watery diarrhoea cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 36-37, 05/09/2022-18/09/2022

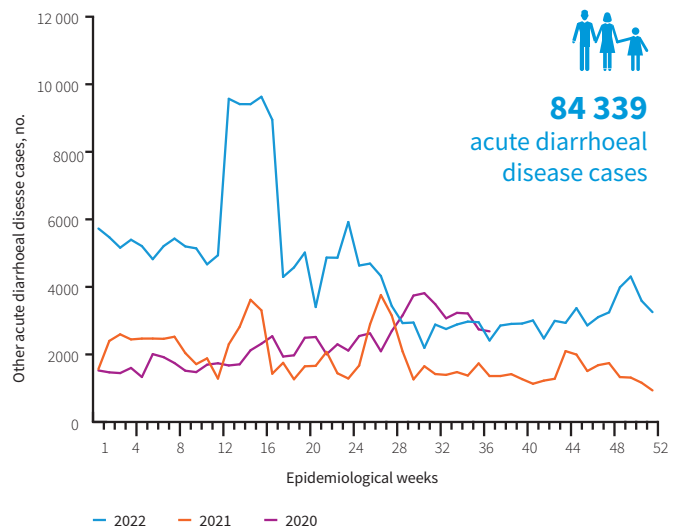


Figure 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 36-37, 05/09/2022-18/09/2022

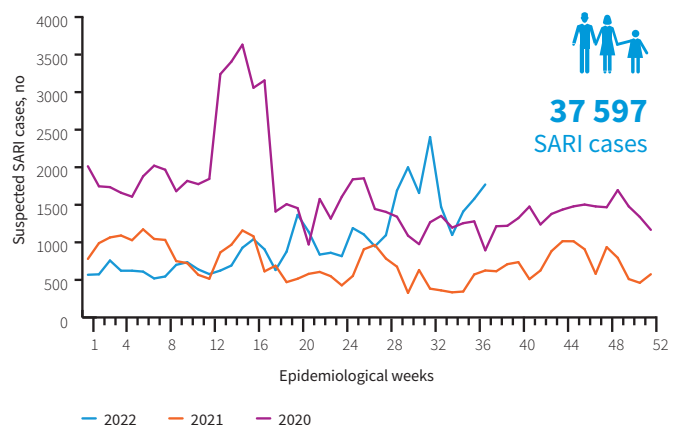


Figure 3. Trends of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) reported from drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

increased by 61% from 1 098 cases in week 34 to 1770 cases in week 37. The region reporting most of the cases are Banadir (11446), Galgadud (5833) and Bay (5160) (Table 1).

A total of 962 suspected cases of Influenza were enrolled at two sentinel sites in Banadir region and reported in the platform of Eastern Mediterranean Flu (EMFLU) network. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 862 cases were tested in the national public health laboratory of which 72(8.4%) were tested positive for Influenza; 3 (4.2%) were positive for seasonal Influenza A (H1N1); 20 (27.8%) were positive for Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; and 3 (4.2%) were positive for Influenza A (H3N2), 45 (62.5%) were positive for Influenza B Victoria Lineage and 1(1.4%) 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 13 800 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 143 in week 36 to 221 in week 37 which represents a 55% increase over the past two weeks. Of the 13 800 suspected measles cases reported, 78% (10 741) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting the most cases include Bay (2 795), Banadir (2 592), and Bari (2 052), (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 44 451 (81%) 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 July 2022 according to data from district health Information software 2 (DHIS2) (Figure 5). From July 2019 to July 2022, the measles vaccination coverage ranged between 72% and 81% 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 the 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 5 486(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).

### Week 36-37, 05/09/2022-18/09/2022

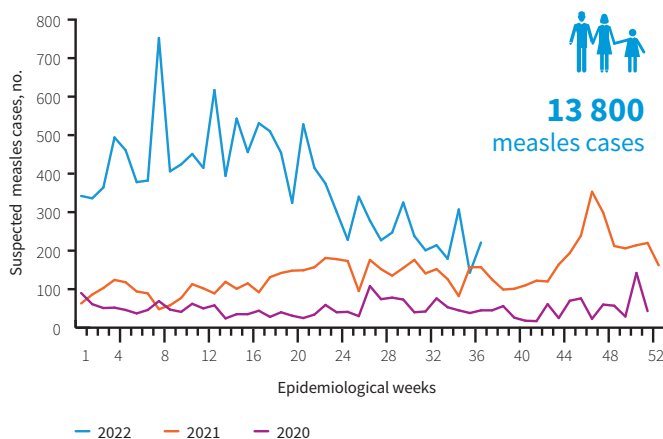


Figure 4. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

### Week 36-37, 05/09/2022-18/09/2022

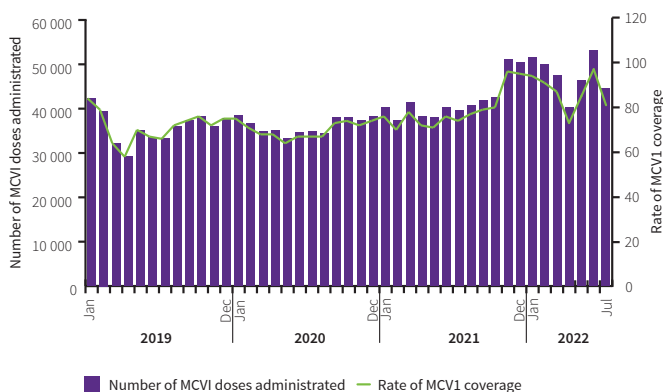


Figure 5. Number of children under 1 year vaccinated against measles by month, 2019-2022

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

### Week 36-37, 05/09/2022-18/09/2022

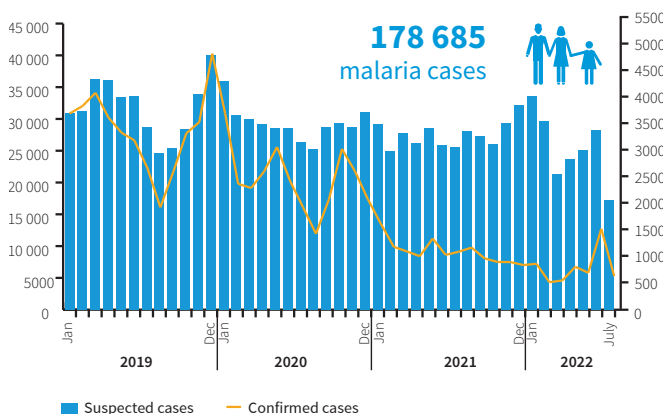


Figure 6. Trends of malaria cases reported in drought-affected regions, 2019-2022

## Polio update

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

from environmental samples (ES) while one case of Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus type 2 (VDPV2) was isolated from an environmental sample.

- A total of 241 cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases of which 109 were females and 132 males were reported in 2022. Of the 241, 214 (89%) cases have laboratory results, and 27(11%) cases are pending. Out of the cases with laboratory results, three cases were positive for cVDPV2 isolate, two positive for PV2, nine positive for SL

while 200 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 cases were positive for cVDPV2, one case positive for VDPV2, 25 were positive for None Polio Enterovirus (NPEV), one case positive for Sabin like virus type 3 (SL3), 13 cases positive for Sabin like virus type (SL2), one case positive for SL2/NEV67 samples were negative, and 27 samples are pending for processing.

**Table 1: Cumulative number of acute diarrhoeal 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 <sup>3</sup>	Suspected Measles cases <sup>4</sup>	Suspected Malaria case <sup>5</sup>	SARI cases <sup>6</sup>	Suspected cholera cases <sup>7</sup>
AWDAL	0	91	6 217	0	0
BAKOOL	1429	173	4 691	143	320
BANADIR	34 085	2592	23 257	11446	4744
BARI	3666	2052	11 523	504	0
BAY	9371	2795	18 667	5160	2325
GALBEED	0	392	6110	0	0
GALGADUD	1578	141	6234	5833	0
GEDO	2265	675	16 248	2109	0
HIRAN	5465	341	8949	2009	0
KARKAR	1398	-	4068	1427	0
LOWER JUBA	1011	735	12 420	1154	298
LOWER SHABELLE	4935	477	14 540	881	1471
MIDDLE JUBA	0	29	0	0	0
MIDDLE SHABELLE	8731	273	10 709	834	1006
MUDUG	2126	1710	11 890	447	0
NUGAL	2584	656	5036	931	0
SOUTH MUDUG	2551	0	0	3949	0
SAHIL	0	37	4402	0	0
SANAG	2137	33	4700	484	0
SOOL	598	143	3363	234	0
TOGDHER	0	455	5661	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>84 339</b>	<b>13 800</b>	<b>178 685</b>	<b>37 597</b>	<b>10 164</b>

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 as of week ending 18-09-2022

4 Source of data is fever and rash surveillance system as of week ending 18-09-2022

5 Source of data is DHIS2 as of July 2022

6 Source of data is EWARN as of week ending 18-09-2022

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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