

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 September, 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

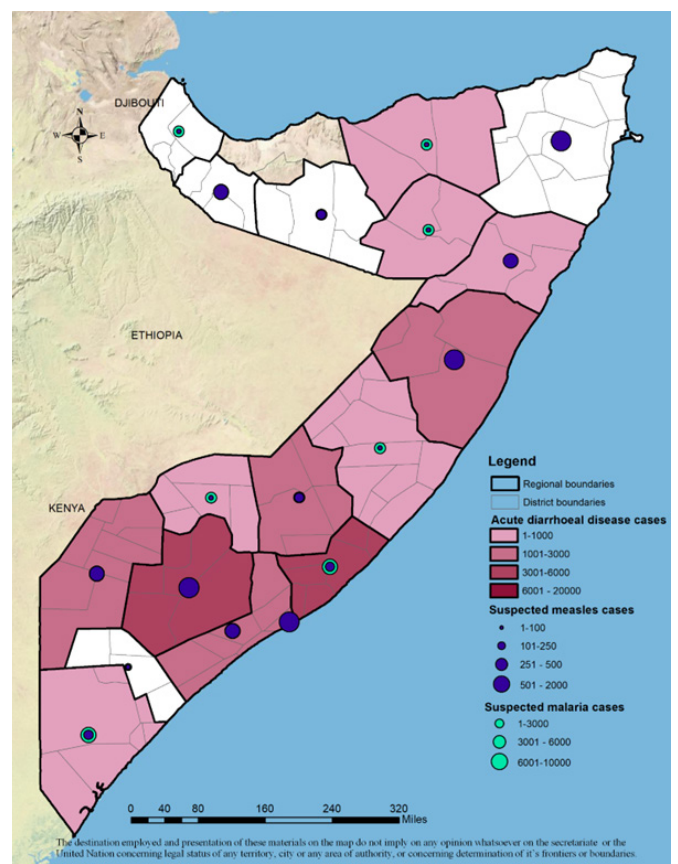
45 per cent children face severe acute malnutrition

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

Epidemiological weeks 38-39, 18/09/2022-02/10/2022

	565 suspected cholera cases
	5721 acute diarrhoeal disease cases
	457 suspected measles cases
	855 confirmed cases of Malaria in July 2022
	4130 SARI cases
	518 health facilities reporting through Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN)
	2163 community health workers deployed in high risk areas including in drought affected districts

Reported cases of acute diarrhoeal disease, suspected measles, SARI and clinically diagnosed malaria cases in drought-affected region of Somalia, (epidemiological weeks 1-39, 03 Jan to 02 October 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 10 729 suspected cases of cholera with 63 associated deaths (CFR 0. 6%) were reported from 25 drought-affected districts. The number of cholera cases reported have increased by 6% from 273 cases reported in week 38 to 292 cases in week 39. Of the 10 729 suspected cases of cholera, 7072 (66%) cases are children below 5 years, 5255 (49%) are women and 3362 (31%) are severe cases. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (4 815), Bay (2 370) and Lower Shabelle (1527) (see Table 1).

Of the 1 327 stool samples collected and analyzed, 222 (16.7%) samples tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 serotype Ogawa, 7(0.5%) samples were tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 Inaba in Daynile and 1(0.08%) sample positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 Hikojima in Marka.

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 diarrhoeal 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 diarrhoeal disease reported from drought affected districts has decreased from 3 174 cases in week 38 to 2 547 cases in week 39 which represents a 20% decrease in the past two weeks.

Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 90 613 cases of acute diarrhoeal disease were reported from drought-affected districts of which, 77% (69876) were children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (35829), Bay (9740), and Middle Shabelle (9519) (Table 1). Of the 449 stool samples collected from different location from children aged below 5 years, 165 were tested positive for Rotavirus infections. Of the 165 positive samples, 162 (98.2%) 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 42 170 SARI cases were reported from drought-affected districts of which 64.7% (27264) were children below five years of age. However, the number of new cases of SARI increased by 20% from 1838 to 2292 in the past two weeks. The region reporting most of the cases are Banadir (12430), Galgadud (6706) and Bay (5405) (Table 1).

Week 38-39, 19/09/2022-02/10/2022

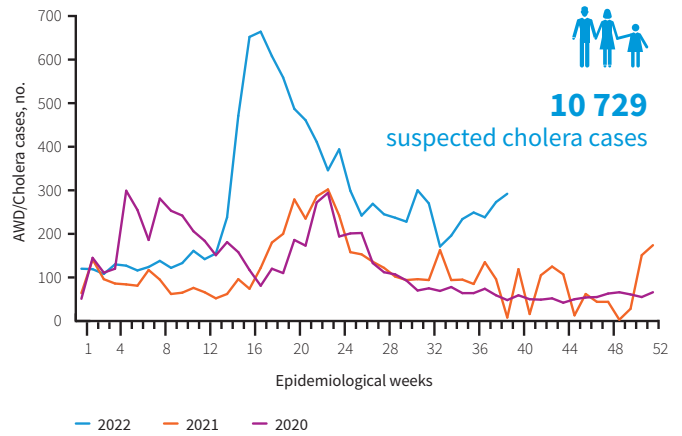


Figure 1. Trends of suspected cholera/acute watery diarrhoea cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 38-39, 19/09/2022-02/10/2022

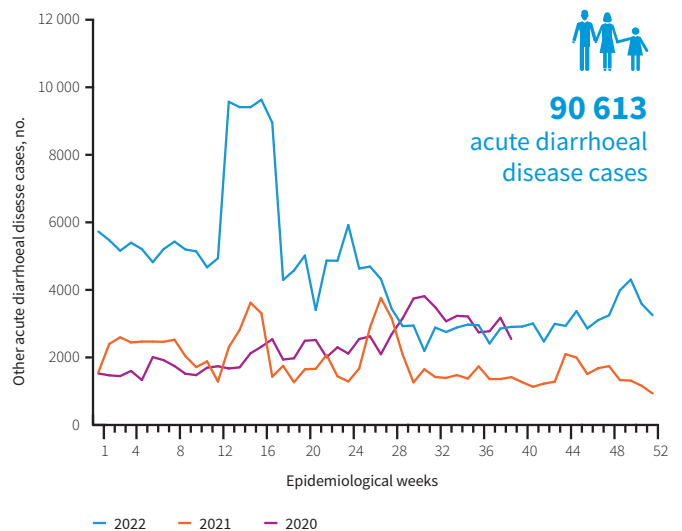


Figure 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 38-39, 19/09/2022-02/10/2022

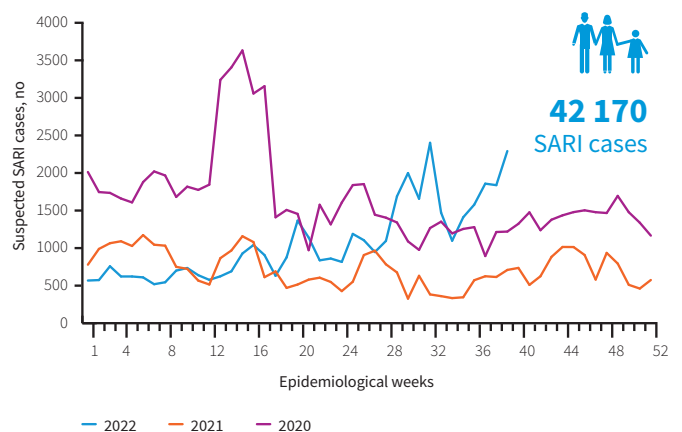


Figure 3. Trends of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) reported from drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

A total of 1 182 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, 1133 cases were tested in the national public health laboratory of which 88(7.8%) were tested positive for Influenza; 3 (3.4%) were positive for seasonal Influenza A (H1N1); 20 (22.7%) were positive for Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; and 3 (3.4%) were positive for influenza A (H3N2), 61(69.3%) were positive for Influenza B Victoria Lineage and 1(1.1%) 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 14 257 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 decreased from 237 in week 38 to 220 in week 39 which represents a 7% decrease over the past two weeks. Of the 14 257 suspected measles cases reported, 78% (11067) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting the most cases include Bay (2935), Banadir (2725), and Bari (2 060), (see Table 1), Of the 831 blood samples collected from suspected cases of measles and analysed in the laboratories, 60.3% (501) tested positive for measles-specific immunoglobulin M (IgM).

MEASLES VACCINE UPDATES

A total of 52,397(96%) 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 August 2019 to August 2022, the measles vaccination coverage ranged between 72% and 96% 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 214 168 cases of suspected malaria have been tested of which 6 665(3%) have been confirmed positive by RDT and blood smear. Of the 5 486 confirmed cases, 1 900 (21.5%) are children aged below 5 years. In August 2022 of the 25 810 suspected cases that were reported 855(3.3%) were tested positive for malaria and which 205 (25.1%) were children below 5 years. However, the number of confirmed cases of malaria decreased by 9% from 940 cases in July to 805 cases in August 2022. Regions reporting most of the suspected of malaria cases in 2022 are Banadir (28629) Bay (16694) and Gedo (14178) (Table 1).

Week 38-39, 19/09/2022-02/10/2022

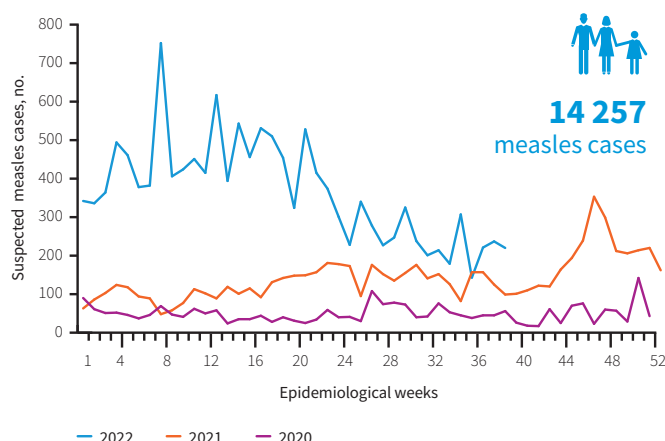


Figure 4. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020–2022

Week 38-39, 19/09/2022-02/10/2022

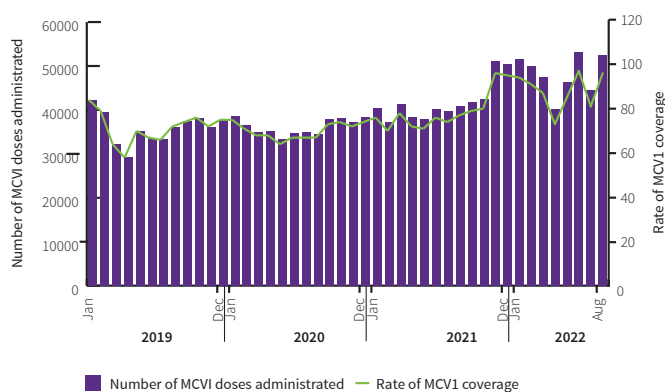


Figure 5. Number of children under 1 year vaccinated against measles by month, 2019–2022

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

Week 38-39, 19/09/2022-02/10/2022

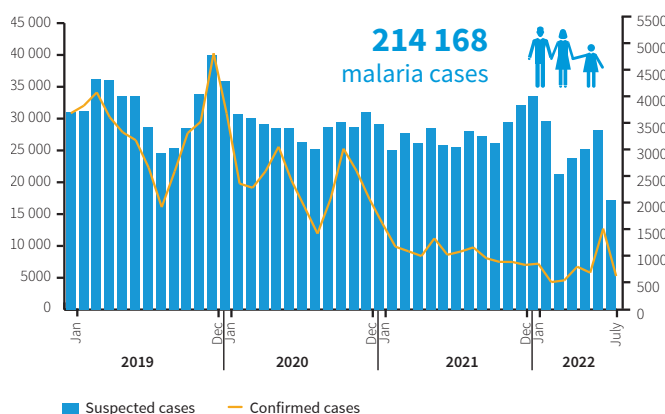


Figure 6. Trends of malaria cases reported in drought-affected regions, 2019–2022

Polio update

- In 2022, four circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) were isolated from acute flaccid paralysis cases, three circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus type 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 264 cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases of which 120 were females and 144 males were reported in 2022. Of the 219 (83%) cases have lab results, and 45 (17%) cases are pending for processing. Out of the cases with lab results, four were cVDPV2 isolates, 10 Sabin like virus type (SL) while 205 cases were tested negative.
- A total 167 environmental samples were collected from 16 sites and sent to the laboratory for analysis in 2022. Out of these samples, three were positive cVDPV2, one positive for VDPV2, twenty-seven were positive for None Polio Enterovirus, one positive for SL3(Sabin like virus type 3, thirteen positive for Sabin like virus type, one positive for SL2 and none enterovirus, 73 samples are negative while one sample for polio virus type 2 and 47 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 1-39, 03 Jan to 02 October 2022)

Regions	Acute diarrhoeal disease ³	Suspected Measles cases ⁴	Suspected Malaria case ⁵	SARI cases ⁶	Suspected cholera cases ⁷
AWDAL	0	97	7 602	0	0
BAKOOL	1429	178	6 196	160	369
BANADIR	35829	2725	28 629	12430	4815
BARI	4370	2060	13 181	638	0
BAY	9740	2935	21 922	5405	2370
GALBEED	0	392	7 162	0	0
GALGADUD	1578	141	6 622	6706	0
GEDO	2537	686	18 677	3013	0
HIRAN	6028	352	11 605	2258	0
KARKAR	1398	-	4890	1720	0
LOWER JUBA	1011	829	12 840	1213	626
LOWER SHABELLE	5126	490	16 664	904	1527
MIDDLE JUBA	0	29	0	0	0
MIDDLE SHABELLE	9519	277	13 802	834	1022
MUDUG	2537	1 720	16 408	502	0
NUGAL	3040	656	6 583	931	0
SOUTH MUDUG	2816	0	0	4325	0
SAHIL	0	37	4 516	0	0
SANAG	2408	35	5 796	554	0
SOOL	659	144	4 632	273	0
TOGDHER	0	466	6441	0	0
TOTALS	90 613	14 257	214 168	42 170	10 729

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 September 2022

4 Source of data is fever and rash surveillance system

5 Source of data is DHIS2 as of August 2022

6 Source of data is EWARN as of September 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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