

## 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 6.8 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 300,000 people<sup>2</sup>. An estimated 1.8 million children under age 5 face acute malnutrition, including 515 550 who are severely malnourished.<sup>3</sup> The current situation including the displacement have led to more people being vulnerable to epidemic prone diseases, particularly acute diarrhoeal 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>

Some 6.8 million people - **45 per cent** of the population - are acutely food insecure

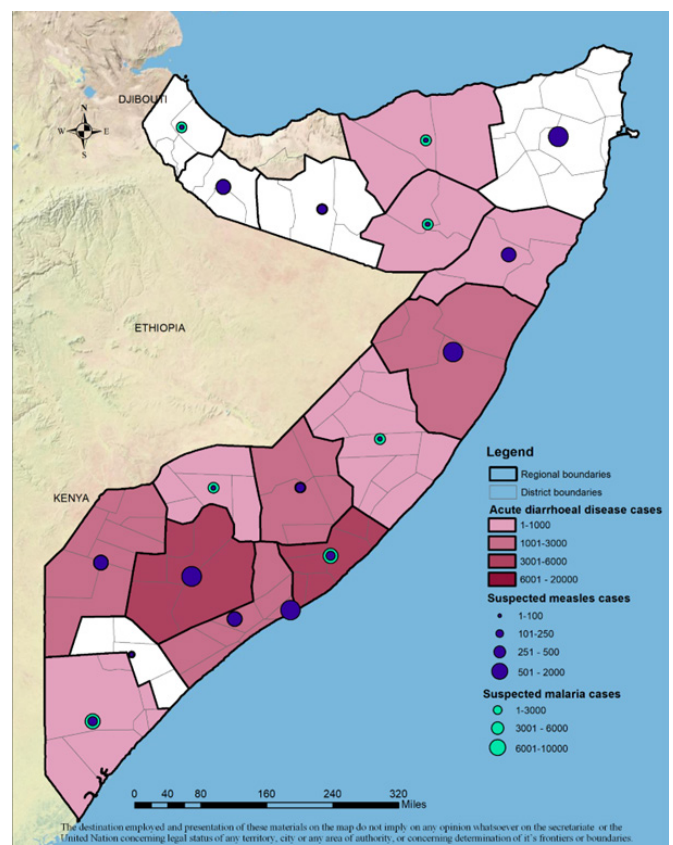
**45 per cent** children face severe acute malnutrition

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

### Epidemiological weeks 42-43, 17/10/2022-30/10/2022

	<b>657</b> suspected cholera cases
	<b>6474</b> acute diarrhoeal disease cases
	<b>507</b> suspected measles cases
	<b>4266</b> SARI cases
	<b>805</b> confirmed cases of Malaria in August 2022
	<b>574</b> health facilities reporting through Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN)
	<b>2163</b> 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 1-43, 03 Jan to 30 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 Somalia: Drought Response and Famine Prevention (1-24 October 2022) [EN/AR] - Somalia | ReliefWeb  
3 IPC classification by FSNU as of 12 September 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 proper sanitation practices especially in Internally Displaced People (IDP) camps (Figure 1). Since the epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 11 996 suspected cases of cholera with 71 associated deaths (CFR 0. 6%) were reported from 25 drought-affected districts. The number of cholera cases reported have increased by 25% from 291 cases reported in week 42 to 366 cases in week 43. In Kismayo district there has been a 24% increase in the number of cholera cases from 179 cases in week 42 to 222 cases in week 43 while two cholera related deaths were reported in Kismayo during the same period of time. Of the 11 996 suspected cases of cholera, 7764 (65%) cases were children below 5 years, 5884 (49%) are women and 4447 (37%) are severe cases. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (4 935), Bay (2 437) and Lower Shabelle (1714) and Kismayo 1390 which is the current epicenter of the outbreak (see Table 1).

Of the 1 677 stool samples collected and analyzed, 238 (14.2%) samples tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 serotype Ogawa, 7(0.4%) samples were tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 Inaba in Daynile and 1(0.06%) 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. 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 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, there has been a significant increase in the number of new cases of acute diarrhoeal disease reported from drought affected districts since week 29 compared to the past two years. In the past two weeks, cases of acute diarrhoeal disease cases increased by 24% from 2885 cases in week 42 to 3589 cases in week 43.

Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 103 153 cases of acute diarrhoeal disease were reported from drought-affected districts of which, 77% (79428) were children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (38457), Bay (10636), and Middle Shabelle (10452) (Table 1).

WHO conducts sentinel-based surveillance for rotavirus that is the commonest case of acute diarrhoeal disease infection among children under 5 years worldwide. Of the 542 stool samples collected from different locations from children aged below 5 years, 197(36.3%) were tested positive for rotavirus infections. Of the 197 positive samples, 194 (100%) were reported from Banadir region

Week 42-43, 17/10/2022-30/10/2022

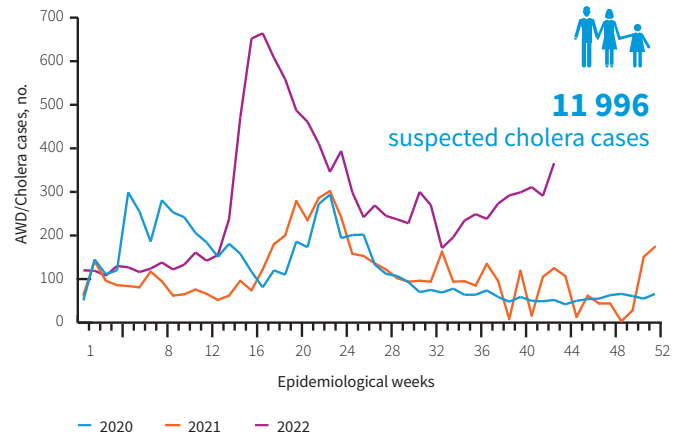


Figure 1. Trends of suspected cholera/acute watery diarrhoea cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 42-43, 17/10/2022-30/10/2022

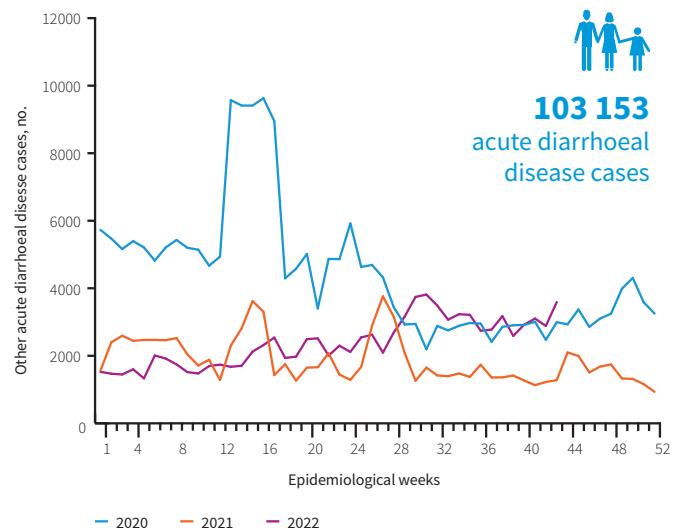


Figure 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 42-43, 17/10/2022-30/10/2022

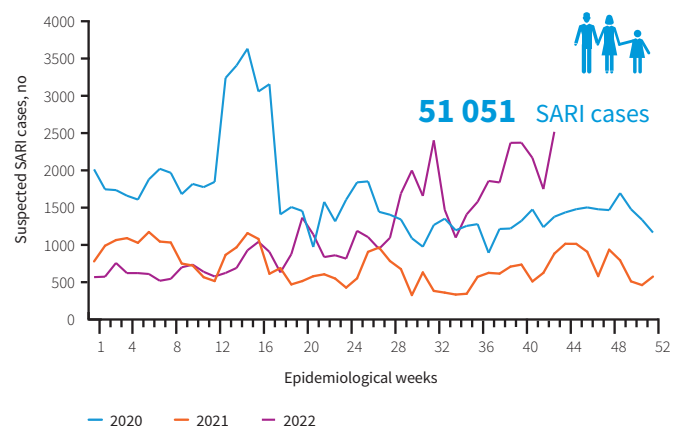


Figure 3. Trends of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) reported from drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

## 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 51 051 SARI cases were reported from drought-affected districts of which 64.4% (32889) were children below five years of age. However, the number of new cases of SARI increased by 44% from 1749 in week 42 to 2517 cases in week 43. The region reporting most of the cases are Banadir (13516), Galgadud (8738) and Bay (5781) (Table 1).

A total of 1372 suspected cases of influenza were enrolled at three sentinel sites- two located in Banadir region, one in Puntland and reported in the platform of Eastern Mediterranean Flu (EMFLU) network. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 1222 cases were tested at the National Public Health Laboratory of which 90 (7.4%) were tested positive for influenza; 3 (3.3%) were positive for seasonal influenza A (H1N1); 20 (22.2%) were positive for influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; and 3 (3.3%) were positive for influenza A (H3N2), 64(71.1%) 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 15 143 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 211 in week 42 to 296 in week 43 which represents a 40.3% increase over the past two weeks. Of the 15 143 suspected measles cases reported, 77% (11 660) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting the most cases include Bay (3226), Banadir (2962), and Bari (2 075), (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 August 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 laboratory confirmed 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 6665(3.1%) have been confirmed positive by RDT and blood smear. Of the 6665 confirmed cases, 1900 (28.5%) are children aged below 5 years. Regions reporting most of the suspected of malaria cases in 2022 are Banadir (28629) Bay (16694) and Gedo (14178) (Table 1).

### Week 42-43, 17/10/2022-30/10/2022

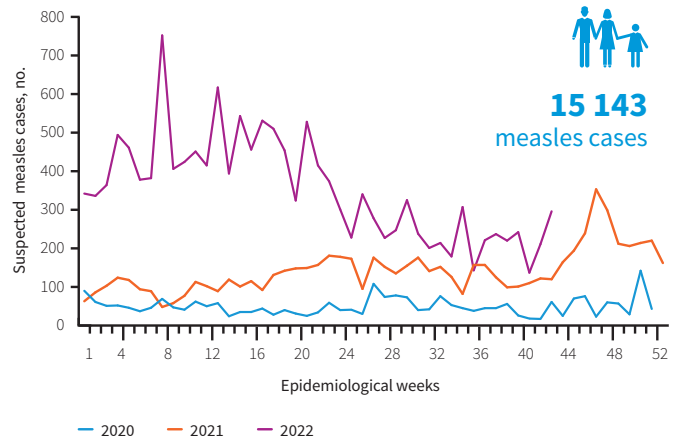


Figure 4. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020–2022

### Week 42-43, 17/10/2022-30/10/2022

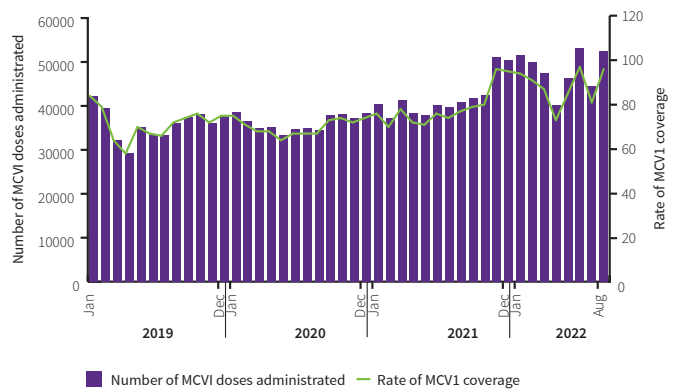


Figure 5. Number of children under 1 year vaccinated against measles by month, 2019–2022

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

### Week 42-43, 17/10/2022-30/10/2022

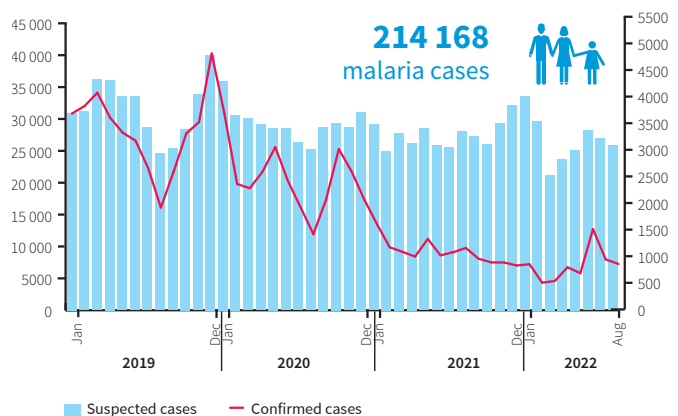


Figure 6. Trends of malaria cases reported in drought-affected regions, 2019–2022

## 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 277 cases of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) of which 125 were females and 152 males were reported in 2022. Of the 277 cases, 219 (79%) cases have laboratory results, and 58(21%) cases are pending for processing. Out of the 219 cases with laboratory results, four were positive for cVDPV2, 10 positives for Sabin Like (SL) type virus while 205 cases were tested negative.
- A total 178 environmental samples were collected from 16 sites and sent to the laboratory in 2022 .Out of these samples, three were positive for cVDPV2, one was positive for VDPV2, thirty four were positive for None Polio Enterovirus (NPEV) , one Sabin like virus type 3(SL3), thirteen Sabin like virus type(SL2) , one positive for both SL2, None enterovirus, eight four samples were negative and forty one 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 16 October 2022)**

Regions	Acute diarrhoeal disease <sup>4</sup>	Suspected Measles cases <sup>5</sup>	Suspected Malaria case <sup>6</sup>	SARI cases <sup>7</sup>	Suspected cholera cases <sup>8</sup>
AWDAL	0	109	7602	0	0
BAKOOL	1729	212	6196	295	454
BANADIR	38 457	2962	28 629	13 516	4935
BARI	5713	2075	13 181	844	0
BAY	10 636	3226	21 922	5781	2437
GALBEED	0	392	7162	0	0
GALGADUD	1749	141	6622	8738	0
GEDO	3251	695	18 677	4928	0
HIRAN	7199	361	11 605	2414	0
KARKAR	2596	-	4890	2065	0
LOWER JUBA	1800	995	12 840	1602	1390
LOWER SHABELLE	5296	519	16 664	1006	1714
MIDDLE JUBA	0	29	0	0	0
MIDDLE SHABELLE	10 452	297	13 802	1388	1066
MUDUG	3284	1750	16 408	635	0
NUGAL	4013	678	6583	1422	0
SOUTH MUDUG	3263	0	0	5226	0
SAHIL	0	37	4516	0	0
SANAG	3053	35	5796	645	0
SOOL	673	145	4632	328	0
TOGDHER	0	485	6441	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>103 153</b>	<b>15 143</b>	<b>214 168</b>	<b>51 051</b>	<b>11 996</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.

4 Source of data is EWARN as of October 2022

5 Source of data is fever and rash surveillance system as of October 2022

6 Source of data is DHIS2 as of August 2022

7 Source of data is EWARN as of October 2022

8 Source of data is suspected cholera/acute watery diarrhoea surveillance system managed by the FMOH as of October 2022

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



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