

## 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 dryer 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 diarrhoeal disease and measles.




### DROUGHT KEY FACTS


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



### HEALTH SITUATION

#### Reported new cases in weeks 20-21, 2022

 **5 141**  
Acute diarrhoea cases

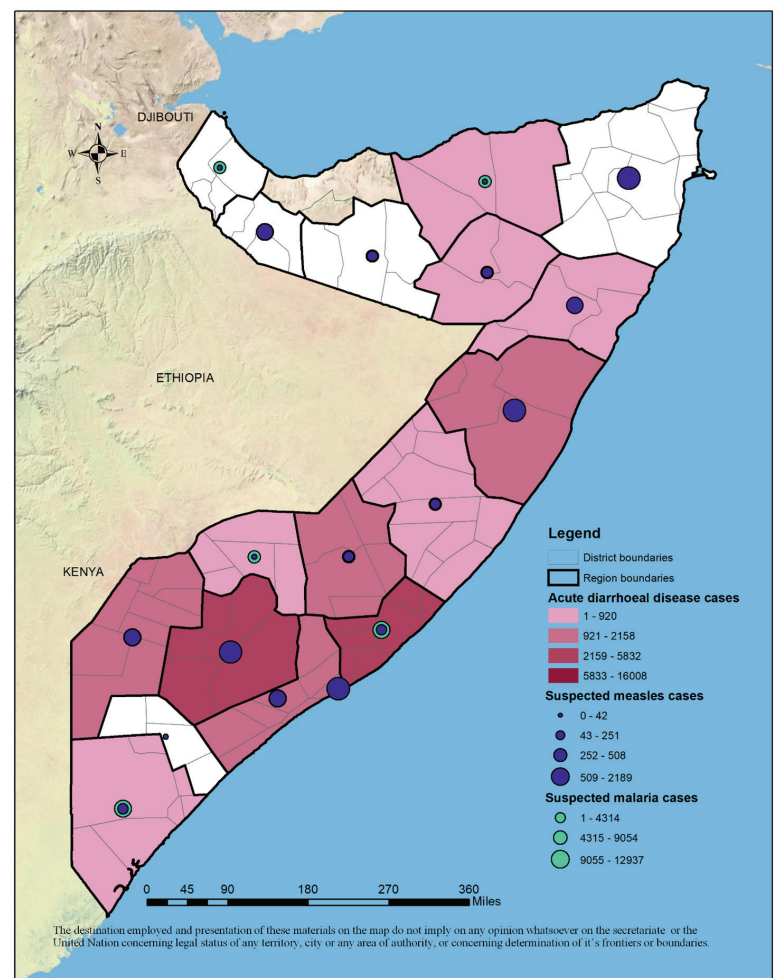
 **948**  
Cholera cases

 **535**  
Malaria cases

 **852**  
Measles cases

 **2 416**  
SARI cases

Reported cases of acute diarrhoeal disease, suspected measles, SARI and clinically diagnosed malaria cases in drought-affected region of Somalia, epidemiological weeks (1-21, 03 Jan to 29 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 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 (Figure 1). Since the epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 5 834 suspected cases of cholera with 19 associated deaths (CFR 0. 32%) were reported from 24 drought-affected districts. However the number of cholera cases reported have increased by 6% from 461 to 487 in the past two weeks. Of the 5 834 suspected cases of cholera, 68% (3968) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Benadir (2 701), Bay (1 836) and Lower Shabelle (676) (see Table 1). Of the 709 stool samples collected and analyzed, 129 samples tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* O1 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.

## ACUTE DIARRHOEAL DISEASE CASES

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 slightly increased by 2% from 2543 to 2598 cases over the past four weeks. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 35 789 cases of acute diarrhoeal disease were reported from drought-affected districts of which , 77% (27 557) were children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Middle Shabelle (5 832) , Bay (3925) and Banadir (16 008), (Table 1).

## 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 9 562 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 by 63% from 324 to 528 cases over the past two weeks. Of the 9 562 measles cases reported, 80% (7650) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting the most cases include Bay (2 189) ,Benadir (1 457), and Bari (1 559) (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).

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

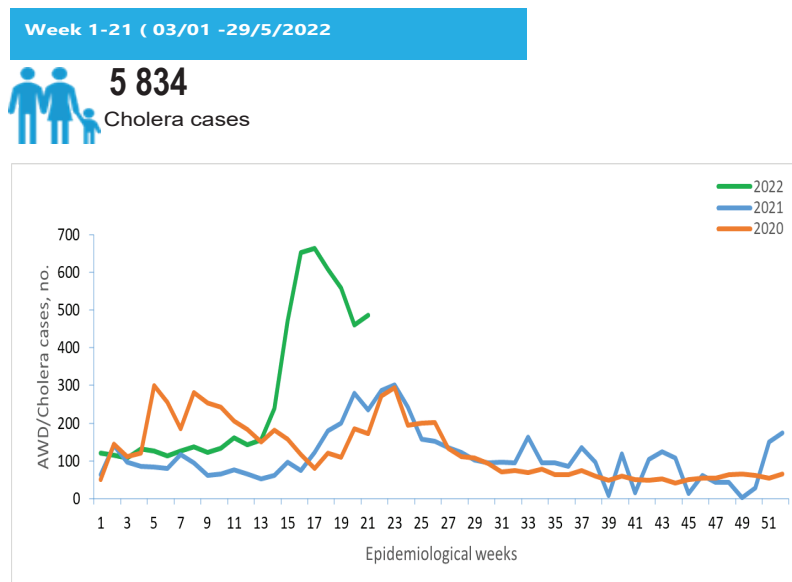


Fig. 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected regions of Somalia, 2020–2022

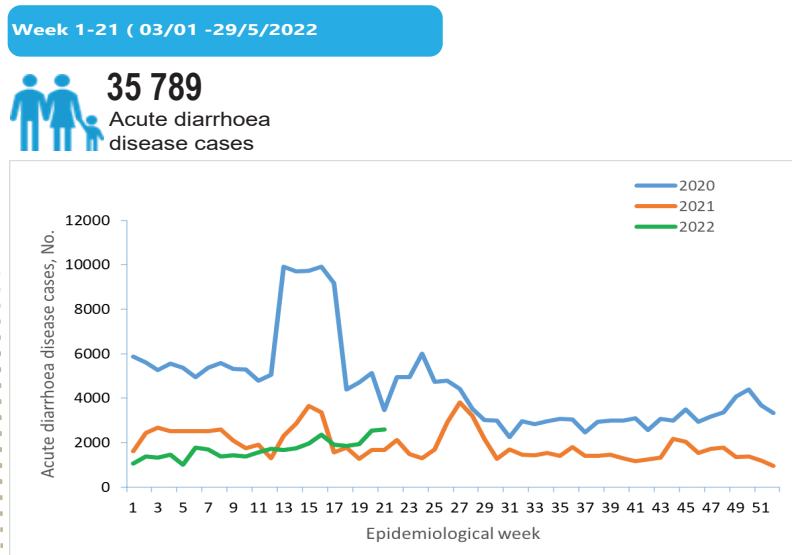
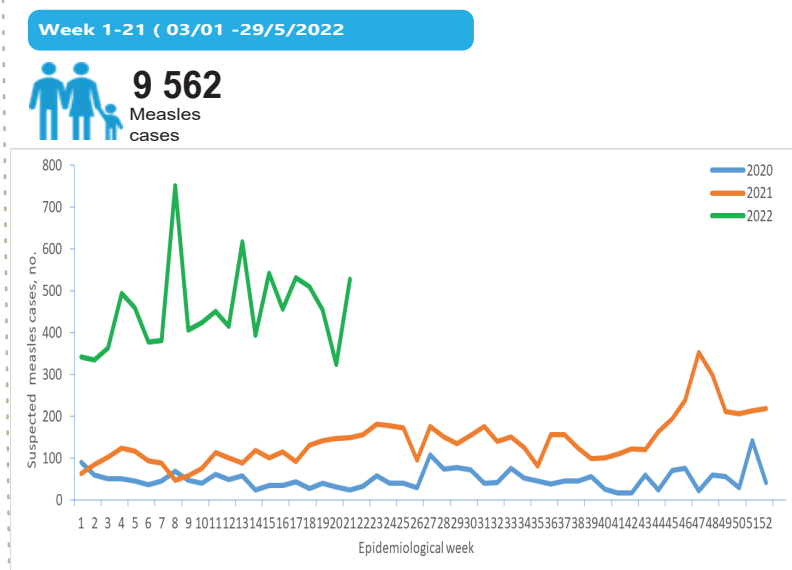


Fig. 3. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected regions of Somalia, 2020–2022



## MEASLES IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE

A total of 47 509(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 national target of 95%.

## 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%)

## MALARIA CASES

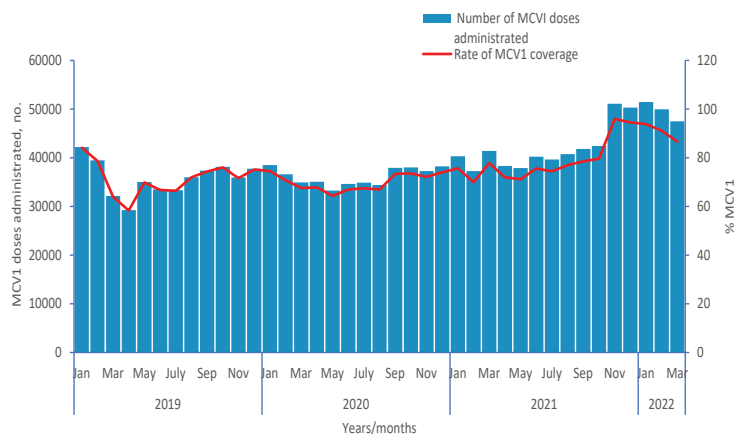
The number of suspected cases of malaria reported through DHIS2 has decreased since January 2022 (Figure 5). This decrease is attributed to the increased implementation of preventive measures in different regions. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 84 411 clinically diagnosed cases of malaria have been reported of which 1 888 have been tested positive for Malaria. Of the 1,888 confirmed cases since January 2022, 974 (51.6%) are female while 421 (22.3%) are children aged below 5 years. In March 2022, of the 21236 suspected cases that were reported of which 535 tested positive for malaria. Of the 535 confirmed cases 276 cases were female and 259 were male. No malaria deaths were reported in March. 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 13 705 SARI cases were reported from drought affected districts of which 65% (8908) were children below five years of age. However the number of new cases of SARI decreased by 16% 1339 to 1077 in the past two weeks. The districts reporting most of the cases are Banadir (5 242), Bay (1654) and Mudug (1 620) (Table 1). A total of 140 SARI cases were enrolled at two sentinel sites in Benadir region and reported in the platform of Eastern Mediterranean Flu (EMFLU) network since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 104 cases were tested in the national public health laboratory of which 16 (11.9%) were tested positive for Influenza; 3(2%) were positive for seasonal Influenza A (H1N1); 5(3%) were positive for Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; and 8(5%) were positive for influenza A (H3N2). No sample tested positive for influenza type B

\*. <https://emflunet.emro.who.int/Home/Dashboard>

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 April and May 2022 are not yet available

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

Week 1-21 ( 03/01 -29/5/2022



**84 411**

Malaria cases

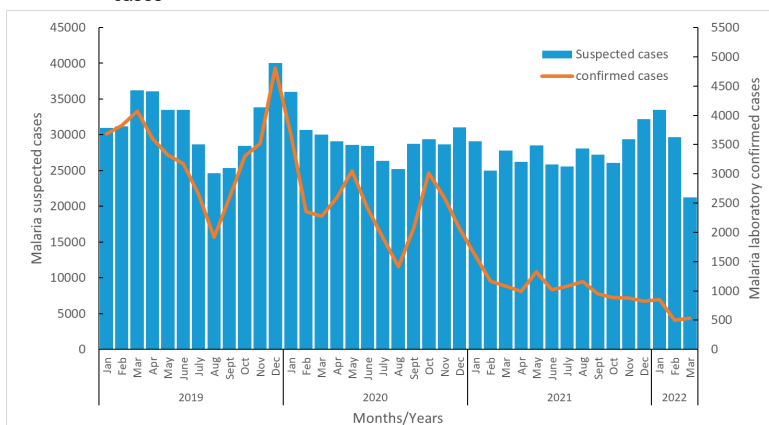


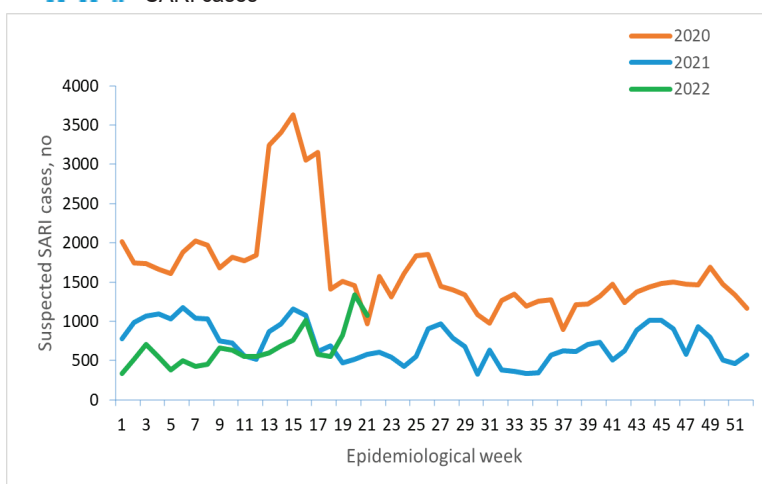
Fig.6. Trends of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) reported from drought-affected regions of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 1-21 ( 03/01 -29/5/2022



**13 705**

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 1-21, 03 Jan to 29 May 2022)**

Regions	Acute diarrhoeal disease[1]	Suspected Measles cases[2]	Suspected Malaria cases[3]	SARI cases[4]	Cholera cases[5]
AWDAL	0	6	2877	0	0
BAKOOL	920	42	2257	78	0
BANADIR	16 008	1 457	12 937	5 242	2 701
BARI	0	1 559	5 502	0	0
BAY	3 925	2 189	9 054	1 654	1 836
GALBEED	0	401	5 297	0	0
GALGADUD	636	122	3 424	1 482	0
GEDO	1 776	423	7 801	992	0
HIRAN	2 158	228	3 706	760	0
LOWER JUBA	777	205	5 211	1 010	0
LOWER SHABELLE	1 746	362	7 224	269	676
MIDDLE JUBA[4]	0	19	0	0	0
MIDDLE SHABELLE	5 832	213	5 726	276	621
MUDUG	1 453	1 452	4 314	1 620	0
NUGAL	17	508	2 860	30	0
SANAG	451	0	2 149	292	0
SOOL	90	125	1 192	0	0
TOGDHER	0	251	2 880	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>35 789</b>	<b>9 562</b>	<b>84 411</b>	<b>13 705</b>	<b>5 834</b>

[1] Source of data is EWARN as of 29 May 2022

[2] Source of data is fever and rash surveillance system as of 29 May 2022

[3] Source of data is DHIS 2 as of 31 March 2022. Data April and May in DHIS2 has not been updated

[4] Source of data is EWARN as of 29 May 2022

[5] Source of data is AWD/Cholera surveillance data from MOH as of 29 May 2022

Note: Continuous data quality review is periodically conducted and 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).



World Health Organization-Somalia



somaliawho



@WHOSom