

## 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 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 7.0 million in July, with 918 000 displaced from their homes in search of water, food, and pasture.

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

**7.7 million** people in need of humanitarian assistance

**7.0 million** people affected by drought

**918 200** people displaced by drought<sup>1</sup>

**45%** of total population in need of food assistance

**33%** of children below **5 years** suffering from malnutrition

### New cases reported during epidemiological weeks 30-31 (25/07/2022-7/8/2022)

**528** suspected cholera cases

**7521** acute diarrhoeal disease cases

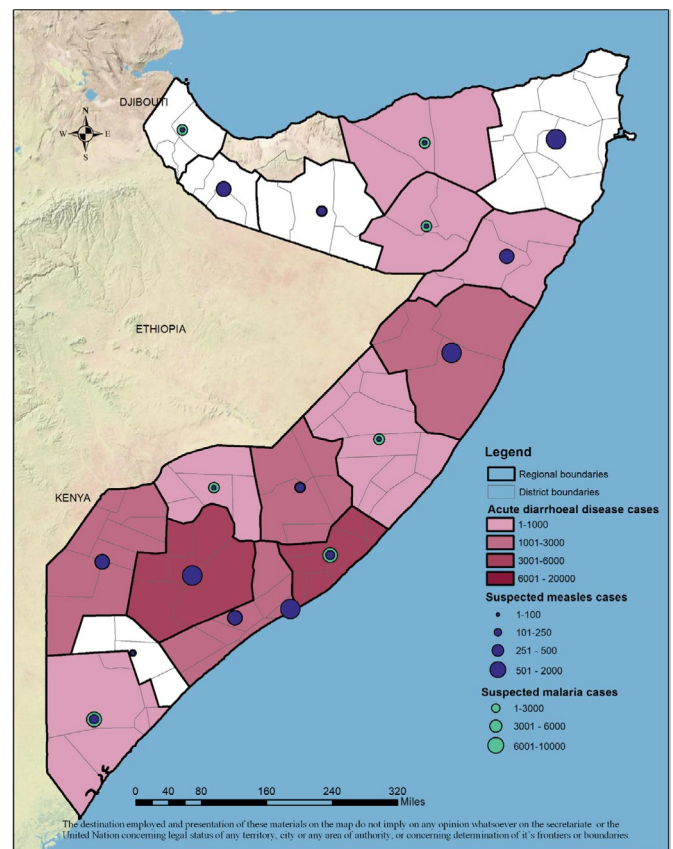
**563** suspected measles cases

**3656** SARI cases

**400** health facilities submitting weekly reports through EWARN

**2164** community health workers deployed 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 1-31, 03 Jan to 07 August 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 Early Warning Alert and Response Network (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.

<sup>1</sup> <https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/drought-displacement-monitoring-dashboard-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 (Figure 1).

Since the epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 8806 suspected cases of cholera with 42 associated deaths (CFR 0.5%) were reported from 24 drought-affected districts. The number of cholera cases reported have increased by 32% from 228 cases reported in week 30 to 300 cases in week 31. Of the 8806 suspected cases of cholera, 68% (5972) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (4277), Bay (2159) and Lower Shabelle (1266) (see Table 1). Of the 753 stool samples collected and analyzed, 149 samples tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* 01 serotype Ogawa. Culture and sensitivity studies conducted in the National Public Health Reference Laboratory in Mogadishu showed that the *V. cholerae* 01 serotype Ogawa 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 by 40% from 2693 cases to 3778 cases over the past four weeks. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 65 777 cases of acute diarrheal disease were reported from drought-affected districts of which, 78% (51 306) were children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (29 250), Bay (7546), and Middle Shabelle (7483) (Table 1). Of the 53 stool samples collected from different location from children aged below 5 years, nine were tested positive for Rotavirus infections. Of the nine positive samples, eight (88.9%) were reported from Benadir 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). However, the number of new cases of SARI have increased steadily by 51% from 1095 to 1657 in the past four weeks. Since epidemiological week 1, 2022, a total of 27 859 SARI cases were reported from drought-affected districts of which 66% (18 386) were children below five years of age. The region reporting most of the cases are Banadir (9720), Bay (4062) and Galgadud (3759) (Table 1).

A total of 278 SARI cases 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, 182 cases were tested in the national public health laboratory of which 26 (14.0%) were tested positive for Influenza; 3 (1.0%) were positive for seasonal Influenza

Week 1 to 31 (03 January to 07 August 2022)

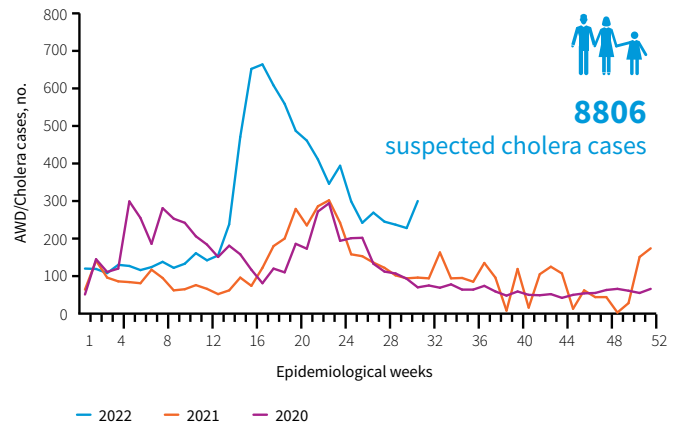


Figure 1. Trends of suspected cholera/acute watery diarrhoea cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 1 to 31 (03 January to 07 August 2022)

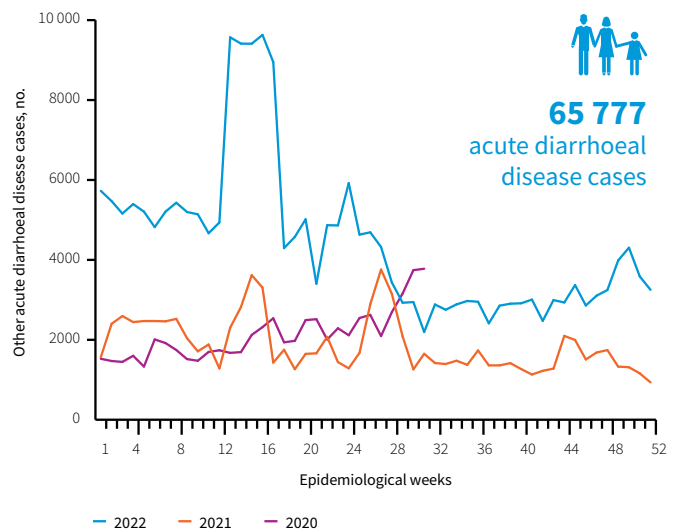


Figure 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 1 to 31 (03 January to 07 August 2022)

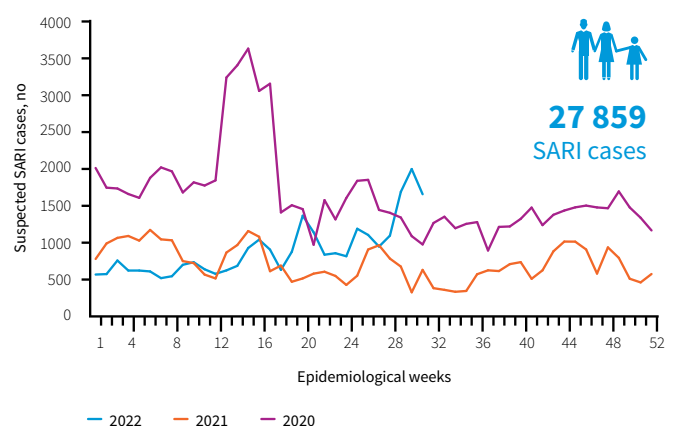


Figure 3. Trends of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) reported from drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

A (H1N1); 20 (10.0%) were positive for Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; and 3 (1.0%) were positive for influenza A (H3N2). No sample tested positive for influenza type B.

## MEASLES UPDATES

The number of suspected cases of measles have increased in 2022 compared to the previous two 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 12 535 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 by 27 % from 325 in week 30 to 238 in week 31. Of the 12 535 suspected measles cases reported, 78% (9777) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting the most cases include Bay (2599), Banadir (2179), and Bari (1984), (see Table 1), Of the 506 blood samples collected from suspected cases of measles and analysed in the laboratories, 64.4% (326) 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 decreased since January 2022 (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 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 2 1236 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<sup>2</sup>. No malaria deaths were reported in March. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (12 234) Bay (8766) and Bari (6664) (Table 1).

## Polio update

In 2022, two circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) were isolated from acute flaccid paralysis cases, two circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) from environmental samples (ES) while one Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus type 2 (VDPV2) was isolated from an environmental sample.

One hundred nine-nine (199) AFP cases (87 females and 102 males) were reported in 2022 of which 181 (91%) cases have lab results while 18 (9%) cases are pending for processing.

2 Malaria data for April and May has not been reported in DHIS2 by the time of publishing this report

### Week 1 to 31 (03 January to 07 August 2022)

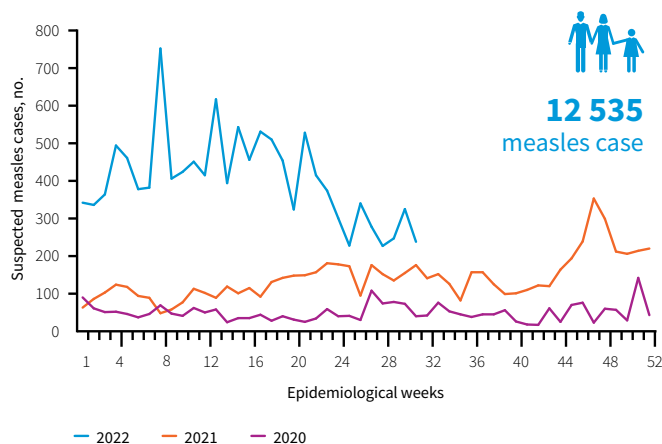


Figure 4. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020–2022

### Week 1 to 31 (03 January to 07 August 2022)

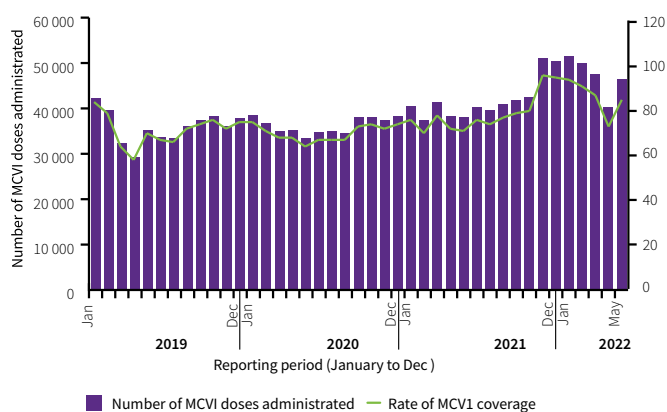


Figure 5. Number of children under 1 year vaccinated against measles by month, 2019-2022

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

### Week 1 to 31 (03 January to 07 August 2022)

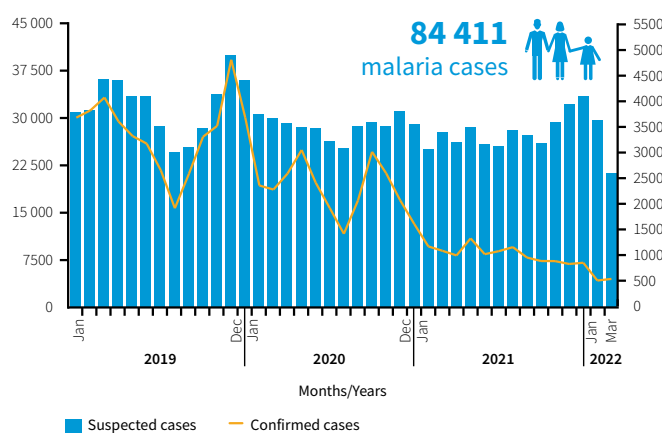


Figure 6. Trends of malaria cases reported in drought-affected regions, 2022-2022

A total one hundred twenty-eight (128) environmental samples were collected from 16 environmental sample sites and sent to the lab in 2022. 101 (79%) of these have lab results, while 27 (21%) of these are still being lab 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 1-31, 03 Jan to 07 August 2022)**

Regions	Acute diarrhoeal disease <sup>1</sup>	Suspected Measles cases <sup>2</sup>	Suspected Malaria case <sup>3</sup>	SARI cases <sup>4</sup>	Suspected cholera cases <sup>5</sup>
AWDAL	0	44	2 877	0	0
BAKOOL	1 258	97	2 257	117	165
BANADIR	29 250	2 179	12 937	9 720	4 277
BARI	2 330	1 984	5 502	286	0
BAY	7 546	2 599	9 054	4 062	2 159
GALBEED	0	392	5 297	0	0
GALGADUD	1 431	140	3 424	3 759	1
GEDO	2 013	638	7 801	1 784	1
HIRAN	3 713	319	3 706	1 351	0
LOWER JUBA	1 011	505	5 211	1 154	0
LOWER SHABELLE	3 620	442	7 224	737	1 266
MIDDLE JUBA	0	29	0	0	1
MIDDLE SHABELLE	7 483	244	5 726	502	865
MUDUG	1 141	1 677	4 314	275	0
NUGAL	1 398	641	2 860	608	0
SOUTH MUDUG	1 819	284	0	3 015	0
SAHIL	0	37	9	0	0
SANAG	1 358	8	2 149	442	0
SOOL	406	137	1 192	47	0
TOGDHER	0	423	2 880	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>65 777</b>	<b>12 535</b>	<b>84 411</b>	<b>27 859</b>	<b>8 806</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

4 Source of data is fever and rash surveillance system

5 Source of data is DHIS2. Data for malaria cases has not been updated in DHIS2 since March 2022

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 surveillance system for fever and rash managed by EPI/Polio program



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