

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-2022 to 7.8 million in July 2022, 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.



CURRENT SITUATION IN DROUGHT AFFECTED DISTRICTS

7.7 million people in need of humanitarian assistance

7.8 million people affected by drought

1 million people displaced by drought¹

33% of total population in need of food assistance²

1.5 million of children below **5 years** suffering from malnutrition

New cases reported during epidemiological weeks 32-33 (8/8/2022-21/8/2022)



433 suspected cholera cases



6364 acute diarrhoeal disease cases



415 suspected measles cases



3784 SARI cases



616 confirmed cases of Malaria

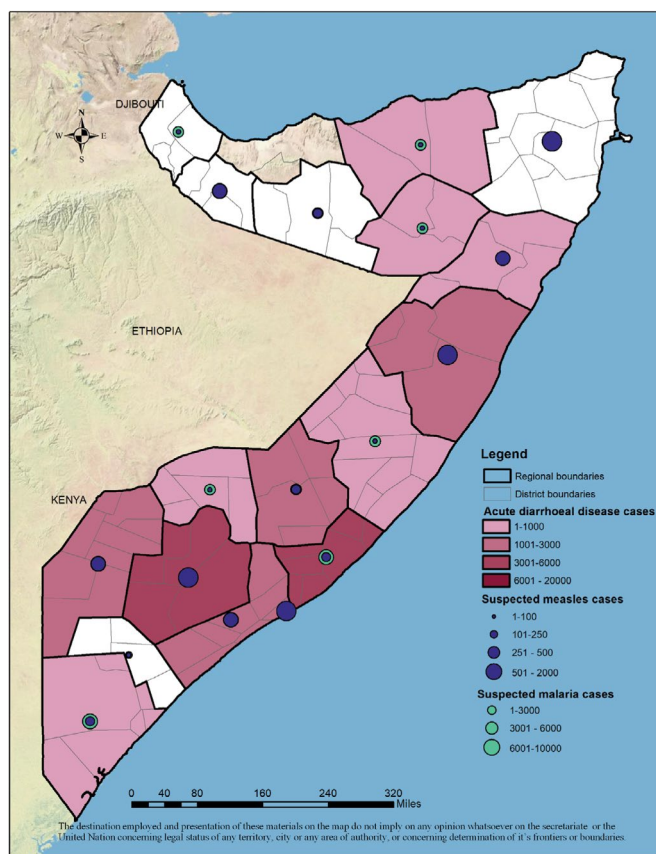


480 health facilities submitting weekly reports through EWARN



2163 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 1-33, 03 Jan to 21 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 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 9247 suspected cases of cholera with 44 associated deaths (CFR 0.5%) were reported from 24 drought-affected districts. The number of cholera cases reported have decreased by 36% from 270 cases reported in week 32 to 171 in week 33. Of the 9247 suspected cases of cholera, 6228 (67.3%) cases were children below 5 years, 4532 (49.0%) are women and 2525 (27.3%) are severe cases. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (4503), Bay (2226) and Lower Shabelle (1332) (see Table 1). Of the 1018 stool samples collected and analyzed, 198(19.4%) 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 decreased by 18% from 3 489 cases in week 32 to 2875 cases in week 33. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 72 182 cases of acute diarrheal disease were reported from drought-affected districts of which, 77% (55 580) were children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (31 134), Bay (8199), and Middle Shabelle (8197) (Table 1). Of the 248 stool samples collected from different location from children aged below 5 years, 70 were tested positive for Rotavirus infections. Of the 70 positive samples, 68 (97.1%) 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 31 647 SARI cases were reported from drought-affected districts of which 65% (20 571) were children below five years of age. However, the number of new cases of SARI decreased by 42% from 2402 to 1382 in the past two weeks. The region reporting most of the cases are Banadir (10 368), Galgadud (4490) and Bay (4 429) (Table 1).

A total of 519 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, 448 cases were tested in the national public health laboratory of which 44 (9.8%) were tested positive for

Week 1 to 33 (03 January to 21 August 2022)

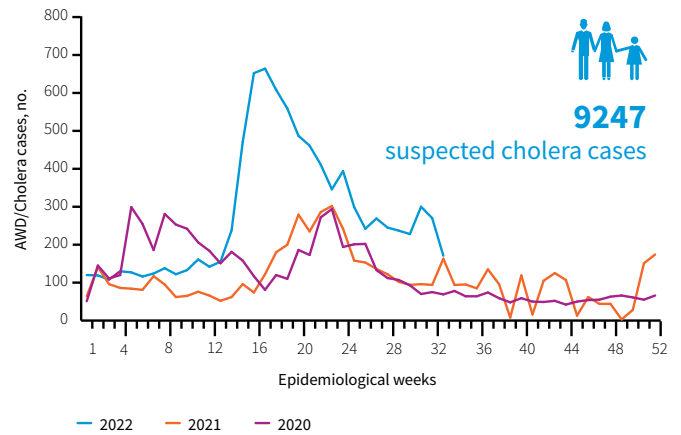


Figure 1. Trends of suspected cholera/acute watery diarrhoea cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 1 to 33 (03 January to 21 August 2022)

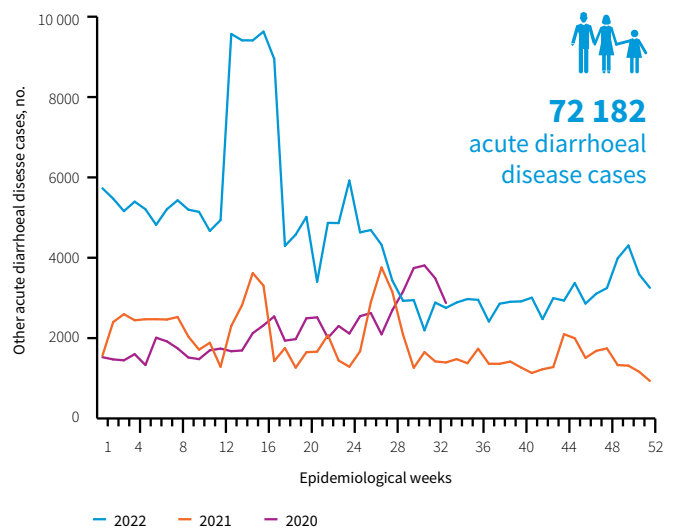


Figure 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 1 to 33 (03 January to 21 August 2022)

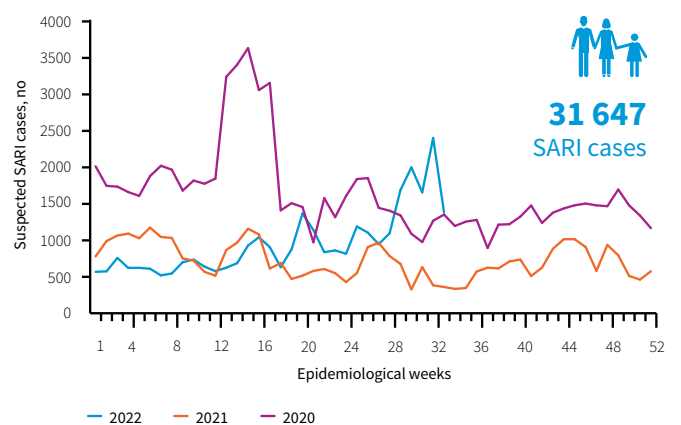


Figure 3. Trends of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) reported from drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Influenza; 3 (6.8%) were positive for seasonal Influenza A (H1N1); 20 (45.4%) were positive for Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; and 3 (6.8%) were positive for influenza A (H3N2), 17(38.6%) were positive for Influenza B Victoria Lineage and 1(2.2%) 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 12 950 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 6 % from 201 in week 32 to 214 in week 33. Of the 12 950 suspected measles cases reported, 78% (10 098) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting the most cases include Bay (2660), Banadir (2285), and Bari (2011), (see Table 1), Of the 702 blood samples collected from suspected cases of measles and analysed in the laboratories, 63.0% (439) 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 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 178 685 cases of suspected malaria have been tested of which 5486(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)

Polio update

In 2022, three 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.

Two hundred-thirteen (213) AFP cases (95 females and 118 males) were reported in 2022. A total one hundred twenty-

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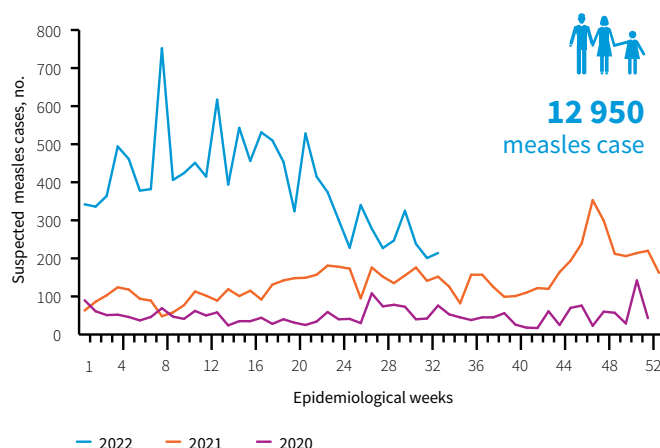


Figure 4. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected regions/districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 1 to 33 (03 January to 21 August 2022)

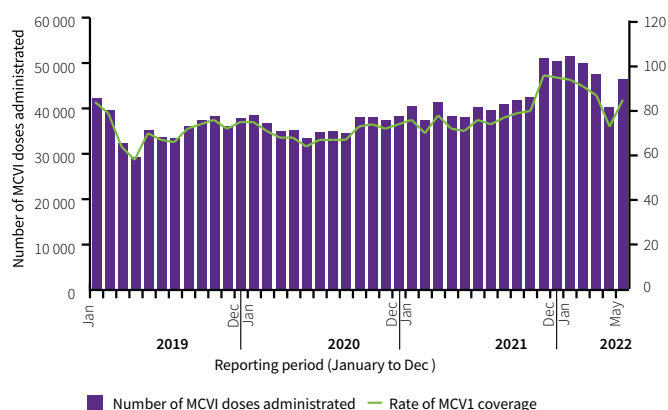


Figure 5. Number of children under 1 year vaccinated against measles by month, 2019-2022

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

Week 1 to 33 (03 January to 21 August 2022)

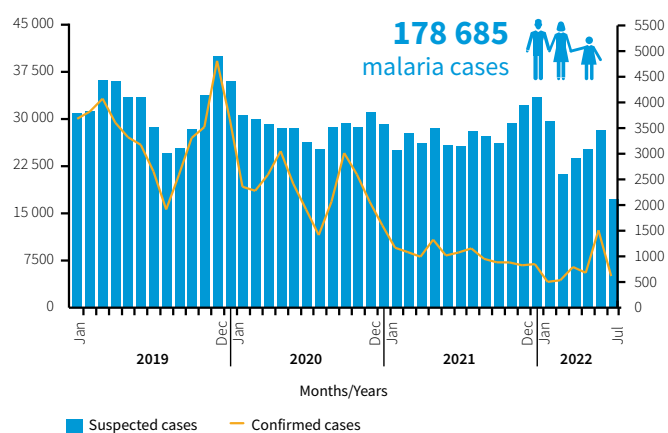


Figure 6. Trends of malaria cases reported in drought-affected regions, 2019-2022

eight (128) environmental samples were collected from 16 environmental sample sites and sent to the lab in 2022. 103(80%) of these have lab results, while 25(20%) of these are still being lab 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 1-33, 03 Jan to 21 August 2022)

Regions	Acute diarrhoeal disease ³	Suspected Measles cases ⁴	Suspected Malaria case ⁵	SARI cases ⁶	Suspected cholera cases ⁷
AWDAL	0	63	6 217	0	0
BAKOOL	1 321	150	4 691	129	234
BANADIR	31 134	2 285	23 257	10 368	4 503
BARI	2 475	2 011	11 523	328	0
BAY	8 199	2 660	18 667	4 429	2 226
GALBEED	0	392	6 110	0	0
GALGADUD	1 471	141	6 234	4 490	2
GEDO	2 058	653	16 248	1 795	1
HIRAN	4 347	326	8 949	1 576	0
KARKAR	785	-	4 068	1 043	
LOWER JUBA	1 011	579	12 420	1 154	0
LOWER SHABELLE	3 908	450	14 540	794	1 332
MIDDLE JUBA	0	29	0	0	1
MIDDLE SHABELLE	8 197	247	10 709	584	948
MUDUG	1 426	1 683	11 890	332	0
NUGAL	1 733	644	5 036	728	0
SOUTH MUDUG	2 041		0	3 311	0
SAHIL	0	37	4 402	0	0
SANAG	1 618	26	4 700	474	0
SOOL	458	141	3 363	112	0
TOGDHER	0	433	5 661	0	0
TOTALS	72 182	12 950	178 685	31 647	9 247

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 EWARIN

4 Source of data is fever and rash surveillance system

5 Source of data is DHIS2

6 Source of data is EWARIN

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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