

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 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 18-19, 2022



3 206
Acute diarrhoea cases



1 167
Cholera cases



535
Malaria cases

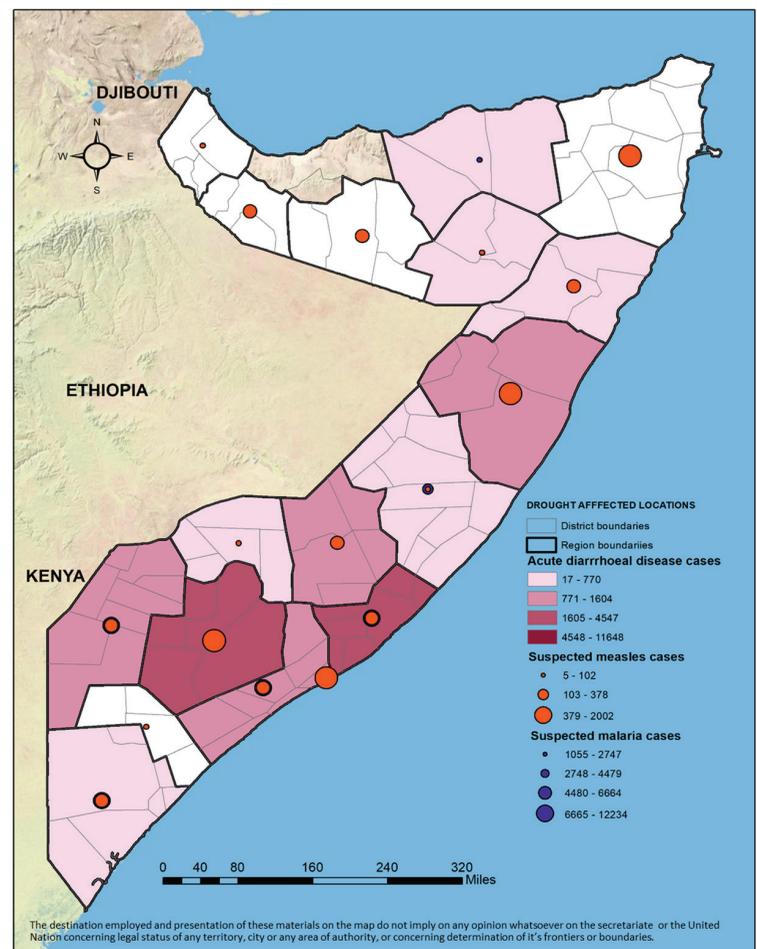


964
Measles cases



1 209
SARI cases

Reported cases of acute diarrhoeal disease, suspected measles, SARI and clinically diagnosed malaria cases in drought-affected region of Somalia, epidemiological weeks (1-19, 03 Jan to 15 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 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 4 887 suspected cases of cholera with 16 associated deaths (CFR 0.33%) were reported from 21 drought-affected districts. However the number of cholera cases reported have decreased from 664 cases in epidemiological week 17 to 559 cases in epidemiological week 19 which represents a 15% reduction over four weeks. Of the 4 887 suspected cases of cholera, 62.4% (3049) are children below five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir(2 132), Bay (1 662) and Lower Shabelle (557) (see Table 1). Of the 345 stool samples collected and analyzed, 61 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* 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 decreased in 2022 compared to 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. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 29 273 cases of acute diarrhoeal disease were reported from drought-affected districts through the Early Warning and Response Network (EWARN) and from the community-based surveillance system. The number of new cases of acute diarrhoea reported from drought affected districts has decreased from 11 850 cases reported in epidemiological week 17, 2022 to 1592 cases in epidemiological week 19. Of the 29 273 cases, 69% (20 198) were children under five years of age. The regions reporting most of the cases are Banadir (12 825), Middle Shabelle (5 029) and Bay (3 311) (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 8 710 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 have decreased from 752 in epidemiological week 8, 2022 to 454 cases in epidemiological week 19, 2022. Of the 8 710 measles cases reported, 82% (7 142) are children below five years of age. The number of new cases of suspected measles has decreased by 25% in the past two weeks of 2022. The regions reporting the most cases include Bay (2002), Mudug (1376), Banadir(1 314) and Bay (2 123) (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

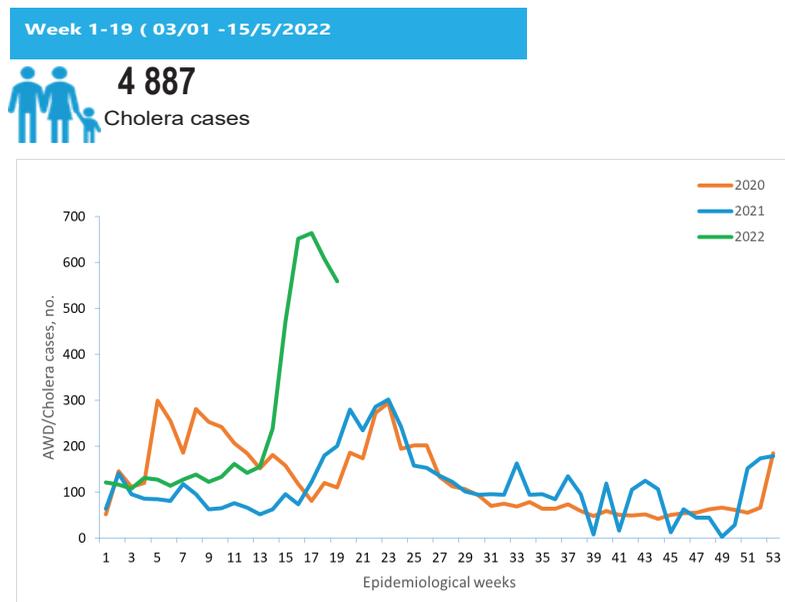


Fig. 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected regions of Somalia, 2020–2022

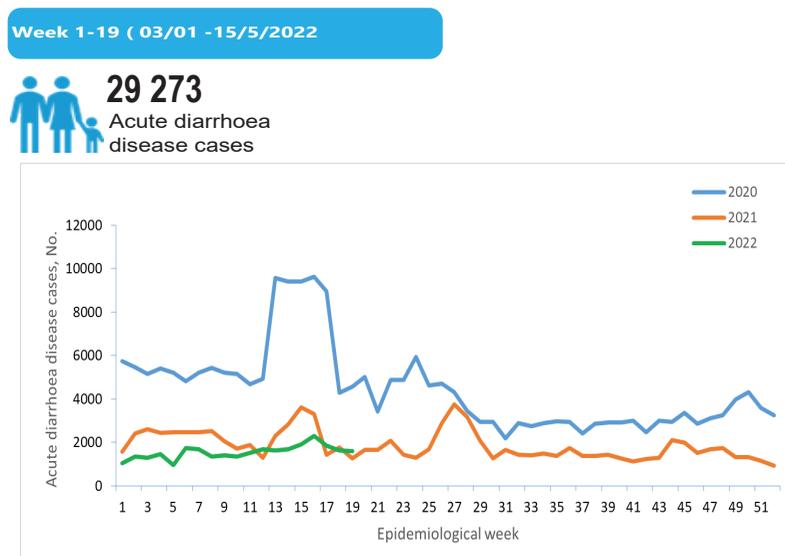
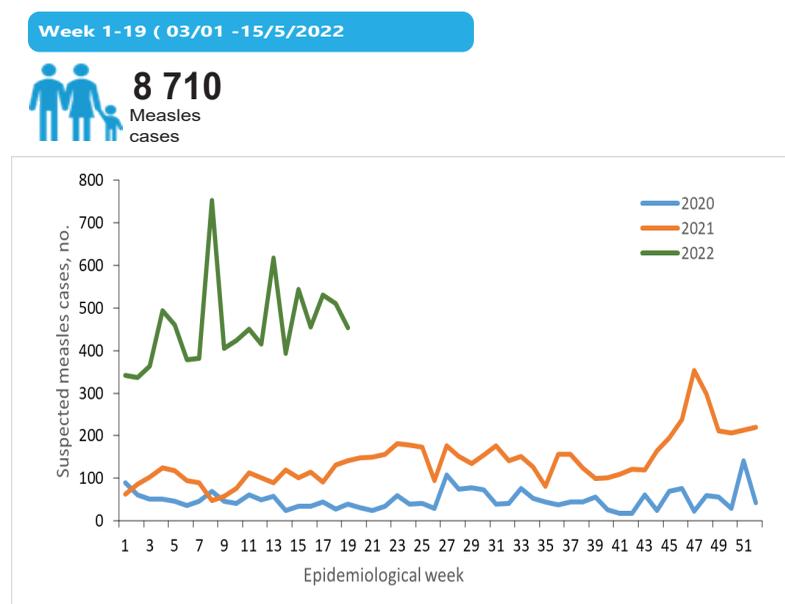


Fig. 3. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected regions of Somalia, 2020–2022



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 suspected 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, 974.2 (51.6%) are female while 421 (22.3%) are children aged below 5 years. In March 2022, of the 21236 suspected cases that were detected 535 were tested positive for malaria of which 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

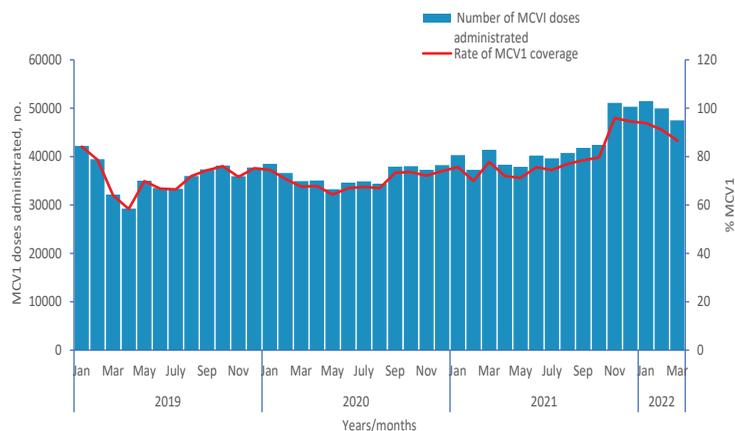
INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

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 11 118 SARI cases were reported from drought affected districts. Of these 65% (7 227) were children below five years of age. The districts reporting most of the cases are Banadir (4 486), Bay (1 5537) and Galgadud (961) (Table 1). A total of 116 SARI cases were reported in two sentinel sites in Benadir region and reported in the platform of Eastern Mediterranean Flu (EMFLU) network*.

Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 112 cases were tested in the national public health laboratory of which 15(13%) were tested positive for Influenza; 3(2%) were positive for seasonal Influenza A (H1N1); 4(3%) were positive for Influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; and 8(7%) 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 1-19 (03/01 -15/5/2022)



84 411

Malaria cases

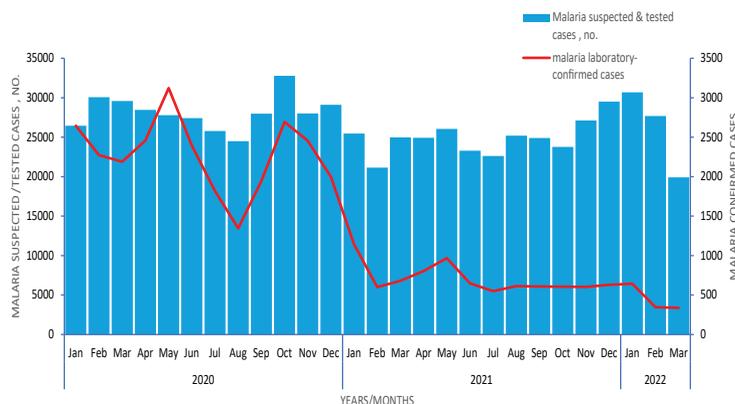


Fig.6. Trends of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) reported from drought-affected regions of Somalia, 2020-2022

Week 1-19 (03/01 -15/5/2022)



11 118

SARI cases

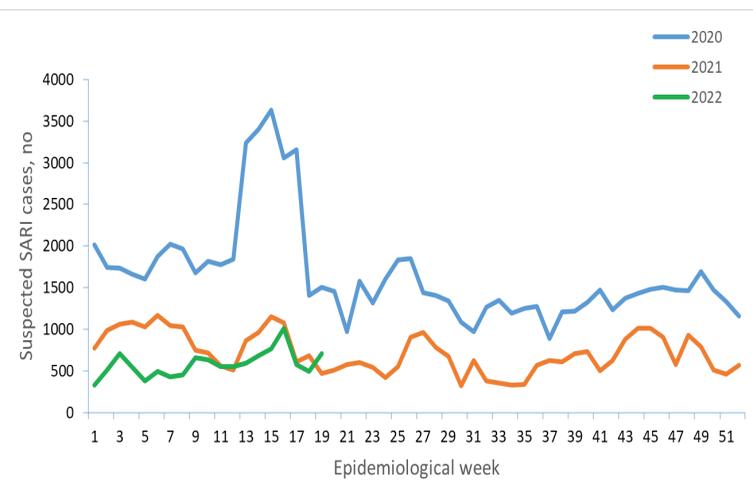


Table 1: Cumulative number of acute diarrhoeal disease, suspected measles, SARI, and suspected malaria cases in drought-affected regions of Somalia (epidemiological weeks 1-19, 03 Jan to 15 May 2022)

Regions	Acute diarrhoeal disease[1]	Suspected Measles cases[2]	Suspected Malaria cases[3]	SARI cases[4]	Cholera cases[5]
AWDAL	766	5	2 877	66	0
BAKOOL	12 825	41	2 257	4 486	0
BANADIR	0	1 314	12 937	0	2 132
BARI	3 311	1 307	5 502	1 537	0
BAY	0	2 123	9 054	0	1 662
GALBEED	528	343	5 297	961	0
GALGADUD	1 268	114	3 424	737	0
GEDO	1 734	349	7 801	705	0
HIRAN	582	198	3 706	897	0
LOWER JUBA	1 621	193	5 211	269	0
LOWER SHABELLE	0	334	7 224	0	557
MIDDLE JUBA	5 029	18	0	211	0
MIDDLE SHABELLE	1 099	205	5 726	953	535
MUDUG	17	1 376	4 314	30	0
NUGAL	403	441	2 860	266	0
SANAG	90	0	2 149	0	0
SOOL	0	122	1 192	0	0
TOGDHER	0	227	2 880	0	0
TOTALS	29 273	8 710	44 411	11 118	4 886

1 source of data is EWARN as of 15 May 2022

2 Source of data is fever and rash surveillance system managed by Polio programme

3 Source of data is DHIS2 as of March 2022

4 source of data is EWARN as of 15 May 2022

5 Source of data is AWD/CHOLERA surveillance from MOH as of 15 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, Rabdhuure and Eyle).



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