

CURRENT SITUATION

Somalia is experiencing worsening drought following three consecutive seasons of inadequate rains. According to the Food Security and Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and Famine Early Warning Network (FEWS NEST), Somalia received suboptimal amounts of drier rains than expected in October 2021. Currently, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) estimates 4.5 million people in 71 out of the 74 districts in the country are food insecure, 671 000 of whom have abandoned their homes in search of water and food. This has resulted in a shortage of safe water, poor hygiene and sanitation and displacement among the affected populations, leading to more people being vulnerable to epidemic-prone diseases, particularly acute diarrhoeal disease and measles.



DROUGHT KEY FACTS

4.3	Million people including
671 000	IDPs
66	Districts affected by drought
626	Health facilities Reporting to EWARN



HEALTH SITUATION

8-9, 21/2 - 6/3/2022



1 779

Acute diarrhoea cases



423

Cholera cases



35

Malaria cases



2 167

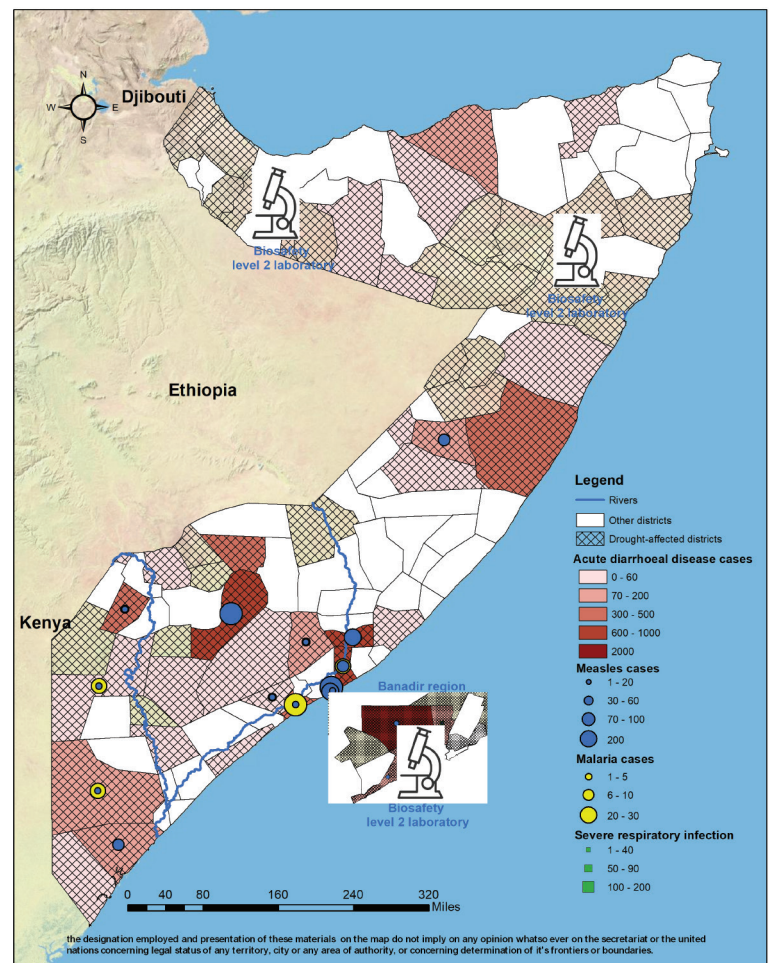
Measles cases



1 343

SARI cases

Reported suspected cases of acute diarrhoeal disease cases, measles, SARI and malaria in drought-affected districts of Somalia, epidemiological weeks 1-9 (21/2 - 6/3/2022).



The Federal Ministry of Health and WHO monitor the trends of epidemic-prone diseases in drought-affected districts using the electronic-based EWARN. With support from the 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 these districts. The number of new suspected cases of cholera has increased in 2022 compared to the previous years due to an increasing number of people with limited access to safe water and safe sanitation practice (Fig. 1). Since the epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 1 249 suspected cases of cholera with two associated deaths were reported from 71 drought affected districts. Of the 1 249 suspected cases of cholera, 71% (887) are children below five years of age. In addition, over the past two weeks in 2022, the number of suspected cases of cholera has increased by 74.5% in these districts. The districts reporting most of the cases are Daynile (261), Baaydhowa (177) and Afgoye (160) (see Table 1). Of the 144 stool samples collected and analyzed, 14 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 decreased in January 2022 compared to January 2021 and 2020 respectively (Fig 2). This reduction in cases is linked to the implementation of additional Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) interventions in drought affected districts. However, the number of new cases of acute diarrhoea reported from drought affected districts has increased by 34% in the past two weeks in 2022. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 9 977 cases of acute diarrhoeal disease were reported from drought-affected districts through the Early Warning and Response Network (EWARN). Of these, 64% (6 585) were children below five years of age. The districts reporting most of the cases are Daynile (2 420), Jowhar (1 290) and Baaydhawa (1 115) (see 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 (Fig. 3). Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 2 970 suspected cases of measles were reported from 66 drought-affected districts of whom 76% (2957) are children below five years of age. The number of new cases of suspected measles has surged three times in the past two weeks of 2022. The districts reporting the most cases include Baaydhawa (1 064), Madina (361) and Galkacyo South (228) (see Table 1). Of the 249 blood samples collected and analyzed in the laboratories, 142 (57%) tested positive for measles-specific immunoglobulin M (IgM).

Fig. 1. Trends of cholera cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

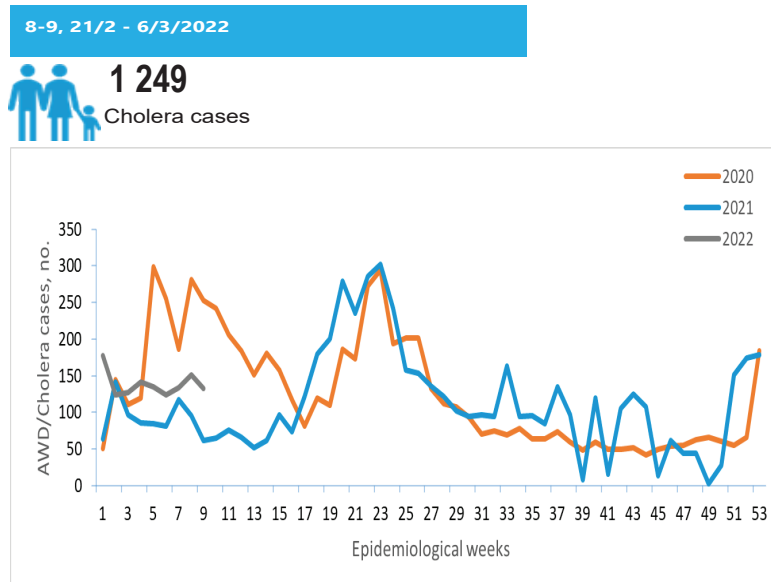


Fig. 2. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2020-2022

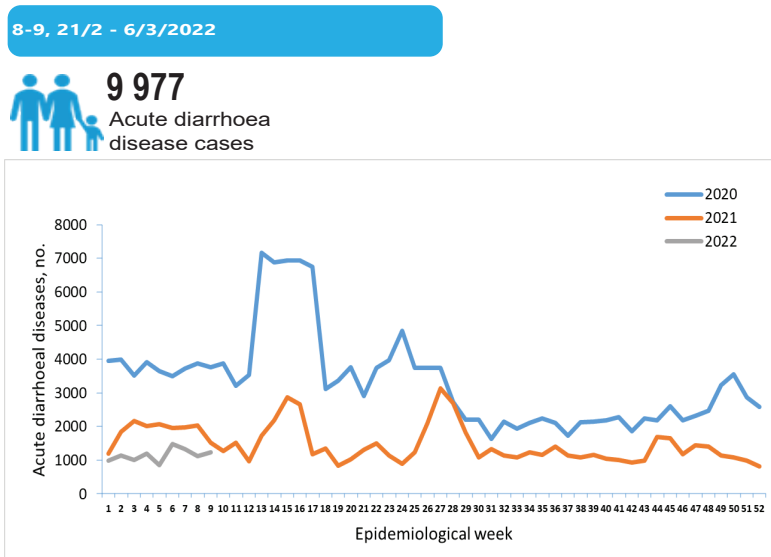
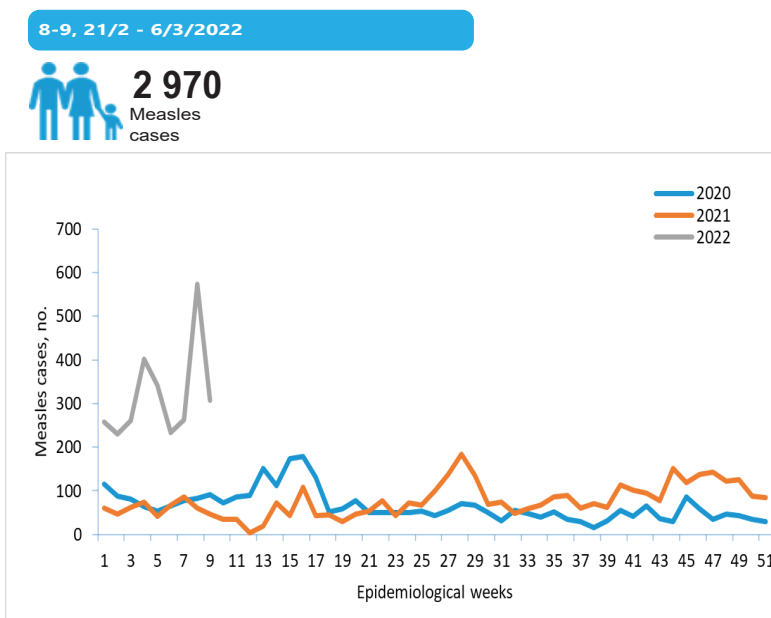


Fig. 3. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2020-2022



MEASLES IMMUNIZATION COVERAGE

A total of 50 322 (95%) 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 October 2021 (Fig. 4). From December 2018 to December 2021, 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 Salagle District, Middle Juba Region in 12 May 2021.

During the reporting week, no new cVDPV2 isolate from the AFP case and Environmental surveillance (ES) samples was reported. In 2022, 9 Acute Flaccid Paralysis cases (2 Female and 7 Male) were identified. All are in the lab for processing.

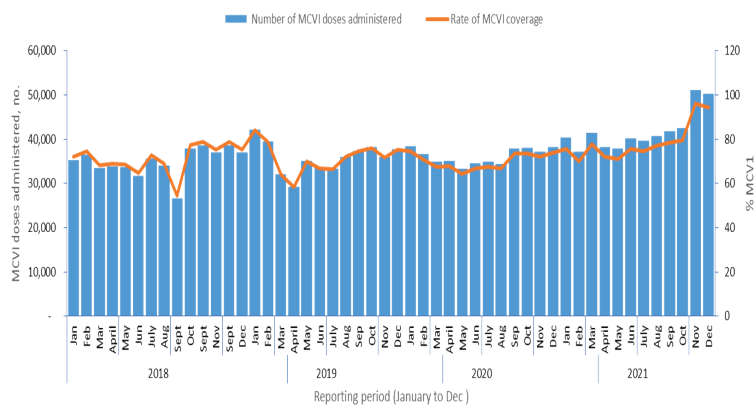
MALARIA CASES

The number of clinically diagnosed cases of malaria decreased in 2022 compared to the previous years. (Fig 5). This is attributed to improved malaria preventive interventions in drought-affected districts. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, a total of 137 cases have been reported from the 71 drought affected districts, (see Table 1). The districts reporting most of the cases are from Jowhar (12), Baardheere (36) and Marka (32), (Table 1). The species *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria accounts for 59% of all the reported malaria cases.

INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE

The number of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) cases reported through the EWARN decreased in 2021 compared to the previous years (Fig.6). Since epidemiological week 1, 2022, a total of 3 322 SARI cases were reported from drought affected districts. Of these 71% (2 358) were children below five years of age. The districts reporting most of the cases are Daynile (356), Cadado (351) and Baydhawa (786) (Table 1). Of the total 9 samples tested since epidemiological week 1 of 2022, 3 (23.2%) samples tested positive for influenza type A. No sample was tested positive for influenza type B. Of the 3 influenza A positive samples analyzed; 1 of them tested positive for influenza A (H1N1) pdm09; while 2 were positive for influenza A (H3N2)

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 Jan and Feb 2022 are not yet available

Fig. 5. Trends of suspected malaria cases in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2020–2022

8-9, 21/2 - 6/3/2022

137
Malaria cases

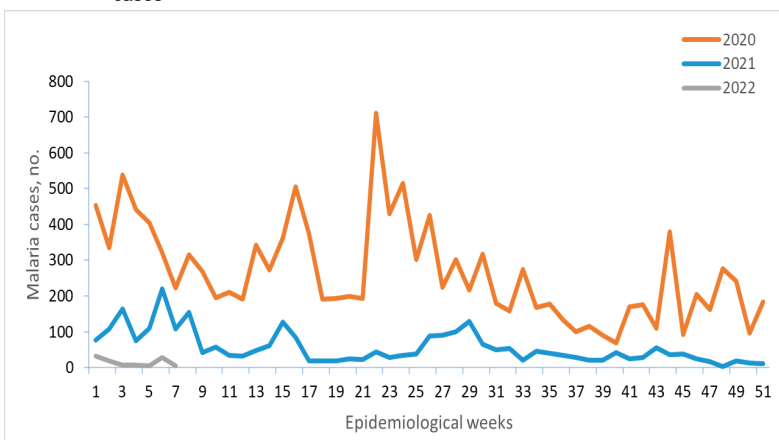


Fig. 6. Trends of Severe acute respiratory infection cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2020–2022

8-9, 21/2 - 6/3/2022

3 322
SARI cases

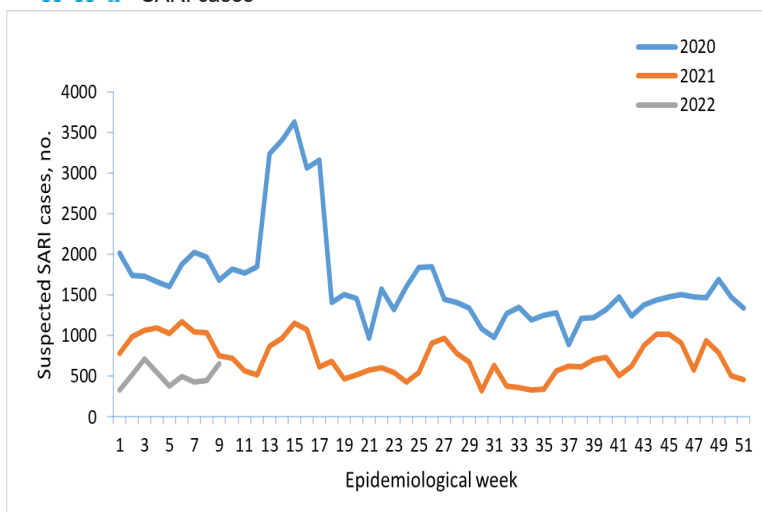


Table 1: Cumulative number of acute diarrhoeal disease cases, measles, SARI and malaria cases in drought-affected districts of Somalia (epidemiological weeks 1-9, 21/2 -6 /3/2022)

Regions	Districts	Acute diarrhoea I disease	Measles cases	Malaria cases	SARI cases	Cholera cases
Banadir	Daynile	2420	40	12	356	261
	Hawal Wadag	55	7	0	51	19
	Hodan	36	39	0	11	147
	Kaxda	206	43	0	18	50
	Dharkenley	115	0	0	73	92
	Madina	637	361	1	304	144
	Waberi	246	17	0	29	24
Galgadud	Yaqshid	72	11	0	0	29
	Caabudwaaq	0	12	0	0	0
	Cadado	184	69	0	351	0
South Mudug	Dhusamareb	36	2	0	149	0
	Galkacyo South	0	228	0	0	0
Hiraan	Hobyo	486	108	0	0	0
Middle Shabelle	Beletweyne	298	19	0	163	0
	Cadale	0	2	0	0	0
	Balcad	815	32	10	38	0
Gedo	Jowhar	1290	41	12	39	43
	Baardheere	64	41	36	61	0
	Doolow	0	102	0	0	0
	Ceel Waaq	0	0	0	0	0
	Garbahaarey	369	12	3	83	0
Lower Juba	Luuq	0	13	0	0	0
	Afmadow	84	12	10	109	0
	Badhaadhe	74	13	0	274	0
Middle Juba	Kismayo	190	46	1	82	0
Bari	Bu'aale	0	3	0	0	0
	Bossaso	0	159	0	0	0
	Garowe	0	103	0	0	0
Mudug	Qardho	0	179	0	0	0
Sanaag	Jariiban	0	1	0	0	0
	Ceel Afwayn	68	0	0	32	0
Sool	Ceerigaabo	146	0	0	108	0
Galbeed	Hargeisa	0	49	0	0	0
Togdheer	Laas caanood	90	16	0	0	0
	Buuhoodle	0	2	0	0	0
	Burco	0	10	0	0	0
Bakool	Oodwayne	0	0	0	0	0
	Ceel Barde	0	0	0	0	0
Bay	Xudur	0	8	0	0	0
	Baaydhawa	1115	1064	5	786	177
	Buurhakaba	38	0	0	166	0
	Diinsoor	0	0	0	0	0
	Qansaxdheere	204	3	8	18	0
Lower Shabelle	Afgooye	0	37	0	0	160
	Baraawa	0	29	0	0	0
	Marka	379	34	32	13	100
	Qoryooley	55	1	5	4	0
	Wanlawayn	205	2	2	4	3
Total		9977	2970	137	3322	1249

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).



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