



For Epidemic-prone diseases in Somalia for Weeks 34-35, 23 August-5 September 2021

#### **CURRENT SITUATION**

Somalia is affected by multiple hazards throughout the year. While the country has had limited time to fully recover from them, the response to these hazards has been negatively affected by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. So far, severe drought has been reported in 47 districts, of which 13 are targeted for the Anticipatory Action and Rapid Response under the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), which aims to prevent disease outbreaks in these districts.

Drought has led to the shortage of safe water and poor hygiene and sanitation among the affected populations, leading to more people being vulnerable to epidemic-prone diseases, particularly diarrhoeal disease and measles.



#### **DROUGHT KEY FACTS**

Million people including

**IDPs** 

**Districts** 

affected by drought

**Health facilities** Reporting to EWARN



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2 404

Acute diarrhoea



Cholera

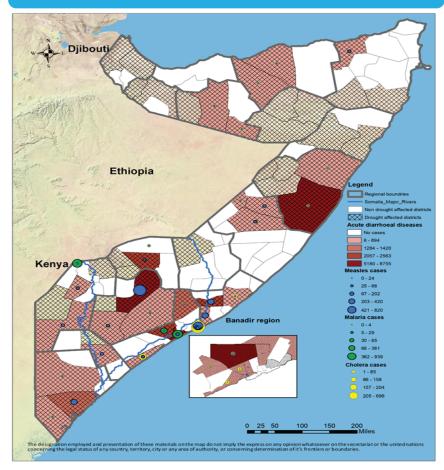


154

Measles cases

86 Malaria cases

drought-affected districts of Somalia, epidemiological weeks 1-35 (1-January to 5-Sepetember- 2021)



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 the World Bank, 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 high-risk communities.

# **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 most of the districts. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2021, a total of 3 195 suspected cases of cholera, including 33 associated deaths (with a case fatality rate (CFR) 0.9%), were reported from 47 drought-affected districts. Of the 3 195 cases of cholera, 94% (2757) are children aged below 5 years, while 50% (1466) are female. The districts reporting most of the cases are Daynile (616), Baydhawa (498) and Wadajir (531) (Table 1). Of the 623 stool samples collected and analysed, 446 (71.6%) 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 isolated is sensitive to chloramphenicol and tetracycline but resistant to ampicillin and nalidixic acid.

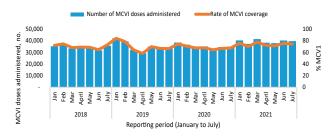
### **ACUTE DIARRHOEAL DISEASES**

The number of new cases of acute diarrhoeal disease decreased in 2021, as compared to the previous years. This reduction in cases is linked to the implementation of additional Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) interventions in drought-affected districts. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2021, a total of 53 259 cases of acute diarrhoeal disease have been reported from drought-affected districts through the EWARN. The districts reporting most of the cases are Baaydhawa, Marka and Daynile (Table 1).

#### **MEASLES UPDATES**

The number of suspected cases of measles have decreased in 2021 compared to the previous years (Fig. 2). This reduction in cases is linked to an increase in measles vaccination coverage of children aged below 5 years of age (Fig. 4). Since epidemiological week 1 of 2021, a total of 2 176 suspected cases of measles have been reported from 47 drought-affected districts. The districts reporting the most cases include Baaydhawa, Marka and Daynile (see Table 1). Of the 403 blood samples collected and analysed in the laboratories, 369 (91.4%) tested positive for measles-specific immunoglobulin M (IgM).

Fig. 4. Number of children under 1 year of age vaccinated against measles by month, 2018-2021



A total of 39 213 (74%) out of the targeted 53 239 children aged under 1 year received the first dose of measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) in drought-affected districts in July 2021 (Fig. 3). From July 2018 to July 2021, the measles vaccination coverage ranged between 65% and 74% per month.

#### **POLIO UPDATES**

o No new circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) case was reported since October 2020. However, cVDPV2 was isolated from an environmental sample collected in Banadir on 23 May 2021.

o 239 acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases (98 female and 141 male) were reported in 2021. Of these, laboratory test results are available for 209 (87%) cases while the laboratory test results are pending for the remaining 30 (13%) cases.

## **MALARIA UPDATES**

The number of new confirmed cases of malaria decreased in 2021 compared to the previous years (Fig 3).

The reduction in the number of malaria cases is linked to the improved implementation of malaria preventive interventions in various districts.

Since epidemiological week 1 of 2021, a total of 2 356 cases have been reported from 42 drought-affected districts (see Table 1). The districts reporting most of the cases are Beletweyne, Daynile, Doolow, Baaydhawa and Marka. Plasmodium Falciparum malaria species accounts for 50% of all the reported malaria cases.

Fig. 1. Trends of acute diarrhoeal disease cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia,

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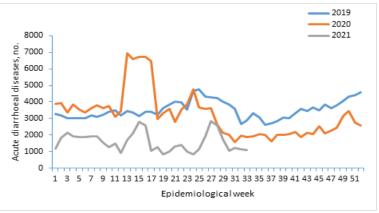


Fig. 2. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2019–2021

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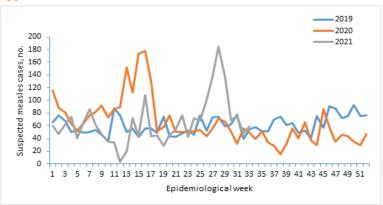


Fig. 4. Trends of suspected malaria cases in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2018–2021

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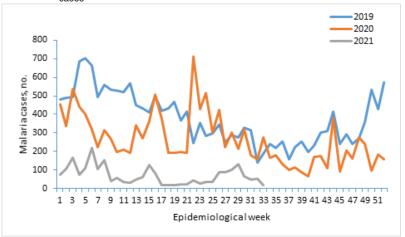


Table 1. Cumulative number of acute diarrhoeal disease, measles, and malaria cases in drought-affected districts of Somalia (epidemiological weeks 1-35, 1 January-5 September 2021)

Regions	Districts	Acute diarrhoeal disease	Measles cases	Malaria cases	Cholera cases
Banadir	Daynile	8755	420	361	698
	Hawal Wadag	65	1	0	85
	Hodan	72	7	0	476
	Kaxda	321	29	15	156
	Madina	367	28	1	587
	Waberi	580	48	0	56
	Yaqshid	289	1	0	62
Galgadud	Caabudwaaq	51	0	0	0
	Cadado	834	64	4	0
	Dhusamareb	569	24	16	0
South Mudug	Galkacyo South	51	0	0	0
	Hobyo	5180	0	0	0
Hiraan	Beletweyne	5533	111	159	0
Middle Shabelle	Cadale	264	12	0	67
	Balcad	374	108	0	0
	Jowhar	2265	202	39	0
Gedo	Baardheere	152	54	0	0
	Doolow	48	0	252	0
	Ceel Waaq	154	1	0	0
	Garbahaarey	92	0	15	0
Lower Juba	Afmadow	6	0	0	0
	Badhaadhe	30	10	0	0
	Kismayo	1284	107	27	0
Middle Juba	Bu'aale	163	60	0	0
Bari	Bossaso	730	3	16	0
	Qardho	0	0	0	33
Mudug	Jariiban	31	0	0	0
Sanaag	Ceel Afwayn	273	0	0	0
	Ceerigaabo	894	0	0	0
Sool	Laas caanood	601	0	0	0
Togdheer	Buuhoodle	20	0	0	0
	Burco	251	0	0	0
	Oodwayne	401	0	0	0
Bakool	Ceel Barde	602	0	2	0
	Xudur	2563	0	14	0
Bay	Baaydhawa	6794	820	939	577
	Buurhakaba	517	0	1	0
	Diinsoor	7	0	29	0
	Qansaxdheere	1519	0	158	0
Lower Shabelle	Baraawa	453	0	11	149
	Marka	6627	66	232	204
	Qoryooley	2057	0	65	45
	Wanlawayn	1420	0	0	0
Total		53 259	2 176	2 356	3 195

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).