

## OVERALL SITUATION

Poor recovery from the drought that affected Somalia in 2016/2017 as well as the negative impact of low *Gu* rains (April–June 2019) and low *Deyr* rains (October–December 2018) have led to the 2.2 million in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.

Adverse climatic conditions combined with other drivers of humanitarian crisis, such as armed conflict, have led to internal displacement and weakening of the fragile health system which is contributing to the increased number of cases of measles and diarrhoea.

## DROUGHT KEY FACTS

**2.2** Million people including

**400 000** IDPs

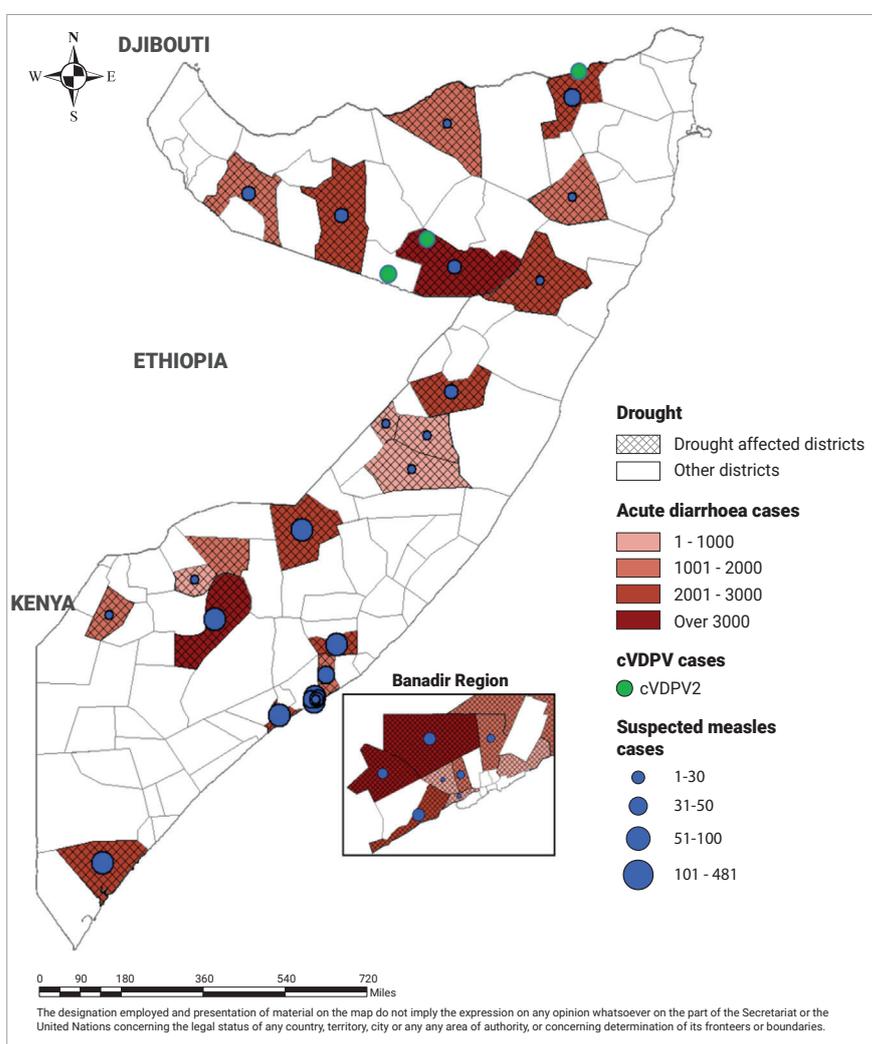
**28** Districts affected by drought

**230** Reporting health facilities in EWARN

**94%** Completeness of reporting

**67%** Timeliness of reporting

Map showing drought-affected areas of Somalia, and locations of cases of diarrhoea, circulating vaccine-derived polio virus (cVDPV) type 2 and measles



## HEALTH SITUATION

23-29 December 2019

**88<sup>1</sup>** new cholera cases

**68** suspected measles cases

**3 473** acute diarrhoea cases

<sup>1</sup> This data is from drought affected districts only

## CHOLERA IN DROUGHT-AFFECTED DISTRICTS

Since December 2017, cholera cases have continued to be reported in Somalia. Among the drought-affected districts, active transmission of cholera has only been reported in Banadir region. A total of 2 225 cholera cases and three deaths were reported from eight districts of Banadir affected by drought during epidemiological weeks 1 to 52, 2019 (Table 1). Of the 983 stool samples tested since December 2017, 222 samples tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* serotype Ogawa. Culture and sensitivity studies performed at the National Public Health Laboratory show that the *V. cholerae* serotype Ogawa isolated is sensitive to chloramphenicol and tetracycline but resistant to ampicillin and nalidixic acid.

## ACUTE DIARRHOEAL DISEASES

Cases of acute diarrhoea have increased in 2019 compared with previous years; this is linked to the shortage of safe water, and poor hygiene and sanitation (Fig. 1). Since epidemiological week 1, a total of 136 948 cases of acute diarrhoea have been reported from drought-affected districts through EWARN. The most affected districts are Baidoa, Lasanood, Marka, Beletweyne and Burco. (See Table 1).

## MEASLES

As a result of the mass measles vaccination campaign conducted in Somalia in 2018, the number of suspected cases of measles has decreased in 2019 compared with previous years (Fig. 2). Another measles campaign conducted in November 2019 is expected to further contribute to the reduction of measles cases. Since epidemiological week 1, 2019, a total of 2548 suspected cases of measles have been reported in drought-affected districts. Madina, Jowhar, Marka, Beletweyne and Baidoa are the most affected districts (See Table 1). Since week 23, the number of suspected cases of measles has increased and is higher than the number of cases reported during the same period in 2018. This may be because of the gradual reduction in the monthly coverage of children vaccinated against measles and the presence of risk factors such as malnutrition in drought-affected districts (Fig. 3).

A total of 148 078 (75%) children under 1 year of age out of the targeted 192825 received measles 1 vaccine (MCV1) in drought-affected districts from March to November 2019 (Fig. 3). During the drought monitoring period, March to December 2019, the vaccination coverage has been ranging between 61% and 83% per month against a monthly target of 21 425 children under 1 year of age.

## POLIO UPDATES

No new cases of circulating vaccine-derived polio virus type 2 (cVDPV2) were confirmed this week. Between epidemiological weeks 1 and 50, three new cVDPV2 cases were confirmed in Somalia (Map). The most recent case of cVDPV2 was confirmed on 8 May 2019.

No new cases of circulating vaccine-derived polio virus type 3 (cVDPV3) reported from acute flaccid paralysis cases in 2019. The last case of cVDPV3 in Somalia was confirmed on 7 September 2018.

All environmental samples were negative for both cVDPV2 and cVDPV3 in 2019.

Fig. 1. Trends of acute diarrhoea cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2017–2019

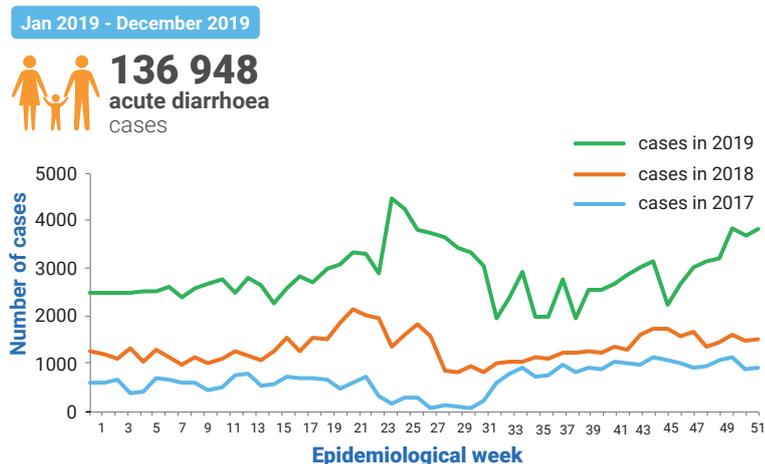


Fig. 2. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2017–2019

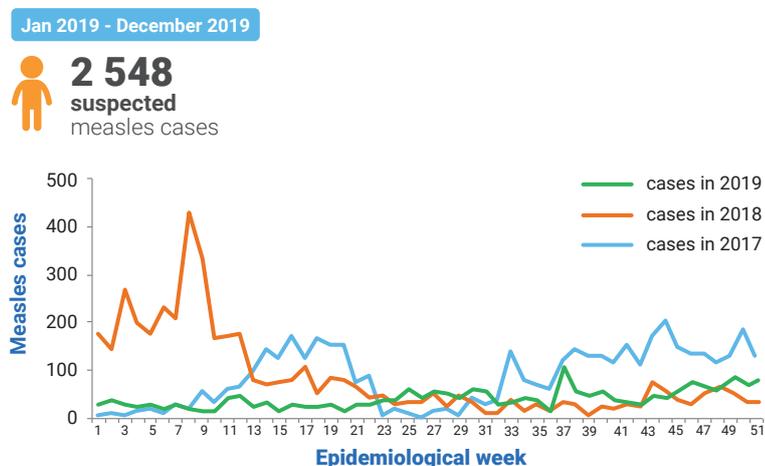
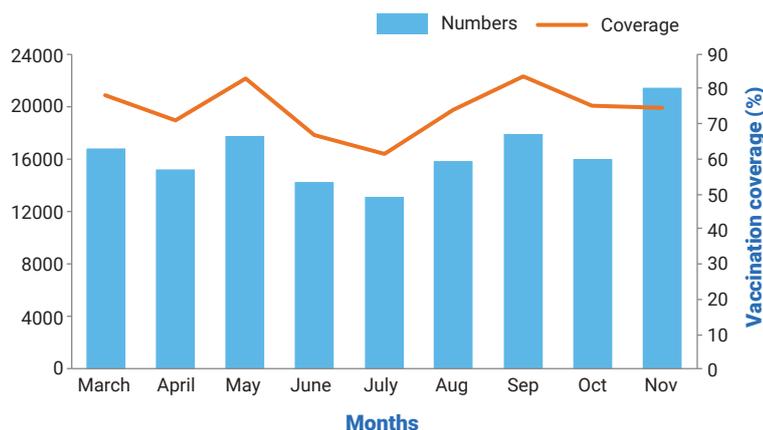


Fig. 3. Number of children under 1 year of age vaccinated against measles by month, 2019



Integrated measles and polio vaccination campaign was conducted in Southwest, Jubbaland, Hirshabelle and Galmudug states from 24 to 28 November. WHO polio and emergency team jointly coordinated the implementation of the campaign. A total of 918 338 under five years children received polio vaccine, 825 654 received measles vaccine, 54 8917 received deworming and 820 052 received Vitamin A supplementation.

**Table 1. Cumulative numbers of diarrhoea, measles and cholera cases in drought-affected districts of Somalia (epidemiological weeks 1–52, 2019)<sup>a</sup>**

State/region	Districts	acute diarrhoea cases	Suspected measles cases	Suspected cholera cases
Banadir <sup>b</sup>	Daynile	6 432	154	568
	Hawal Wadag	1 969	49	95
	Hodan	262	9	617
	Kahda	4 128	73	119
	Karan	45	0	45
	Madina/Wadajir	3 570	821	653
	Waberi	919	32	84
	Yaqshid	1 585	44	44
Galmudug	Adado	1 159	61	0
	Dusamareeb	925	41	0
	Abudwaq	399	2	0
HirShabelle	Balad	2 185	81	0
	Jowhar	5 648	235	0
	Belet Weyne	9 885	139	0
Juba land	Kismayo	5 581	119	0
	Garbahare	2 057	9	0
Puntland	Garowe	6 495	22	0
	Bossaso	6 334	39	0
	Qardho	2 288	9	0
	Galkayo	6 630	40	0
Somaliland	Erigavo	4 081	6	0
	Hargeisa	4 856	34	0
	Las Anod	18 871	36	0
	Burao	10 396	48	0
South West state	Wajid	528	0	0
	Hudur	1 702	2	0
	Baidoa	17 833	228	0
	Marka	10 185	215	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>136 948</b>	<b>2 548</b>	<b>2 225</b>

<sup>a</sup> The total number of cases reported on EWARN may change after verification by surveillance teams.

<sup>b</sup> Banadir is a region not a state.

WHO and the Federal Ministry of Health continue to monitor trends of epidemic-prone diseases in drought-affected districts using the electronic EWARN. WHO and health cluster partners are implementing preparedness and response activities to prevent the negative effects of drought. WHO is also supporting different states to increase the number of health facilities submitting alerts of epidemic-prone diseases in EWARN. With support from Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), WHO in collaboration with state level health authorities are implementing activities to avert the negative consequence of drought in selected districts of Jubbaland, Southwest state and Hirshabelle.

## EPIDEMIC PRONE DISEASE ALERTS REPORTED IN FLOOD AND DROUGHT AFFECTED DISTRICTS

During week 51, health facilities in flood and drought-affected districts reported three alerts of: acute watery diarrhea (143 cases), malaria (174 cases) and measles (31 cases). The alerts were verified through field investigation by WHO deployed Rapid Response Teams (RRT). A total of 2 acute diarrhoea cases and 29 malaria cases were verified as true. Rapid diagnostic testing was done to test for malaria in the flood affected districts. All cases were treated and referred to the nearest health center for further management.

Reporting week	Alert description	No. Of alerts reported	No. Of alerts verified	No. Of true alerts
Week 47	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	93	5	2
	bloody diarrhoea	22	2	0
	Malaria	93	17	6
	Measles	38	1	0
<b>Total week 47</b>		<b>246</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>8</b>
Week 48	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	104	5	0
	bloody diarrhoea	37	3	0
	Malaria	100	20	15
	Measles	32	2	0
<b>Total week 48</b>		<b>273</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>15</b>
Week 49	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	140	5	2
	bloody diarrhoea	0	0	0
	Malaria	416	5	2
	Measles	43	5	4
<b>Total week 49</b>		<b>345</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>8</b>
Week 50	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	163	100	12
	bloody diarrhoea	22	10	0
	Malaria	247	156	100
	Measles	54	10	23
<b>Total week 50</b>		<b>486</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>135</b>
Week 51	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	143	10	02
	bloody diarrhoea	0	0	0
	Malaria	174	35	29
	Measles	31	10	0
<b>Total week 51</b>		<b>348</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>31</b>
Week 52	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	190	20	0
	bloody diarrhoea	29	10	0
	Malaria	377	250	214
	Measles	46	10	0
<b>Total week 52</b>		<b>642</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>214</b>