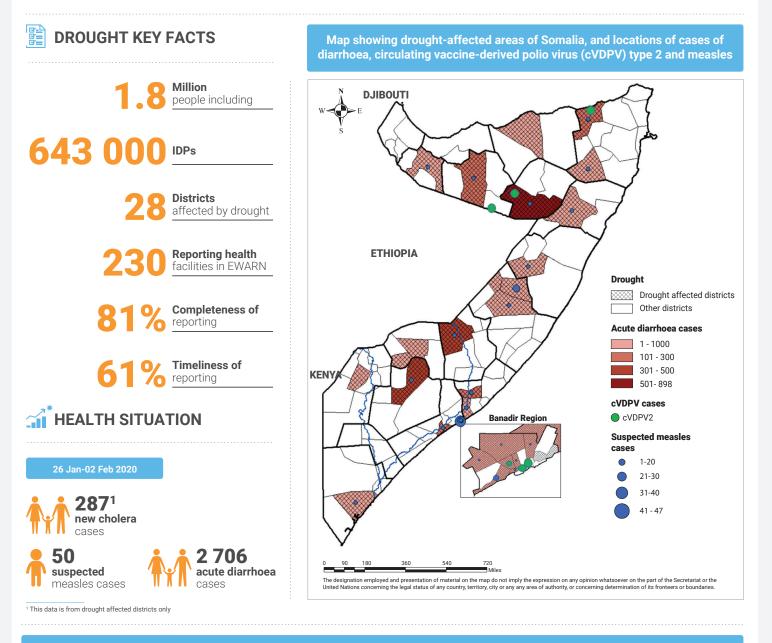


**EPI Watch** *Epidemiological bulletin* For epidemic prone diseases in Somalia for week 5, 26 January-02 February, 2020

# **OVERALL SITUATION**

Adverse climatic conditions shifting from severe drought to heavy *Deyr rains* (October-December, 2019) causing floods, continued across Somalia. This coupled with other drivers of humanitarian crisis, such as armed conflict and evictions have led to 643 000 internal displaced persons in 28 drought-affected districts.

Shortage of safe water, and poor hygiene and sanitation have left communities in drought-affected districts and IDP camps vulnerable to infectious disease outbreaks such as measles and diarrhoea.



# **CHOLERA IN DROUGHT-AFFECTED DISTRICTS**

Since December 2017, cholera cases have continued to be reported in Somalia. A total of 604 cholera cases were reported from Beletweyne district and eight districts of Banadir affected by drought between epidemiological weeks 1 and 5, 2020 (Table 1). During week 5, 2020, a total of 287 new cases were reported from drought-affected districts. Of the 1 149 stool samples tested since December 2017, 278 samples tested positive for Vibrio cholerae serotype Ogawa and Inaba. 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 increased in the year 2020 compared with previous years. This is linked to the shortage of safe water, and poor hygiene and sanitation (Fig. 1) as a result of drought and floods which occurred towards the end of 2019. Since epidemiological week 1 of 2020, a total of 13 953 cases of acute diarrhoea have been reported from drought-affected districts through EWARN. The most affected districts were Lasanood, Baidoa, Beletweyne, Burco, Marka, Bossaso, Jowhar, Madina and Danyile (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 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, 2020, a total of 361 suspected cases of measles have been reported in drought-affected districts. Adado and Madina are the most affected districts (See Table 1).

A total of 161 486 (75%) children under 1 year of age out of the targeted 214 250 received measles 1 vaccine (MCV1) in drought-affected districts from March to December 2019 (Fig. 3). During the drought monitoring period, March to December 2019, the vaccination coverage was ranging between 61% and 88% per month against a monthly target of 21 425 children under 1 year of age.

## **POLIO UPDATES**

Two new cases of circulating vaccine-derived polio virus type 2 (cVDPV2) were confirmed this week. Between epidemiological weeks 1 and 5 of 2020, three new cVDPV2 cases were confirmed in Somalia (Map).

No new cases of circulating vaccine-derived polio virus type 3 (cVDPV3) reported from acute flaccid paralysis cases from 2018 to date. The last case of cVDPV3 in Somalia was confirmed on 7 September 2018. Fig. 1. Trends of acute diarrhoea cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2017–2020

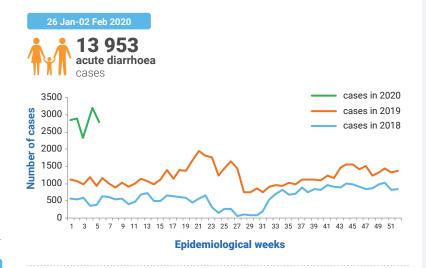
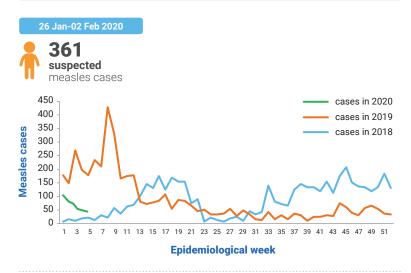
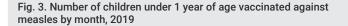
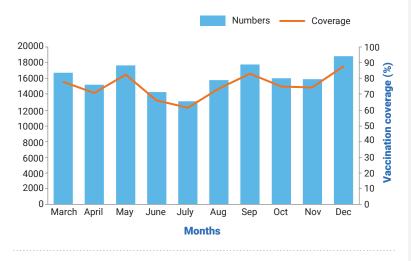


Fig. 2. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2017–2020







Two (2) new environmental samples were positive for cVDPV2 in 2019. Date of collection of these two (2) recent positive environmental samples was 10 November 2019.

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# Table 1. Cumulative numbers of diarrhoea, measles and cholera cases in drought-affected districts of Somalia (epidemiological weeks 5, 2020)<sup>a</sup>

State/region	Districts	acute diarrhoea cases	Suspected measles cases	Suspected cholera cases
Banadir <sup>b</sup>	Daynile	464	33	116
	Hawal Wadag	109	3	11
	Hodan	29	1	101
	Kahda	261	8	20
	Karan	0	0	3
	Madina/Wadajir	466	133	112
	Waberi	144	19	13
	Yaqshid	83	1	7
Galmudug	Adado	63	66	0
	Dusamareeb	182	5	0
	Abudwaq	15	0	0
	Balad	99	9	0
HirShabelle	Jowhar	503	18	0
	Belet Weyne	1106	7	221
	Kismayo	344	15	0
Juba land	Garbahare	199	0	0
Puntland	Garowe	251	1	0
	Bossaso	800	11	0
	Qardho	306	9	0
	Galkayo	402	3	0
Somaliland	Erigavo	330	0	0
	Hargeisa	389	4	0
	Las Anod	4002	2	0
	Burao	958	1	0
South West state	Wajid	7	0	0
	Hudur	323	0	0
	Baidoa	1309	9	0
	Marka	809	3	0
Total		13 953	361	604

<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 5, health facilities in flood and drought-affected districts reported alerts of: acute watery diarrhea 294 cases), malaria (301 cases), and measles (21 cases). The alerts were verified through field investigation by WHO deployed Rapid Response Teams (RRT). A total of 169 acute diarrhea cases, 21 measles cases and 216 malaria cases were verified as true, most of the alerts were from Baidoa, Madina, Berdale and Hargeisa. All patients 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 1	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	109	10	0
	bloody diarrhoea	13	5	0
	Malaria	324	10	5
	Measles	64	50	39
Total week 1		510	75	44
Week 2	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	116	116	0
	bloody diarrhoea	10	10	0
	Malaria	147	148	2
	Measles	48	47	16
Total week 2		321	321	18
Week 3	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	164	148	16
	bloody diarrhoea	0	0	0
	Malaria	339	152	187
	Measles	26	26	16
Total week 3		529	326	203
Week 4	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	114	114	113
	bloody diarrhoea	16	16	0
	Malaria	164	164	58
	Measles	164	164	58
Total week 4		458	458	229
Week 5	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	294	294	169
	bloody diarrhoea	0	0	0
	Malaria	301	301	216
	Measles	21	21	21
Total week 5		616	616	406