

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

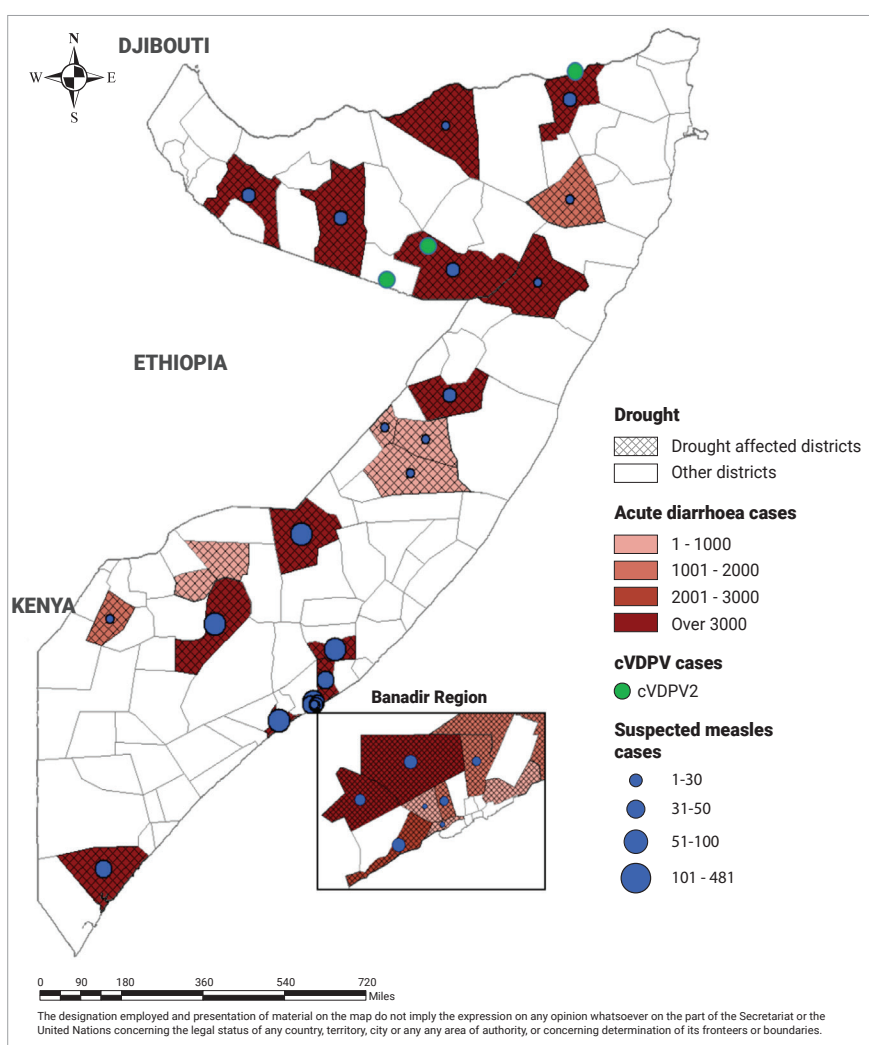
28 Districts affected by drought

230 Reporting health facilities in EWARN

80% Completeness of reporting

58% 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

21-27 October 2019

56 new cholera cases

32 suspected measles cases

2 583 acute diarrhoea cases

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 1 554 cholera cases were reported from eight districts of Banadir affected by drought during epidemiological weeks 1 to 43, 2019 (Table 1). Of the 820 stool samples tested since December 2017, 162 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 110 425 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). Since epidemiological week 1, 2019, a total of 1 959 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 153 565 (79.6%) children under 1 year of age out of the targeted 192 825 received Measles 1 vaccine (MCV1) in drought-affected districts from January to September 2019 (Fig. 3).

POLIO UPDATES

No new cases of circulating vaccine-derived polio virus type 2 (cVDPV2) were confirmed this week. Between epidemiological weeks 1 and 43, 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

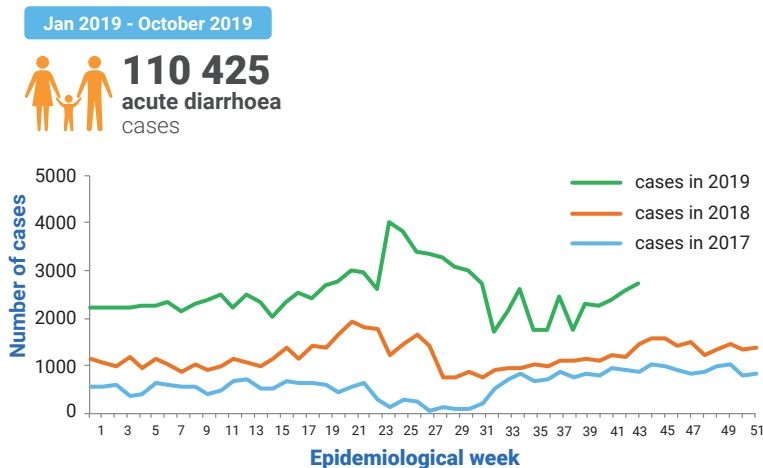


Fig. 2. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2017–2019

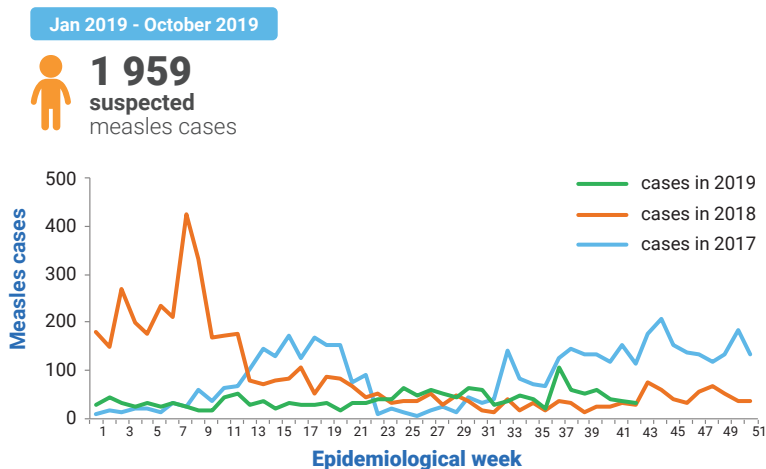
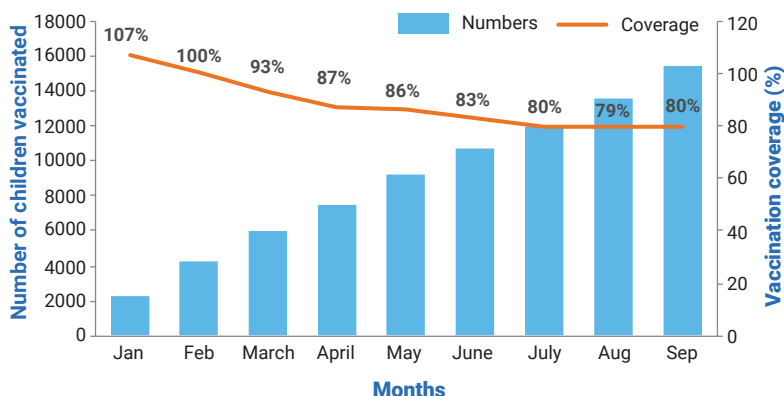


Fig. 3. Number of children under 1 year of age vaccinated against measles by month, 2019



More than 2.4 million children under 5 years of age are targeted for vaccination against measles and also receive Vitamin A along with 2.9 million children who will get Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV). The campaign, which will be implemented across Somalia, is scheduled for 24 to 28 November 2019.

Table 1. Cumulative numbers of diarrhoea, measles and cholera cases in drought-affected districts of Somalia (epidemiological weeks 1–43, 2019)^a

State/region	Districts	acute diarrhoea cases	Suspected measles cases	Suspected cholera cases
Banadir ^b	Daynile	4 831	118	383
	Hawal Wadag	1 672	40	72
	Hodan	225	9	445
	Kahda	3 541	59	78
	Karan	45	0	36
	Madina/Wadajir	2 887	546	455
	Waberi	609	30	49
	Yaqshid	1 410	40	36
Galmudug	Adado	847	15	0
	Dusamareeb	629	19	0
	Abudwaq	250	2	0
HirShabelle	Balad	2 022	68	0
	Jowhar	4 694	196	0
	Belet Weyne	8 207	138	0
Juba land	Kismayo	4 919	98	0
	Garbahare	1 256	9	0
Puntland	Garowe	5 244	16	0
	Bossaso	4 612	36	0
	Qardho	1 918	4	0
	Galkayo	6 000	39	0
Somaliland	Erigavo	3 316	5	0
	Hargeisa	3 886	31	0
	Las Anod	14 214	31	0
	Burao	8 781	47	0
South West state	Wajid	416	0	0
	Hudur	951	0	0
	Baidoa	14 374	215	0
	Marka	8 669	148	0
Total		110 425	1 959	1 554

^a The total number of cases reported on EWARN may change after verification by surveillance teams.

^b 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.