

## 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

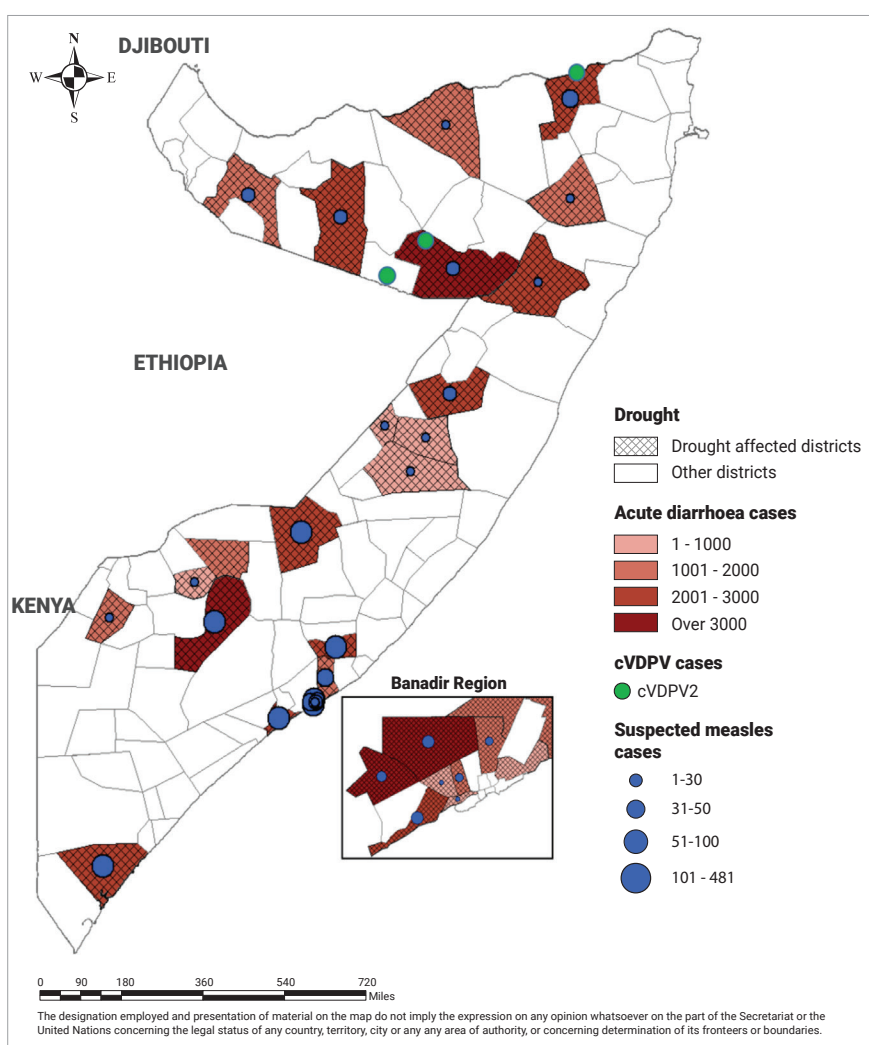
**28** Districts affected by drought

**230** Reporting health facilities in EWARN

**84%** Completeness of reporting

**63%** 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

09-15 December 2019

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

**81** suspected measles cases

**3 463** 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 2052 cholera cases and three deaths were reported from eight districts of Banadir affected by drought during epidemiological weeks 1 to 50, 2019 (Table 1). Of the 922 stool samples tested since December 2017 207 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 130 081 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 2418 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 126 653 (74%) children under 1 year of age out of the targeted 171 400 received measles 1 vaccine (MCV1) in drought-affected districts from March to October 2019 (Fig. 3). During the drought monitoring period, March to October 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

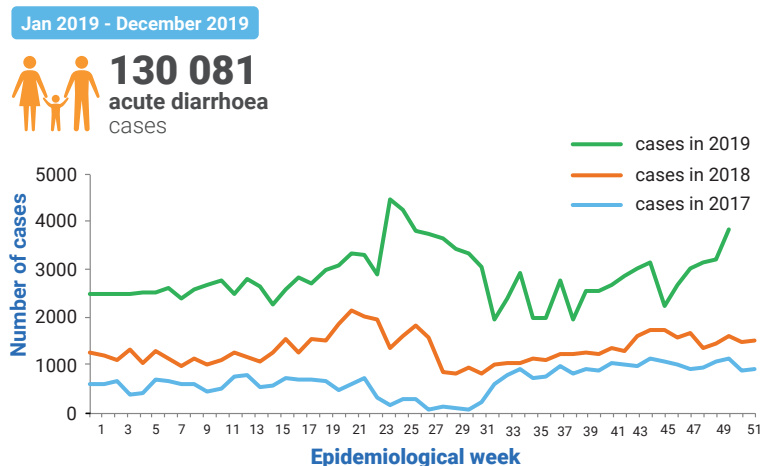


Fig. 2. Trends of measles cases reported in drought-affected districts of Somalia, 2017–2019

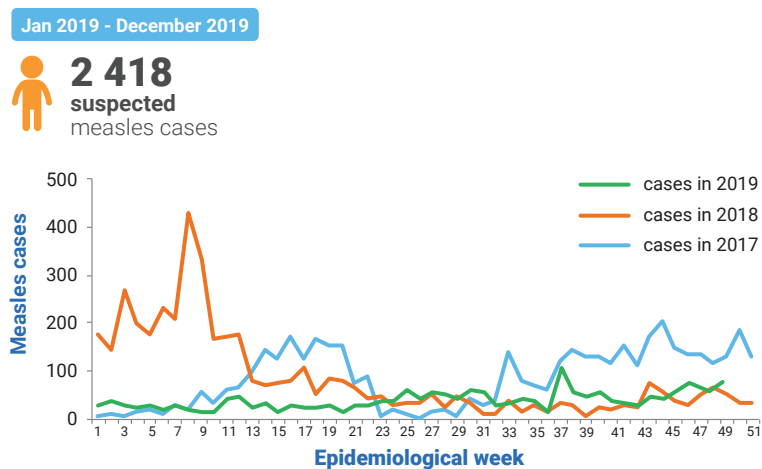
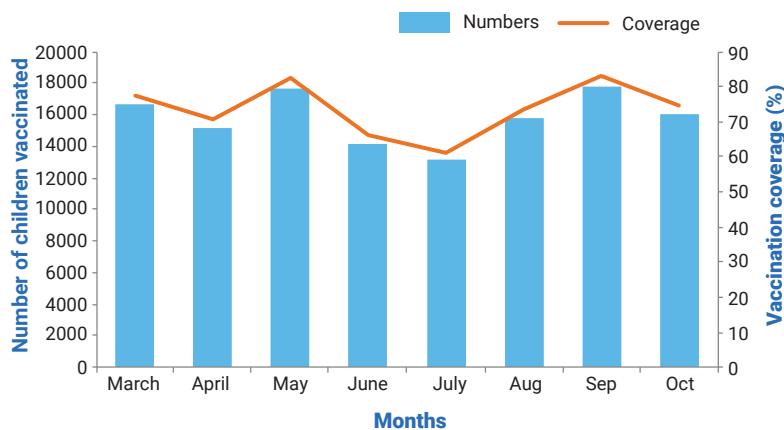


Fig. 3. Number of children under 1 year of age vaccinated against measles by month, 2019



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. Post campaign evaluation results are in the process of compilation, once completed then the final results will be shared.

**Table 1. Cumulative numbers of diarrhoea, measles and cholera cases in drought-affected districts of Somalia (epidemiological weeks 1–50, 2019)<sup>a</sup>**

State/region	Districts	acute diarrhoea cases	Suspected measles cases	Suspected cholera cases
Banadir <sup>b</sup>	Daynile	6 043	146	530
	Hawal Wadag	1 893	46	89
	Hodan	258	9	567
	Kahda	3 922	67	108
	Karan	45	0	42
	Madina/Wadajir	3 360	750	598
	Waberi	831	30	77
	Yaqshid	1 536	43	41
Galmudug	Adado	1 087	55	0
	Dusamareeb	873	41	0
	Abudwaq	352	2	0
HirShabelle	Balad	2 150	77	0
	Jowhar	5 437	231	0
	Belet Weyne	9 577	138	0
Juba land	Kismayo	5 445	111	0
	Garbahare	1 864	9	0
Puntland	Garowe	6 293	21	0
	Bossaso	5 850	38	0
	Qardho	2 193	8	0
	Galkayo	6 489	40	0
Somaliland	Erigavo	3 902	6	0
	Hargeisa	4 678	33	0
	Las Anod	17 554	34	0
	Burao	9 720	47	0
South West state	Wajid	495	0	0
	Hudur	1 283	0	0
	Baidoa	17 122	226	0
	Marka	9 829	210	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>130 081</b>	<b>2 418</b>	<b>2 052</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 50, health facilities in flood and drought-affected districts reported four alerts of: acute watery diarrhoea (163 cases), malaria (247 cases) and measles (54 cases). The alerts were verified through field investigation by WHO deployed Rapid Response Teams (RRT). A total of 12 acute diarrhoea cases, 156 malaria cases and 23 measles 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 46	Acute watery diarrhoea (AWD)	80	5	1
	bloody diarrhoea	16	1	0
	Malaria	73	15	7
	Measles	27	1	0
<b>Total week 46</b>		<b>196</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>
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>