World Health Organization
Somalia

Weekly
EPI Watch

Epidemiological bulletin for week 32 (5 to 11 August 2019)
epidemic prone diseases in Somalia

OVERALL SITUATION

Poor recovery from the drought that affected Somalia in 2016/17 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 leading to internal displacement and weakening of the fragile health system are contributing to increase number of measles and diarrhoeal cases.

DROUGHT KEYFACTS

2.2 Million people including

400,000 IDPs

28 Districts affected by drought

230 Reporting health facilities in EWARN

70% Completeness of reporting

48% Timeliness of reporting

HEALTH SITUATION

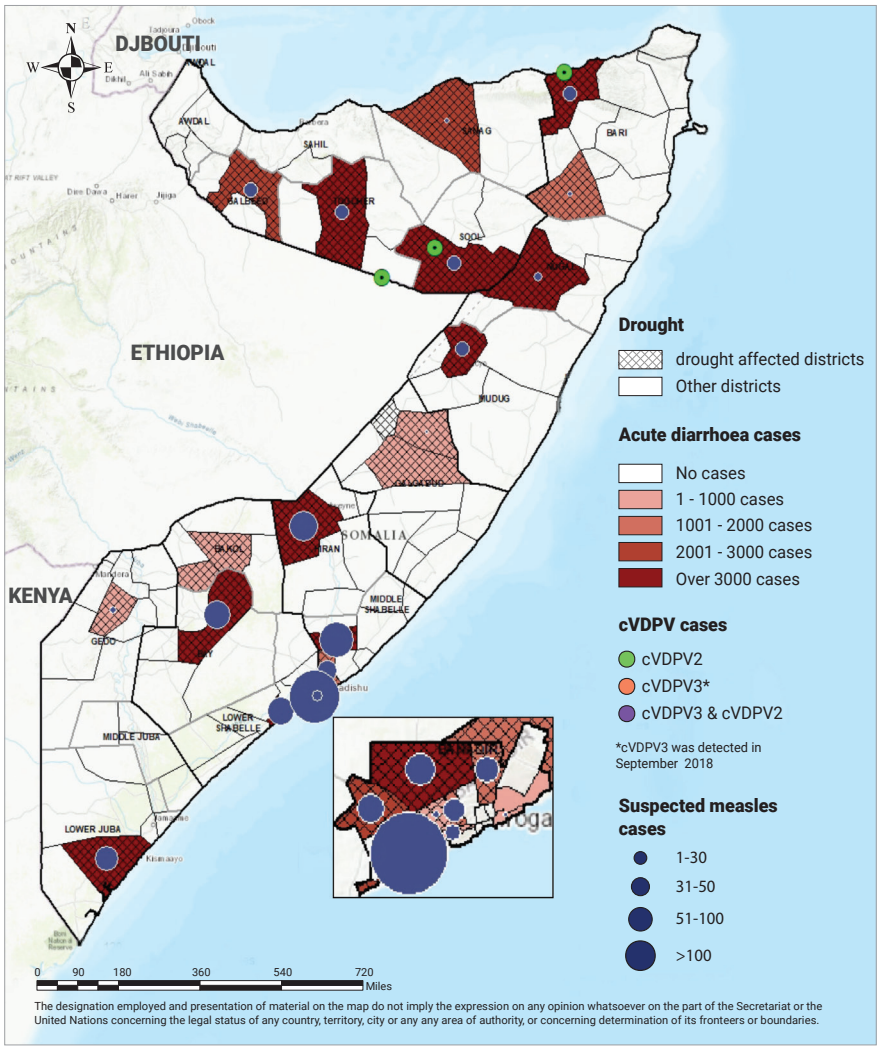
5 to 11 August 2019

39 new cholera cases

29 suspected measles cases

1,747 acute diarrhoea cases

Map showing geographic distribution of acute diarrhoea, suspected measles and circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus cases in drought affected districts of Somalia for epidemiological week 1-32; 2019



CHOLERA IN DROUGHT AFFECTED DISTRICTS

Since December 2017, Cholera cases continue to be reported in Somalia. Among the drought affected districts, active transmission of cholera is reported only in Banadir region. A total of 1,247 cholera cases have been reported from 8 districts of Banadir affected by drought during epidemiological week 1 to 32, 2019 (table 1). Of the 790 stool samples tested since December 2017, a total of 153 samples tested positive for *Vibrio cholerae* serotype Ogawa.

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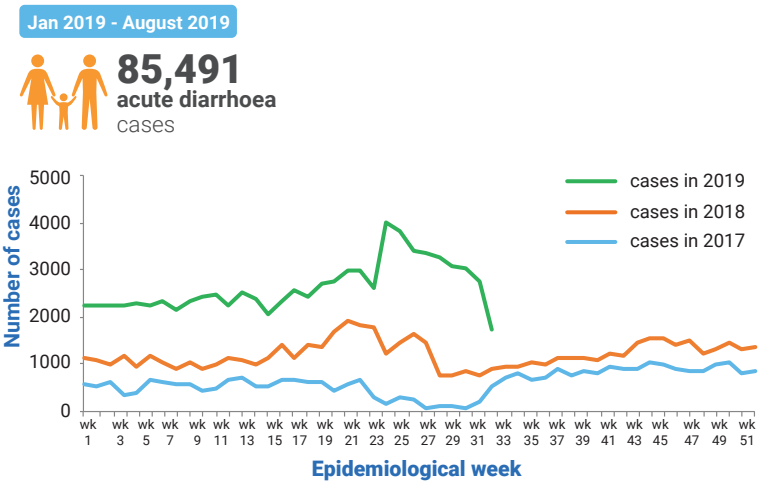
For Correspondence: Tel: +252616695096; Email address: emacosomwr@who.int; URL: http://www.emro.who.int/countries/som/index.html

ACUTE DIARRHOEAL DISEASES SITUATION

Linked to shortage of safe water, poor hygiene and sanitation, the cases of acute diarrhoea have increased in 2019 compared to previous years (fig-1). Since epidemiological week 1, a total of 85,491 cases of acute diarrhoea were reported from drought affected districts through the Early Warning Alert and Response Network (EWARN). However,there is a progressive reduction in the number of new cases of acute diarrhoea reported since week 24. This may be attributed to improved implementation of activities aimed at improved access to safe water and sanitation to drought affected communities. The most affected districts include Baidoa, Lasanood, Marka, Beletweyne and Buraco. *Please see table-1 and map.*

Fig 1. Trends of acute diarrhoea cases reported in drought affected districts of Somalia during the same corresponding weeks of 2017, 2018 and 2019



MEASLES SITUATION

Linked to the mass measles vaccination campaign that was conducted in Somalia in 2018, the number of suspected cases of measles has reduced in 2019 when compared to previous years (fig-2). Since epidemiological week 1 of 2019, a total of 1,430 suspected cases of measles were reported in drought affected districts with Madina, Jowhar, Marka, Beletweyne and Baidoa being the most affected districts. As it is displayed in the chart below, since week 23, the weekly number of measles cases exceeded the numbers reported in 2017 and 2018 of the same, which signals that the situation could worse with the drought. *Please see table-1 and map.*

A total of 119,912 (82%) out of 146,426 under one year children targeted received Measles 1 Vaccine (MCV1) in drought affected districts from January to July 2019 (fig-3).

Fig 2. Trends of measles cases reported from drought affected districts of Somalia during the same corresponding weeks of 2017, 2018 and 2019

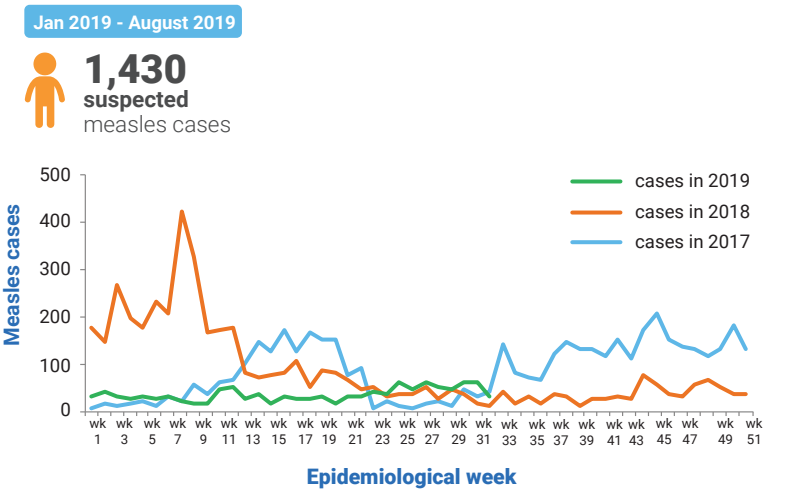
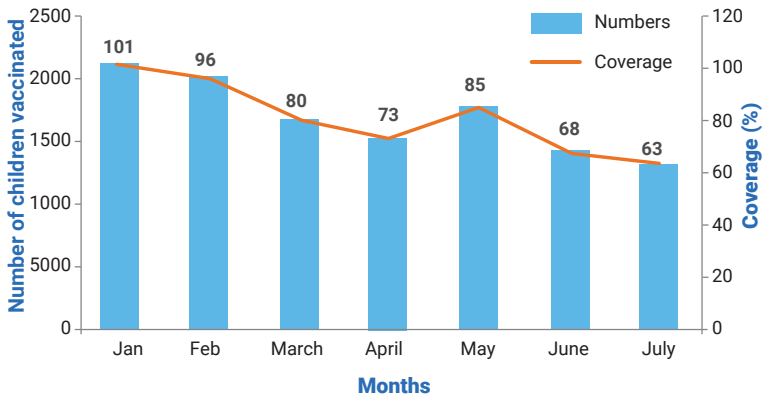


Fig 3. Number of children under 1 year vaccinated against measles by month, 2019



POLIO UPDATES

No new case of circulating Vaccine Derived Polio Virus type 2 (cVDPV2) confirmed this week. Between epidemiological week 1-32, a total of 3 new cVDPV2 cases have been confirmed in Somalia (please see map). The most recent case of cVDPV2 was confirmed on 8 May 2019.

No new circulating Vaccine Derived Polio Virus type 3 (cVDPV3) reported from AFP case in 2019. The last case of cVDPV3 in Somalia was confirmed on 7 September 2018.

All Environmental Samples (ES) were negative for both cVDPV2 and cVDPV3 in 2019.

The first round of response campaign to 3 cases of cVDPV2 was conducted from 24 to 27 June 2019 in 21 target districts of Somaliland and Puntland using monovalent Type 2 OPV (mOPV2) vaccine.

Of the 945,480 children under five years targeted for vaccination, a total of 992,629 (105%) received mOPV2

The second round of response campaign will commence from 19th to 22nd August 2019 in 34 districts of Somaliland and Puntland using monovalent type 2 OPV (mOPV2) vaccine targeting 1.1 million children under five years.

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Table 1. Cumulative number of acute diarrhoea, suspected cholera and suspected measles cases reported from 28 drought affected districts of Somalia (Epidemiological week 1-32 of 2019)

State/region	Districts	acute diarrhoea cases	Suspected measles cases	Suspected cholera cases
Banadir[1]	Daynile	3525	60	307
	Hawal Wadag	1115	31	60
	Hodan	183	3	357
	Kahda	2949	50	65
	Karan	33	0	32
	Madina/Wadajir	2099	399	359
	Waberi	330	19	39
	Yaqshid	1063	35	28
Galmudug	Adado	587	2	0
	Dusamareeb	447	0	0
	Abudwaq	198	2	0
HirShabelle	Balad	1735	54	0
	Jowhar	3647	172	0
	Belet Weyne	6205	120	0
Juba land	Kismayo	3984	80	0
	Garbahare	897	8	0
Puntland	Garowe	4441	11	0
	Bossaso	3650	33	0
	Qardho	1599	3	0
	Galkayo	4817	33	0
Somaliland	Erigavo	2493	3	0
	Hargeisa	2862	28	0
	Las anod	10348	28	0
	Burao	7373	30	0
South West state	Wajid	308	0	0
	Hudur	615	0	0
	Baidoa	10737	115	0
	Marka	7251	111	0
Total		**85,491**	**1,430**	**1,247**

[1] Banadir is not a state but a region

Note: The number of cases as shown in table 1 are subject to change after alert verification and validation of data by surveillance officers in different states

WHO and Federal Ministry of Health continue to monitor trends of epidemic prone diseases in drought affected districts. WHO and Health cluster partners are implementing preparedness and response activities to avert the negative consequence of drought. In line with the Global Task Force for Cholera Control (GTFCC) strategy to reduce cholera related deaths by 90% by 2030, Ministry of Health is developing a cholera strategy to ensure that this vision in realised in Somalia.

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