

# COVID-19 Situation Report

## Fast Facts



Confirmed  
COVID-19 cases  
In Somalia

**3,442**



Recovered  
cases

**2,877**



Reported  
Fatalities

**98**

## Key Population Groups



Internally  
Displaced Persons

**2.6M**



Women of  
Reproductive Age

**3.5M**



Pregnant  
Women

**387,450**



Adolescents and  
Youth (Age 10-24)

**2.7M**

## 1. Overview

- Confirmed daily COVID-19 cases continue to decline in Somalia. According to the Federal Ministry of Health and WHO Somalia, the cumulative positive testing rate has declined gradually. A total of 3,442 COVID-19 cases were confirmed in Somalia as of 20 September, with 2,877 recoveries and 98 fatalities. Nearly 500,000 people have been affected by Haragaa seasonal rains since late June. Floods have continued to displace people and inundate farmland in rural areas mainly in Hirshabelle, South West, Jubaland States, and Banadir region. The triple threat of floods, the coronavirus pandemic, and desert locusts continue to worsen the humanitarian situation although the country is opening up with the resumption of schools and air transport. The number of women and girls facing abuse, including sexual violence, has significantly increased due to the economic and social stresses induced by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- UNFPA Somalia and its partners continue to provide lifesaving sexual and reproductive health (SRH) and gender-based violence (GBV) services in most affected locations in the country to support the priority needs for vulnerable women and girls. The UN agency and its partners also support the COVID-19 risk communication and community engagement, provides personal protective equipment (PPE) and supports the safety of patients and health workers through strengthening infection, prevention and control.
- UNFPA Somalia has updated and activated its business continuity plan to ensure time-critical activities and functions related to managing the safety and security of staff despite the COVID-19 crisis and restrictions on physical movement in Somalia. The UNFPA country office has established systems and tools, including e-signatures and e-filing system, required to continue signing work plans and disbursing cash in a paperless fashion.



## 2. UNFPA Supported Services and Beneficiaries (25 July to 26 August 2020)

Women benefitting from SRH services (including antenatal and postnatal care, emergency obstetric and newborn care services)	People benefitting from birth spacing services, information, and counseling	People reached with services related to gender-based violence (prevention, risk mitigation, and response)	People benefitting from SRH and GBV awareness-raising and information campaign including coronavirus prevention	Health care providers and midwives benefitting from the training on coronavirus prevention guidelines
10,764 including 8,827 of normal deliveries assisted by Skilled Birth	551	2,843	93,132	36

## 3. UNFPA Response Summary

### Coordination

- UNFPA Somalia is working closely with the Federal Government and the Federal Member States, UN agencies, and other partners to ensure the continuity of SRH and GBV services. UNFPA is engaged in the various coordination mechanisms including the UN Country Team and Humanitarian Coordination Team and supports the national COVID-19 preparedness and response plans ensuring integration of SRH and GBV concerns
- UNFPA is leading the national and sub-national GBV sub-cluster under the protection cluster and the reproductive health working group under the health cluster
- UNFPA continues working to ensure that the supply of reproductive health commodities is maintained and that midwives and other health personnel have the personal protective equipment they need to stay safe amidst COVID-19 response and floods situation in Somalia
- UNFPA Somalia continues to produce COVID-19 vulnerability mapping by risk factor and related indicators from the Somali Health and Demographic Survey (SHDS) for the major towns in the country including Benadir Region, Baidoa, Garowe, Kismayo and Galkayo. The products are designed to guide the humanitarian partners for targeted COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) activities

### Continuity of SRH interventions, including protection of health workforce

- UNFPA continues to prioritize and support the continuity of and access to quality lifesaving essential SRH information and services for women, adolescents and youth during the COVID-19 pandemic
- UNFPA and its partners continue to provide support to the De Martino Hospital in Mogadishu which is currently serving as the government-designated national referral centre for COVID-19 case management and isolation for the entire country

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- UNFPA and its partners continue are providing support towards the prevention and mitigation efforts of the spread and transmission of COVID-19 in Emergency Obstetric Care and Neonatal Care (EmONC) facilities across the country and supporting the procurement of PPE for Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) for health care workers, including midwives
- UNFPA and its partners continue to support the training of health care workers including midwives on IPC and case management using WHO guidelines for service providers
- UNFPA and its partners continue supporting the provision of family planning services while responding to COVID-19 and the floods situation across Somalia



- UNFPA and its partners have supported the production and distribution of 1000 locally-made facemasks to fight the spread of COVID-19 for the Internally Displaced Persons in Bay and Bakool region
- Over 100 midwives in Puntland, including 20 new graduates from UNFPA-supported midwifery schools, have committed not to participate in the medicalization of FGM in which health care providers perform the act. They have pledged to be anti-FGM champions in the EndFGM campaign

### Addressing Gender Based Violence

- UNFPA is ensuring the continuity of and access to lifesaving GBV prevention and response services such as the provision of clinical care, psychosocial support, legal aid and material support to survivors of GBV) for women, adolescents and youth
- UNFPA and partners continue to conduct capacity strengthening workshop for service providers in providing basic psychosocial support for survivors of gender-based violence amidst COVID-19 response
- UNFPA and its partners are ensuring the continuous provision of psychosocial support to survivors of GBV amidst COVID19 response. UNFPA and its partners also supported the training psychosocial first aid responders across Somaliland and the production of training manuals
- UNFPA continues to strengthen GBV One Stop Centres across the country which integrate care for survivors of GBV with reproductive health service
- UNFPA and its partners continue to support the development of GBV COVID-19 messages, including guidelines. These are disseminated using service sites and during the distribution of dignity and hygiene kits

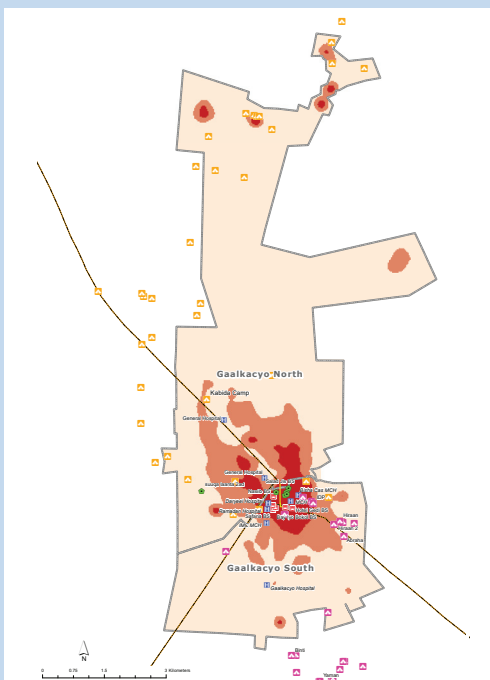
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- Twenty marginalized youth have been trained in electrical skills in Galkayo through the UNFPA youth programme to make sure that they are taking action to solve problems in their communities amid COVID-19
- UNFPA and its partners have trained 30 girls in life skills in Borama to reach and engage young people and validate their leadership during this COVID-19 pandemic
- UNFPA and its partners have provided an intensive facilitation process for 15 young trainers in Mogadishu to empower them in creating and facilitating forum theatre to change harmful norms and adopt beliefs and practices that protect girls and women against any form of violence



### Risk communication and community engagement

- UNFPA Somalia continues to support and engage with the Government and partners in the risk communication and community engagement
- UNFPA continues to participate in the risk communication and community engagement working groups at the national and sub-national levels in the COVID-19 taskforce pillars



- UNFPA Somalia in partnership with the Ministries of Planning of the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States has been preparing population density maps that show hotspots and areas that present vulnerability to COVID-19 by various risk factors. Maps are providing better visualization, understanding, and targeting of the population and situation. The information and maps strengthen an appropriate response plan for the Ministry of Health and other local and international agencies in Somalia
- The maps produced integrate population densities with the locations of various social amenities, including markets, hospitals, places of worship and information on critical risk factors, such as levels of chronic diseases, disability, aged population and internally displaced person (IDP) sites. These maps provide a standard frame of reference for COVID-19



risk factors, thereby serving as tools in identifying where critical resources are needed and in prioritizing interventions. This is helping the Ministry of Health and other stakeholders to slow the spread of COVID-19

- UNFPA continues to support the joint awareness-raising on the risks of FGM, GBV and SRH education, and activism with a wide range of partners, including communities targeting women of reproductive age, youth, elderly men and women, female health workers and Internally Displaced Populations
- UNFPA and its partners continue to support and guide young people's engagement in Somalia through mobile caravans. Communities are informed on the significance of staying at home and social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19

#### 4. Resource Mobilization

- The Somalia humanitarian threats continue to aggravate challenges in Somalia, and more specifically, women and girls face the worst consequences. UNFPA and its partners continue to advocate for resources to address the needs of vulnerable women and girls. However, concerns exist over the overall declining trend for funds for GBV service provision due to reprioritization within the existing resource mobilization forums
- UNFPA Somalia continues to reach out to bilateral donors to mobilize the required funding for UNFPA Somalia's COVID-19 response plan for SRH and GBV activities including services, supplies, information and coordination



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