

# UN: More than 200,000 suspected cholera cases in Yemen

June 24 2017

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The U.N. health agency says there are now more than 200,000 suspected cases of cholera in an outbreak in war-torn Yemen, many of them children.

UNICEF director Anthony Lake and World Health Organization chief Margaret Chan said in a statement Saturday, "we are now facing the worst cholera outbreak in the world," with an average of 5,000 new cases every day. The agencies say that more than 1,300 [people](#) have died—one quarter of them children—and the [death toll](#) is expected to rise.

The U.N. says collapsing health, water and sanitation systems have cut off 14.5 million people from regular access to [clean water](#) and sanitation, increasing the ability of the disease to spread.

In addition, an estimated 30,000 local health workers have not been paid for nearly 10 months.

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