

This Week

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Polio this week as of 08 January 2019

- During the four-day visit to polio endemic countries of Afghanistan and Pakistan, WHO Director General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, reiterated WHO's commitment to help endemic, outbreak and at-risk countries rid of poliovirus. Read the press release [here](#).
- In Mozambique, a circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) outbreak is confirmed. See 'Mozambique' section below for more details.
- Summary of new viruses this week: Afghanistan – two WPV1-positive environmental samples; Pakistan – nine WPV1-positive environmental samples; Mozambique- one new case of cVDPV2.

Wild poliovirus type 1 and Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus cases

Total cases	Year-to-date 2019		Year-to-date 2018		Total in 2018	
	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV
	Globally	0	0	0	0	29
—in endemic countries	0	0	0	0	29	33
—in non-endemic countries	0	0	0	0	0	69

Case breakdown by country

Countries	Year-to-date 2019		Year-to-date 2018		Total in 2018		Onset of paralysis of most recent case	
	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV
afghanistan	0	0	0	0	21	0	6-Nov-2018	NA
democratic republic of the congo	0	0	0	0	0	20	NA	7-Oct-2018
niger	0	0	0	0	0	9	NA	30-Oct-2018
nigeria	0	0	0	0	0	33	NA	21-Nov-2018
pakistan	0	0	0	0	8	0	7-Oct-2018	NA
papua new guinea	0	0	0	0	0	26	NA	18-Oct-2018
somalia	0	0	0	0	0	13	NA	7-Sep-2018

NA: Onset of paralysis in most recent case is prior to 2017. Figures exclude non-AFP sources. In 2018, cVDPV includes all three serotypes 1, 2 and 3.

For Somalia: 1 cVDPV2 and cVDPV3 isolated from one AFP case.

cVDPV definition: see document “Reporting and classification of vaccine-derived polioviruses” at [[pdf](#)].

Weekly country updates as of 08 January 2019

[Afghanistan](#)

- No wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases were reported in the past week. The total number of WPV1 cases in 2018 was 21.

- Two WPV1-positive environmental samples were reported this week from Lashkargah district, Hilmand province. The samples were collected on 6 December 2018.
- Afghanistan recently concluded a targeted national campaign. Read more [here](#).
- Read the latest polio update from [Afghanistan](#) to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

[Pakistan](#)

- No cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) were reported this week. The total number of WPV1 cases in 2018 in the country was eight.
- Nine WPV1-positive environmental samples were reported in the past week: two from Lahore district and two from Rawalpindi district in Punjab province; one from Quetta district and one from Killa Abdullah district in Balochistan province; one from Orangi and one from Gadap in Karachi district, Sindh province; one from Peshawar district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Samples were collected from 11-15 December 2018.
- It is important to note of the 5 districts reporting cases in 2018, three were from areas outside the core reservoirs.
- Read the latest polio update from [Pakistan](#) to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

[Nigeria](#)

- No new circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) cases were reported this week. The total number of cVDPV2 cases in 2018 was 33.
- No cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) were reported. The most recently-detected WPV1 case, from Borno state, had onset of paralysis on 21 August 2016.
- The country continues to be affected by two separate cVDPV2 outbreaks, the first centered in Jigawa state with subsequent spread to other states as well as to neighbouring Republic of Niger, and the second in Sokoto state.
- Recent confirmation of spread of one of the cVDPV2 outbreaks, both within Nigeria and internationally, underscores the urgent need to fill remaining vaccination gaps in the ongoing outbreak

response, and to optimize the geographic extent and operational quality of mOPV2 response.

- At the same time, outbreak response to WPV1 continues, including efforts to address surveillance and immunity gaps in parts of Borno state.
- Read our [Nigeria](#) country page to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

Lake Chad Basin

- No case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) has been reported in the past week. The total number of cVDPV2 cases reported in Niger was 9, which are genetically linked to a cVDPV2 outbreak originating in Jigawa, Nigeria. The virus was isolated from children with acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) from Zinder region, located in the south of Niger and on the border with Nigeria, with dates of onset of paralysis ranging from 18 July through 7 September 2018.
- Acute flaccid paralysis surveillance and routine immunization across the country with focus on the infected provinces and the provinces at the international borders with Nigeria are being reinforced.
- Active case finding for additional AFP cases is continuing, and additional surveillance measures such as increasing the frequency and extent of environmental surveillance and community sampling of healthy individuals is being expanded.

Central Africa

- No cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) were reported this week in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The total number of cVDPV2 cases reported in 2018 was 20.
- DRC is affected by four separate cVDPV2 outbreaks, in the provinces of Haut Katanga; Mongala, Maniema and Haut Lomami/Tanganika/Haut Katanga/Ituri.
- Following the Kinshasa Declaration for Polio Eradication in July 2016, the two large scale vaccination rounds implemented during September and October 2018, demonstrated better vaccination quality. Planning is underway to maintain the gains made so far

and maintain population immunity as well as sensitive surveillance across the country.

- The polio outbreak response is being conducted simultaneously to an ongoing Ebola outbreak affecting North Kivu province, in the east of the country (close to provinces affected by cVDPV2). As in the past, the polio teams are coordinating closely with the broader humanitarian emergency network, to ensure both outbreaks are addressed in a coordinated manner (as was the case during the recent Ebola outbreak in Equateur province, which was successfully stopped).
- Partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative will continue to support authorities across the country, to ensure that this new level of commitment rapidly translates into operational improvements on the ground.
- Read our [Democratic Republic of the Congo country page](#) to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.
- Learn more about [vaccine-derived polioviruses](#) through this short animation or this [‘Coffee with Polio Experts’](#) video.

[Horn of Africa](#)

- No circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) cases were reported in the past week.
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- The Horn of Africa is currently affected by separate outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) and type 3 (cVDPV3), reporting both cases and environmental positives.
- Somalia has reported a total of 12 cVDPV cases (five type 2, six type 3 and one, coinfection of both type 2 and type 3) in 2018.
- Circulating VDPV2 has also been detected during 2018 in one environmental sample in Kenya.
- Outbreak response to both virus types is currently being implemented in line with internationally-agreed guidelines. Large-scale supplementary immunization activities (SIAs) have been implemented in Banadir, Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle regions, Somalia. Another vaccination round is planned during end-November as part of the ongoing outbreak response, to further enhance the population immunity in the highest risk

areas. Special surveillance activities continue to be undertaken to determine the origin of the viral circulation.

- WHO and partners continue to support local public health authorities across the Horn of Africa in conducting field investigations and risk assessments.
- Read our [Somalia country page](#) and [Kenya country page](#) to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.
- Learn more about [vaccine-derived polioviruses](#) through this short animation or this '[Coffee with Polio Experts](#)' video.

[Papua New Guinea](#)

- No new cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) were reported this week. The total number of cases in 2018 was 26.
- Emergency Operation Centres are established and operational at the national level and in all affected provinces; environmental surveillance is functional in five sites in two major cities.
- Three Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIAs) of expanding scope have taken place since late July, from three provinces to nine, to nation-wide. The most recent was aimed at children under the age of 15, due to large numbers of poorly-immunized older children.
- Planning is underway for the next steps of the outbreak response, focusing on both vaccination and surveillance for polioviruses.
- Detection and reporting of new viruses or cases at this point in the outbreak response is not unusual or unexpected, as surveillance is being strengthened and most reported and confirmed cases had onset of paralysis prior to the start of comprehensive outbreak response.
- Read our [Papua New Guinea](#) country page to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

[Mozambique](#)

- A new circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) outbreak has been confirmed in Mozambique.
- Two genetically-linked circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) isolates were detected, from an acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) case (with onset of paralysis on 21 October 2018) in

- a six-year old girl with no history of vaccination, from Molumbo district, Zambézia province), and a community contact of the case.
- The GPEI and partners are working with country counterparts to support the local public health authorities in conducting a field investigation (clinical, epidemiological and immunological) and thorough risk assessment to discuss planning and implementation of immunization and outbreak response.
 - In January 2017, a single VDPV2 virus had been isolated from a 5-year old boy with AFP, also from Zambézia province (Mopeia district). Outbreak response was conducted in the first half of 2017 with monovalent oral polio vaccine type 2 (mOPV2).
 - Read our [Mozambique country page](#) to see information on cases, surveillance and response to the developing outbreak.
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