

## This Week

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### Polio this week as of 23 October 2018

[World Polio Day](#) activities are in full swing. Join partners around the world in raising awareness about the global effort to eradicate polio.

Summary of newly-reported viruses this week: Afghanistan – one wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) positive environmental sample; Pakistan – two WPV1 cases and four WPV1-positive environmental samples; and, Nigeria – one cVDPV2 case and three cVDPV2-positive environmental samples. See country-specific sections below for further details.

### Wild poliovirus type 1 and Circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus cases

Total cases	Year-to-date 2018		Year-to-date 2017		Total in 2017	
	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV
Globally	22	69	12	62	22	96
— in endemic countries	22	17	12	0	22	0
— in non-endemic countries	0	52	0	62	0	96

### Case breakdown by country

Countries	Year-to-date 2018		Year-to-date 2017		Total in 2017		Onset of paralysis of most recent case	
	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV
afghanistan	16	0	7	0	14	0	1-Sep-2018	NA
democratic republic of the congo	0	15	0	10	0	22	NA	5-Aug-2018
niger	0	6	0	0	0	0	NA	7-Sep-2018
nigeria	0	17	0	0	0	0	NA	16-Sep-2018
pakistan	6	0	5	0	8	0	25-Sep-2018	NA

Countries	Year-to-date 2018		Year-to-date 2017		Total in 2017		Onset of paralysis of most recent case	
	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV
papua new guinea	0	18	0	0	0	0	NA	6-Sep-2018
somalia	0	13	0	0	0	0	NA	7-Sep-2018
syrian arab republic	0	0	0	52	0	74	NA	21-Sep-2017

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 23 October 2018

### [Afghanistan](#)

No cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) were reported in the past week. The total number of WPV1 cases in 2018 is 16.

One WPV1-positive environmental samples was reported in the past week, from Kandahar, collected on 25 September.

The latest polio update from [Afghanistan](#) has information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

### [Pakistan](#)

Two cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) were reported in the past week, from greater Karachi, Sindh (with onset of paralysis on 22 September) and Khyber district, FATA province (with onset of paralysis on 25 September). The total number of WPV1 cases in 2018 is six.

Four WPV1-positive environmental samples were reported in the past week, three from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, collected between 18 and 27 September and one from Balochistan, collected on 1 October.

The detection of new cases and environmental-positive samples is not unexpected at this time, and underscores the fact that transmission is ongoing in the country. The country continues to implement national emergency action plans, to identify remaining immunity gaps and urgently fill these gaps.

The latest polio update from [Pakistan](#) has information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

One case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) was reported this week, from Katsina, with onset of paralysis on 16 September. The total number of cVDPV2 cases in 2018 is 17. Three cVDPV2-positive environmental samples were reported in the past week, two from Yobe and one from Bauchi, and collected in August and September.

These newly-reported viruses are all linked to a cVDPV2 originating in Jigawa; this same virus has also been detected in neighbouring Niger. Separately, Nigeria is affected by a second cVDPV2 outbreak, centred around Sokoto state.

In response to cVDPV2 detection, the country continues to conduct acute flaccid paralysis surveillance strengthening activities including enhanced active surveillance visits and community sampling. The programme has also carried out an extensive search for type 2 containing vaccines (tOPV/mOPV2) in the areas surrounding where the virus is detected.

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 new cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) were reported in the past week. The total number of cVDPV2 cases in 2018 is 6, from Zinder, Niger. These cases are linked to a cVDPV2 in Jigawa, Nigeria.

The Government of Niger has declared a national public health emergency, as per the temporary recommendations of the Emergency Committee of the International Health Regulations. WHO and its partners are supporting local public health authorities in field investigations and risk assessment, and to conduct additional response measures as appropriate and necessary. Health workers are conducting active searches for additional AFP cases; surveillance is also being strengthened by taking more environmental samples from more areas and sampling the stools of healthy people.

The detection of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) and cVDPV2 in Nigeria continue to pose a risk to the neighbouring countries of the Lake Chad basin. Emergency outbreak response and efforts to improve surveillance continue across the basin. These include efforts to vaccinate children at markets, in internally displaced persons and refugee camps, and at international borders.

### [Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

DR Congo is affected by three separate strains of cVDPV2, in the provinces of Mongola, Maniema and Haut Lomami/Tanganika/Haut Katanga/Ituri.

The relevant Provincial governors have signed a '[Kinshasa Declaration for Polio Eradication](#)', committing to providing the necessary oversight, accountability and resources needed to stop

the outbreak. It is hoped that level of oversight will improve operational performance of the outbreak response. The polio outbreak response is being conducted simultaneously with 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. Our [Democratic Republic of the Congo country page](#) has 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**

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. The country is carrying out outbreak response to both virus types in line with internationally-agreed guidelines. An Outbreak Response Assessment is due to start on 18 November, followed by a Technical Advisory Group meeting. 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 cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) were reported in the past week. The total number of cVDPV1 cases in 2018 is 18. Emergency Operations Centres are established and operational in all affected provinces; environmental surveillance is functional in five sites in two major cities. Three Supplemental 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 the large numbers of poorly-immunized older children. 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. The [Papua New Guinea](#) country page has information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

### **The Middle East**

No new cases of circulating [vaccine-derived poliovirus](#) type 2 (cVDPV2) were reported in the past week in Syria. The total

case (by date of onset of paralysis) was reported in Boukamal district, with onset on 21 September 2017. The latest polio update from [Syria](#) has information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

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