

This Week

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Polio this week as of 13 March 2019

- On the occasion of the International Women’s Day on 8 March 2019, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative featured stories of women on-ground working for polio eradication efforts. Read all the IWD news [here](#).
- Wild poliovirus continues to transmit in Afghanistan—one of the most challenging geographical and socio-political landscapes—but GPEI is working with the partners and the government to make concrete gains in eliminating the disease. More on the efforts [here](#).
- Real-time disease surveillance is the future of disease of surveillance, which is being rolled-out at the World Health Organization’s Regional Office for Africa in collaboration with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Read [more](#).
- Summary of new viruses this week: Pakistan – nine WPV1-positive environmental samples; Nigeria— one circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)- positive community contact case and three cVDPV2-positive environmental samples. See country sections below for more details.

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	6	1	3	2	33
—in endemic countries	6	1	3	0	33	34

Total cases	Year-to-date 2019		Year-to-date 2018		Total in 2018	
	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV	WPV	cVDPV
	—in non-endemic countries	0	0	0	2	0

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	2	0	3	0	21	0	12-Jan-2019
democratic republic of the congo	0	0	0	2	0	20	NA	7-Oct-2018
niger	0	0	0	0	0	10	NA	5-Dec-2018
nigeria	0	1	0	0	0	34	NA	22-Jan-2019
pakistan	4	0	0	0	12	0	20-Jan-2019	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 6 March 2019

[Afghanistan](#)

- No wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases were reported in the past week. There are two WPV1 cases reported in 2019. The total number of WPV1 cases for 2018 remains 21.
- The [Technical Advisory Group for polio eradication \(TAG\)](#) met on 15-16 January 2019 to assess the progress made towards polio eradication in Afghanistan in 2018 and made recommendations for the way forward in 2019.
- 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. There are four WPV1 cases reported in 2019. The total number of WPV1 cases in 2018 remains 12.
- Nine WPV1-positive environmental samples were reported in the past week: one each from Saddar and Landhi in Karachi district, Sindh province; two from Lahore district and one from Rawalpindi district in Punjab province; one from Peshawar district in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province; two from Quetta and one from Killa Abdullah districts in Balochistan province. The samples were collected from 8-19 February 2019.
- Read the latest polio update from [Pakistan](#) to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

[Nigeria](#)

- No cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 have been reported this week. So far, only one cVDPV2 case has been reported in 2019 in Nigeria. The total number of cVDPV2 cases in 2018 remains 34.
- Three cVDPV2-positive environmental samples were reported this week in Maiduguri LGA in Borno State. Samples were collected between 5-12 February 2019.
- One cVDPV2-positive community contact case has been reported in Konduga, Borno State. The sample was collected on 9 February

2019.

- No cases of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) has been reported in the country since the one detected from Borno State with a date of 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 most recent cVDPV2 isolated in the country was in Magaria district, Zinder province with an onset of paralysis on 5 December 2018.
- The total number of cVDPV2 cases in 2018 reported in Niger in 2018 is ten. The outbreak is genetically-linked to the cVDPV2 outbreak originating in Jigawa, Nigeria. 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 5 December 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 is 20.
- The most recent cVDPV2 AFP case was reported from Mufunga-Sampwe district in Haut-Katanga province with onset of paralysis on 7 October 2018.
- DRC is affected by four separate cVDPV2 outbreaks, in the provinces of Haut Katanga; Mongala, Maniema and Haut Lomami/Tanganika/Haut Katanga/Ituri.
- 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’](#)

Horn of Africa

- No circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) cases were reported in the past week.
- The Horn of Africa is currently affected by separate outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) and type 3 (cVDPV3), reporting both AFP cases and environmental positive samples.
- 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.
- The most recent cVDPV2 virus was isolated from an environmental sample collected on 11 October 2018 from Waberi district in Banadir province. The most recent cVDPV3 virus was isolated from an environmental sample also from Waberi district, Banadir province collected on 23 August 2018.
- Circulating VDPV2 has also been detected during 2018 in one environmental sample in Kenya collected on 21 March 2018.
- 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.
- 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’](#)

[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 remains 26.
- The most recent cVDPV1 virus was isolated from an environmental sample collected in the National Capital district on 6 November 2018.
- 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 nationwide. 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.
- Read our [Papua New Guinea](#) country page to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

[Mozambique](#)

- No case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) outbreak has been reported this week. The total number of cases in 2018 remains 1.
- One circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) isolate was 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 two isolated from a community contact of the case reported on 10 and 17 December 2018.
- 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.

[Indonesia](#)

- No circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) cases were reported this week.
 - Two genetically-linked circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) isolates were detected, from an acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) case, with onset of paralysis on 27 November 2018, and from a sample of a healthy community contact, in Papua province collected on 24 January 2019. This outbreak is not linked to the cVDPV1 currently affecting neighbouring Papua New Guinea.
 - 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.
 - Learn more about [vaccine-derived polioviruses](#) through this short animation or this [‘Coffee with Polio Experts’ video](#).
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