

This Week

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Polio this week as of 24 July 2019.

- UAE’s Recognizing Excellence Around Champions of Health (REACH) Awards to honour individuals working for disease elimination is open for nominations till 4 August 2019. REACH Awards will announce three unsung heroes in disease elimination at the UAE’s [Reaching the Last Mile Forum](#), where the Global Polio Eradication Initiative will hold a pledging event to raise critical funding for the final push against polio. Do you know of an “unsung hero” of polio eradication? Nominate them [here](#).
- Summary of new viruses this week: Pakistan — three WPV1-positive environmental samples; Nigeria — two circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2)-positive environmental samples; Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) — four cVDPV2 cases. 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	56	43	16	42	33
— in endemic countries	56	12	16	8	33	34
— in non-endemic countries	0	31	0	34	0	70

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	11	0	13	0	21	0	5-Jun-2019	NA
angola	0	3	0	0	0	0	NA	30-May-2019
central african republic	0	4	0	0	0	0	NA	23-Jun-2019
china	0	1	0	0	0	0	NA	25-Apr-2019
democratic republic of the congo	0	15	0	13	0	20	NA	14-Jun-2019
ethiopia	0	1	0	0	0	0	NA	20-May-2019
indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	1	NA	27-Nov-2018
mozambique	0	0	0	0	0	1	NA	21-Oct-2018
myanmar	0	3	0	0	0	0	NA	14-Jun-2019
niger	0	1	0	1	0	10	NA	3-Apr-2019
nigeria	0	12	0	8	0	34	NA	14-Jun-2019
pakistan	45	0	3	0	12	0	1-Jul-2019	NA

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
	papua new guinea	0	0	0	11	0	26	NA
somalia	0	3	0	9	0	12	NA	8-May-2019

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 24 July 2019

[Afghanistan](#)

- No wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases have been reported in the past week. There are 11 WPV1 cases reported in 2019 from Afghanistan. The total number of WPV1 cases for 2018 remains 21.
- No WPV1-positive environmental samples were reported in the past week.
- Read the latest polio update from [Afghanistan](#) to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

[Pakistan](#)

- No wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases have been reported in the past week. There are 45 total number of WPV1 cases in 2019.
- Three WPV1-positive environmental samples were reported in the past week: one each from Quetta and Pishin districts in Balochistan province; one from S.I.T.E in Karachi district, Sindh province. The samples were collected between 1–3 July 2019.
- Read the latest polio update from [Pakistan](#) to see information on cases, surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

[Nigeria, Lake Chad and West Africa](#)

- No cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 have been reported in the past week. There are 12 cVDPV2 cases reported in 2019 so far. The total number of cVDPV2 cases in 2018 remains 34.
- Two positive environmental samples were reported in the past week from Maidaguri, Borno State. The samples were both collected on 25 June 2019.
- 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.
- Read our [Nigeria](#) country page to see information on surveillance and vaccination campaigns.
- No case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) has been reported in the past week.
- In the Lake Chad region, cVDPV2 linked to the outbreak originating in Nigeria has been detected in Niger (one case in 2019 and ten cases in 2018), and Cameroon (one positive environmental sample, collected on 20 April 2019 in Extreme Nord).
- The risk of further cVDPV2 spread across the Lake Chad subregion remains high.
- No cVDPV2-positive environmental sample was reported in the past week in Ghana.
- A genetically-linked cVDPV2 environmental sample to Jigawa outbreak, Nigeria has been confirmed in Northern province of Ghana.
- Across the GPEI partnership, the outbreak preparedness and response task team (OPRTT) is working with our regional and country colleagues in supporting local public health authorities in carrying out a full field investigation and determining if there is a risk of local spread of this virus which might require a response.
- Surveillance is also being strengthened in neighbouring Togo, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso.

[Central Africa](#)

Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo)

- Four cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) have been reported this week in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo): two from Kalonda-Ouest and one from Nyanga, Kasai province, with onset of paralysis on 3, 7, and 5 June 2019; one from Tshumbe, Sankuru province, with onset of paralysis on 14 June 2019. There are 15 reported cases of cVDPV2 in 2019. The total number of cVDPV2 cases reported in 2018 is 20. DRC is currently affected by eight separate cVDPV2 outbreaks; one each originated in Haut Katanga, Mongala, Sankuru, two in Haut Lomami and three in Kasai provinces.
- 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’](#)

Angola

- No case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) has been reported this week in Angola. Total three cVDPV2 cases from two outbreaks are reported in Angola in 2019.
- Read our [Angola country page](#) for more information.

Central African Republic

- No case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) has been reported this week in CAR.
- CAR has two distinct cVDPV type 2 outbreaks (4 cases); one originated in Bimbo province and one in Bambari province. Additionally, the country had also already reported genetically-distinct VDPV2s in the same provinces affected by the current outbreaks.
- In response, the Government had declared these events to be a national public health emergency and begun implementation of outbreak response.
- Read our [Central African Republic country page](#) for more information.

[Horn of Africa](#)

- No case of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 (cVDPV2) has been reported in the Horn of Africa.
- Somalia has reported a total of 15 cVDPV cases (eight type 2, six type 3 and one coinfection of both type 2 and type 3) since the beginning of the outbreaks. The most recent cVDPV3 virus was from an AFP case from Runingod district, Middle Shabelle province with an onset date of paralysis on 7 September 2018. Circulating VDPV2 has also been detected during 2018 in one environmental sample in Kenya collected on 21 March 2018. There is also one reported case of cVDPV2 in Ethiopia, linked to Somalia, with onset on 20 May 2019.
- 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.
- A GPEI Outbreak Response Assessment reviewed the impact of current outbreak response and concluded that overall strong response had been implemented. Commending national and subnational public health authorities and health workers on their efforts, the Assessment team underscored the need on now filling any residual subnational surveillance and immunity gaps.
- The team reviewed all aspects of the response, and noted significant efforts and improvements, including on service delivery, surveillance strengthening, data analysis, cold chain/reverse cold chain refurbishment, vaccine acceptance and community engagement, health worker engagement, collaboration with neighbouring Indonesia and outreach to remote areas/communities. In particular, the group noted the strong collaboration between outbreak response and strengthening of routine immunization, including through systematic collaboration with Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and highlighted that this model of working should be replicated in other outbreak settings.

- 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 one.
- In addition to the confirmed case, the same virus was also isolated from two healthy community contacts, 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.
- 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.
- In total, three genetically-linked circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) isolates were detected from Papua province: a cVDPV1 from an acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) case, with onset of paralysis on 27 November 2018, and two cVDPV1 isolates from healthy community contacts, collected on 24 January and 13 February 2019. This outbreak is not linked to the cVDPV1 in neighbouring Papua New Guinea.
- Learn more about Indonesia polio outbreak response through weekly [situational report](#).

[Iran](#)

- In total, three WPV1-positive environmental samples have been reported in 2019, all from Sistan and Balochistan province. The isolated viruses have been detected in environmental samples only, and genetic sequencing confirms they are linked to WPV1 circulating in Karachi, Pakistan

- The Ministry of Health and local health authorities are undertaking a detailed investigation and the partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) are on standby to provide support as required. An immediate risk assessment suggests that this event has limited public health implications, given Iran's very high levels of routine immunization coverage and strong disease surveillance. However, this event further underlines the risk of international spread of WPV1 from Pakistan/Afghanistan.

China

- No cVDPV2 cases were reported in the past week. The total number of cVDPV2 cases in the country remains one.
- China continues to maintain strong routine immunization coverage both with IPV and bivalent OPV reaching more than 95% nationwide, and strong poliovirus surveillance including through environmental surveillance.
- The Government of China is reacting rapidly and efficiently to confirmation of the cVDPV2, by conducting a full field and epi-investigation, strengthening disease surveillance, investigating the origin of the virus and planning an appropriate outbreak response.
- China had successfully responded to a WPV1 outbreak in 2011, stopping an outbreak (due to an importation from Pakistan) in record time.
- Learn more about [vaccine-derived polioviruses](#) through this short animation or this [‘Coffee with Polio Experts’](#)

Myanmar

- No cases of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 (cVDPV1) have been reported this week. The total number of cVDPV1 cases in the country remains two.
- Myanmar's routine immunization coverage is strong, estimated at 89% at national level for bivalent OPV. Neighbouring countries have been informed of the confirmed cVDPV1, and subnational surveillance is being strengthened across the region.
- The Ministry of Health and local health authorities are undertaking a detailed investigation and the partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) are providing support as

required. A full epidemiological and virological field investigation is ongoing, including to ascertain the source and origin of the isolated viruses; active surveillance is being strengthened; subnational population immunity levels are being analyzed; and, outbreak response is being planned.

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