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WPV1 | cVDPV2
POLIO CASES IN JANUARY 2021

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POLIO CASES IN 2021

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WPV1 POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT
SAMPLE IN JANUARY 2021

6.6M

CHILDREN VACCINATED IN JAN 2021

2,615

COMMUNITY MOBILISERS

470

FEMALE MOBILISERS/VACCINATORS

286

PERMANENT TRANSIT SITES

15

CROSS-BORDER VACCINATION
POINTS

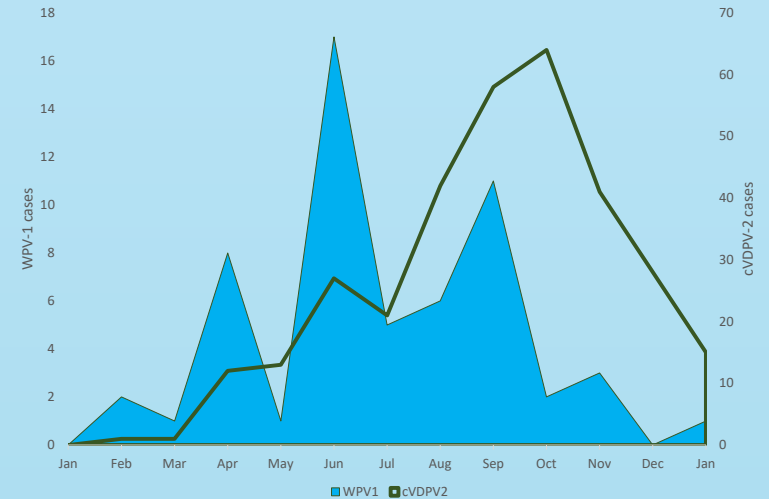
POLIO SNAPSHOT AFGHANISTAN

JANUARY 2021



**POLIO CASES
IN 2021**

- 15 cVDPV2 cases
- 1 WPV1 case





POLIO TRANSMISSION

- One new WPV1 case and 15 new cVDPV cases were confirmed in January 2021



AFP ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEILLANCE

- 339 children with Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) - 142 females and 179 males - were reported in January 2021. A total of 384 AFP cases have been reported since the beginning of 2021. Of these, 212 cases have been discarded as non-polio. About 171 cases are pending final classification
- The non-polio AFP rate remained above 11, stool adequacy stood above 93%, and non-polio enterovirus rate ranged between 9-18% in all regions
- No new WPV1 positive environmental sample was confirmed, while 13 new cVDPV2 positive environmental sample were confirmed in January 2021



NATIONAL IMMUNISATION ACTIVITIES

- The first National Immunization Days (NID) of the year was conducted in January and 6,631,946 children were vaccinated



COMPLEMENTARY VACCINATION ACTIVITIES

- 15 cross-border vaccination points, 39 cross-border teams and 286 permanent transit sites (PTTs) were operational in January 2021
- Permanent transit teams vaccinated 529,994 children, and cross-border teams vaccinated 81,872 children against polio in January 2021
- In January 2021, a total of 631 children under 10 were given OPV and 50 children were vaccinated with IPV, respectively, at UNHCR repatriation centers and IOM sites receiving returnees and refugees from Pakistan and Iran

PEI support to COVID-19 till January 2021

- 64,447 suspected cases of COVID-19 were reported, of which 9,149 tested positive
- 5,978 government and NGO partners were trained on COVID-19 surveillance
- 119,218 health professional (including paramedics/nurses) were trained on COVID-19 surveillance
- 223,254 community and religious influencers were reached for support and training

Afghanistan to commence first polio vaccination campaign of 2021

Kabul, 18 January 2021 – The Ministry of Public Health of Afghanistan, in collaboration with UNICEF and WHO, will begin the first national polio immunization campaign of 2021 today. The 5-day campaign will aim to vaccinate over 9.9 million children under the age of 5 across the country.

As efforts to eradicate polio are intensified, declining immunity against polio in populations in certain areas of the country continues to be one of the biggest challenges. A key reason for this has been either the complete lack of access or extreme difficulty in reaching certain areas with regular routine or supplementary polio vaccination for extended periods of time.

The COVID-19 pandemic has further fuelled a significant decline in immunity rates due to a 6-month pause in vaccinations between February and July 2020. This has contributed towards a rise in the number of cases and has exacerbated existing disruptions to critical immunizations caused by active conflict and bans on polio campaigns. [Click here to read more](#)



Key communication activities

- 96,965 caregivers, including 80,181 females were engaged by the Immunisation Communication Network (ICN) social mobilisers in polio, routine immunisation, and mother and child health promotion through house-to-house visits, community meetings, and educational sessions in south, south-east and west regions
- 2,500 local authorities' representatives were engaged in south, south-east, north-east and west regions to address refusals, support campaign announcements and investigate absent children in their neighbourhoods
- 4,804 elderly female grandmothers attended home-based polio and maternal and newborn child health (MNCH) group orientation sessions through 1,658 meetings in high-refusal clusters of Kandahar, Helmand and Nimruz
- 273 religious influencers were engaged in polio awareness sessions in south, south-east, north-east and west regions
- 464,624 women attended polio and MNCH awareness sessions from the Female Mobiliser Vaccinator (FMVs) through 44,796 sessions held in health facilities in south, south-east, east, and west regions
- 251,726 children received routine immunisation and polio vaccine, and 49,908 women received TT vaccine (21,743 women were vaccinated by FMVs) at health facilities, supporting the Expanded Programme on Immunisation and health promotion
- 18 radio and 2 TV discussions in south and west regions were held on polio vaccine acceptance, routine immunisation, and mother and child health
- 947 radio and 273 TV polio awareness spots were aired, mainly in west region, in order to promote vaccine uptake
- 101 journalists were briefed on polio immunisation and NID campaign

