

PAKISTAN POLIO UPDATE

AUGUST 2018



Following the general elections on 25 July 2018, a newly elected Government of Pakistan was formed under the leadership of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party and Prime Minister Imran Khan. Aamir Mehmood Kiyani, the newly appointed Federal Minister of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination (MNHSR&C) in Pakistan, visited the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOCs) in Islamabad on 27 August after assuming charge. In this meeting, the Minister conveyed that polio eradication continues to be of upmost priority according to the Prime Minister's national agenda for health.

In August 2018, a new polio case was reported from district Charsadda in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, bringing the total number of polio cases in Pakistan in 2018 to four. Results from the programme's environmental surveillance network indicate that the poliovirus continues to circulate across the country, with up to 14% of environmental samples tested as positive for the wild poliovirus, compared to approximately 16% last year.

In response to the continued circulation of the virus, the Pakistan Polio Eradication Programme conducted a Sub-National Immunization Day Campaign (SNID) from 6-9 August in 89 districts and towns of Pakistan. A total of 18.9 million children under five years of age were

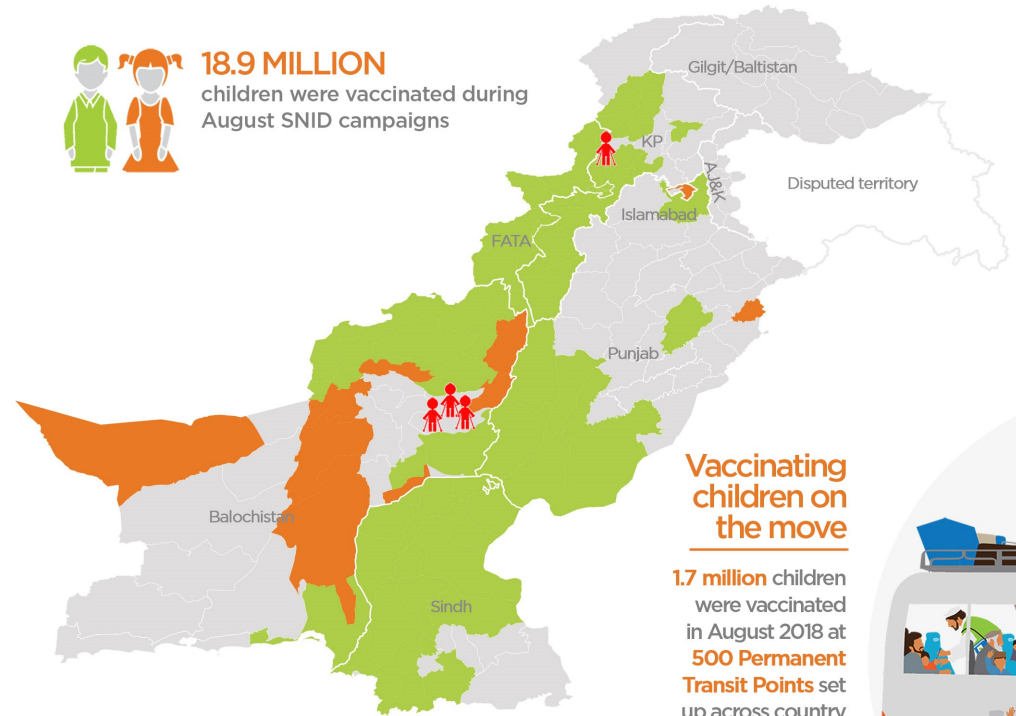
vaccinated during the SNID by a workforce of 130,000 vaccinators. In addition, case response campaigns were conducted throughout the month in Kamber, Bajour, Lahore, Rawalpindi, Sheikhupura and Islamabad. These case response campaigns vaccinated 1.8 million children as well. In addition, a combined bOPV-IPV campaign was conducted in Karachi from 30th August onwards reaching 700,000 children. The investigation of the newly reported polio case is currently underway.

The Pakistan Polio Eradication Programme continues to vaccinate children who are travelling or on the move through 500 Permanent Transit Points across all major transit points nationwide. In August, these PTPs vaccinated a total of 1.7 million children. Given the frequent population movements between Pakistan and Afghanistan's shared epidemiological block, the programme is also focused on fully synchronizing and coordinating its operations with the Afghan Polio Eradication Programme. September will see the programme implement its first nationwide campaign of the low transmission season from 24 - 28, with a target of 38.6 million children. Prior to that, a focused inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) campaign will be held in Quetta and Pishin districts of Balochistan. These districts have made significant progress over the last few months and the scheduled campaign will help further boost population immunity against polio.

AUGUST 2018 POLIO VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS



18.9 MILLION children were vaccinated during August SNID campaigns



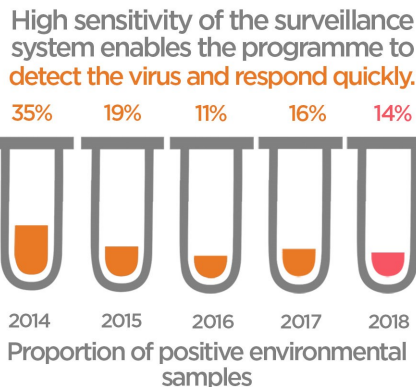
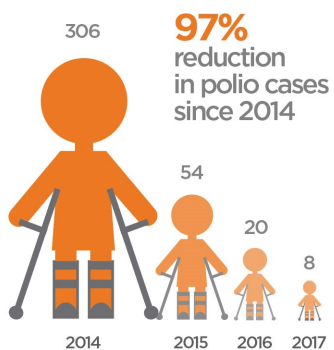
Vaccinating children on the move

1.7 million children were vaccinated in August 2018 at 500 Permanent Transit Points set up across country and district borders and other important transit points such as bus stops, railway stations and highways.



No. of wild polio cases		Proportion of positive environmental samples		No. of infected districts (WPV cases, environmental samples)	
August 2017	August 2018	August 2017	August 2018	August 2017	August 2018
5	4	16%	14%	18	22
0	0	63%	50%	1	1
1	0	6%	8%	3	3
1	0	19%	17%	8	9
0	0	n/a	27%	0	1
1	1	7%	20%	2	4
1	3	30%	9%	3	4
1	0	n/a	n/a	1	0

*Point in time comparison, data as of 31st August 2017/2018.



57 environmental detection sites = largest polio environmental footprint in the world

PAKISTAN POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE AT A GLANCE

