**JULY 2017** 







In July 2017, the Pakistan Polio Eradication Programme reached an important milestone as it completed a year without reporting a single case of polio in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). FATA had reported a high of 179 cases in 2014 when Pakistan's annual tally soared to 306 cases. However, it fell to just 16 cases in 2015 and to just two in 2016. Thanks to a number of innovative approaches including community-based vaccina-

tion, high risk mobile population strategy to catch

children on the move and the full support of gov-

ernment, almost half a million children who were

previously inaccessible were reached by vaccina-

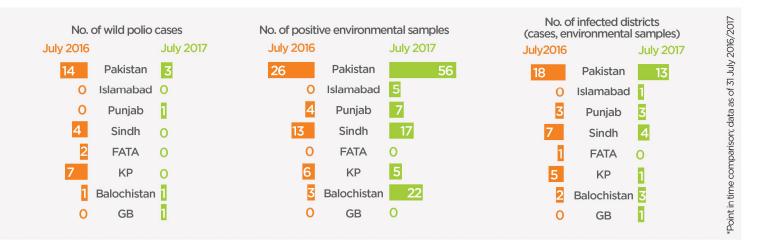
tion teams in North Waziristan.

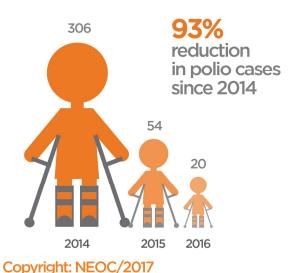
Small scale vaccination campaigns (Sub-National Immunization Days) took place in the core polio reservoirs and other high-risk areas of the country between 10 and 30 July 2017, resulting in the vaccination of 10.1 million children. The next large-scale country-wide vaccination campaign will take place

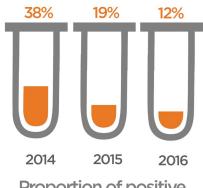
in September, when the low season for poliovirus transmission starts.

The Pakistan government has demonstrated exceptionally strong political leadership in eradication efforts and the country is reporting a record low number of cases. Fewer children are being missed by vaccinators, the campaign quality continues to increase and the Pakistan programme is well-positioned to respond to remaining gaps and challenges.

Despite the low number of new cases, the environmental surveillance system indicates intense virus circulation that remains a serious threat to children, with up to 16% of the 332 samples collected this year being positive. In particular, the transmission has increased in the Quetta block, Karachi and the twin cities of Islamabad-Rawalpindi. The programme is systematically addressing and responding to these challenges by focusing on reaching missed children and continuously improving campaign quality.



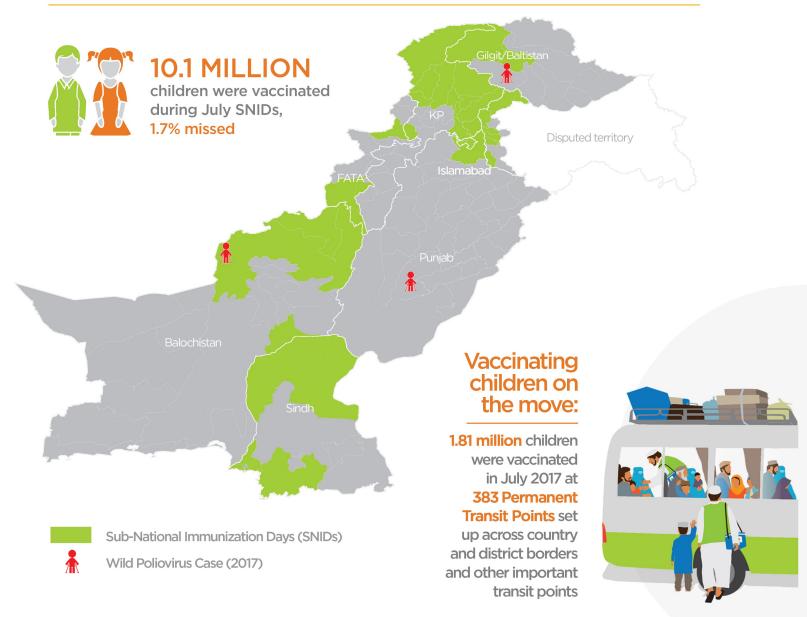




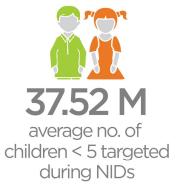
Proportion of positive environmental samples

environmental detection sites = largest polio environmental footprint in the world

## **JULY 2017 POLIO VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS**



## PAKISTAN POLIO ERADICATION INITIATIVE AT A GLANCE







**2,226** social mobilizers



99.5 vaccine acce

vaccine acceptance



