

PAKISTAN POLIO UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2019

پاکستان
انسداد
پولیو
پروگرام

PAKISTAN
POLIO
ERADICATION
PROGRAMME

Four polio cases were reported in the month of September, bringing the total polio case count in Pakistan to 73. Two cases were reported from district Jaffarabad and district Hamai in Balochistan, while two cases were reported from district Torghar and district Lakki Marwat in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Meanwhile, 45% of environmental samples have tested positive for the polio virus in September. Surveillance results further indicate increased virus transmission in the southern province of Sindh as well as reduced transmission in the northern province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

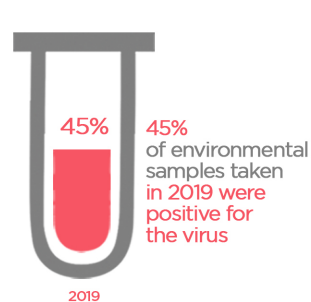
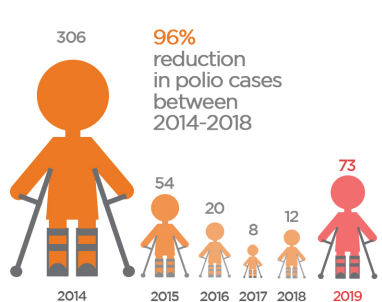
To boost the immunity levels of children against the polio virus, an IPV campaign was held in the Diamer and Gilgit Baltistan districts from 18-28 September. A total of 97,081 children were vaccinated through this IPV campaign. Similar case response campaigns have been scheduled for the upcoming low transmission season and as part of the upcoming National Emergency Action Plan for 2020-2021, particularly in districts where virus transmission is widespread and where many children remain susceptible to the virus.

Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Health, Dr. Zafar Mirza, chaired the morning meeting at the National Emergency Operations Centre on 2 September and 16 September. During these meetings, the Minister was briefed on the status of various areas of programme implementation at the federal and provincial level. The Minister regularly attends the morning meeting to provide optimum oversight, guidance and support to the programme and its on-going activities.

In addition, a meeting was held with the President of Pakistan, Dr. Arif Alvi, on 24 September. A presentation was given to the President on the current polio eradication efforts in place and the remaining challenges the programme is facing in eliminating the virus. The President of Pakistan reiterated at the meeting that there was no room for complacency in the goal of eradicating polio and that strict measures must be taken to curb the spread of the virus in Pakistan.

No. of wild polio cases		Proportion of positive environmental samples		No. of infected districts (WPV cases, environmental samples)	
September 2018	September 2019	September 2018	September 2019	September 2018	September 2019
7 Pakistan	73	17%	45%	28 Pakistan	47
0 Islamabad	0	56%	27%	1 Islamabad	1
0 Punjab	5	10%	37%	3 Punjab	7
0 Sindh	8	19%	67%	12 Sindh	17
3 KP	53	26%	27%	8 KP	15
3 Balochistan	7	13%	46%	4 Balochistan	7
0 GB	0	0%	0%	0 GB	0

*Point in time comparison; data as of 30th September, 2019



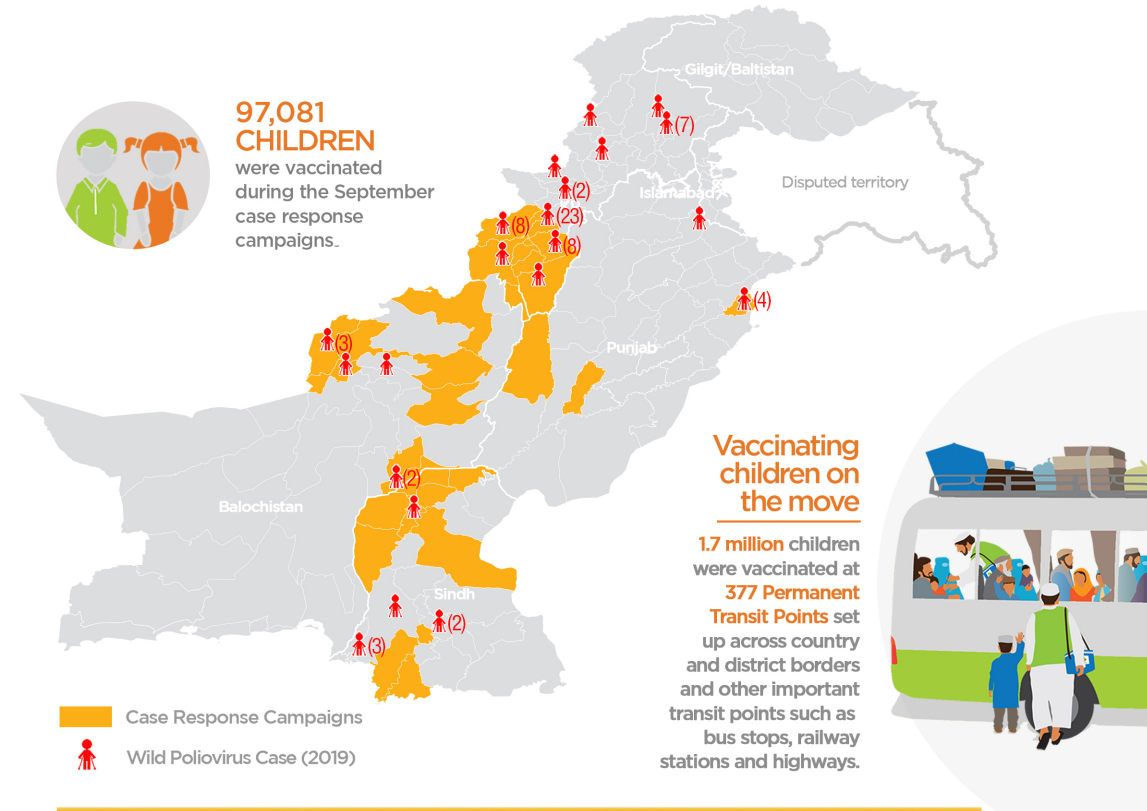
PAKISTAN POLIO ERADICATION PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

39.4M
average no. of children < 5 targeted during NIDs

260,000
frontline workers

62%
of frontline workers are female

2,100
social mobilizers



Reaching Every Child in Pakistan – Coverage of Still Missed Children During Campaigns

