

# POLIO SNAPSHOT AFGHANISTAN

AUGUST 2018



**2**  
WPV CASE IN AUGUST

**12**  
TOTAL WPV CASES IN 2018

**6**  
POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT SAMPLES IN AUGUST

**9.9 m**  
CHILDREN TARGETED IN NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION DAYS

**9.1 m**  
DOSES OF VACCINE GIVEN IN NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION DAYS

**72,000**  
FRONTLINE WORKERS

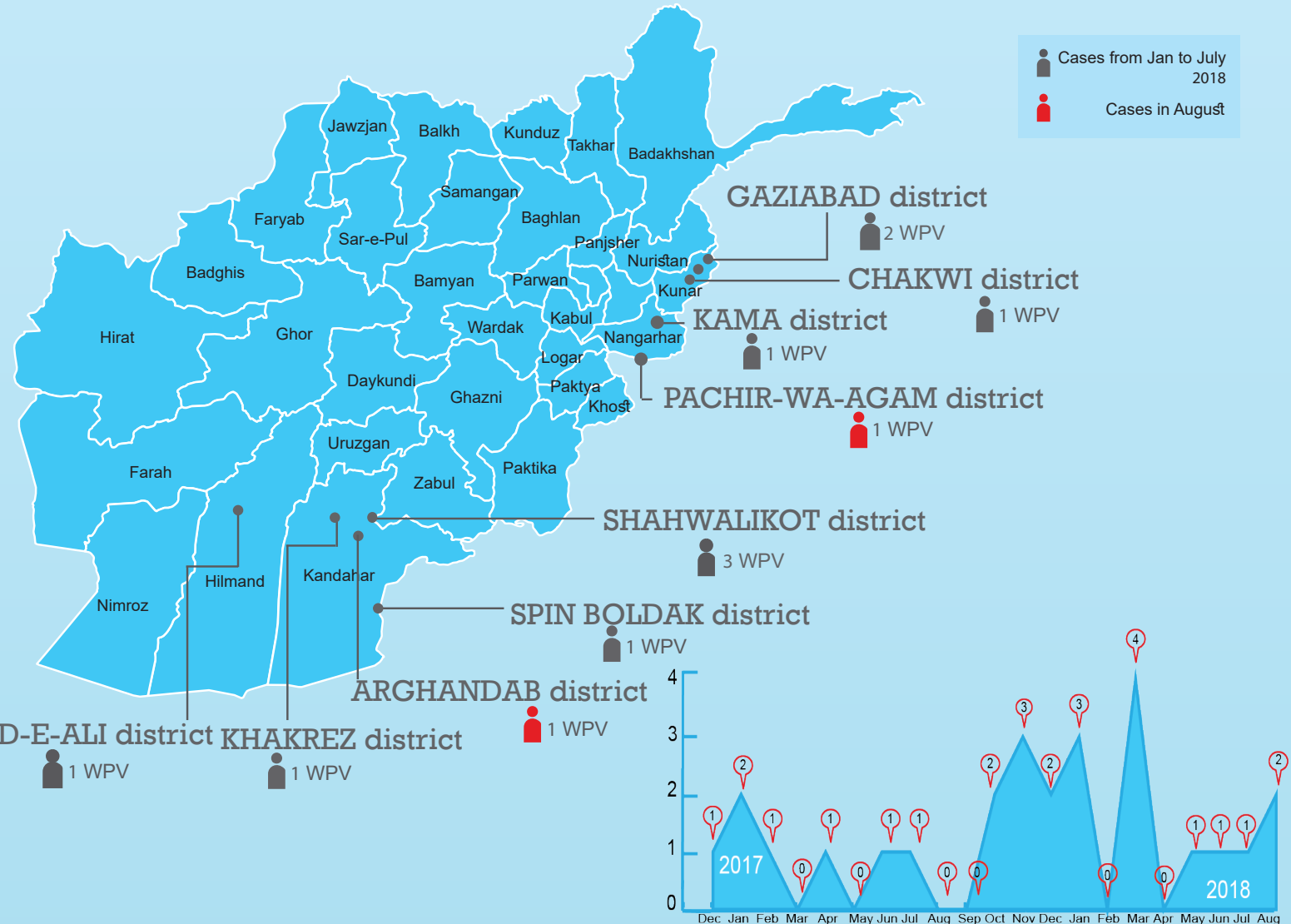
(Overall 11.2% female; 26.2% of urban workers, 5% of rural)

**7,000**  
SOCIAL MOBILIZERS

(Overall 30% female)

**423**  
PERMANENT TRANSIT TEAMS

**15**  
CROSS-BORDER VACCINATION POINTS







## POLIO TRANSMISSION

- 2 new wild poliovirus (WPV1) case was reported in August. 1 each from Arghandab district of Kandahar and Pachir-Wa-Agam district of Nangarhar province.
- 6 WPV1 positive environmental samples were reported in August. 4 from Kandahar, 1 each from Nangarhar and Hirat province. Total number of positive samples is 34 in 2018.



## AFP AND ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEILLANCE

- 248 acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases (55 girls and 88 boys) reported in August. Overall in 2018, 2,160 AFP cases have been reported, of which 1,995 have been discarded as “non-polio AFP” and 152 cases are pending classification.
- Non-polio AFP rate is 16, stool adequacy above 95%, and non-polio enterovirus rate above 17% at national level. In all regions, non-polio AFP rate is above 13, stool adequacy above 90%, and non-polio enterovirus rate is ranging from 13 to 21 %.



## SUPPLEMENTARY IMMUNIZATION ACTIVITIES

- In August National Immunization Days, 9.9 million children under the age of five were given OPV, 8.9 million children were given Vitamin A in 399 districts of 34 provinces.



## COMPLEMENTARY VACCINATION ACTIVITIES

- 15 cross-border vaccination points, 42 cross-border teams and 423 permanent transit teams (PTTs) were operational across Afghanistan during August 2018.
- Permanent transit teams vaccinated 1,078,900 children, and cross-border teams vaccinated 97,960 children against polio in August.
- 2,707 children were given OPV and 894 children were vaccinated with IPV respectively in UNHCR repatriation centers and IOM sites receiving returnees and refugees from Pakistan and Iran in August.
- Since the beginning of the year, 14,660 returnee children have received OPV and 8,047 have received IPV.
- In compliance with International Health Regulations (IHR), 9,623 international travellers were vaccinated in August.



## More than a vaccine Nahied's story

Nahied is one of the social mobilisers who work with the polio eradication team. She is trying to make history for her country by eradicating polio. This has been a tough journey for her. Nahied was married at just 13 years old. She was not allowed to see her own family, and forbidden from going to school. Nahied was forced to stay at home. “I was just a child when my husband’s family owned me. As a woman, our only right is to produce more and more children,” she says.

**“Girls have a big responsibility – we must be a wife, mother, sister and daughter. Yet, we have no value. My parents sold me for 15,000 Af\$ (US\$217). The family that bought me was poor and my new husband was much older.” - Nahied**

In her twenties, Nahied finally gained her independence and joined the polio eradication team. “Before I started working, I had no money. I had to borrow food from my neighbor to feed my children, which I couldn’t pay back.” Now, Nahied is proud to serve her community by ensuring every child is vaccinated against polio. She has worked on a number of nationwide campaigns. Nahied manages 12 other women, and supports them to ensure no child misses the vaccine. A child in her community got polio because his parents refused the vaccine, and he is now paralyzed for life. “I know how important my job is. I do it for all children, not just my own.”

Thanks to her work on the polio programme, Nahied can afford to send all her children – including her daughters – to school. Polio eradication is not just saving lives, it is transforming society.



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