

# POLIO SNAPSHOT

AFGHANISTAN  
JANUARY 2019



Case in January

SPIN BOLDAK district  
 1 WPV



**1**  
WPV CASE IN JANUARY

**1**  
TOTAL WPV CASE IN 2019

**5**  
POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT SAMPLES IN JANUARY

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**5.6M**  
CHILDREN TARGETED IN JANUARY SNID

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**8,697**  
SOCIAL MOBILIZERS

(3,046 urban workers, 5,651 rural workers)

**2,217**  
FEMALE SOCIAL MOBILIZERS

(Overall 25% female)

**524**  
PERMANENT TRANSIT TEAMS

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**17**  
CROSS-BORDER VACCINATION POINTS

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**209,538**  
CHILDREN INACCESSIBLE IN JANUARY

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## POLIO TRANSMISSION

- One new wild poliovirus (WPV1) case was reported in January.
- The National Rapid Response Team conducted an epidemiological investigation in response to the detection of the WPV1 case reported from Spinboldak district of Kandahar Province.



## AFP AND ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEILLANCE

- 289 acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases (134 girls and 165 boys) were reported in January. Overall in 2019, 290 AFP cases have been reported, of which 87 have been discarded as “non-polio AFP” and 202 cases are pending classification.
- In all regions, the Non-polio AFP rate is above 6, stool adequacy above 80%, and non-polio enterovirus rate ranges from 0-21.
- Five WPV1 positive environmental samples were reported in January, four from Kandahar province and one from Helmand province.



## SUPPLEMENTARY IMMUNIZATION ACTIVITIES

- A sub-national campaign was conducted from 28 January to 1 February in 179 districts of 17 provinces.
- Site-to-site campaigns were carried out as a contingency plan in areas where house-to-house campaigns were banned, though 209,538 children under five remain inaccessible in January. In the southern region, Zabul province was completely inaccessible.



## COMPLEMENTARY VACCINATION ACTIVITIES

- 17 cross-border vaccination points, 42 cross-border teams and 524 permanent transit teams (PTTs) were operational across Afghanistan in January 2019.
- Permanent transit teams vaccinated 1,255,268 children, and cross-border teams vaccinated 100,256 children against polio in January.
- 963 children were given OPV and 251 children were vaccinated with IPV respectively in UNHCR repatriation centers and IOM sites receiving returnees and refugees from Pakistan and Iran in January.
- 18,358 international travelers were vaccinated in January in compliance to the International Health Regulations (IHR).
- 963 returnee children received OPV, 251 returnee children received IPV in January.



## Polio Technical experts make recommendations for Afghanistan eradication effort

The Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for polio eradication met on 15-16 January to assess the progress made towards eradicating polio in Afghanistan in 2018 and made recommendations for the way forward in 2019. Here are some of the recommendations:

- The TAG urges all stakeholders and partners to treat polio as the emergency programme that it is and ensure polio eradication.
- The focus should be on support to the field, particularly Kandahar rather than at the central level.
- One team approach to address the remaining challenges.
- The programme needs to follow the basics, plug the remaining gaps and remain innovative for new challenges.

Read our photo story [here](#).



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