

Communication update

EOC Pakistan



The total case count has reached 297 with the latest case being eight month old child from Khyber Agency of FATA. A majority of the cases are reported from FATA where 175 children have been paralyzed with polio followed by 67 in KPK. The number of polio cases reported from Sindh is 29, while 24 cases have been reported in Balochistan and 3 in Punjab. All the cases reported this are of polio virus Type-1.

The efforts to strengthen polio eradication continue across the country as the year 2014 comes to an end during which a total of 17 SIAs (NIDs, SNIDs and SIADs) were conducted to immunize the target population of 34.6 million children below five years of age for each national campaign.

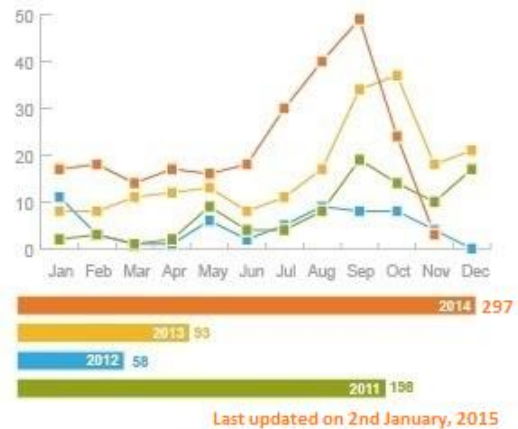
The total case count as of 31st December reached 297 with the latest case being eight month old child from Khyber Agency of FATA. A majority of the cases are reported from FATA where 175 children have been paralyzed with polio followed by 67 in KPK. The number of polio cases reported from Sindh is 29, while 24 cases have been reported in Balochistan and 3 in Punjab. All the cases reported this are of polio virus Type-1.

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The official figures show that on an average 92 percent of the total target population were reached during these campaigns. In addition more than 16 million children travelling within and from outside the country were vaccinated through Permanent Transit Posts (PTPs) working in multiple shifts throughout the country at key points during the year. It also gives us comfort to report that at present only wild polio virus Type 01 is circulating in Pakistan while Type 2, was eradicated several years ago and no case of Type 3 virus has been reported from anywhere in the country since April 2012.

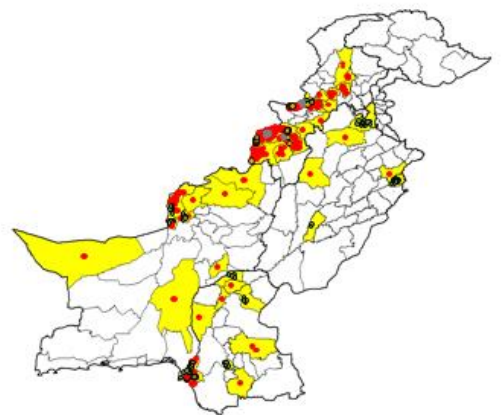
The most recent data puts the total number of confirmed polio cases at 297 in 2014 (as compared to 89 in 2013 for the same time period), the number of infected districts / towns / tribal agencies / areas in the country is now 40 (as compared to 22 in 2013 for the same time period). It also pertinent to mention that 85 percent of the polio cases have been reported from security compromised areas, as many as 81.7 percent (241/295) cases from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA together, of which 31.5 percent (93/295) are from North and South Waziristan agencies and 24.7 percent (73/295) are from Khyber agency alone, which indicates a direct correlation between incidence of polio cases and access issues due to security.

Pakistan Polio Case Counter



Point in Time Comparison of polio cases by province/region 2013 & 2014*

| Region/ Province | No. of polio cases | | No. of infected districts/towns | | Last polio case |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| | 2013 | 2014 | 2013 | 2014 | |
| FATA / FR Areas | 65 | 176 | 5 | 4 | 15-Dec-14 |
| Balochistan | 0 | 23 | 0 | 8 | 13-Dec-14 |
| Sindh | 10 | 29 | 7 | 14 | 04-Dec-14 |
| Khyber Pakhtunkhwa | 11 | 66 | 6 | 12 | 02-Dec-14 |
| Punjab | 7 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 18-Sep-14 |
| Pakistan | 93 | 297 | 23 | 41 | 15-Dec-14 |



2014 – A Year with Challenges

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Working with religious leaders

Prime Minister's Focal Person on Polio Eradication called upon Pakistan Ulema Council Chief Allama Tahir Ashrafi to ensure his support towards government efforts on polio eradication. This initiative will help counter refusals by parents to administer vaccines of polio and other preventable diseases.

Responding to PM Focal Person's request, Maulana Ashrafi agreed to provide all out support for polio eradication. He also showed his willingness to appear on television to deliver public service message in promoting polio eradication.



Communication Activities

A delegation of India and Sri Lanka arrived in Karachi to start Flame journey from Pakistan. The purpose of the meeting was to enlighten the Rotary Flame by the Governor Sindh Dr. Ishratul Ebad Khan to show solidarity with the Polio Eradication initiatives worldwide.



The Flame will travel from Karachi to Interior Sindh (Hyderabad, Mirpurkhas, Sukkur), to Quetta in Balochistan, then Multan, Lahore and Islamabad in Punjab, and then to Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa before it departs for Kabul, Afghanistan. This will cover all the major cities in all four provinces of Pakistan.

Testimonials

A series of testimonials have been recorded for upcoming NIDs which includes Celebrities (Juggan Kazmi, Nida Yasir, & Samina Ahmed), Pediatricians (Dr. Tabish Hazir & Dr. Iqbal Memon), Religious Scholars (Maulana Tahir Ashrafi & Maulana Naeemi) and Social Influencer (Abdul Sattar Edhi) which will be on aired from 16th Jan, 2014.