



### Polio update for January 23, 2026

Note: This update is going out to all District 5130 Presidents, Presidents-Elect, Presidents-Nominees, Club Foundation Chairs, PolioPlus Chairs, the District Governor, Past District Governors, District Governor Elect, District Governor, Nominee, Area Governors and others who have requested to be on the list 😊. However, if you wish to no longer receive these updates, let me know and I'll remove you from the list 😞.

**Fifteen weeks in a row with no wild polio was a great run while it lasted...but SADLY I have to report to you that A NEW CASE OF WILD POLIO SHOWED UP IN PAKISTAN ON DECEMBER 14TH, BUT IS ONLY NOW BEING REPORTED.** So the wild count for the 2025 year increases by one, making the Year to Date total for 2025 40 (31 in Pakistan and 9 in Afghanistan). This is compared to 98 for the same period in 2024). There were also 2 Positive Wild environmental samples, both collected in Hamburg, Germany, which is a little disconcerting. There was 1 case previously collected in Hamburg on October 6th of last year and it is genetically linked to the new samples just now reported. It clearly shows that we can not let our guard down...the virus knows no borders. The dates of the most recent wild poliovirus cases are:

Afghanistan: 10/3/25

Pakistan: 12/14/25

	As of 020 January, 2026	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
	(YTD Comparison)	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
	2026 (2025)					
WPV1 Afghanistan	0 (9)	9	25	6	2	4
WPV1-Pakistan	0 (31)	31)	74	6	20	1
WPV1- Other Countries	0 (0)	0	0	0	8	1
<b>Total WVP1</b>	<b>0 (40)</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>6</b>
cVDPV (circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus) cases this week *14	1 (25)	202	463	523	883	702

## **Circulating Variant Polio Virus**

In our other battlefront against polio, the circulating Variant Poliovirus (cVDPV), there were \*14 **CASES REPORTED** this last week, all in Nigeria. And they all occurred in 2025. 9 were Type 2 and 5 were Type 3, the first ever of this type reported in this country. So the 2025 total increases to 219 compared to 267 for the same period in 2024 and the 2026 YTD is still 1.

## **Positive Environmental Samples (ES)**

- **Wild** - As mentioned above there were 2 Environmental Samples, so the 2025 total increases to 721 compared to 2024's total of 773 last year.
- **Variant** - There was 1 positive ES of the cVDP2, variant collected in 2025, so the 2025 total increases to 232.

## **Science in 5 podcast on polio eradication with Dr Jamal Ahmed**

Polio once paralyzed hundreds of thousands of children every year, striking fear into families across the world. Thanks to the global polio eradication efforts, cases have fallen by 99.9% since 1988. But polio is not gone yet. In [this episode](#) of Science in 5, Dr. Jamal Ahmad, WHO Director for Polio Eradication, explains why polio eradication still matters, how close the world truly is to ending this disease forever, and what is at stake if we do not finish the job.

That's it for this week folks. Please keep those caught up in the various turmoils around the globe, both natural and man made, in your thoughts and prayers. And of course, those afflicted by polio.

Bob

Your District PolioPlus Chair

