



### Polio update for February 28, 2025

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

**THIS LAST WEEK WE HAD 1 NEW CASE OF THE WILD POLIO VIRUS (WPV1) IN PAKISTAN, WITH ONSET OF PARALYSIS OCCURRING ON FEBRUARY 6TH, BRINGING THE 2025 COUNT TO 4 WILD CASES TOTAL (1 IN AFGHANISTAN AND 3 IN PAKISTAN). THE 2024 COUNT REMAINS AT 99 TOTAL CASES. THERE WERE ALSO 13 WILD POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES (ES) REPORTED THIS WEEK, ALL IN PAKISTAN. Dates of the most recent wild poliovirus cases:**

**Afghanistan: 01/27/25**

**Pakistan: 02/06/25**

	As of 02/25/25		Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
	(YTD Comparison)		2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
	2025	(2024)					
<b>WPV1 Afghanistan</b>	<b>1</b>	(0)	25	6	2	4	56
<b>WPV1-Pakistan</b>	<b>3</b>	(0)	74	6	20	1	84
<b>WPV1- Other Countries</b>	<b>0</b>	(0)	0	0	8	1	0
<b>Total WVP1</b>	<b>4</b>	(0)	99	12	30	6	140
<b>cVDPV (circulating Vaccine-Derived Poliovirus Cases) *</b>	<b>0</b>	(3)	280	528	881	688	1,117

In our other battlefield against polio, the circulating variant poliovirus (cVDPV Type2), there were 13 NEW CASES reported this week but they all actually occurred in 2024. There were also ten NEW Positive Variant Environmental Samples (ES)

#### \* 13 new cVDPV cases reported this week

- Chad: 6 Type 2 cases this week: (35 Type 2 cases in 2024 & 55 cases in 2023)
- Ethiopia: 5 Type 2 cases this week: (4 Type 2 in 2024 & 1 Type 2 case in 2023)
- Yemen: 2 Type 2 cases this week: (37 Type 2 cases in 2024 & 8 cases in 2023)
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#### Positive Environmental Sewage Samples (ES) reported this week:

Wild (WPV1) : ES = 13; Total in 2025; 96 Total in 2024; 768  
 Vaccine Derived (cVDPV): ES = 10; Total in 2025; 7 Total in 2024; 265

## **In addition to the 13 February Rotary/US Government Talking Points that RI recently released, Reg Ling,**

Rotary's Chief Information Officer for the world wide End Polio Now Coordinators, adds some additional thoughts and comments. In Like many other organizations, Rotary is working through understanding the implications of the many Executive Orders and other directives coming out of the US federal government. These include withdrawing the US from the WHO, suspending DEI programs, limiting interaction with the CDC and freezing funding for the USAID. Given some of these actions may have long term impacts on Rotary programs (including polio eradication), Rotary leadership and staff have been actively working with decision makers to address and minimize the issues.

Rotary remains in contact with our other NGO and not-for-profit partners whose work is also impacted by the recent announcements. It is navigating the implications of the recent stop-work order issued for Hearts of Europe projects that are part of a partnership with USAID. Rotary has already notified members whose projects are directly impacted by this order and is working to continue to support them. Rotary is working directly with those projects that are not yet being implemented to determine alternative funding.

Of the approximately \$900 million spent every year on funding the poliovirus and protecting children from it, 15% is from the US government. Rotary provides polio grant funding to WHO and UNICEF and will continue to do so and is committed to delivering on the promise of a polio-free world. Polio eradicators are used to adapting to challenges and Rotary remains hopeful. Also, with no other comments, Rotary has noted that President Trump has spoken positively about the polio vaccine and Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has expressed his support for the polio vaccine.

At Rotary, our commitment to fostering a culture of belonging and respect is deeply rooted in our values and mission to create a world where everyone feels welcome, included, and valued. These principles are essential to building strong relationships, promoting understanding, and making a lasting impact in the communities we serve. It's important to emphasize that creating spaces where everyone feels they belong doesn't diminish opportunities for others - it ensures that all individuals, regardless of their background or life experiences, have an equal chance to thrive and contribute meaningfully – but societal changes may shape how these topics are perceived. However, Rotary reaffirms its' commitment to creating a world that values belonging, fairness, and human dignity.

For detailed information on all the above, go to GPEI's <https://www.polioeradication.org> and the WHO powerpoint accompanying this newsletter. For more information on all things polio, go to <https://www.endpolio.org/>

That's it for this week. As always, please keep those in Ukraine, those affected by the Israeli - Hamas/Hezbollah War, Haiti, the situation in Syria and the natural disaster victims around the globe in your thoughts,...and of course, the fight against polio.

Bob

Your District PolioPlus Chair