

## Sustained decline in vaccination of childhood diseases worldwide

Story by Ed Kolybaba on Apr 24, 2023

Vaccines are continuing to work in reducing the incidence of childhood polio; but what about other childhood diseases?

In July of 2022, WHO and UNICEF [reported the largest sustained decline in childhood vaccinations](#) in approximately 30 years. An estimated 12.5 million children in the world are totally unvaccinated not just from polio, but from other diseases as well.

Children who live to age five are twice as likely to reach adulthood, which is why Rotary International and its partners have been delivering vaccines globally for 40 years, ensuring that all children can grow up safe from preventable diseases.



Rotary members have proven the good that vaccines do by immunizing three billion children against polio and reducing the cases of polio by 99.9% since 1988.

Even so, we know the job isn't done until every child is vaccinated for polio and all other childhood diseases. This is of concern to Rotarians; and the question for Rotarians and everyone else is "what can we do to change the decline?"