



POLIOPLUS FACT SHEET

Although it currently circulates in only a few countries, polio is highly infectious and spreads rapidly. The disease, which afflicts mainly children, is transmitted via contaminated water and food supplies. Five to 10 percent of cases are fatal. As long as polio threatens even one child anywhere in the world, children everywhere are at risk. Only the global eradication of polio will ensure that no child ever again suffers its devastating effects.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- If polio is not eradicated, within 10 years, as many as 200,000 children will be paralyzed by it each year.
- In 2019, more than 400 million children were vaccinated multiple times using more than one billion doses of oral polio vaccine. This will be done every year until the world is certified polio free. Rotary funds will help do this.
- To date, 122 countries have benefited from PolioPlus grants.
- Since 1988, the number of polio endemic countries declined from over 125 to two.
- With the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, every \$1 Rotary commits to polio eradication is matched 2-to-1 (up to \$ 50 million per year).

Polio Cases (As of 23 April 2021)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of Cases	33	176	140	2

On average, a child can be fully protected against polio for US\$3.

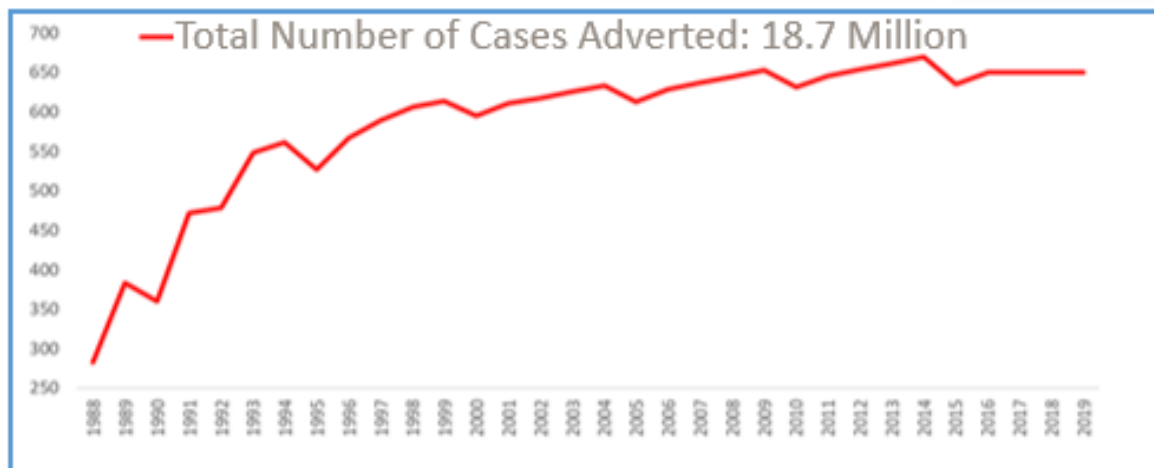


Eradicating polio will generate US\$14 billion in expected cumulative cost savings by 2050. The global effort to eradicate polio has already saved more than US\$27 billion in health costs since 1988.

Since 1998, Vitamin A supplements have been added to polio immunization activities, helping to avert an estimated 1.5 million childhood deaths.



Annual Estimated Cases Averted (Thousands)



* Source: WHO

Polio Dashboard

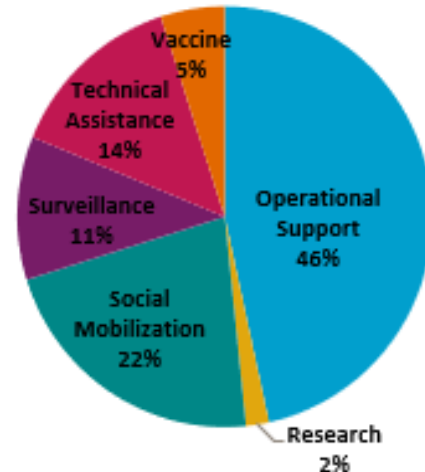
FUNDING

- Polio eradication efforts are guided by the *Polio Endgame Strategy 2019-2023: Eradication, Integration, Certification and Containment*. Rotary is raising US\$50 million per year that will be matched 2:1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. By the time the world is certified polio-free, Rotary's contributions to the global polio eradication effort will exceed US\$2.7 billion, including over US\$1.3 billion in matching funds from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Rotary's contribution to the GPEI since 1988 accounts for nearly 13% of all contributions through November 2019 and approximately 31% of private sector giving.

Rotary Polio Grants - Top 10 recipients: (US\$ Million)

	Recipient	WHO	UNICEF	Other	TOTAL
1	Nigeria	\$ 81	\$ 171	\$ 27	\$ 279
2	Pakistan	105	167	5	277
3	WHO-AFRO	230			230
4	Afghanistan	80	118		198
5	India	77	88	16	181
6	Sudan	47	48		95
7	DR Congo	50	34		84
8	WHO - EMRO	68			68
9	Somalia	33	22		55
10	Chad	27	23		50

Distribution of Grants 2010-2020:



Select PolioPlus Grant Projects Funded in 2020

- Afghanistan : deploy 800 vaccinators to health centers to encourage acceptance of healthy behaviors and distribute soap and baby blankets in high risk areas.
- Pakistan: support recruitment and training of 5,124 community based vaccinators (CBV) in core polio reservoirs and other high risk areas.
- Mali: support one round of National Immunization Days (NIDs) to reach 7.2 million children and procure doses of bivalent oral polio vaccine (bopv).
- DRC: provide human resource incentives for 50,154 vaccinators to immunize 8.4 million children during one round of Subnational Immunization Days (SNIDs).

What is circulating vaccine-derived virus?

In populations with low-immunization coverage, it is possible for the weakened virus used in the oral vaccine to circulate in the environment long enough to undergo genetic changes that can cause paralysis. This is called vaccine derived poliovirus and is tracked separately than cases of wild poliovirus. When a population is fully immunized, they will be protected against both vaccine derived and wild polioviruses.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Take action by hosting fundraisers, raising public awareness, writing your government representatives, donating, sharing stories, and encouraging others to join our cause.

www.endpolio.org



