

6

WPV1 CASES IN AUGUST

40

WPV1 CASES IN 2020

2

WPV1 POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT SAMPLES IN AUGUST

3.2M

CHILDREN VACCINATED IN AUGUST

43,054

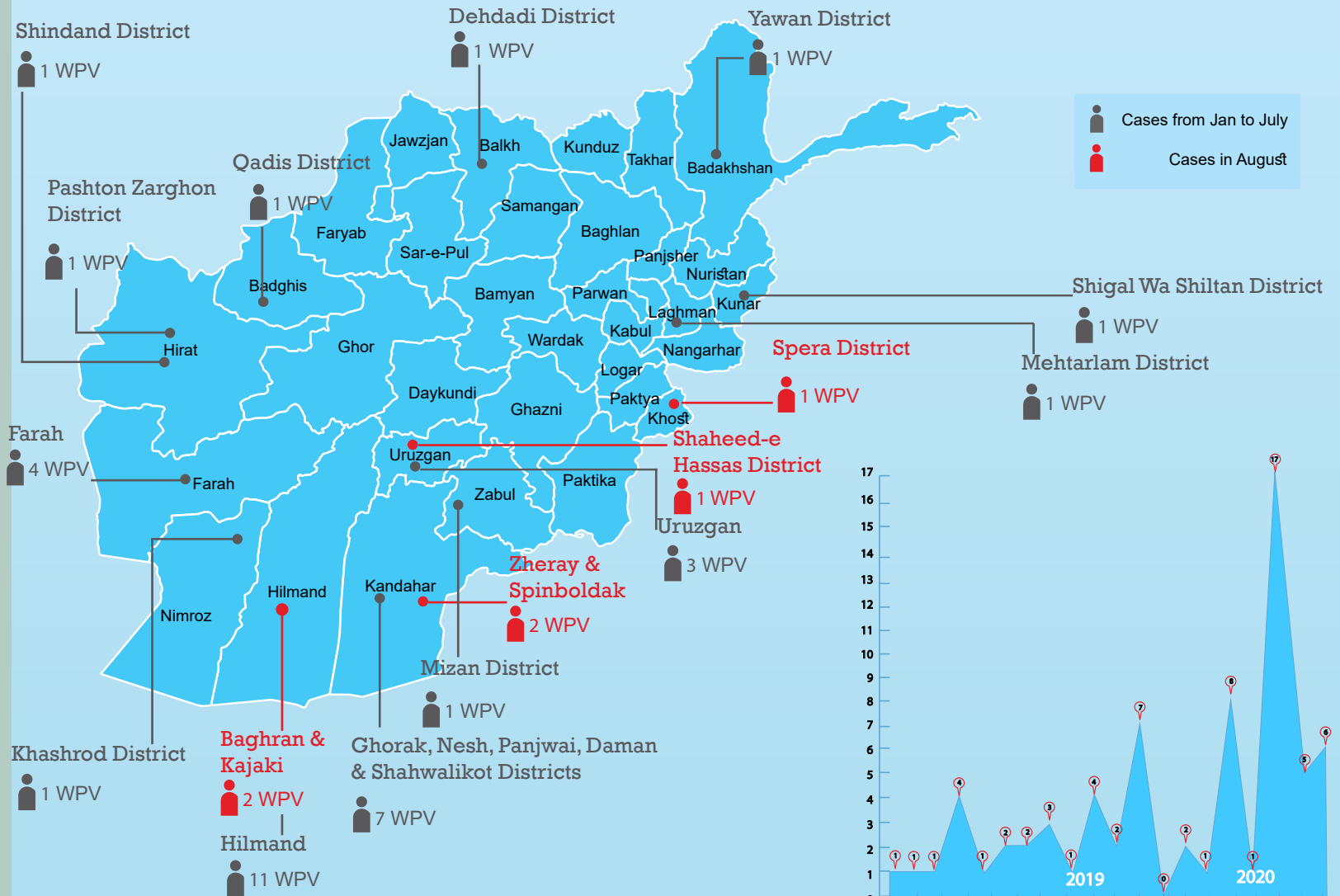
SUSPECTED COVID-19 CASES REPORTED UPTO AUGUST

35,896

TOTAL SURVEILLANCE NETWORK MEMBERS TRAINED IN DETECTING AND REPORTING COVID-19 CASES

# POLIO SNAPSHOT AFGHANISTAN

AUGUST 2020





## POLIO TRANSMISSION

- 6 cases of Wild Polio Virus (WPV1) were confirmed in August 2020 - 2 from Kandahar, 2 from Hilmand, 1 from Uruzgan, and 1 from Khost



## AFP ENVIRONMENTAL & COVID19 SURVEILLANCE

- 221 children with Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) - 96 girls and 125 boys - were reported in August 2020. A total of 2,286 AFP cases have been reported since the beginning of 2020. Some 1,905 of these cases have been non-polio. About 272 cases are pending laboratory classification
- The non-polio AFP rate remained above 9, stool adequacy stood above 85%, and non-polio enterovirus rate ranged between 9-15% in all regions
- 2 new WPV1 positive environmental samples were confirmed in August 2020

## PEI support to COVID19

Between Jan-Aug 2020:

- 43,054 suspected cases of COVID-19 were reported, of which 8,289 tested positive
- 4,428 government & NGO partners were trained
- 88,449 health professional (including: paramedics/nurses) were trained
- 165,479 community & religious influencers were reached for training and support
- 6,188 coordination meetings were held with partners and communities



## COMPLEMENTARY VACCINATION ACTIVITIES

- 285 children under 10 years of age received OPV at the Islamqala border of Herat province



## TARGETED VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS IN HIGH RISK AREAS

- A case response campaign targeting 84,859 children was conducted in Dand & Panjwai districts in the southern region between 15-19 August. This was followed by another case response campaign, which was conducted between 24-28 August, targeting 3.3 million children in the high risk districts of the eastern, central and north eastern regions

## POLIO CAMPAIGNS RESUME HAND IN HAND WITH COVID-19 RESPONSE

Gradual resumption of the polio campaigns continued in August, targeting districts at high risk of polio spread. Strict COVID-19 infection prevention and control measures were observed during the campaign delivery.

The PEI programme also continued its support to the COVID-19 response through on-going surveillance and community awareness activities across the country, including focus on vulnerable populations.

“Internally displaced persons (IDPs) live in very vulnerable conditions, putting them at a high risk of becoming infected by COVID-19. We have been delivering COVID-19 prevention messages to people at the Herat IDP Camp. Our team is also involved in carrying out COVID-19 surveillance so that cases can be reported and recorded promptly. We work quite closely with communities, which exposes us to the risk of getting infected but this is a very important job and needs to be done for the greater good,” says Safiullah Surosh, WHO Provincial Polio Officer.



## COVID-19 Key Communication Activities:

- 1.1 million soap bars were distributed to 161,631 households by the ICN in the north east, south, south east and west regions
- 2,905 community influencers in the south, south east and north east regions attended COVID-19 awareness sessions
- 175,419 women attended COVID-19 awareness sessions at 630 health facilities in the south, east and west regions
- The COVID-19 call center in the west region answered 490 calls (including from 228 females) related to various questions on rumors, prevention, etc

## Polio Key Communication Activities:

- 252,103 caregivers were reached with specific polio campaign messages ahead of the case response in the east and south regions
- 6,396 religious leaders were engaged in polio campaign resumption discussions and awareness sessions, mainly in the east and south regions
- 1,931 local authority representatives attended meetings focusing on the latest polio situation and the role of village chiefs in addressing refusals
- 240,960 women attended polio and maternal, new born and child health (MNCH) awareness sessions organised by the female mobiliser vaccinators. A total of 13,636 such sessions were held in August across the east, south and south east regions
- 3,993 elderly women (grandmothers) attended home-based polio and MNCH group orientations in the south, led by female paediatricians & polio advocates
- 17 radio and TV discussions across the ICN areas aired polio positive messages and 26 journalists were briefed on polio campaign resumption, polio case status and media's role in supporting polio eradication efforts
- The Polio Free Afghanistan Facebook page recorded a reach of 3.2 million during August. Overall, comments about polio campaign resumption were largely positive



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