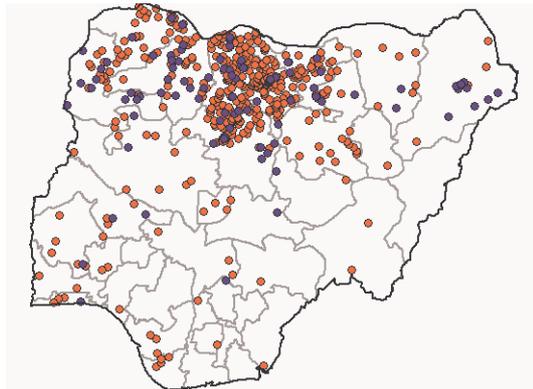


2003



2004

Total number of polio cases

2000: 28 cases
 2001: 56 cases
 2002: 202 cases
 2003: 335 cases
 2004: 571 cases (as of 29 September 2004)

Focus for June-December

- Re-build community confidence in the safety of oral polio vaccine (OPV)
- Engage all levels of society, including political, community, traditional and religious leaders
- Increase quality of polio immunization campaigns, to ensure that every single child is reached during Nigeria's National Immunization Days (NIDs) in October and November

The situation in 2003

- In 2003, Nigeria had 355 cases of polio, the highest number in the world - 45% of all cases globally.
- The increase in cases followed the suspension of polio campaigns in a number of states, especially Kano, due to rumours as to the safety of OPV. By end 2003, surveillance data suggests that only 43% of children nationwide had received ≥ 4 doses of OPV (note: depending on the state, proportion ranged from 9% to 86%).
- The state of Kano had more polio cases in 2003 than any other state/province in the world. Kano ceased all polio immunization activity in August 2003.
- Poliovirus from north Nigeria re-infected the city of Lagos and 12 previously polio-free countries: Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, the Sudan and Togo.

Progress in 2004

- Nigeria has the highest number of polio cases in the world (571 as of 29 September, 76% of cases globally).
- On 31 July, polio immunization activities resumed in Kano. Kano has already conducted two 'catch-up' rounds have already been conducted on 31 July, and again in early September.
- Nigeria must ensure that every child is reached during polio campaigns throughout 2004 and 2005.
- Immunity gaps remain in Nigeria, particularly in the northern band of states.