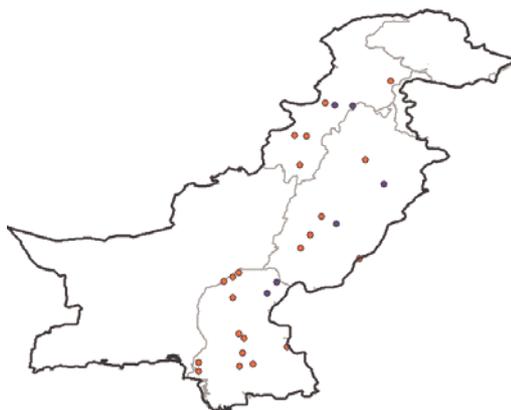


2003



2004

Total number of polio cases

2000: 199 cases
2001: 119 cases
2002: 90 cases
2003: 103 cases
2004: 30 cases (as of 29 September)

Focus for June to December 2004

- Increase the number of female vaccinators and community mobilizers
- Conduct 2 high-quality rounds of National Immunization Days (NIDs) and 2 sub-National Immunization Days (SNIDs)

The situation in 2003

- With 103 polio cases, Pakistan had the third highest number of cases globally in 2003, and was the only country yet to interrupt transmission in a large geographic area for a prolonged period.
- Endemic polio continued in 4 major provinces - North West Frontier Province (NWFP), Sindh, Baluchistan and Punjab.
- To ensure all children were reached during polio campaigns and gain access to all homes, federal/provincial authorities promoted the inclusion of female vaccinators on every immunization team and the establishment of district support teams (DSTs) under the supervision of Nazims (elected district leaders).
- As a result of improved polio campaign quality, polio cases declined in the second half of 2003, despite the onset of the high transmission season.
- In September 2003, President Musharraf requested monthly briefing's on Pakistan's polio eradication progress.

Progress in 2004

- With 30 cases as of 29 September (vs 66 for the same period in 2003), Pakistan is on track to stop polio transmission by end-2004.
- The quality of polio campaigns has improved significantly. Between 2003 and 2004, the average number of oral polio vaccine (OPV) doses received by children aged <5 years increased by 25-30% in Sindh, NWFP and Baluchistan, reaching 11,10 and 8 doses respectively.
- Given this progress, the introduction of mop-up campaigns was brought forward. Sindh and Punjab added mop-up activities in June and in NWFP and Baluchistan in August.
- Political oversight has increased substantially through concerted advocacy at all levels.
- Recent improvements in NID coverage suggest transmission is being reduced. Cases have remained low, despite the recent start of the high-transmission season.