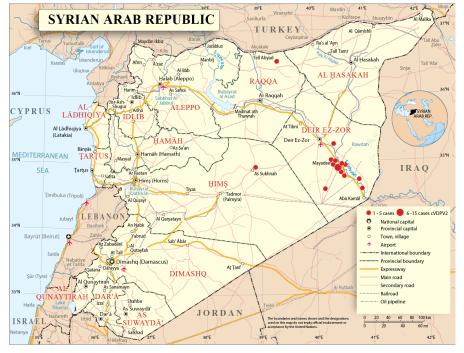


# unicef

# Syria cVDPV2 outbreak Situation Report # 12

#### cVDPV2 cases in Deir Ez-Zor, Raqqa and Homs governorates, Syria, 2017



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Source: Syrian Arab Republic, Administrative map, DFS, United Nations 2012

# **Key highlights**

- No new cases of cVDPV2 were reported this week. The total number of cVDPV2 cases remains 39. All confirmed cases to date have had onset of paralysis before 14 July 2017.
- Final lab results are pending for an additional 4 poliovirus type-2 (PV2) isolates from Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates.
- The second immunization round for Deir Ez-Zor concluded 28 August. According to administrative data, a total of 252,768 children under 5 years of age were vaccinated with mOPV2, representing 77% of the target number. A total of 81,002 children between 2-23 months of age were vaccinated with IPV representing 71% of the target.
- Military operations in both Syria and Iraq and high levels of population movement in and out of Deir Ez-Zor governorate, during the round, called for flexibility in response approach. Vaccination activities catered for influxes of refugees from Iraq and internally displaced persons. Campaign plans prioritized infected villages and high risk areas to be covered as early as possible.
- Five AFP cases were reported by vaccination teams during the round from all districts of Deir Ez-Zor governorate.
- Preparations continue for the second immunization round for Raqqa.
- The total number of AFP cases detected in Deir Ez-Zor governorate since the beginning of 2017 is 127 (94 from Mayadeen, 10 from Deir Ez-Zor, and 23 from Boukamal districts). Raqqa governorate has reported 16 AFP cases (5 from Raqqa,

# 6 September 2017

#### Summary

New cVDPV2 cases this week: **0** Total number of cVDPV2 cases: **39** Outbreak grade: 3 Infected governorates and districts

Governorate	District	Number of cVDPV2	
Deir Ez-Zor	Mayadeen	33	
	Deir Ez-Zor	1	
	Boukamal	3	
Raqqa	Tell Abyad	1	
Homs	Tadmour	1	

#### Index case

Location: Mayadeen district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate

Onset of paralysis: 3 March 2017, age: 22 months, vaccination status: 2 OPV doses/zero IPV

#### Most recent case

Location: Boukamal district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate

Onset of paralysis: 13 July 2017, age: 4 months, vaccination status: zero OPV/zero IPV

#### Immunization response

Two rounds each planned for Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. First and second rounds for Deir Ez-Zor completed (22-26 July, 22-28 August). First round for Raqqa completed (12-17 August).

#### Characteristics of the cVDPV2 cases

Median age: 16 months, gender ratio malefemale: 5:9, vaccination status:

- IPV: 8 cases (21%) received IPV
- OPV: 28% zero dose, 49% have received 1-2 doses

#### Distribution of non-polio AFP (NPAFP) and circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus type-2 (cVDPV2), Deir Ez-Zor, Raqqa and Homs governorates, 2017

Gov.	. Deir Ez-Zor		Raqqa		Homs	
Mth.	NPAFP	cVDPV2	NPAFP	cVDPV2	NPAFP	cVDPV2
Jan	2		2		2	
Feb	11		3		4	
Mar	5	2	1		2	
Apr	7	5	1	1	4	
May	13	16	2		3	
Jun	8	11	4		3	
Jul	13	3	2		7	1
Aug	31				4	
Total	90	37	15	1	29	1

10 from Tell Abyad, and 1 from Thawra districts). Homs governorate has reported 30 AFP cases (14 from Homs city, 13 from Rastan, 1 from Tadmour and 2 from Talkalakh districts).

### **Immunization response**

- The national response plan currently includes two immunization rounds each in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. Deir Ez-Zor activities include the southern part of Shadadi district in Hasakah governorate.
- There is no evidence of further poliovirus transmission in Tadmour district, Homs.

#### Deir Ez-Zor—second round

- The second immunization round for Deir Ez-Zor governorate concluded 28 August. Military operations in both Syria and Iraq and high levels of population movement in and out of Deir Ez-Zor governorate, during the round, called for flexibility in response approach. A total of 3,745 <5 Iraqi refugee children were vaccinated in 29 villages in the last two days of the round (extension days). Around 900 IDPs from the Al-Sukhnah area were vaccinated, compared to 300 vaccinated during the first round.</li>
- 16,066 mOPV2 vials were utilized during the campaign. 1,300 vials with valid vaccine vial monitors (VVM) have been returned to the main cold room in Damascus.
- Five AFP cases were reported during the round from all districts of Deir Ez-Zor (Mayadeen, Boukamal, Deir Ez-Zor). Stool samples were collected and sent to Damascus. After the reporting of 2 AFP cases from Salhieh village, Boukamal, house-to-house vaccination was permitted to ensure high coverage and searches for additional AFP cases.

#### Raqqa—second round

• Preparations continue for the second immunization round for Raqqa.

# Communications for Development (C4D) and social mobilization activities

- During the second Deir Ez-Zor round, social mobilization teams intensified visits to private pediatric clinics to promote campaign messages and disseminate Aqua Tabs.
- Due to the round being extended, and additional social mobilization support being needed, an extra 111 social mobilizers were engaged to help teams reach more districts.

## **Coordination and surge support**

- WHO and UNICEF have deployed additional human resources (surge support) to both hubs since the start of the outbreak.
- WHO-UNICEF joint EOCs in both Damascus and Gaziantep hubs in collaboration with partners continue to monitor the outbreak situation, exchange information, and assist in the response. Since the start of the outbreak, Regional Offices of both organizations have held weekly calls with hubs to ensure coordination at all levels.



Child in Deir Ez-Zor being vaccinated with mOPV2. Photo: WHO

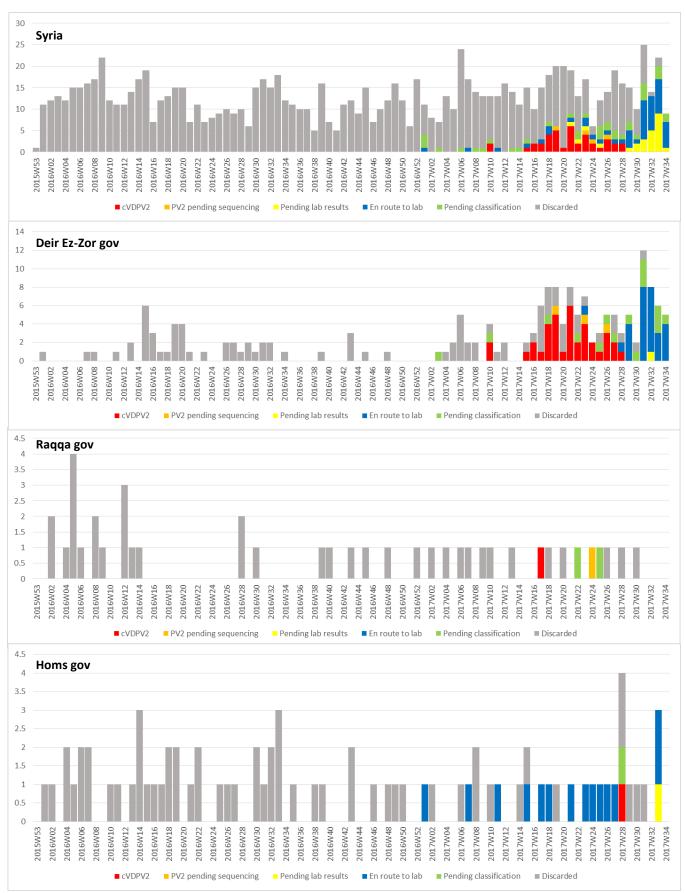


New settlements on Euphrates River banks were established during campaign days. Deir Ez-Zor. Photo: WHO

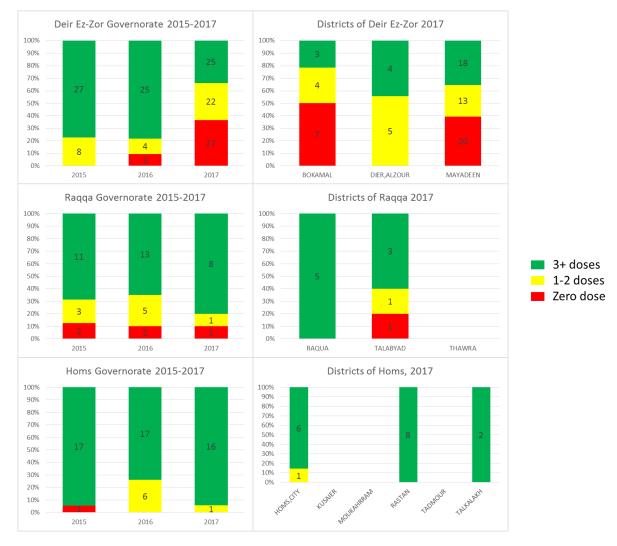


Roadside banner to raise awareness of the campaign. Photo: UNICEF.









## **Relevant links**

- Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) website, updated weekly
- <u>Responding to an outbreak of VDPV video</u>
- What is vaccine-derived polio?
- <u>GPEI factsheet—VDPV</u>

#### For more information:

#### **WHO**

Thomas Moran — Syria Polio Outbreak Response World Health Organization E: morant@who.int | T: +962 7 9088 1568

Joseph Swan—Communications Officer, Polio World Health Organization, EMRO E: swanj@who.int | T: +962 7 9048 4637

#### UNICEF

Dr Fazal Ather—Regional Polio Coordinator UNICEF MENA E: father@unicef.org |T: +962 7 9810 0579