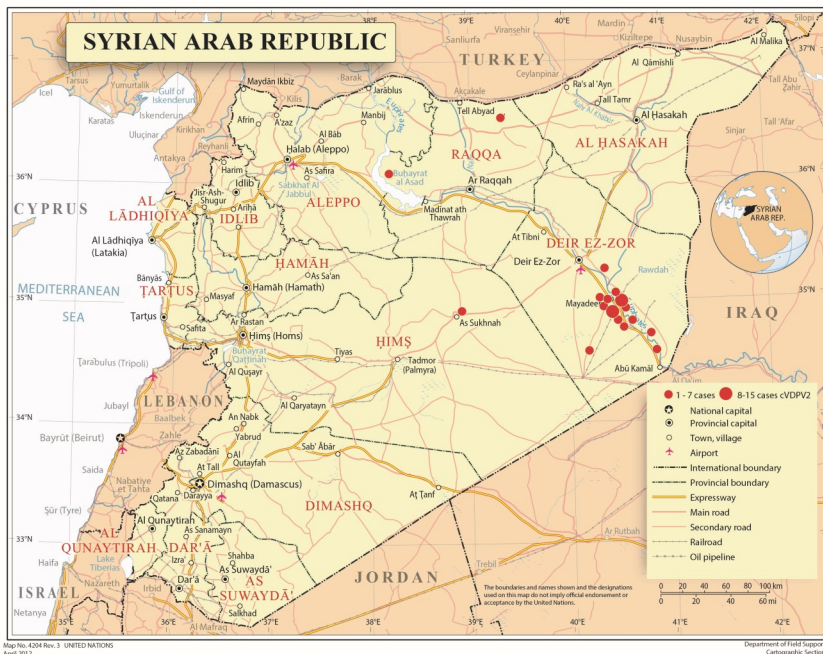


# Syria cVDPV2 outbreak Situation Report # 34

13 February 2018

Distribution of cVDPV2 cases in Deir Ez-Zor, Raqqa and Homs governorates, Syria, 2017 and 2018



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

## Summary

New cVDPV2 cases this week: 0  
 Total number of cVDPV2 cases: 74  
 Outbreak grade: 3

## Infected governorates and districts

Governorate	District	Number of cVDPV2 cases to date
Deir Ez-Zor	Mayadeen	58
	Deir Ez-Zor	1
	Boukamal	12
Raqqa	Tell Abyad	1
	Thawra	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/zero IPV

## Most recent case (by date of onset)

Location: Boukamal, Deir Ez-Zor governorate  
 Onset of paralysis: 21 September 2017, age: 5 months, vaccination status: zero OPV/zero IPV

## Characteristics of the cVDPV2 cases

Median age: 15 months  
 Gender: approximately two thirds of cases are female  
 Vaccination status of the cases:  
 - IPV: 11 cases (15%) received IPV  
 - OPV: 41% zero dose, 42% 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 2017-2018

Gov.	Deir Ez-Zor		Raqqa		Homs	
	NPAFP	cVDPV2	NPAFP	cVDPV2	NPAFP	cVDPV2
Jan'17	2		2		2	
Feb'17	11		3		4	
Mar'17	5	2	1		2	
Apr'17	7	5	1	1	4	
May'17	13	16	2		3	
Jun'17	8	12	4	1	3	
Jul'17	8	9	2		8	1
Aug'17	12	22			6	
Sep'17	2	5	3		3	
Oct'17	2		4		8	
Nov'17	10		2		3	
Dec'17	9		3		3	
Jan'18	17		4		2	
Feb'18	1					
<b>Total</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>1</b>

## Key highlights

- No new cases of cVDPV2 were reported this week. The total number of cVDPV2 cases remains 74. The most recent case (by date of onset of paralysis) is 21 September 2017 from Boukamal district, Deir Ez-Zor governorate.
- An inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) immunization round has successfully concluded in Damascus and Hasakah governorates, parts of Aleppo governorate and Jurmana district of rural Damascus as part of the second phase of the outbreak response. A total of 233,518 children aged 2-23 months received IPV, representing 71% of the estimated target. Activities are ongoing in accessible areas of Aleppo governorate.
- A total of 1,456 children under 5 years have received mOPV2 in Hasakah governorate during the IPV vaccination round, as part of special strategies to reach children who were missed by mOPV2 vaccination in January.
- Independent post campaign monitoring of the IPV campaign is ongoing in all areas that have completed the vaccination round.
- The Emergency Committee under the International Health Regulations (IHR) was briefed this week on the cVDPV2 outbreak in Syria and the response to date.
- An orientation session was held this week with Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) to strengthen the coordination and to refresh training on reporting of vaccine preventable diseases in inaccessible areas. SARC has been supporting the implementation of immunization activities for outbreak response, routine immunization and AFP surveillance.

## Immunization response

### Phase one activities

- In the first phase of the response, more than 350,000 resident, refugee and internally displaced children were reached with mOPV2 through two mass vaccination rounds in Deir Ez-Zor and Raqqa governorates. Additionally, World Health Organization and UNICEF coordinated with the Government of Syria and local authorities to reach children aged 2-23 months with IPV in infected and high risk areas of Deir Ez-Zor, Raqqa, Aleppo, Idlib, Hama and Homs governorates and areas of Damascus, Rural Damascus and Hasakah.

### Phase two activities

- Two vaccination rounds have been implemented as part of the second phase of the outbreak response. A total of 665,736 children aged less than five years were vaccinated with mOPV2 (representing 9% more than the total estimated target) in the first round of activities in Deir Ez-Zor, Homs, Hasakah and Raqqa governorates in January 2018.
- An IPV round is ongoing in Damascus, Hasakah and Aleppo governorates and Jurmana district of rural Damascus.



A baby receives IPV in Qamishli, Hasakah governorate, during the immunization round in February 2018. Social mobilization activities helped to inform parents to bring their child to the health centres in the city to receive the vaccination. Photo: WHO/Syria

## Coordination and surge support

- WHO and UNICEF continue to monitor the outbreak situation, exchange information, and assist in the response through the joint Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) in both hubs (Gaziantep and Damascus).
- UNICEF has deployed Communications for Development (C4D), immunization and data management specialists to support overall response activities from both Regional and HQ offices. In addition, a Stop Transmission of Polio (STOP) C4D consultant has been deployed to Gaziantep to support immunization activities.

## Surveillance summary

- In 2017 all governorates in Syria but five are meeting both key indicators for AFP surveillance: 3\* or more non-polio AFP cases per 100,000 children below 15 years of age, and 80 percent or above AFP cases with adequate specimens. Deir Ez-Zor (76%), Raqqa (67%), Rural Damascus (76%), Quneitra (78%) and Swieda (63%) are missing the 80% target for stool adequacy. (\*NB: In an outbreak setting, the target is 3 or more non-polio AFP cases per 100,000 children below 15 years).
- The total number of AFP cases detected in Deir Ez-Zor governorate since the beginning of 2017 is 178 (115 from Mayadeen, 31 from Deir Ez-Zor, and 32 from Boukamal districts). Raqqa governorate has reported 33 AFP cases (13 from Raqqa, 18 from Tell Abyad, and 2 from Thawra districts). Homs governorate has reported 52 AFP cases (27 from Homs city, 20 from Rastan, 1 from Tadmour, 1 from Moukahram and 3 from Talkalakh districts).
- Efforts continue to further strengthen the surveillance system sensitivity. Environmental surveillance was initiated in December 2017. Results are available for five environmental samples so far, four from Damascus and one from Deir Ez-Zor. No cVDPV2 has been isolated.

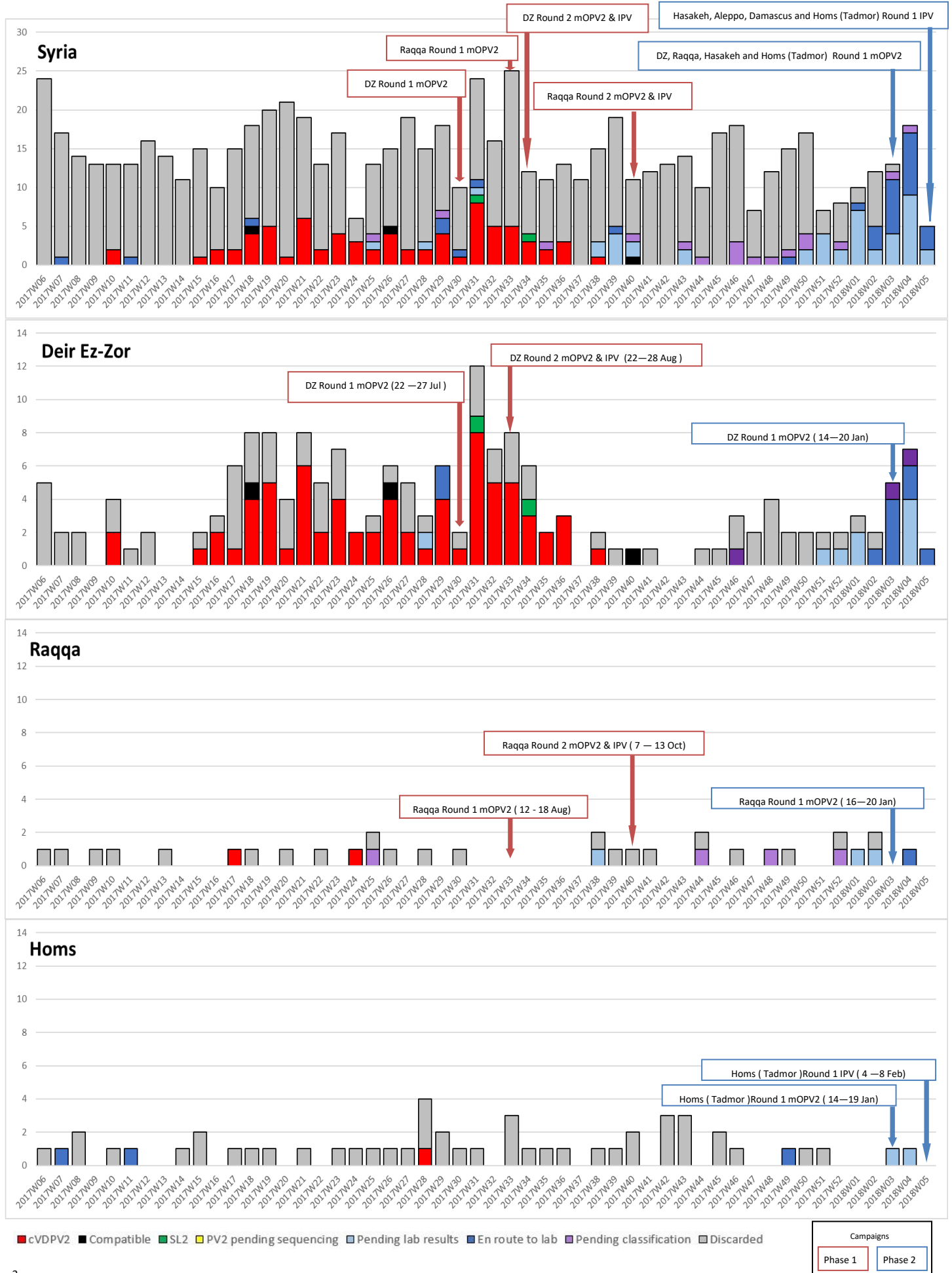


A locally recruited social mobilizer carries an infant for vaccination with IPV in Baiader Nader, Damascus. Special attention was paid to areas like Baiader Nader, which have a high concentration of displaced families from Deir Ez-Zor. Photo: WHO/Syria

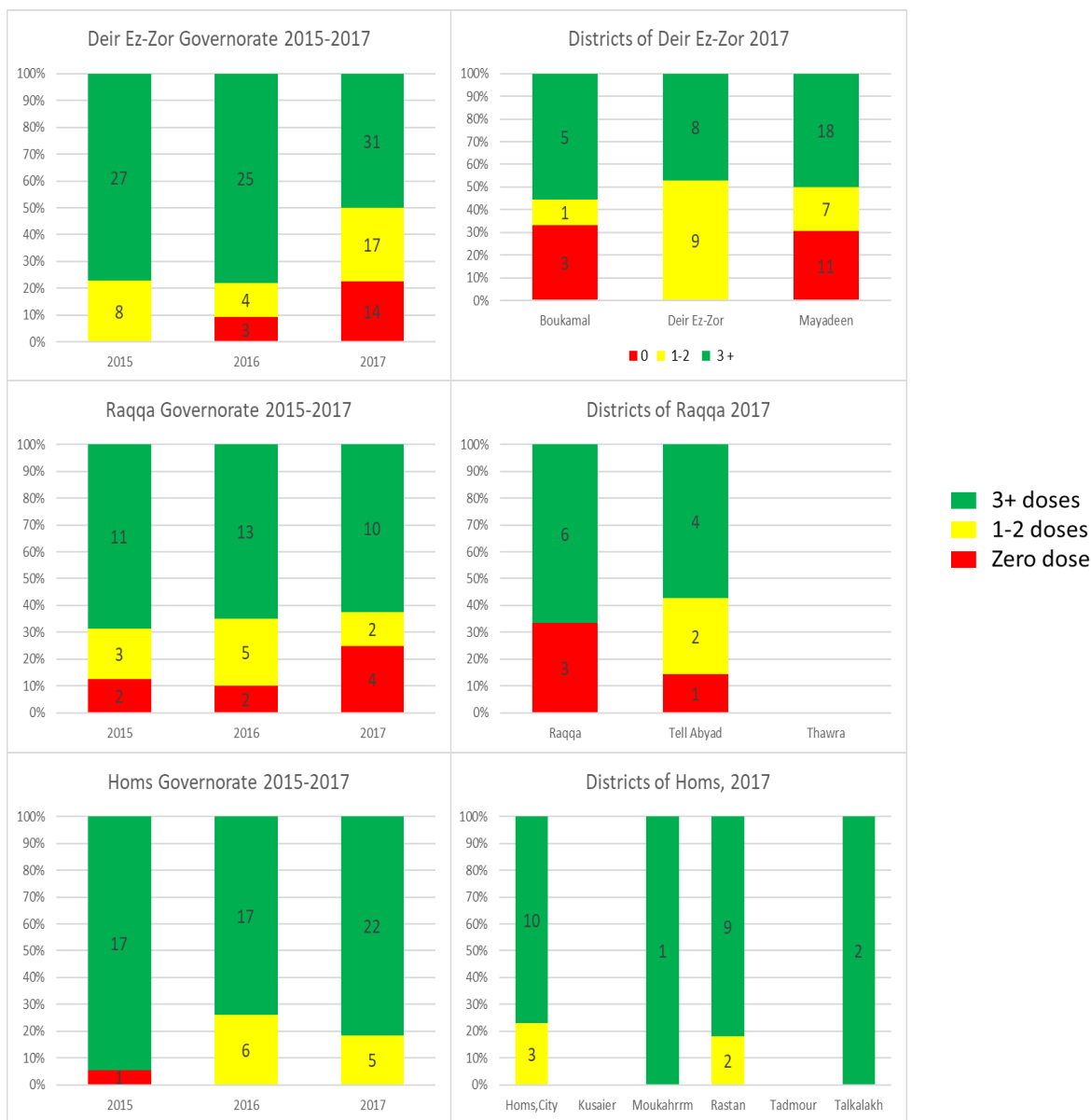


A total of 40 mobile vaccination teams were added to the micro-plan in Jurmana district of rural Damascus to ensure all children were reached during the IPV vaccination round. The area also has a high number of families from Deir Ez-Zor governorate. Photo: WHO/Syria

EPI Curve of AFP cases by classification, 2017 and 2018 (up to 11 February 2018)



**Vaccination status (OPV) NPAFP cases aged 6-59 months (up to 11 February 2018) \*2018 cases not included**



**Relevant links**

- [Global Polio Eradication Initiative \(GPEI\) website](#), updated weekly
- [Vaccine-derived polioviruses video](#)
- [Responding to an outbreak of VDPV video](#)
- [What is vaccine-derived polio?](#)
- [GPEI factsheet—VDPV](#)

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