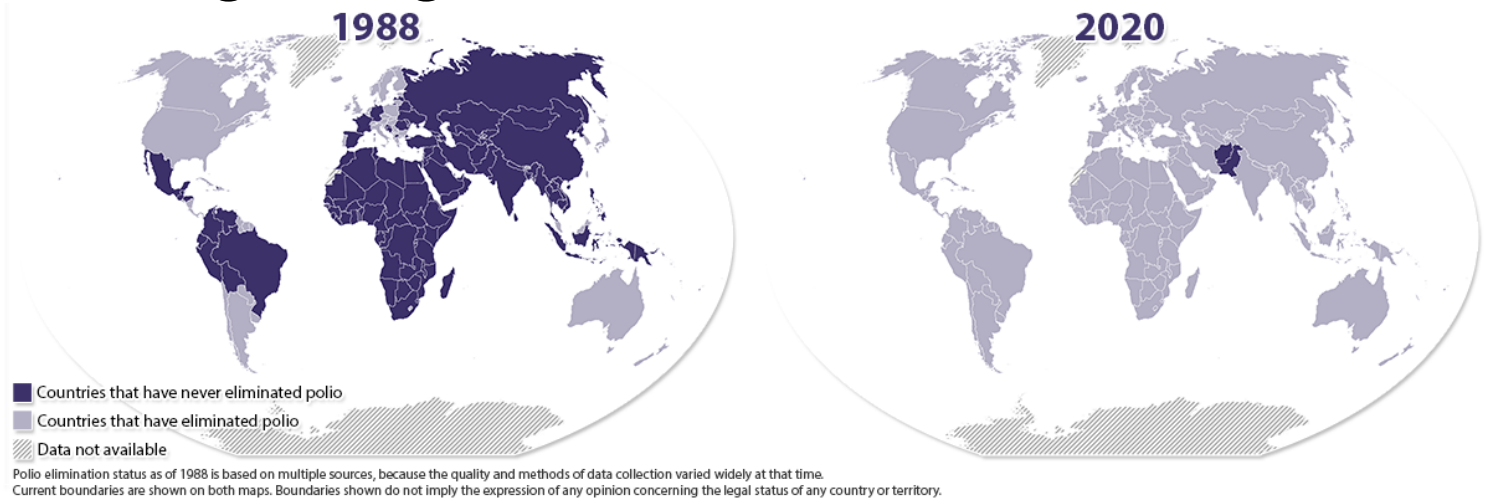




Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Our Progress Against Polio



CDC and its international partners have made significant progress toward polio eradication over the past 33 years.

- The annual number of wild poliovirus cases has declined by more than 99.9% worldwide from an estimated 350,000 in 1988 when the Global Polio Eradication Initiative was launched.
- Of the three serotypes of wild poliovirus, type 2 was certified as eradicated in 2015 and type 3 was certified as eradicated in 2018.
- The last evidence of wild poliovirus type 1 transmission in Nigeria was in September 2018, leaving only two polio-endemic countries (having never interrupted the transmission of indigenous wild poliovirus type 1), which are Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- Five out of six World Health Organization regions are now certified wild poliovirus free—the African Region, the Americas, Europe, South East Asia and the Western Pacific.
- Without our polio eradication efforts, more than 18 million people who are currently healthy would have been paralyzed by the virus.
- Global polio eradication efforts stopped 14 of 29 [circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus \(cVDPVs\) outbreaks active in 2019](#). Setbacks due to the COVID-19 pandemic and polio outbreak response campaign quality must be addressed to regain progress and end every form of polio.

Learn more about [CDC's role and work towards a polio-free world](#).

For the latest polio reports, visit the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative \(GPEI\)](#). [↗](#)

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