

### Reporting of Hot AFP cases and classification of AFP cases

The WHO European Region was certified polio-free since 21 June 2002. Keeping the Region polio-free requires continued high immunization coverage with polio vaccine, and high quality surveillance and response capacity. One essential component of the surveillance system is to rapidly detect, investigate, and report acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) cases which are considered hot cases (See April 2008 EURO Polio Page for definition). AFP cases meeting the definition of a hot case should receive priority attention and be reported to WHO EURO as soon as possible.

The goal of AFP surveillance is to detect circulating polioviruses and respond to any importations in the Region. We report here on the performance of the Region in notifying and classifying hot AFP cases and classifying all AFP cases from January 2008 through July 2008.

#### Hot AFP Cases:

Table 1 shows that nearly 50% of the hot AFP cases in the Region are not reported to WHO EURO before 11 days after date of investigation. Hot cases should be notified as soon as possible after the date of investigation. In addition 15 hot AFP cases have not been classified for more than 90 days from date of paralysis onset.

#### Classification of AFP Cases:

Nearly 60% of countries conducting AFP surveillance have classified their AFP cases (Figure 1). However, there are 12 countries that have more than 50% of their cases still pending classification since July 2008 or earlier.

Investigating and reporting hot AFP cases and classifying AFP cases are key components of a quality AFP surveillance system to ensure that the system can rapidly detect and report any importations of wild polioviruses into the Region. The WHO European Region is polio-free and it must be vigilant to sustain the gains that have been made.

Country	0-10 Days	11-19 Days	20+ days	Total	Hot AFP cases with pending classification > 90 Days
ARM	8	1	2	11	1
BLR	4			4	
DEU	1			1	
ESP			1	1	
GEO	2			2	
KAZ	1			1	
POL	1			1	
ROU	3			3	
RUS	7	9	10	26	13
TUR		2		2	
UKR	2			2	1
UZB		1	1	2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>15</b>

**Figure 1: Proportion of Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) cases pending classification (by month of paralysis onset), European Region, 2008 (Week 35)**

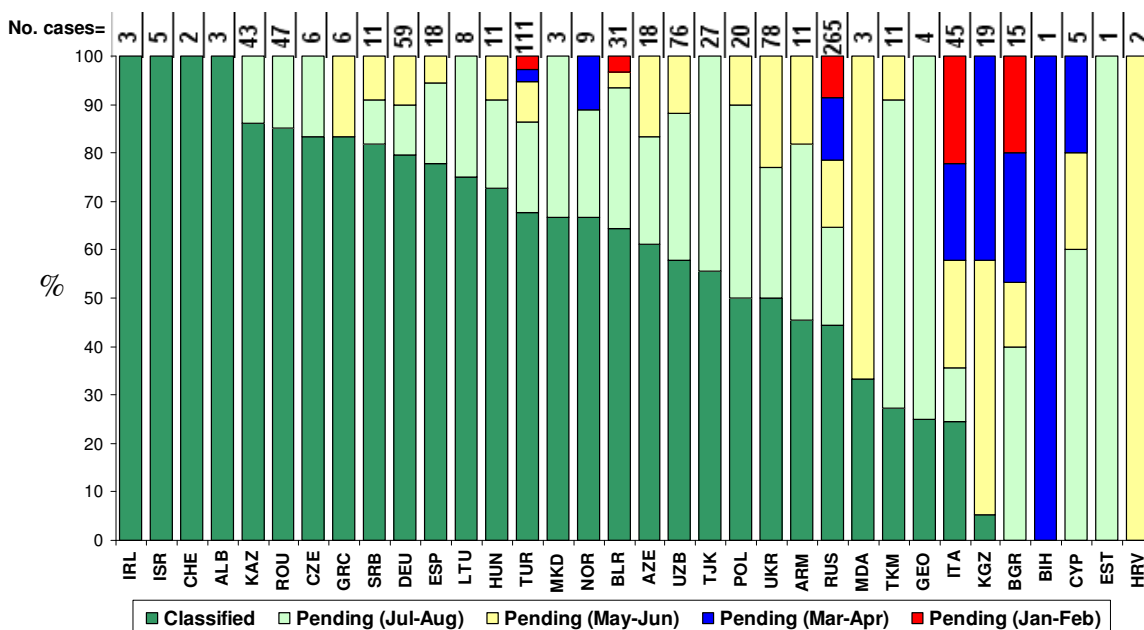


Table 1. Weekly AFP reporting and surveillance process indicators, 2007-2008												
Country	% Completeness of weekly AFP reporting in 2008	Week of last report In 2008	Reported AFP cases		% of AFP cases where at least one stool collected within 14 days of onset		% of AFP cases with <= 7 days between onset and notification		% of AFP cases with <= 48 hours between notification and investigation		% of AFP cases where follow up is done 60 to 90 days after onset	
			2007 (Weeks 1-52)	2008 (Weeks 1-35)	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
Albania	88.0	35	10	3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Andorra	91.0	34	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Armenia	41.0	27	16	11	93.8	90.9	75.0	90.9	62.5	81.8	31.3	20.0
Austria	100.0	29	4	0	25.0	...	50.0	...	75.0	...	50.0	...
Azerbaijan	94.0	36	24	18	100.0	100.0	41.7	38.9	95.8	94.4	100.0	85.7
Belarus	52.0	35	51	30	94.1	90.0	84.3	76.7	96.1	100.0	96.1	89.5
Belgium	97.0	35	9	0	11.1	...	11.1	...	100.0	...	44.4	...
Bosnia and Herzegovina	80.0	35	3	1	100.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	66.7	100.0	33.3	0.0
Bulgaria	91.0	35	11	15	100.0	100.0	100.0	86.7	90.9	73.3	72.7	75.0
Croatia	63.0	35	0	2	0.0	100.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Cyprus	97.0	35	1	5	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	80.0	100.0	0.0
Czech Republic	52.0	36	7	6	100.0	100.0	85.7	66.7	100.0	100.0	71.4	80.0
Denmark	No AFP Surveillance*											
Estonia	97.0	36	0	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Finland	No AFP Surveillance*											
France	No AFP Surveillance*											
Georgia	88.0	35	13	4	84.6	100.0	61.5	75.0	92.3	100.0	100.0	100.0
Germany	86.0	35	64	55	43.8	41.8	37.5	38.2	60.9	43.6	67.2	72.7
Greece	88.0	33	15	5	66.7	80.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	86.7	20.0
Hungary	97.0	35	8	11	100.0	81.8	62.5	45.5	100.0	100.0	75.0	57.1
Iceland	No AFP Surveillance*											
Ireland	100.0	35	2	3	50.0	33.3	0.0	33.3	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0
Israel	69.0	35	9	5	44.4	60.0	44.4	60.0	88.9	100.0	0.0	0.0
Italy	41.0	31	63	45	66.7	84.4	85.7	77.8	63.5	20.0	61.9	21.6
Kazakhstan	75.0	35	54	43	98.1	100.0	87.0	95.3	88.9	97.7	100.0	100.0
Kyrgyzstan	27.0	33	37	19	100.0	100.0	94.6	84.2	86.5	100.0	91.9	100.0
Latvia	58.0	23	3	1	100.0	100.0	66.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	66.7	100.0
Lithuania	77.0	35	13	8	100.0	100.0	100.0	87.5	84.6	100.0	100.0	66.7
Luxembourg	No AFP Surveillance*											
Malta	100.0	36	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Moldova	77.0	35	15	3	93.3	100.0	53.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	73.3	0.0
Monaco	No AFP Surveillance*											
Montenegro	88.0	36	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Netherlands	No AFP Surveillance*											
Norway	77.0	36	6	9	66.7	66.7	33.3	44.4	66.7	100.0	33.3	0.0
Poland	91.0	33	39	20	84.6	55.0	89.7	85.0	53.8	35.0	71.8	66.7
Portugal	2.0	18	8	0	62.5	...	25.0	...	25.0	...	87.5	...
Romania	66.0	35	17	11	88.2	100.0	88.2	90.9	100.0	100.0	94.1	85.7
Russian Federation	86.0	36	355	265	93.5	96.2	84.2	86.0	94.9	96.6	84.2	52.1
San Marino	No AFP Surveillance*											
Serbia	69.0	34	9	11	77.8	81.8	55.6	81.8	88.9	100.0	88.9	70.0
Slovakia	97.0	35	4	0	100.0	...	75.0	...	100.0	...	100.0	...
Slovenia	97.0	36	0	0	0.0	...	0.0	...	0.0	...	0.0	...
Spain	97.0	36	37	18	83.8	38.9	45.9	44.4	94.6	100.0	75.7	38.5
Sweden	No AFP Surveillance*											
Switzerland	86.0	36	18	2	22.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0	5.6	50.0
Tajikistan	27.0	35	40	27	97.5	92.6	80.0	88.9	75.0	85.2	77.5	78.6
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	69.0	34	5	3	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	80.0	100.0
Turkey	88.0	36	233	110	88.0	82.7	69.1	60.9	99.6	100.0	69.5	85.4
Turkmenistan	88.0	35	26	11	92.3	100.0	84.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ukraine	80.0	35	116	76	97.4	97.4	87.1	94.7	97.4	96.1	99.1	100.0
United Kingdom	No AFP Surveillance*											
Uzbekistan	52.0	35	103	76	99.0	100.0	94.2	92.1	94.2	92.1	92.2	100.0
<b>Average/Totals</b>	<b>79.0</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>1448</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>88.0</b>	<b>76.0</b>	<b>78.0</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>88.0</b>	<b>80.0</b>	<b>68.0</b>

...: Denominator not sufficient to calculate this rate/indicator.

\*High quality surveillance (e.g. enterovirus and/or environmental) to detect poliovirus exists in Member States with no AFP surveillance.

**TABLE 2: Classification of AFP cases and key AFP surveillance indicators, 2007-2008**

Country	2007 (Weeks 1 - 52)					2008 (Weeks 1-35)							
	Polio Compatible	Pending Classification Total	Surveillance Rates / Index			AFP Cases	Polio Compatible	Pending Classification			Surveillance Rates / Index		
			Non-Polio AFP Rate <sup>1</sup> Target ≥ 1.00	% With 2 Stool Specimens <sup>2</sup> Target ≥ 80.0%	Surveillance Index <sup>3</sup> Target ≥ 0.8			Total	Hot <sup>4</sup> Cases	Total >90 Days <sup>5</sup>	Annualized Non-Polio AFP Rate <sup>1</sup> Target ≥ 1.00	% With 2 Stool Specimens <sup>2</sup> Target ≥ 80.0%	Surveillance Index <sup>3</sup> Target ≥ 0.8
Albania	0	0	1.23	100.0	1.00	3	0	0	0	0	0.54	100.0	0.54
Andorra	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Armenia	1	0	2.78	68.8	0.94	11	0	7	11	1	2.86	81.8	0.91
Austria	0	0	0.33	0.0	0.08	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Azerbaijan	0	0	1.17	100.0	1.00	18	0	7	0	3	1.31	100.0	1.00
Belarus	0	0	3.67	92.2	0.94	30	0	10	4	1	3.18	90.0	0.90
Belgium	0	1	0.52	0.0	0.06	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	0	0.48	100.0	0.48	1	0	1	0	1	0.24	0.0	0.00
Bulgaria	0	0	1.09	100.0	1.00	15	0	15	0	8	2.18	80.0	1.00
Croatia	1	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	2	0	2	0	2	0.43	100.0	0.43
Cyprus	0	0	0.62	100.0	0.62	5	0	5	0	2	4.53	100.0	1.00
Czech Republic	0	0	0.49	85.7	0.49	6	0	1	0	0	0.62	83.3	0.62
Estonia	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	1	0	1	0	0	0.75	0.0	0.00
Georgia	0	0	1.66	84.6	0.85	4	0	3	2	0	0.76	100.0	0.76
Germany	0	0	0.56	29.7	0.24	55	0	12	1	2	0.70	34.5	0.29
Greece	0	0	0.95	66.7	0.64	5	0	1	0	1	0.46	60.0	0.37
Hungary	0	0	0.52	37.5	0.52	11	0	3	0	0	1.06	72.7	0.82
Ireland	0	0	0.23	50.0	0.12	3	0	0	0	0	0.50	0.0	0.17
Israel	0	0	0.47	11.1	0.21	5	0	0	0	0	0.37	20.0	0.22
Italy	0	9	0.78	54.0	0.52	45	0	34	0	26	0.81	71.1	0.68
Kazakhstan	0	0	1.65	96.3	0.98	43	0	6	1	0	1.93	100.0	1.00
Kyrgyzstan	0	0	2.27	94.6	1.00	19	0	18	0	17	1.69	100.0	1.00
Latvia	0	0	0.95	66.7	0.95	1	0	0	0	0	0.47	100.0	0.47
Lithuania	0	0	2.46	61.5	1.00	8	0	2	0	0	2.27	87.5	1.00
Malta	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Moldova	0	0	2.11	93.3	0.93	3	0	2	0	0	0.63	100.0	0.63
Montenegro	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Norway	0	0	0.67	16.7	0.45	9	0	3	0	1	1.47	22.2	0.67
Poland	0	0	0.65	66.7	0.55	20	0	10	1	2	0.49	50.0	0.27
Portugal	0	0	0.48	62.5	0.30	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Romania	0	0	0.53	88.2	0.47	11	0	9	3	0	0.50	90.9	0.50
Russian Federation	0	0	1.67	91.8	0.94	265	0	147	26	76	1.80	95.1	0.96
Serbia	0	0	0.52	77.8	0.40	11	0	2	0	1	0.92	72.7	0.75
Slovakia	0	0	0.47	75.0	0.47	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Slovenia	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Spain	0	0	0.58	56.8	0.49	18	0	4	1	0	0.40	27.8	0.16
Sweden	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.0	0.00
Switzerland	0	0	1.56	5.6	0.22	2	0	0	0	0	0.25	0.0	0.00
Tajikistan	0	0	1.60	97.5	0.98	27	0	12	0	0	1.56	92.6	0.93
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0	0	1.32	80.0	1.00	3	0	1	0	0	1.17	66.7	1.00
Turkey	0	0	1.08	85.0	0.88	110	0	36	2	13	0.74	78.2	0.61
Turkmenistan	0	0	1.74	92.3	0.92	11	0	8	0	0	1.08	100.0	1.00
Ukraine	0	0	1.82	94.8	0.97	76	0	39	2	13	1.77	97.4	0.97
Uzbekistan	0	0	1.19	99.0	0.99	76	0	32	2	2	1.28	98.7	1.00
<b>Average/Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1.11</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>0.72</b>	<b>84.0</b>	<b>0.63</b>

<sup>1</sup>Non polio AFP cases per 100 000 children under the age of 15 years (annualized for year 2008)

<sup>2</sup>Two stool specimens collected at least 24 hrs. apart within 14 days of onset of paralysis and adequately shipped to the laboratory.

<sup>3</sup>Surveillance Index = non-polio AFP rate up to 1.0 x (% AFP cases with at least 1 adequate specimens within 14 days of onset).

<sup>4</sup>Hot Cases = AFP case reported with a priority code (e.g. less than three doses of polio vaccine/Clinically polio/Recent travel to endemic country/high risk group)

<sup>5</sup>Total number of AFP cases pending final classification 90 days after date of onset.

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