Immunization Regional Snapshot 2020
South Asia

NOTE: Due to COVID-19 pandemic, more countries than usual did not report coverage data to UNICEF and WHO.
Find the full list of the 35 countries that did not report coverage data on page 2. For the regional and global aggregations, the coverage rates were imputed for the countries that did not report.

More than 5 million still not fully vaccinated
In 2020, 5.3 out of 33.9 million surviving infants in the region did not receive the three recommended doses of DTP vaccine.

Half of the countries sustained at least 90% coverage for DTP3
4 out of 8 countries in the region sustained the target coverage of 90% or above for DTP3 for the past three years.

Measles regional coverage below the global target
In 2020, the regional coverage of MCV1 was 88 per cent compared to the global target of 95 per cent.

Coverage and number of infants not vaccinated for DTP3 by country, 2020
Countries with dark blue color, India and Pakistan, have the lowest coverages with the highest number of infants unvaccinated for DTP3. Bhutan, Maldives, and Sri Lanka have the highest coverage levels with lowest numbers of unvaccinated infants for DTP3.

Global and regional coverage of DTP3, 2000–2020
In 2020, the regional coverage of DTP3 was 84 per cent, which is 6 per cent points lower than regional coverage in 2019.

Coverage (%) and numbers of infants un- and under-vaccinated for DTP, 2020
India and Pakistan, with an estimated 4.8 million infants not vaccinated for DTP3, accounted for 90 per cent of the total ROSA un- and under-vaccinated surviving infants.

Vaccination coverage (%) by country, 2020

Note: Please find the acronym definitions on page 3.

*No coverage estimates available.
Find the complete list of countries that did not report coverage data for 2020 on page 3.
Regional Vaccination Trends, 2000–2020

Number of unvaccinated (DTP1) and under-vaccinated (DTP3) infants, 2000–2020

Top 3 countries with the most unvaccinated (DTP1) and under-vaccinated (DTP3) infants, 2018–2020

MCV1 and DTP3 coverage change from 2019 to 2020, by country

Note: Countries with high coverage (>=95%) in 2020 and a change in coverage within 2% from 2019: Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Maldives.

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Definitions of immunization terms

Vaccine coverage: Percentage of infants (children under one year of age) who received certain vaccine-doses. For example, coverage of DTP3 is the percentage of infants that received all three doses of diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis (DTP) vaccine.

Un-vaccinated: An infant that did not receive any vaccine. In this regional profile, un-vaccinated is defined as an infant that did not receive any DTP vaccine (not vaccinated for DTP1).

Under-vaccinated: An infant that received some but not all the recommended vaccine-doses on the national schedule. In this regional profile, under-vaccinated is defined in relation to the DTP vaccination series not the entire national immunization schedule.

Vaccine-Doses:
- Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG): vaccine against tuberculosis
- Diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccine, first dose (DTP1) and third dose (DTP3)
- Hepatitis B vaccine, third dose (HepB3)
- Haemophilus influenzae type B vaccine, third dose (Hib3)
- Poliomyelitis vaccine, third dose (PoliO3)
- Measles containing vaccine, first dose (MCV1) and second dose (MCV2)
- Rotavirus vaccine, last dose (Rota)
- Pneumococcal vaccine, third dose (PCV3)
- Human Papillomavirus vaccine, last dose (HPV): vaccine to protect against certain types of human papillomavirus that can lead to cancer or genital warts
- Yellow Fever vaccine (YFV)

Countries without 2020 reported data

Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Bahamas, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cook Islands, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Fiji, France, Gambia, Germany, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, Kuwait, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Niue, Oman, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago

Notes: Estimates for the year 2020 are not available for the above listed 35 countries. For the regional and global aggregations, the coverage rates were imputed for the countries that did not report.

Interpretation of graphs

The bi-scale map shows both the level of coverage and the total number of infants not vaccinated for DTP3.

- Less than 80% coverage and ranked in the group of countries with the most number of under-vaccinated infants within the region.
- 80% to 89% coverage and ranked in the group of countries with the most number of under-vaccinated infants within the region.
- Greater than or equal to 90% coverage and ranked in the group of countries with the least number of under-vaccinated infants within the region.
- Less than 80% coverage and ranked in the middle group of countries in terms of number of under-vaccinated infants within the region.
- 80% to 89% coverage and ranked in the middle group of countries in terms of number of under-vaccinated infants within the region.
- Greater than or equal to 90% coverage and ranked in the middle group of countries in terms of number of under-vaccinated infants within the region.
- Less than 80% coverage and ranked in the group of countries with the least number of under-vaccinated infants within the region.
- 80% to 89% coverage and ranked in the group of countries with the least number of under-vaccinated infants within the region.
- Greater than or equal to 90% coverage and ranked in the group of countries with the least number of under-vaccinated infants within the region.

The DTP3 coverage change from 2019 to 2020 scatter plot shows the change in DTP3 coverage between 2019 and 2020. Countries that experienced more than 5 percentage point drop in coverage since the previous year are labelled in dark red. Similarly, countries that experienced more than 5 percentage point increase in coverage since the previous year are labelled in dark blue. Countries with no significant changes (less than 2 percentage points) are labelled in yellow.

GRISP: Global Routine Immunization Strategies and Practices

Coordinating Actions to Achieve Disease Prevention for All

The GRISP framework outlines the specific strategies and activities required to ensure the lifesaving power of routine immunization is accessible to all—regardless of who they are or where they live. It breaks down into the following nine areas:

Operational level funding
Assurance that sufficient and adequately appropriated funds reach the operational level of the programme regularly

Strategic and operational plans
Strategic multiyear plans and operational annual plans outlining and coordinating strategies and activities, monitored quarterly

Strategies to reach
Tailored strategies that identify undervaccinated and unvaccinated persons and regularly provide them with the vaccines they need

National team
The most important factor for all other eight investments to succeed: A capable national team—supplied with sufficient resources and authority—to excellently manage each country’s national immunization program

Vaccinator and manager skills
Regular and systematic capacity building, skills development and supportive supervision for vaccinators and district managers

Modern vaccine supply chain
Modernized vaccine supply chains and management to ensure the correct amounts of the right potent vaccines are available at each vaccination session

Accurate information system
An information system that identifies and tracks each person’s vaccination status

Life course vaccination
Expanded routine immunization schedules that cover people’s entire lives

Community support
Shared responsibility for immunization delivery between communities and the immunization programme to reach uniformly high coverage through high demand and quality services

https://www.who.int/immunization/programmes_systems/policies_strategies/GRISP_infographic_EN.pdf?ua=1