

WUENIC Talking Points: Central African Republic

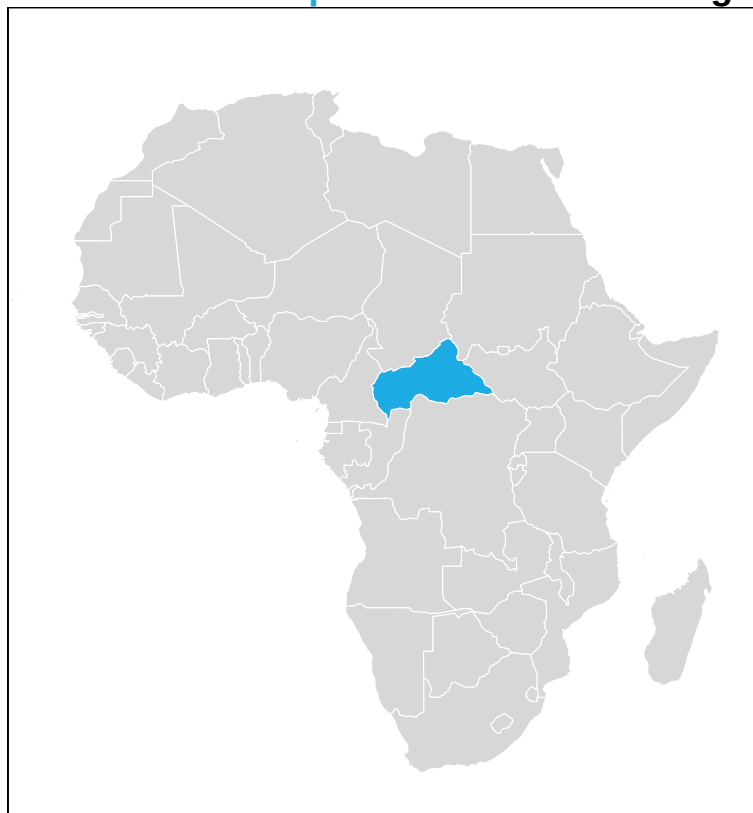


Revision Year: 2025

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Central African Republic in the 'Africa' region



Overview

- None of the 10 childhood vaccines tracked for the Central African Republic achieved coverage of 90% or higher in 2025.
- Coverage of the first dose of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-containing vaccine (DTP1) increased from 52% in 2024 to 59% in 2025, coverage of the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine (DTP3) increased from 42% in 2024 to 46% in 2025, and coverage of the first dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) increased from 41% in 2024 to 44% in 2025 in 2025.
- In 2025, the number of zero-dose children for DTP in the Central African Republic (97,000) was approximately 35% higher than the annual number proposed to achieve the IA2030 target of halving zero-dose children for DTP by 2030 (72,000), based on a linear trajectory of decline.

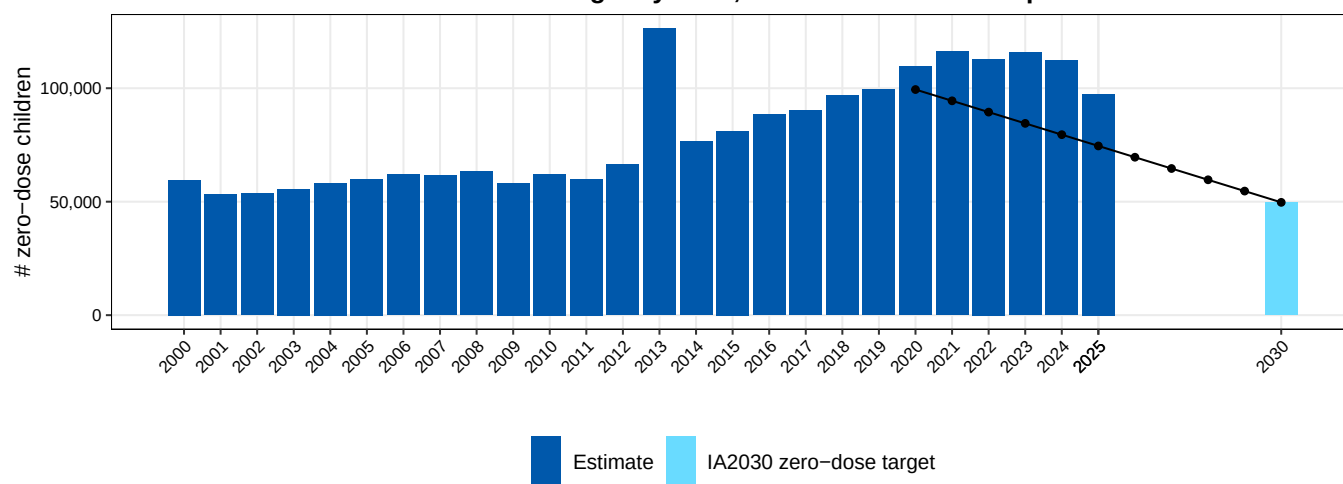
Vaccine coverage (%), Central African Republic, 2000–2025

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
BCG	66	70	71	72	73	74	74	74	74	74	74	74	74	37	67	64	61	61	60	58	57	55	54	61	61	66
DTP1	60	65	65	65	64	64	64	65	65	65	67	69	66	35	60	57	54	54	52	50	48	46	44	49	52	59
DTP3	37	40	44	47	51	54	51	48	45	42	45	47	47	23	45	43	42	42	40	38	37	35	33	40	42	46
Hib3										42	45	47	47	23	45	43	42	42	40	38	37	35	33	40	42	46
HepB3										42	45	47	47	23	45	43	42	42	40	38	37	35	33	40	42	46
PCVC												8	47	23	45	44	43	41	39	37	36	34	32	39	42	45
IPV1																2	44	43	41	39	37	35	33	39	42	45
MCV1	36	35	42	49	55	62	61	59	58	56	53	49	48	25	47	46	45	41	39	37	36	34	32	39	41	44
YFV	36	35	42	49	55	62	62	62	62	62	55	48	48	24	46	46	46	41	39	37	36	34	32	39	38	41
MengA																		32	36	35	34	33	32	36	38	40



Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

Estimated number of zero-dose children, 2000–2025 and target by 2030, the Central African Republic

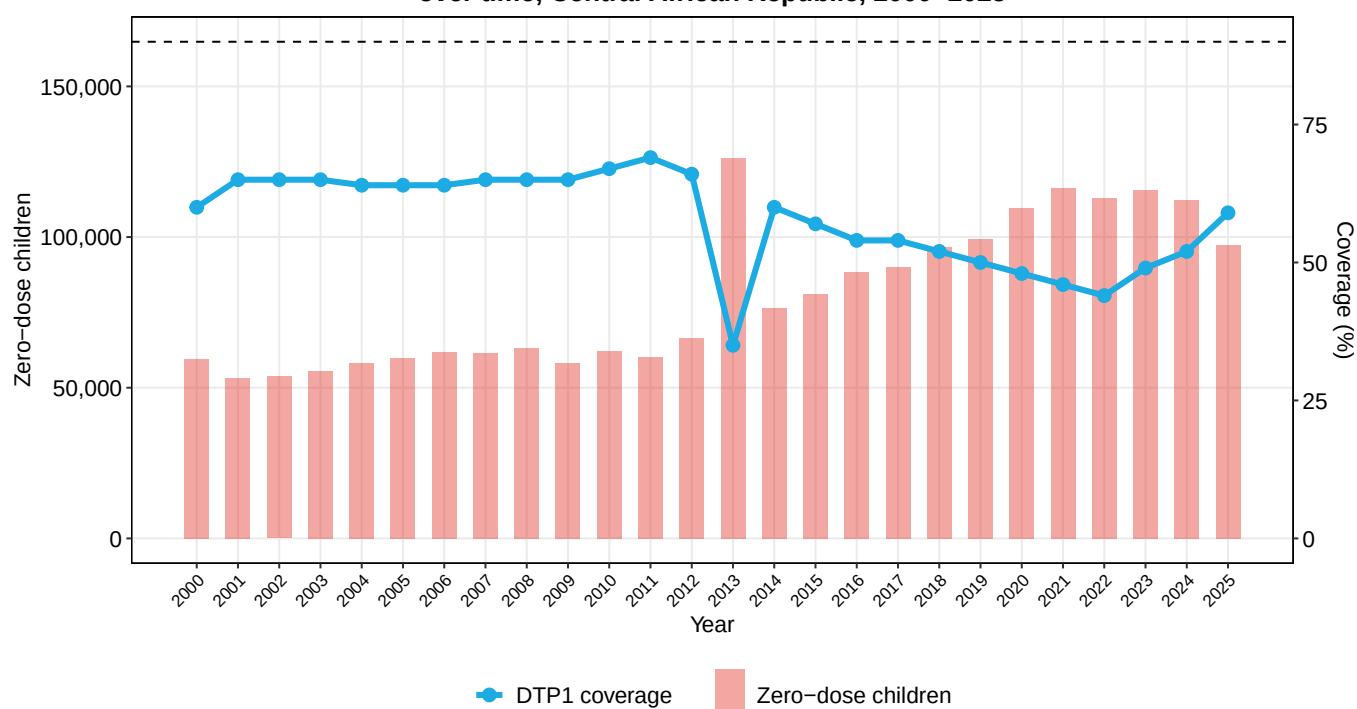


Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.
 Note: The Immunization Agenda 2030 (IA2030) calls on all countries to reduce the number of zero-dose children in 2019 in half by 2030.
 Dark blue bars are the estimated number of zero-dose children in 2000–2025,
 light blue bar is the target number of zero-dose children by 2030.
 The line and points show the yearly progress and trajectory to meet the target by 2030, based on a linear decline.

DTP1: Reaching zero-dose children

- Coverage of DTP1 stood at 59% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (50%) and higher than in 2024 (52%).
- The percentage of zero-dose children was 35 percentage points higher than the IA2030 target in 2025. There were approximately 97,000 zero-dose children in 2025, fewer than the 99,000 in 2019 and fewer than the 112,000 in 2024.
- Coverage of DTP1 in the Central African Republic (59%) was lower than the West and Central Africa regional average of 81% in 2025.
- DTP1-to-DTP3 dropout in 2025 was 22%, 2 percentage points lower than in 2019 (24%). High DTP dropout rates imply poor ability to provide a complete vaccine series early in life.

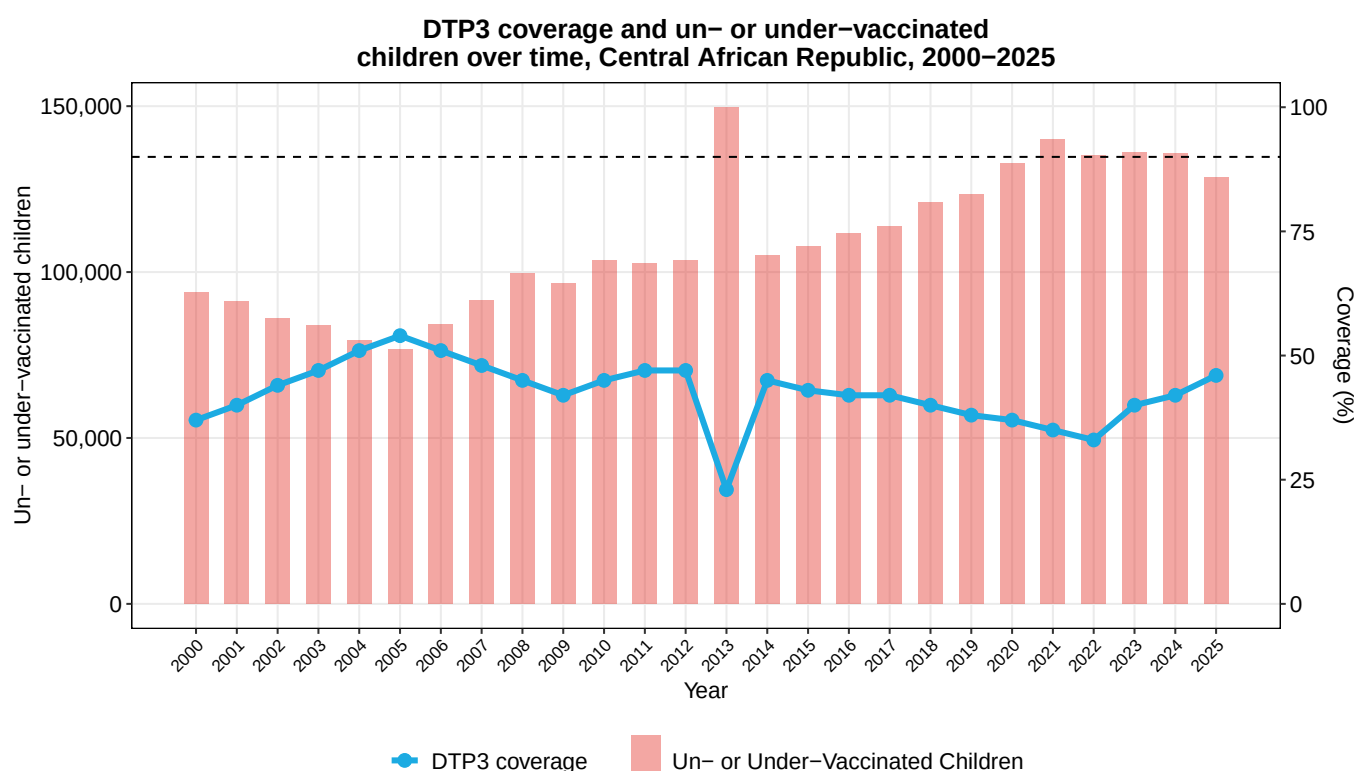
DTP1 coverage and zero-dose children over time, Central African Republic, 2000–2025



Dotted line shows the IA2030 target of 90% coverage
Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

DTP3: A marker of routine immunization service delivery to children

- Coverage of DTP3 stood at 46% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (38%) and higher than in 2024 (42%).
- The number of children vaccinated with DTP3 increased from 76,000 in 2019 to 109,000 in 2025.
- In 2025, there were 128,000 children un- or under-vaccinated in the Central African Republic.
- In 2025, 22% of children who received DTP1 did not receive DTP3. This 22% dropout rate was 2 percentage points lower than in 2019 (24%) but 3 percentage points higher than the 2024 dropout rate (19%).
- Coverage of DTP3 in the Central African Republic (46%) was lower than the West and Central Africa regional average of 71% in 2025.

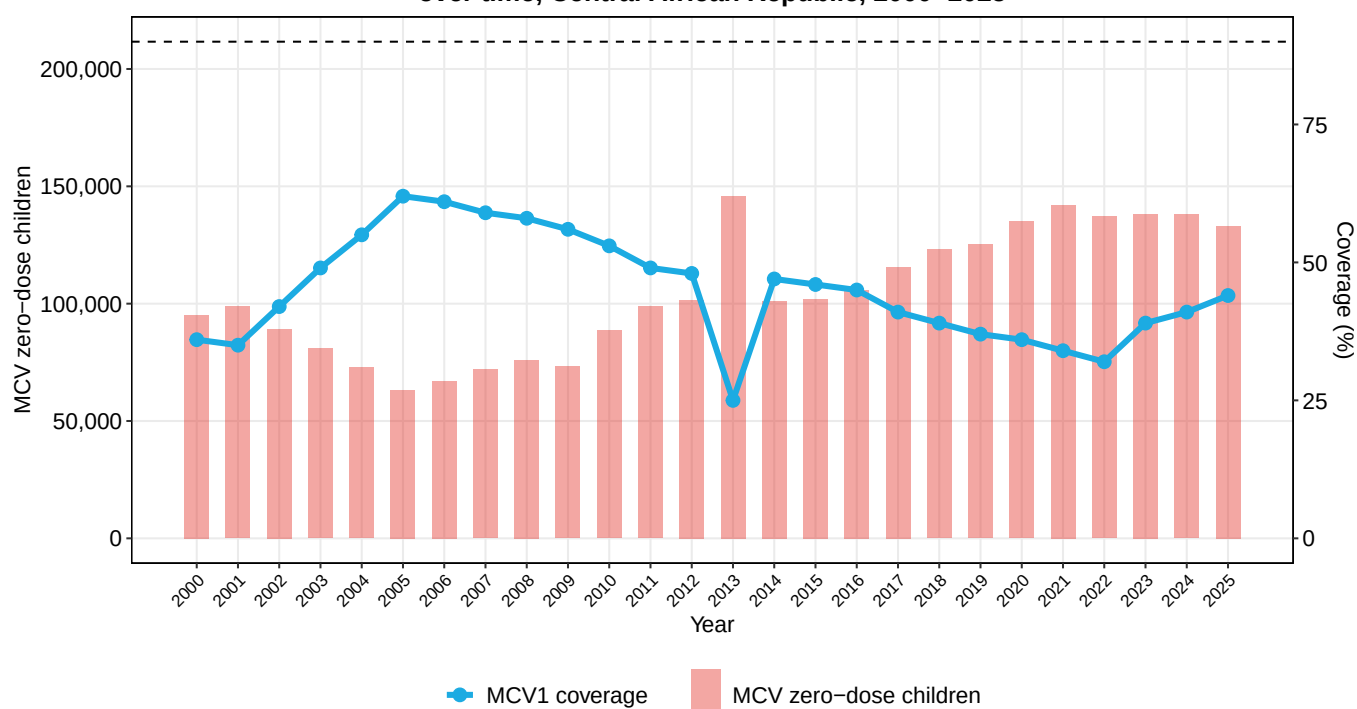


Dotted line shows the IA2030 target of 90% coverage
Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

MCV: Canary in the coal mine

- Coverage of MCV1 stood at 44% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (37%) and higher than in 2024 (41%).
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- In 2025, 25% of children who received DTP1 did not receive MCV1. This 25% dropout rate was 1 percentage points lower than in 2019 (26%) but 4 percentage points higher than the 2024 dropout rate (21%).
- The Central African Republic has had MCV1 coverage below 80% for all of the last 3 years.
- Coverage of MCV1 in the Central African Republic (44%) was lower than the West and Central Africa regional average of 64% in 2025.

MCV coverage and MCV zero-dose children over time, Central African Republic, 2000–2025



Dotted line shows the IA2030 target of 90% coverage
Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

HPV

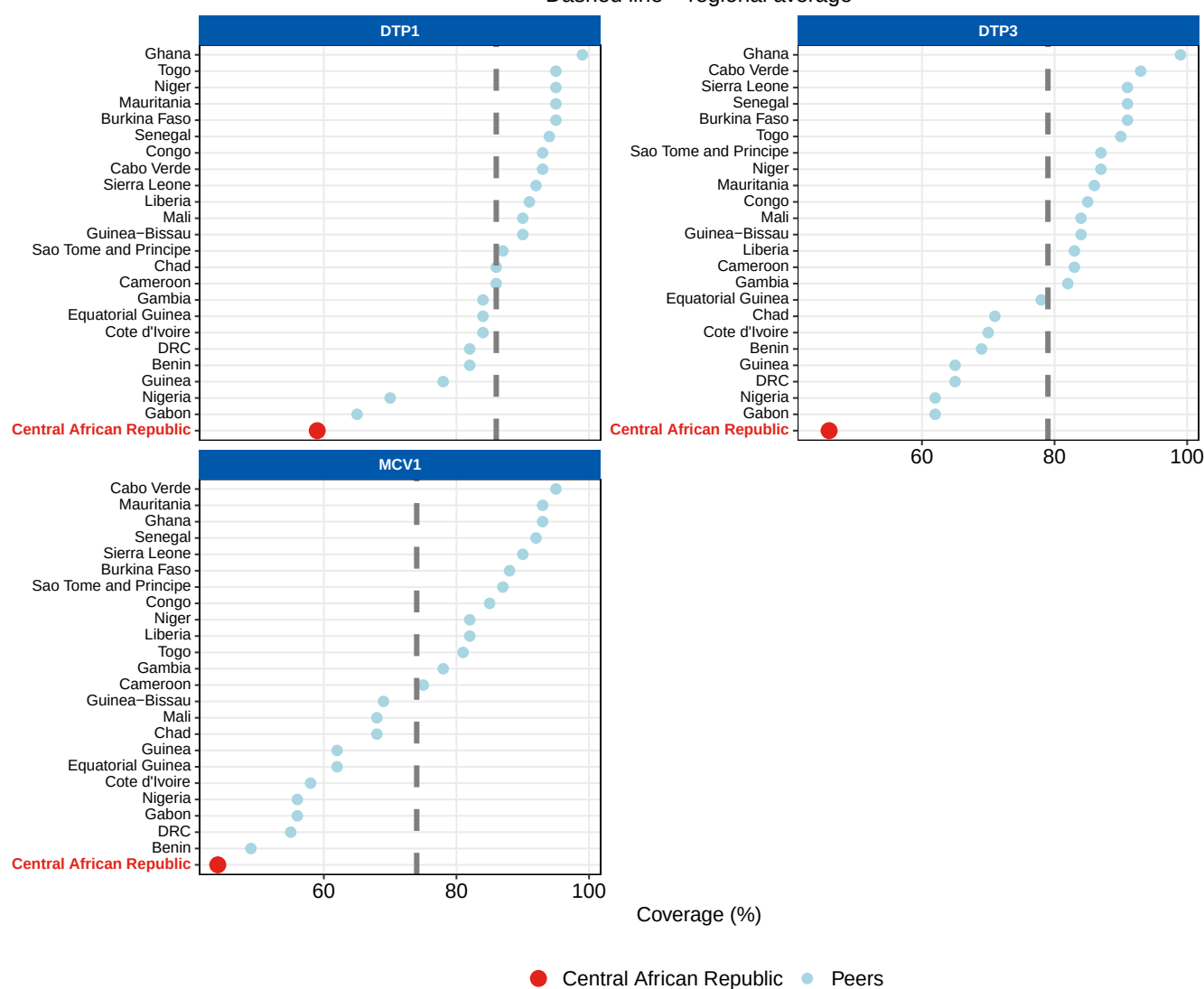
- Central African Republic had not introduced human pappilomavirus vaccination (HPV) as of 2025.

Regional Comparison

The chart below shows how the Central African Republic compares to other countries in the West and Central Africa region on DTP1, DTP3, MCV1 coverage in 2025. The dashed line represents the regional average for each vaccine.

Coverage comparison: Central African Republic vs. WCAR peers, 2025

Dashed line = regional average



Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

Additional Vaccines

- Coverage of BCG stood at 66% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (58%) and higher than in 2024 (61%).
- Coverage of HepB3 stood at 46% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (38%) and higher than in 2024 (42%).
- Coverage of Hib3 stood at 46% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (38%) and higher than in 2024 (42%).
- Coverage of IPV1 stood at 45% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (39%) and higher than in 2024 (42%).
- Coverage of PCVC stood at 45% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (37%) and higher than in 2024 (42%).

Additional vaccine coverage (%), Central African Republic, 2000–2025

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
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Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

Appendix

WHO/UNICEF Estimates of National Immunization Coverage (WUENIC)

Each year, WHO and UNICEF review national immunization data from Member States, including administrative and official coverage, survey estimates and contextual information, and use rules-based data triangulation approach to assess coverage. Estimates are produced independently, without borrowing data from other countries, and are not based on ad hoc adjustments. In some cases, they rely on a single source, typically nationally reported coverage. When data for a specific country-vaccine-year are unavailable, values from adjacent years are interpolated or extrapolated, and conflicting sources are assessed to determine the most reliable estimate, considering potential biases and expert opinion.

Methods:

- [Burton et al. 2009. WHO and UNICEF estimates of national infant immunization coverage: methods and processes](#)
- [Burton et al. 2012. A formal representation of the WHO and UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage: a computational logic approach](#)
- [Brown et al. 2013. An introduction to the grade of confidence used to characterize uncertainty around the WHO and UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage](#)

These talking points present the latest WUENIC estimates (published 15 July 2026).

Definitions of immunization terms:

- Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG): vaccine against tuberculosis
- Hepatitis B birth dose, given within 24 hours after birth (HepBB)
- 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)
- Inactivated polio vaccine, first dose (IPV1) and last dose (IPVC)
- Measles containing vaccine, first dose (MCV1) and second dose (MCV2)
- Rotavirus vaccine, last dose (RotaC)
- Pneumococcal vaccine, last dose (PCV)
- Yellow Fever vaccine (YFV)
- Meningococcal A vaccine (MengA)
- Human Papillomavirus vaccine, first dose (HPV1) and last dose (HPVc)

Additional resources: <https://data.unicef.org/resources/immunization/>