

WUENIC Talking Points: Ethiopia

Revision Year: 2025

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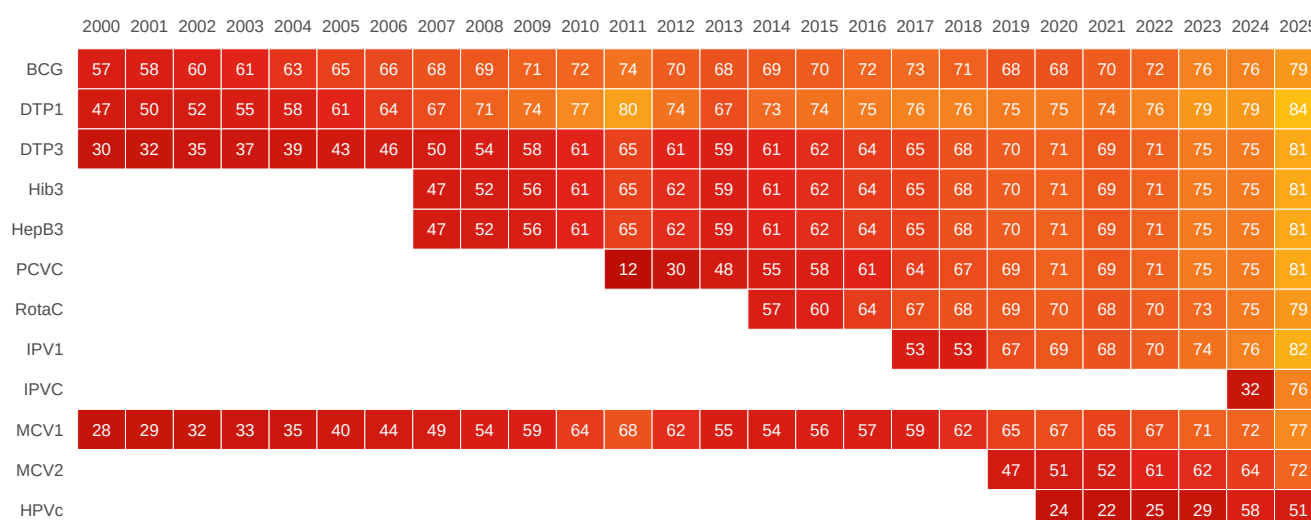
Ethiopia in the 'Africa' region



Overview

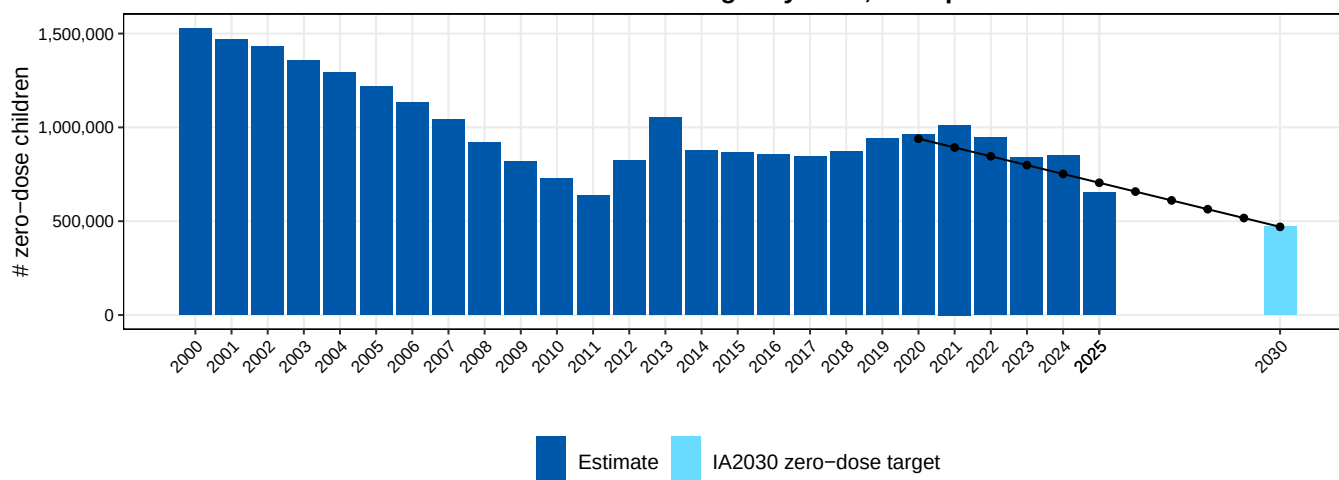
- None of the 11 childhood vaccines tracked for Ethiopia achieved coverage of 90% or higher in 2025.
- Coverage of the first dose of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-containing vaccine (DTP1) increased from 79% in 2024 to 84% in 2025, coverage of the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine (DTP3) increased from 75% in 2024 to 81% in 2025, and coverage of the first dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) increased from 72% in 2024 to 77% in 2025 in 2025.
- In 2025, the number of zero-dose children for DTP in Ethiopia (650,000) was approximately 5% lower than the annual number proposed to achieve the IA2030 target of halving zero-dose children for DTP by 2030 (683,000), based on a linear trajectory of decline.

Vaccine coverage (%), Ethiopia, 2000–2025



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

Estimated number of zero-dose children, 2000–2025 and target by 2030, Ethiopia

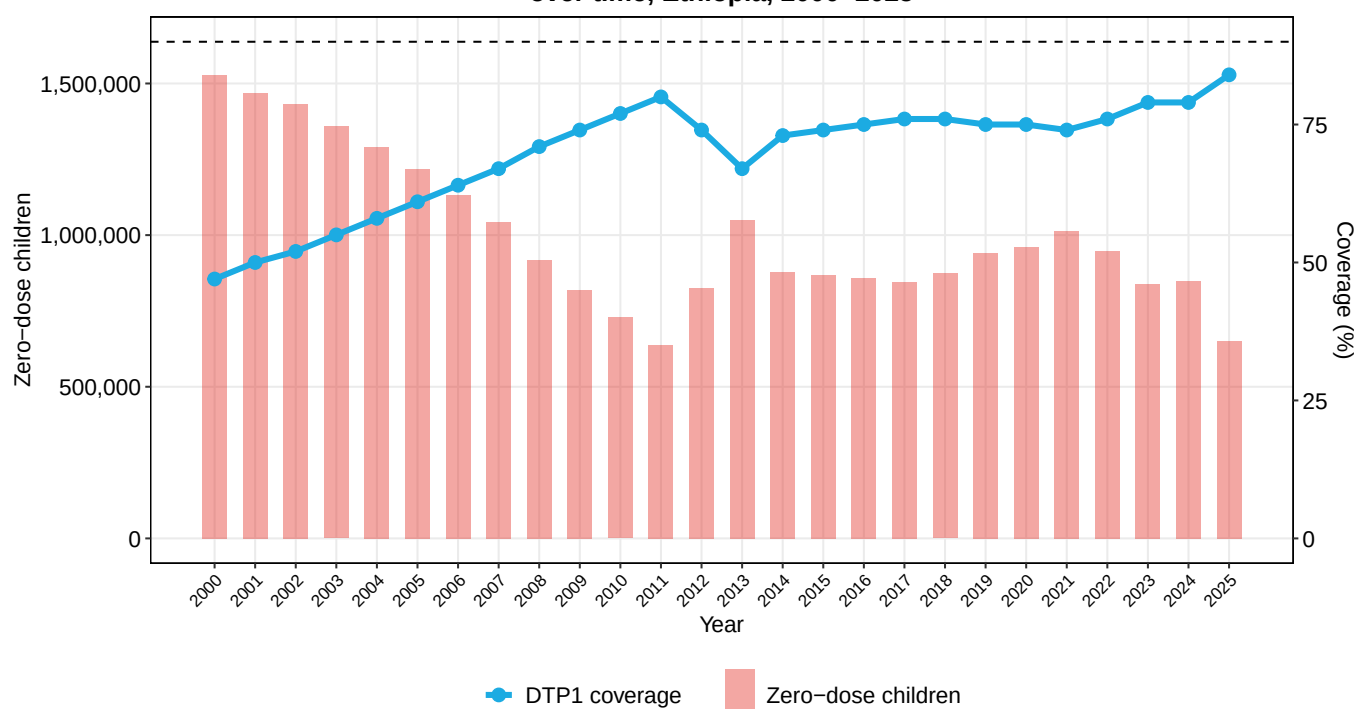


Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.
 Note: The Immunization Agenda 2030 (IA2030) calls on all countries to reduce the number of zero-dose children in 2019 in half by 2030.
 Dark blue bars are the estimated number of zero-dose children in 2000–2025, light blue 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 84% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (75%) and higher than in 2024 (79%).
- The percentage of zero-dose children was 5 percentage points lower than the IA2030 target in 2025. There were approximately 650,000 zero-dose children in 2025, fewer than the 940,000 in 2019 and fewer than the 849,000 in 2024.
- Coverage of DTP1 in Ethiopia (84%) was lower than the Eastern and Southern Africa regional average of 85% in 2025.
- DTP1-to-DTP3 dropout in 2025 was 4%, 3 percentage points lower than in 2019 (7%). Low DTP dropout rates imply good ability to provide a complete vaccine series early in life.

DTP1 coverage and zero-dose children over time, Ethiopia, 2000–2025

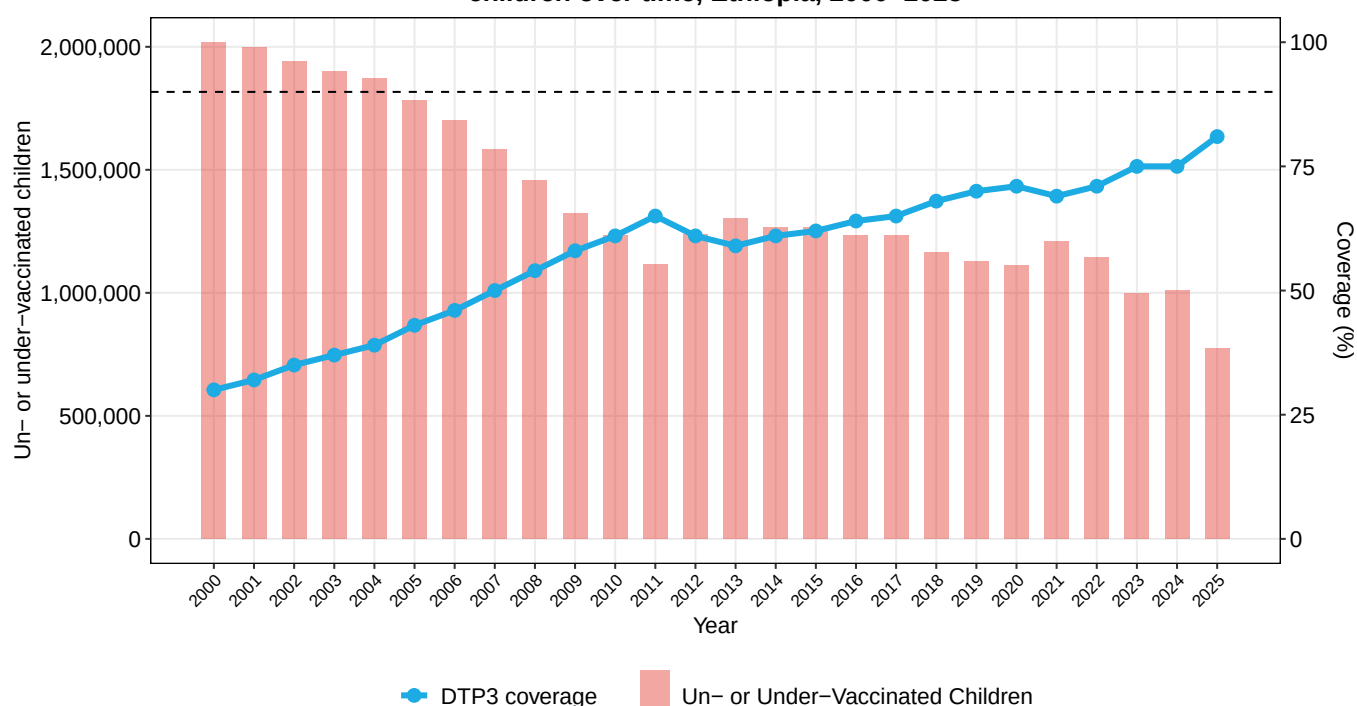


Dotted line shows the IA2030 target of 90% coverage
Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

DTP3: A marker of routine immunization service delivery to children

- Coverage of DTP3 stood at 81% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (70%) and higher than in 2024 (75%).
- The number of children vaccinated with DTP3 increased from 2.6 million in 2019 to 3.3 million in 2025.
- In 2025, there were 772,000 children un- or under-vaccinated in Ethiopia.
- In 2025, 4% of children who received DTP1 did not receive DTP3. This 4% dropout rate was 3 percentage points lower than in 2019 (7%) and 1 percentage points lower than the 2024 dropout rate (5%).
- Coverage of DTP3 in Ethiopia (81%) was higher than the Eastern and Southern Africa regional average of 80% in 2025.

DTP3 coverage and un- or under-vaccinated children over time, Ethiopia, 2000–2025

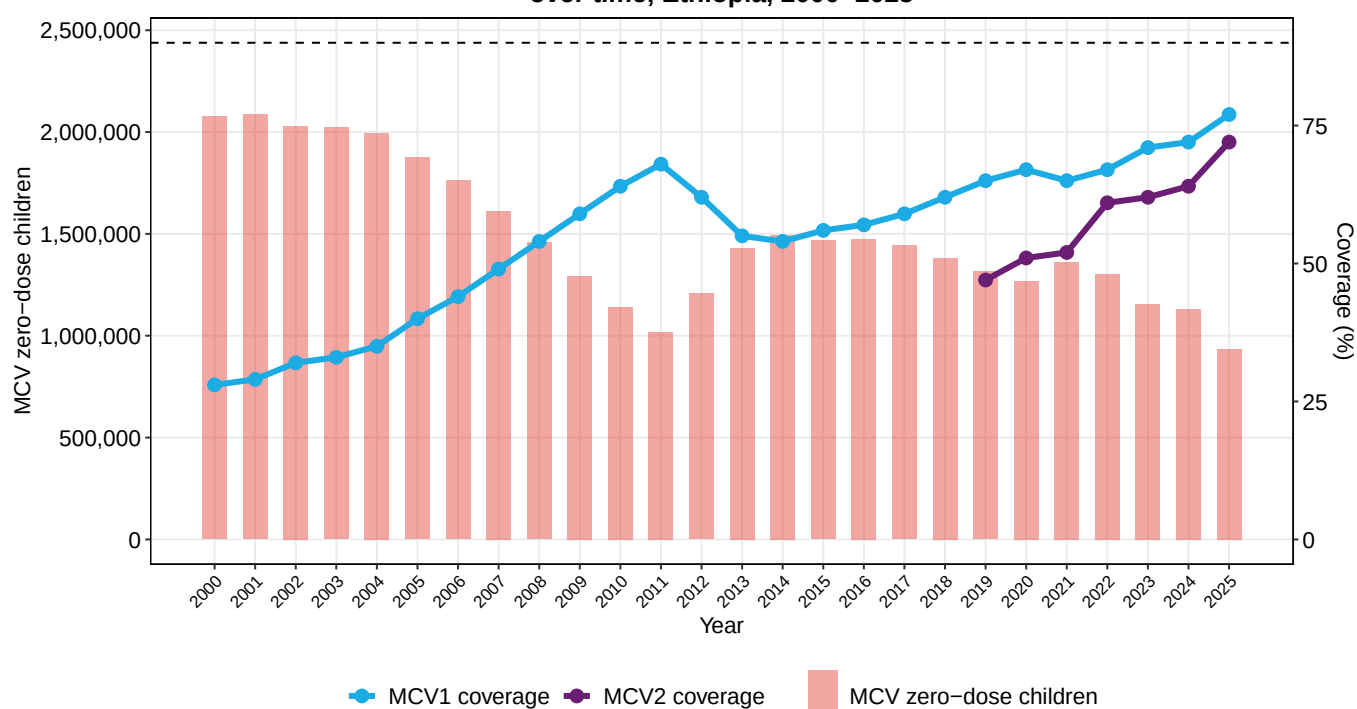


Dotted line shows the IA2030 target of 90% coverage
Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

MCV: Canary in the coal mine

- Coverage of MCV1 stood at 77% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (65%) and higher than in 2024 (72%).
- Coverage of the second dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV2) increased from 47% in 2019 to 72% in 2025. This still leaves 935,000 children without any protection against measles and another 166,000 with only partial protection.
- In 2025, 8% of children who received DTP1 did not receive MCV1. This 8% dropout rate was 5 percentage points lower than in 2019 (13%) and 1 percentage points lower than the 2024 dropout rate (9%).
- Ethiopia has had MCV1 coverage below 80% for all of the last 3 years.
- Coverage of MCV1 in Ethiopia (77%) was the same as the Eastern and Southern Africa regional average of 77% in 2025.

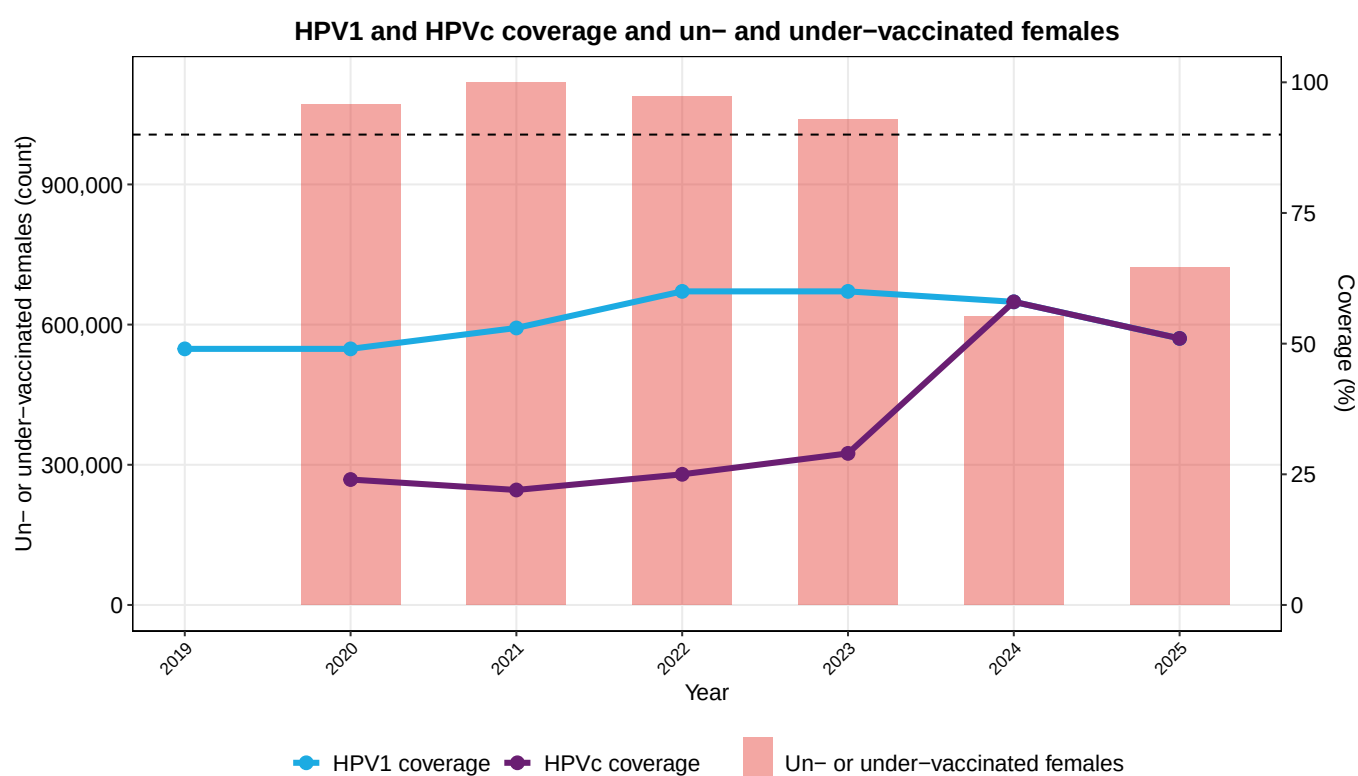
MCV coverage and MCV zero-dose children over time, Ethiopia, 2000–2025



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

HPV

- Programme coverage of HPV1 among females decreased from 58% to 51% between 2024 and 2025, and coverage of the last dose (HPVc) also decreased from 58% to 51%.
- HPVc coverage remains well below the IA2030 target of 90%.
- In 2025, approximately 722,000 females in Ethiopia did not receive any HPV vaccination (unvaccinated).
- Among Eastern and Southern Africa region peers, Ethiopia ranked 12 out of 17 countries in HPVc coverage in 2025.



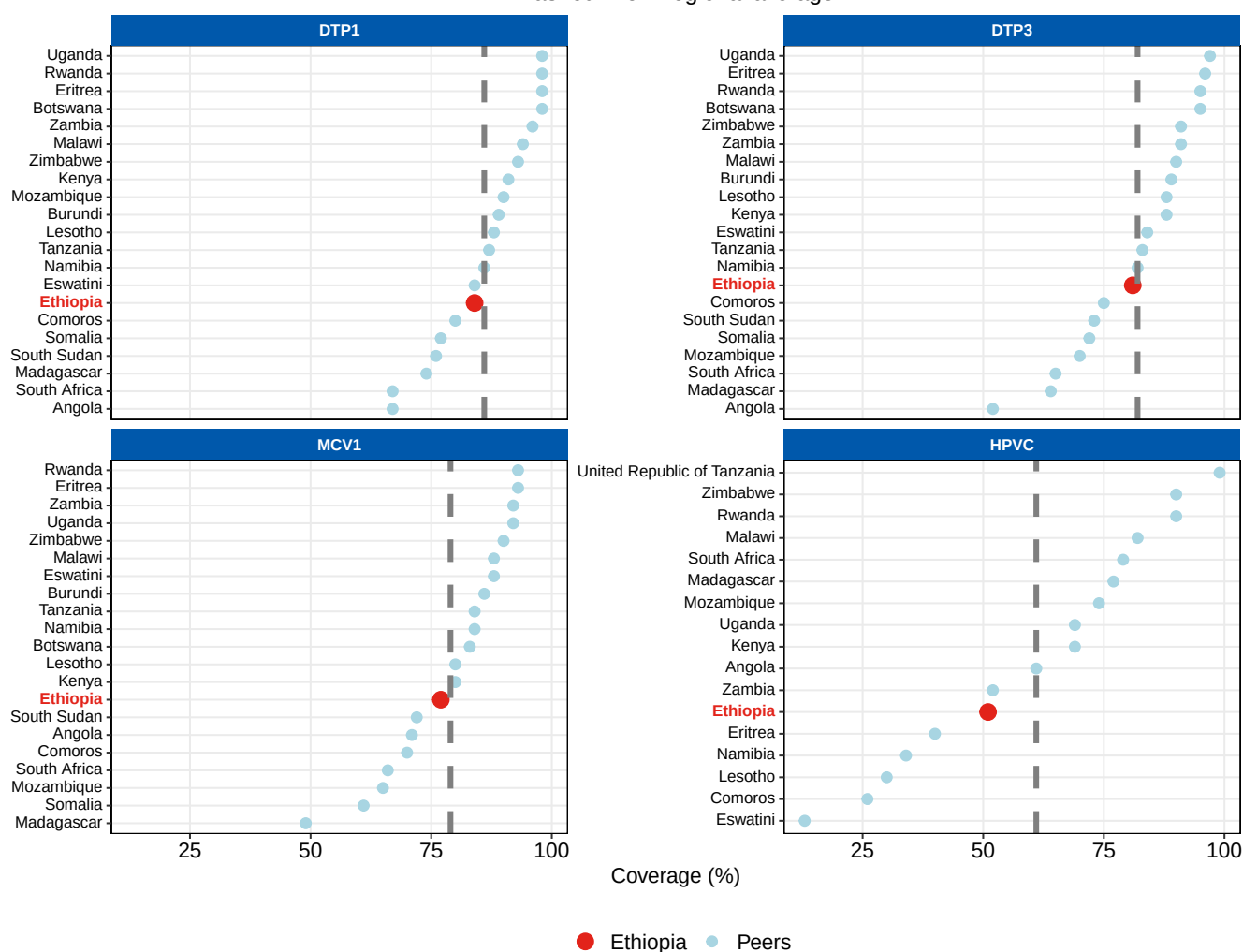
Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

Regional Comparison

The chart below shows how Ethiopia compares to other countries in the Eastern and Southern Africa region on DTP1, DTP3, MCV1, and HPVc coverage in 2025. The dashed line represents the regional average for each vaccine.

Coverage comparison: Ethiopia vs. ESAR peers, 2025

Dashed line = regional average



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

Additional Vaccines

- Coverage of BCG stood at 79% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (68%) and higher than in 2024 (76%).
- Coverage of HepB3 stood at 81% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (70%) and higher than in 2024 (75%).
- Coverage of Hib3 stood at 81% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (70%) and higher than in 2024 (75%).
- Coverage of IPV1 stood at 82% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (67%) and higher than in 2024 (76%).
- Coverage of PCVC stood at 81% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (69%) and higher than in 2024 (75%).
- Coverage of RotaC stood at 79% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (69%) and higher than in 2024 (75%).

Additional vaccine coverage (%), Ethiopia, 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	57	58	60	61	63	65	66	68	69	71	72	74	70	68	69	70	72	73	71	68	68	70	72	76	76	79
HepB3								47	52	56	61	65	62	59	61	62	64	65	68	70	71	69	71	75	75	81
Hib3								47	52	56	61	65	62	59	61	62	64	65	68	70	71	69	71	75	75	81
IPV1																		53	53	67	69	68	70	74	76	82
PCVC											12	30	48	55	58	61	64	67	69	71	69	71	75	75	81	
RotaC															57	60	64	67	68	69	70	68	70	73	75	79



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/>