

WUENIC Talking Points: Iceland

Revision Year: 2025

Contents

Overview	2
DTP1: Reaching zero-dose children	3
DTP3: A marker of routine immunization service delivery to children	4
MCV: Canary in the coal mine	5
HPV	6
Regional Comparison	7
Additional Vaccines	8
Appendix	9

Iceland in the 'Europe' region



Overview

- A total of 10 childhood vaccines are tracked for Iceland; of these, 9 reached the 90% coverage target or higher in 2025.
- Coverage of the first dose of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-containing vaccine (DTP1) was the same in 2025 as it was in 2024 (98%), coverage of the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine (DTP3) declined from 94% in 2024 to 90% in 2025, and coverage of the first dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) declined from 97% in 2024 to 94% in 2025.
- In 2025, the number of zero-dose children for DTP in Iceland (<100) was approximately 46% lower than the annual number proposed to achieve the IA2030 target of halving zero-dose children for DTP by 2030 (<200), based on a linear trajectory of decline.

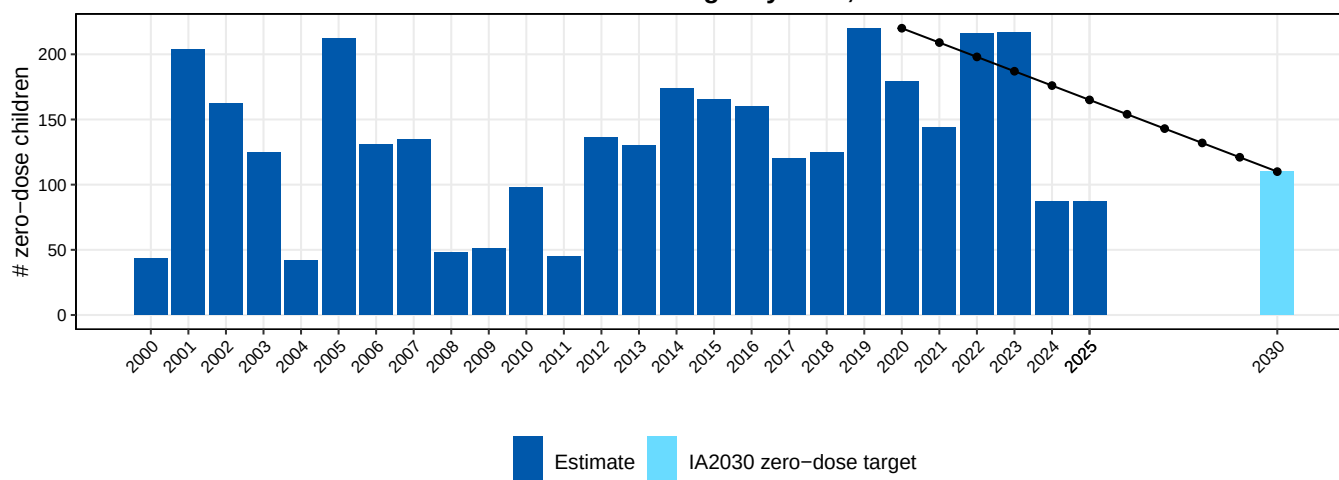
Vaccine coverage (%), Iceland, 2000–2025

	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
DTP1	99	95	96	97	99	95	97	97	99	99	98	99	97	97	96	96	96	97	97	95	96	97	95	95	98	98
DTP3	98	92	95	97	99	95	97	97	98	96	96	95	89	91	90	92	91	89	91	93	93	92	92	92	94	90
Hib3	98	92	95	97	99	95	97	97	98	96	96	95	89	91	90	92	91	89	91	93	93	92	92	92	94	90
PCVC													86	89	90	91	90	88	90	92	93	92	84	92	93	92
RotaC																										64
IPV1																96	96	97	97	95	96	97	95	95	98	98
IPVC																						92	92	92	94	90
MCV1	91	88	91	93	93	90	95	95	96	92	93	94	90	91	90	93	91	92	93	93	93	92	91	91	97	94
RCV1	91	88	91	93	93	90	95	95	96	92	93	94	90	91	90	93	91	92	93	93	93	92	91	91	97	94
MCV2				92	89	90	93	95	94	93	92	90	97	94	93	94	95	95	95	94	93	89	80	89	98	93
HPVc													92	87	88	89	91	87	85	93	90	90	85	84	89	92



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

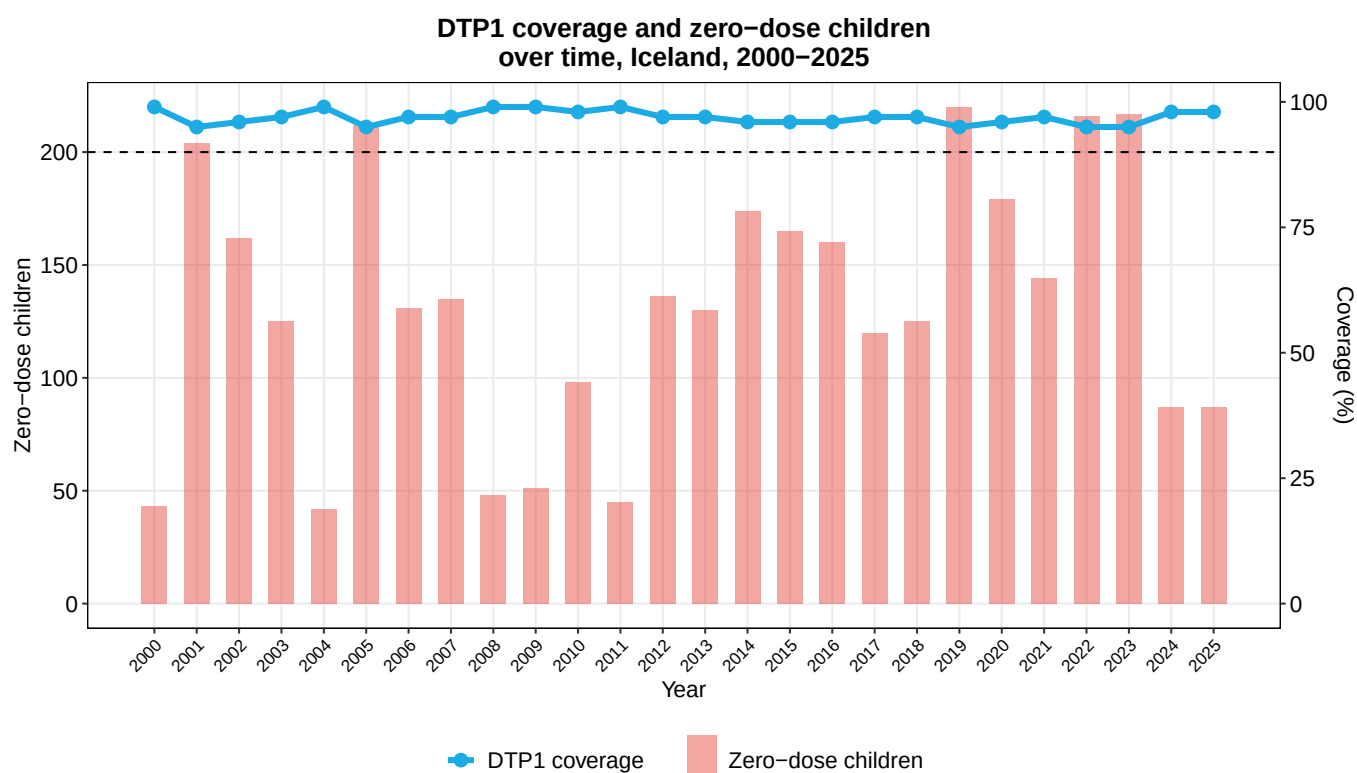
Estimated number of zero-dose children, 2000–2025 and target by 2030, Iceland



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

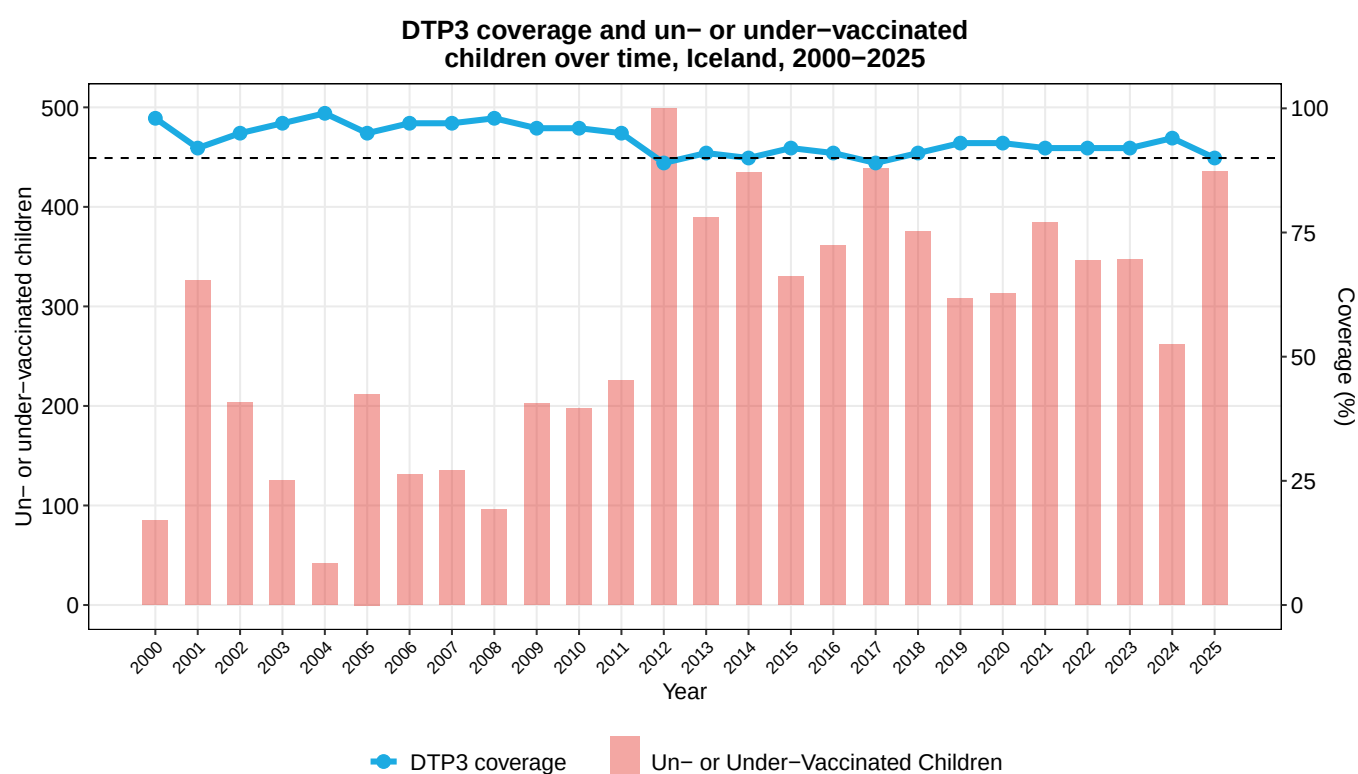
- Coverage of DTP1 stood at 98% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (95%) and the same as in 2024 (98%).
- The percentage of zero-dose children was 46 percentage points lower than the IA2030 target in 2025. There were approximately <100 zero-dose children in 2025, fewer than the <500 in 2019 and about the same as the <100 in 2024.
- Coverage of DTP1 in Iceland (98%) was higher than the Non-programme regional average of 96% in 2025.
- DTP1-to-DTP3 dropout in 2025 was 8%, 6 percentage points higher than in 2019 (2%). Medium DTP dropout rates imply moderate ability to provide a complete vaccine series early in life.



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

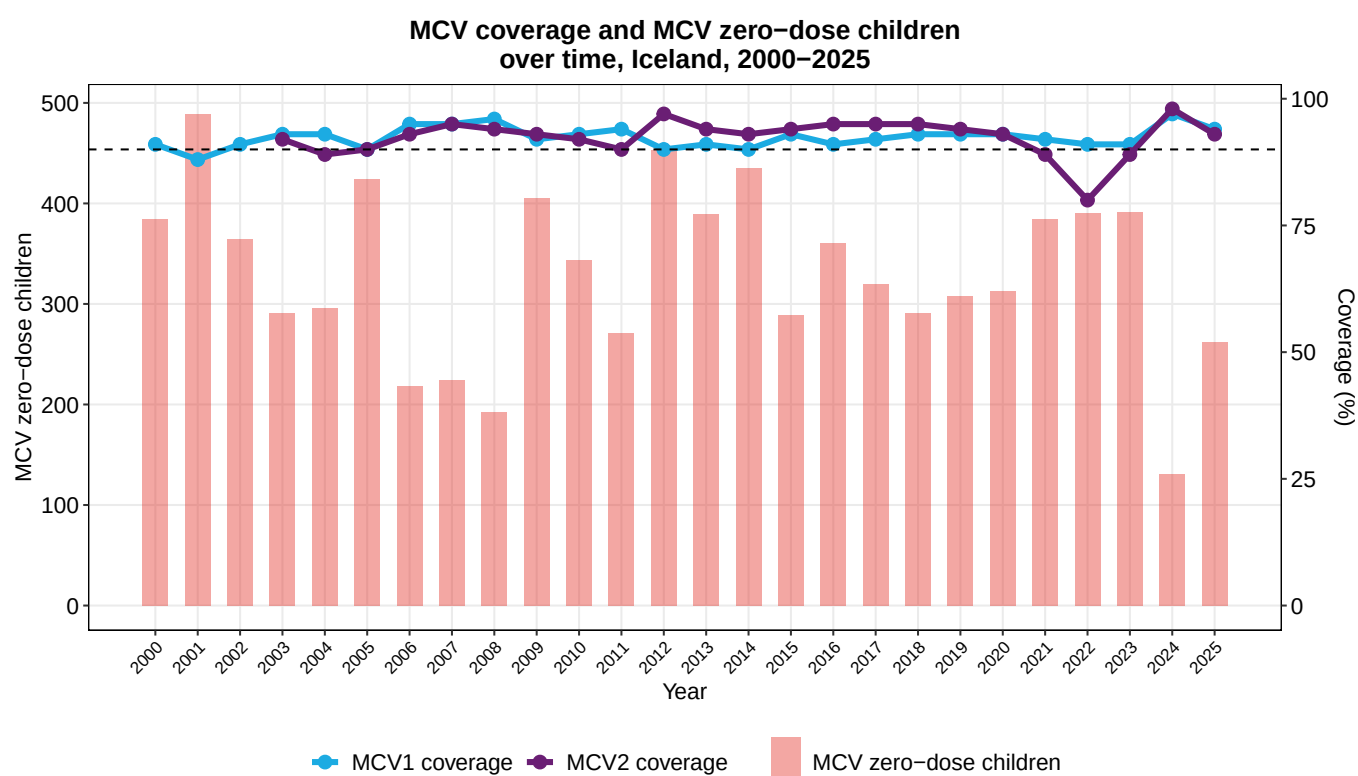
- Coverage of DTP3 stood at 90% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (93%) and lower than in 2024 (94%).
- The number of children vaccinated with DTP3 decreased from 4,000 in 2019 to 4,000 in 2025.
- In 2025, there were <500 children un- or under-vaccinated in Iceland.
- In 2025, 8% of children who received DTP1 did not receive DTP3. This 8% dropout rate was 6 percentage points higher than in 2019 (2%) and 4 percentage points higher than the 2024 dropout rate (4%).
- Coverage of DTP3 in Iceland (90%) was lower than the Non-programme regional average of 94% 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

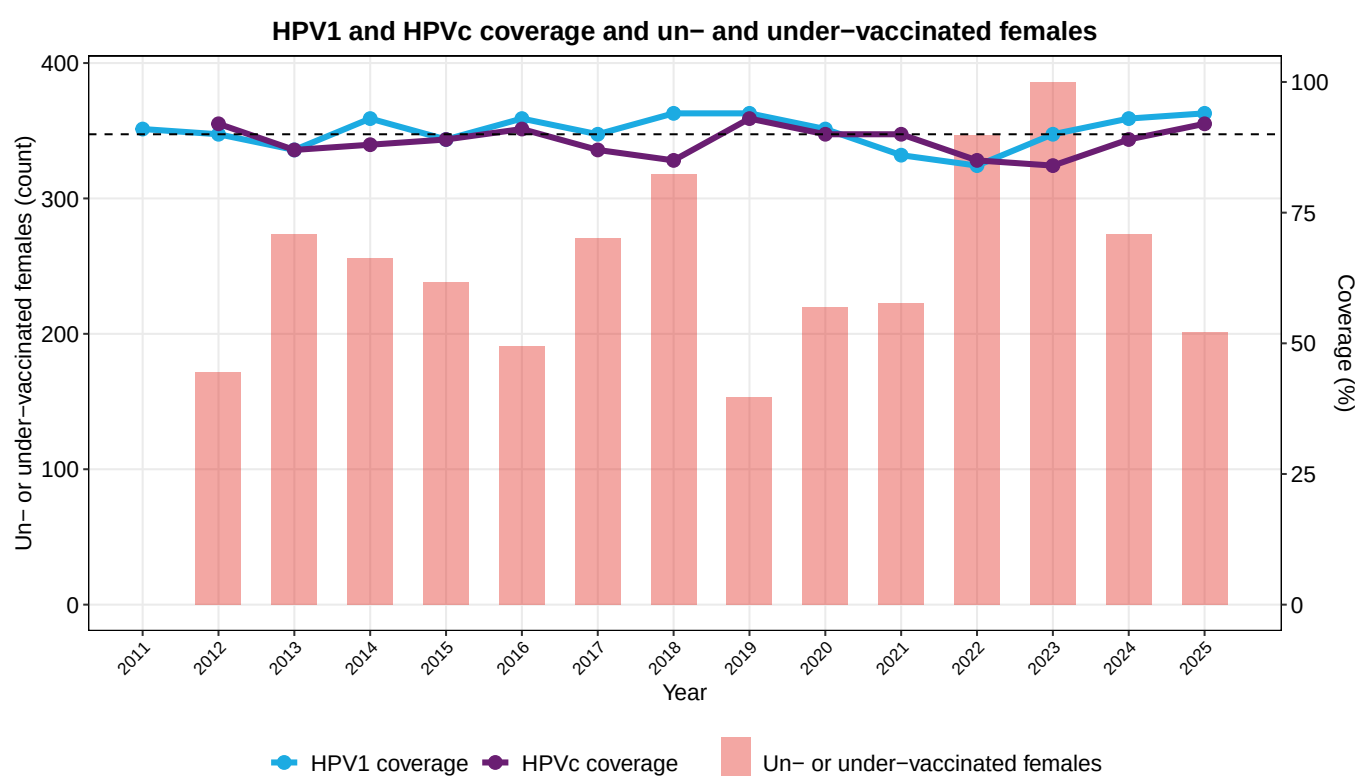
- Coverage of MCV1 stood at 94% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (93%) and lower than in 2024 (97%).
- Coverage of the second dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV2) remained relatively stable, within 1 percentage point of the 2019 level. This still leaves <500 children without any protection against measles and another <100 with only partial protection.
- In 2025, 4% of children who received DTP1 did not receive MCV1. This 4% dropout rate was 2 percentage points higher than in 2019 (2%) and 3 percentage points higher than the 2024 dropout rate (1%).
- Iceland has achieved MCV1 coverage above 80% over all of the last 3 years.
- Coverage of MCV1 in Iceland (94%) was higher than the Non-programme regional average of 93% in 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 increased from 93% to 94% between 2024 and 2025, and coverage of the last dose (HPVc) also increased from 89% to 92%.
- HPVc coverage has exceeded the IA2030 target of 90%.
- In 2025, approximately <200 females in Iceland did not receive any HPV vaccination (un-vaccinated).
- Among Non-programme region peers, Iceland ranked 2 out of 40 countries in HPVc coverage in 2025.



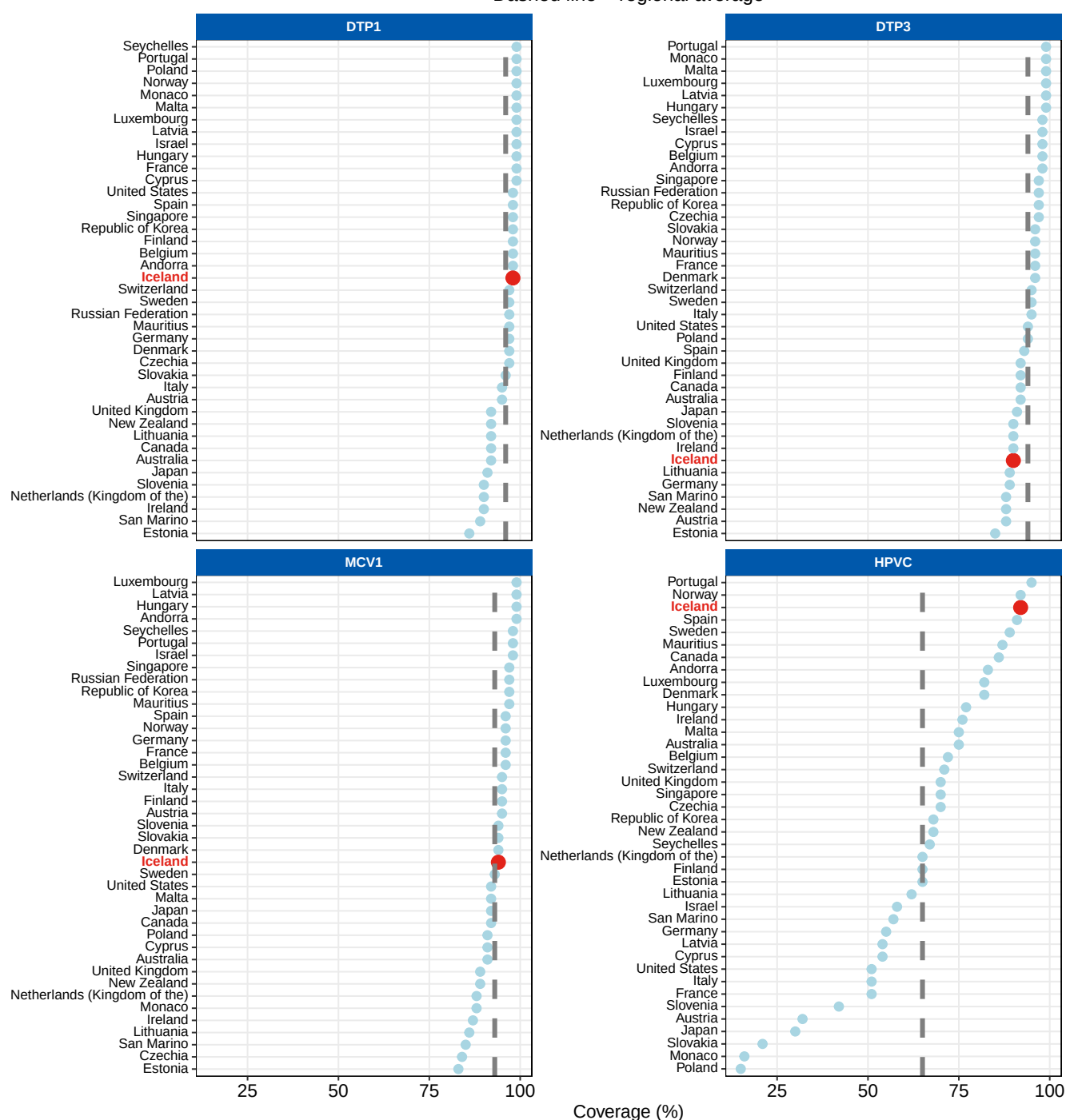
Dotted line shows the IA2030 target of 90% coverage
 Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

Regional Comparison

The chart below shows how Iceland compares to other countries in the Non-programme region on DTP1, DTP3, MCV1, and HPVc coverage in 2025. The dashed line represents the regional average for each vaccine.

Coverage comparison: Iceland vs. Non-programme peers, 2025

Dashed line = regional average



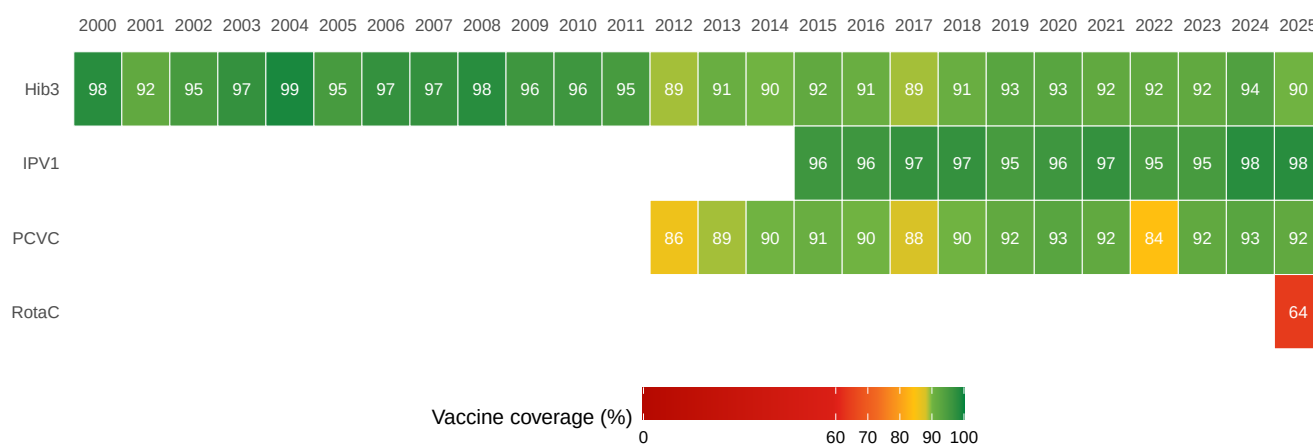
● Iceland ● Peers

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

Additional Vaccines

- Coverage of Hib3 stood at 90% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (93%) and lower than in 2024 (94%).
- Coverage of IPV1 stood at 98% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (95%) and the same as in 2024 (98%).
- Coverage of PCVC stood at 92% in 2025. This is the same as in 2019 (92%) but lower than in 2024 (93%).
- Coverage of RotaC stood at 64% in 2025.

Additional vaccine coverage (%), Iceland, 2000–2025



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/>