

WUENIC Talking Points: Kiribati

Revision Year: 2025

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Kiribati in the 'Oceania' region



Overview

- A total of 13 childhood vaccines are tracked for Kiribati; of these, 3 reached the 90% coverage target or higher in 2025.
- Coverage of the first dose of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-containing vaccine (DTP1) increased from 96% in 2024 to 97% in 2025, coverage of the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine (DTP3) declined from 94% in 2024 to 87% in 2025, and coverage of the first dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) increased from 82% in 2024 to 84% in 2025 in 2025.
- In 2025, the number of zero-dose children for DTP in Kiribati (<100) was approximately 35% higher than the annual number proposed to achieve the IA2030 target of halving zero-dose children for DTP by 2030 (<100), based on a linear trajectory of decline.

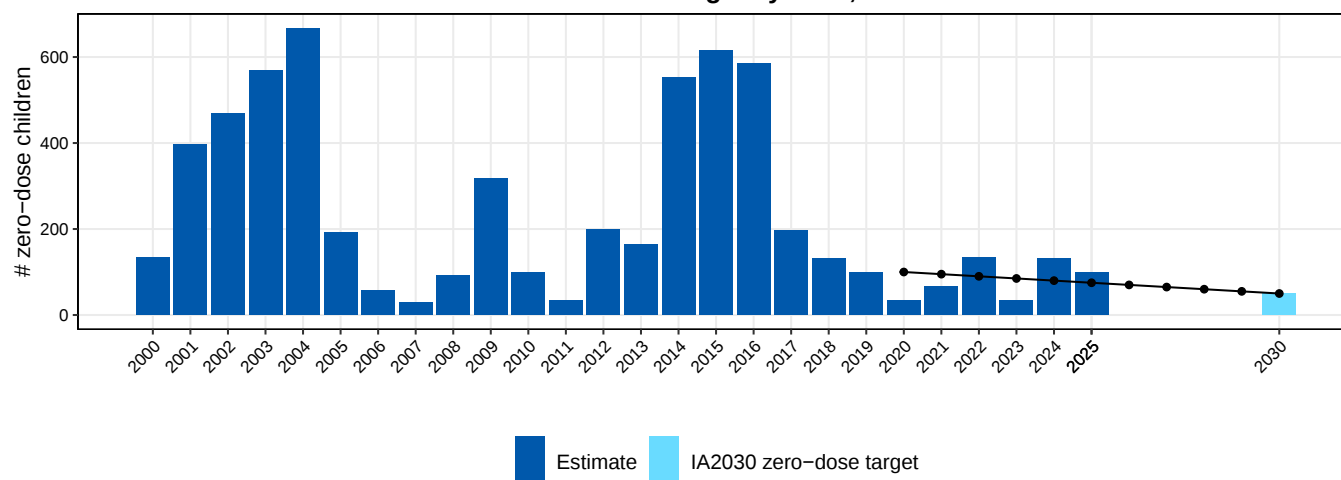
Vaccine coverage (%), Kiribati, 2000–2025

	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	80	85	88	91	94	93	91	90	83	76	87	86	95	86	72	79	79	89	90	92	93	96	95	95	94	94
HepBB	80	78	76	74	72	70	68	58	59	52	63	66	82	84	66	75	79	89	95	99	91	95	94	96	83	70
DTP1	95	85	82	78	75	93	98	99	97	90	97	99	94	95	83	81	82	94	96	97	99	98	96	99	96	97
DTP3	90	85	77	70	62	79	86	94	82	86	91	99	94	95	75	78	81	90	95	97	92	90	91	90	94	87
Hib3									83	86	91	95	94	95	75	82	81	90	95	97	92	90	91	90	94	87
HepB3	90	85	79	73	67	50	88	96	83	86	91	95	94	95	75	82	81	90	95	97	92	90	91	90	94	87
PCVC														40	57	78	79	91	94	97	91	90	91	91	93	87
RotaC																37	79	91	97	99	89	95	94	92	90	91
IPV1																52	81	87	92	92	83	78	94	87	94	82
IPVC																									40	40
MCV1	80	76	88	72	56	85	61	93	72	82	89	90	91	91	88	84	80	81	84	94	82	80	85	79	82	84
RCV1					56	85	61	93	72	82	89	90	91	91	88	84	80	81	84	94	82	80	85	79	82	84
MCV2										35	21	61	9	84	80	76	79	79	85	91	57	58	68	47	47	47
HPVc																								55	71	91



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

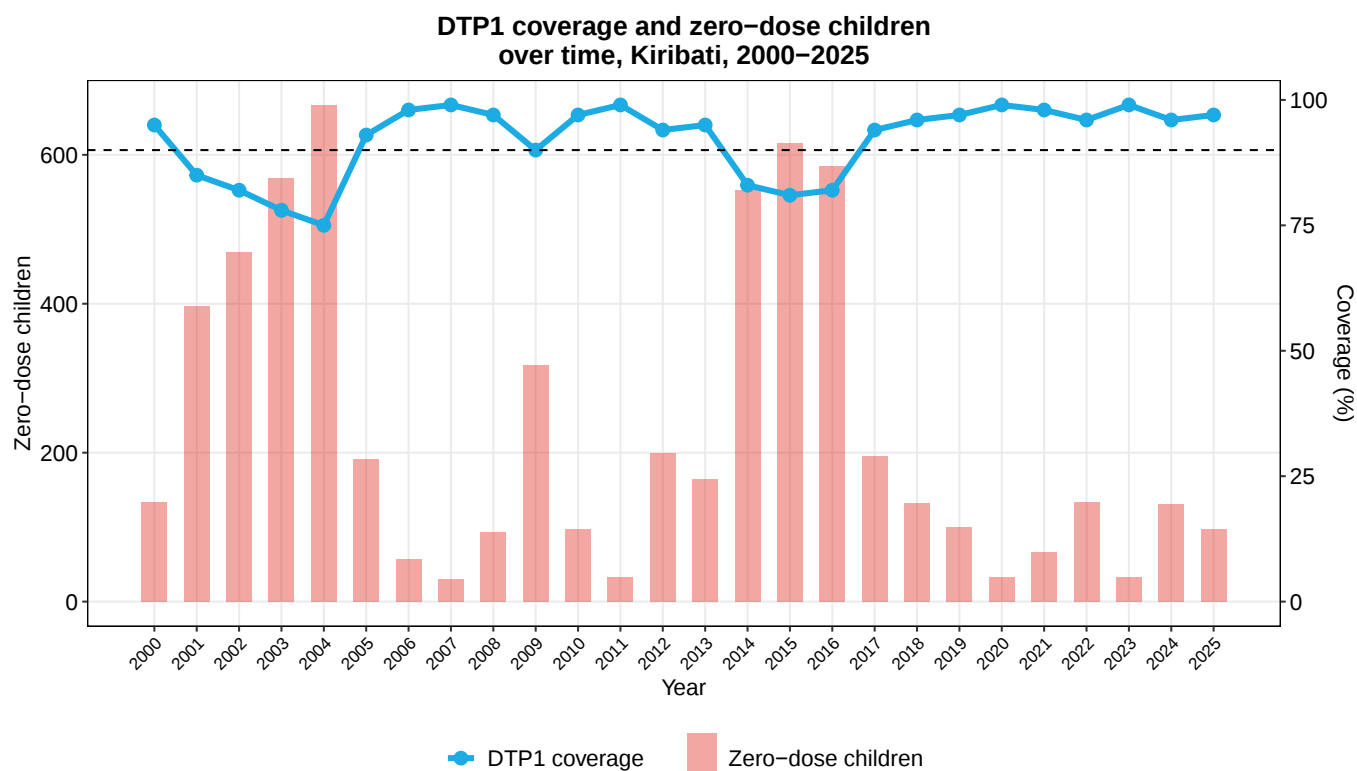
Estimated number of zero-dose children, 2000–2025 and target by 2030, Kiribati



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

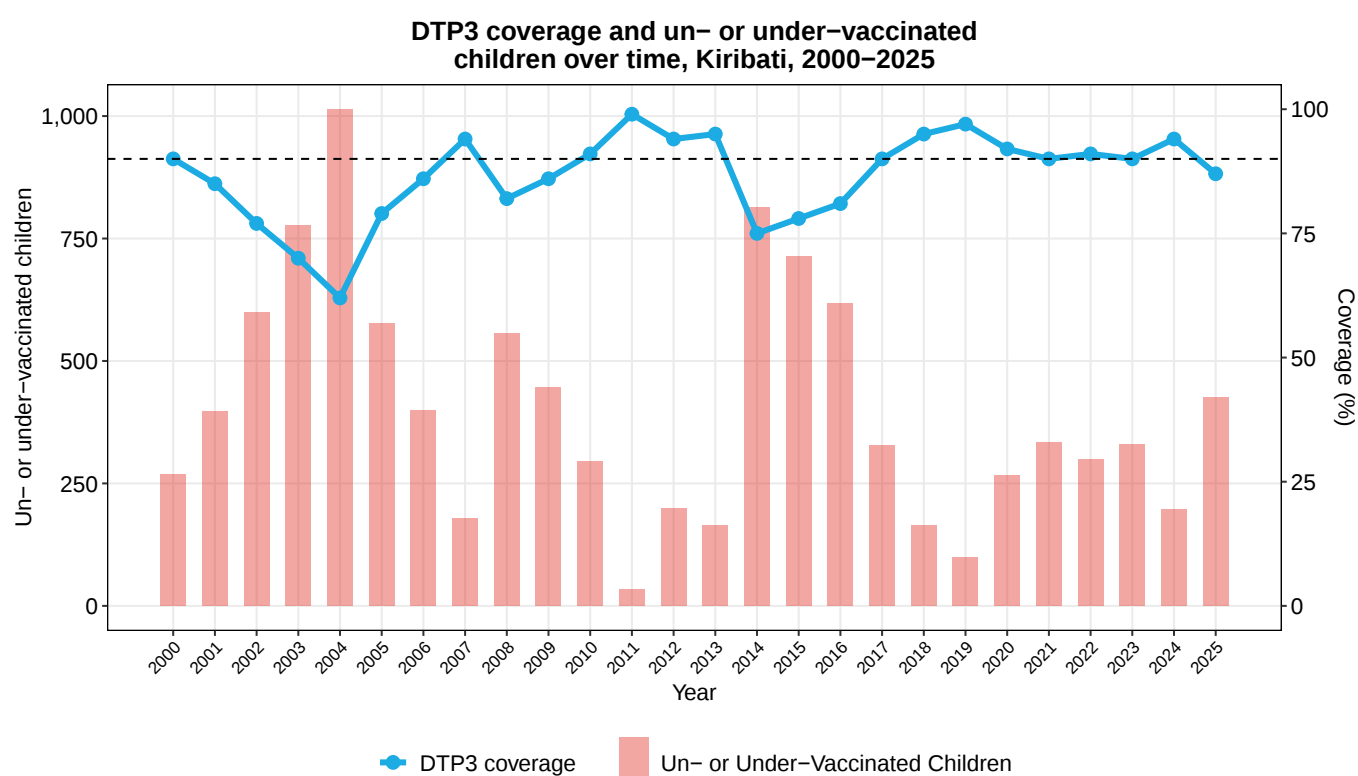
- Coverage of DTP1 stood at 97% in 2025. This is the same as in 2019 (97%) and higher than in 2024 (96%).
- The percentage of zero-dose children was 35 percentage points higher than the IA2030 target in 2025. There were approximately <100 zero-dose children in 2025, fewer than the <200 in 2019 and fewer than the <200 in 2024.
- Coverage of DTP1 in Kiribati (97%) was higher than the East Asia and Pacific regional average of 91% in 2025.
- DTP1-to-DTP3 dropout in 2025 was 10%, 10 percentage points higher than in 2019 (0%). 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

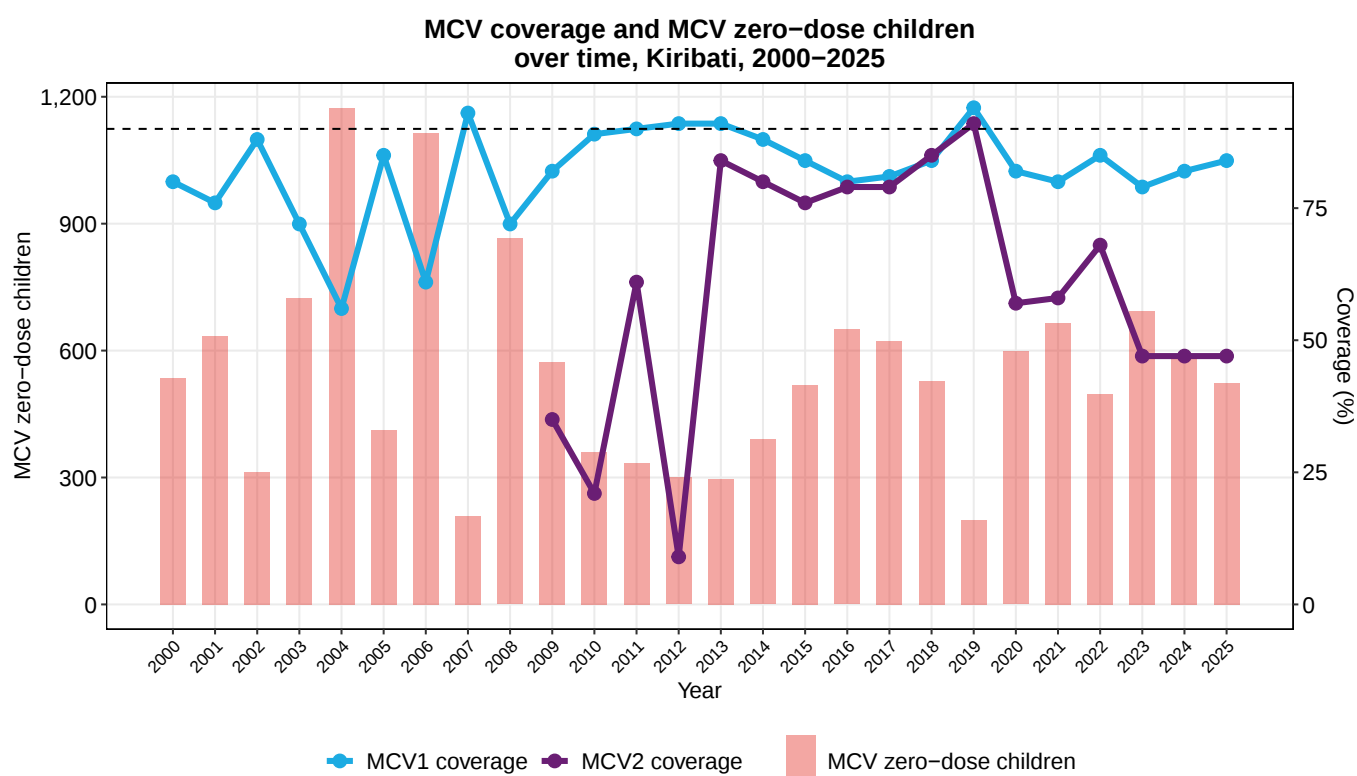
- Coverage of DTP3 stood at 87% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (97%) and lower than in 2024 (94%).
- The number of children vaccinated with DTP3 decreased from 3,000 in 2019 to 3,000 in 2025.
- In 2025, there were <500 children un- or under-vaccinated in Kiribati.
- In 2025, 10% of children who received DTP1 did not receive DTP3. This 10% dropout rate was 10 percentage points higher than in 2019 (0%) and 8 percentage points higher than the 2024 dropout rate (2%).
- Coverage of DTP3 in Kiribati (87%) was lower than the East Asia and Pacific regional average of 89% 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

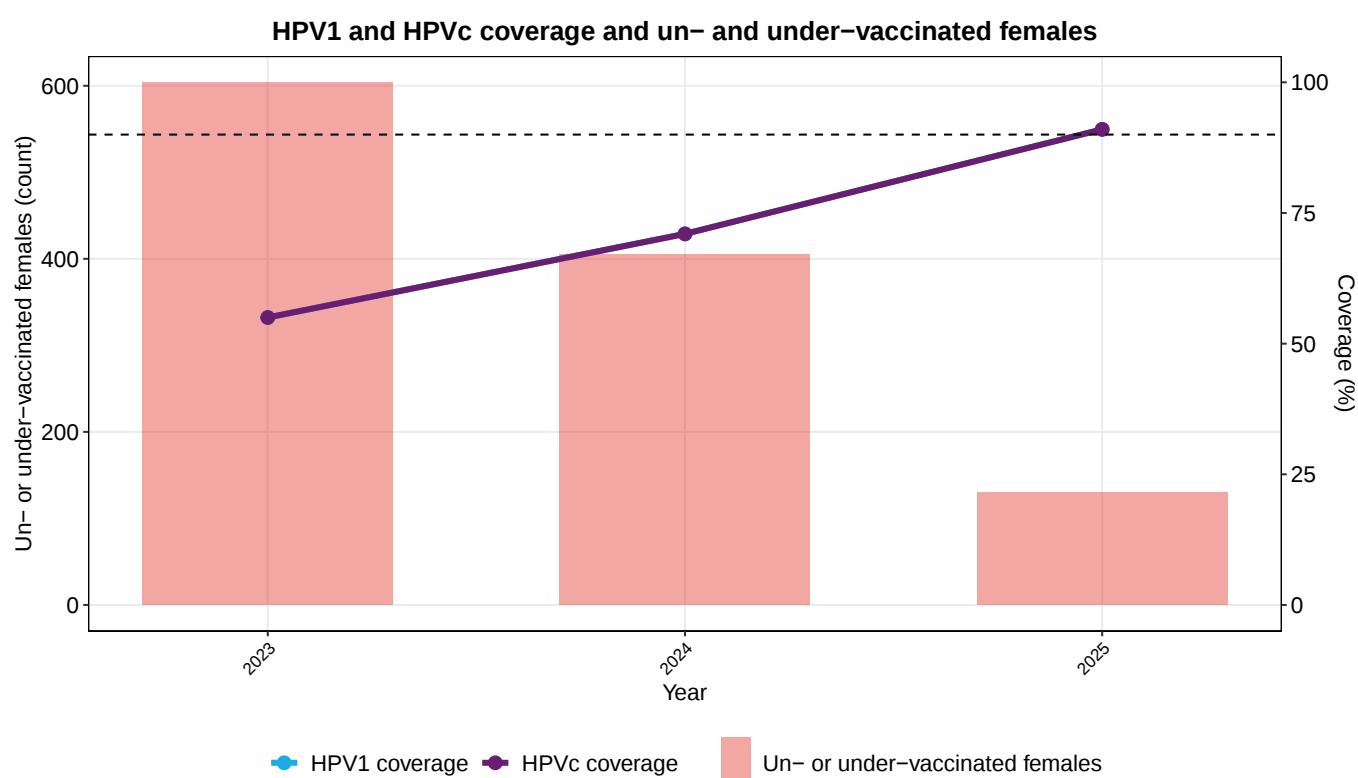
- Coverage of MCV1 stood at 84% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (94%) and higher than in 2024 (82%).
- Coverage of the second dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV2) decreased from 91% in 2019 to 47% in 2025. This leaves <1,000 children without any protection against measles and another 1,000 with only partial protection.
- In 2025, 13% of children who received DTP1 did not receive MCV1. This 13% dropout rate was 10 percentage points higher than in 2019 (3%) but 2 percentage points lower than the 2024 dropout rate (15%).
- Kiribati has achieved MCV1 coverage above 80% over all of the last 3 years.
- Coverage of MCV1 in Kiribati (84%) was lower than the East Asia and Pacific regional average of 89% 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 71% to 91% between 2024 and 2025, and coverage of the last dose (HPVc) also increased from 71% to 91%.
- HPVc coverage has exceeded the IA2030 target of 90%.
- In 2025, approximately <200 females in Kiribati did not receive any HPV vaccination (unvaccinated).
- Among East Asia and Pacific region peers, Kiribati ranked 4 out of 23 countries in HPVc coverage in 2025.



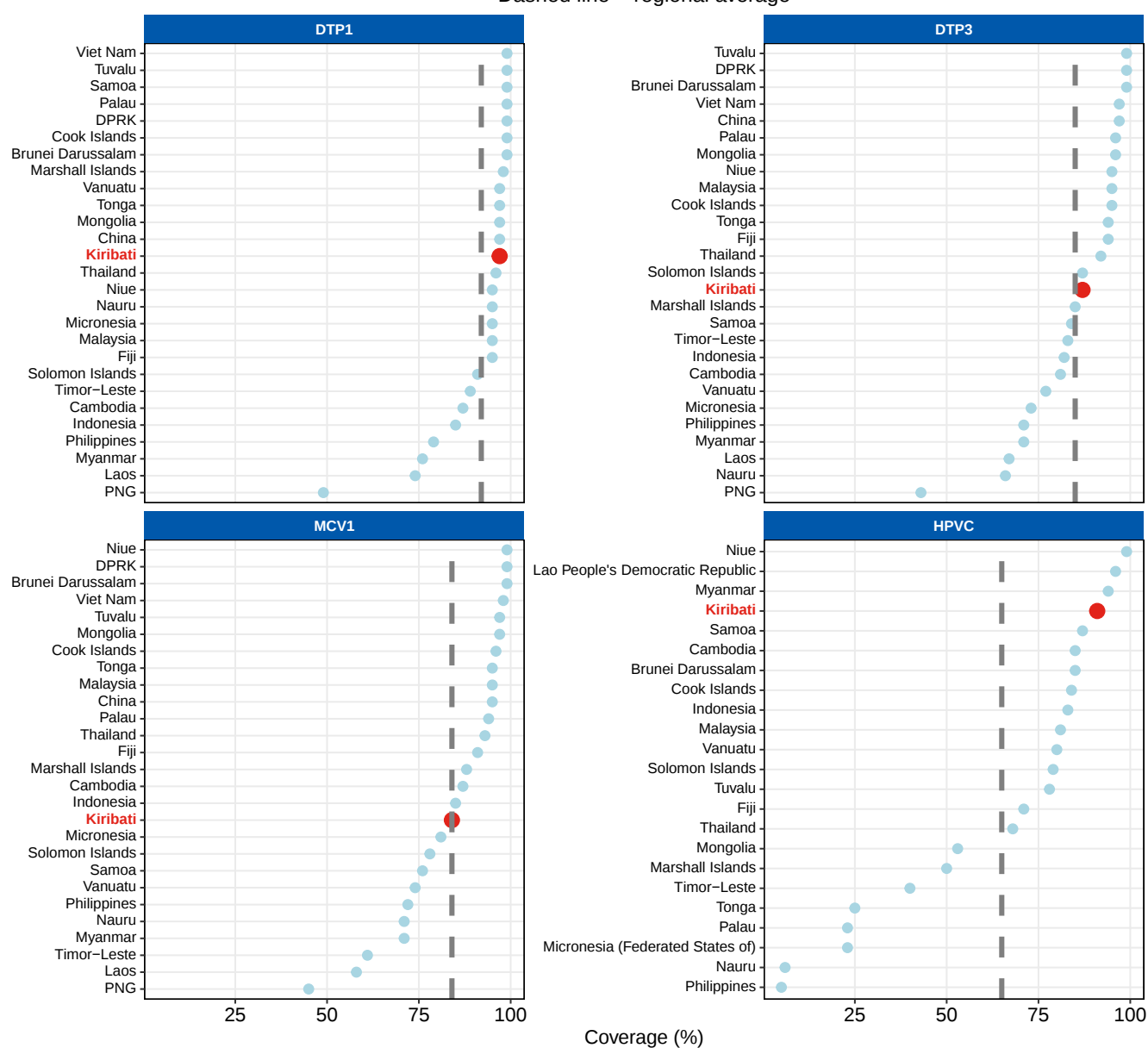
Dotted line shows the IA2030 target of 90% coverage
Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

Regional Comparison

The chart below shows how Kiribati compares to other countries in the East Asia and Pacific region on DTP1, DTP3, MCV1, and HPVc coverage in 2025. The dashed line represents the regional average for each vaccine.

Coverage comparison: Kiribati vs. EAPR peers, 2025

Dashed line = regional average



● Kiribati ● Peers

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

Additional Vaccines

- Coverage of BCG stood at 94% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (92%) and the same as in 2024 (94%).
- Coverage of HepB3 stood at 87% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (97%) and lower than in 2024 (94%).
- Coverage of Hib3 stood at 87% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (97%) and lower than in 2024 (94%).
- Coverage of IPV1 stood at 82% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (92%) and lower than in 2024 (94%).
- Coverage of PCVC stood at 87% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (97%) and lower than in 2024 (93%).
- Coverage of RotaC stood at 91% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (99%) but higher than in 2024 (90%).

Additional vaccine coverage (%), Kiribati, 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	80	85	88	91	94	93	91	90	83	76	87	86	95	86	72	79	79	89	90	92	93	96	95	95	94	94
HepB3	90	85	79	73	67	50	88	96	83	86	91	95	94	95	75	82	81	90	95	97	92	90	91	90	94	87
Hib3									83	86	91	95	94	95	75	82	81	90	95	97	92	90	91	90	94	87
IPV1																52	81	87	92	92	83	78	94	87	94	82
PCVC															40	57	78	79	91	94	97	91	90	91	91	87
RotaC																37	79	91	97	99	89	95	94	92	90	91



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/>