

WUENIC Talking Points: Kuwait

Revision Year: 2025

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Kuwait in the 'Asia' region



Overview

- A total of 13 childhood vaccines are tracked for Kuwait; of these, 11 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 (99%), coverage of the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine (DTP3) declined from 98% in 2024 to 95% in 2025, and coverage of the first dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) increased from 98% in 2024 to 99% in 2025 in 2025.
- In 2025, the number of zero-dose children for DTP in Kuwait (<500) was approximately 26% higher than the annual number proposed to achieve the IA2030 target of halving zero-dose children for DTP by 2030 (<500), based on a linear trajectory of decline.

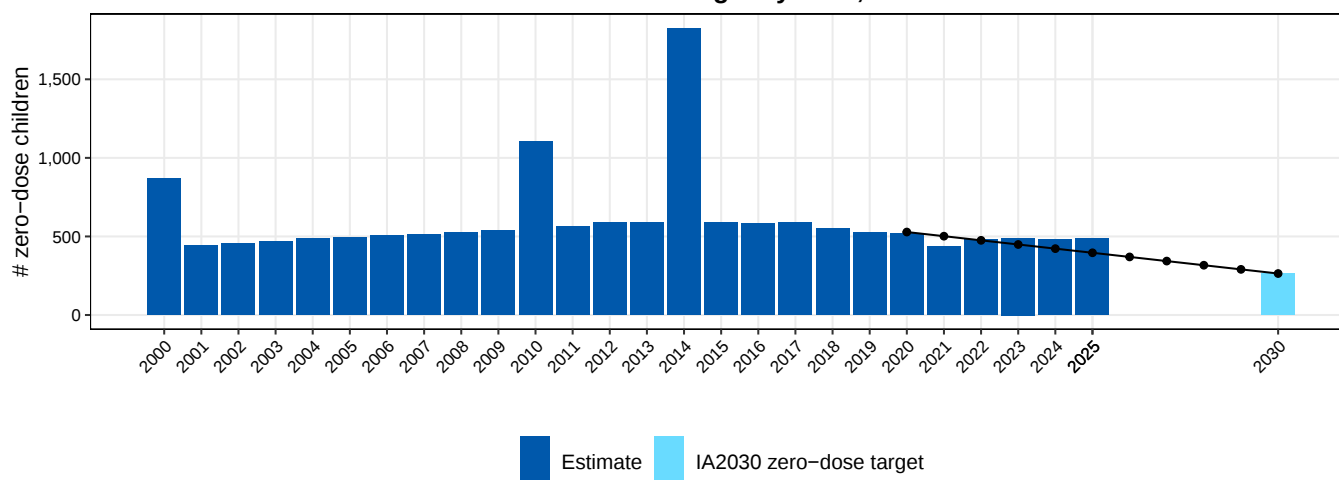
Vaccine coverage (%), Kuwait, 2000–2025

	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							84	94	99	99	98	99	97	99	99	99	96	99	96	97	98	99	99	99	99	99
HepBB	94	95	96	98	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	98	97	98	96	99	92	99	93	95	96	98	99	99	93	86
DTP1	98	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	98	99	99	99	97	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
DTP3	98	99	99	99	98	99	99	99	99	99	98	99	98	99	95	99	99	99	91	92	93	94	96	99	98	95
Hib3	98	99	99	99	98	99	99	99	99	99	98	99	98	99	95	99	99	99	91	92	93	94	96	99	98	95
HepB3	95	99	99	99	94	99	99	99	99	99	99	99	98	99	96	99	99	99	91	92	93	94	96	99	98	95
PCVC									99	99	98	99	99	99	94	99	99	99	91	93	94	96	99	99	96	95
RotaC																		3	69	71	73	75	86	88	86	83
IPV1																97	99	99	98	98	99	99	99	99	99	99
IPVC																						94	95	95	96	96
MCV1	99	99	97	97	97	99	99	99	99	99	98	99	99	99	94	93	99	99	98	97	95	94	99	99	98	99
RCV1	99	99	97	97	97	99	99	99	99	99	98	99	99	99	94	93	99	99	98	97	95	94	99	99	98	99
MCV2						77	96	90	86	94	99	99	99	99	86	96	99	99	94	94	94	94	94	91	94	98



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

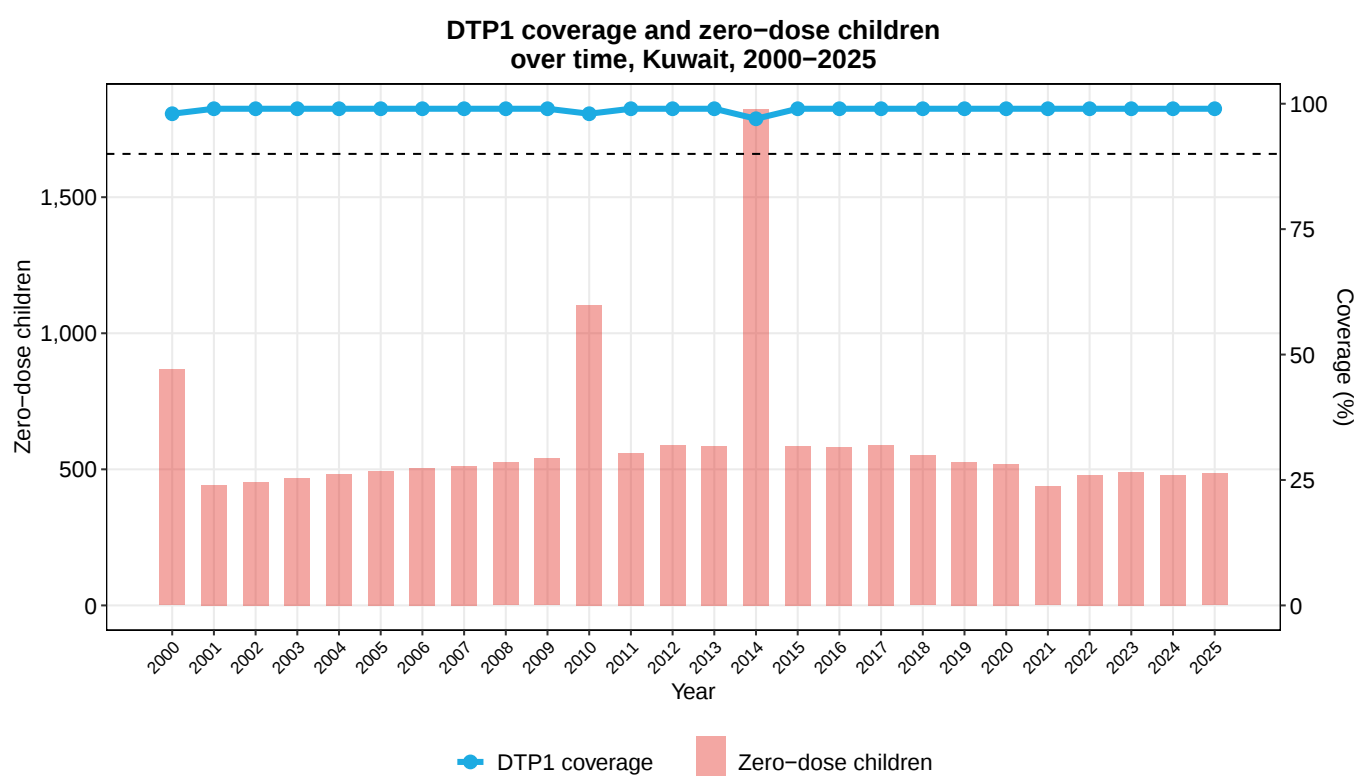
Estimated number of zero-dose children, 2000–2025 and target by 2030, Kuwait



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

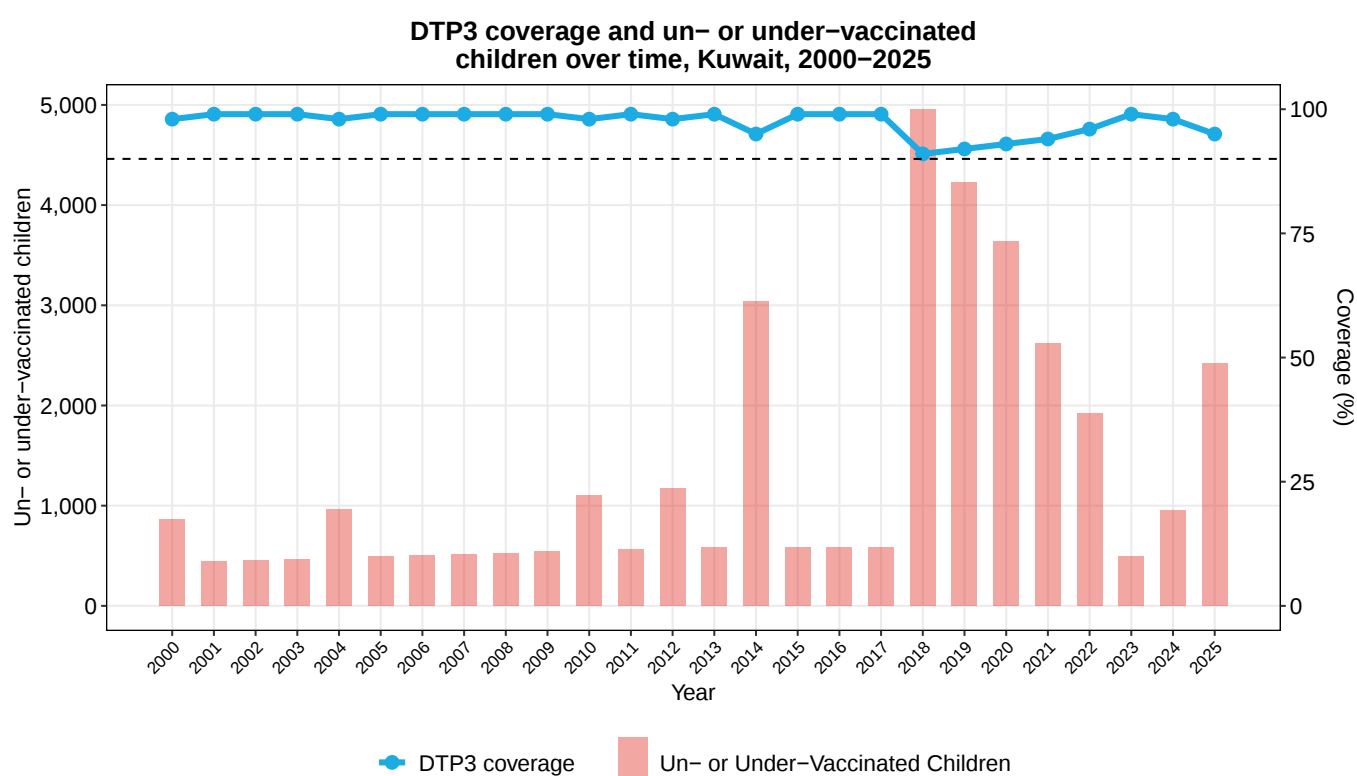
- Coverage of DTP1 stood at 99% in 2025. This is the same as in 2019 (99%) and the same as in 2024 (99%).
- The percentage of zero-dose children was 26 percentage points higher than the IA2030 target in 2025. There were approximately <500 zero-dose children in 2025, fewer than the <1,000 in 2019 but more than the <500 in 2024.
- Coverage of DTP1 in Kuwait (99%) was higher than the Middle East and North Africa regional average of 89% 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.



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

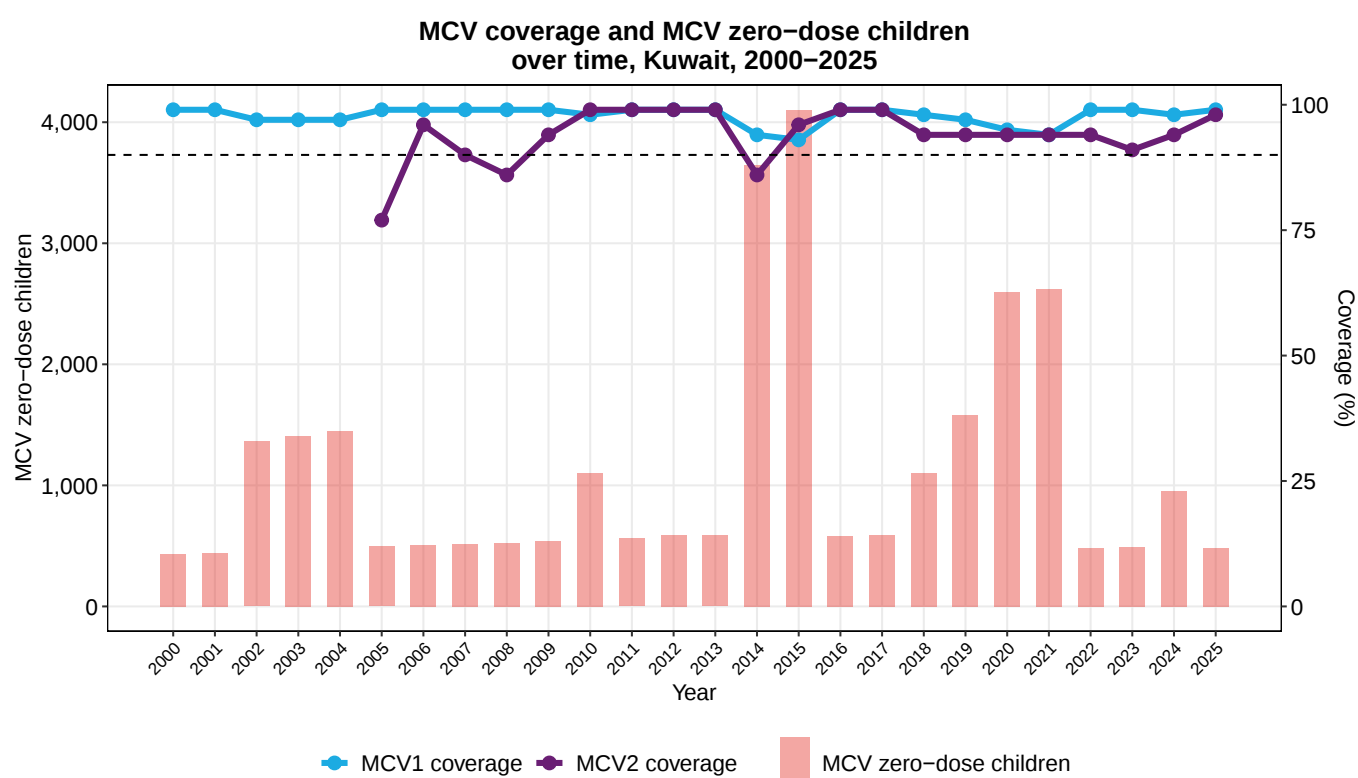
- Coverage of DTP3 stood at 95% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (92%) and lower than in 2024 (98%).
- The number of children vaccinated with DTP3 decreased from 49,000 in 2019 to 46,000 in 2025.
- In 2025, there were 2,000 children un- or under-vaccinated in Kuwait.
- In 2025, 4% of children who received DTP1 did not receive DTP3. This 4% dropout rate was 3 percentage points lower than in 2019 (7%) but 3 percentage points higher than the 2024 dropout rate (1%).
- Coverage of DTP3 in Kuwait (95%) was higher than the Middle East and North Africa regional average of 83% 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 99% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (97%) and higher than in 2024 (98%).
- Coverage of the second dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV2) increased from 94% in 2019 to 98% in 2025. This still leaves <500 children without any protection against measles and another <1,000 with only partial protection.
- In 2025, 0% of children who received DTP1 did not receive MCV1. This 0% dropout rate was 2 percentage points lower than in 2019 (2%) and 1 percentage points lower than the 2024 dropout rate (1%).
- Kuwait has achieved MCV1 coverage above 80% over all of the last 3 years.
- Coverage of MCV1 in Kuwait (99%) was higher than the Middle East and North Africa regional average of 84% in 2025.



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

HPV

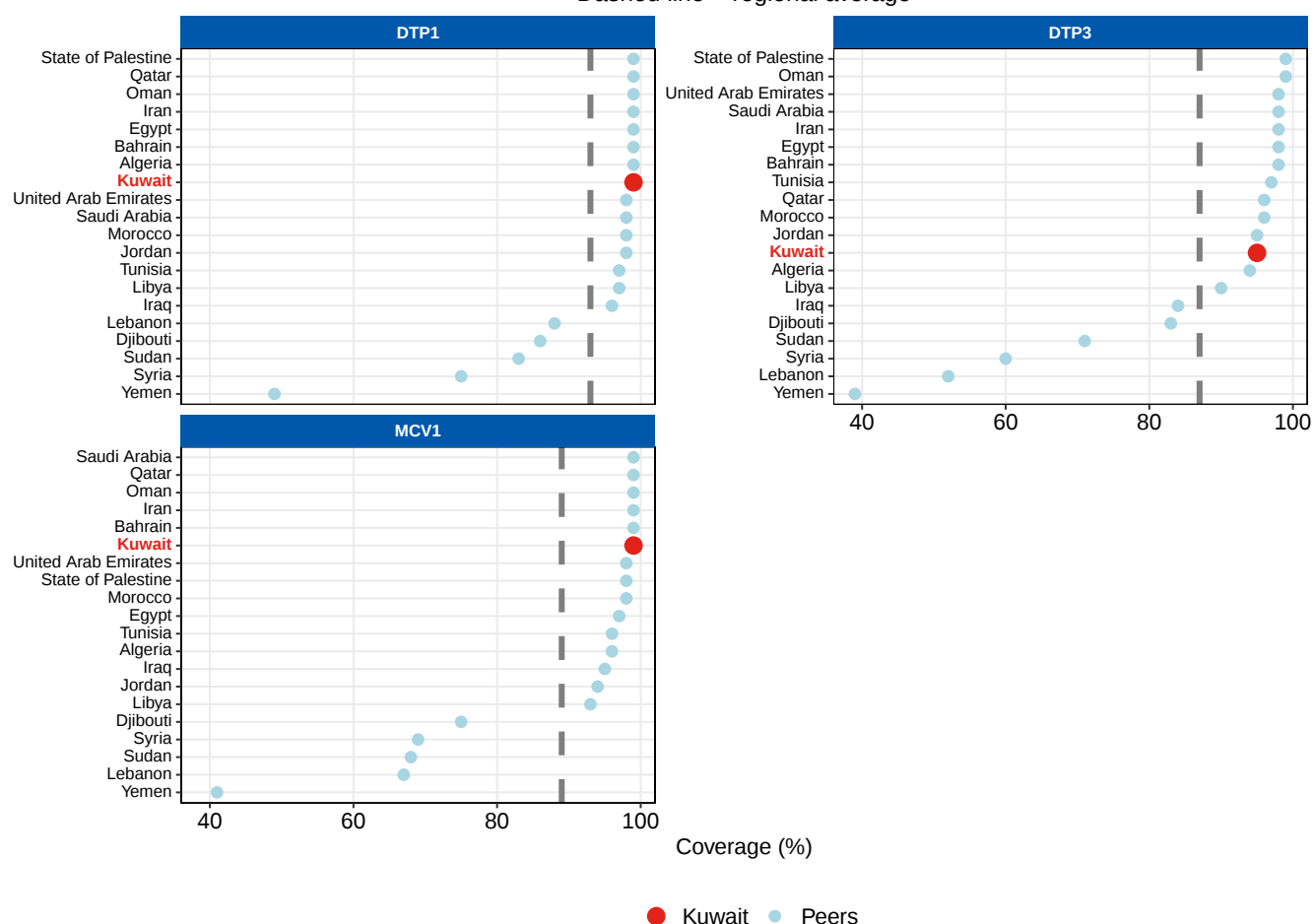
- Kuwait had introduced human papillomavirus vaccination (HPV) as of 2025 but has no WUENIC HPV data as of 2025.

Regional Comparison

The chart below shows how Kuwait compares to other countries in the Middle East and North Africa region on DTP1, DTP3, MCV1 coverage in 2025. The dashed line represents the regional average for each vaccine.

Coverage comparison: Kuwait vs. MENA peers, 2025

Dashed line = regional average

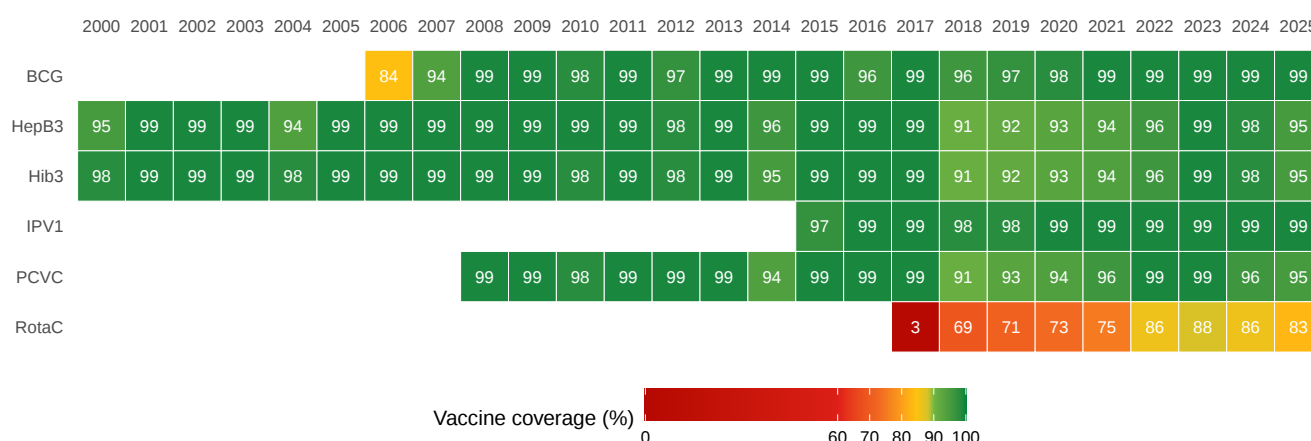


Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

Additional Vaccines

- Coverage of BCG stood at 99% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (97%) and the same as in 2024 (99%).
- Coverage of HepB3 stood at 95% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (92%) but lower than in 2024 (98%).
- Coverage of Hib3 stood at 95% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (92%) but lower than in 2024 (98%).
- Coverage of IPV1 stood at 99% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (98%) and the same as in 2024 (99%).
- Coverage of PCVC stood at 95% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (93%) but lower than in 2024 (96%).
- Coverage of RotaC stood at 83% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (71%) but lower than in 2024 (86%).

Additional vaccine coverage (%), Kuwait, 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/>