

WUENIC Talking Points: Namibia

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

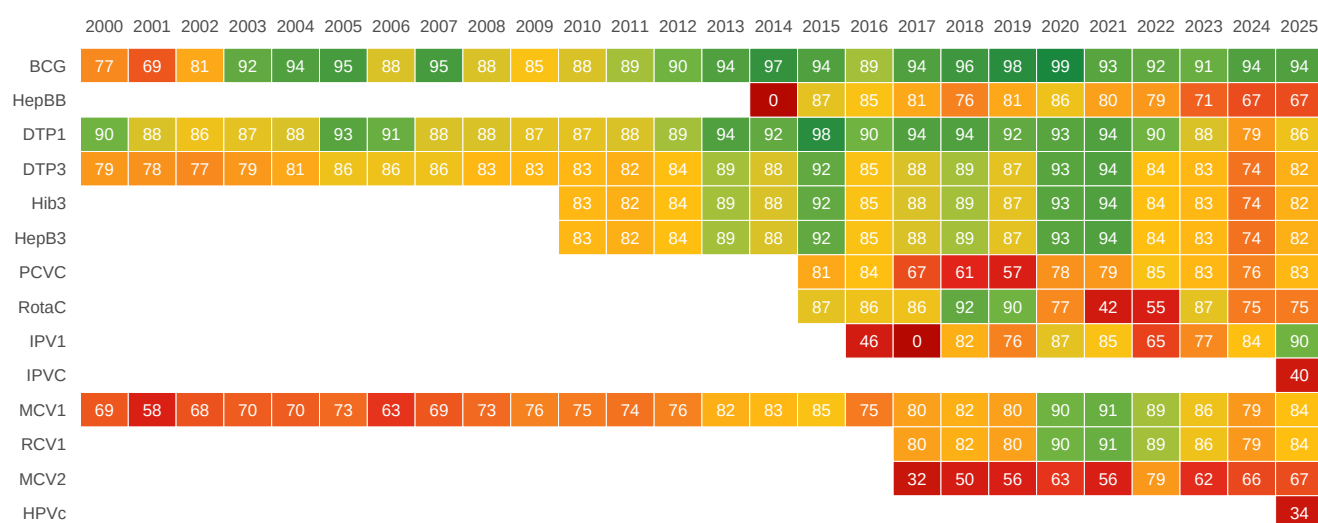
Namibia in the 'Africa' region



Overview

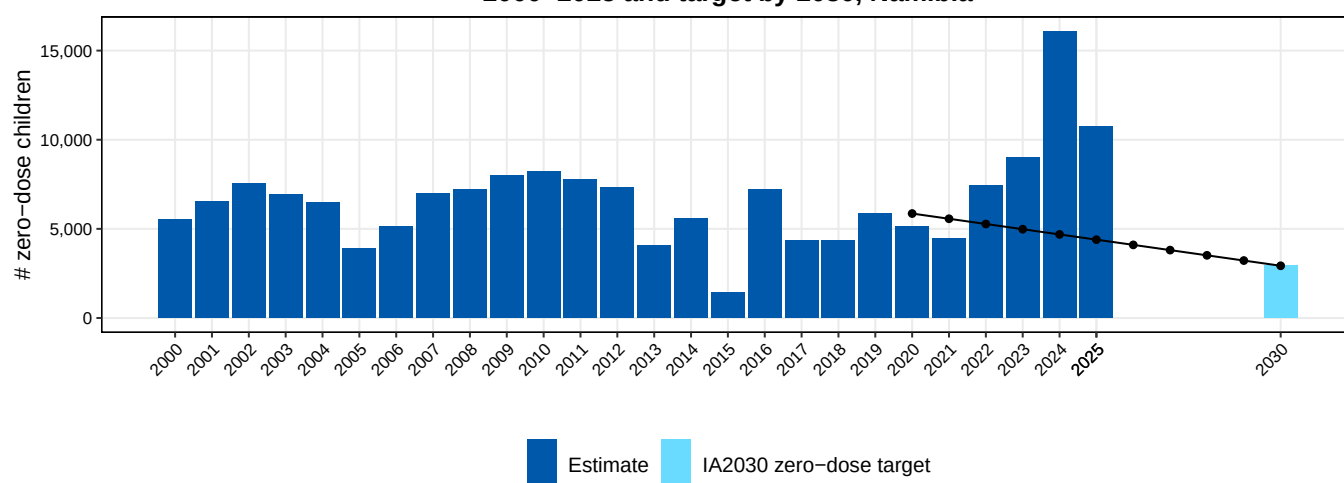
- A total of 13 childhood vaccines are tracked for Namibia; of these, 2 reached the 90% coverage target or higher in 2025.
- Coverage of the first dose of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-containing vaccine (DTP1) increased from 79% in 2024 to 86% in 2025, coverage of the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine (DTP3) increased from 74% in 2024 to 82% in 2025, and coverage of the first dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) increased from 79% in 2024 to 84% in 2025 in 2025.
- In 2025, the number of zero-dose children for DTP in Namibia (11,000) was approximately 152% higher than the annual number proposed to achieve the IA2030 target of halving zero-dose children for DTP by 2030 (4,000), based on a linear trajectory of decline.

Vaccine coverage (%), Namibia, 2000–2025



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

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

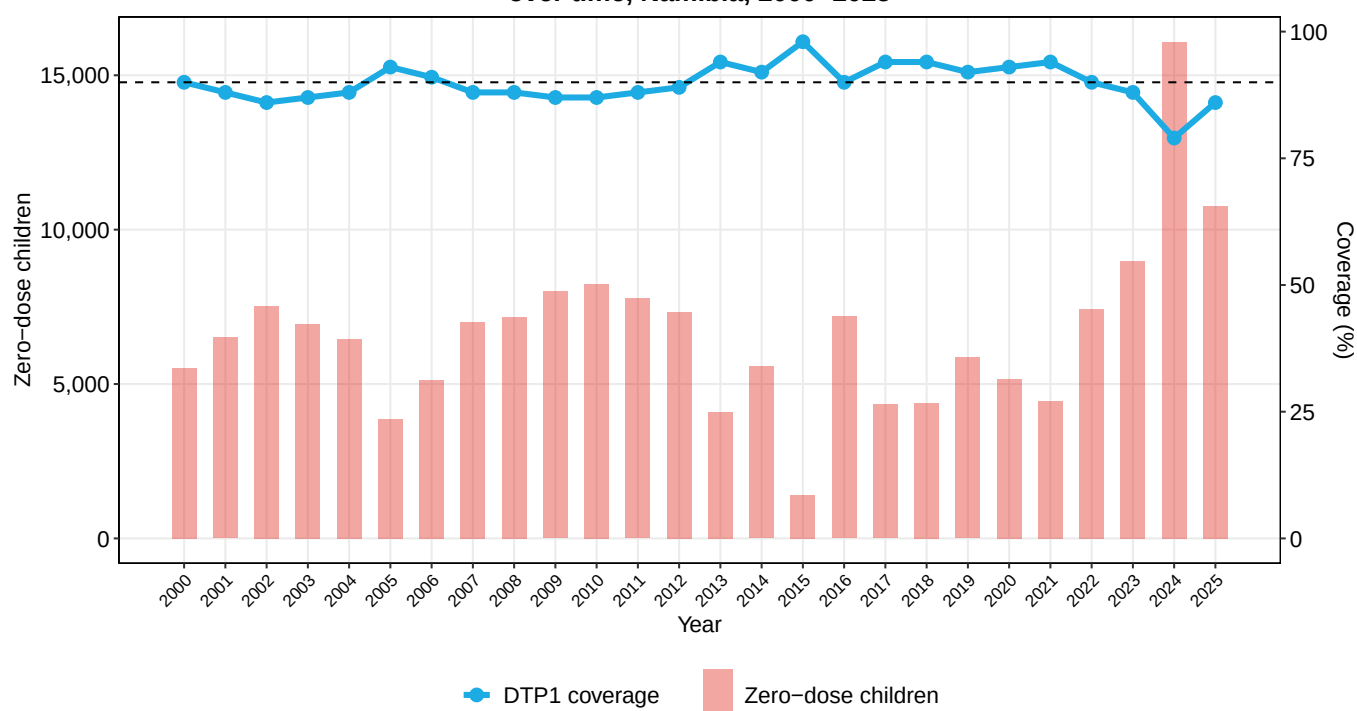


Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.
 Note: The Immunization Agenda 2030 (IA2030) calls on all countries to reduce the number of zero-dose children in 2019 in half by 2030.
 Dark blue bars are the estimated number of zero-dose children in 2000–2025, light blue 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 86% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (92%) and higher than in 2024 (79%).
- The percentage of zero-dose children was 152 percentage points higher than the IA2030 target in 2025. There were approximately 11,000 zero-dose children in 2025, more than the 6,000 in 2019 but fewer than the 16,000 in 2024.
- Coverage of DTP1 in Namibia (86%) was higher than the Eastern and Southern Africa regional average of 85% in 2025.
- DTP1-to-DTP3 dropout in 2025 was 5%, the same as in 2019. Medium DTP dropout rates imply moderate ability to provide a complete vaccine series early in life.

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

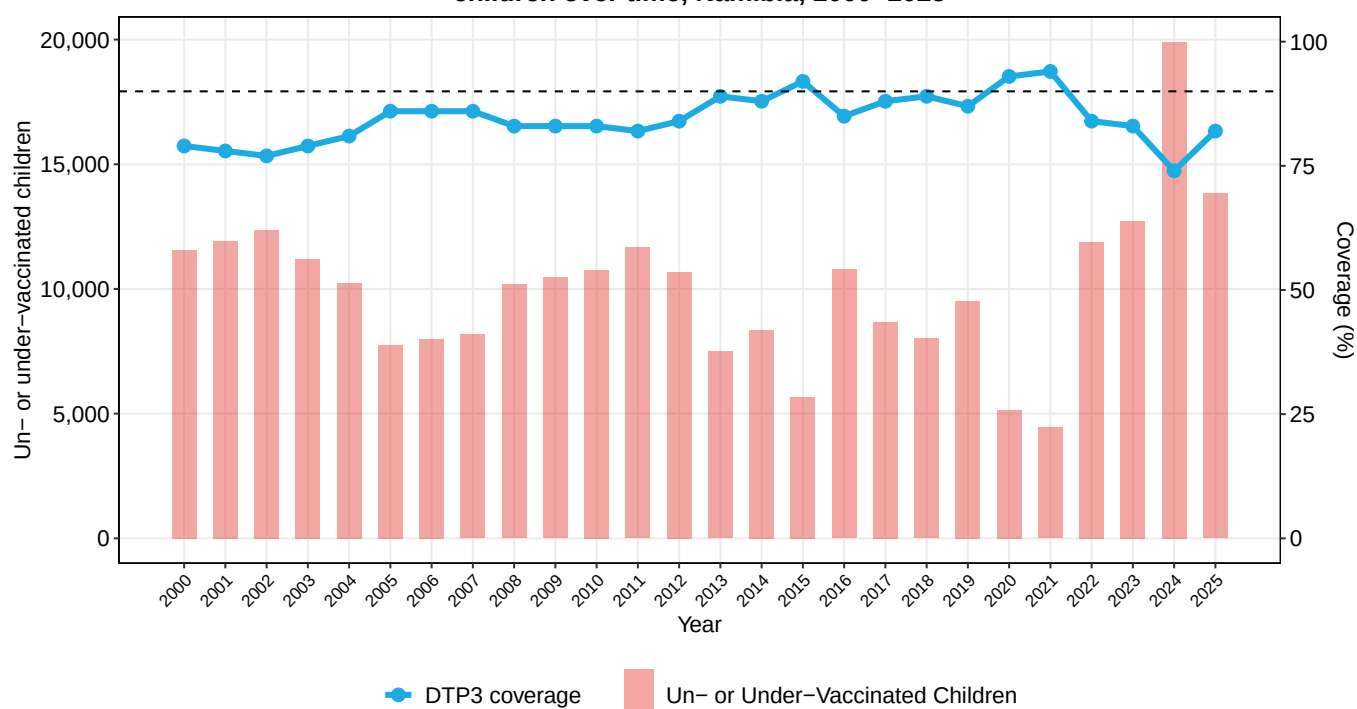


Dotted line shows the IA2030 target of 90% coverage
Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

DTP3: A marker of routine immunization service delivery to children

- Coverage of DTP3 stood at 82% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (87%) and higher than in 2024 (74%).
- The number of children vaccinated with DTP3 decreased from 64,000 in 2019 to 63,000 in 2025.
- In 2025, there were 14,000 children un- or under-vaccinated in Namibia.
- In 2025, 5% of children who received DTP1 did not receive DTP3. This 5% dropout rate was the same as in 2019 (5%) but 1 percentage points lower than the 2024 dropout rate (6%).
- Coverage of DTP3 in Namibia (82%) was higher than the Eastern and Southern Africa regional average of 80% in 2025.

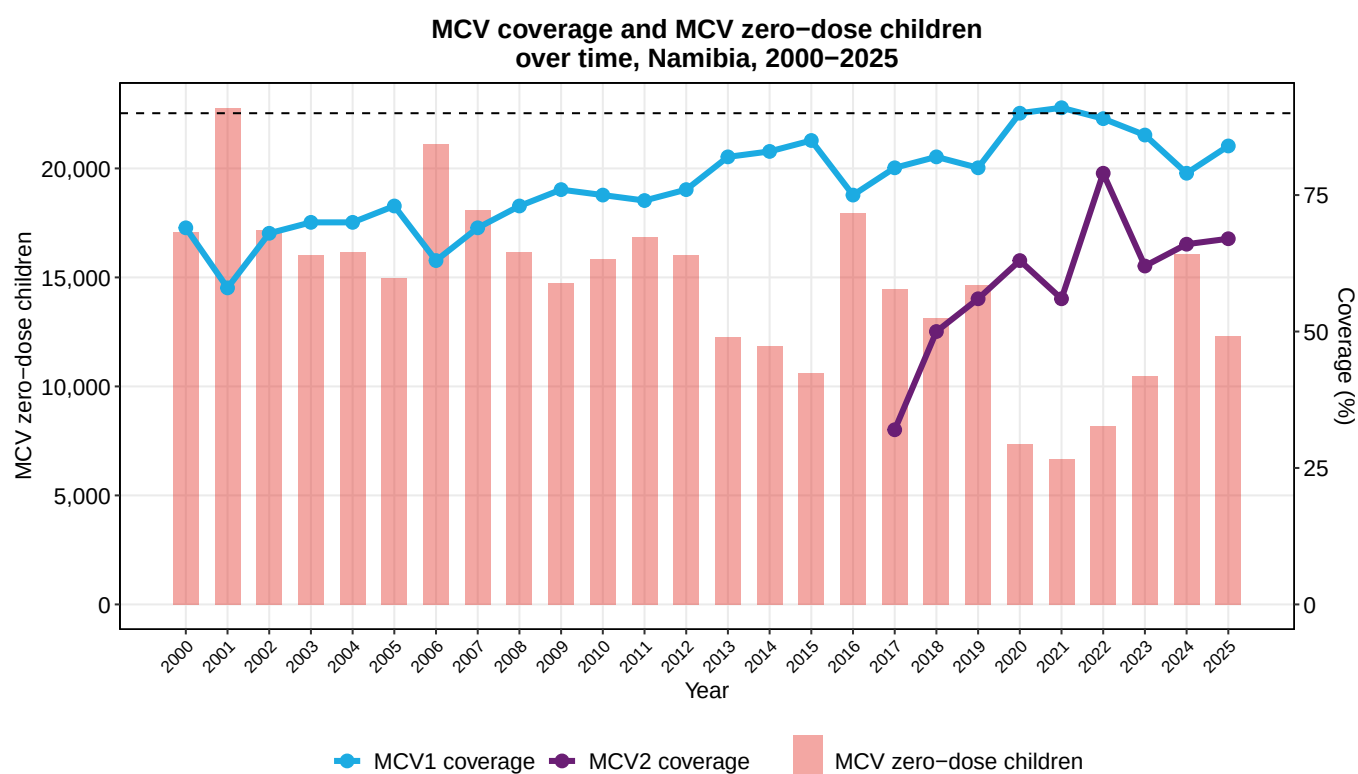
DTP3 coverage and un- or under-vaccinated children over time, Namibia, 2000–2025



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

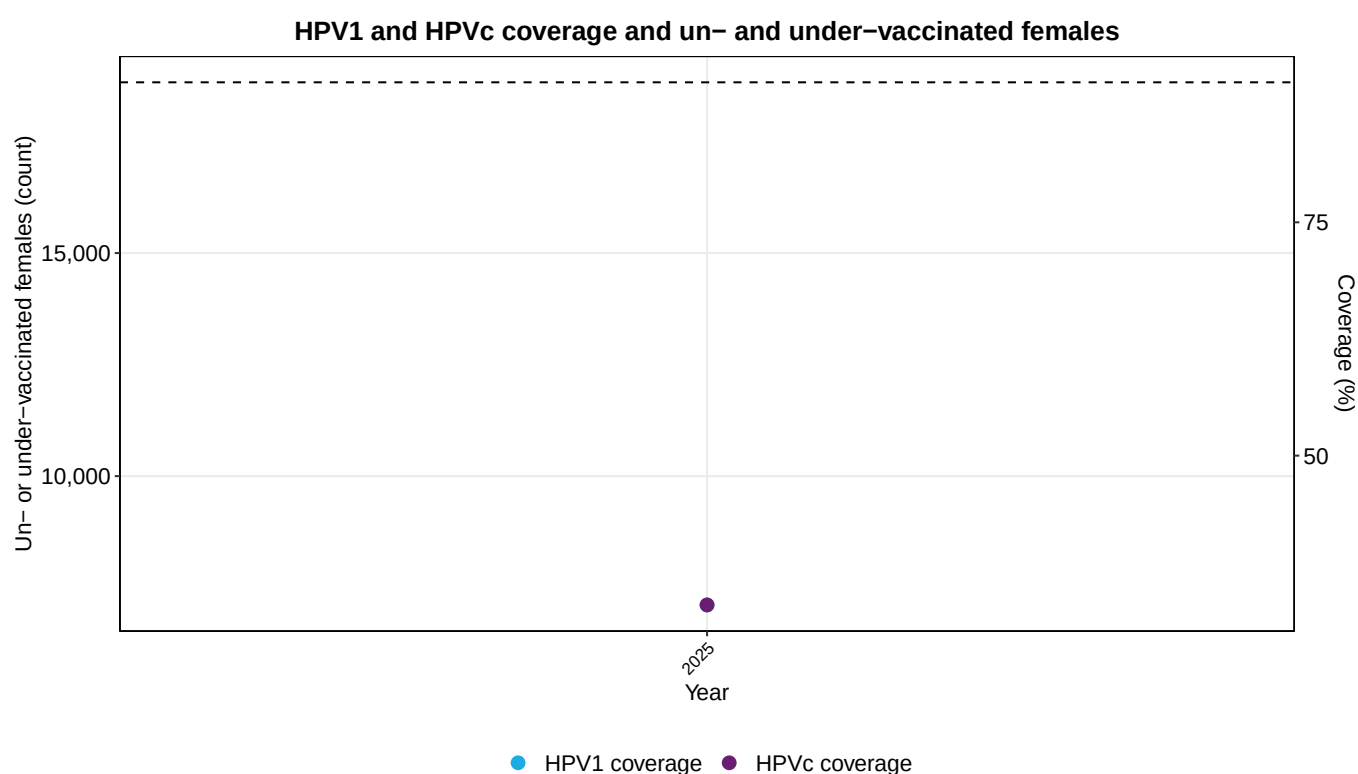
- Coverage of MCV1 stood at 84% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (80%) and higher than in 2024 (79%).
- Coverage of the second dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV2) increased from 56% in 2019 to 67% in 2025. This still leaves 12,000 children without any protection against measles and another 13,000 with only partial protection.
- In 2025, 2% of children who received DTP1 did not receive MCV1. This 2% dropout rate was 11 percentage points lower than in 2019 (13%) but 2 percentage points higher than the 2024 dropout rate (0%).
- Namibia has achieved MCV1 coverage above 80% over all of the last 3 years.
- Coverage of MCV1 in Namibia (84%) was higher than the Eastern and Southern Africa regional average of 77% in 2025.



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

HPV

- In 2025, programme coverage among females was 34% for the first dose (HPV1) and 34% for the final dose (HPVc).
- NA
- In 2025, approximately 21,000 females in Namibia did not receive any HPV vaccination (unvaccinated).
- Among Eastern and Southern Africa region peers, Namibia ranked 14 out of 17 countries in HPV1 coverage in 2025.



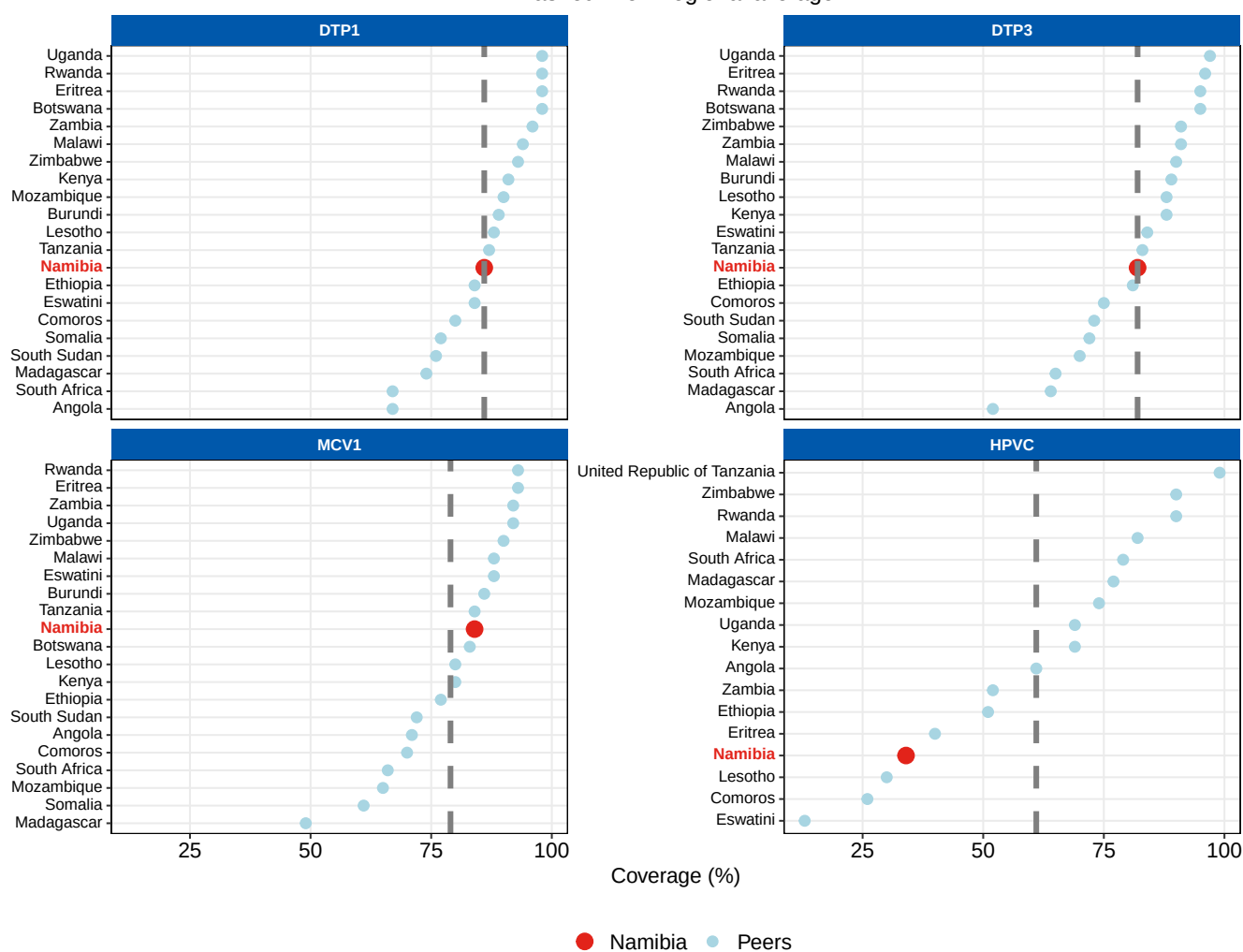
Dotted line shows the IA2030 target of 90% coverage
Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

Regional Comparison

The chart below shows how Namibia 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: Namibia 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 94% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (98%) and the same as in 2024 (94%).
- Coverage of HepB3 stood at 82% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (87%) but higher than in 2024 (74%).
- Coverage of Hib3 stood at 82% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (87%) but higher than in 2024 (74%).
- Coverage of IPV1 stood at 90% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (76%) and higher than in 2024 (84%).
- Coverage of PCVC stood at 83% in 2025. This is higher than in 2019 (57%) and higher than in 2024 (76%).
- Coverage of RotaC stood at 75% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (90%) and the same as in 2024 (75%).

Additional vaccine coverage (%), Namibia, 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	77	69	81	92	94	95	88	95	88	85	88	89	90	94	97	94	89	94	96	98	99	93	92	91	94	94	
HepB3											83	82	84	89	88	92	85	88	89	87	93	94	84	83	74	82	
Hib3											83	82	84	89	88	92	85	88	89	87	93	94	84	83	74	82	
IPV1																	46	0	82	76	87	85	65	77	84	90	
PCVC																	81	84	67	61	57	78	79	85	83	76	83
RotaC																	87	86	86	92	90	77	42	55	87	75	75



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/>