WUENIC Talking Points: New Zealand

Revision Year: 2025

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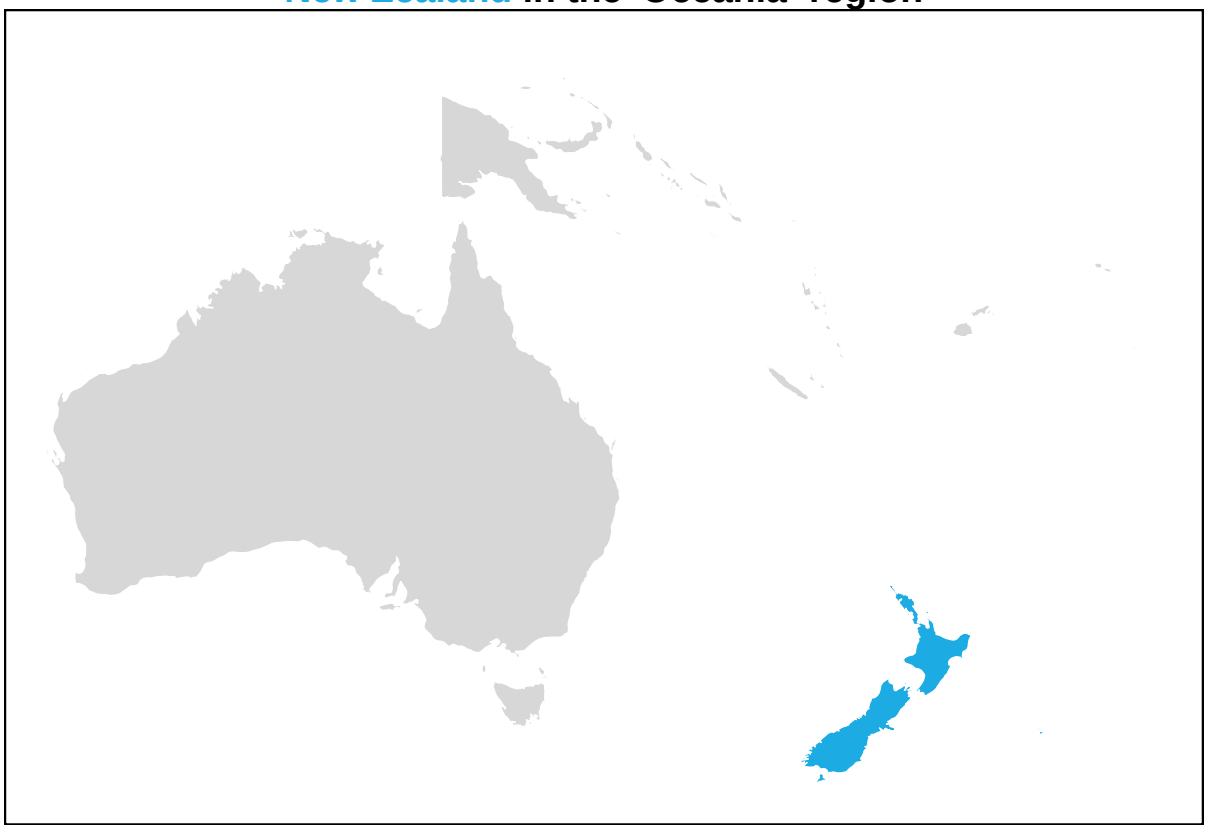
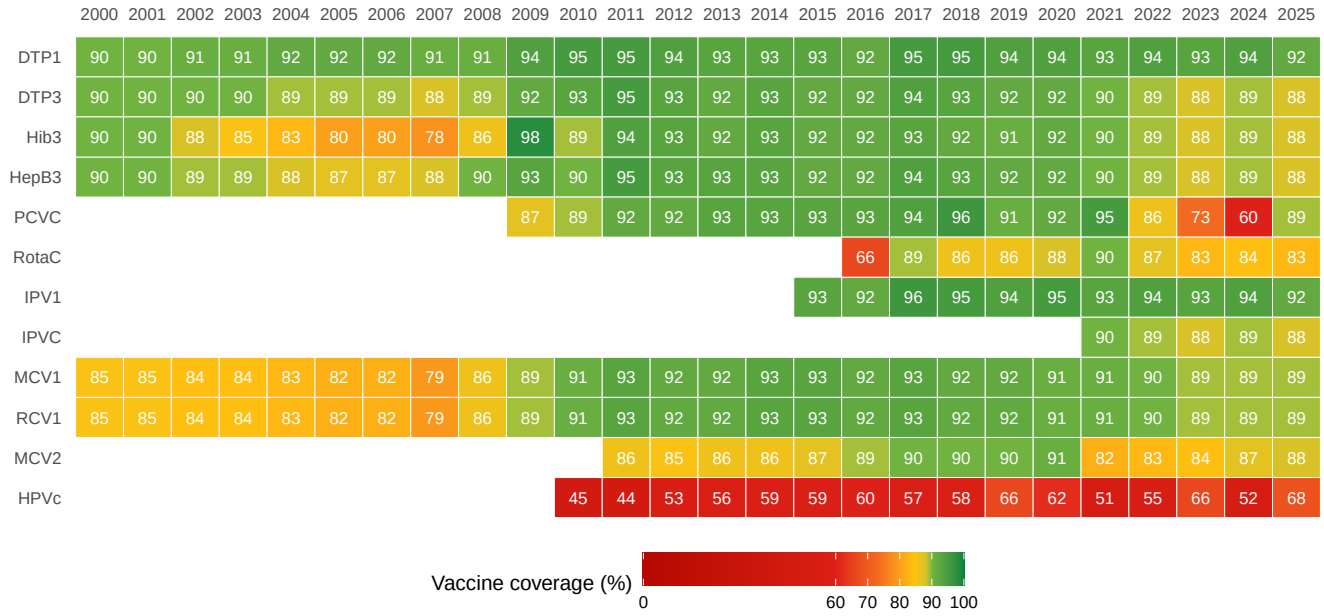
New Zealand in the 'Oceania' region



Overview

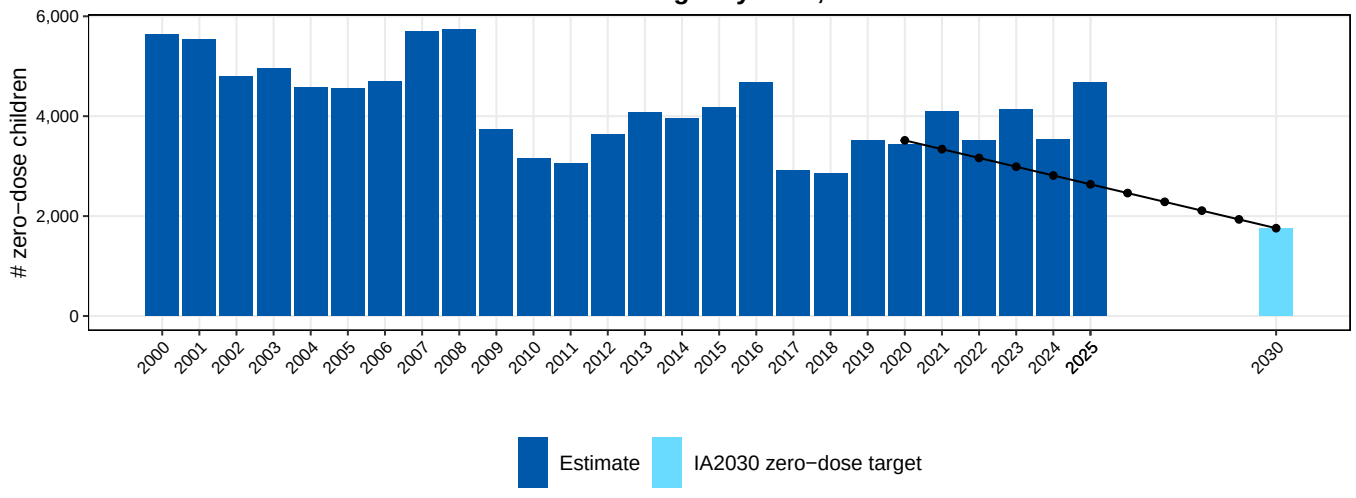
- A total of 11 childhood vaccines are tracked for New Zealand; of these, 2 reached the 90% coverage target or higher in 2025.
- Coverage of the first dose of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis-containing vaccine (DTP1) declined from 94% in 2024 to 92% in 2025, coverage of the third dose of DTP-containing vaccine (DTP3) declined from 89% in 2024 to 88% in 2025, and coverage of the first dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) was the same in 2025 as it was in 2024 (89%) in 2025.
- In 2025, the number of zero-dose children for DTP in New Zealand (5,000) was approximately 82% higher than the annual number proposed to achieve the IA2030 target of halving zero-dose children for DTP by 2030 (3,000), based on a linear trajectory of decline.

Vaccine coverage (%), New Zealand, 2000–2025



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

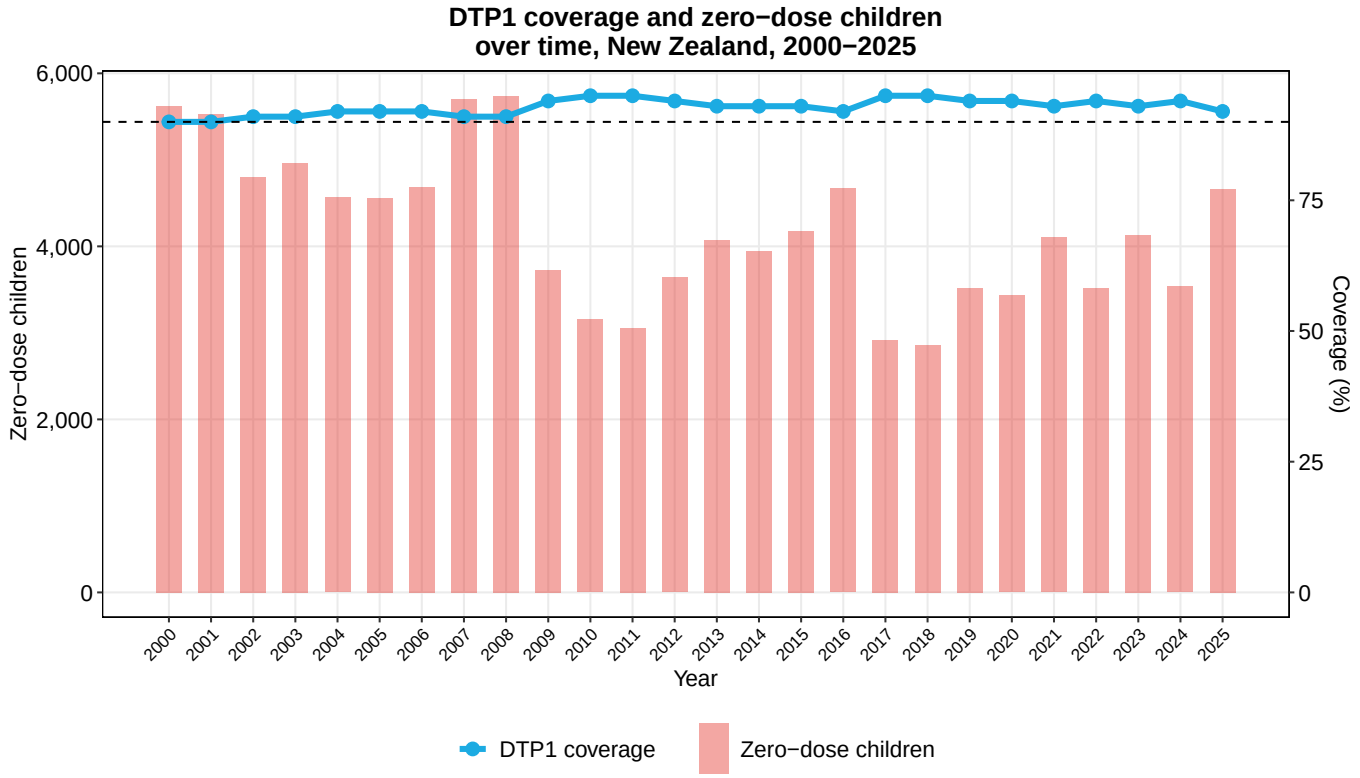
Estimated number of zero–dose children, 2000–2025 and target by 2030, New Zealand



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

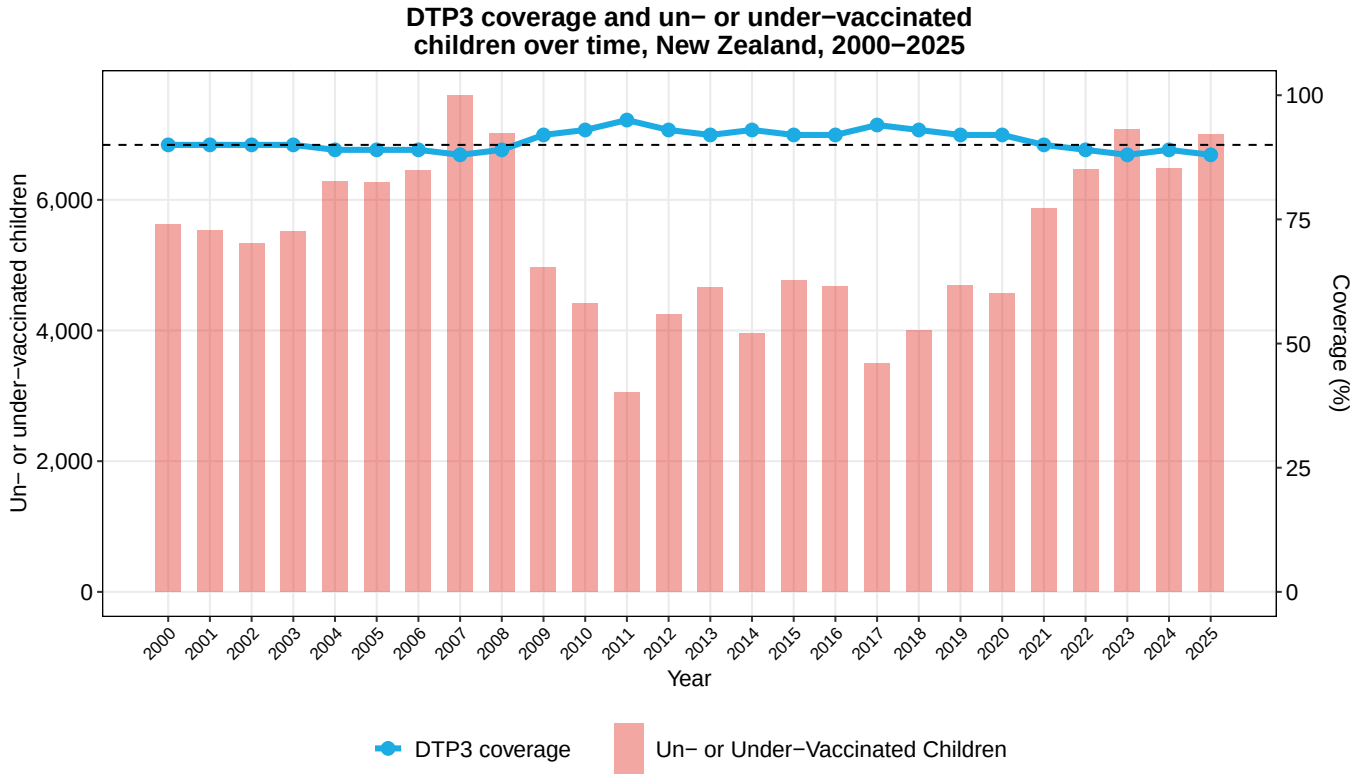
- Coverage of DTP1 stood at 92% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (94%) and lower than in 2024 (94%).
- The percentage of zero-dose children was 82 percentage points higher than the IA2030 target in 2025. There were approximately 5,000 zero-dose children in 2025, more than the 4,000 in 2019 and more than the 4,000 in 2024.
- Coverage of DTP1 in New Zealand (92%) was lower than the Non-programme regional average of 96% in 2025.
- DTP1-to-DTP3 dropout in 2025 was 4%, 2 percentage points higher than in 2019 (2%). 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

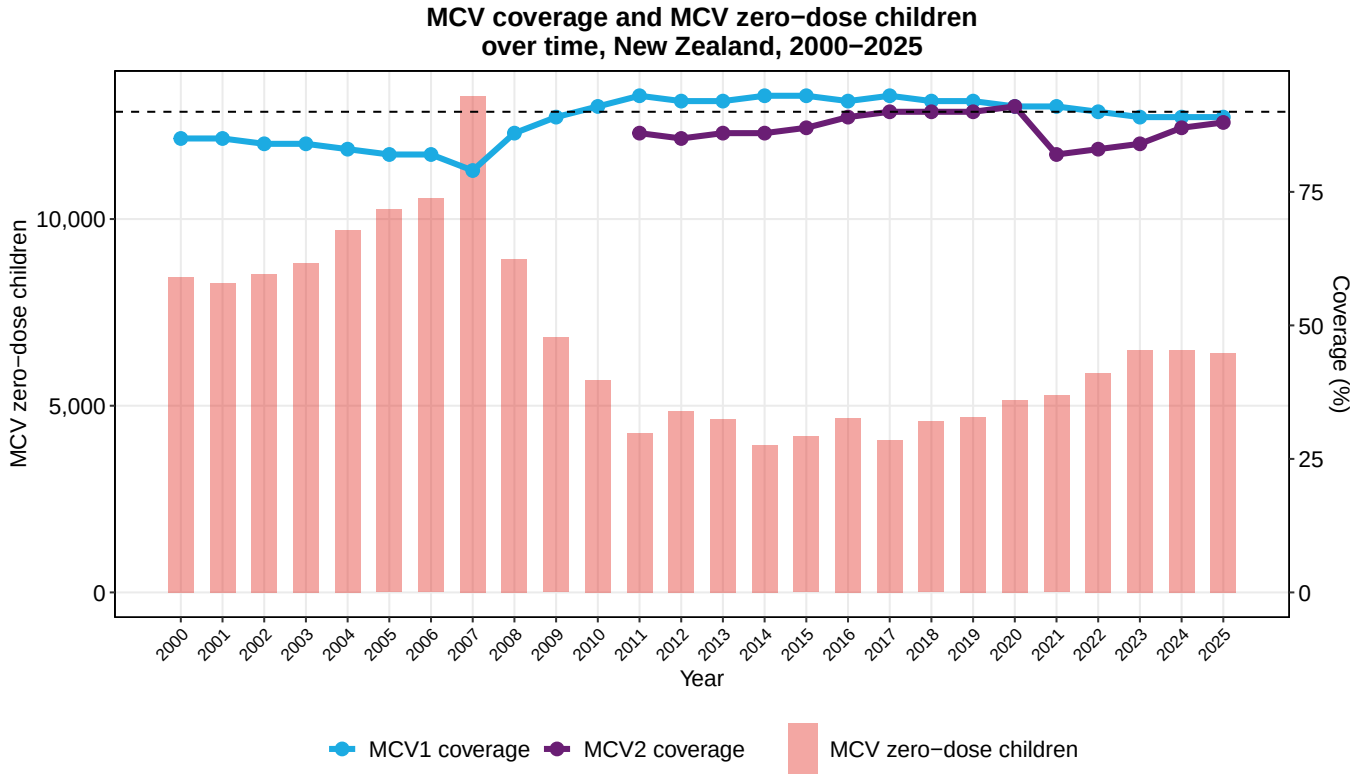
- Coverage of DTP3 stood at 88% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (92%) and lower than in 2024 (89%).
- The number of children vaccinated with DTP3 decreased from 54,000 in 2019 to 51,000 in 2025.
- In 2025, there were 7,000 children un- or under-vaccinated in New Zealand.
- In 2025, 4% of children who received DTP1 did not receive DTP3. This 4% dropout rate was 2 percentage points higher than in 2019 (2%) but 1 percentage points lower than the 2024 dropout rate (5%).
- Coverage of DTP3 in New Zealand (88%) 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

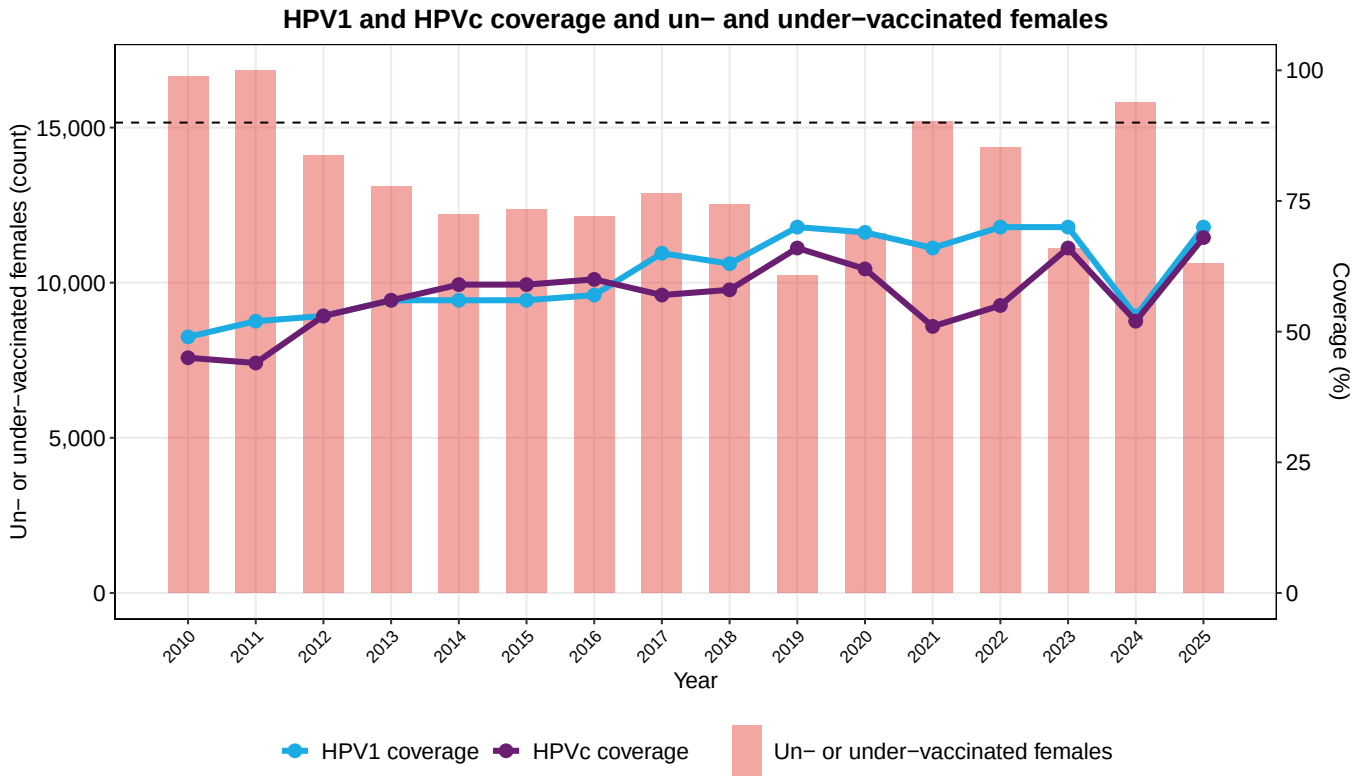
- Coverage of MCV1 stood at 89% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (92%) and the same as in 2024 (89%).
- Coverage of the second dose of the measles-containing vaccine (MCV2) decreased from 90% in 2019 to 88% in 2025. This leaves 6,000 children without any protection against measles and another <1,000 with only partial protection.
- In 2025, 3% of children who received DTP1 did not receive MCV1. This 3% dropout rate was 1 percentage points higher than in 2019 (2%) but 2 percentage points lower than the 2024 dropout rate (5%).
- New Zealand has achieved MCV1 coverage above 80% over all of the last 3 years.
- Coverage of MCV1 in New Zealand (89%) was lower 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

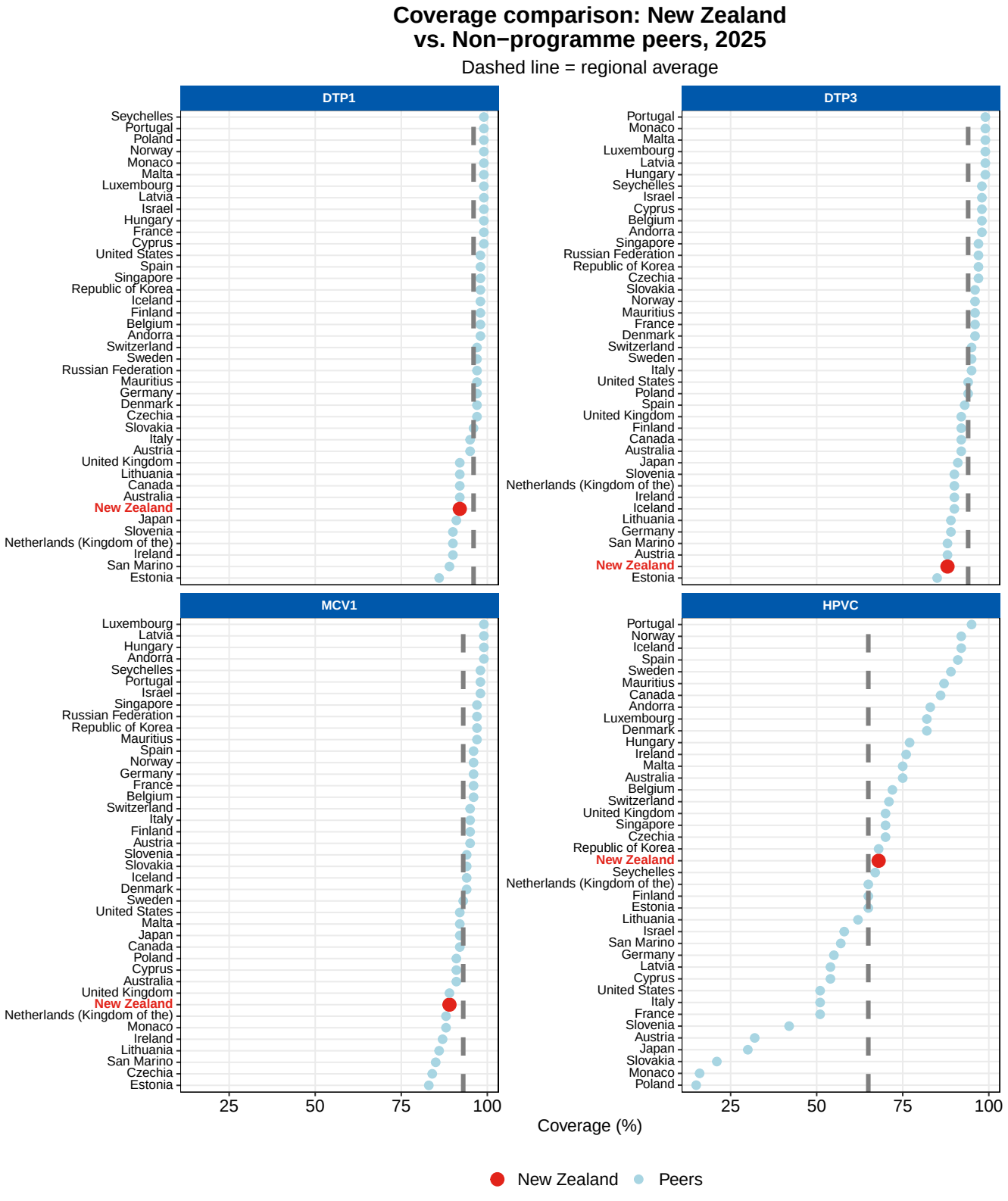
- Programme coverage of HPV1 among females increased from 53% to 70% between 2024 and 2025, and coverage of the last dose (HPVc) also increased from 52% to 68%.
- HPVc coverage remains well below the IA2030 target of 90%, though it is trending upward.
- In 2025, approximately 10,000 females in New Zealand did not receive any HPV vaccination (unvaccinated).
- Among Non-programme region peers, New Zealand ranked 20 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 New Zealand 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.

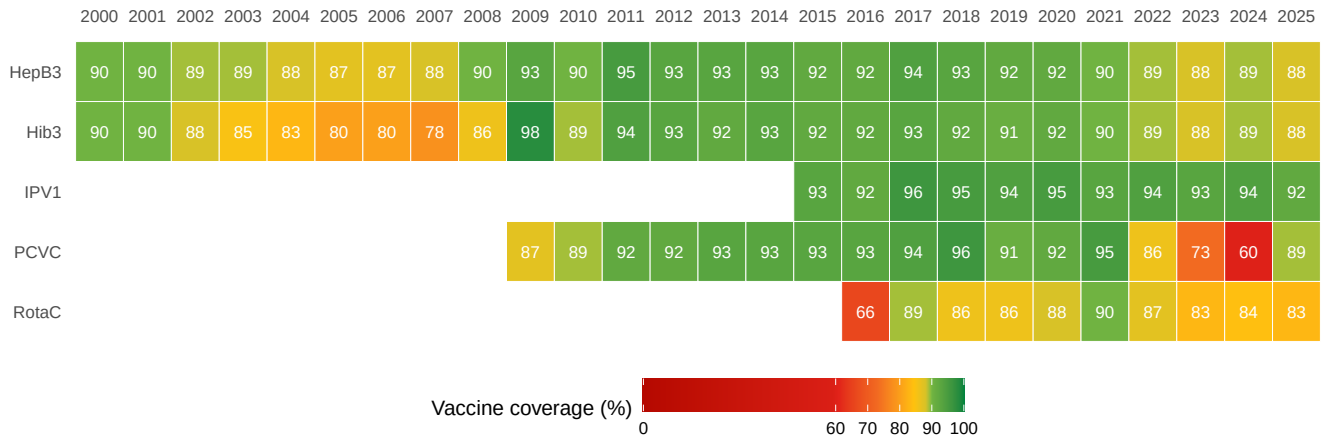


Source: WHO/UNICEF estimates of national immunization coverage, 2025 revision.

Additional Vaccines

- Coverage of HepB3 stood at 88% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (92%) and lower than in 2024 (89%).
- Coverage of Hib3 stood at 88% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (91%) and lower than in 2024 (89%).
- Coverage of IPV1 stood at 92% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (94%) and lower than in 2024 (94%).
- Coverage of PCVC stood at 89% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (91%) but higher than in 2024 (60%).
- Coverage of RotaC stood at 83% in 2025. This is lower than in 2019 (86%) and lower than in 2024 (84%).

Additional vaccine coverage (%), New Zealand, 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/