About this Release
This annual report, covering calendar year immunisation uptake rates for children aged up to six years, is published in March each year. In addition, each quarter ISD publish updated tables presenting the latest quarterly uptake rates. This release includes uptake rates for the quarter and year ending 31 December 2013.

Key Points

Calendar year figures:

- In Scotland immunisation uptake rates for children aged up to six years remain high and stable.
- At Scotland level, uptake rates by 24 months of age of complete primary courses of immunisation against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio & Hib (the five-in-one vaccine), MenC and PCV remain high and stable at around 96% to 98%. Uptake rates of complete primary courses of these vaccines by 24 months have exceeded the 95% target since 2002.
- Annual uptake of the PCV booster and Hib/MenC booster vaccines by 24 months of age exceed 95%.
- Annual uptake of the first dose of MMR vaccine by 24 months of age reached 95.4% (the previous annual figure was 95.0%). Uptake rates by 24 months of age have continued to be above 90% since calendar year 2006. Annual uptake of the first dose of MMR by five years of age is 97.1% (the previous annual figure was 96.9%). MMR uptake rates by five years have remained above the 95% target since calendar year 2009.

Background
Children in Scotland are protected through immunisation against many serious infectious diseases. Vaccination programmes aim both to protect the individual and to prevent the spread of these illnesses within the population. As a public health measure, immunisations have been hugely effective in reducing the burden of disease. It is of public health concern
should immunisation rates decrease, as this makes the possibility of disease transmission more likely.

In Scotland the target of the national immunisation programme is for 95% of children to complete courses of the following childhood immunisations by 24 months of age: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib), Meningococcal group C (MenC) and Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV). An additional national target of 95% uptake of one dose of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine by five years of age (with a supplementary measure at 24 months) was introduced in 2006 to focus efforts on reducing the number of susceptible children entering primary school.

**Contact**

**Judith Tait**  
Principal Information Analyst  
NSS.isdchildhealth@nhs.net  
0131 275 6833

**Caroline McKenna**  
Senior Information Analyst  
NSS.isdchildhealth@nhs.net  
0141 282 2118

**Further Information**

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [ISD website](#)