About this Release

This publication from Information Services Division provides a quarterly update of immunisation uptake rates for children at 12 months, 24 months, five years and six years of age, by NHS Board and local authority. Vaccination programmes for children in Scotland aim to both protect the individual child from many serious infectious diseases but also to prevent the spread of disease within the wider population.

Key Point

- Rates of childhood immunisations continue to be high in Scotland, ranging from 93.0% to 98.2% across the different age bands and vaccines.

Background

As a public health measure, immunisations have been very effective in reducing the burden of disease. It is of public health concern when immunisation rates fall, as this increases both the possibility of disease transmission and complications arising from outbreaks of infectious diseases. In Scotland, the national immunisation programme target 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).
There is an additional national target of 95% uptake for one dose of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine by five years of age (with a supplementary measure at 24 months). This target was introduced in 2006 to focus efforts on reducing the number of susceptible children entering primary school.

**Further Information**

All of the statistics in this update are available in [downloadable data tables](#).

We also make available [background metadata and information on our pre-release access](#).

Our annual report on childhood immunisation uptake rates in Scotland is published in March. This report provides comprehensive commentary on immunisation including an outline of the UK childhood immunisation schedule, statistics by calendar year and an explanation of trends in uptake rates.

All our [published information on immunisation](#) is available on our website.

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**ISD and Official Statistics**

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