



**TO:** Immunization Action Coalition of Washington Members

**FROM:** Washington State Department of Health | Julia Velonjara, MPH

**DATE:** August 24, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Washington's New Data from the National Immunization Survey

To our partners in the Immunization Action Coalition of Washington,

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released the 2017 National Immunization Survey (NIS) Teen data, including Washington's immunization rates. The results show a significant gain for a key human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination measure: One dose of HPV vaccine for males 13-17 years increased from 59.1 percent to 71.2 percent. There is no longer a statistically significant gap between female and male rates. However, like the rest of the country, not enough of Washington's preteens and teens are getting all needed doses of HPV vaccine or getting them on time.

Public health, healthcare providers, and other community partners have been diligently working together for several years to increase the number of teens who get the HPV vaccine.

Overall, we have made slow and steady progress on teen immunization rates over the past ten years. Other rates were statistically similar to 2016, including Tdap, meningococcal conjugate, and MMR vaccines. We are now meeting national Healthy People 2020 goals of over 80 percent coverage for Tdap (88.6 percent) and meningococcal conjugate (82.6 percent) vaccines, but the up-to-date HPV vaccine lags behind at 55.2 percent. Since all of these vaccines should be given at the same time, this means we are missing a lot of opportunities to protect Washington kids from many cancers.

We are now also achieving the Healthy People 2020 goal of 90 percent coverage for two doses of varicella vaccine. Our two-dose varicella vaccine coverage increased significantly from 85 percent to 92 percent. Tdap levels remain high, but whooping cough continues to circulate in our communities due to waning immunity. State health officials are also concerned that our teen MMR vaccination rate (91.5 percent) is below the community immunity level needed to prevent the spread of measles (95 percent).

The Department of Health, the IACW, and other partners must continue to strive to improve teen immunization rates. We would like to continue our progress to meeting all benchmarks of the Healthy People 2020 immunization goals and community immunity coverage levels.

Here is an at-a-glance of some of the key numbers; more in-depth data are linked below.

**2017 NIS-Teen Results for Selected Vaccines (Ages 13 to 17)**

<b>Vaccine</b>	<b>WA</b>	<b>National</b>
≥1 Tdap	88.6%	88.7%
≥1 Meningococcal ACWY	82.6%	85.1%*
≥2 MMR	91.5%	92.1%*
≥2 Varicella	92.0%*	88.6%*
HPV		
≥1 HPV Females	72.6%	68.6%*
HPV UTD Females	56.8%	53.1%*
≥1 HPV Males	71.2%*	62.6%*
HPV UTD Males	53.7%	44.3%*
≥1 HPV All	71.9%	65.5%*
HPV UTD All	55.2%	48.6%*

\*indicates statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) change from 2016 to 2017.

You can view both national and statewide NIS-Teen results at the CDC's [TeenVaxView](#). The article about nationwide data is in the [August 24 MMWR](#). If you have questions about Washington's data, contact:

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