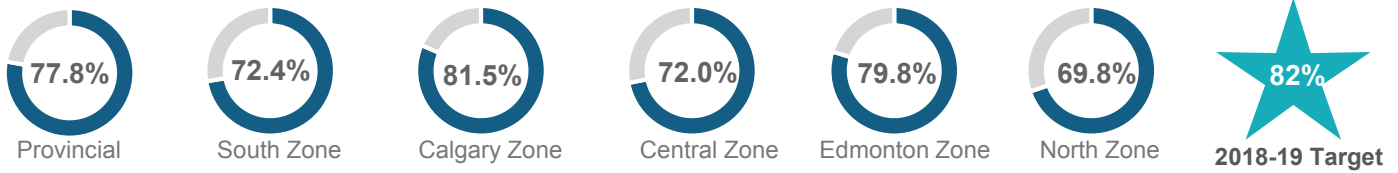


This measure is defined as the percentage of children who have received the required number of vaccine doses by two years of age. A high rate of immunization for a population reduces the incidence of vaccine preventable childhood diseases, and controls outbreaks. Immunizations protect children and adults from a number of preventable diseases, some of which can be fatal or produce permanent disabilities. The higher the percentage the better, as it demonstrates more children are immunized and protected from preventable childhood diseases.

Childhood Immunization Rate: DTaP-IPV-Hib, Q2YTD 2018-19



Childhood Immunization Rate: DTaP-IPV-Hib Trend

Zone Name	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Q2YTD 2017-18	Q2YTD 2018-19	Trend	2018-19 Target
Provincial	77.6%	78.3%	78.0%	78.3%	77.7%	78.6%	77.8%	⇔	82%
South Zone	64.6%	67.9%	65.7%	67.8%	70.0%	70.4%	72.4%	⇔	82%
Calgary Zone	81.4%	82.6%	81.5%	81.4%	79.8%	80.2%	81.5%	⇔	82%
Central Zone	71.1%	71.1%	70.9%	70.6%	70.7%	71.4%	72.0%	⇔	82%
Edmonton Zone	84.0%	84.0%	84.6%	84.0%	82.9%	84.9%	79.8%	*	82%
North Zone	67.2%	66.6%	66.5%	67.7%	68.9%	69.4%	69.8%	⇔	82%

Trend Legend: ☆Target Achieved ↑Improvement ⇔Stable: ≤3% relative change compared to the same period last year ↓Area requires additional focus

Total Eligible Population

Zone	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Q2YTD 2017-18	Q2YTD 2018-19
Provincial	54,267	55,138	56,208	29,112	28,895
South Zone	4,104	4,157	4,271	2,289	2,117
Calgary Zone	19,602	20,424	20,862	10,760	10,784
Central Zone	6,240	5,833	5,661	3,005	2,805
Edmonton Zone	16,870	17,578	18,114	9,227	9,489
North Zone	7,451	7,146	7,300	3,831	3,700

Source: Province-wide Immunization Program, Communicable Disease Control as of October 13, 2018

Notes:

- The target represented is the AHS' 2018-19 Target. Alberta Health has higher targets for both vaccines by two years of age.

- * 2018-19 rates not comparable to previous years due to change in reporting system. Going forward the new system will provide a more accurate reflection of the rate.

OBJECTIVE 8: FOCUS ON HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE AND INJURY PREVENTION.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT

Working collaboratively with Alberta Health (AH) and other community agencies, AHS will continue to improve and protect the health of Albertans through a variety of strategies in areas of public health including reducing risk factors for communicable diseases, promoting screening, programming, increasing immunization rates and managing chronic diseases.

AHS PERFORMANCE MEASURE

Childhood Immunization is defined as the percentage of children who have received the required number of vaccine doses by two years of age.

- Diphtheria, Tetanus, acellular Pertussis, Polio, *Haemophilus Influenzae* Type B (DTaP-IPV-Hib) - 4 doses
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) - 1 dose

UNDERSTANDING THE MEASURES

A high rate of immunization for a population reduces the incidence of vaccine-preventable childhood disease and controls outbreaks. Immunizations protect children and adults from a number of preventable diseases, some of which can be fatal or produce permanent disabilities.

The higher the percentage the better, as it demonstrates more children are vaccinated and protected from preventable childhood diseases.

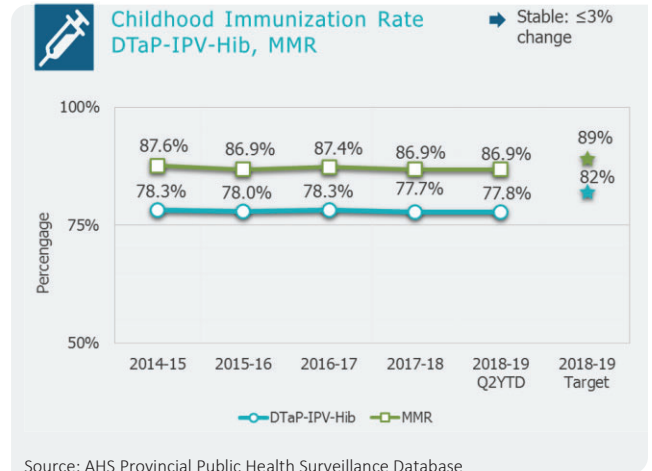
HOW WE ARE DOING

Provincial rates for childhood immunization (both DTaP-IPV-Hib and MMR) have remained stable from the same period last year. DTaP-IPV-Hib was 78.6% in 2017-18 Q2YTD compared to 77.8% in 2018-19 Q2YTD and MMR was 87.0% in 2017-18 Q2YTD compared to 86.9% in 2018-19 Q2YTD. Both remain below the target.

Working with Alberta Health, AHS continues to monitor and support childhood immunization across the province.

- Implementation of the new Standard for Immunizing in the School Setting continues across the province. The new updates incorporate amendments made to the *Public Health Act*.

- The rate of Rotavirus immunization coverage in infants increased from 80.5% in Q2 2017-18 to 83.1% in Q2 2018-19.



WHAT WE ARE DOING

AHS and AH are working with the zones to ensure a consistent approach to disease outbreak reporting, notification and management. Disease outbreaks in each zone have decreased and there were zero cases of measles reported in Q2. Additional highlights include:

- Collaborated with partners to develop revised provincial guidelines for prevention, management and control of respiratory and gastrointestinal illness in acute care, facility living, home living, supportive living and child care facilities.
- Investigated 53 enteric outbreaks and 63 non-enteric outbreaks in Q2. All outbreaks met outbreak reporting criteria as per AH requirements. Symptoms common to an enteric outbreak include nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain; examples of non-enteric outbreaks are chickenpox, measles and influenza.
- Continue to participate in AHS Connect Care conversations to ensure reporting systems meet Alberta Health legislation and policy requirements (e.g., Alberta *Public Health Act*, Communicable Diseases Regulation, etc.).

- Actively contributed to the multi-stakeholder collaboration with Alberta Health to inform development of the Alberta Outbreak Response Protocol.
- Continues to meet with partners to monitor local/national/international epidemiology of invasive *Group A strep* infections and discuss future public health action in Alberta.
- Established a clinical pathway using Community Pharmacy sites to remove barriers and facilitate access for individuals that are eligible for publicly funded post-exposure prophylaxis to prevent transmission of notifiable diseases.

AHS continues to collaborate with key stakeholders to develop outbreak management tools for evacuation centres in support of the provincial **Communicable Disease Emergency Response Plan**.

AHS is implementing the **2016-2020 Alberta Sexually Transmitted Blood-Borne Infections (STBBI) Operational Strategy and Action Plan** to increase awareness and accessibility of STBBI treatment services across the province. Work is underway in the first two communities (Lethbridge and Edmonton) to determine feasibility and applicability of a wrap-around shared care model.

AHS continues to address chronic disease management and prevention:

- Work is underway to launch the **Alberta Chronic Disease Inventory**, which is a comprehensive, up to date, searchable listing of programs, services and resources focused on chronic disease prevention and management.
- Stakeholder consultations are complete for the **Alberta Chronic Disease Prevention Indicator Framework**.
- Enhancing patients' ability to self-manage by supporting the online chronic disease self-management program (**Better Choices, Better Health®** online).
- Enhanced coordination and implementation of obesity services across Alberta through collaboration with internal and external partnerships.

AHS is focusing on several screening and wellness initiatives and prevention interventions to promote lifelong health and to limit the burden of disease.

- To support implementation, the expanded **Newborn Metabolic Screening Program**, which screens for an additional four conditions is actively recruiting staff and a NMS Panel Expansion Steering Committee has been established.
- Communities in the **Alberta Healthy Communities Approach (AHCA)** pilot are demonstrating improvement from baseline. Eleven pilot communities continue to implement their action plans. A proposal to expand the initiative to 16 additional rural communities has been approved and planning is underway.
- **Comprehensive School Health** is a program that addresses a variety of health issues and can improve health, education, and social outcomes for children and youth. To date, 94% of jurisdictions are working with AHS to implement the Comprehensive School Health approach.
- Planning is underway to pilot school health programs focused on the prevention of tobacco and tobacco-like product use. Teacher curriculum resources are under development.
- AHS supports workplaces to create a healthy environment for their employees. The **Healthier Together Workplace** project is preparing for expansion by engaging with stakeholders. The expansion will include new resources and supports for Alberta workplaces including evidence-based strategy kits that guide action in the areas of physical activity, healthy eating, mental health, alcohol and tobacco.