

# Vaccination coverage in England

Vaccination rates have been declining. Every vaccination is a potential illness averted or life saved<sup>1</sup>

Vaccination inequalities are associated with many factors, including age, geography, socio-economic status and ethnicity<sup>5</sup>

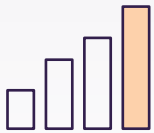
The NHS aims to reduce illness and mortality by increasing vaccination uptake<sup>1</sup>

High uptake helps protect people who are not able to have vaccines themselves.<sup>2</sup>

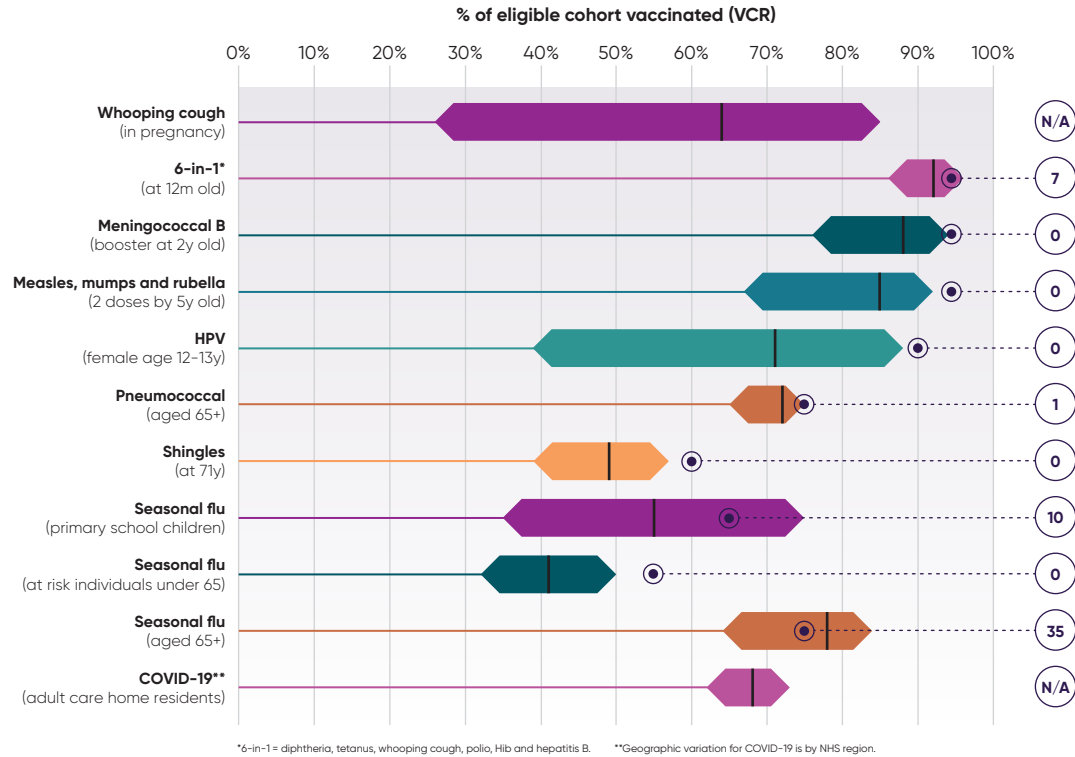


Low vaccination rates have led to measles outbreaks, with unprotected children at risk of serious illness or life-long complications.<sup>3</sup>

If all areas with below average adult vaccination rates could reach the current national average, over 900,000 extra people would be vaccinated, helping to reduce health system pressure and the economic impact of sick days.<sup>4</sup>



Geographic variation in vaccination coverage rates (VCR)<sup>5,7,8</sup>



England VCR Variation between lowest and highest performing integrated care boards (ICB) VCR goal set by the WHO or NHS Number of ICBs achieving the goal

From April 2026, every integrated care board will be accountable for developing vaccination services that:



...are high quality, convenient to access and tailored to the needs of local people.



...are supplemented by targeted outreach to increase uptake in underserved populations.



...are delivered in a joined-up way by integrated teams, working across the NHS and other organisations, to improve patient experience and deliver value for money.<sup>1</sup>

1. NHS England, 'NHS Vaccination Strategy', December 2023, accessed December 2024, available at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/nhs-vaccination-strategy/#summary>. 2. NHS, 'Why vaccination is important', March 2023, accessed January 2025, available at <https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/why-vaccination-is-important-and-the-safest-way-to-protect-yourself/>. 3. UKHSA, 'Latest measles statistics published', May 2024, accessed January 2025, available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/latest-measles-statistics-published>. 4. Future Health, 'Vaccination: Putting the vaccination triple-win at the heart of the new Government's policy agenda', accessed January 2025, available at <https://www.futurehealth-research.com/publications/vaccination-putting-the-vaccination-triple-win-at-the-heart-of-the-new-governments-policy-agenda/>. 5. Public Health England, 'National Immunisation Programme: health equity audit', February 2021, accessed December 2024, available at [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/60183c38de90e07128e743e85/immnstn-equity\\_AUDIT\\_v11.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/60183c38de90e07128e743e85/immnstn-equity_AUDIT_v11.pdf). 6. Office for Health Improvement & Disparities, 'Public Health Profiles', Population vaccination coverage indicators for: Dtap, IPV, Hib, HepB at 1 year old, MenB booster (2 years), MMR for two doses (5 years old), HPV vaccination coverage for one dose (12 to 13 year old, female), PPV, Shingles vaccination coverage (71 years), Flu (primary school aged children), Flu (at risk individuals), Flu (aged 65 and over), accessed November 2024, available at <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk>. 7. UK Health Security Agency, 'Prenatal pertussis vaccination coverage in England from July to September 2024', December 2024, available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pertussis-immunisation-in-pregnancy-vaccine-coverage-estimates-in-england-october-2013-to-march-2014/prenatal-pertussis-vaccination-coverage-in-england-from-july-to-september-2024>. 8. NHS England, 'Spring vaccinations for older adult care home residents to 30 June 2024', accessed January 2025, available at <https://www.england.nhs.uk/statistics/statistical-work-areas/covid-19-vaccinations/>.