


Year to Date Performance	<b>69%</b> (2023)	Performance Assessment	 <b>Yellow</b>
Island Health Target	<b>Greater than or equal to 73%</b>	Performance is outside acceptable range; monitor and take action as appropriate.	

## What do we measure and why?

The 7 Year Childhood Immunization Coverage metric is the percentage of children who are fully immunized by their seventh birthday.

A high rate of immunization for a population can help decrease the risk of some childhood diseases and control outbreaks. Immunizations protect children and adults from a number of diseases, some of which can be fatal or result in permanent disabilities.

Monitoring trends in coverage is important in order to identify the potential for outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases (i.e. when coverage rates drop in a population, there is increased risk of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks).

This monitoring also guides where public health resources need to be allocated, such as improving access to immunization services or public education efforts.

## What is the target?

Island Health's target for 2023 was 73% or higher. The long-term target is 95% or higher.

Higher rates are better.

## How are we doing?

Island Health's immunization rate for 7-year-olds did not meet the 2023 target. Despite this fact, Island Health's immunization rate remains among the highest in the province.

## What actions are we taking?

One of Island Health's strategic goals is to increase access to all publicly funded vaccinations, particularly among children. Initiatives to increase childhood immunization include improving timely access to appointments and implementation of self-scheduling.