


Year to Date Performance	73% (2022)	Performance Assessment	 Data not yet available
Island Health Target	Greater than or equal to 73%	Performance cannot yet be assessed.	

What do we measure and why?

The 7 Year 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 2022 is 73% or higher. The long-term target is 95% or higher.

Higher rates are better.

How are we doing?

While Island Health did not meet the target for the 2022 calendar year, the immunization rate for 7-year-olds improved greatly in 2022 (from 65% to 73%).

The 2023 rate should be available in early 2024.

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 timely access to appointments, the implementation of self-scheduling, and embedding cultural sensitivity into immunization conversations.