


<b>Year to Date Performance</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>Performance Assessment</b>	 <b>Yellow</b>
<b>Island Health Target</b>	<b>Greater or equal to 75%</b>	Performance is outside acceptable range; monitor and take action as appropriate.	

### What do we measure and why?

The Immunization Coverage 7 Years measure is the percentage of children who are fully immunized by their 7th birthday.

A high rate of immunization for a population can help ensure that the incidence of childhood diseases remains low and outbreaks are controlled.

Immunizations protect children and adults from a number of diseases, some of which can be fatal or produce 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).

In addition, 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?

The long-term target is 95%.

For 2018/19, Island Health's target is 75% or higher. Rates below 66% will be categorized as red, being significantly outside range and requiring action.

### How are we doing?

As of 2018, Island Health was not meeting the target for Immunization Coverage 7 Years. Of all the children born in 2011, 68% were fully immunized by their 7th birthday. Approximately 500 more children would need to be immunized to meet this target.

In Island Health, the percentage of children who are fully immunized before their 7th birthday has ranged between 62% and 71%. Compared to other BC health authorities, Island Health had the second-lowest 7-year childhood immunization coverage in 2018.

The 2018 rates in each of Island Health's Health Service Delivery Area (HSDA) were as follows:

- South Vancouver Island: 69%
- Central Vancouver Island: 70%
- North Vancouver Island: 62%

### What actions are we taking?

Island Health is reviewing how it reminds parents to schedule immunization appointments for their children to assess the effectiveness and cost of these activities. The recommendations and guidelines from this review will be used to improve and standardize immunization reminders for parents, leading to higher childhood immunization rates.