A PATH TO PREVENTION:

State Profile: North Carolina

HPV vaccination is recommended for routine vaccination at age 11 or 12 years and may be started at age 9. Adults age 27 to 45 should talk to their doctors to see if HPV vaccination is recommended for them.

HPV VACCINATION RATES FOR 13–17 YEAR-OLDS AS OF 2022:

- U.S. OVERALL: 76% for ≥1 HPV dose, 63% for HPV UTD
- NORTH CAROLINA: 73% for ≥1 HPV dose, 55% for HPV UTD

North Carolina has increased HPV vaccination coverage of ≥1 dose by 16% and up-to-date (UTD) by 14% since 2016. However, coverage remains lower than the U.S. average and below the Healthy People 2030 goal of 80% UTD. Compared to meningitis and whooping cough (Tdap) vaccines routinely recommended for adolescents, HPV vaccination coverage lags. North Carolina vaccination rates among 13–17 year olds were 93% for meningitis vaccine and 91% for Tdap vaccine in 2022.

HPV vaccination data sources: CDC NIS-TEEN, 2022; TeenVax View, 2022
HPV VACCINATION RATES FOR 13-17 YEAR-OLDS AS OF 2022:

- **U.S. OVERALL**
  - ≥1 HPV: 76%
  - HPV UTD: 73%

- **NORTH CAROLINA**
  - ≥1 HPV: 63%
  - HPV UTD: 55%

**HPV Vaccination by Race/Ethnicity**
- Black, non-Hispanic: 75%
- Hispanic: 81%
- Other: 82%
- White, non-Hispanic: 73%

**HPV Vaccination by Insurance Coverage**
- Medicaid: 78%
- Private: 60%
- Other: 58%
- Uninsured: 54%

**HPV Vaccination by Urbanicity**
- MSA Principal City: 77%
- MSA Non-Principal City: 75%
- Non-MSA: 76%

**HPV Vaccination by Sex**
- Boys: 75%
- Girls: 71%

Healthy People 2030
- HPV Vaccination Up-to-date
- ≥1 HPV Vaccination
- Healthy People 2030

HPV vaccination data sources: CDC NIS-TEEN, 2022; TeenVax View, 2022
HPV is a common virus linked to six types of cancer. The two most common HPV-associated cancers are oropharyngeal and cervical cancers. **Incidence rates of HPV cancers overall and oropharyngeal cancer are higher in North Carolina compared to the U.S. averages.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>All HPV Cancers</th>
<th>Oropharyngeal Cancer</th>
<th>Cervical Cancer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States Overall</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina Overall</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>Male: 12.2, Female: 14.1</td>
<td>Male: 9.9, Female: 1.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Incidence rates shown are cases per 100,000 persons.

**ACTION STEPS:**

Identify and engage key partners in HPV vaccination to develop, implement, and evaluate priority evidence-based interventions to increase HPV vaccination coverage in clinical, community and policy settings in North Carolina:

- Encourage starting HPV vaccination at age 9 to increase series completion by age 13.
- Coordinate with partners to create a campaign that promotes the importance of HPV vaccination.
- Provide QI resources to healthcare systems to improve HPV vaccination coverage.
- Provide training to health care professionals on how to effectively make strong HPV vaccine recommendations including using the announcement approach.
- Educate state policymakers about HPV vaccination and HPV cancer burden to provide increased funding for improving HPV vaccination programs.

