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.

Puerto Rico has increased HPV vaccination coverage of ≥1 dose by 13% and up to date (UTD) by 18% since 2016. Coverage remains higher than the U.S. average, but 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. Puerto Rico vaccination rates among 13–17 year olds were 90% for meningitis vaccine and 86% for Tdap vaccine in 2022.

HPV vaccination data sources: CDC NIS-TEEN, 2022; TeenVax View, 2022
State Profile: Puerto Rico

HPV CANCERS:
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 lower in Puerto Rico 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</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Male: 10.8, Female: 12.9</td>
<td>Male: 8.8, Female: 1.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>Male: 8.2, Female: 14.0</td>
<td>Male: 5.1, Female: 0.8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Puerto Rico ranks in the Top 3 Nationally in cervical cancer incidence rates.

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 Puerto Rico:

- Encourage starting HPV vaccination at age 9 to increase series completion by age 13.
- Capitalize on school-entry requirement to improve HPV vaccination initiation and completion.
- Prioritize efforts and populations where HPV vaccination coverage lags, such as rural communities.
- Provide education to parents, caregivers, and youth regarding HPV, HPV cancers, and HPV vaccination in the community, such as in partnership with the University of Puerto Rico.

