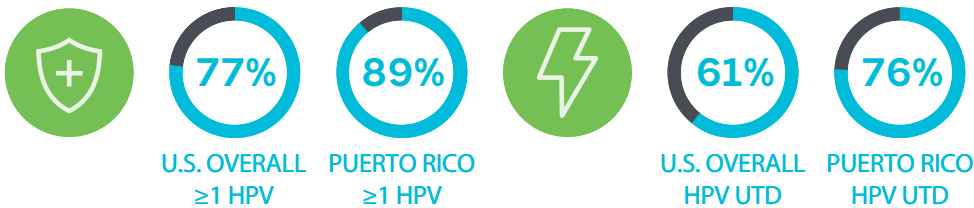


A PATH TO PREVENTION: →

State Profile: Puerto Rico

On-time HPV vaccination protects best. HPV vaccination is routinely recommended at **age 11 or 12 years and may be started at age 9**. HPV vaccination is recommended for everyone ages 9-26. It's not too late to catch up on HPV vaccination. People ages 27-45 are also strongly encouraged to talk with a health care provider to see if HPV vaccination is right for them.

HPV VACCINATION RATES FOR 13-17 YEAR-OLDS AS OF 2023:



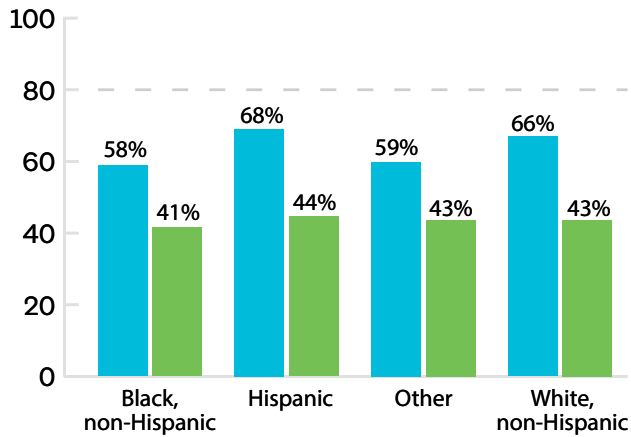
Puerto Rico has increased HPV vaccination coverage of **≥1 dose by 13% and up-to-date (UTD) by 23% since 2016**. Coverage remains **higher than the U.S. average** but still falls below the Healthy People 2030 goal of 80% UTD. Compared to meningitis and whooping cough (Tdap) vaccines routinely recommended for adolescents, HPV vaccination coverage lags. Puerto Rico vaccination rates **among 13-17-year-olds were 91% for meningitis vaccine and 88% for Tdap vaccine in 2023**.



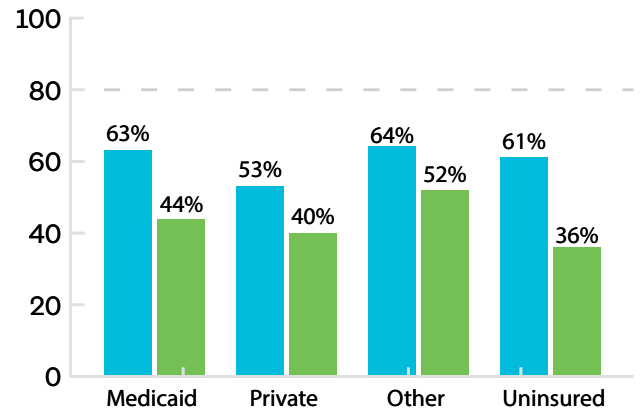
**HPV vaccination
protects against
more than 90%
of HPV cancers.**

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

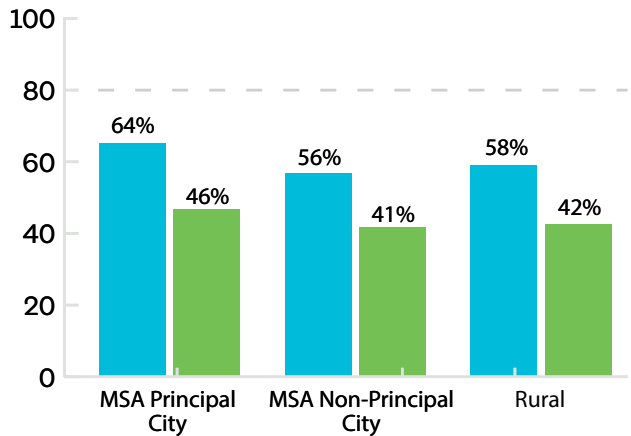
HPV Vaccination by Race/Ethnicity



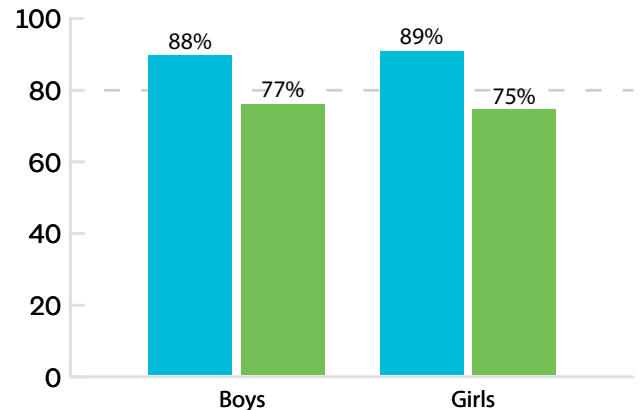
HPV Vaccination by Insurance Coverage



HPV Vaccination by Urbanicity



HPV Vaccination by Sex



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

HPV vaccination data sources: CDC NIS-TEEN, 2023 accessed in TeenVax View, 2024

Demographic data for 2018-2022 are the most recently available.

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. Incidence rates of cervical cancer are higher in Puerto Rico compared to the U.S. averages.**

New Cases

	All HPV Cancers	Oropharyngeal Cancer	Cervical Cancer
United States Overall	12.5	5.2	7.1
Puerto Rico Overall	11.4	2.9	9.9
United States	Male: 11.2, Female: 13.9	Male: 9.1, Female: 1.6	Puerto Rico ranks in the Top 4 nationally in cervical cancer incidence rates.
Puerto Rico	Male: 8.3, Female: 14.3	Male: 5.2, Female: 0.9	

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.
- Engage and support partners in the development and implementation of strategic plans for the elimination of HPV cancers, beginning with cervical cancer, as a public health concern.
- Explore opportunities to strengthen and support the regulation for the existing HPV vaccination school entry requirement and other school-based strategies to improve HPV vaccination coverage.
- 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.
- Partner with Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), local clinics, and rural healthcare systems to implement HPV vaccination reminder systems starting at age 9.
- Explore opportunities to engage school-based settings to increase HPV vaccination.

Pingali C, Yankey D, Elam-Evans LD, Markowitz LE, Valier MR, Fredua B, Crowe SJ, DeSisto CL, Stokley S, Singleton JA. Vaccination Coverage Among Adolescents Aged 13-17 Years - National Immunization Survey-Teen, United States, 2022. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2023 Aug 25;72(34):912-919. doi: 10.15585/mmwr.mm7234a3. PMID: 37616185; PMCID: PMC10468222.

U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool, based on 2022 submission data (1999-2020): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dataviz>, released in June 2023. Puerto Rico Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan: 2015-2020.

Puerto Rico Cancer Control Coalition and Puerto Rico Comprehensive Control Program San Juan, Puerto Rico, December 2014.