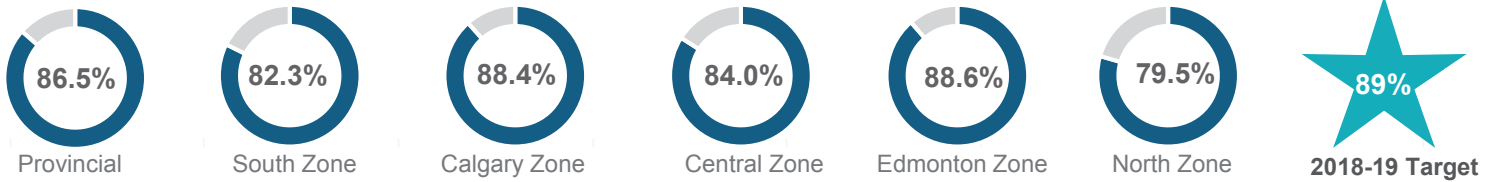


This measure is defined as the percentage of children who have received the required number of vaccine doses by two years of age. A high rate of immunization for a population reduces the incidence of vaccine preventable childhood diseases and controls outbreaks. Immunizations protect children and adults from a number of preventable diseases, some of which can be fatal or produce permanent disabilities. The higher the percentage the better, as it demonstrates more children are immunized and protected from preventable childhood diseases.

**Childhood Immunization Rate: MMR, Q3YTD 2018-19**



**Childhood Immunization Rate: MMR Trend**

Zone Name	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Q3YTD 2017-18	Q3YTD 2018-19	Trend	2018-19 Target
<b>Provincial</b>	<b>86.7%</b>	<b>87.6%</b>	<b>86.9%</b>	<b>87.4%</b>	<b>86.9%</b>	<b>87.1%</b>	<b>86.5%</b>	⇒	<b>89%</b>
South Zone	81.1%	83.9%	78.8%	81.0%	82.1%	81.6%	82.3%	⇒	89%
Calgary Zone	88.3%	89.6%	89.2%	89.6%	87.9%	87.8%	88.4%	*	89%
Central Zone	81.2%	80.8%	81.1%	82.3%	84.2%	84.6%	84.0%	⇒	89%
Edmonton Zone	91.7%	92.2%	91.9%	91.8%	90.5%	91.2%	88.6%	☆*	89%
North Zone	79.6%	80.3%	78.5%	77.8%	79.6%	79.8%	79.5%	⇒	89%

Trend Legend: ☆Target Achieved    ⬆Improvement    ⇒Stable: ≤3% relative change compared to the same period last year    ⬇Area requires additional focus

- \* 2018-19 rates not comparable to previous years due to change in reporting system. Going forward the new system will provide a more accurate reflection of the rate.

**Total Eligible Population**

Zone	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Q3YTD 2017-18	Q3YTD 2018-19
<b>Provincial</b>	<b>54,267</b>	<b>55,138</b>	<b>56,208</b>	<b>42,956</b>	<b>41,901</b>
South Zone	4,104	4,157	4,271	3,285	3,070
Calgary Zone	19,602	20,424	20,862	15,896	15,656
Central Zone	6,240	5,833	5,661	4,355	4,082
Edmonton Zone	16,870	17,578	18,114	13,837	13,840
North Zone	7,451	7,146	7,300	5,583	5,253

Source: Province-wide Immunization Program, Communicable Disease Control as of February 11, 2019

Notes:

- The target represented is the AHS' 2018-19 Target. Alberta Health has higher targets for both vaccines by two years of age

## OBJECTIVE 8: FOCUS ON HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE AND INJURY PREVENTION.

### WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT

Working collaboratively with Alberta Health (AH) and other community agencies, AHS will continue to improve and protect the health of Albertans through a variety of strategies in areas of public health including reducing risk factors for communicable diseases, promoting screening, programming, increasing immunization rates and managing chronic diseases.

### AHS PERFORMANCE MEASURE

**Childhood Immunization** is defined as the percentage of children who have received the required number of vaccine doses by two years of age.

- Diphtheria, Tetanus, acellular Pertussis, Polio, *Haemophilus Influenzae* Type B (DTaP-IPV-Hib) - 4 doses
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) - 1 dose

### UNDERSTANDING THE MEASURES

A high rate of immunization for a population reduces the incidence of vaccine-preventable childhood disease and controls outbreaks. Immunizations protect children and adults from a number of preventable diseases, some of which can be fatal or produce permanent disabilities.

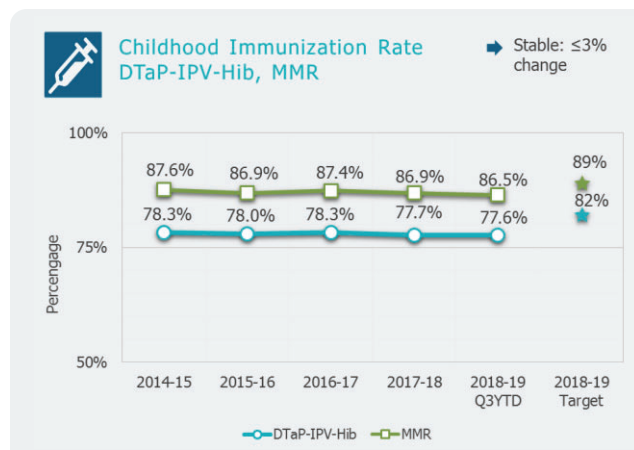
The higher the percentage the better, as it demonstrates more children are vaccinated and protected from preventable childhood diseases.

### HOW WE ARE DOING

Results indicate that provincial rates for childhood immunization (both DTaP-IPV-Hib and MMR) have remained stable from the same period last year. Edmonton Zone achieved target for MMR immunizations.

Working with Alberta Health, AHS continues to monitor and support childhood immunization across the province.

- In Q3, AHS completed implementation of the new Standard for Immunizing in the School Setting across the province which incorporate amendments made to the *Public Health Act*.
- The rate of Rotavirus immunization coverage in infants increased from 81% in 2017-18 Q3 to 83% in 2018-19 Q3.



Source: AHS Provincial Public Health Surveillance Database

### WHAT WE ARE DOING

AHS and AH are working with the zones to ensure a consistent approach to disease outbreak reporting, notification and management. Disease outbreaks in each zone have decreased and there were zero cases of measles reported in Q3. Additional highlights include:

- AHS continues to actively collaborate with Alberta Health to inform new/revised Notifiable Disease Public Health Management Guidelines.
- Investigated 192 enteric outbreaks and 144 non-enteric outbreaks in Q3. All outbreaks met outbreak reporting criteria as per AH requirements. Symptoms common to an enteric outbreak include nausea, vomiting and abdominal pain; examples of non-enteric outbreaks are chickenpox, measles and influenza.
- Continue to participate in AHS Connect Care conversations to ensure reporting systems meet Alberta Health legislation and policy requirements (e.g., Alberta *Public Health Act*, Communicable Diseases Regulation, etc.).
- Continues to meet with partners to monitor local/national/international epidemiology of invasive *Group A strep* infections and discuss future public health action in Alberta.
- Established a clinical pathway using Community Pharmacy sites to remove barriers and facilitate access for individuals that are eligible for publicly funded post-exposure prophylaxis to prevent transmission of notifiable diseases.

AHS continues to collaborate with key stakeholders to develop outbreak management tools and plans for evacuation centres in support of the provincial **Communicable Disease Emergency Response Plan**.

AHS is implementing the **2016-2020 Alberta Sexually Transmitted Blood-Borne Infections (STBBI) Operational Strategy and Action Plan** to increase awareness and accessibility of STBBI treatment services across the province. Work continues with two demonstration sites in Calgary and Edmonton to determine feasibility and applicability of a wrap-around shared care model.

AHS continues to address chronic disease management and prevention:

- Work is underway to develop the **Alberta Chronic Disease Inventory**, which is a comprehensive, up to date, searchable listing of programs, services and resources focused on chronic disease prevention and management. User experience research took place in Q3.
- Stakeholder consultations are complete for the **Alberta Chronic Disease Prevention Indicator Framework**. Updates were made to the framework in Q3 based on feedback received during consultation.
- Enhancing patients' ability to self-manage by supporting the online chronic disease self-management program (**Better Choices, Better Health® online**).
- Enhanced coordination and implementation of obesity services across Alberta through collaboration with internal and external partnerships.

AHS is focusing on several screening and wellness initiatives and prevention interventions to promote lifelong health and to limit the burden of disease.

- In Q3, all required infrastructure renovations were completed for the expanded **Newborn Metabolic Screening (NMS) Program**, which enabled the successful installation of the new equipment. Recruitment and training of new staff underway. NMS Program information for parents was updated.
- Communities in the **Alberta Healthy Communities Approach (AHCA)** pilot are demonstrating improvement from baseline. Eleven pilot communities continue to implement their action plans and address cancer prevention in their communities. A proposal to expand the initiative to 16 additional rural communities has been approved and planning is underway. 64 communities have submitted letters of intent.
- **Comprehensive School Health** is a program that addresses a variety of health issues and can improve health, education, and social outcomes for children and youth. To date, 94% of jurisdictions are working with AHS to implement the Comprehensive School Health approach.
- Planning is underway to pilot school health programs focused on the prevention of tobacco and tobacco-like product use. Teacher curriculum and virtual learning resources are under development. Engagement for pilot sites and mentorship has been initiated.
- AHS supports workplaces to create a healthy environment for their employees. The **Healthier Together Workplace** project is preparing for expansion by engaging with stakeholders. The expansion will include new resources and supports for Alberta workplaces including evidence-based strategy kits that guide action in the areas of physical activity, healthy eating, mental health, alcohol and tobacco. Website updates went live in Q3.