

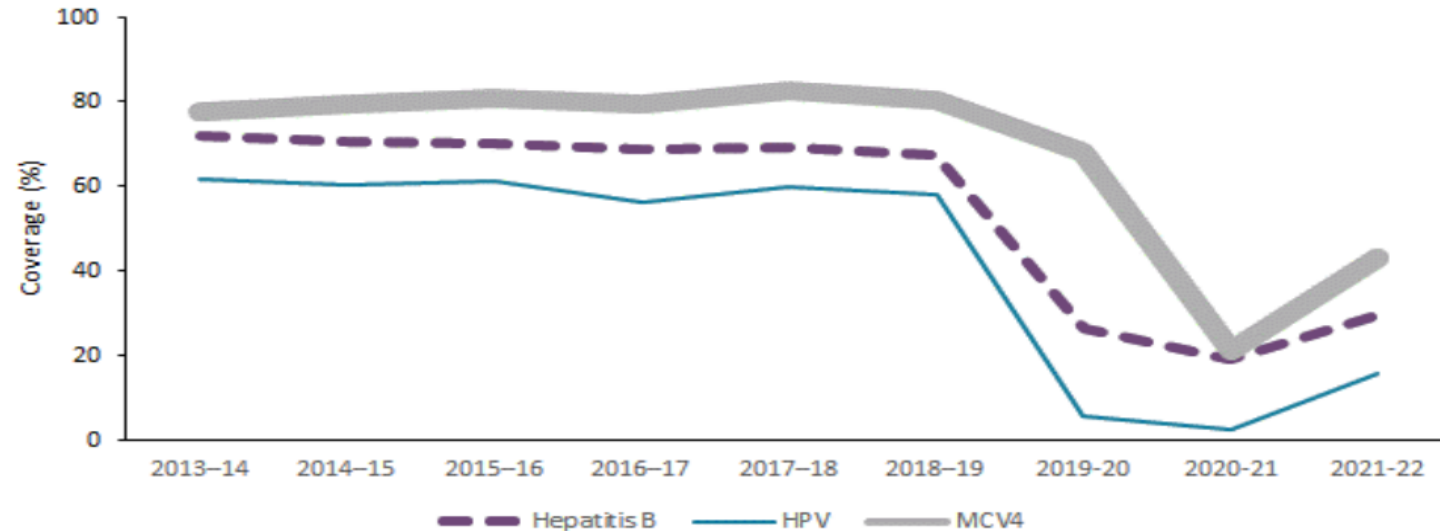
Update on Toronto Public Health Immunization Operations

April 2023

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Deputy Medical Officer of Health

Coverage of School-Based Vaccines in Ontario Significantly Decreased during COVID-19 Pandemic

Figure 1. Up-to-date (UTD) immunization coverage for hepatitis B (Hep B), human papillomavirus (HPV) and quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate (MCV4) vaccines among 12-year-olds in Ontario: 2013-14 to 2021-22 school years



*Updated PHO [Immunization Coverage Report for School Based Programs: 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 School Years](#)

School Immunization Program (SIP) Recovery Will Take Time

**Grade 7–12 students:
Get school-based
vaccines**



**These free vaccines
prevent cancers
& meningitis:**

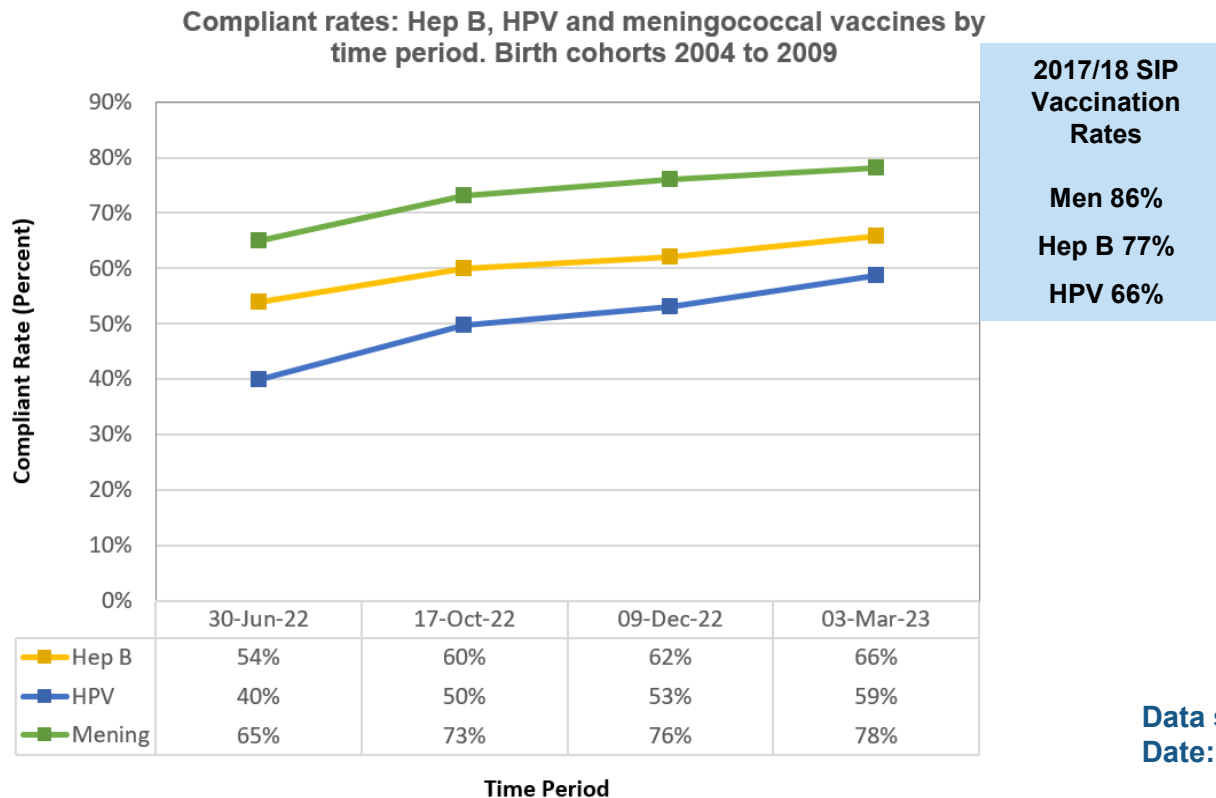


- ☒ Hepatitis B
- ☒ Meningococcal
- ☒ Human Papillomavirus

toronto.ca/health

Year	SIP Vaccine Doses Given
2021	15,130
2022	117,234
2023	35,915
Total: 2021 to April 12, 2023	
168,279 doses	
Given to 78,000 students	

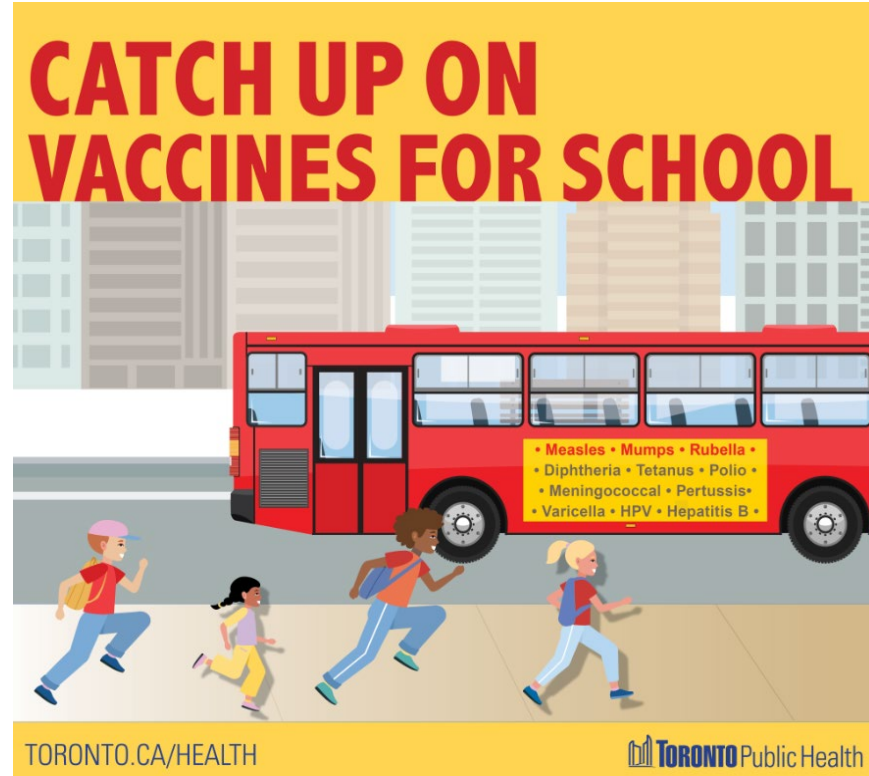
SIP Vaccination Rates: Progress from Fall 2022 until March 2023



Data source: Panorama
Date: March 2023

Recovery: Immunization of School Pupils Act Vaccine Record Assessments

- Parents are required to report their child's vaccinations directly to TPH
- Letters sent to parents to get child vaccinated and/or submit record to TPH
- Fall – 35,000 letters to Grades 1 & 2
- Jan – 34,000 letters to Grades 11 & 12
- April – 25,000 2nd letters to Grades 1 & 2
- Routine childhood vaccines available at TPH MICs to enable recovery



COVID-19 Spring Booster Recommendations

- Focus on highest risk for getting very sick from COVID-19
- Based on National Advisory Committee on Immunization's recommendations
- 6 month interval

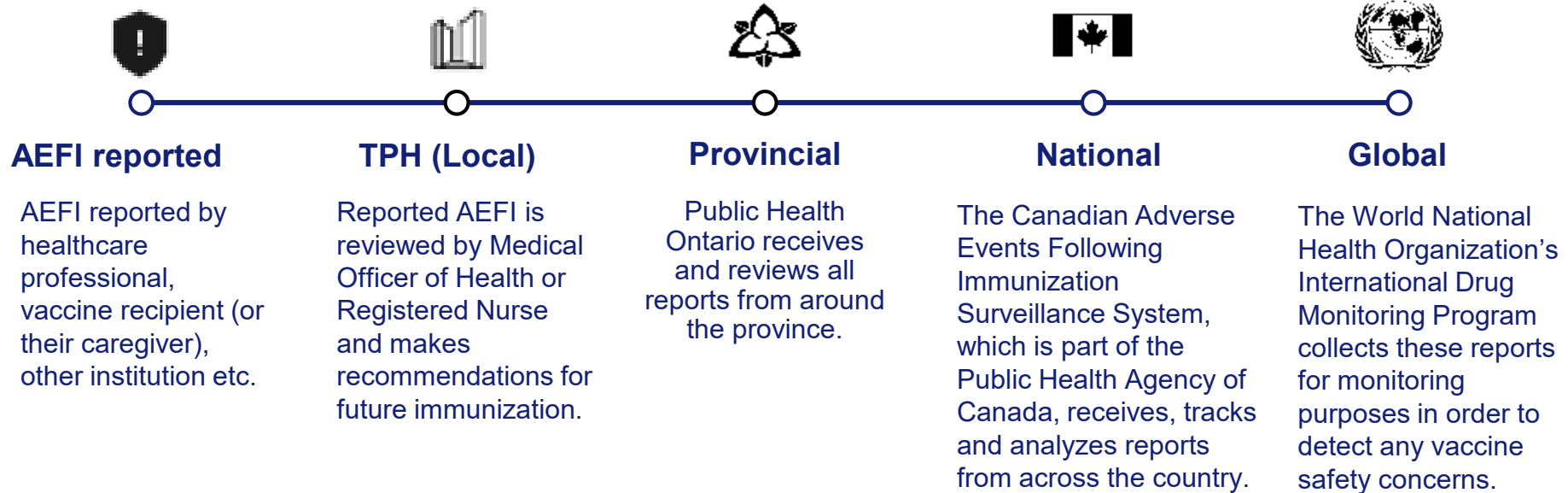
Vax and Spring



Get a Spring COVID-19 booster if it's been 6 months from your last COVID-19 dose or infection & you're:

- ✿ 65+ years old
- ✿ Resident of a long-term care or retirement home
- ✿ 55+ & Indigenous (or non-Indigenous household members 55+)
- ✿ 18+ & moderate to severe weakened immune system
- ✿ 18+ & living in a congregate care setting for people with complex medical care needs
- ✿ Pregnant
- ✿ 5-64 years old & did not get a booster after Sept. 1

Canada's Vaccine Safety System: Reviewing Adverse Events Following Immunizations (AEFI)



Canada's Vaccine Safety System – Reviewing Adverse Events Following Immunizations (AEFI)

- Vaccine in use in Canada is monitored for adverse events following immunization (**AEFI**)
- Ongoing AEFI surveillance is essential for monitoring vaccine safety and maintaining confidence in immunization programs
- AEFIs are reported by:
 - The general public
 - Health professionals
 - A network of pediatric hospitals
 - Local public health units
 - Provincial surveillance
 - Networks of vaccine researchers conducting studies
 - International monitoring
 - Manufacturers

TPH Oversight Of COVID-19 Vaccine Storage, Inventory Management, Allocation, And Distribution

- Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health request to TPH:
 - manage COVID-19 Vaccine ordering, inventory management, logistics and distribution capacity
 - for Toronto providers including primary care, long term care homes, retirement homes and hospitals, excluding pharmacies
- TPH will craft and operationalize a model to meet the request
- TPH has submitted a proposal and funding request in the Province's Annual Service Plan and Business Submission

Conclusions: Vaccination Recovery in Progress

- Public health actions are yielding vaccine coverage improvements
- TPH is providing additional SIP catch-up opportunities to meet the needs of Grade 9 & 10 students
- TPH assessment of student vaccine records facilitates routine childhood vaccination in Toronto and helps protect the community from vaccine-preventable diseases