

# National Immunisation Programme Team Update

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## **2-years-old national immunisation coverage – Q4**

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### **National coverage:**

- 93.1 %

### **Coverage by Ethnicity :**

- NZ European 93 %
- Māori 92 %
- Pacific 97 %
- Asian 98 %

### **Coverage rates for those living in deprivation quintiles 9 and 10:**

- 94 %
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## Opt-off and decline rates

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Average national combined opt-off and decline rate - 4.8 %

DHBs with the lowest opt-off and decline rates:

- Auckland (2.2 %)
  - Counties Manukau (2.1 %)
  - Hawke's Bay (3.7 %)
  - Hutt Valley (3.1 %)
  - MidCentral (3.6 %)
  - South Canterbury (2.4 %)
  - Tairāwhiti (4.0 %)
  - Ten DHBs reported combined opt-off and decline rates above the national average
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## Opt-off and decline children

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- 343 children were not immunised in quarter 4

Within this group there may be:

- a cohort of immunised children who due to parental concerns, are not recorded on the National Immunisation Register (NIR)
  - or children who may have started the series of immunisation events but were unable to complete these on time due to underlying health issues
  - or families who decided they did not want to immunise against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), despite the paper which allegedly linked MMR vaccine to autism being fully retracted in 2011, and the lead researcher (Dr Andrew Wakefield) being found guilty and struck off the Medical Register.
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# Reporting on immunisation coverage and progress for 2-year-olds

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## Exception qualitative report

- Each quarter, when DHBs do not reach 95 % coverage they are expected to provide an advising how they will track towards higher coverage.

## NIR Datamart report instructions

- Report Name: the NIR Datamart report “NIR BC CI Overview - Milestone Ages DHB.rep”, three month final dose.
- This report includes pneumococcal vaccine.
- To run this report use last day of the reporting quarter.
- Both excel and PDF versions of the report as well as summarised report will be available to DHBs under toolkit section of DHB Quarterly database each quarter.
- DHBs are expected to use these reports to provide exception qualitative report and/or use this mechanism to raise issues with the Ministry.



## Communications resources

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### Measles

The Ministry launched two new measles resources for parents/caregivers last month focusing on the effect of the most recent measles epidemic on children and young people. They can be found at <http://www.health.govt.nz/news-media/news-items/measles-focus-new-publications>.

### Whooping cough

DHBs, PHUs, PHOs, GPs, midwives and Plunket Nurses received new whooping cough brochures and posters this week. The Ministry's website information for whooping cough has been updated and now includes video footage and case studies of families whose babies have been hospitalised as a result of this disease. To see this go to: <http://www.health.govt.nz/yourhealth-topics/diseases-and-illnesses/whooping-cough>.

All resources can be ordered from the Health Ed website.

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# Audience research

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Focus groups and interviews were carried out in Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington and Christchurch.

People fall in three categories:

- life gets in the way
- health reasons
- conscious delay.

Raises questions around how do we support those who find it difficult to get to you or those whose babies are ill. What information do we need to provide to those who make a conscious decision to delay?

While we have tested some messaging, it is yet to be finalised. Once it is, we will share this with you.

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