



Healthy ND: A Quarterly Health Snapshot

Q1 2024 REPORT



FOUNDATION
for a Healthy North Dakota



INTRODUCTION

The [Foundation for a Healthy North Dakota](#) promotes health and wellness by empowering communities, families, and individuals to build a healthier North Dakota. Founded in 2022, the Foundation for a Healthy North Dakota proudly serves the 53 counties of North Dakota by working with local communities to achieve positive health outcomes in three key areas: children’s health, hunger, and wellness vaccines.

We know that healthy communities, families, and individuals are vital to the success of our state now and in the future. We believe members of our communities want the best health outcomes for themselves, each other, and all North Dakotans. By promoting informed health decisions, trusting one another and our own communities, we can realize a healthier North Dakota.

To support these efforts, we’re releasing quarterly data analyses centering on wellness vaccines, children’s health factors, hunger and social vulnerability levels to help inform decision-making and priorities at the community level. The future of North Dakota depends on a healthy, thriving population for our workforce, economic growth, and an excellent quality of life.

OVERVIEW

This snapshot aims to summarize the coverage rates for routine wellness vaccinations and the annual influenza vaccine across all age groups in the state for the third quarter of 2023. Data changes each and every quarter, and we will be updating this document to reflect those changes.

We are using the [Healthy People 2020](#) and [2030](#) public health objectives, an ambitious set of goals established by the federal government, as our targets. Please note, these are goals we are working toward in this decade. It is not expected that you meet the [Healthy People 2030](#) goals today.

We understand that you may be seeking a more incremental change in vaccine uptake rates. Progress over time will be reflected in a quarter-over-quarter analysis, which we will provide in the future. This is merely a starting place. We know that people working in public health all over our state are working diligently, and we aim to support that work with collaboration.

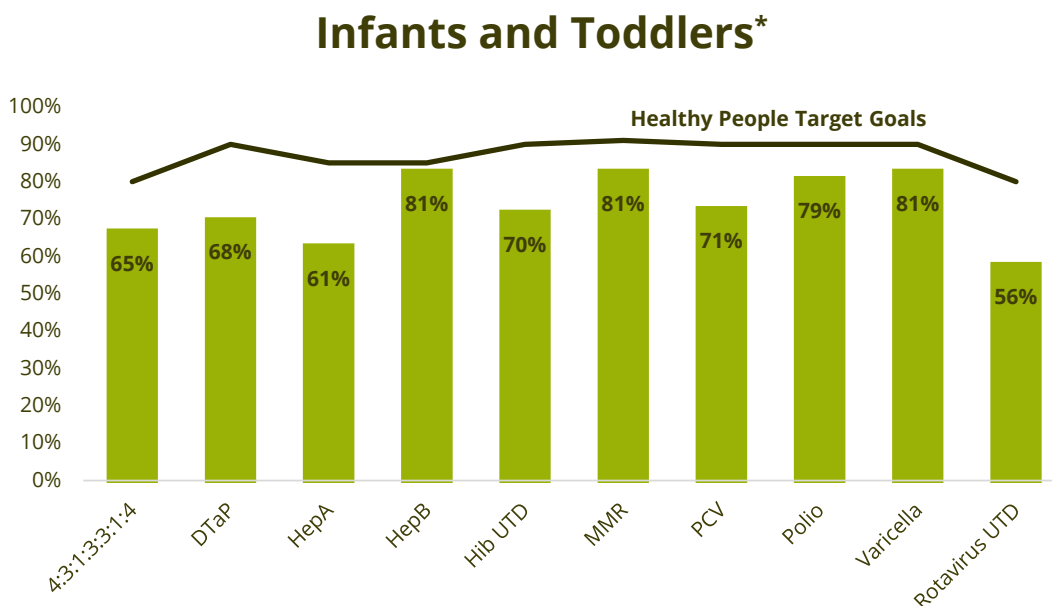
This overview summarizes selected child health factors tracked by North Dakota KIDS COUNT, which is a statewide resource for data on the well-being of children in North Dakota.

Lastly, this report will provide content related to the social vulnerability status of the state, as well as hunger facts from Feeding America. Further information on social vulnerability and its factors will be provided in the overview of this particular focus.

Data in this paper was obtained from the [North Dakota Immunization Information System](#) (NDIIS), [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's Social Vulnerability Index](#) (CDC ATSDR SVI), [North Dakota KIDS COUNT](#), and [Feeding America](#).

INFANT/TODDLER VACCINES

For the 19- to 35-month-old age group, North Dakota achieved the following uptake rates for the third quarter of 2023 (targets noted as the top line for context).

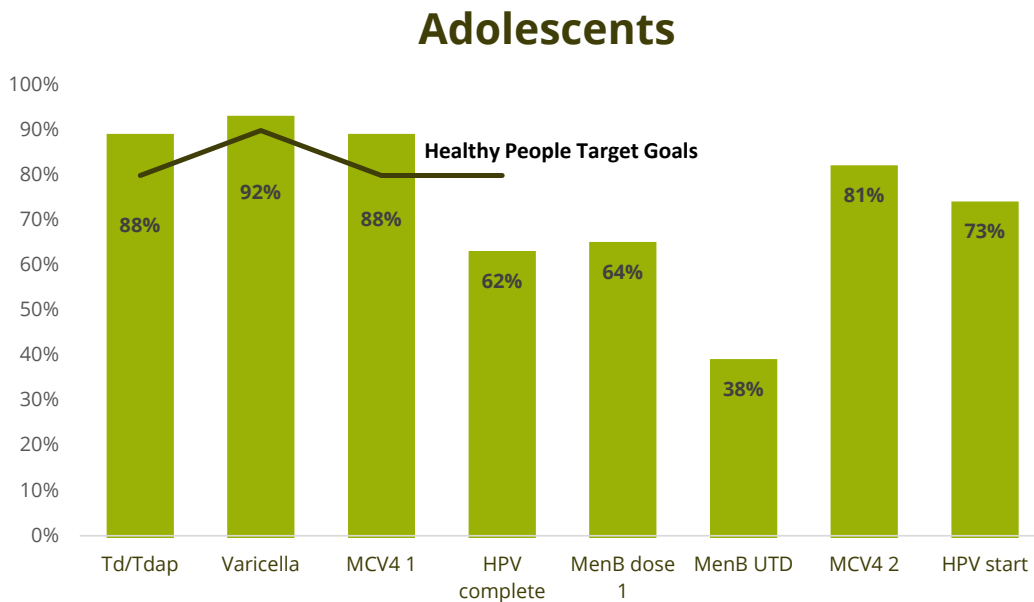


* Immunized Children 19-35mo Full Series for ND: 4+DTaP, 3+Polio, 1+MMR, 3+Hib, 3+HepB, 1+Varicella, 4+PCV

ADOLESCENT VACCINES

For the adolescent age group in quarter three of 2023, North Dakota met the targets for the Td/Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis) vaccine, the Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, and MCV4 (meningococcal conjugate) dose 1 vaccine.

The newest [Healthy People 2030](#) recommendations raised the target rates for HPV (human papillomavirus) significantly, to 80%. North Dakota achieved a 62% rate of uptake for the HPV vaccine in the third quarter of 2023.



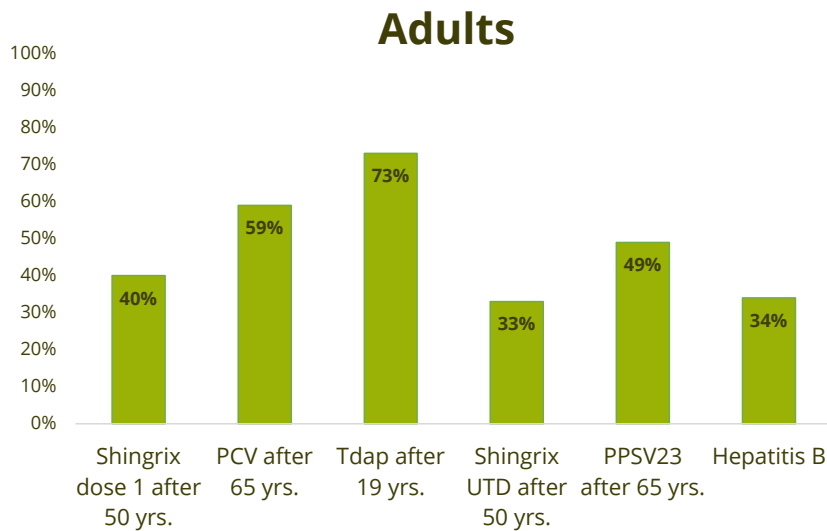
Presently, there are no measurable objectives set for the second dose of the MCV4 vaccine, nor for the first and second doses of MenB (meningococcal B). The most recent estimate of coverage rates for these vaccines, which help to protect against different types of meningococcal diseases, are listed in the figure above.



ADULT VACCINES

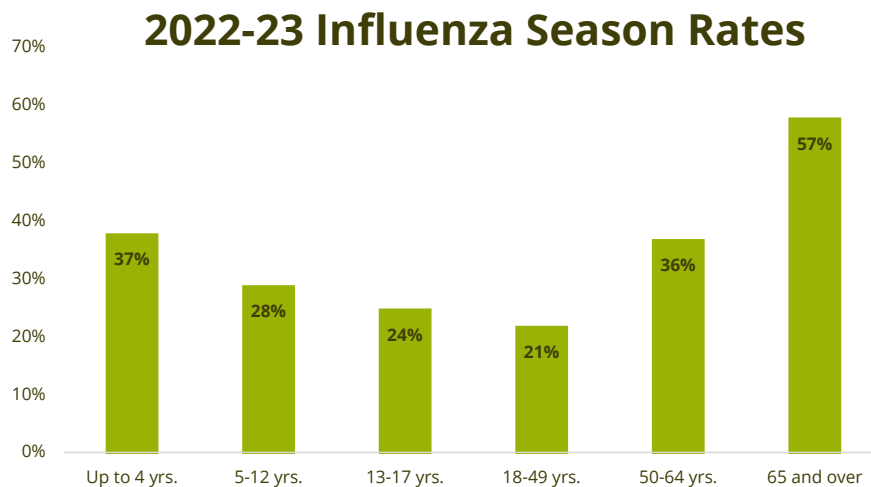
It's recommended that adults receive a Tdap vaccination every 10 years. The coverage rate for the third quarter of 2023 was 73%. For the up-to-date (UTD) status for the Shingrix vaccine, the target set by the [Healthy People 2020](#) initiative was 30%; North Dakota met this goal at 33% coverage.

A goal of 90% was set for the PCV (pneumococcal conjugate vaccines) or PPSV23 (pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine). These vaccines are administered in varying sequences and timing with attention to pneumococcal vaccine history, health status, or which pneumococcal-type vaccine people received as a first adult dose. For our state's most recent quarter, PCV was at a 59% coverage rate, and PPSV23 was 49%. The UTD status for the hepatitis B vaccine for adults reached 34% last quarter.



ANNUAL INFLUENZA VACCINE ACROSS ALL AGE GROUPS

In the most recent [Healthy People 2030](#) initiative, the target for the annual influenza vaccine is 70% of all people six months or older receiving their influenza immunization for protection during the current flu season. The coverage rates for the state for the full season outlook of 2022-23 are listed in the figure below. The age group closest to reaching the 70% benchmark was those 65 and over, with a coverage rate of 57%.



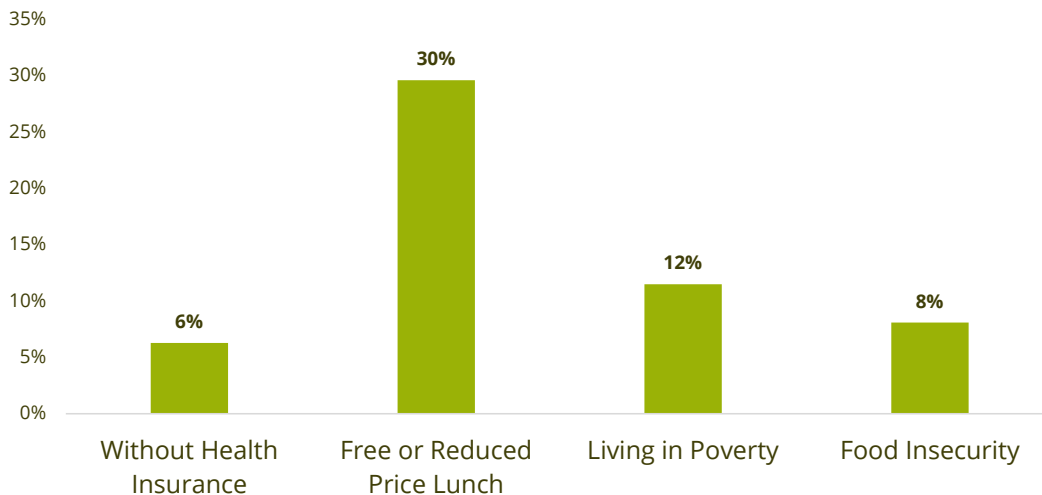
METHODS

This overview is a secondary data outlook reviewing immunization surveillance information from the [NDIIS](#). This system notes a few limitations in its methods. Firstly, health care providers are required to enter children and adolescent information into NDIIS, but entry is not required for adult vaccines. Also, the population denominator can sometimes be skewed due to people moving in and out of different areas, leading to an underestimation of coverage. Finally, the Air Force bases in North Dakota are not required to enter immunization information in NDIIS, and any vaccination received out of state is also missed in the NDIIS.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH FACTORS

The North Dakota KIDS COUNT resource provides data on North Dakota children related to health and wellness, early childhood, education, and family economic security. According to the state profile for North Dakota, 185,701 children (under age 18) reside in the state. Around 9% of the children are American Indian/Alaska Native, 5% are Black, 80% are White, and 7% are two or more races or other. The following graph depicts 2020-21 outcomes for some of the key indicators KIDS COUNT tracks.

2020/21 North Dakota Children's Health Indicators



There are 6%, or around 11,000 children, in the state without health insurance. Around 56,000 of children participate in the free or reduced-price lunch program, about 22,000 are living in poverty, and almost 15,000 face food insecurity.

HUNGER FACTS

The national organization Feeding America emphasizes that food insecurity and hunger mean different things. It is noted that hunger is the feeling someone has when they don't have food, and food insecurity is the consistent lack of food due to economic circumstances. As previously noted, thousands of children in our state face food insecurity and, per Feeding America, 1 in 13 children in our state face hunger. Furthermore, more than 42,000 North Dakotans are facing hunger, with every county in our state being represented in this number.

SOCIAL VULNERABILITY LEVEL

As the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry Social Vulnerability Index (CDC ATSDR SVI) states, "Every community must prepare for and respond to hazardous events ... a number of factors, including poverty, lack of access to transportation, and crowded housing may weaken a community's ability to prevent human suffering and financial loss in a disaster." Per the CDC ATSDR SVI, North Dakota has around 13 counties at a low level of concern for vulnerability. There are 13 counties that are considered at a low-medium vulnerability, 13 at a medium-high concern and 14 counties with a high level of vulnerability. Further, the SVI themes of socioeconomic status, household characteristics, racial and ethnic minority status, and housing type/transportation vary per county and should be monitored to address overall social vulnerability. These reported levels are based on 2020 data.

WORKING TOGETHER

The well-being of communities, families, and individuals is crucial for the current and future success of our state. We are confident that members of our communities share the desire for optimal health outcomes for themselves, their neighbors, and all North Dakotans. By promoting informed health decisions and fostering trust within our communities, we can collectively work towards a healthier North Dakota.

Wellness vaccines play a pivotal role in preventive healthcare and disease eradication. Staying current with immunizations is key to achieving the best health outcomes for our state. Now that you have reviewed detailed information on your state's vaccine coverage rates for the third quarter of 2023, recent data on children's health and well-being in North Dakota, and social vulnerability levels, we are eager to collaborate more closely with you to make progress toward the ambitious goals outlined by the [Healthy People Initiative](#) and address concerns related to child health, hunger and social vulnerability.

Our objective is to work hand-in-hand with your community, enhancing your capacity for public health work by sharing the knowledge and insights gained through the stories we collect. We also aspire to assist in defining and achieving collective actions that will result in positive health impacts. There are several ways to get involved in this work:

- [Share Your Story](#)
- [Attend an Upcoming Event](#)
- [Join the Coalition](#)

JOIN THE COALITION

We are establishing a statewide coalition with the local community at its core. Our focus is on planning educational opportunities, providing tailored public health messaging support for your community, offering resources, and leveraging the support of our staff and partners to highlight your efforts toward a healthier North Dakota. [Join us.](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

We thank you for your consideration and hope we can connect to discuss further how The Foundation for a Healthy North Dakota can support your public health goals.

Please visit our website at foundationnd.org for more information, to join the coalition, and to [contact us](#) with questions.





FOUNDATION
for a **Healthy North Dakota**

220 E Rosser Ave, Apt #2762
Bismarck, ND 58501

www.foundationnd.org

DATA DISCLAIMER

Data referenced in this report are current through the end of September 2023.