



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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24th. June 2019

Deputy Anne Rabbitte
TD
Dail Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ Question 25756/19: To ask the Minister for Health if all children received their MMR booster vaccine in each of the years 2014 to 2018 and to date in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Rabbitte,

The above PQ has been sent to me to respond directly to you.

- HSE are able to report on the MMR provided to children at 4-5 years of age (mainly in Junior infant class) . For most children this is the second MMR vaccine (i.e. booster dose) but for some it may their first MMR vaccine. This vaccine is administered by the School immunisation teams.
- For children vaccinated in junior infant class, most school teams, if they identify that a child receiving an MMR in the school programme has missed their first MMR dose, the team will normally try to get the child back to a mop up clinic (at the local health centre) so that they can obtain a second dose if needed.
- Most vaccines given at junior infant age are part of the national programme and data on vaccinations are entered into the Schools Immunisation System database (SIS)
- As data from the SIS reflects uptake of MMR vaccine provided through the national programme or as part of an outbreak it will not necessarily reflect an MMR vaccine dose given to children for travel before the age of 4-5 years as GPs are not required to submit these vaccines (as they are not paid by the HSE).

As the databased (the primary immunisation data base and the Schools immunisation System (SIS) database are not linked to each other, the HSE is not able to specifically report on the uptake of MMR 2nd dose (often referred to as the booster dose) provided to children as part of the national immunisation programme.

The HPSC publish the data on immunisation uptake statistics for junior infants at the following link

<http://www.hpsc.ie/a->

Data for the school years 2014/2015, 2015/2016, 2016/2017 are below. Please note data for the school year 2017/2018 are provisional (supplied to HSE Business Information unit in November 2018) and data for the 2018/2019 will not be available until all data are inputted (usually expected in first half of 2020).

Table 1. Uptake of DTaP-IPV (4 in 1) & MMR Vaccines among Jr Infants/4 to 5 years by season, 2011-2012 to 2016-2017, nationally, by HSE administrative areas only and GP-administered areas only

Nationally							
Season	CHO	Cohort	4 in 1		Cohort	MMR	
			Number children who have received 1 dose 4-in-1 vaccine	% 4 in 1 Uptake		Number children who have received 1 dose MMR vaccine	% MMR Uptake
2011-12	HSE & GP Admin Areas	60,492	50,893	84.1%	60,879	51,007	83.8%
2012-13	HSE & GP Admin Areas	70,079	59,587	85.0%	66,360	58,735	88.5%
2013-14	HSE & GP Admin Areas	73,257	67,070	91.6%	73,257	66,951	91.4%
2014-15	HSE & GP Admin Areas	72,295	66,158	91.5%	72,293	66,045	91.4%
2015-16	HSE & GP Admin Areas	72,988	66,998	91.8%	73,029	66,824	91.5%
2016-17	HSE & GP Admin Areas	70221	64,302	91.6%	70221	64,152	91.4%

Source: <http://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/vaccinepreventable/vaccination/immunisationuptakestatistics/immunisationuptakestatisticsforjuniorinfants>

2017/2018 academic year (provisional pending final data analysis)

Provisional data on uptake of MMR for junior infants for the academic year 2017/2018 was 88.5% (provisional and unpublished data pending validation)

2018/2019 academic year

Data for the most recent (still current) academic year will not be available until later this year (provisional) or following completion of data entry in all HSE areas in early 2020.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



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