



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

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22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Deputy Alan Kelly  
TD  
Dail Eireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ13660/21: To ask the Minister for Health the number of first year students who received the first dose of the HPV vaccine from September to December 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Alan Kelly**

Dear Deputy Kelly,

The above PQ has been forwarded to my Department for direct response to you on same.

37,014 children in first year in second level schools were vaccinated with the first dose of HPV vaccine between the 1<sup>st</sup> September and 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

The numbers offered the vaccine in the academic years 2018/19 to 2020/21, the numbers vaccinated between the 1<sup>st</sup> September and 31<sup>st</sup> December and the uptake rate of the first dose in this time period are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

| HPV stage 1 vaccinations given between 1st September and 31st December among first years in second level schools and corresponding uptake for this time period- except HPV data prior to 2019/20 are for girls only and all children since then |             |                      |                      |
|---|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Academic Year and Vaccinated from 1st Sept-31st Dec   | Denominator | Immunised            | % Uptake             |
| 2018/19 and vaccinated between 01/09/2018-31/12/2018  | 31671       | HPV stage 1<br>22484 | HPV stage 1<br>71.0% |
| 2019/20 and vaccinated between 01/09/2019-31/12/2019  | 69056       | 55264                | 80.0%                |
| 2020/21 and vaccinated between 01/09/2020-31/12/2021  | 69111       | 37014                | 53.6%                |

Notes:

- 1.Data above are for those in first year in second level schools only
2. HPV vaccine uptake is for girls only prior to 2019/20 and all children since 2019/20
- 3.Data extracted 18/03/2021 from the Schools Immunisation System (SIS)
- 4.The denominator was defined as the number of girls/children in first year for second level schools and on the school roll on 30th September when the school census is carried out except the 2020/21 denominator

data currently on the School Immunisation System is an estimate only and will be updated when the numbers are finalised.

5. The 2020/21 numbers immunised reflect data recorded on the system, however, more children may have been immunised than currently recorded e.g. if data entry staff were redeployed to work on COVID-19 vaccinations

I trust this clarification will be of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Kelleher', with a horizontal line underneath.

**DR. KEVIN KELLEHER, FFPHM, FFPHMI**  
**ASSISTANT NATIONAL DIRECTOR –PUBLIC HEALTH/CHILD HEALTH**  
**OFFICE OF CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER**  
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