



# GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE

# MONTHLY PRESS RELEASE



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No. 03 April 2024

## Percentage of children in Ghana not fully vaccinated is on the increase

*Statistical Service shares insights on age-appropriate vaccinations for World Immunization Week*

**The percentage of children aged 24 to 35 months who were not fully vaccinated according to the national schedule declined by 15.1 percentage points between 2014 and 2022. Almost three in every five (57.6%) in this age range had not been fully vaccinated according to the national schedule in 2022 compared to about two in every five (42.5%) in 2014.** Fully vaccinated according to the national schedule for ages 24 to 35 months refers to receipt of the following vaccines: one dose of BCG vaccine, OPV (birth dose), Hepatitis B vaccine (birth dose), three doses of OPV, and one dose of IPV, three doses of DPT-HepB-Hib, three doses of PCV, two doses of RV, one dose of MR, the yellow fever vaccine, a second dose of MR, and one dose of meningitis A vaccine. These statistics are based on Ghana Demographic and Health Survey (GDHS) data on children for whom vaccination information was recorded from their vaccination cards.

More than half of children aged 24 to 35 months were not vaccinated according to the national schedule in ten out of the 16 regions. **The highest percentage was recorded in the Northern Region where four in every five (81.5%) had not been fully vaccinated.** Western (68.5%) and Savannah (66.9%) had the next highest percentage of children in this age range not fully vaccinated according to the national schedule. **The region with the lowest percentage of children who had not received all age-appropriate vaccines was Volta Region (26.7%) followed distantly by Greater Accra (40.4%).**

The percentage of children aged 24 to 35 months not fully vaccinated according to the national schedule is marginally lower in urban areas (56.3%) relative to rural (58.9%). A higher percentage of girls (59.6%) had not been fully vaccinated in comparison to boys (55.6%). **Vaccination coverage varies markedly by maternal education ranging from seven in every 10 (71.6%) for children whose mothers have no education to four in every 10 (43.9%) for children whose mothers have higher than secondary education.**

**Among children aged 12 to 23 months, more than two in every five children (44.5%) were not fully vaccinated according to the national schedule in 2022, representing an increase of 6.7 percentage points from 2014 (37.8%).** Fully vaccinated according to the national schedule for ages 12 to 23 months refers to receipt of the following vaccines: one dose of BCG vaccine, OPV (birth dose), Hepatitis B vaccine (birth dose), three doses of OPV, and

one dose of IPV, three doses of DPT-HepB-Hib, three doses of PCV, two doses of RV, one dose of MR, and the yellow fever vaccine.

World Immunization is commemorated annually in the last week of April to promote the use of vaccines to save lives. The 2024 celebration (24<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April) marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI).

The 2022 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey report, resources, and microdata are available to download at no cost from [www.statsghana.gov.gh](http://www.statsghana.gov.gh).

### **About the Ghana Statistical Service**

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) provides comprehensive, reliable, quality, relevant, accurate, and timely statistical information to guide national development as stipulated in Section 3 of the Statistical Service Act, 2019 (Act 1003). The organisation's vision is to be a trusted provider of official statistics for good governance and its mission being the efficient collection, production, management, and dissemination of quality official statistics based on international standards, using competent and motivated staff for evidence-based decision-making, in support of national development.

The Statistical Service produces monthly and quarterly data on important economic indicators such as inflation, Consumer Price Index, Producer Price Index, and Gross Domestic Product. GSS also regularly generates periodic population, housing, demographic and economic data at the locality, district, and national levels from routine surveys and censuses. The statistics generated by GSS can be utilised by a wide cross-section of users including public sector, businesses, academia, civil society organisations and development partners. For more information visit [www.statsghana.gov.gh](http://www.statsghana.gov.gh).