

## State Profile:

# Arkansas



HPV vaccination is recommended for routine administration at **age 11 or 12 years and starting at age 9**. On-time HPV vaccination by the 13th birthday protects best. However, HPV vaccination is routinely recommended for everyone aged 9-26. People aged 27-45 are also strongly encouraged to talk with a health care provider to see if HPV vaccination is right for them.

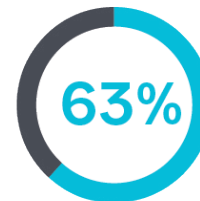
### HPV VACCINATION RATES FOR 13-17 YEAR-OLDS AS OF 2024:



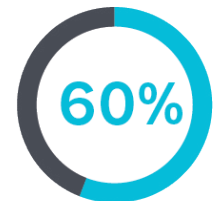
U.S. OVERALL  
≥1 HPV



ARKANSAS  
≥1 HPV



U.S. OVERALL  
HPV UTD



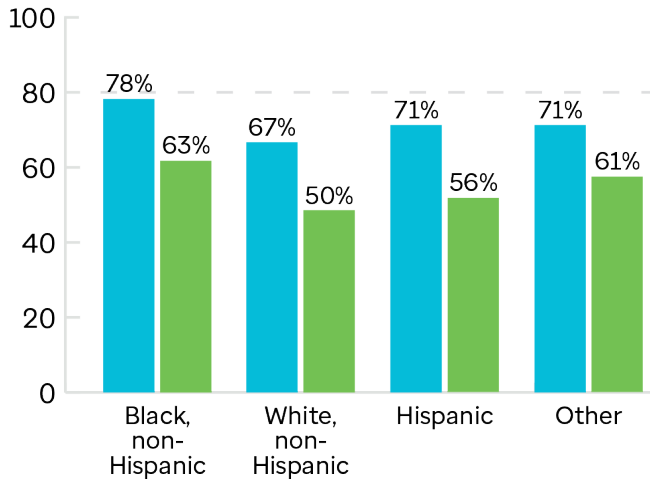
ARKANSAS  
HPV UTD

HPV vaccination data sources: CDC NIS-TEEN, 2024 accessed in TeenVax View, 2025

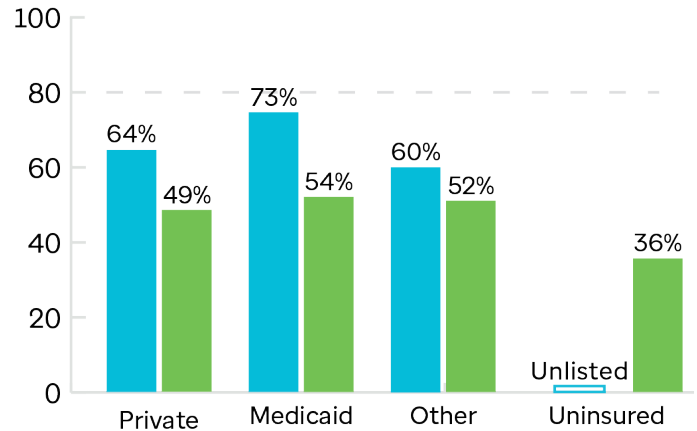
Arkansas has increased HPV vaccination coverage of **≥1 dose by 27% and up-to-date (UTD) by 25% since 2016**. However, HPV UTD remains slightly **lower than the U.S. average** and below the Healthy People 2030 goal of 80% UTD. Compared to meningitis and whooping cough (Tdap) vaccines routinely recommended for adolescents, HPV vaccination coverage lags. Arkansas vaccination rates **among 13-17 year olds were 97% for meningitis vaccine and 94% for Tdap vaccine in 2024**.

## HPV VACCINATION RATES FOR 13-17 YEAR-OLDS AS OF 2024:

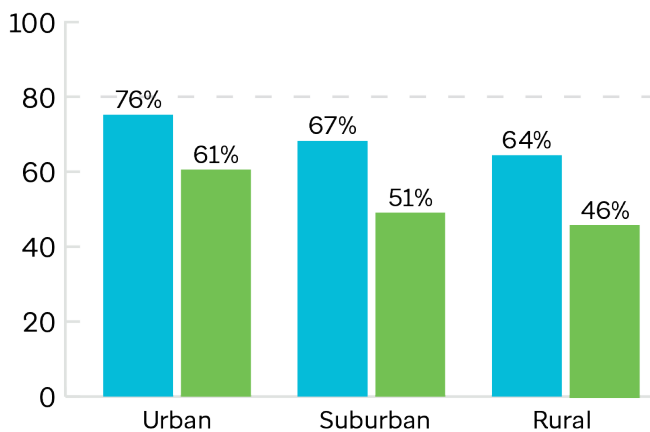
HPV Vaccination by Race/Ethnicity



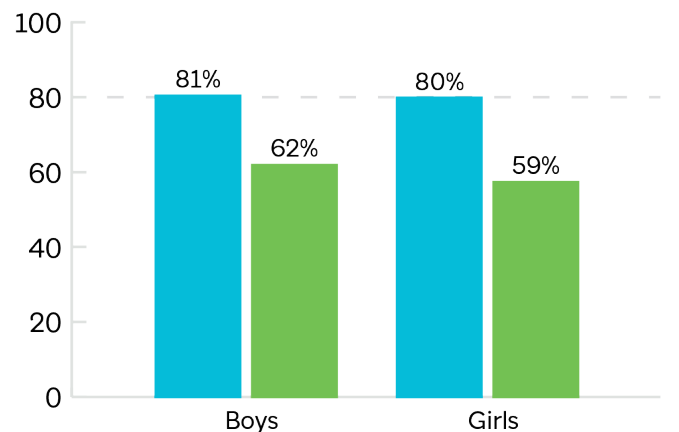
HPV Vaccination by Insurance Coverage



HPV Vaccination by Geographic Location



HPV Vaccination by Sex



----- Healthy People 2030      █ ≥1 HPV Vaccination      █ HPV Vaccination Up-to-Date

## HPV CANCERS:

HPV is responsible for more than 40,000 cases of cancer in the United States each year, including cancer of the throat (oropharyngeal), cervix, anus, vulva, penis, and vagina. The two most common types of HPV-associated cancer are oropharyngeal and cervical. **Incidence rates of HPV cancers overall, oropharyngeal cancer, and cervical cancer are higher in Arkansas compared to the U.S. averages.**

### New Cases

	All HPV Cancers	Oropharyngeal Cancer	Cervical Cancer
United States Overall	12.2	5.3	7.0
Arkansas Overall	15.0	6.6	9.1
United States	Male: 11.3, Female: 13.3	Male: 9.2, Female: 1.7	Arkansas ranks in the <b>Top 4 Nationally</b> in cervical cancer incidence rates.
Arkansas	Male: 14.3, Female: 15.9	Male: 11.7, Female: 2.0	

Incidence rates shown are cases per 100,000 persons.

## ACTION STEPS:

**Identify and engage key partners in HPV vaccination to develop, implement, and evaluate priority evidence-based interventions that increase on-time HPV vaccination coverage across clinical, community, and policy settings in Arkansas:**

- Align with the existing efforts of the Arkansas State Health Improvement plan to build HPV vaccination confidence among the public—particularly among parents and caregivers who make vaccination decisions for their children—to optimize impact and increase HPV vaccination rates, in collaboration with Arkansas Immunization Action Coalition (ImmunizeAR), Arkansas Department of Health, Arkansas Children’s hospital, and others.
- Engage and support state-level partners in the development and implementation of a comprehensive state plan to eliminate HPV cancers, beginning with cervical cancer. Use the Southeast United States Call to Action: Elimination of HPV Cancers Starting with Cervical Cancer as a Public Health Concern as a guiding framework.
- Collaborate with partners to disseminate both general and Arkansas -specific materials from the HPV Vaccination Roundtable of the Southeast’s “It’s Our Way Down South” campaign to promote HPV vaccination awareness and uptake.
- Support implementation of additional evidence-based strategies to promote on-time HPV vaccination, including initiating vaccination at age 9, providing training for health care professionals to make strong HPV vaccine recommendations, and ensuring equitable access to HPV vaccination services.

#### CITATIONS:

Arkansas Department of Health. State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) 2021-2025 [Internet]. Little Rock (AR): Arkansas Department of Health; 2021 [cited 2025 October 1]. Available from: <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/state-health-improvement-plan>

Pingali C, Yankey D, Elam-Evans LD, et al. Vaccination Coverage Among Adolescents Aged 13-17 Years – National Immunization Survey-Teen, United States, 2024. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2025;74:466-472. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7430a1>.

U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool [Internet]. Atlanta (GA): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; 2025 Jun [cited 2025 October 1]. Available from: <https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dataviz>