

# PHYSICAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING

## INDICATOR #15 Immunization Rates

### DEFINITIONS

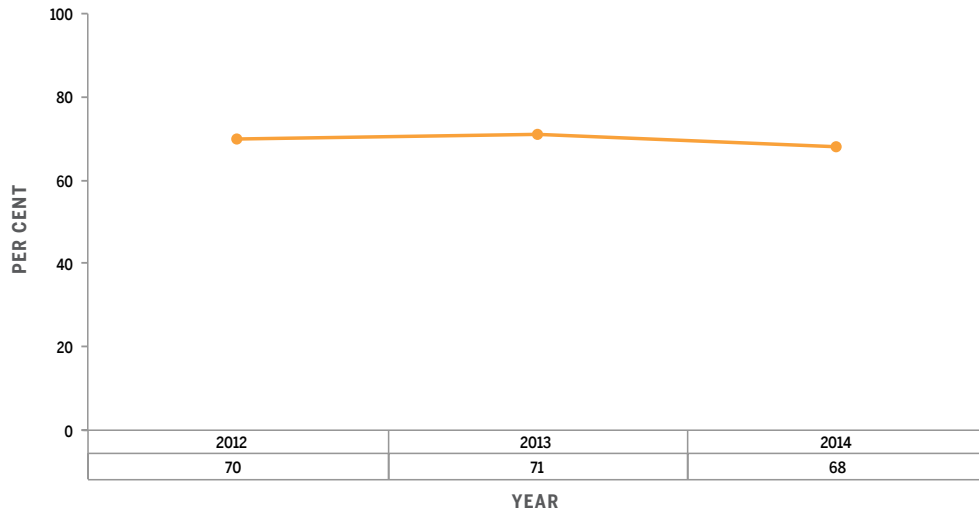
**INDICATOR #15A** — Percentage of children who are up to date with immunizations by their seventh birthday.

**INDICATOR #15B** — Percentage of students in grade 9 with up-to-date immunizations.

### KEY MESSAGES

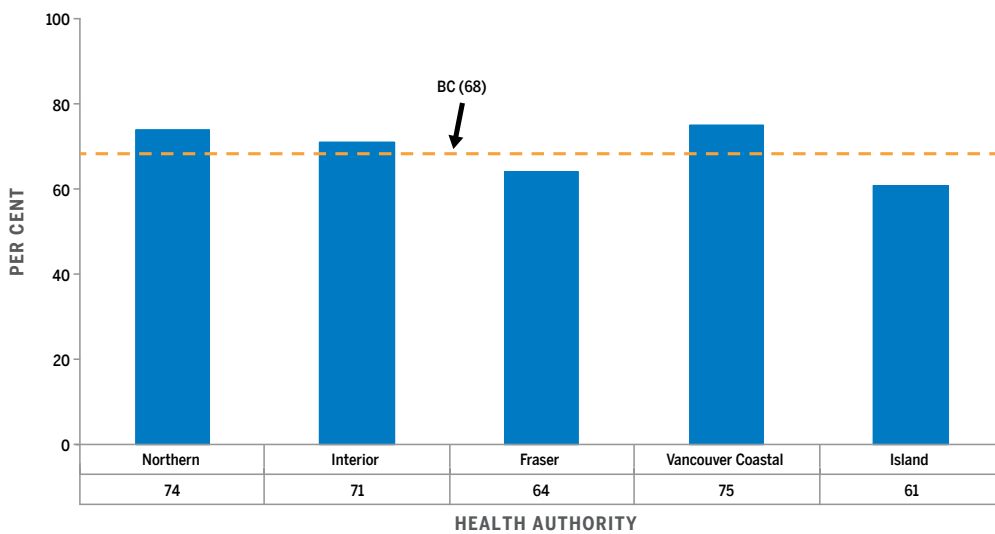
- ▶ **Immunization** is one of the most important measures available to monitor the prevention of illness and health complications in childhood—it is often described as one of the most successful and cost-effective health interventions.<sup>1,2</sup>
- ▶ Immunizations provide individual protection, as well as more broad protection of a population, from illnesses that have historically caused devastating outbreaks (e.g., measles, polio). High levels of immunization in the population are needed to protect those who are not able to receive the vaccine due to age or illness.
- ▶ Most parents interviewed in a recent Canadian survey (the Childhood National Immunization Coverage Survey) thought that childhood vaccines are safe. Similarly they believed that vaccines are effective and important for children's health.<sup>3</sup>
- ▶ At the current time, data are only available for Indicator 15A; future reports will include Indicator 15B as well, pending data availability.
- ▶ Figure 15A.1 shows that many children had up-to-date immunizations by age 7 from 2012 to 2014, but almost one-third did not. There are currently concerns among health care providers that increasing numbers of children are not up-to-date for all the vaccines they need in BC.<sup>4,5</sup>
- ▶ Figures 15A.2 and 15A.3 reveal that many of the 7-year-old children without up-to-date immunizations are from Island Health and Fraser Health.

**FIG 15A.1** Percentage of Seven-Year-Old Children with Up-to-Date Immunizations, BC, 2012 to 2014



**Sources:** BC Centre for Disease Control, Immunization Programs and Vaccine Preventable Disease Service. Immunization data are from Panorama, BC Centre for Disease Control, 2014; the Public Health Information System, BC Centre for Disease Control, 2012 to 2014; Primary Access Regional Information System, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, 2012 to 2014. School enrolment data are from the BC Ministry of Education, 2012 to 2014. Prepared by the Surveillance and Epidemiology Team, BC Office of the Provincial Health Officer, 2016.

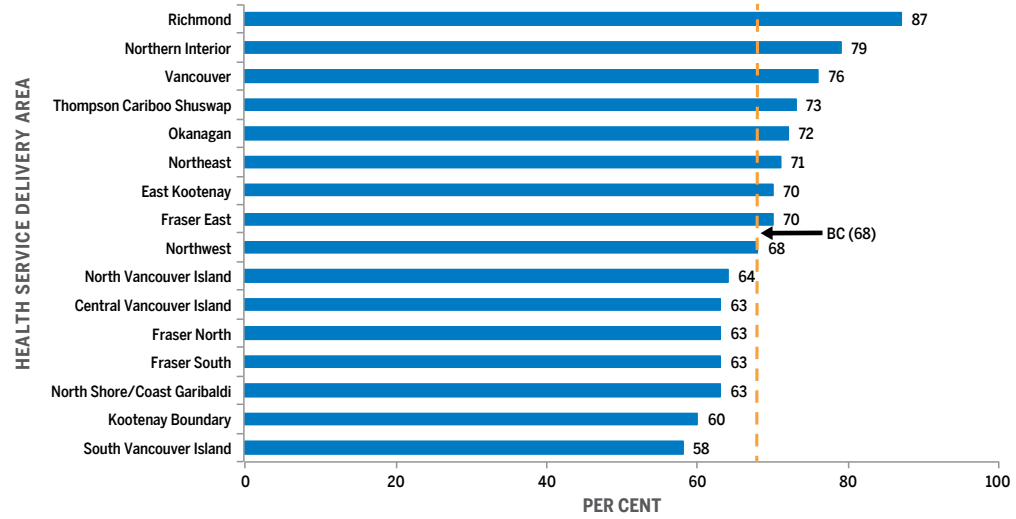
**FIG 15A.2** Percentage of Seven-Year-Old Children with Up-to-Date Immunizations, by Health Authority, BC, 2014



**Notes:** Health authority is based on the residence of the child.

**Sources:** BC Centre for Disease Control, Immunization Programs and Vaccine Preventable Disease Service. Immunization data are from Panorama, BC Centre for Disease Control, 2014; the Public Health Information System, BC Centre for Disease Control, 2014; Primary Access Regional Information System, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, 2014. School enrolment data are from the BC Ministry of Education, 2014. Prepared by the Surveillance and Epidemiology Team, BC Office of the Provincial Health Officer, 2016.

**FIG 15A.3** Percentage of Seven-Year-Old Children with Up-to-Date Immunizations, by Health Service Delivery Area, BC, 2014



**Notes:** Health service delivery area is based on the residence of the child. See Appendix B for more information about this data source.  
**Sources:** BC Centre for Disease Control, Immunization Programs and Vaccine Preventable Disease Service. Immunization data are from Panorama, BC Centre for Disease Control, 2014; the Public Health Information System, BC Centre for Disease Control, 2014; Primary Access Regional Information System, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, 2014. School enrolment data are from the BC Ministry of Education, 2014. Prepared by the Surveillance and Epidemiology Team, BC Office of the Provincial Health Officer, 2016.

## REFERENCES

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