Measles and rubella elimination country profile
# United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

World Health Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR Europe

Measles elimination status
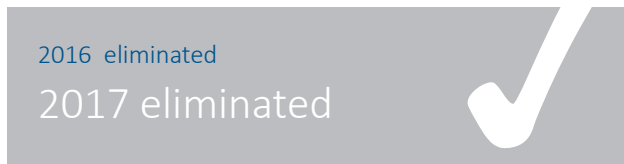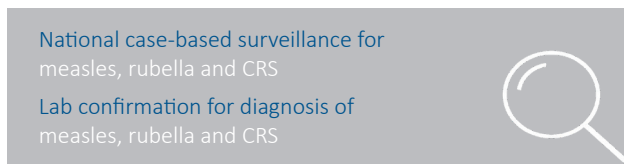
2016 eliminated
2017 eliminated ✓

Source:European Regional Verification Commission for Measles and Rubella Elimination (RVC) meeting report: www.euro.who.int/7thrvc

Rubella elimination status

2016 eliminated
2017 eliminated ✓
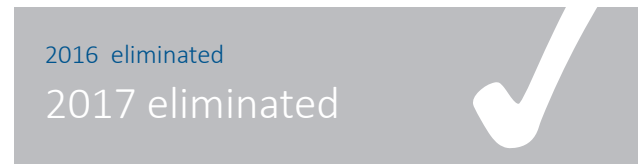
Source:European Regional Verification Commission for Measles and Rubella Elimination (RVC) meeting report: www.euro.who.int/7thrvc

Measles and rubella surveillance

National case-based surveillance for measles, rubella and CRS

Lab confirmation for diagnosis of measles, rubella and CRS

Source: WHO/UNICEF Joint Reporting Form on Immunization, 2017

Demographic information, 2017

Total population	66 181 585
< 1 year old	779 219
< 5 years old	3 999 271

Source: World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision, New York, United Nations

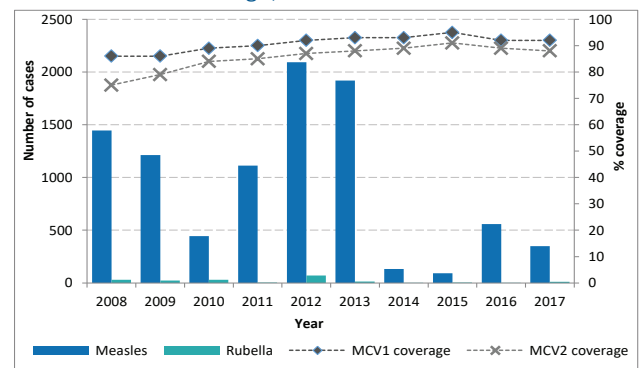## Measles and rubella immunization schedule, 2017

	Vaccine	Schedule		Year of introduction
MCV1	MMR	12 months	MCV2	1996
MCV2	MMR	3 years and 4 months	RCV	1970
Measles vaccination in school				Yes

Source: Immunization schedule, WHO, Data and Statistics, Immunization Monitoring and Surveillance (http://www.who.int/immunization/monitoring_surveillance/data/en/)
MMR = measles-mumps-rubella vaccine; MCV1 = first dose measles-containing vaccine; MCV2 = second dose measles-containing vaccine; RCV = rubella-containing vaccine

Definition used for an outbreak

Clusters (2 ≤ cases) are defined on the basis of known contact between cases or if attendance at the same event or the same institution occurred during the appropriate period

Source: Measles and rubella elimination Annual Status Update report, 2017

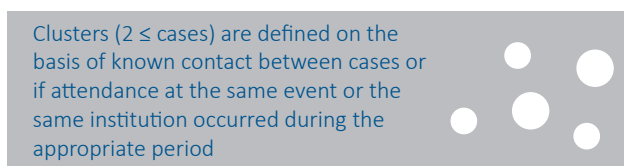## Measles and rubella cases and immunization coverage, 2008–2017

Source: Disease incidence and immunization coverage (WUENIC), WHO, Data and Statistics, Immunization Monitoring and Surveillance (http://www.who.int/immunization/monitoring_surveillance/data/en/)
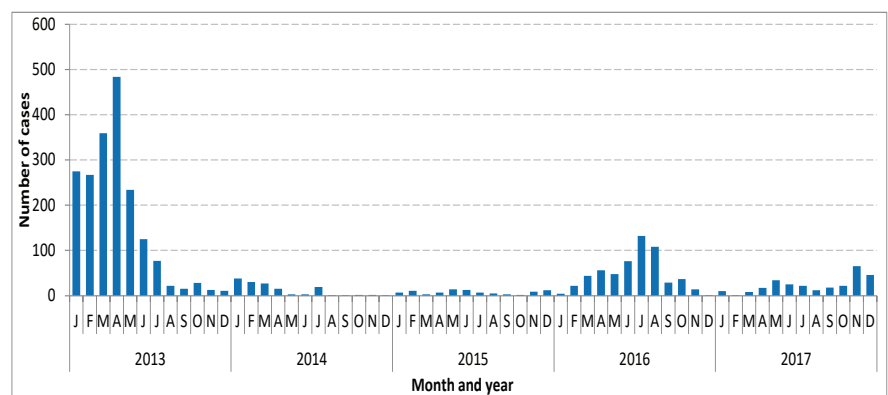MCV1 = first dose of measles-containing vaccine
MCV2= second dose of measles-containing vaccine

Confirmed measles cases by month of onset, 2013-2017

Source: CISID 2017

Measles cases by first subnational level, 2017

1dot=1case
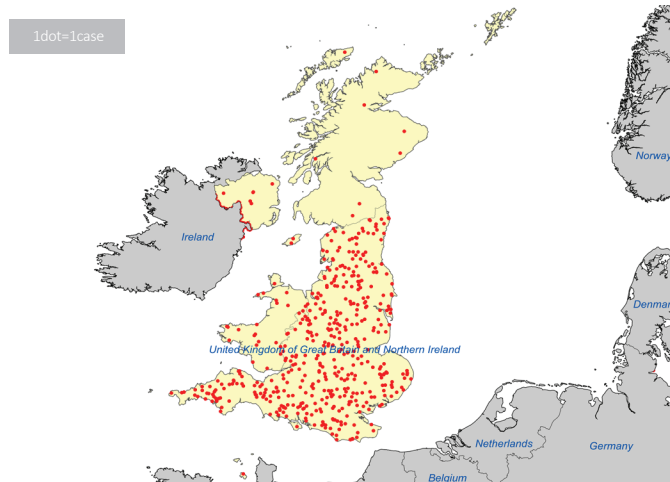
Source: Measles and rubella elimination Annual Status Update report, 2017

Measles genotypes by first subnational level, 2017

- B3
- D8
- H1
- D4
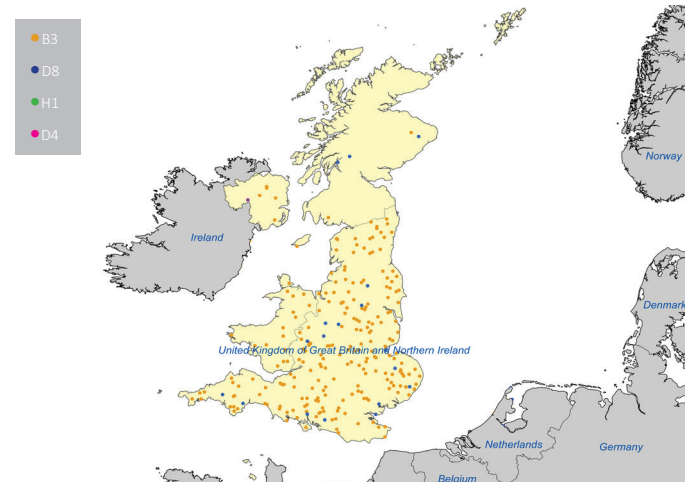
Source: MeaNS 2017

Note: The dots in the maps are placed randomly within the administrative regions.
Map disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the maps do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Measles cases by age group and vaccination status, 2017

Source: Measles and rubella elimination Annual Status Update report, 2017
Note: Excludes imported cases

Sources of infection, 2017

	Measles	Rubella
Imported	57	2
Import-related	292	8
Unknown/ Not reported	0	0
Endemic	0	0

Source: Measles and rubella elimination Annual Status Update report, 2017

Information on CRS, 2017

No cases reported

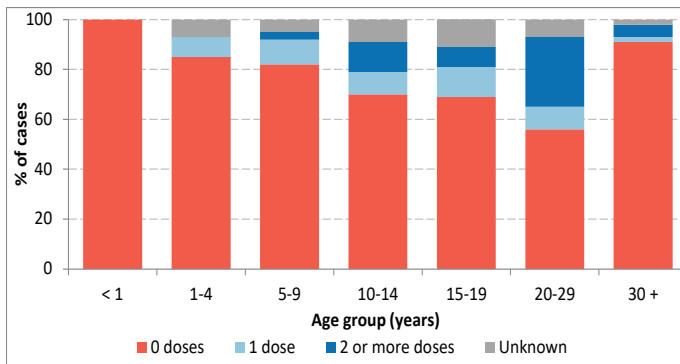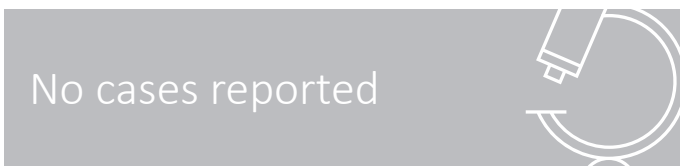Source: Measles and rubella elimination Annual Status Update report, 2017
CRS = congenital rubella syndrome

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Measles incidence, epidemiologic and virologic characteristics, 2013-2017

	Suspected measles cases	Confirmed measles cases				Discarded as non-measles	Measles incidence	Genotypes detected
		Laboratory	Epi- linked	Clinically	Total			
2013	8578	1903	17	0	1920	6596	28.9	B3,D4,D8, D9,H1
2014	3459	144	0	0	144	3239	1.5	B3,D8,H1
2015	2270	91	1	0	92	2154	1.1	B3,D4,D8,H1
2016	3627	594	52	62	708	2923	10.4	B3,D4,D8
2017	3052	306	18	25	349	2703	4.5	B3,D8

Source: Measles and rubella elimination Annual Status Update report, 2013-2017
Incidence calculated per 1 million population
ND = Data not available; NA= Not applicable

Measles surveillance and laboratory performance indicators, 2013-2017

	Discarded non-measles rate	% 1st sub-national unit with ≥ 2 discarded cases	% cases with adequate laboratory investigation	% origin of infection known	# specimen tested for measles	% positive for measles	Rate of viral detection	% WHO and proficient labs
2013	10.3	72%	>89%	100%	ND	ND	100%	100%
2014	3.8	50%	83.3%*	100%	2 562	5.6%	100%	100%
2015	3*	50%	70%*	100%	1615*	5.6%*	100%	100%
2016	3.7*	66%	83%*	100%	2624	23.2%	91%**	100%
2017	4.1	92%	98.3%	100%	3001	10.2%	96.1%	91.3%

Source: ASU 2013-2017
ND = Data not available; NA= Not applicable; *mean without Scotland; **data without NI
A proficient laboratory is WHO accredited and/or has an established quality assurance programme with oversight by a WHO accredited laboratory

Rubella incidence, epidemiologic and virologic characteristics, 2013-2017

	Suspected rubella cases	Confirmed rubella cases				Discarded as non-rubella	Rubella incidence	Genotypes detected
		Laboratory	Epi- linked	Clinically	Total			
2013	1083	13	0	0	13	1041	0.1	ND
2014	1030	2	1	0	3	1027	0	1G
2015	740	3	0	0	3	725	0	2B
2016	598	2	0	0	2	596	0	1G,2B
2017	1348	4	0	6	10	1338	0.1	2B

Source: Measles and rubella elimination Annual Status Update report, 2013-2017
Incidence calculated per 1 million population
ND = Data not available; NA= Not applicable

Rubella surveillance and laboratory performance indicators, 2013-2017

	Discarded non-rubella rate	% 1st sub-national unit with ≥ 2 discarded cases	% cases with adequate laboratory investigtion	% origin of infection known	# specimen tested for rubella	% positive for rubella	Rate of viral detection	% WHO and proficient labs
2013	1.6	<80%	124%	100%	ND	ND	NA	100%
2014	1.3	0%	91%	100%	804	0%	NA	100%
2015	2.2*	25%	66.3%*	100%	534*	0.6%*	33%	100%
2016	3.2*	41%	66.5%*	100%	369	2.7%	0	100%
2017	2	50%	99.6%	60%	1339	0.3%	NA	99%

Source: ASU 2013-2017
ND = Data not available; NA= Not applicable; *mean without Scotland; **data without NI
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RVC comments, based on 2017 reporting

The Regional Verification Commission for Measles and Rubella Elimination (RVC) concluded that endemic transmission of both measles and rubella remained interrupted in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in 2017 and confirmed that measles and rubella elimination has been sustained. However, the RVC notes that measles transmission has occurred throughout the country in 2017 and continued into 2018, and is concerned that evidence for ongoing transmission for >12 months will be forthcoming and that the United Kingdom will have re-established measles transmission in 2018. The RVC is greatly concerned over the low vaccination coverage reported for Greater London and the many reported measles cases are among young adults, and encourages efforts to vaccinate this and other susceptible populations.

Source:European Regional Verification Commission for Measles and Rubella Elimination (RVC) meeting report: www.euro.who.int/7thrvc

Surveillance performance indicators and targets

a. Rate of discarded cases: at least 2 discarded measles or rubella cases per 100 000 population

b. % cases with adequate laboratory investigation: ≥ 80%

c. % origin of infection known: ≥ 80%

d. Rate of viral detection: ≥ 80%