Measles and rubella elimination country profile
Malta

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

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Measles and rubella surveillance

National case-based surveillance for measles and CRS

Lab confirmation for diagnosis of measles and CRS

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

Demographic information, 2017

Total population	430 835
< 1 year old	4282
< 5 years old	21 574

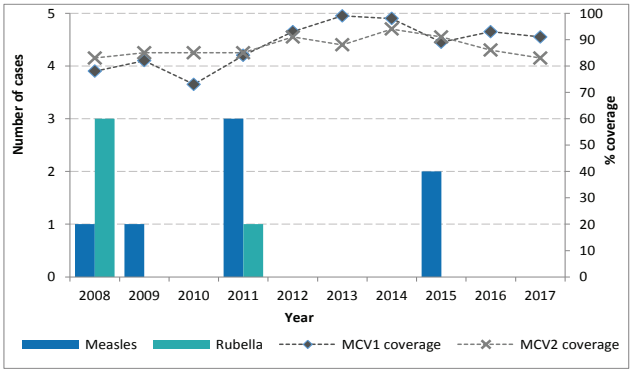
Source: World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision, New York, United Nations

Measles and rubella immunization schedule, 2017

	Vaccine	Schedule	Year of introduction	
MCV1	MMR	13 months	MCV2	1989
MCV2	MMR	3 years	RCV	1985
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

Measles and rubella cases and immunization coverage, 2008–2017



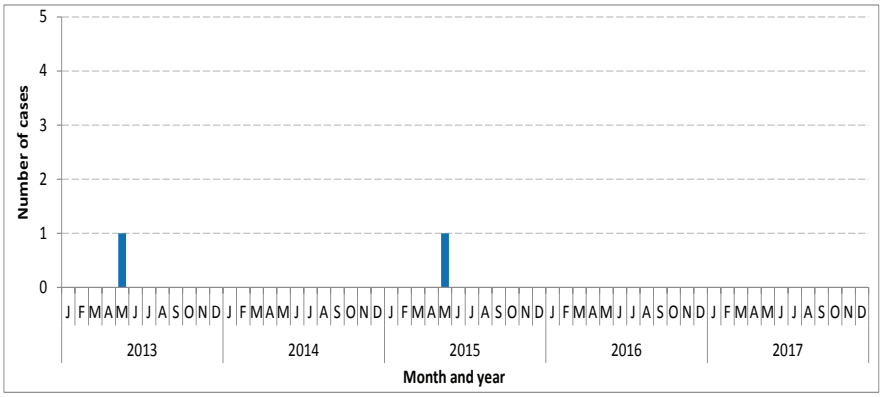
Source: Disease incidence and immunization coverage (WUENIC), WHO, Data and Statistics, Immunization Monitoring and Surveillance (http://www.who.int/immunization/monitoring_surveillance/data/en/)
MCV1 = first dose of measles-containing vaccine
MCV2= second dose of measles-containing vaccine

Definition used for an outbreak

2 or more laboratory-confirmed cases which are temporally related (with dates of rash onset occurring between 7 and 18 days apart for measles, and 12 and 46 days apart for rubella) and epidemiologically or virologically linked, or both

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

Confirmed measles cases by month of onset, 2013-2017



Source: CISID 2017

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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	4	1	0	0	1	3	0	ND
2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
2015	3	2	0	0	2	1	2	ND
2016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
2017	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	NA

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	95%	100%	100%	100%	ND	ND	ND	ND
2014	6.6	NA	100%	NA	28	0%	NA	ND
2015	10.3	NA	100%	0%	46	4.4%	0	100%
2016	100%	NA	100%	NA	43	0%	NA	100%
2017	9.6	NA	100%	NA	1	0%	NA	100%

Source: ASU 2013-2017
ND = Data not available; NA= Not applicable
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	7	0	0	0	0	7	0	NA
2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
2015	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	NA
2016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA
2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA

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	100%	100%	100%	NA	ND	ND	NA	ND
2014	ND	NA	ND	NA	1799	0.2%	NA	ND
2015	100%	NA	ND	NA	1610	0%	NA	100%
2016	100%	NA	100%	NA	1061	0%	NA	100%
2017	164.9	NA	100%	NA	0	0%	NA	NA

Source: ASU 2013-2017
ND = Data not available; NA= Not applicable
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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 Malta in 2017 and confirmed that measles and rubella elimination has been sustained. The RVC is concerned over delayed immunization with both MRCV doses, until school age, and urges that steps be taken to increase vaccine coverage in younger children.

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%

Information on CRS, 2017

No cases reported

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