



# January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

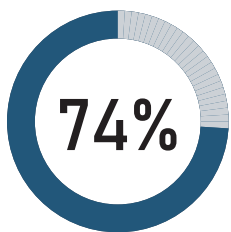
It's a chance to equip young women with the awareness and tools to prevent cervical cancer. Almost all cervical cancers are caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV). [Genital HPV](#) can be passed through sexual activity. It's important to note that HPV doesn't only happen to women; men can also contract HPV. HPV starts in the cells of the cervix and can cause most cervical cancers. It can develop slowly over time, if not addressed it can spread to surrounding areas.

## Preventive Action

Although cervical cancer is frequently diagnosed between the ages of 35 and 44, it is important for individuals to receive the vaccine at a young age or before they are sexually active.<sup>1</sup> The HPV vaccine is highly effective in preventing HPV types, including those that cause most genital warts. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends routine vaccination against HPV-related cancer and diseases for girls and boys at ages 11 or 12 years. The HPV vaccine can be discussed and given during well child and well adolescent visits.

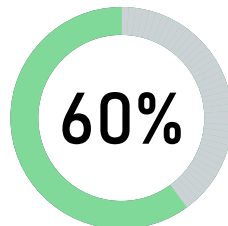
## Data and Information

In Kansas, from 2017 to 2021, the average rate of newly diagnosed late-stage cervical cancer was four cases per 100,000 women.<sup>2</sup> This does not meet the state's goal of less than three cases per 100,000 women. From 2018 to 2022, Kansas women died of cervical cancer at a rate of 2.4 deaths per every 100,000 women, exceeding the state's goal of less than 1.9 deaths per 100,000 women.

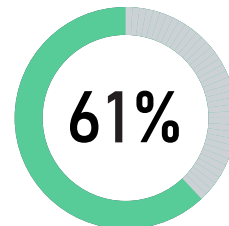


According to the National Immunization Survey, in 2023, less than three-quarters of Kansas female adolescents ages 13-17 years (74.5%) and male adolescents ages 13-17 years (76.2%) had at least one dose of the HPV vaccine.<sup>3</sup>

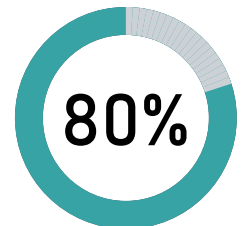
Only 60.4% of Kansas adolescents ages 13-17 years were up to date on the HPV vaccine series. This is lower than the U.S. total coverage of 61.4% and does not meet the Healthy People 2030 goal of 80%.



Kansas



U.S.



Goal



Up to date HPV vaccination coverage among Kansas adolescents varies by residence.<sup>3</sup> From 2018 to 2022, the percentage of Kansas adolescents ages 13-17 with up to date vaccination coverage was lowest for those living in rural areas (45.6%), compared to 60.5% among those living in an urban area. The estimate was 51.4% among those living in a metropolitan statistical area but near an urban core.

## Helpful Information

- [American Academy of Pediatrics Periodicity Schedule](#)
- [CDC Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule by Age](#)
- [Cervical Cancer](#)
- [HPV Vaccination](#)
- [Pink Book, Chapter 11: Human Papillomavirus](#)

## Resources

- [Cervical Cancer Risk Assessor](#)
- [HPV Vaccine Safety and Effectiveness Information](#)
- [HPV Vaccine Toolkit](#)

## Provider Resources

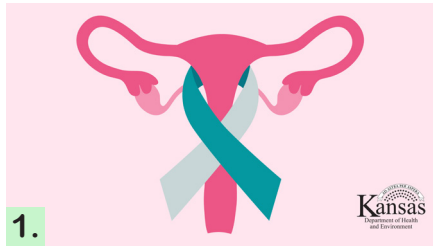
- [American Academy of Pediatrics: Adolescent Immunization Discussion Guides](#)
- [Education Materials for Office Staff and Parents](#)
- [Shutting the Door on HPV Cancers Module 1 and Module 2](#)
- [Top 10 Tips for HPV Vaccination Success](#)

## References

1. American Cancer Society. (2023, January 12). Key Statistics for Cervical Cancer. Retrieved from American Cancer Society. [cancer.org/cancer/types/cervical-cancer/about/key-statistics.html#:~:text=Cervical%20cancer%20is%20most%20frequently,in%20women%20younger%20than%2020](https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/cervical-cancer/about/key-statistics.html#:~:text=Cervical%20cancer%20is%20most%20frequently,in%20women%20younger%20than%2020)
2. Kansas Cancer Partnership, Cervical Cancer Fact Sheet: Kansas, 2023. [kscancerpartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Cervical-Cancer-Fact-Sheet\\_2023.pdf](https://www.kscancerpartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Cervical-Cancer-Fact-Sheet_2023.pdf)
3. Immunize Kansas Coalition, Data Dashboard. [immunizekansascoalition.org/datadash.asp](https://immunizekansascoalition.org/datadash.asp)

## Social Media

Click the images to download and use to spread awareness about Cervical Cancer Awareness Month on your social media. The images are high quality and are free to download for non-commercial use only.



Kansas Department of Health and Environment curated these graphics and sample posts to help spread information about cervical cancer prevention and the human papillomavirus vaccination. Posts can be customized to include your information or tag in community partners such as the Kansas Cancer Partnership and Immunize Kansas Coalition.

1. This January let's spread awareness about cervical cancer prevention. The human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination is a powerful shield against this disease. #CervicalCancerAwareness #HPVVaccination

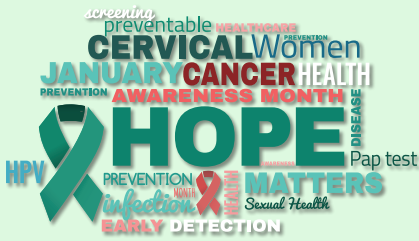
Este enero generemos conciencia sobre la prevención del cáncer de cuello uterino. La vacuna contra el virus del papiloma humano (VPH) es un poderoso escudo contra esta enfermedad. #CervicalCancerAwareness #HPVVaccination

2. Cervical cancer is preventable. Educate, vaccinate and empower! Join us in advocating for human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination this month. #CervicalCancerPrevention #GetVaccinated

El cáncer de cuello uterino se puede prevenir. ¡Educar, vacunar y empoderar! Este mes únase a nosotros para abogar por la vacunación contra el virus del papiloma humano (VPH). #CervicalCancerPrevention #GetVaccinated

3. Kansas teens, your health journey is important. Schedule your well visit today to stay up to date on your vaccinations. Protect yourself and your community — get vaccinated! #TeenWellness #HealthyChoices

Adolescentes de Kansas, tu trayecto de salud es importante. Programa tu visita de bienestar hoy para estar al día con tus vacunas. Protégete a ti mismo y a tu comunidad — ¡vacúnate! #TeenWellness #HealthyChoices



4. This Cervical Cancer Awareness Month let's erase misconceptions about the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination. It's safe, effective and saves lives. Spread the word! #FightCervicalCancer #VaccinesWork

Este mes de concientización sobre el cáncer de cuello uterino, eliminemos los conceptos erróneos sobre la vacunación contra el virus del papiloma humano (VPH). Es segura, eficaz y salva vidas. ¡Corre la voz! #FightCervicalCancer #VaccinesWork

5. The CDC recommends children ages 11 and 12 should receive the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine. Teens and young adults age 13 through 26 – it's not too late, you can receive the HPV vaccine too. Schedule your appointment today.

Los CDC recomiendan que los niños de 11 y 12 años reciban la vacuna contra el virus del papiloma humano (VPH). Adolescentes y adultos jóvenes de 13 a 26 años – aún no es demasiado tarde, ustedes también pueden recibir la vacuna contra el VPH. Programa tu cita hoy mismo.