

Uganda Data Dashboard

Access the online data dashboard and download the full report: <https://zdlh.gavi.org/semiannual-update>



Background

The Uganda Learning Hub is led by Infectious Diseases Research Collaboration (IDRC) with partners PATH and Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH).

The Learning Hub focuses on three districts:

Learning Hub Districts	
Kasese	Fishing communities, mountainous areas and pastoral / nomadic communities
Wakiso	Both urban (multicultural and slum area) and fishing communities (island)
Mubende	Hilly, multicultural, predominantly farming or mining, bordering other districts

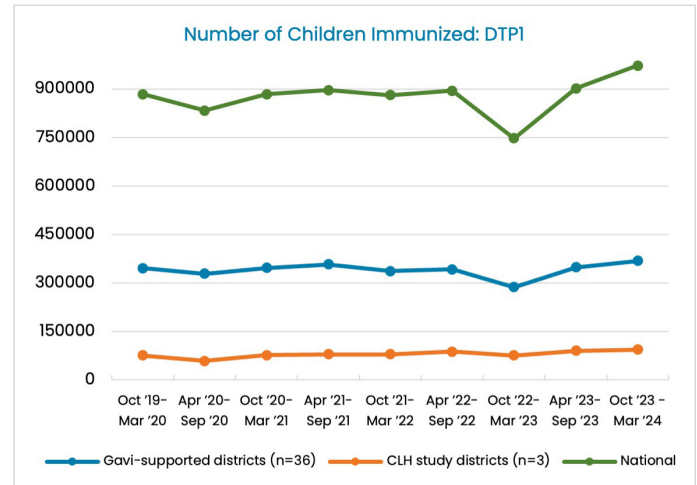
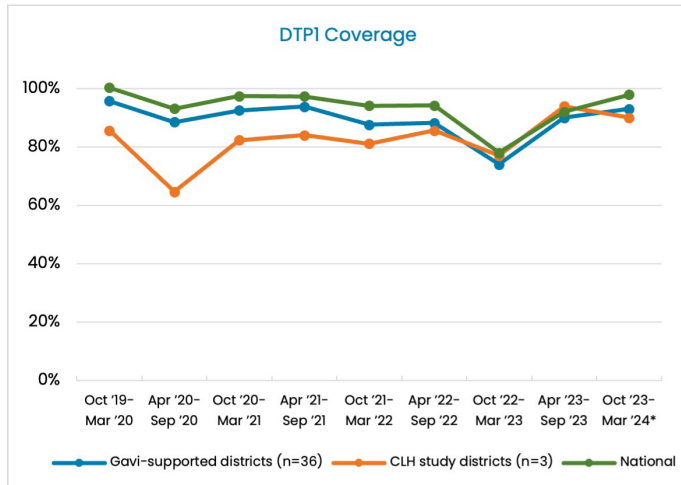
Grants in Uganda

- **Learning Hub** awarded in April 2023.
- **Health System Strengthening (HSS-3)** and **Equity Accelerator Funding (EAF)** grants 2024–2028. Funding being dispersed by the government as of September 2024.



DTP1 Trends in Uganda, October 2019–March 2024

Trends stay relatively unchanged, with a drop October 2022–March 2023 that recovers the next period. Coverage greater than 100% point to data quality issues.



*For the national level, Gavi-supported districts, and CLH study districts, the denominators for 2019–2023 were retrieved from the WHO monthly immunization results database. For 2024, the respective denominators were retrieved from the Uganda DHIS2 by the CLH as the data is not yet available through WHO.

Proportions of Children Lacking DTP1 and DTP3 by Age Group (4.5–11 months vs. 12–23 months) in Three Underserved Communities in Mubende District

Mubende district, with highest number of ZD children, selected for targeted survey (survey report forthcoming). Three communities for the targeted survey purposively selected to represent at least one type of community.

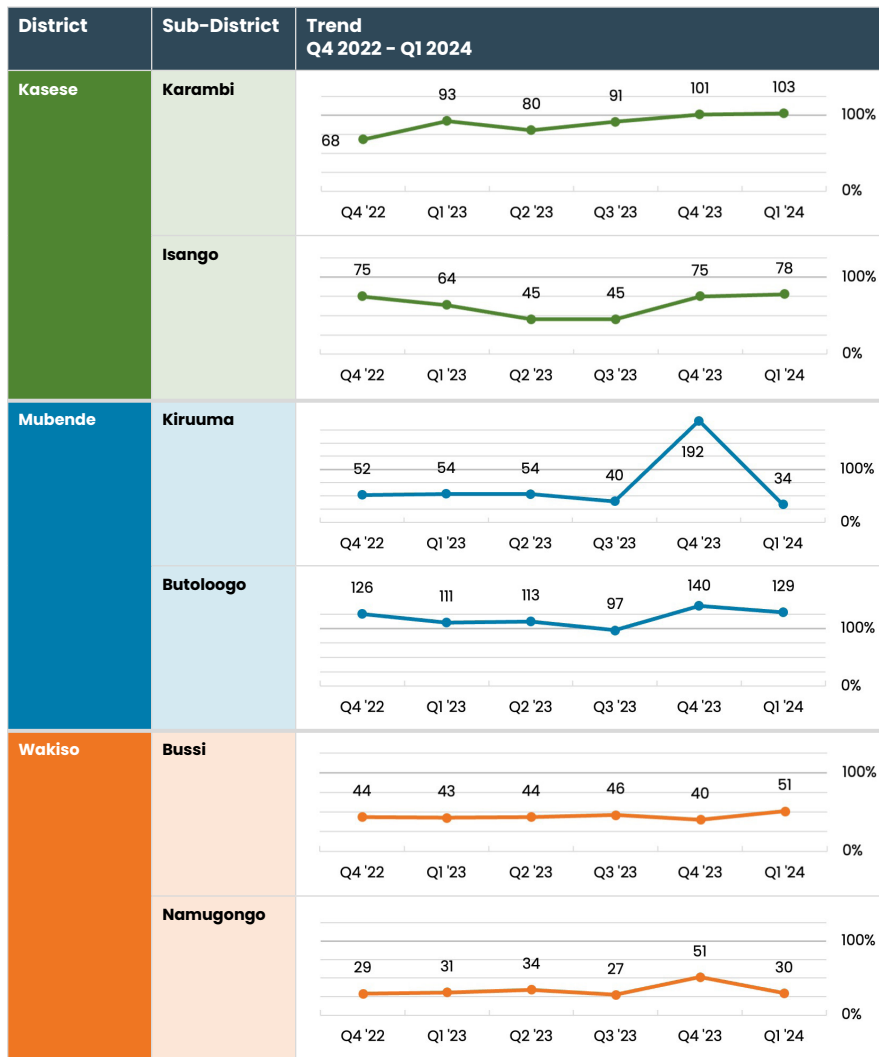
Sub-District	Characteristics	ZD (No DTP 12–23 mo)	No DTP1 (4.5–11 mo)	UI (No DTP3 12–23 mo)	Untimely (No DTP3 4.5–11 mo)
Kiruuma sub-county	Underserved community: predominantly rural, work in mines	17.9%	18.4%	5%	33.6%
Butuloogo sub-county	Hard to reach: predominantly rural, household members move around looking for pasture	4.9%	3.1%	6.4%	12.3%
Kigando sub-county	Pastoral community: predominantly rural, surrounded by hill, rainy season floods	15.9%	14.7%	9.6%	38%
Mubende district (total)		12.7%	11.8%	7.1%	27.5%

Factors Associated with ZD

- Born outside of health facility (at home or with traditional birth attendant)
- Grandparent as primary caregiver (vs. mothers)
- Prioritization of other basic needs over immunization
- Negative health worker attitude
- Lack knowledge about immunization
- Fear of side effects or adverse events
- Language barrier of immigrants from Rwanda
- Poor health of mothers
- Family tradition against immunization
- Advised not to vaccinate due to health condition
- Distance (though many ZD lived within 2km of health facility)
- Gender dynamics



CLH Study Sub-Districts in Uganda: Trends in DTP1 Coverage from Q4 2022 to Q1 2024



(Source: Uganda DHIS2 reported in Uganda CLH Quarterly Progress Report)

This figure displays subnational data on DTP1 coverage from the Uganda DHIS2 over an 18-month period, Q4 2022 to Q1 2024. Trends in DTP1 coverage across the three study districts and six sub-districts targeted by the Learning Hub study show increases of different magnitudes in many of the sub-districts, except the Bussi sub-district of Wakiso, where coverage has declined slightly. Over time, coverage trends vary by sub-district. Coverage in the sub-districts of Wakiso remained stable over time while coverage in sub-districts in Mubende showed a slow decline over the first four quarters, experienced a spike in coverage in Q4 of 2023, and then returned to previous coverage levels in Q1 of 2024. In Kasese, coverage decreased over the first four quarters and has slowly returned to the original coverage levels seen in Q4 2022, while Karambi experienced a sharp increase in coverage in Q1 2023 and has largely maintained that growth over the study period. However, coverage levels over the past two quarters have exceeded 100%, suggesting possible issues with data quality.

UNICEF Pilot Evaluation

The Uganda Learning Hub conducted an assessment of UNICEF's ZD support in Wakiso and Kamuli districts from 2022-2024 to provide recommendations to inform scale-up of the interventions funded under the equity accelerator funding (EAF).

Interventions assessed were house-to-house (HTH) registration of ZD children by village health teams (VHTs) for identification of ZD children and referral for vaccination.

- HTH registration by VHTs is both feasible and generally accepted by caregivers.
- Implementation was limited by insufficient training for VHTs and inadequate time allocated for community sensitization and registration efforts.
- Lack of child vaccination cards hampers accurate registration, limiting the ability to track and support ZD children effectively.
- Defaulter tracking is inadequate unless more is done to assist caregivers in overcoming significant barriers to access, such as fear of domestic violence and transportation costs.
- Sustainability is at risk due to the reliance on financial support for VHTs and the ongoing assistance provided by UNICEF.
- Recommendations include developing a detailed implementation plan, engaging stakeholders for community buy-in, and providing comprehensive training and resources for VHTs. However, these will be insufficient without also addressing demand-side barriers.

The focus of **CLH implementation research** is still under discussion with UNEPI



Key Insights, Decisions and Use of Learning Hub Results

The Uganda Learning Hub, UNICEF, and other local partners are using local dissemination activities to advocate with UNEPI for financial support mechanisms and community incentives to maintain the HTH registration process long-term.

The Learning Hub is also using global dissemination activities, including reports, webinars, and other outlets to bring awareness to the need for support for registration activities to funders and global level agenda setters, who are also in a unique position to guide and influence national priorities.