

# Jamaica

## Human Papillomavirus and Related Cancers, Fact Sheet 2023 (2023-03-10)



### I. Key data on HPV and HPV-related cancers



Jamaica has a population of 1.15 million women ages 15 years and older who are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Current estimates indicate that every year 386 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 247 die from the disease. Cervical cancer ranks as the 3rd most frequent cancer among women in Jamaica and the 2nd most frequent cancer

among women between 15 and 44 years of age. Data is not yet available on the HPV burden in the general population of Jamaica. However, in Caribbean, the region Jamaica belongs to, about 15.8% of women in the general population are estimated to harbour cervical HPV-16/18 infection at a given time, and 60.2% of invasive cervical cancers are attributed to HPV-16 or 18.

**Table 1. Crude incidence rates of HPV-related cancers**

	Male	Female
Cervical cancer	-	25.9
Anal cancer	0.82	0.80
Vulva cancer	-	0.67
Vaginal cancer	-	0.40
Penile cancer	1.16	-
Oropharyngeal cancer	1.22	0.13
Oral cavity cancer	1.09	0.80
Laryngeal cancer	3.47	0.40

**Table 2. Burden of cervical cancer**

	Incidence	Mortality
Annual number of new cases/deaths	386	247
Crude rate	25.9	16.6
Age-standardized rate	21.6	13.6
Cumulative risk 0-74 years (%)	2.17	1.48
Ranking of cervical cancer (all years)	3rd	3rd
Ranking of cervical cancer (15-44 years)	2nd	2nd

**Table 3. Burden of cervical HPV infection Jamaica**

	No. Tested	% (95% CI)
HPV 16/18 prevalence:		
Normal cytology	-	-
Low-grade cervical lesions	248	7.7 (5.0-11.7)
High-grade cervical lesions	249	32.9 (27.4-39.0)
Cervical cancer	14	50.0 (26.8-73.2)

**Figure 1. Comparison of the ten most frequent HPV oncogenic types in Jamaica among women with and without cervical lesions**



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### II. Complementary data on cervical cancer prevention

**Table 4. Factors contributing to cervical cancer (co-factors)**

Smoking prevalence (%) [95% UI], women	5.3 [3-8.6]
Total fertility rate (live births per women)	2.0
Hormonal contraception use (%)	17.3
HIV prevalence (%) [95% UI] (15-49 years)	- [—]

**Table 5. Sexual behaviour**

MEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	-
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	13.0 - 15.0
WOMEN	
Percentage of 15-year-old who have had sexual intercourse	-
Range of median age at first sexual intercourse	16.0 - 17.0

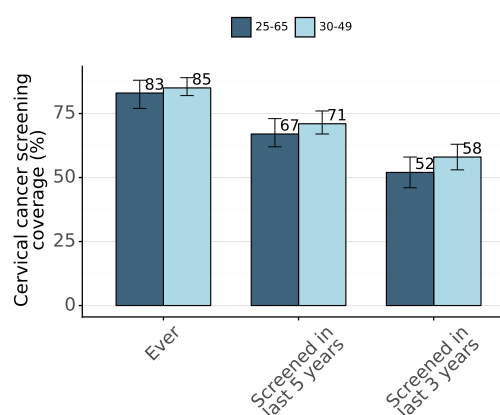
**Table 6. HPV vaccine introduction**

Females	
HPV vaccination programme	Introduced
Year of introduction	2017
Year of estimation	2021
HPV coverage – first dose (%)	1
HPV coverage – last dose (%)	2
Males	
HPV vaccination programme	Not Available/Not Introduced
Year of introduction	-
Year of estimation	-
HPV coverage – first dose (%)	-
HPV coverage – last dose (%)	-

**Table 7. Cervical screening practices and recommendations**

Existence of official national recommendations	Yes
Starting year of recommendations	2011
Active invitation to screening	No
Screening ages (years), primary screening test used, and screening interval or frequency of screenings	18-65 (cytology, 3 years)

**Figure 2. Estimated coverage of cervical cancer screening in Jamaica\***



\* Estimated coverage and 95% confidence interval in 2019

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