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## Measles Elimination Target Only Met by Half of the EU/EEA Countries



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Fourteen out of the 30 reporting countries to ECDC (29 EU/EEA countries plus Croatia) have met the elimination target of less than one case of measles per million population during the last 12 months, reports the Measles and rubella monitoring report for March.

### Measles

During the twelve months to March 2013, 8 127 cases of measles were reported to TESSy. The highest notification rate was among infants under one year of age, followed by children aged between one and four years old.

The number of reported cases in March 2013 was about half of that reported for the same month in 2012. Among the 1–4 year-olds, which is the age group targeted by routine childhood vaccination programmes, 78% of the cases were unvaccinated.

### Rubella

Nineteen of the 25 reporting countries met the elimination target of less than one case per million population for rubella.

Since August 2012, Poland has reported over 95% of all rubella cases, and a total of 9 631 in the past twelve months, although data for March has yet to be reported to TESSy. The country is experiencing a nationwide rubella epidemic. The highest notification rate in Poland has been among adolescents aged 15–19 years, suggesting that this age group have lower vaccine-induced immunity.

For more information, please visit: [ECDC](http://ecdc.europa.eu)

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