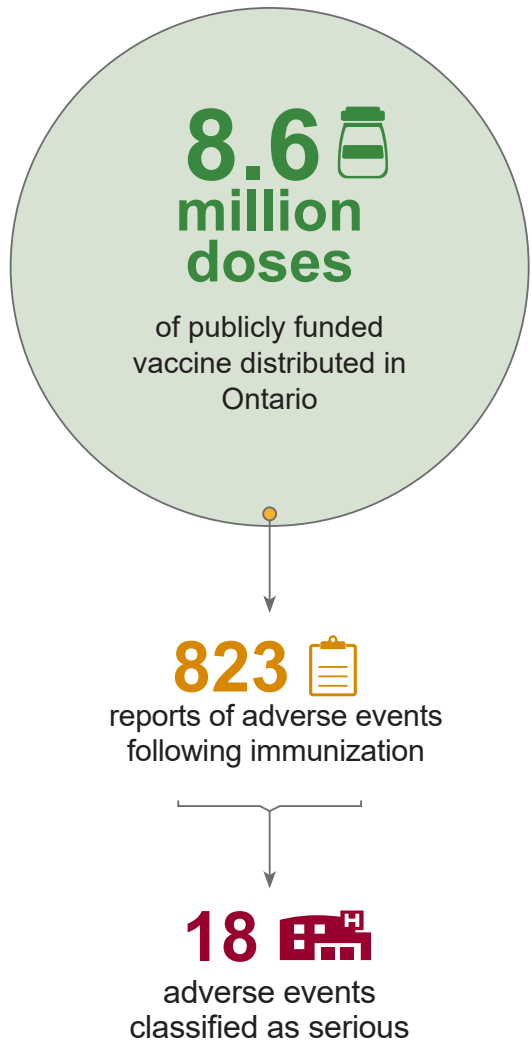


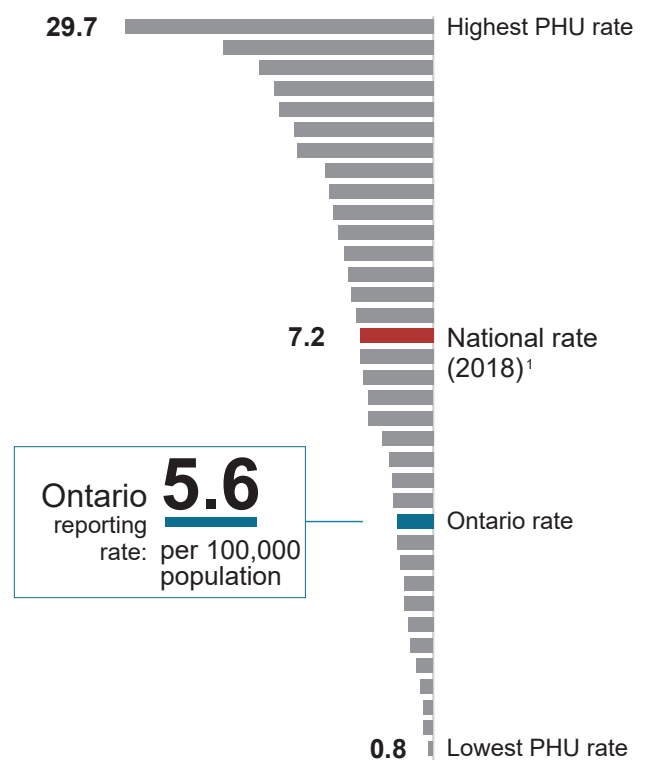
Vaccine Safety in Ontario 2019

Ongoing surveillance of adverse events following immunization (AEFI) is essential for monitoring vaccine safety and maintaining confidence in immunization programs.

The following is a summary of AEFIs reported in Ontario following vaccines administered in 2019.



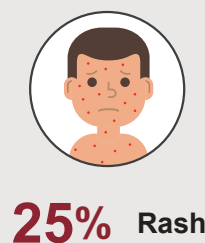
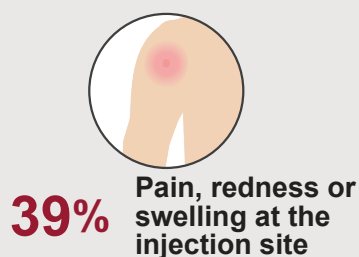
There was a wide variation in AEFI reporting rates among public health units (PHUs) ranging from 0.8 to 29.7 per 100,000 population.



Types of adverse events

Most reported adverse events were mild.

Among reports of AEFIs, the most frequently reported reactions were:



Age and sex distribution

Persons with AEFI reports ranged in age from 1 month to 98 years, with a median age of 31 years. The highest AEFI reporting rates were among **infants under one year and children aged one to three years**.



Infants under one year
28.6 per 100,000 population



Children aged one to three years
28.1 per 100,000 population

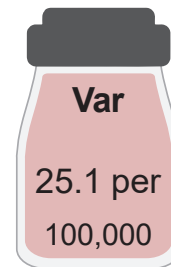
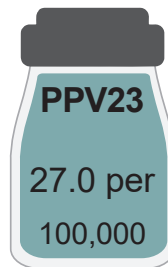
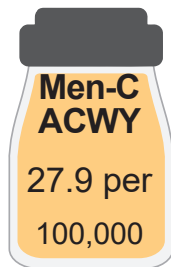
Female predominance was observed in AEFI reports



64% occurred among females

Vaccines

The **highest AEFI reporting rates** by doses distributed (publicly funded vaccines) were observed among:



Although Influenza vaccine was associated with the **highest number of AEFI reports** (228), it had the **second lowest reporting rate** (5.8 per 100,000 doses distributed) due to the high volume of doses distributed for this vaccine.



Recombinant zoster vaccine (RZV) accounted for 13% of AEFI reports.

The most frequently reported reaction associated with RZV was **pain, redness or swelling at the injection site** (59%).

Reporting Source



Physicians and other health care providers reported the majority of AEFIs (69%).

Family member and self-reports accounted for 24% of AEFI reports.