HPV causes most cervical cancers and several other cancers including cancers of the mouth, tongue and throat. The HPV vaccine can prevent HPV and the cancers caused by HPV.

HPV is a very common virus. Close to half of American adults are infected with HPV.

The HPV vaccine is recommended for girls and boys aged 11 and 12 years and can be given between the ages of 9 and 26 years. But, HPV vaccine rates in New York State (NYS) are much lower than rates for other vaccines for this age group and for vaccines that are required for school entry.

Vaccine Coverage among NYS Adolescents Aged 13-17 Years

- **Tdap**: 91%
- **Meningococcal**: 89%
- **HPV**: 56%

Nearly half of adolescents in NYS are not fully vaccinated against HPV according to current guidelines.

2. The National Immunization Survey (NIS)
Vaccine coverage estimates represent % with: ≥1 dose of Tdap, ≥1 dose of MenACWY and age-appropriate complete HPV vaccine series.
While NYS does not require the HPV vaccine for school entry, there is support among local government officials and residents for a policy requiring the HPV vaccine before students begin the 6th grade.¹

67% of NY local government decision makers in favor of vaccine policy

59% of NY adults in favor of vaccine policy

¹ NY Local Opinion Leaders Survey, 2016
² New York State Chronic Disease Public Opinion Poll, 2016