Washington State
School Immunization Data
School Year 2014-2015
School Immunization Data

Data source:
These data come from public and private school immunization reports that are submitted to the Washington Department of Health, Office of Immunization and Child Profile. Every school in Washington State (except home schools) is required to report immunization data for kindergartners, 6th graders and all students in grades K-12 by November 1st each school year.

Suggested citation:

If you have a disability and need this document in a different format, please call 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY 711).

For more information, please see the technical notes on the last slide, visit our website, at: http://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthBehaviors/Immunization/School Reports, or contact oicpschools@doh.wa.gov.
School immunization reporting, 2014-2015

There were 2,643 public and private schools in Washington State during school year 2014-2015.

Of these, 93% (N=2,440) submitted immunization data to the Department of Health.

- 78% of private schools reported data (N=430 out of 549)
- 96% of public schools reported (N=2,010 out of 2,094)
Immunization status of kindergartners, 1998 - 2015

The percentage of kindergartners complete for required immunizations has dropped during each of the last two years. Students with completed immunizations are better protected from getting and spreading vaccine-preventable diseases.
Kindergartners complete for required immunizations

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*HP2020: Healthy People 2020, ten-year national goal for kindergarten immunization completeness.
School immunization exemptions among kindergartners, 2005 - 2015

Exemption rates have remained stable over the last four school years. Washington State has one of the highest exemption rates in the country. While most exemptions are for personal and religious reasons, Washington’s medical exemption rate is 6 times higher than the national average of 0.2%.

- **Any kind of exemption**: 4.5% (-0.1% change from last year)
- **Non-medical exemptions**: 3.4% (-0.2% change from last year)
- **Medical exemptions**: 1.2% (unchanged from last year)

Exemption type data were not collected for kindergartners prior to 2012-13.
School immunization exemptions for students in grades K-12, 1998 - 2015

After five years of decreasing exemption rates, the percentage of students with any exemption increased this year. The increase in overall exemptions is due to increases in medical exemptions.

Any kind of exemption: 5.2% (0.2% change from last year)
Non-medical exemptions: 4.5% (-0.1% change from last year)
Medical exemptions 1.0% (0.3% change from last year)
Technical notes

Data notes:
• This report is based on total counts of students by immunization status as reported by public and private schools to DOH.
• The student immunization status is based on parent reports to the school and may not be verified by a healthcare provider.
• Only schools that reported data are included in this slide set.
• DOH makes no other claims about the accuracy of the data as reported by schools.

Immunization status definitions:
• **Complete**: The student meets all the school-entry requirements for their age and grade.
• **Exempt**: The student has a signed Certificate of Exemption on file at the school excusing the student from one or more vaccinations due to medical, personal, or religious beliefs.
• **Conditional**: The student lacks appropriate documentation or is missing one or more of the required immunizations.
• **Out-of-compliance**: Conditional status has ended, but the student has not been fully immunized, does not have an exemption on file, or lacks appropriate documentation.

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