Washington State
School Immunization Data
School Year 2017-2018
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. Washington State schools (except home-, jails, online and tribal schools) are required to report immunization data for kindergartners, 6th graders and all students in grades K-12 by November 1 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, contact oicpschools@doh.wa.gov, or visit our website, at: http://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthBehaviors/Immunization/SchoolReports.
School immunization reporting, 2017-2018

There were 2,672 public and private schools in Washington state required to report during the 2017 – 2018 school year.

Of these, 93.5% (N=2,498) submitted immunization data to the Department of Health.

- 97% of public schools reported (N=2,068 out of 2,137)
- 80% of private schools reported (N=430 out of 535)
The percentage of kindergartners complete for required immunizations was the same as last school year. Students with completed immunizations are better protected from getting and spreading vaccine-preventable diseases.
Immunization status of kindergartners, 1998 – 2018

Because the percentages of students with exemptions and those in conditional status are stable, they are not affecting kindergarten immunization completion rates. Out-of-compliance rates do vary over time and directly impact the percentage of kindergartners complete for required immunizations.
Kindergartners complete for required immunizations, 2010-2018

The percentage of kindergartners complete for required immunizations stayed the same as last school year. Students with completed immunizations are better protected from getting and spreading vaccine-preventable diseases.

HP2020 goal*: 95%

*HP2020: Healthy People 2020, ten-year national goal for kindergarten immunization completeness.
Washington state has one of the highest exemption rates in the country. While most exemptions are for personal/philosophical and religious reasons, Washington’s medical exemption rate during 2016-17 was four-and-a-half times higher than the national median of 0.2%.
School immunization exemptions for students in grades K-12, 1998 - 2018

The percentage of students with any exemption decreased this year. Both medical and non-medical exemptions rates decreased.

- Any kind of exemption: 4.9%
- Non-medical exemptions: 4.0%
- Medical exemptions: 0.9% (decrease from the 1.2% reported 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. Some schools reported data but were excluded (ex: schools located in jails and hospitals, parent partnership programs, schools located out of district and online schools).
• 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.