



Annual Report of Immunization Status of Students DSHS Immunization Unit

Background

Texas requires public school districts and accredited private schools to annually submit a report of students' immunization status (Title 25 Health Services, Texas Administrative Code, §§97.61-97.72). The Annual Report of Immunization Status is a self-reported survey that is used to measure immunization coverage among kindergarten and 7th grade students. Information on the reason kindergarten and 7th grade students are not vaccinated is also collected. Additionally, the number of all students (K-12) with a conscientious exemption affidavit on file is collected. The results of this report assist the Immunization Unit in identifying counties with low immunization coverage rates and those with high exemption rates.

Methods

In September 2017, the Annual Report of Immunization Status was mailed to 1,203 public school districts and 1,058 accredited private schools in Texas. The survey captures the immunization status of students on the survey's snapshot date, the last Friday in October. The survey collects aggregated data on the immunization status of the students, including the reasons why a child is not vaccinated according to the Texas school entry requirements, and the total number of conscientious exemption affidavit forms filed at the public school district or private school. More detailed information by vaccine is collected for Kindergarten and 7th grade students. Reports are prepared and submitted by staff at each public school district and accredited private school.

Results

Over 83% of the surveyed facilities submitted the report. Of the schools responding to the 2017-2018 annual report, 56,738 kindergarten through 12th grade students were reported as having a conscientious exemption on file at the school. This number represents 1.07% of the number of students reported enrolled by schools in the survey.

Tables 1 and 2 show aggregated statewide results from the Fall of 2017 for Kindergarten and 7th grade respectively. The percent completely and incompletely immunized are shown for each vaccine. Immunization coverage was above 95% for each vaccine. Reasons for not completing the vaccine series are also reported.

Tables 3 and 4 represent students who are completely vaccinated for each vaccine by region and their respective grade levels.

Figure 1 illustrates the percentage of students with a conscientious exemption for one or more vaccines by county as reported by participating school districts and accredited private schools.

Conclusion

Overall, Texas schools reported high rates of coverage for each vaccine. Compared to the 2016-2017 school year, however, kindergarten students have slightly lower coverage as reports of conscientious exemptions, provisional enrollment, and delinquencies all increased slightly in 2017-2018. Across the board, kindergarten coverage decreased by 0.2 to 0.4 percentage points from the previous school year. Kindergarten conscientious exemption rates increased by at least 0.2 percentage points in every vaccine category and the delinquency rates increased by 0.05 to 0.11 percentage points. For 7th grade students, vaccination coverage improved in the 2017-2018 school year for most vaccines. This improvement appears to be attributable to decreases in provisional enrollment and delinquencies. For example, 7th grade Hepatitis A coverage increased by 0.15 percentage points while Hepatitis A provisional enrollment decreased by 0.11 percentage points and Hepatitis A delinquency decreased by 0.09 percentage points.

Table 1. Texas Kindergarten Annual Report of Immunization Status, School Year 2017-2018

Vaccine Category	Percent Completely Vaccinated	Reported Reasons for Lack of Completion by Vaccine			
		Conscientious Exemptions	Medical Exemptions	Provisional Enrollment	Delinquent
		%	%	%	%
DTaP (<i>Diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis</i>)	96.82%	1.57%	0.08%	0.53%	1.00%
Hepatitis A	96.58%	1.53%	0.08%	1.12%	0.69%
Hepatitis B	97.66%	1.49%	0.05%	0.27%	0.53%
MMR (<i>Measles, mumps, and rubella</i>)	97.01%	1.63%	0.10%	0.27%	0.99%
Polio	96.99%	1.58%	0.08%	0.35%	1.00%
Varicella* (<i>Chickenpox</i>)	96.35%	1.65%	0.12%	0.51%	1.07%

* An additional 0.31% of Kindergarten students met school entry requirements through reported history of varicella (chickenpox) disease.

Table 2. Texas 7th Grade Annual Report of Immunization Status, School Year 2017-2018

Vaccine Category	Percent Completely Vaccinated	Reported Reasons for Lack of Completion by Vaccine			
		Conscientious Exemptions	Medical Exemptions	Provisional Enrollment	Delinquent
		%	%	%	%
Tdap (<i>Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis</i>)	96.70%	1.08%	0.07%	0.20%	1.95%
Hepatitis A	98.31%	0.77%	0.05%	0.51%	0.36%
Hepatitis B	98.80%	0.72%	0.03%	0.15%	0.30%
MCV4 (<i>Meningococcal conjugate</i>)	96.26%	1.09%	0.06%	0.20%	2.38%
MMR (<i>Measles, mumps, and rubella</i>)	98.87%	0.71%	0.05%	0.12%	0.25%
Polio	98.70%	0.76%	0.04%	0.18%	0.31%
Varicella* (<i>Chickenpox</i>)	97.23%	0.79%	0.09%	0.18%	0.33%

* An additional 1.39% of 7th grade students met school entry requirements through reported history of varicella (chickenpox) disease.

Table 3. Percent of Kindergarten Students Completely Vaccinated by Public Health Region, School Year 2017-2018

Vaccine	Public Health Region							
	1	2/3	4/5N	6/5S	7	8	9/10	11
DTaP (Diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis)	96.66%	96.21%	97.13%	96.41%	96.53%	97.46%	97.63%	98.97%
Hepatitis A	96.21%	95.84%	96.78%	96.41%	95.97%	97.39%	97.46%	98.74%
Hepatitis B	97.99%	97.27%	98.11%	97.18%	97.05%	98.33%	98.51%	99.40%
MMR (Measles, mumps, and rubella)	97.16%	96.53%	97.54%	96.36%	96.63%	97.66%	98.16%	99.13%
Polio	97.23%	96.51%	97.51%	96.31%	96.62%	97.76%	98.00%	99.14%
Varicella* (Chickenpox)	96.32%	95.79%	97.06%	95.88%	95.85%	97.21%	97.06%	98.34%

* This percentage does not reflect kindergarten students who met school entry requirements through reported history of varicella (chickenpox) disease.

Table 4. Percent of 7th Grade Students Completely Vaccinated by Public Health Region, School Year 2017-2018

Vaccine	Public Health Region							
	1	2/3	4/5N	6/5S	7	8	9/10	11
Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, and acellular pertussis)	96.88%	96.81%	97.73%	95.22%	96.31%	98.02%	97.04%	98.74%
Hepatitis A	98.69%	98.22%	98.71%	97.96%	97.66%	98.76%	98.66%	99.28%
Hepatitis B	99.03%	98.81%	99.09%	98.35%	98.26%	99.18%	99.27%	99.69%
MCV4 (Meningococcal conjugate)	96.94%	96.88%	97.69%	93.27%	96.74%	98.08%	97.07%	98.81%
MMR (Measles, mumps, and rubella)	99.13%	98.92%	99.08%	98.38%	98.48%	99.14%	99.42%	99.69%
Polio	98.92%	98.70%	99.04%	98.20%	98.14%	99.12%	99.36%	99.66%
Varicella* (Chickenpox)	97.75%	97.22%	97.95%	96.99%	96.28%	98.13%	97.46%	97.34%

* This percentage does not reflect 7th grade students who met school entry requirements through reported history of varicella (chickenpox) disease.

Figure 1. Percent of Students in Kindergarten through 12th Grade with a Conscientious Exemption

