



Iowa Immunization Program

2022 Annual Report

Iowa Immunization Program
Bureau of Immunization and TB
Division of Public Health
Iowa Department of Health and Human Services
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Public Health
IOWA HHS

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<https://hhs.iowa.gov/immmtb/immunization/data-and-reports>.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACIP	Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
HPV	Human Papillomavirus
IIS	Immunization Information System
Iowa HHS	Iowa Department of Health and Human Services
IQIP	Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers
IRIS	Immunization Registry Information System
VFC	Vaccines for Children Program
WIC	Women of Infants and Children

VACCINES AND VACCINE SERIES RECOMMENDATIONS

4-3-1-3-3-1-4 Vaccine Series: By 24 months of age, children are recommended to have received 4 doses DTaP, 3 doses Polio, 1 dose MMR, 3 doses Hib, 3 doses Hepatitis B, 1 dose Varicella, and 4 doses PCV.

3-1-2-1-2 Vaccine Series: The adolescent vaccine series includes 3 doses Hepatitis B, 1 dose Meningitis, 2 doses MMR, 1 dose Td or Tdap and 2 doses Varicella vaccine.

Table 1. Routinely Recommended Vaccines and Associated Disease Vaccine Protects Against

Vaccine and Antigen Type	Disease Vaccine Protects Against
DTaP	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis
DTaP-IPV (Kinrix/Quadacel)	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Poliovirus
DTaP-IPV/Hib (Pentacel)	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Poliovirus, Haemophilus Influenzae Type B
DTaP-IPV-Hep B (Pediatrix)	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Poliovirus, Hepatitis B
DTaP-IPV-Hib-Hep B (Vaxelis)	Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Poliovirus, Haemophilus Influenzae Type B, Hepatitis B
Tdap	Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis
Td	Tetanus, Diphtheria
Hep A	Hepatitis A
Hep B	Hepatitis B
Hep A-Hep B (Twinrix)	Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B
Hib	Haemophilus Influenzae Type B
HPV	Human papillomavirus
IPV	Poliovirus
MMR	Mumps, Measles, Rubella
MMR-Varicella (MMRV)	Mumps, Measles, Rubella, Varicella
Men B	Meningitis B
MenACWY	Meningitis
PCV 13, 15, or 20	Pneumococcal
PPSV23	Pneumococcal
Rotavirus	Rotavirus
Varicella	Varicella (Chickenpox)
Influenza	Influenza (Flu)
COVID-19	COVID-19

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The mission of the Iowa Immunization Program is to decrease and ultimately eliminate vaccine-preventable diseases through education, advocacy and partnership.

As the world begins to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is evident of the continued importance of immunizations in Iowa. The widespread use of vaccines effectively protects all Iowans from once common deadly infectious disease, which translates to saving both lives and money by averting costs to treat diseases. Vaccines have the ability to protect everyone from 27 vaccine preventable diseases.

While immunization rates in Iowa are consistent with or exceed national averages, the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted access to routine health care services and reduced immunization coverage rates across all vaccine and age groups. Un-immunized populations leave communities vulnerable to infectious disease. It is important to continue efforts in identifying strategies to improve vaccination rates in order to protect the health of Iowans.

Healthcare providers are essential stakeholders in achieving and maintaining high vaccination rates. Studies consistently indicate a healthcare provider's recommendation is the single strongest predictor of vaccination status. The Iowa HHS Immunization Program provides immunization related services throughout the state and includes the following programs: Adolescent Immunization, Adult Immunization, Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS), Vaccines for Children, Perinatal Hepatitis B and Immunization Assessment.

This report provides a summary of the activities and achievements of the Iowa HHS Immunization Program and Iowa healthcare providers during 2022. It also serves as an annual informational resource for stakeholders, local partners, policy makers and the public. Iowa-specific funding sources and program-specific data appear in tables and maps throughout the report. These tables and maps demonstrate the collaboration and tremendous work done at the local level by public and private healthcare providers.

Due to the ongoing efforts and focus on the COVID-19 pandemic, this is the first immunization report published by the Immunization Program since 2019.

IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM FUNDING

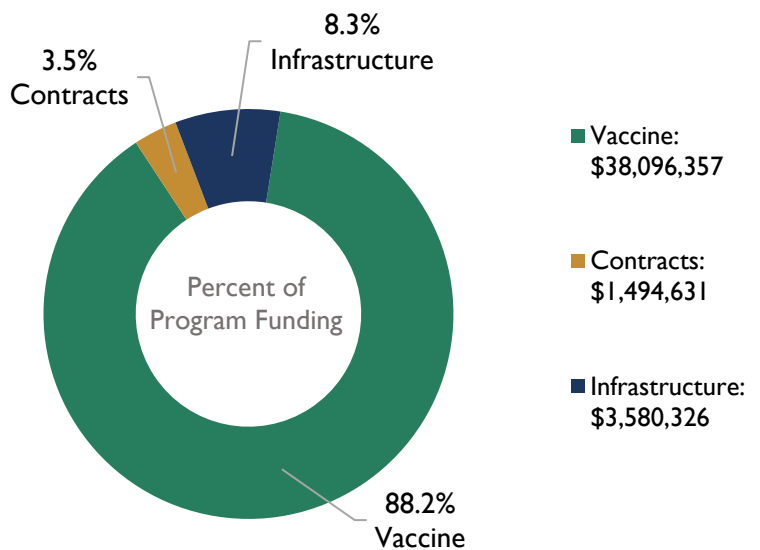
During the 2021-2022 fiscal year (October-September), the Immunization Program received funds from the federal Vaccines for Children program (VFC), federal 317 grant program, state funds and federal immunization and grant funds totaling \$43,171,314 (Table 2).

Table 2. Fiscal Year 2021-22 Total Immunization Program Funds

Funding Source	Funds
Federal Immunization	\$4,710,025
State - Immunization	\$364,932
State Vaccine	\$299,856
Federal VFC Vaccine	\$37,266,354
Federal 317 Vaccine	\$530,147
Total	\$43,171,314

Figure 1. Fiscal Year 2021-22 Immunization Program Funding Distribution

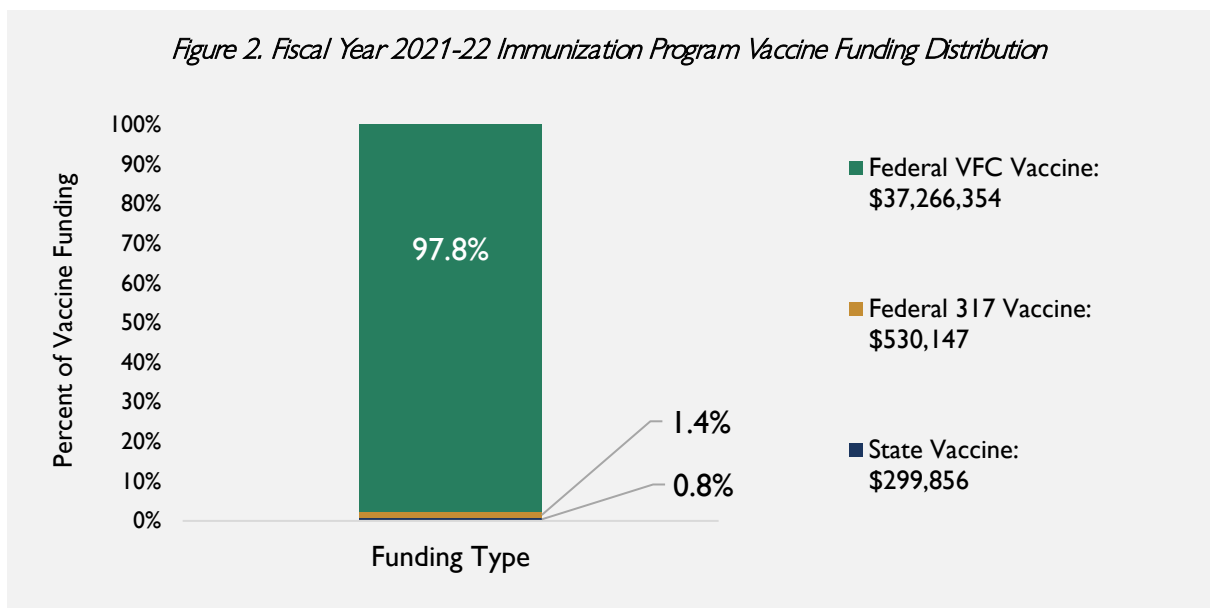
Program expenditures are divided into three main categories: vaccine purchases, contracts with local public health agencies and immunization service providers, and program infrastructure (staff salary and operating expenses). The funding distribution for these three categories is illustrated in Figure 1 (vaccine, contracts, infrastructure breakdown).



VACCINE FUNDS

The Immunization Program completes annual population estimates and vaccine forecasting for Iowa’s population, which are used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to determine vaccine funding for the upcoming year.

The Immunization Program received funding for vaccines from the federal VFC program, federal 317 grant vaccine funds and state funds. Figure 2 includes the vaccine funding distribution for fiscal year 2021-2022. Of the program’s \$43 million dollar budget, more than \$38 million was spent on vaccines.



During the 2021-22 fiscal year, Iowa received \$37,266,354 from the federal VFC program for vaccines. These funds account for over 97% of the program’s total vaccine budget. These funds are used to immunize children birth through 18 years of age who meet the following eligibility: Medicaid enrolled, uninsured, underinsured, American Indian or Alaskan Native.

Iowa also received \$530,147 in 317 grant funds, which comprises 1.4% of the program’s total vaccine budget. Iowa used federal 317 grant funds to vaccinate underinsured children served by local public health agencies and provides hospitals with hepatitis B vaccine to administer the birth dose of hepatitis B vaccine to all newborns regardless of insurance coverage. Additionally, the program spent \$299,856 in state funds to purchase vaccine, comprising less than 1% of the program’s total vaccine budget.

IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY INFORMATION SYSTEM (IRIS)



The Iowa Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS) is a secure, confidential, computerized repository of individual immunization records from participating public and private healthcare providers.

IRIS contains patient records from all ages and is used to keep patients on schedule for recommended immunizations by storing immunization records, documenting vaccine contraindications and reactions, validating immunization history, providing vaccine recommendations, producing patient reminder and recall notices, and managing vaccine inventory.

IRIS USERS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Enrollment in IRIS is available to all healthcare providers in Iowa administering immunizations. From 2020-22, 913 new organizations enrolled in IRIS for a total of 3,924 participating organizations. Enrolled organizations include private healthcare clinics, local public health agencies, rural health clinics, hospitals, pharmacies, long-term care centers and schools.

INTEROPERABILITY WITH IRIS

Iowa has supported data exchange, or interoperability, between IRIS and electronic health records systems since 2013. As of December 31, 2022, the Immunization Program supported 1,546 organizations exchanging electronic immunization data with IRIS. Of these, 1,453 (94%) are bidirectional, meaning these organizations query for patients' immunization histories as well as submit patients' immunization records to IRIS.

2022 IRIS Quick Stats:

Total number of immunizations in IRIS:

63,593,546

Total number of clients/patients in IRIS:

4,905,572

Number of organizations enrolled in IRIS:

3,924

Total number of active and distinct users:

17,224

Total number of organizations sending immunizations or querying IRIS:

1,546

Total number of real-time transactions through IRIS:

2,599,172

IRIS RECORDS

Table 3 includes the total number of patients in IRIS each year by age group. High participation across each of the age groups indicates IRIS is widely used among healthcare providers. The volume of patients in IRIS with immunizations recorded slightly decreased from 2020-22 for patients ages 4 months through 5 years as a result of decreases in birth cohorts for these years. Patient records in IRIS continues to increase for patients over 19 years old.

Table 3. Number of Patient Records in IRIS by Year and Age Group

Patients in IRIS by Year			
Year	Patients in IRIS ages 4 months through 5 years with two or more immunizations	Patients in IRIS ages 11 years through 17 years with 2 or more immunizations	Patients in IRIS over the age of 19 years with 1 or more immunization
2013	211,714	176,308	1,171,201
2014	212,487	188,126	1,496,633
2015	215,678	200,446	1,672,148
2016	224,567	216,841	1,682,147
2017	229,861	236,996	2,021,869
2018	232,160	252,109	2,175,194
2019	230,673	263,225	2,270,403
2020	226,496	266,630	2,280,858
2021	220,746	268,486	2,292,513
2022	217,675	267,992	2,301,979

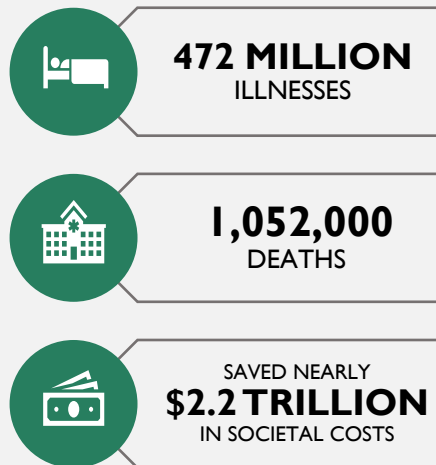
**Data as reported in the Immunization Information Systems Annual Report*

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM



The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program is a federally funded program established in 1994 to provide vaccines at no cost to eligible children from birth through 18 years of age. Since its establishment, the VFC program has significantly impacted the health of U.S. children.

THE VACCINES FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM PREVENTS:



The CDC estimates that vaccination of children born between 1994 and 2021 will prevent 472 million illnesses, 1,052,000 deaths, and save nearly \$2.2 trillion in societal costs.

VFC PROVIDER ENROLLMENT

As of December 31, 2022, the Iowa VFC program included **591 participating providers**. Enrolled providers include local public health agencies, Indian Health Services, Women Infants and Children (WIC) clinics, private healthcare providers, hospitals, pharmacies, rural health clinics, and Federally Qualified Health Centers.

Each of Iowa's 99 counties **has at least one** VFC program provider serving eligible children.

Figure 3. VFC program providers in Iowa by county and county population 18 years and younger (2022)

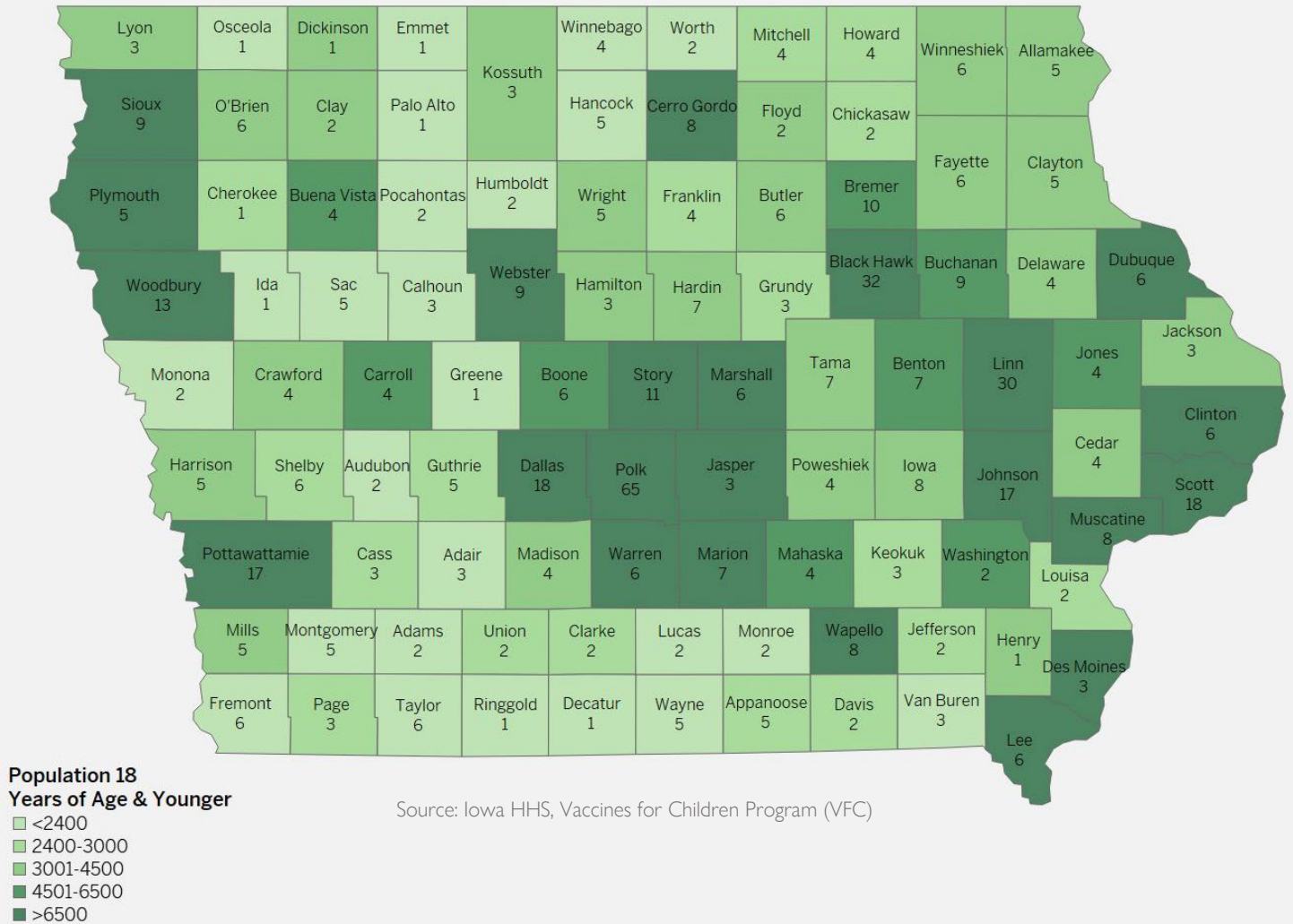


Figure 3 includes the number of VFC providers by county and the population of children 18 years of age and younger. The number of participating VFC program providers and the county population of children less than 18 years of age are directly related. VFC program provider availability in each of Iowa's 99 counties is essential to ensuring children have the opportunity to be vaccinated and protected against vaccine-preventable diseases.

VFC VACCINE DISTRIBUTION

The VFC program provides vaccine for approximately **47%, or 362,451** of Iowa's children from birth through 18 years of age. Eligible children include those who are enrolled in Medicaid, uninsured, underinsured, American Indian or Alaskan Native.

During 2021-2022 fiscal year, the Iowa VFC program distributed **597,463 doses of vaccine** (Table 4), valued at more than \$37 million, to VFC-enrolled healthcare providers. These vaccines protect Iowa's children from 16 vaccine-preventable diseases.

Table 4. VFC Vaccine Doses Distributed During the 2021-22 Fiscal Year

Vaccine	Doses Distributed
DTaP	16,720
DTaP-IPV (Kinrix/Quadracel)	16,680
DTaP-IPV/Hib (Pentacel)	10,260
DTaP-IPV-HepB (Pediarix)	40,010
DTaP-IPV-Hib-HepB (Vaxelis)	5,740
Tdap	19,445
Td	322
Hep A	41,510
Hep B	25,000
Hep A – Hep B (Twinrix)	310
Hib	46,080
HPV	27,420
IPV	7,020
MMR	21,040
MMR-Varicella (MMRV)	19,450
MenACWY	29,450
MenB	14,240
PCV13	67,190
PPSV23	26
Rotavirus	45,760
Varicella	21,490
Influenza	122,300
Total Doses Distributed	597,463

HEPATITIS B PROGRAM

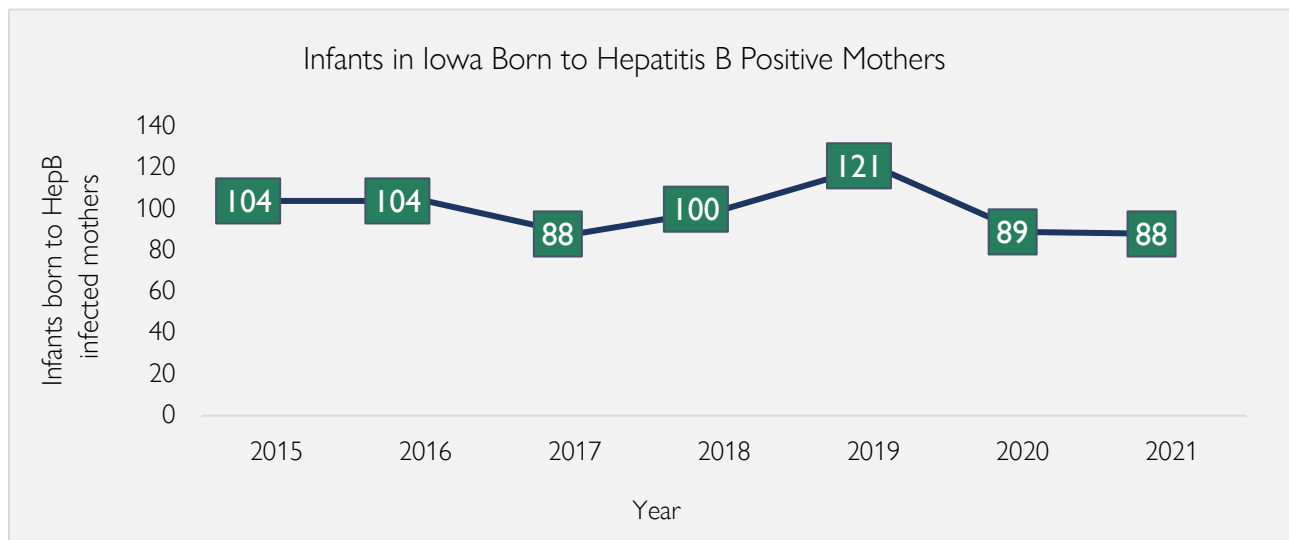
Hepatitis B is a serious disease caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV), which can be transmitted via sexual contact, blood, and other bodily fluids, or from an infected mother to her infant at birth. Hepatitis B infection can cause long-term, chronic liver infections that can potentially lead to cirrhosis and liver cancer.

According to the CDC, infants who acquire hepatitis B at birth have a 90% chance of developing chronic liver infections. Preventing mother-to-infant transmission, called perinatal HBV transmission, is an integral part of the national strategy to eliminate hepatitis B in the United States. The best way to prevent hepatitis B infection is by getting vaccinated.

PERINATAL HEPATITIS B PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Iowa HHS Perinatal Hepatitis B Program works to prevent transmission of hepatitis B infection from mothers to infants by conducting parent and healthcare provider education, case management of mothers and babies, distribution of hepatitis B vaccine and hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG), and laboratory testing. In 2021, there were 88 reported infants in Iowa born to hepatitis B infected mothers (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Infants in Iowa Born to Hepatitis B Positive Mothers



DATA NOTE: Due to infants being followed the year of birth through the vaccination series and serology and into the next year, there is a one year lag with data on the number of reported infants born to hepatitis B infected mothers.

UNIVERSAL HEPATITIS B VACCINE BIRTH DOSE PROGRAM

The Iowa Immunization Program provides hospitals with hepatitis B vaccine to administer the birth dose of hepatitis B vaccine to all newborns regardless of insurance coverage. **22 of the 61** birthing hospitals in Iowa were enrolled in the Universal Hepatitis B Vaccine Birth Dose Program in 2022.

In 2019, CDC transitioned to reporting National Immunization Survey (NIS) child data by birth year rather than survey year. The National Immunization Survey (NIS) for hepatitis B vaccine among infants' birth to 3 days of age, born in 2018-2019, indicated Iowa has a hepatitis B birth dose rate of **84.6%**, which is well above the national average of 79.8%.

The Immunization Program continues initiatives to increase the number of Iowa infants who receive a birth dose of hepatitis B vaccine. These efforts include the Universal Hepatitis B Vaccine Birth Dose Program, promoting birthing hospitals' enrollment in the VFC program, and encouraging birthing hospitals to enroll in the Immunization Action Coalition's (IAC) Hepatitis B Birth Dose Honor Roll.

HIGH-RISK ADULT HEPATITIS PROGRAM

The Immunization Program collaborates with the Iowa HHS Hepatitis Program to provide hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccines for **high-risk patients** seen at nine Counseling, Testing and Referral (CTR) sites throughout the state.

High-risk patients include injection drug users, men who have sex with men, persons with a current sexually transmitted disease diagnosis, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or hepatitis C, and sexual partners of persons infected with HIV, hepatitis A or hepatitis B.

In 2022, the Immunization Program distributed 310 doses of adult hepatitis A/hepatitis B vaccine (Twinrix) to CTR sites; 234 doses were administered to clients. One hundred and twenty doses of adult hepatitis A vaccine were distributed to CTR sites.

COVID-19 VACCINE RESPONSE

The first COVID-19 cases in Iowa were reported in early March 2020. Iowa's vaccination campaign began in December 2020, and continues with the ongoing availability of vaccines. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Immunization Program has prioritized COVID-19 response duties.

The Iowa Immunization Program continues to respond to COVID-19 vaccine related duties, including enrolling COVID-19 vaccine providers, enhancing the state IIS's pandemic module with new schedules and vaccine products, allocating and distributing the vaccines, improving vaccine administration data, and analyzing doses administered data, among other tasks.

COVID-19 Vaccine Allocation & Distribution:

The Iowa Immunization Program utilizes Iowa's Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS) for the allocation, distribution, and documentation of COVID-19 vaccine. Each county local public health agency must be enrolled in IRIS as part of the allocation and distribution process in order to receive COVID-19 vaccine. There are currently 1,966 enrolled COVID-19 vaccine providers in Iowa.

COVID-19 Vaccine Storage & Handling:

COVID-19 vaccine products are temperature-sensitive and must be stored and handled correctly to ensure efficacy and maximize shelf life. Proper storage and handling practices are critical to minimize vaccine loss and limit risk of administering COVID-19 vaccine with reduced effectiveness. Immunization program staff continue to work with local public health agencies and each COVID-19 vaccination provider to ensure adherence to vaccine storage and handling procedures.

COVID-19 Vaccination Data:

COVID-19 vaccination data is now available on the Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal and includes data on the number of individuals fully vaccinated and number of fully vaccinated individuals that have received a booster dose. As of May 31, 2023, 60.2% or 1,905,696 Iowans are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

IOWA PUBLIC HEALTH TRACKING PORTAL

The Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal provides immunization and assessment data for Iowa healthcare providers and local partners in order to track progress towards goals, improve immunization practices, guide strategies to improve immunization service and delivery, and identify pockets of under or unimmunized populations.

The purpose of Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal is to compile important health and environmental information and data in one place that is easily accessible to stakeholders. The Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal provides stakeholders with information and data to formulate and enact efficient public health decisions.

Portal data provides information regarding vaccine coverage by antigen type or series in Iowa residents. The Iowa Immunization Program uses data from IRIS to calculate county and state immunization rates for the following immunization categories linked below:

- Childhood Immunizations (2 years old)
- Adolescent Immunizations (13-15 years old)
- HPV Vaccine
- School and Child Care Audits
- Adult Immunizations
- Influenza Vaccine
- COVID-19 Vaccine

Updates to the Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal:

In 2022, the Iowa Immunization Program made several updates to the Public Health Tracking Portal including the addition of the COVID-19 portal page and the Adult Immunization portal page. Additionally, a comprehensive State Immunization Data Report and individual data summaries were added to the portal as an additional resource to stakeholders. The report and summaries contain immunization data visuals and trends with accompanying narrative and key messages.

IMMUNIZATION DATA ON THE TRACKING PORTAL

- **Children: Immunization Data for 2-Year-Olds** - Child immunization data includes the percent of children that received the recommended series of 4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 Hepatitis B, 1 Varicella and 4 PCV and the 4:3:1:3:3:1:4 vaccine series by age 24 months.
- **Adolescent: Immunization Data for 13-15-Year-Olds** - Adolescent immunization data includes the percent of 13-15 year old's that received the recommended series of 3 Hepatitis B, 1 Meningococcal, 2 MMR, 1 Td/Tdap, and 2 Varicella vaccines and the 3:1:2:1:2 vaccine series.
- **Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine Data** - The HPV vaccination coverage for adolescents age 13-15 years includes series initiation (series has not been completed) and series completion.
- **Adult Immunization Data** - Adult immunization data includes the percent of Iowa residents that received the recommended doses of Tdap, HPV, Pneumococcal, Hepatitis A, and Zoster vaccine, based on recommended age groups.
- **School Immunization Audits Data** - Assessments of children attending elementary and secondary school are conducted annually to ensure students have received the required immunizations. Data includes the number of students with a Certificate of Immunization, Certificates of Immunization Exemption and Provisional Certificates of Immunization.
- **Child Care Immunization Audits Data** - Assessments of children attending licensed child care centers are conducted annually to ensure attendees have received the required immunizations. Data includes the number of children with a Certificate of Immunization, Certificates of Immunization Exemption and Provisional Certificates of Immunization.
- **Influenza Vaccine Data** - Seasonal influenza vaccination data includes the number of doses reported to the Iowa Immunization Registry Information System (IRIS). Report includes influenza doses administered by age groups and month of receipt.
- **COVID-19 Vaccine Data** - The COVID-19 vaccination coverage measures include the number of individuals fully vaccinated and number of fully vaccinated individuals that have received a booster dose.

IMMUNIZATIONS IN IOWA

Immunization data is utilized to determine the percentage of patients age-appropriately vaccinated consistent with the recommended Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) immunization schedule.

County and State Immunization Rates

County and state immunization data includes patients served by both public and private healthcare providers with a record in IRIS that have an Iowa ZIP code and are an “active” patient within a healthcare provider organization. This data provides immunization rates based upon a standard vaccination series identified by the ACIP and the CDC. These rates are available on the Iowa Public Health Tracking Portal.

The following immunization rates are based on the IRIS population denominator for childhood, adolescent, HPV, and adult immunizations. Influenza vaccination rates are based on the Census population denominator.

2022 IOWA IMMUNIZATION RATES

Childhood: The 2 year-old county immunization rate for the 4-3-1-3-3-1-4 vaccine series completion ranges from 45.7 to 90.7%, with a state immunization rate of 70.9%. The state immunization rate includes the assessment of 38,298 patient records.

Adolescents: The 13-15 year-old county immunization rate for the 3-1-2-1-2 vaccine series completion ranges from 45.5 to 91.9%, with an average state immunization rate of 71.3%. The state immunization rate includes the assessment of 157,568 patient records.

HPV Vaccine: The county immunization rate for HPV vaccine series completion ranges from 21% to 58.6%, with an average state immunization rate of 45.7%. The Iowa Immunization Program strives to meet the Healthy People 2030 Goal of 80% coverage.

Adults: In 2022, 43.7% of adults between 19-64 years old had received at least 1 dose of Tdap vaccine. HPV vaccine series completion was 39.8% for adults 19-26 years of age. For adults aged 19-59, Hepatitis A and B vaccine series completion coverage rates were 14.5% and 32.9%, respectively. The immunization rate for adults 50 years and older who completed the Zoster vaccine series was 24%.

Influenza Vaccine: During the 2021-22 influenza season, 33.9% of Iowans received the influenza vaccine. County immunization rates ranged from 23.7 to 46.4%.

CONCLUSION

The Immunization Program's vision is healthy Iowans in communities free of vaccine-preventable diseases.

Vaccines have the extraordinary ability to protect all Iowans from 27 different deadly infectious diseases. Iowa healthcare providers are essential to promote vaccines and provide sound science-based immunization education to their patients. The most significant factor in a parent's decisions to vaccinate their child is a strong recommendation by the healthcare provider. When a provider offers a strong and clear recommendation, patients are 4 to 5 times more likely to be vaccinated.

The Iowa HHS Immunization Program is committed to promoting immunizations through the implementation of strategies to achieve and maintain high vaccination levels. We cannot rest on our past achievements and successes, but must remain diligent to protect and improve the health of Iowans against vaccine-preventable diseases. Recent disease outbreaks across the U.S. and the COVID-19 pandemic illustrate many Americans are not taking advantage of opportunities to protect themselves, their families, and their communities from vaccine preventable diseases. Vaccines are essential tools in preventing devastating disease outbreaks. The Iowa Immunization Program remains committed to working with stakeholders to ensure all Iowans are aware of, and have access to, life-saving vaccines. **Vaccines prevent diseases and save lives. Immunize for a better life.**

APPENDIX A

The Iowa Immunization Program staff is available Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. for consultation regarding program activities, IRIS and immunization-related questions.

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RESOURCES AND LINKS

Brochures and Print Materials

The Immunization Program offers educational materials for parents and healthcare providers. Materials include brochures, school/child care audit forms, reminder/recall postcards, temperature logs, posters and VFC program forms. Educational materials can be printed or ordered free of charge.

Immunization educational materials may be ordered on the Immunization Program website at <https://hhs.iowa.gov/immmtb/immunization/order-form>.

Links

Iowa Immunization Program

- [Iowa Immunization Annual Reports](#)

Iowa Immunization Requirements

- [Iowa Code, Chapter 139a.8\(6\)](#)
- [Iowa Immunization Administrative Codes](#)

School and Child Care Audits

- [School and Child Care Audit Reports](#)
- [School and Child Care Audit Data](#)

Immunization Rate Data

- [Childhood Immunization Data](#)
- [Adolescent Immunization Data](#)
- [HPV Vaccine Data](#)
- [Adult Immunization Data](#)
- [Influenza Vaccine Data](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Data](#)