School Immunization Surveys

Data Assessment Unit
Immunization Division
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
October 19, 2022
Francis Adams
Agenda

01. Immunization Requirements and Enforcement
02. Survey Timeline
03. Survey Access
04. Results from last year Surveys
05. Exemptions Trend
School Requirements

- Immunization requirements exist for school entry for every child enrolled in public or private school from early childhood through college.
- Influenza and COVID-19 vaccines are not required for school entry.
- Accept titer only for HepB, MMR and Varicella.

### Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements 2022-2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Required Immunizations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), Varicella, Polio, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP), Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), Hepatitis B, Influenza, Meningococcal, Varicella, Tdap, HPV.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), Varicella, Polio, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP), Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), Hepatitis B, Influenza, Meningococcal, Varicella, Tdap, HPV.</td>
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<td>9th</td>
<td>Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), Varicella, Polio, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP), Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), Hepatitis B, Influenza, Meningococcal, Varicella, Tdap, HPV.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), Varicella, Polio, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP), Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), Hepatitis B, Influenza, Meningococcal, Varicella, Tdap, HPV.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), Varicella, Polio, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP), Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), Hepatitis B, Influenza, Meningococcal, Varicella, Tdap, HPV.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), Varicella, Polio, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP), Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib), Hepatitis B, Influenza, Meningococcal, Varicella, Tdap, HPV.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Requirements apply to all students including individuals from another country attending or entering classes or educational programs before attendance at an accredited school. Requirements apply to all students, even if 18 years of age.

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3. School Requirements
4. Immunization requirements exist for school entry for every child enrolled in public or private school from early childhood through college.
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Newest Immunization Requirement

- Meningococcal vaccine (MenACWY) – not MenB

- Starting in the 2022-23 school year, all students entering Grades 7, 8, 9, 11, and 12 need meningococcal conjugate vaccine, MenACWY (brand names Menveo or Menactra/MenQuadfi) for school entry

- Grade 7 through 9 entry: 1 dose of MenACWY for all students

- Grade 11 and 12 entry: 1 booster dose of MenACWY received on or after 16 years of age (1 or more doses of MenACWY are acceptable as long as 1 dose was received on or after 16 years of age)
Exemptions and Enforcement

• The reasons for medical or religious exemptions change over time.
• Medical exemptions must be renewed annually
  • A physician must certify that immunization is medically contraindicated.
• Religious exemptions should be renewed annually
  • A parent or guardian must provide a written statement that immunizations conflict with their sincere religious beliefs
• McKinney-Vento Act protects homeless children and children in foster care from exclusion
  • School administrators have time to secure records from other school or health systems
• Exemptions satisfy school requirements, but they do not shield a student from exclusion from school in the event of a vaccine-preventable disease
• Enforcement of exclusion for unimmunized or partially immunized children is discharged by individual schools and school districts
Survey Period and Deadline

- We conduct two surveys
  1. Immunization survey
  2. Flu Survey
- Annual School Immunization Survey assesses compliance with school immunization requirements for the following grades:
  - Childcare/Preschool
  - Kindergarten
  - Grade 7
  - Grade 11
  - College
- Survey opens in September and will close January 27, 2023
Survey Access

• MIIS contains the school surveys for grades K, 7, and 11
• It also contains the link to the Preschool survey which is housed outside MIIS
  • This is new functionality for School Nurses who complete both Kindergarten and Preschool surveys and used to complete them in SurveyMonkey
  • Preschools are also emailed a specific link from immassessmentunit@mass.gov to access the survey

• New school nurses need to have MIIS access – your Access Administrator can add new users or email MIISHelpDesk@mass.gov to start registration

• Virtual Gateway Customer Service controls password resets: 800-421-0938
Survey Mini Guide Screenshots

⇒ Click SCHOOL, then select Immunization Surveys button from the page display.

⇒ Select the school to complete the survey
⇒ Select the grade to complete the survey
⇒ If you selected grade 7 or grade 11

⇒ If you selected Childcare/Preschool for the survey you would like to select, the Childcare/Preschool label will become a hyperlink. Click the hyperlink to begin the survey. You will not need to click the Next button for this survey grade. Advance to page 9 of this guide for Childcare/Preschool directions.

⇒ Enter the number of students enrolled in the grade
⇒ Enter the number of students in the grade who have no immunization records.

⇒ At least one of the marked fields must be changed in order to process the survey.

⇒ Blue messages indicate a possible error based on expected immunization rates. A blue message should trigger a double check for accuracy before advancing to the next page.
⇒ If no edits apply, you may continue.
Consistent response rates for Kindergarten and Grade 7

1,152 out of 1,417 Kindergarten programs responded

713 out of 998 Grade 7 programs responded

50% increase in Grade 11 response rate in its second year of administration

464 out of 728 Grade 11 programs responded

Denominator shifts due to deduplicating and inactivating closed programs
Compliance With Immunization Requirements

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<th>2019-20</th>
<th>2020-21</th>
<th>2021-22</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 7</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 11</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>70%</td>
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</table>

*Required vaccines:
Kindergarten: 5 DTaP + 4 Polio + 2 MMR + 3 HepB + 2 Varicella
Grade 7: 2 MMR + 3 HepB + 2 Varicella + 1 Tdap + 1 MenACWY
Grade 11: 2 MMR + 3 HepB + 2 Varicella + 1 Tdap + 1 MenACWY at or after 16th bday
Also includes lab evidence of immunity and history of chickenpox disease

• Kindergarten and Grade 7 compliance rate remained about the same as last year

• Grade 11 is very similar to last year, too – low rate could be due to missing records

**Non-compliance: children who have neither evidence of meeting requirements nor exemptions on record

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<th>2021-22 Rates</th>
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<td>Non-Compliance**</td>
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<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>4.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 7</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 11</td>
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## Kindergarten Response Rate Public vs Private

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<th>School Type</th>
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<th>2018-2019</th>
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<td>Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of schools</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>288</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of schools that submitted survey</td>
<td>922</td>
<td>205</td>
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<tr>
<td>Response rate</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>71%</td>
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</table>

Public schools have a higher response rate than private schools.
Religious and Medical Exemption Rates among Massachusetts Kindergarten Students, 1986-2021

Source: Massachusetts Annual Kindergarten Immunization Survey

MDPH March 2022
Proportion of Kindergarten Students with an Exemption* by Massachusetts County, 2021-2022

* Includes religious and medical exemptions to at least one vaccine

Source: Massachusetts School Immunization Surveys, 2021-2022
Data are as of March 4, 2022 and are subject to change.
Created by the Division of Surveillance, Analytics and Informatics,
Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, May 2022.
Proportion of Kindergarten Students Not Meeting School Requirements*
by Massachusetts County, 2021-2022

* Students who are not fully vaccinated for Kindergarten entry (DTaP, Polio, MMR, Hepatitis B, and Varicella) and do not have a medical or religious exemption

Proportion by county

- 1.1% - 2.5%
- 2.6% - 4.7%
- 4.8% - 9.0%
- 9.1% - 17.7%

Statewide proportion: 4.6%

Source: Massachusetts School Immunization Surveys, 2021-2022
Data are as of March 4, 2022 and are subject to change.
Created by the Division of Surveillance, Analytics and Informatics,
Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, May 2022.
Proportion of Kindergarten Students with an Exemption* and No Vaccines by Massachusetts County, 2021-2022

* Includes religious and medical exemptions

Proportion by county
- 0.2% - 0.3%
- 0.4% - 0.5%
- 0.6% - 0.8%
- 0.9% - 1.9%

Statewide proportion: 0.5%

Source: Massachusetts School Immunization Surveys, 2021-2022
Data are as of March 4, 2022 and are subject to change.
Created by the Division of Surveillance, Analytics and Informatics, Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, May 2022.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health - Immunization Division
## Kindergarten Immunization Data by School 2021-2022

See "Notes" Tab for Explanation of Symbols and Limitations: *Did not respond; † Fewer than 30 students; □ Data discrepancies; ± Negative Gap

<table>
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<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>SCHOOL TYPE</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>5 DTAP</th>
<th>4 POLIO</th>
<th>2 MMR</th>
<th>3 HEP B</th>
<th>2 VARICELLA</th>
<th>SERIES</th>
<th>EXEMPTION</th>
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<td>6.6%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Thank you

Your efforts in completing this survey contribute to protecting our children from vaccine-preventable diseases.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Questions?