

School Immunization Surveys

Data Assessment Unit

Immunization Division

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

October 19, 2022

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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[§]

Massachusetts school immunization requirements are created under authority of [105 CMR 220.000 Immunization of Students Before Admission to School](#)

Requirements apply to all students including individuals from another country attending or visiting classes or educational programs as part of an academic visitation or exchange program. Requirements apply to all students, even if over 18 years of age.

Childcare/Preschool[¶]

Attendees <2 years should be immunized for their age according to the [ACIP Recommended Immunization Schedule](#). Requirements listed in the table below apply to all attendees ≥2 years. These requirements also apply to children in preschool classes called KO or K1.

Hib	1-4 doses; the number of doses is determined by vaccine product and age the series begins
DTaP	4 doses
Polio	3 doses
Hepatitis B	3 doses; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
MMR	1 dose; must be given on or after the 1 st birthday; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	1 dose; must be given on or after the 1 st birthday; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable

Grades Kindergarten – 6[¶]

In ungraded classrooms, Kindergarten requirements apply to all students ≥5 years.

DTaP	5 doses; 4 doses are acceptable if the fourth dose is given on or after the 4 th birthday. DT is only acceptable with a letter stating a medical contraindication to DTaP
Polio	4 doses; fourth dose must be given on or after the 4 th birthday and 26 months after the previous dose, or a fifth dose is required. 3 doses are acceptable if the third dose is given on or after the 4 th birthday and 26 months after the previous dose
Hepatitis B	3 doses; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
MMR	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable

[§] Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel.

[¶] Meningococcal vaccine requirements (see Grades 7-10 and 11-12) also apply to residential students in Grades Pre-K through 8 if the school combines these grades in the same school as students in Grades 9-12.

*Medical exemptions (statement from a physician stating that a vaccine is medically contraindicated for a student) must be renewed annually at the start of the school year and religious exemptions (statement from a student, or parent/guardian if the student is <18 years of age, stating that a vaccine is against sincerely held religious beliefs) should be renewed annually at the start of the school year.

*A reliable history of chickenpox includes a diagnosis of chickenpox, or interpretation of parent/guardian description of chickenpox, by a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or designee.

See following pages for Grades 7-10, Grades 11-12, and College (Postsecondary Institutions)

Massachusetts School Immunization Requirements 2022-2023[§]

Requirements apply to all students including individuals from another country attending or visiting classes or educational programs as part of an academic visitation or exchange program. Requirements apply to all students, even if over 18 years of age.

Grades 7 – 12[¶]

In ungraded classrooms, Grade 7 requirements apply to all students ≥12 years.

Tdap	1 dose; and history of DTaP primary series or <u>age appropriate</u> catch-up vaccination. Tdap given at 27 years may be counted, but a dose at age 11-12 is recommended if Tdap was given earlier as part of a catch-up schedule. Td or Tdap should be given if it has been ≥10 years since last Tdap
Polio	4 doses; fourth dose must be given on or after the 4 th birthday and 26 months after the previous dose, or a fifth dose is required. 3 doses are acceptable if the third dose is given on or after the 4 th birthday and 26 months after the previous dose
Hepatitis B	3 doses; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable. 2 doses of Hepatitis B given on or after 18 years of age are acceptable
MMR	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable
Varicella	2 doses; first dose must be given on or after the 1 st birthday and second dose must be given ≥28 days after first dose; a reliable history of chickenpox* or laboratory evidence of immunity acceptable

Meningococcal Requirements

Grade 7-9	1 dose; 1 dose MenACWY (formerly MCV4) required. Meningococcal B vaccine is not required and does not meet this requirement.
Grade 11-12 [‡]	2 doses; second dose MenACWY (formerly MCV4) must be given on or after the 16th birthday and ≥ 8 weeks after the previous dose. 1 dose is acceptable if it was given on or after the 16th birthday. Meningococcal B vaccine is not required and does not meet this requirement.

Meningococcal Vaccine Phase-In Schedule

	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
1 Dose MenACWY	Grades 7-8	Grades 7-9	Grades 7-10
2 Doses MenACWY	Grades 11-12	Grades 11-12	Grades 11-12

[§] Address questions about enforcement with your legal counsel. School requirements are enforced at the local level.

[¶]Medical exemptions (statement from a physician stating that a vaccine is medically contraindicated for a student) must be renewed annually at the start of the school year and religious exemptions (statement from a student, or parent/guardian if the student is <18 years of age, stating that a vaccine is against sincerely held religious beliefs) should be renewed annually at the start of the school year.

* A reliable history of chickenpox includes a diagnosis of chickenpox, or interpretation of parent/guardian description of chickenpox, by a physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or designee.

[‡] Students who are 15 years old in grade 11 are in compliance until they turn 16 years old.

See following pages for College (Postsecondary Institutions)

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)

New Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine (MenACWY) Requirement for School Entry

Starting in the 2022-23 school year, all students entering Grades 7, 8, 9, 11, and 12 will 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.)

Frequently Asked Questions

Why require meningococcal conjugate vaccine?

MA school requirements generally follow the recommendations of the national Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). ACIP recommends that children receive a dose of MenACWY at 11-12 years and a booster dose at 16 years.

What if a student is not 16 at the start of Grade 11?

Students who are not 16 when they enter Grade 11 will need a booster dose once they turn 16.

What if my school has ungraded classrooms?

In ungraded classrooms, Grade 7 requirements apply to all students ≥12 years and Grade 11 requirements apply to all students ≥16 years.

Does the meningococcal vaccination waiver apply to the new requirement?

No. The waiver is for residential students only; however, students are allowed medical or religious exemptions.

What about Meningococcal B Vaccine?

Men B vaccine (brand names Bexsero or Trumenb) does not satisfy the MenACWY requirement.

School Immunization Surveys

Will my school have to report on meningococcal vaccine in my Grade 7 immunization survey?

Yes. The Grade 7 survey will include a question about meningococcal vaccine for all students.

I'm at a residential school. Will I still need to complete a separate residential survey in addition to my Grade 7 survey?

No. The residential school immunization survey will be incorporated into the Grade 7 survey.

Will there be a Grade 11 immunization survey?

Yes. Starting in the Kindergarten and Grade 7 surveys, a Grade 11 survey will be accessible in the Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS) beginning in the 2020-21 school year.

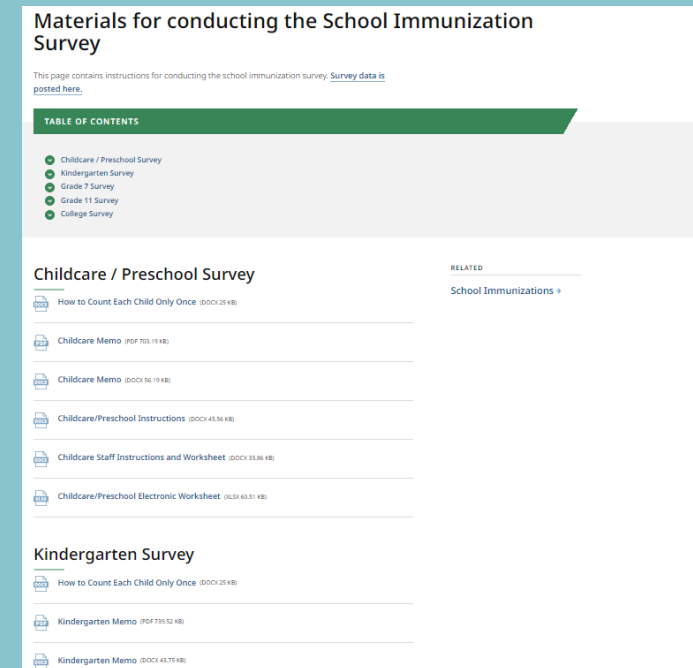
Contact the Immunization Division at imassessmentunit@mass.gov
Visit the MDPH website at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/school-immunizations>

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
 - I. Immunization survey
 - II. 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

2020 / 2021 Flu Survey

Step 1 of 4

Select your School & Grade

Which school would you like to select?

School A

Which flu survey would you like to select?

☒ [Childcare/Preschool](#)

☐ Kindergarten

☐ Grade 7

☐ Grade 11

Back Next

PRO TIP

First choose school, then choose grade.

Childcare/Preschool survey hyperlink redirects you to the MIIS Resource Center.

Survey Mini Guide Screenshots

MIIS
Massachusetts Immunization Information System

PATIENTS - **SCHOOL -**

School

The MIIS allows a user to generate school surveys and view School Profile.
Click a button below to make your selection.

SCHOOL PROFILE IMMUNIZATION SURVEYS

⇒ 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

2021 / 2022 Immunization Survey

Step 1 of 4

Select your School & Grade

Which school would you like to select?

Select

Which survey would you like to select?

- ☐ Childcare/Preschool
- ☐ Kindergarten
- ☐ Grade 7
- ☐ Grade 11

PRO TIP

First choose school, then choose grade.

Childcare/Preschool survey hyperlink redirects you to the MIIS Resource Center.

Which survey would you like to select?

- ☒ [Childcare/Preschool](#)
- ☐ Kindergarten
- ☐ Grade 7
- ☐ Grade 11

Next

⇒ 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.

MIIS
Massachusetts Immunization Information System

PATIENTS - **SCHOOL -**

2018 / 2019 Immunization Surveys

Hufflepuff Elementary
[Save](#) Last Saved On 05/14/2019 11:26 AM
[Close](#)

Step 2 of 4

Enter General Information

1. How many students are enrolled in Kindergarten?
45

2. How many students in Kindergarten have no school immunization record? (Exemptions count as a record)
2

Back Next

⇒ Enter the number of students enrolled in the grade

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

Red Errors

47

The number of students for any vaccine must be less than or equal to the total number of students minus the number of students that have no school immunization record.

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

Blue Messages

3

These rates look too low or too high. If you have a small number of students, this may be more likely to happen. Please double check your numbers before moving on to the next step. Once updated, click the "Next" button to continue. If no changes are needed, click the "Next" button again to continue.

⇒ 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.

⇒ Once the appropriate edits have been made, click the **Next** button to continue

Back Next

[Save](#)
[Close](#)

Success

Congratulations! You have submitted your survey to DPH. Click "OK" to go to the Immunization Surveys page.

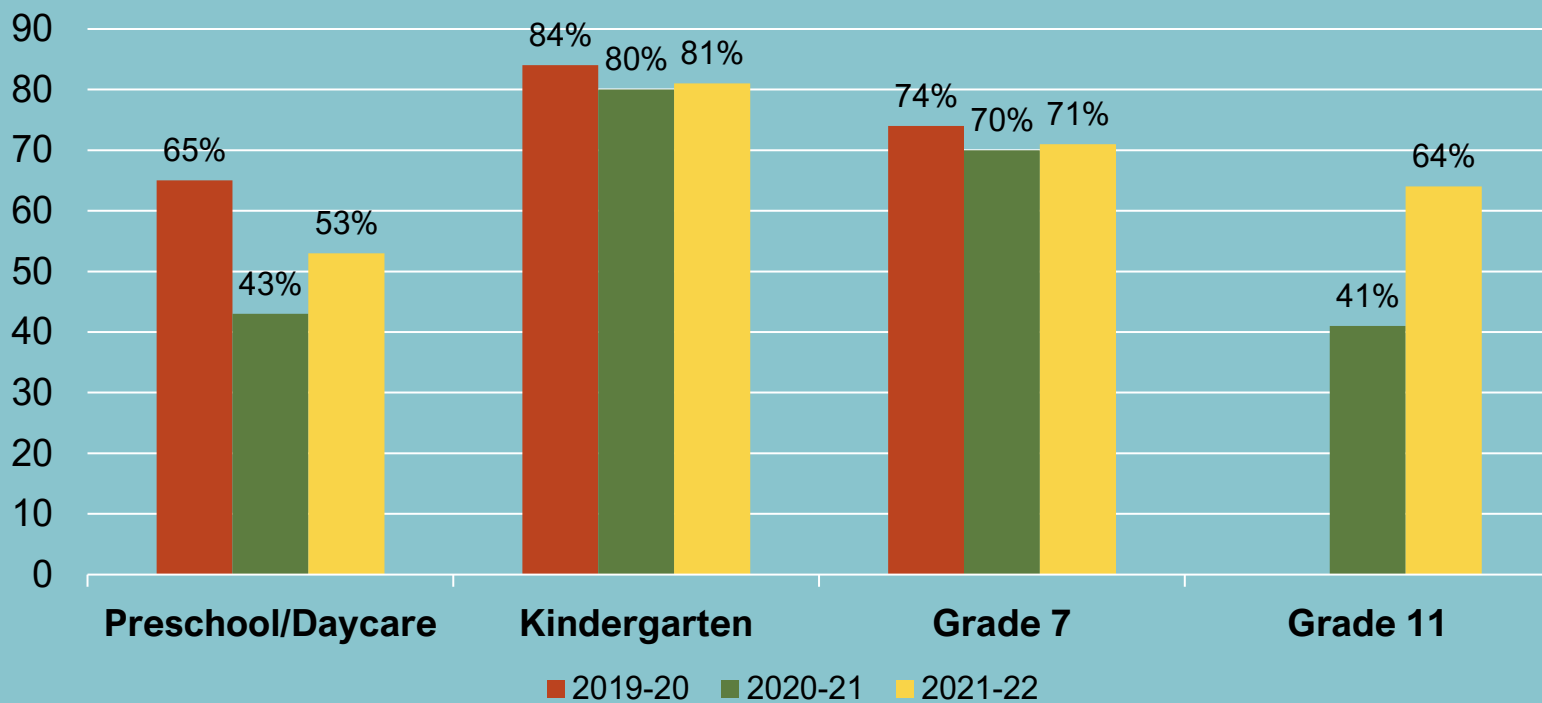
OK

From: imassessmentunit (DPH) <imassessmentunit@massmail.state.ma.us>
To: [redacted]
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Your 2018 / 2019 School Immunization Survey has been submitted to MDPH

School Name: Hufflepuff Elementary
Pin#: 39134
Grade: K

This email is to inform you that your school immunization survey has been submitted

Response Rate by Grades



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

Percent of Students with All Required Vaccines*

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Kindergarten	96%	94%	94%
Grade 7	94%	88%	89%
Grade 11		72%	70%

*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

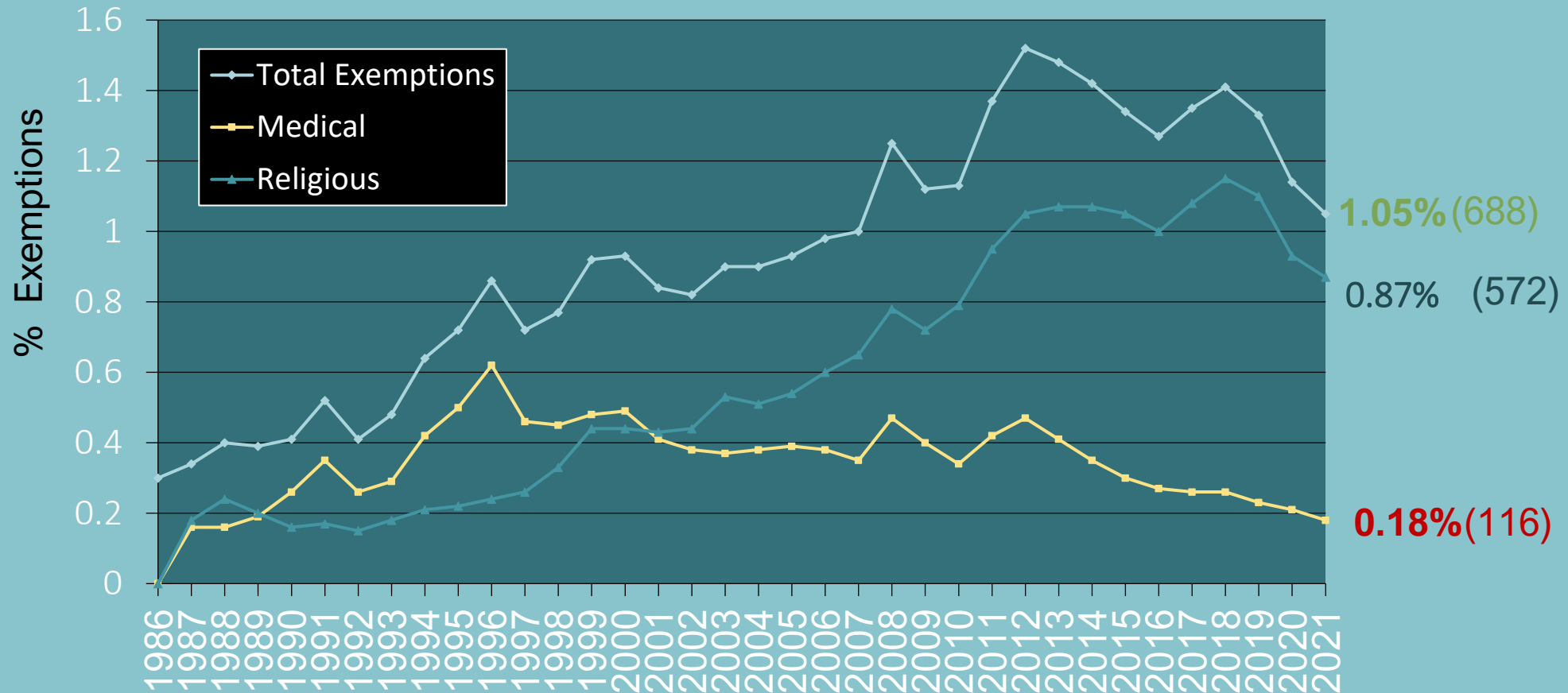
	2021-22 Rates	
	Non-Compliance**	Total Exemption
Kindergarten	4.6%	1.0%
Grade 7	9.4%	1.2%
Grade 11	29.5%	1.0%

Kindergarten Response Rate Public vs Private

	2021-2022				2018-2019		
School Type	Public	Private	Grand Total		Public	Private	Grand Total
Number of schools	1000	288	1288		983	395	1378
Number of schools that submitted survey	922	205	1127		872	275	1147
Response rate	92%	71%	88%		89%	70%	83%

Public schools have a higher response rate than private schools

Religious and Medical Exemption Rates among Massachusetts Kindergarten Students, 1986-2021



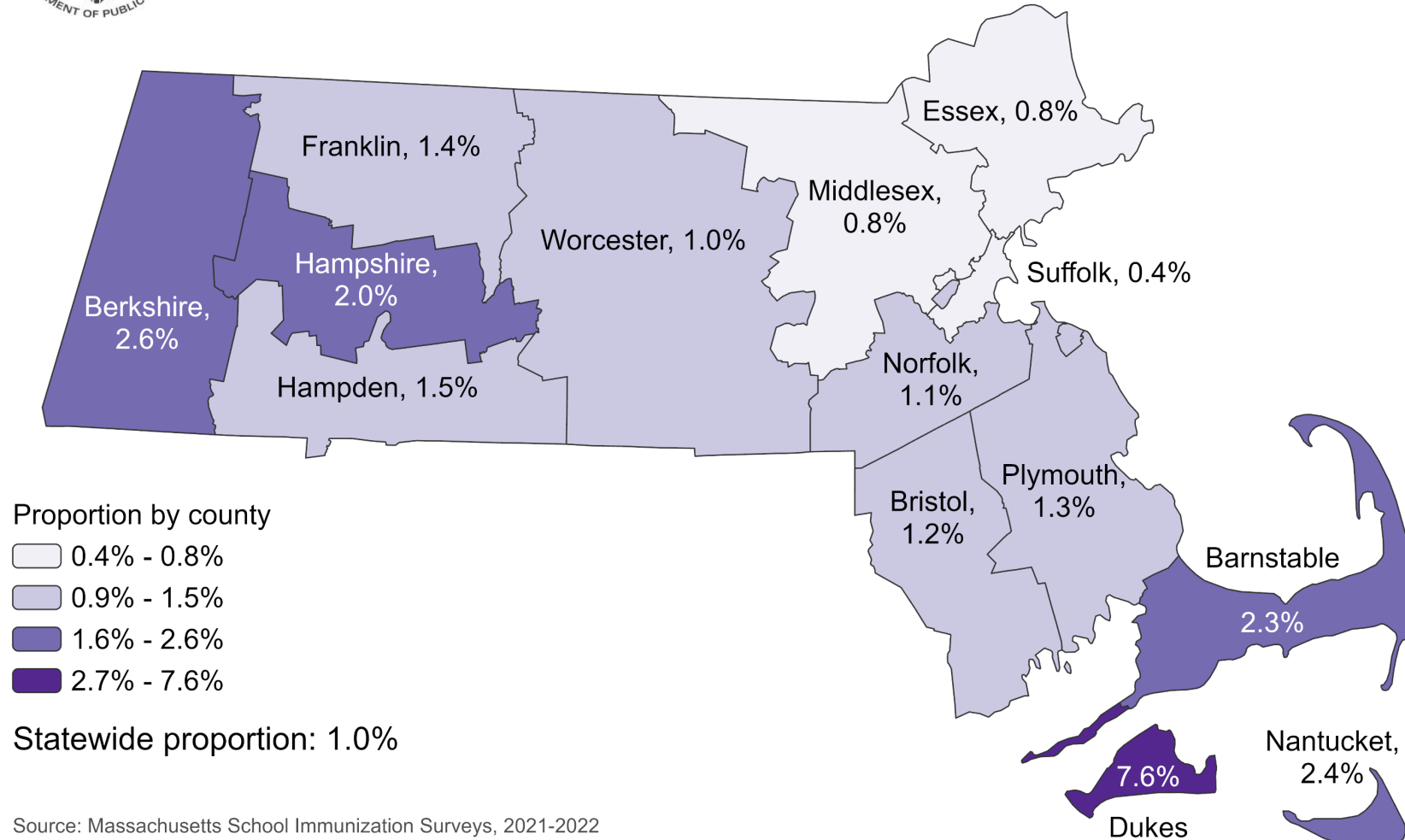
Source: Massachusetts Annual Kindergarten Immunization Survey

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

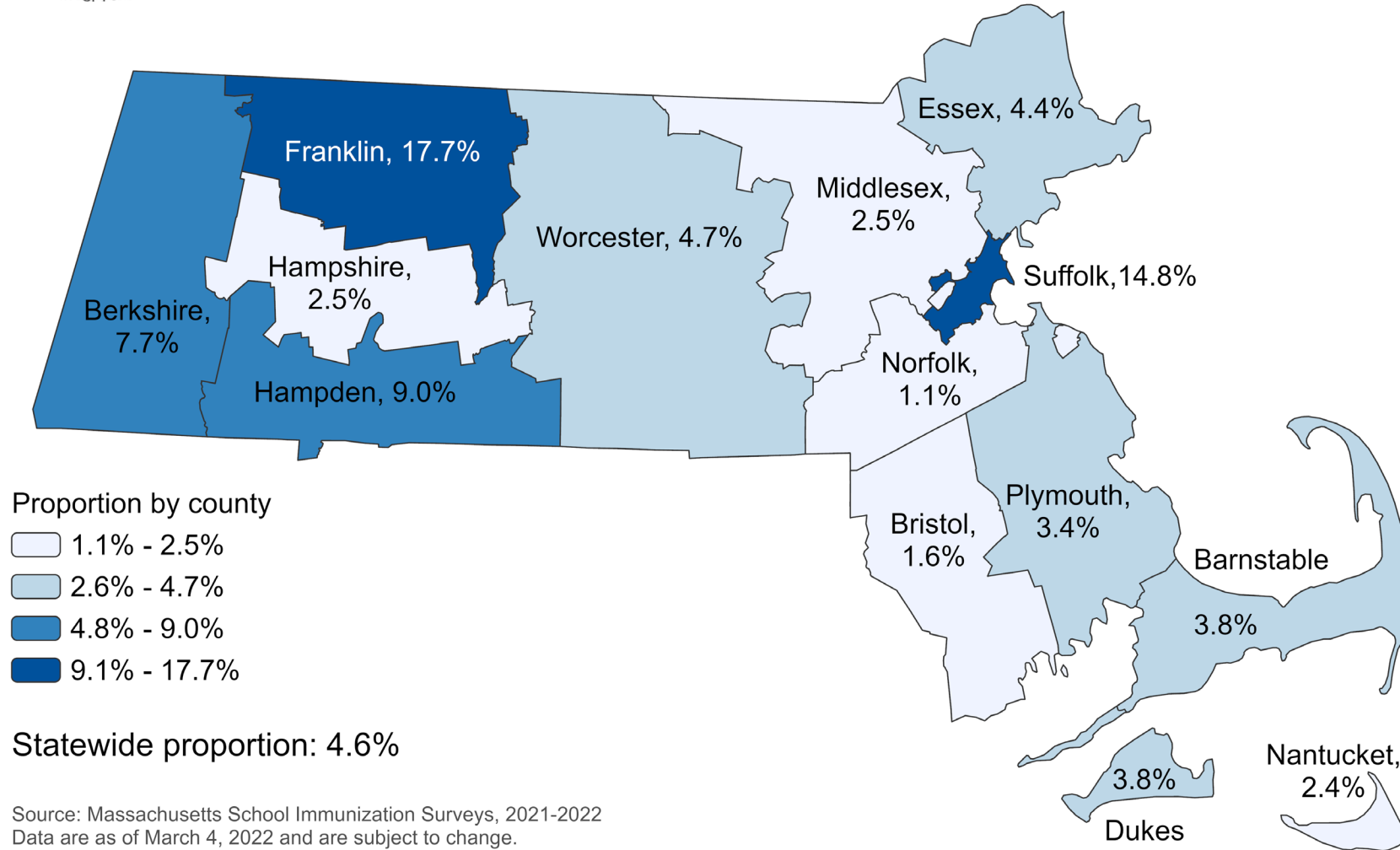


Source: Massachusetts School Immunization Surveys, 2021-2022
Data are as of March 4, 2022 and are subject to change.
Created by the Division of Surveillance, Analytics and Informatics,
Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, May 2022.



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

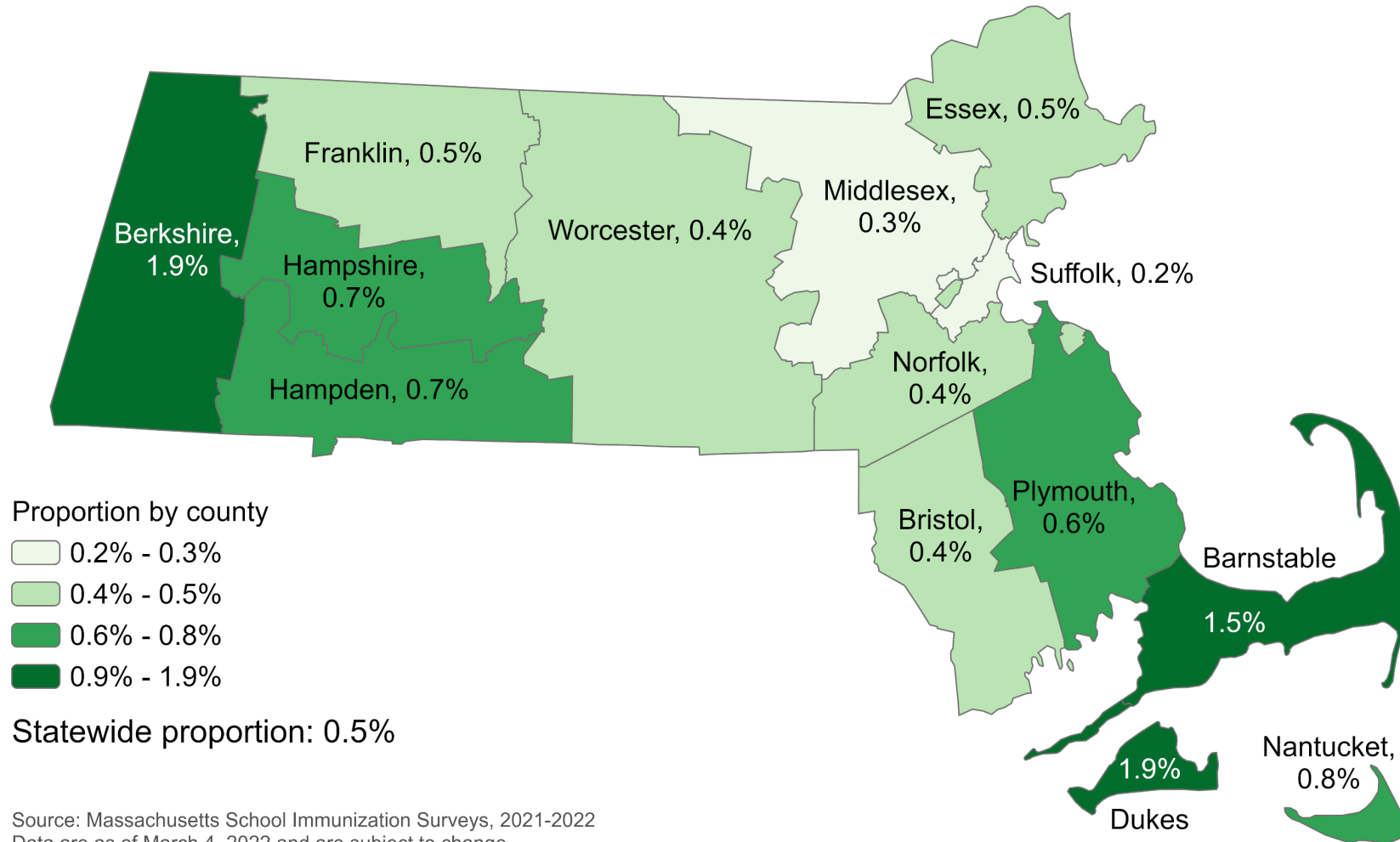


Source: Massachusetts School Immunization Surveys, 2021-2022
Data are as of March 4, 2022 and are subject to change.
Created by the Division of Surveillance, Analytics and Informatics,
Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, May 2022.



Proportion of Kindergarten Students with an Exemption* and No Vaccines by Massachusetts County, 2021-2022

* Includes religious and medical exemptions



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.

Data Posted Publicly

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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

SCHOOL	SCHOOL TYPE	CITY	COUNTY	5 DTAP	4 POLIO	2 MMR	3 HEP B	2 VARICELLA	SERIES	EXEMPTION	UN- IMMUNIZED	NO RECORD	GAP
TRINITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY	PRIVATE	BARNSTABLE	BARNSTABLE	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
BOURNEDALE ELEMENTARY	PUBLIC	BOURNE	BARNSTABLE	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	0.9%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%
INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY	PRIVATE	BOURNE	BARNSTABLE	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
STONY BROOK ELEMENTARY	PUBLIC	BREWSTER	BARNSTABLE	95%	95%	97%	95%	95%	94%	1.6%	1.6%	0.0%	4.8%
THE LAUREL SCHOOL	PRIVATE	BREWSTER	BARNSTABLE	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ST MARGARET REGIONAL SCHOOL	PRIVATE	BUZZARDS BAY	BARNSTABLE	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
CENTERVILLE ELEMENTARY	PUBLIC	CENTERVILLE	BARNSTABLE	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	1.6%	1.6%	0.0%	0.0%
CHATHAM ELEMENTARY	PUBLIC	CHATHAM	BARNSTABLE	91%	81%	91%	97%	91%	81%	3.1%	3.1%	0.0%	15.6%
WALDORF SCHOOL OF CAPE COD	PRIVATE	COTUIT	BARNSTABLE	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
EAST FALMOUTH ELEMENTARY	PUBLIC	EAST FALMOUTH	BARNSTABLE	92%	92%	92%	90%	90%	90%	4.1%	4.1%	4.1%	6.1%
EASTHAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PUBLIC	EASTHAM	BARNSTABLE	88%	88%	85%	88%	82%	82%	11.8%	2.9%	0.0%	5.9%
MULLEN-HALL ELEMENTARY	PUBLIC	FALMOUTH	BARNSTABLE	97%	97%	97%	96%	97%	96%	2.8%	2.8%	0.0%	1.4%
TEATICKET ELEMENTARY	PUBLIC	FALMOUTH	BARNSTABLE	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	98%	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	2.0%
FORESTDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	PUBLIC	FORESTDALE	BARNSTABLE	97%	97%	97%	98%	97%	97%	2.6%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%
FAITH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL	PRIVATE	GLOUCESTER	BARNSTABLE	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†	†
HARWICH ELEMENTARY	PUBLIC	HARWICH	BARNSTABLE	94%	94%	95%	92%	94%	91%	3.8%	2.5%	0.0%	5.1%
ACADEMY OF EARLY LEARNING	PRIVATE	HYANNIS	BARNSTABLE	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
BCHMCPS ELEMENTARY	PUBLIC	HYANNIS	BARNSTABLE	98%	94%	94%	95%	94%	94%	6.1%	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%
FAITH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL	PRIVATE	HYANNIS	BARNSTABLE	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
HYANNIS WEST ELEMENTARY	PUBLIC	HYANNIS	BARNSTABLE	100%	99%	97%	97%	95%	93%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.6%

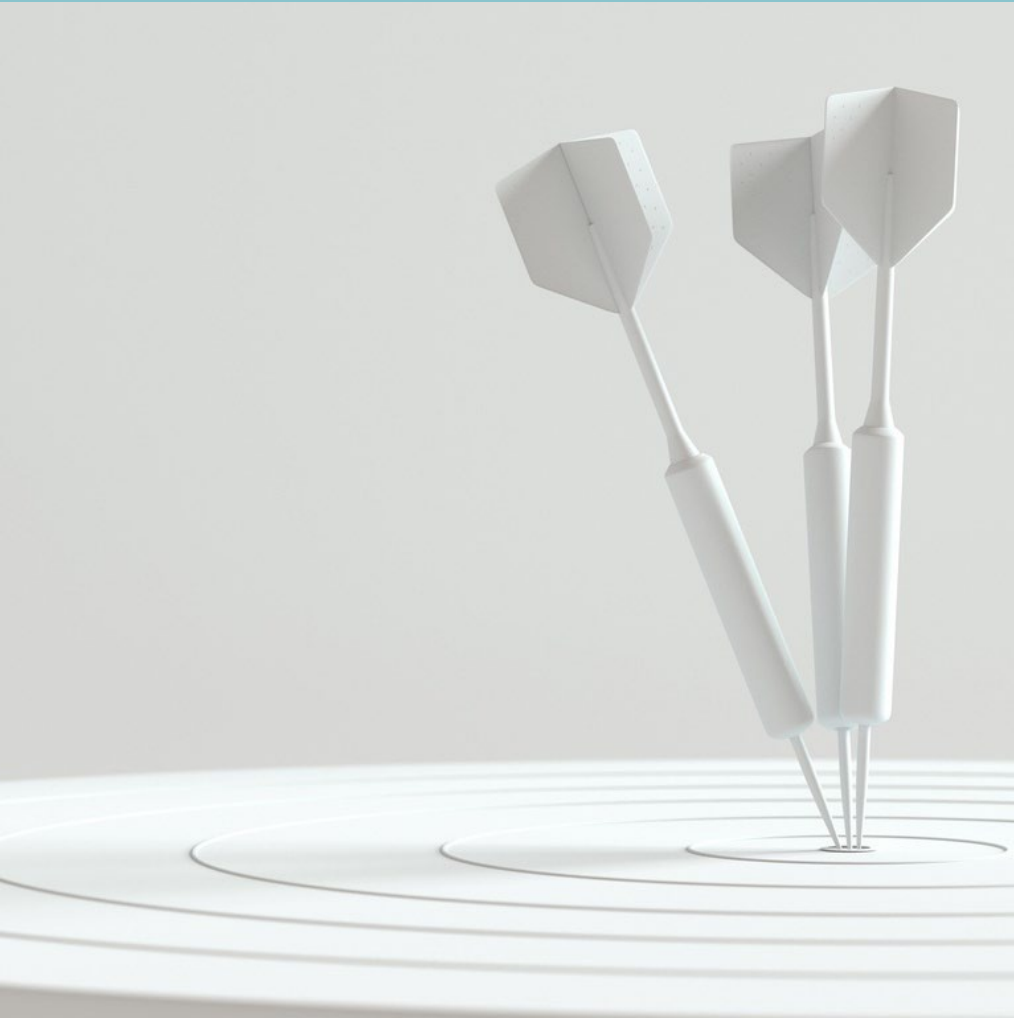
Kindergarten data

- Kindergarten Immunization Data
- Kindergarten Immunization and Exemption Data
- Kindergarten Statewide Immunization Data
- Kindergarten Statewide Exemption Data

This spreadsheet combines the last year of data for each school. Schools that reported no data (or may not be available), may have a symbol or be reported here.

- Kindergarten Three-year Comparison Data

Past years data



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?