

**THE IMMUNIZATION STATUS OF SCHOOL-AGE
CHILDREN IN ILLINOIS
FOR THE 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR**

**ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Data Analysis and Progress Reporting Division
March 2007**

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FOREWORD

Immunization data are collected annually from Illinois Public and Nonpublic Schools. This report is a compilation of the data on the immunization status of school-age children in Illinois for school year 2006-2007 and was prepared by Md. Shafiqul Azam, Data Analysis and Progress Reporting Division. The interpretations and conclusions expressed herein were based on the available data and do not necessarily reflect the official position or policy of the Illinois State Board of Education. Inquiries regarding this report should be directed to Mr. Azam at 217/782-3950.

BACKGROUND

As mandated by Section 27-8.1 (105 ILCS 5/27-8.1) of the School Code, all children must comply with immunization and health examination requirements established by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). In addition, the School Code requires all public and nonpublic schools to submit completed surveys to the Illinois State Board of Education summarizing the compliance status of all children as of October 15, or an earlier exclusion date established by the public school district or nonpublic school. This report summarizes the statewide immunization and health examination compliance data.

MAJOR FINDINGS

The 2006-2007 immunization status of school-age children as reported by Illinois schools reveal the following facts and figures:

- The compliance level of all students in all reported schools is 98.12%.
- The compliance level of public school students in all reported schools is 98.14%.
- The compliance level of nonpublic school students in all reported schools is 97.99%.
- The data by specific disease category based on the percent of total reported students reveal that no more than 1.34% of reported Illinois students are unprotected and not in compliance in any of the eight disease categories (Polio, DTP/DTaP/Td, Measles, Rubella, Mumps, Varicella/chickenpox, Hepatitis B, and Haemophilus influenzae type b—Hib). [However, Varicella/chickenpox, Hepatitis B, and Hib percentages are calculated based on the number of children *required to be immunized*. For Varicella/chickenpox, 0.72% of the required Pre-K through Grade 4 students are unprotected and not in compliance. For Hepatitis B, 0.64% of the required Pre-K, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade children are unprotected and not in compliance. For Hib, 1.32% of the required preschool children are unprotected and in noncompliance.]
- Statewide a total of 44,213 students (1.88% of the total reported student enrollment of 2,354,442), are not in compliance with immunization and/or health examination mandates on October 15, 2006, or on an earlier exclusion date established by the public district or nonpublic school. Of this number, 31,550 children are not in compliance with immunization requirements in at least one disease category, while 12,663 are not in compliance with the health examination requirement only.
- Only two public districts have compliance levels of less than 90%.
- Only 26 of 1,089 reported nonpublic schools (2.39%) have compliance levels of less than 90%.

PROCEDURE

Data collection instruments and procedures used to collect immunization and health examination data were developed by staff of the Illinois State Board of Education in consultation with the staff from the Illinois Department of Public Health. The formerly paper-based data collection of the Immunization School Survey was replaced with an online system.

School administrators are required to provide information on the total number of children enrolled, the total number of children in compliance, and the total number of children not in compliance for each of the eight disease categories by grade level. The online immunization survey must be completed on or before November 15 of each year.

RESULTS

Compliance Data

Compliance and protection levels for students are calculated based upon the information provided by Illinois school officials. Data reported by school officials show overall compliance with the requirements of the student health mandates for both immunizations and health examinations. Students not in compliance are required to be excluded from school until their health examination and immunization records are in compliance with state law. Protection levels refer only to immunizations and denote the reported immunity against specific communicable diseases.

Students are identified as being in compliance with state law if they present proof of immunizations and/or health examinations, have exemptions for religious or medical reasons on file with the local school authority, or if they are on an approved schedule for completion of immunizations in a series.

Statewide Compliance. Table 1 (page 7) contains the 2006-2007 compliance levels for all reported school-age children in Illinois. The compliance level for the total 2,354,442 reported public and nonpublic children in Illinois is 98.12%. The data shows 44,213 children (1.88% of the total student enrollment) are not in compliance with immunization and/or health examination mandates. Of this number, 31,550 (1.34%) children are not in compliance with immunization requirements in at least one disease category, while 112,663 (0.54%) are in noncompliance with the health examination requirement only. As of October 15, 2006, or an earlier exclusion date established by the public district or nonpublic school, 10,392 children were excluded from Illinois schools. The number of exclusions continues to be significantly lower than the actual number of children not in compliance. Part of this may be attributed to transfer students without records. Transfer students cannot be excluded from school, but they must be reported as not being in compliance because records are not available to document immunization status.

Public District Compliance. For Illinois public school districts, the compliance level for the total 2,103,366 reported children is 98.14% (Table 1). Of the 39,163 public school children not in compliance, 27,586 public school children were not compliant in one or more disease categories, while 11,577 are not in compliance with the health examination requirement only. The number of students excluded from school on October 15, or an earlier exclusion date established by the district was 9,808.

Only two public districts failed to comply. Illinois law does not specify compliance levels for individual schools within public school districts.

Nonpublic School Compliance. Of the 1,089 nonpublic schools that submitted immunization data, 26 (2.39%) failed to meet 90% compliance level.

Of the 5,050 nonpublic children reported to be not in compliance, 3,964 are not in compliance with immunization requirements in at least one disease category, while 1086

are not in compliance with the health examination requirement only. The number of students excluded from school on October 15, or an earlier exclusion date established by the nonpublic school was 584.

Protection Levels

In order to be counted as fully protected, a student must present proof that the immunization series has been completed and/or present verification of immunity. The Illinois Department of Public Health has determined that a 90% protection level against each disease is recommended in order to prevent epidemics.

Statewide Protection. Table 2 (page 7) displays the numbers and protection level percentages of all reported students who are fully protected against the diseases of Polio, DTP/DTPaP/Td, Measles, Rubella, Mumps, Varicella/chickenpox, Hepatitis B, and Hib. Varicella/chickenpox, Hepatitis B, and Hib protection level percentages are determined based upon the actual number of children *required to be immunized*. Hepatitis B is a requirement for children entering in a program below the kindergarten level and all children entering 5th grade in 1997-98 (all Pre-K, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade children in 2006-2007). Hib is only required for children under 59 months of age entering in a school program below the kindergarten level (all Pre-K). Varicella/chickenpox is required for all students entering pre-kindergarten through 4th grade for the year 2006-2007.

The 2006-2007 protection level percentages of all reported students are 98.93% for Polio, 98.50% for DTP/DTPaP/Td, 98.91% for Measles, 99.13% for Rubella, and 99.15% for Mumps. The reported levels of protection for Varicella/chickenpox, Hepatitis B, and Hib, based upon the actual number of children *required to be immunized*, are 98.53%, 98.55%, and 97.98% respectively.

The percentage of all reported students who are unprotected and not in compliance with immunization requirements is 1.32% or less across all eight disease categories. The reported percentages of students unprotected and not in compliance, based upon the actual number of children required to be immunized, are 0.72% for Varicella/chickenpox, 0.64% for Hepatitis B, and 1.32% for Hib.

Public School Protection. As reported in Table 3 (page 8), the levels of protection for public school students by disease category are 98.97% for Polio, 98.50% for DTP/DTaP/Td, 98.96% for Measles, 99.20% for Rubella, and 99.22% for Mumps. The reported levels of protection for Varicella/chickenpox, Hepatitis B, and Hib based upon the actual number of children *required to be immunized*, are 98.67%, 98.59, and 98.05% respectively.

The percentage of all reported public school students who are unprotected and not in compliance with immunization requirements is 1.46% or less across all eight disease categories. The reported percentages of students unprotected and not in compliance, based upon the actual number of children *required to be immunized*, are 0.70% for Varicella/chickenpox, 0.63% for Hepatitis B, and 1.46% for Hib.

Nonpublic School Protection. The levels of protection for nonpublic school students by disease category, as reported in Table 4, are 98.59% for Polio, 98.50% for DTP/DTaP/Td, 98.47% for Measles, 98.52 for Mumps, and 98.53 for Rubella. The reported levels of protection for Varicella/chickenpox, Hepatitis B, and Hib, based upon the actual number of children *required to be immunized*, are 97.64%, 98.20%, and 97.78% respectively.

The percentage of nonpublic school students who are unprotected and not in compliance with immunization requirements is 0.92% or less across all eight disease categories. The reported percentages of students unprotected and not in compliance, based upon the actual number of children *required to be immunized*, are 0.82% for Varicella/chickenpox, 0.68% for Hepatitis B, and 0.92% for Hib.

Table 1. 2006-2007 Student Enrollment and Compliance Summary of Reported Educational Facilities

Compliance Status	Public Schools		Nonpublic Schools		All Schools	
	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent	Number of Students	Percent
Students in Compliance as of October 15, 2006	2,064,203	98.14	246,026	97.99	2,310,229	98.12
Students not in compliance with:						
Immunization requirements	27,586	1.31	3,964	1.58	31,550	1.34
Health examination only	11,577	0.55	1,086	0.43	12,663	0.54
All Students	2,103,366	100.00	251,076	100.00	2,354,442	100.00
Students excluded from school as of October 15, 2006, or an earlier exclusion date established by the district or nonpublic school.	9,808		584		10,392	

Table 2. 2006-2007 Immunization Status for All Reported Illinois Public and Nonpublic School Students by Disease Category

Immunization Status	Polio		DTP/DTaP/Td		Measles		Rubella		Mumps		Varicella/ ChickenPox		Hepatitis B		Hib (Pre-K only)	
	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students need to be immunized	% Protected of those required to be immunized	Number of Students need to be immunized	% Protected of those required to be immunized	Number of Students need to be immunized	% Protected of those required to be immunized
Protected and in compliance	2,329,287	98.93	2,319,058	98.50	2,328,740	98.91	2,333,970	99.13	2,334,320	99.15	849,744	98.53	1,414,156	98.55	114,374	97.98
Religious objection	6,009	0.26	6,461	0.27	6,871	0.29	5,763	0.24	5,748	0.24	3,110	0.36	3,939	0.27	379	0.32
Medical reasons	2,673	0.11	3,288	0.14	2,913	0.12	2,073	0.09	2,315	0.10	1,670	0.19	2,870	0.20	100	0.09
Approved schedule	3,830	0.16	5,177	0.22	3,084	0.13	2,750	0.12	2,146	0.09	1,689	0.20	4,824	0.34	339	0.29
Unprotected and in noncompliance	12,643	0.54	20,458	0.87	12,834	0.55	9,886	0.42	9,913	0.42	6,199	0.72	9,144	0.64	1,539	1.32
Total Enrollment	2,354,442	100	2,354,442	100	2,354,442	100	2,354,442	100	2,354,442	100	862,412	100	1,434,933	100	116,731	100

Table 3. 2006-2007 Immunization Status for All Reported Illinois Public School Students by Disease Category

Immunization Status	Polio		DTP/DTaP/Td		Measles		Rubella		Mumps		Varicella/ ChickenPox (Pre-kindergarten through 4th grade)		Hepatitis B (Pre-K, 5th through 12th grade)		Hib (Pre-K only)	
	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students need to be immunized	% Protected of those required to be immunized	Number of Students need to be immunized	% Protected of those required to be immunized	Number of Students need to be immunized	% Protected of those required to be immunized
Protected and in compliance	2,081,740	98.97	2,071,747	98.50	2,081,504	98.96	2,086,591	99.20	2,086,962	99.22	735,235	98.67	1,262,694	98.59	83,783	98.05
Religious objection	4,746	0.23	5,179	0.25	5,537	0.26	4,463	0.21	4,440	0.21	2,187	0.29	3,069	0.24	166	0.19
Medical reasons	2,401	0.11	2,992	0.14	2,529	0.12	1,727	0.08	1,951	0.09	1,273	0.17	2,579	0.20	66	0.08
Approved schedule	3,203	0.15	4,486	0.21	2,420	0.12	2,119	0.10	1,526	0.07	1,202	0.16	4,249	0.33	180	0.21
Unprotected and in noncompliance	11,276	0.54	18,962	0.90	11,376	0.54	8,466	0.40	8,487	0.40	5,235	0.70	8,098	0.63	1,250	1.46
Total Enrollment	2,103,366	100	2,103,366	100	2,103,366	100	2,103,366	100	2,103,366	100	745,132	100	1,280,689	100	85,445	100

Table 4. 2006-2007 Immunization Status for All Reported Illinois Nonpublic School Students by Disease Category

Immunization Status	Polio		DTP/DTaP/Td		Measles		Rubella		Mumps		Varicella/ ChickenPox (Pre-kindergarten through 4th grade)		Hepatitis B (Pre-K, 5th through 12th grade)		Hib (Pre-K only)	
	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students	% of Total Enrollment	Number of Students need to be immunized	% Protected of those required to be immunized	Number of Students need to be immunized	% Protected of those required to be immunized	Number of Students need to be immunized	% Protected of those required to be immunized
Protected and in compliance	247,547	98.59	247,311	98.50	247,236	98.47	247,379	98.53	247,358	98.52	114,509	97.64	151,462	98.20	30,591	97.78
Religious objection	1,263	0.50	1,282	0.51	1,334	0.53	1,300	0.52	1,308	0.52	923	0.79	870	0.56	213	0.68
Medical reasons	272	0.11	296	0.12	384	0.15	346	0.14	364	0.14	397	0.34	291	0.19	34	0.11
Approved schedule	627	0.25	691	0.28	664	0.26	631	0.25	620	0.25	487	0.42	575	0.37	159	0.51
Unprotected and in noncompliance	1,367	0.54	1,496	0.60	1,458	0.58	1,420	0.57	1,426	0.57	964	0.82	1,046	0.68	289	0.92
Total Enrollment	251,076	100	251,076	100	251,076	100	251,076	100	251,076	100	117,280	100	154,244	100	31,286	100