

2026

STATE OF THE IMMUNION®

VACCINATE YOUR FAMILY



For 35 years, Vaccinate Your Family has been working to protect people of all ages from vaccine-preventable diseases by improving access and uptake of lifesaving immunizations.

Much progress has been made over the past 35 years, including broad access to vaccines with no cost-sharing for public and privately-insured Americans, enhanced convenience for vaccination, and new innovations allowing for the prevention of more diseases—and even cancers. However, in some areas, we are sliding back, and the stakes have never been higher.

IN 2025 THERE WERE...

OVER
2,255
measles casesⁱ

3
measles deathsⁱⁱ

OVER
28,000
cases of pertussisⁱⁱⁱ

289
pediatric influenza-associated deaths in the 2024-2025 season^{iv}

These outbreaks and the record-breaking number of pediatric deaths come at a time of rapid changes in both federal and state vaccine policy.

Across the United States, we are seeing an increasing divide in public health and immunization policies, based on each state's political leadership. **This remains concerning because:**

1 Nationwide immunization coverage rates are below optimal levels for achieving community immunity

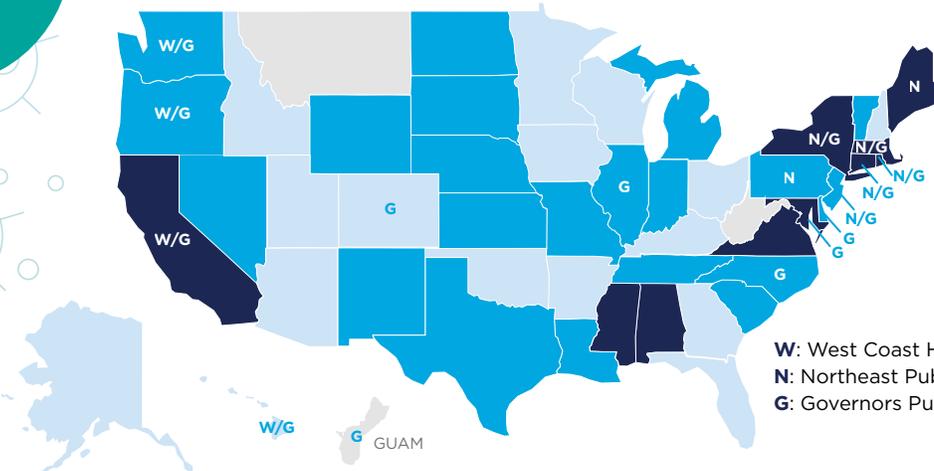
2 Infectious diseases are not confined by state or country borders

3 Consistent, reliable, and trusted recommendations are needed to ensure all Americans can access lifesaving vaccines

Community immunity happens when high levels of people are vaccinated and the risk of disease spreading is low.

Vaccination Coverage Rates Across the United States^v

● <90% (16 states) ● 90%-94.9% (23 states including DC) ● ≥95% (10 states)



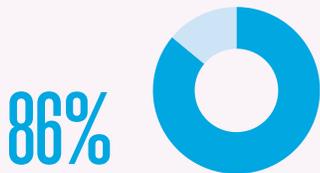
W: West Coast Health Alliance^{vi}
N: Northeast Public Health Collaborative^{vii}
G: Governors Public Health Alliance^{viii}

Our nation's immunization infrastructure has been fragile for multiple years, with year-over-year trends for vaccination coverage rates and childhood exemption rates going in the wrong direction across the country. However, rapid, non-evidence-based federal actions accelerated the polarization of vaccines and significantly increased confusion for healthcare providers and the public.

The evidence has not changed: Vaccines are one of the most studied medical interventions, and an abundance of evidence continues to demonstrate that the benefits of vaccination significantly outweigh any potential risks. **Immunizations are cost effective and are our best defense against dangerous infectious diseases.**

Your constituents overwhelmingly agree that vaccines save lives. We urge you to continue to protect the people of our nation by ensuring vaccine access for all Americans and supporting timely immunizations.

Polling Continues to Demonstrate Americans Support Vaccines. For example:



of voters agree that vaccines save lives^{ix}



of Americans believe that vaccines are highly effective at preventing serious illness^x



of parents say that the measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine is important for children in their community^{xi}

WHAT CAN CONGRESS DO TO SUPPORT OUR NATION'S HEALTH?

By protecting vaccine access and affordability and highlighting the importance of vaccination for the health of Americans, Congress can help shape the future of our nation.



We urge Congress to:



Increase critical funding for the Section 317 Immunization Program.

Section 317 funds state and local health departments working on the front lines to immunize our most vulnerable populations and respond to disease outbreaks.



Protect and improve compensation programs for the rare cases of vaccine injury by supporting changes to strengthen the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program (VICP). Established in 1986 under President Reagan, the VICP protects our nation's vaccine supply, supports stable prices, and provides timely compensation for those who may have experienced a vaccine injury.



Conduct effective oversight of the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure decisions that affect public health and immunizations follow proper protocols and are based on true gold standard science.



Amplify the importance of lifesaving vaccines and on-time vaccination with your constituents and colleagues.

References

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- vii “Several Northeastern States and America’s Largest City Announce the Northeast Public Health Collaborative”. NYC Health. Accessed January 26, 2026. <https://www.nyc.gov/site/doh/about/press/pr2025/announce-northeast-public-health-collaborative.page>
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