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Commissioner

Annual Report of Immunization Status of Students 2024-2025 School Year Department of State Health Services Immunization Section

Background

Texas requires public school districts and accredited private schools to submit a report of their students' immunization status every year (Title 25 Health Services, Texas Administrative Code, §§97.61-97.72). The Annual Report of Immunization Status is a self-reported survey created by Department of State Health Services (DSHS) to measure immunization coverage among kindergarten and seventh grade students. Information on reported reasons kindergarten and 7th grade students are not vaccinated is also collected. Additionally, DSHS collects the number of all kindergarten through 12th grade students (K-12) with a conscientious exemption affidavit on file. The results of this report assist the Immunization Section in identifying schools, districts, and counties with low immunization coverage rates and those with high rates of non-compliance (i.e., students reported as delinquent in meeting vaccine requirements).

Methods

In September 2024, DSHS distributed instructions for the Annual Report of Immunization Status to 1,209 public school districts and 1,046 accredited private schools in Texas. Schools completed the survey online between October 25, 2024, and December 13, 2024. The survey collects aggregated data on the immunization status of the students, which includes reasons why a child is not vaccinated under Texas school entry requirements, as well as the total number of conscientious exemption affidavit forms filed at the public school district or private school. The survey also includes aggregated data by type of vaccine for kindergarten and seventh grade students. Staff at each public school district and accredited private school prepared and submitted the reports.

Results

Out of the 5,704 schools that were sent the survey, 90.60 percent of the schools or districts responded. Among the 5,677,726 K–12 students reported, 132,904 (2.34 percent) had a conscientious exemption for at least one vaccine on file at students' respective schools.

Tables 1 and 2 show Fall 2024 aggregated statewide results for kindergarten and seventh grade, respectively. The tables show the percentage of completely immunized and the percentages for each reported reason of lack of compliance for each vaccine. Kindergarten immunization coverage rates were not above 95 percent for any vaccine. In seventh grade, immunization coverage rates were above 95 percent for all vaccines except for tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (Tdap) and meningococcal MCWY (MCV4) vaccines.

Tables 3 and 4 represent students who were completely vaccinated for each vaccine by DSHS public health region and grade level. Figure 1 shows the percentage of kindergarten through 12th grade students reported with a conscientious exemption for one or more vaccines by county.

Conclusion

Compared to the 2023–2024 school year, kindergarten students had lower coverage rates for all vaccines by an average of 1.06 percent (range -0.95 to -1.11 percent). Compared to the 2023-2024 school year, seventh grade students also had a decrease in the coverage rates for all vaccines by an average of 0.30 percent (range -0.04 to -0.44 percent).

For kindergarten students, conscientious exemptions rates increased by an average of 0.30 percent for all vaccines (range +0.27 to +0.34 percent) and are now between 3.0 percent and 4.0 percent. For seventh grade students, conscientious exemption rates increased by an average by 0.28 percent (range +0.22 to +0.39 percent) for all vaccines compared to the 2023-2024 school year.

DSHS defines delinquency as students that are not up to date on their age's required immunizations and do not have an allowable document of immunity nor a valid exemption on file with the school. Delinquency rates in kindergarten students increased for all vaccines with most rates above 2.0 percent, except Hepatitis B at 1.7 percent. Delinquency rates increased for most vaccines in seventh grade except for Tdap and MCV4 vaccines in seventh grade students, which decreased by 0.34 and 0.36 percent respectively.

The Texas DSHS Immunization Section strives to ensure that children receive recommended childhood vaccines on time and to increase overall vaccination coverage.

Table 1. Texas Kindergarten Annual Report of Immunization Status, School Year 2024-2025

Vaccine Category	Percentage Completely Vaccinated	Reported Reasons for Lack of Completion, by Vaccine						
		Conscientious Exemptions (%)	Medical Exemptions (%)	Provisional Enrollment (%)	Delinquent (%)			
DTaP (Diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular								
pertussis)	92.93%	3.72%	0.12%	0.58%	2.65%			
Hepatitis A	93.41%	3.43%	0.09%	1.05%	2.02%			
Hepatitis B	94.78%	3.24%	0.07%	0.21%	1.70%			
MMR (Measles, mumps, and rubella)	02.240/	2.760/	0.140/	0.100/	2.600			
	93.24%	3.76%	0.14%	0.18%	2.68%			
Polio	93.21%	3.70%	0.10%	0.37%	2.62%			
Varicella* (Chickenpox)	92.68%	3.75%	0.15%	0.54%	2.87%			

^{*} An additional 0.16% of kindergarten students met school entry requirements through reported history of varicella (chickenpox) disease.

Table 2. Texas Seventh Grade Annual Report of Immunization Status, School Year 2024-2025

		Reported Reasons for Lack of Completion by Vaccine						
	Percentage	Conscientious	Medical	Provisional	D 1: 1			
Vaccine Category	Completely Vaccinated	Exemptions (%)	Exemptions (%)	Enrollment (%)	Delinquent (%)			
Tdap (Tetanus,	vaccinated	(70)	(70)	(70)	(70)			
diphtheria, and acellular								
pertussis)	93.41%	2.98%	0.08%	0.24%	3.29%			
Hepatitis A	96.66%	1.88%	0.05%	0.47%	0.94%			
Hepatitis B	97.14%	1.80%	0.04%	0.14%	0.87%			
MCV4 (Meningococcal conjugate)	93.03%	2.99%	0.08%	0.13%	3.77%			
MMR (Measles, mumps, and								
rubella)	97.25%	1.83%	0.07%	0.08%	0.78%			
Polio	96.94%	1.88%	0.04%	0.20%	0.94%			
Varicella* (<i>Chickenpox</i>)	96.73%	1.94%	0.12%	0.23%	0.98%			

^{*} An additional 0.73% of seventh grade students met school entry requirements through reported history of varicella (chickenpox) disease.

Table 3. Percent of Kindergarten Students Completely Vaccinated by Public Health Region, School Year 2024-2025

	Public Health Region							
Vaccine	1	2/3	4/5N	6/5S	7	8	9/10	11
DTaP (Diphtheria, tetanus, and acellular pertussis)	92.70%	91.87%	93.22%	92.25%	91.70%	94.23%	95.00%	97.03%
Hepatitis A	93.02%	92.11%	93.18%	93.28%	92.42%	94.59%	95.19%	97.15%
Hepatitis B	94.88%	93.54%	94.63%	94.45%	93.78%	96.03%	96.88%	98.36%
MMR (Measles, mumps, and rubella)	93.21%	92.27%	93.65%	92.23%	92.22%	94.61%	95.74%	97.28%
Polio	93.08%	92.27%	93.57%	92.13%				
Varicella* (Chickenpox)	92.40%	91.52%	93.29%	91.80%	91.58%	94.10%	95.12%	96.99%

^{*} This percentage does not reflect kindergarten students who met school entry requirements through a reported history of varicella (chickenpox) disease.

Table 4. Percent of Seventh Grade Students Completely Vaccinated by Public Health Region, School Year 2024-2025

	Public Health Region							
Vaccine	1	2/3	4/5N	6/5S	7	8	9/10	11
Tdap							-	
(Tetanus,								
diphtheria, and acellular								
pertussis)	93.03%	93.22%	94.97%	91.17%	93.71%	93.52%	95.19%	97.73%
Hepatitis A	96.55%	96.26%	96.50%	96.16%	96.36%	97.19%	97.72%	98.55%
Hepatitis B	97.16%	96.84%	97.07%	96.45%	96.86%	97.63%	98.25%	99.15%
MCV4								
(Meningococ								
cal								
conjugate)	92.90%	93.23%	94.87%	89.81%	94.05%	93.31%	95.06%	97.52%
MMR (Measles,								
mumps, and	07.400/	07.060/	07.200/	06.450/	06.000/	07.650/	00 260/	00.100/
rubella)	97.40%	97.06%	97.28%	96.45%	96.98%	97.65%	98.26%	99.18%
Polio	96.96%	96.72%	96.89%	96.06%	96.76%	97.38%	98.09%	99.07%
Varicella*								
(Chickenpox)	96.73%	96.46%	96.73%	95.89%	96.37%	97.33%	97.85%	98.94%

^{*} This percentage does not reflect seventh grade students who met school entry requirements through a reported history of varicella (chickenpox) disease.

Figure 1. Percentage of Students in Kindergarten Through 12th Grade With a Conscientious Exemption on File for at Least One Vaccine, School Year 2024-2025

