Vaccines Matter to Jefferson County

What is a VPD Outbreak?
A Vaccine-Preventable Disease, or VPD, outbreak (e.g., measles) may occur when community members are inadequately vaccinated against a disease. The TN Kindergarten Immunization Compliance Assessment is a great way to understand your county’s risk of an outbreak!

Jefferson County Kindergarten Immunization Compliance Assessment (2020-21)
Overall, **95.8%** of 2020-2021 Jefferson County kindergarten students were fully immunized at enrollment. To remain at low risk for a VPD outbreak, this rate should remain above 95%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Status</th>
<th>% (#) of Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At least 95% immunized</td>
<td>63% (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meets immunization goal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90% - 94.9% immunized</td>
<td>38% (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Needs improvement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 90% immunized</td>
<td>0% (0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulnerable to preventable outbreaks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To keep highly infectious diseases like measles, chicken pox, and whooping cough out of our schools and communities, we need immunization rates to be **95% or higher**.
Facts Matter:

1. The United States has the safest vaccine supply in its history. Vaccines do not cause autism. Source: https://tinyurl.com/z2vebhq

2. Vaccines protect children from 16 diseases, including 2 that are known to cause cancer. Source: https://tinyurl.com/y5q1m546

3. CDC estimates vaccines will prevent more than 21 million hospitalizations and 732,000 deaths among children born in the last 20 years. Source: https://tinyurl.com/y7ep84dc

4. Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, and most Christian faiths (including Catholic and Baptist) have no tenets in opposition to vaccines. Source: https://tinyurl.com/y5jv489p

5. 13 childhood vaccines are manufactured without the need of human cell culture. There are no fetal cells in vaccines. Source: https://tinyurl.com/y2h9veee

COVID-19 Impact on Kindergarten Vaccines

In 2020, there were more incomplete immunization records than in the previous three years.

- The percentage of counties with public schools that met the minimum threshold for protection against vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks decreased by 8.4%.
- Religious exemptions for vaccinations in private schools increased by 1.3%.

LEARN MORE!

The annual TN Kindergarten Immunization Compliance Assessment is a census of the immunization status of every kindergarten student enrolled in public and private schools in Tennessee --more than 73,000 students! Check out the full report, by school.

https://tinyurl.com/4hzautm7

Reliable Resources

- www.tn.gov/health/cedep/immunization-program.html
- www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center
- www.healthychildren.org
- www.cdc.gov/vaccines