

Vaccines Matter to Polk 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!

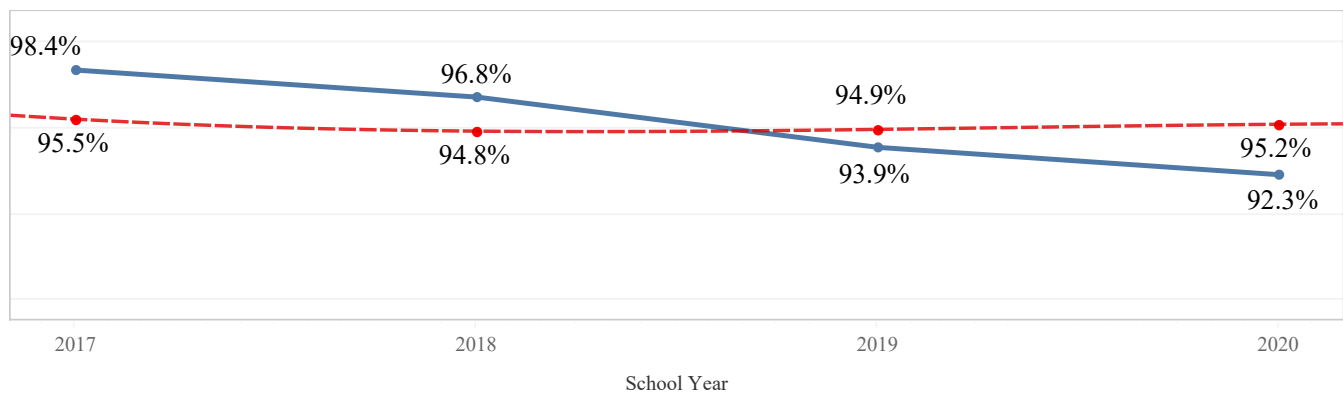
Polk County Kindergarten Immunization Compliance Assessment (2020-21)

Overall, **92.3%** of 2020-2021 Polk County kindergarten students were fully immunized at enrollment. To remain at low risk for a VPD outbreak, this rate should remain above 95%.

Student Status	% (#) of Schools
At least 95% immunized Meets immunization goal	50% (2)
90% - 94.9% immunized Needs improvement	25% (1)
Below 90% immunized Vulnerable to preventable outbreaks	25% (1)

Kindergarten Immunization Trends 2017 - 2020

Percent of Fully-Immunized Students in **POLK** County vs **statewide**, by year



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/y5qlm546>
- 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)



<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



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