

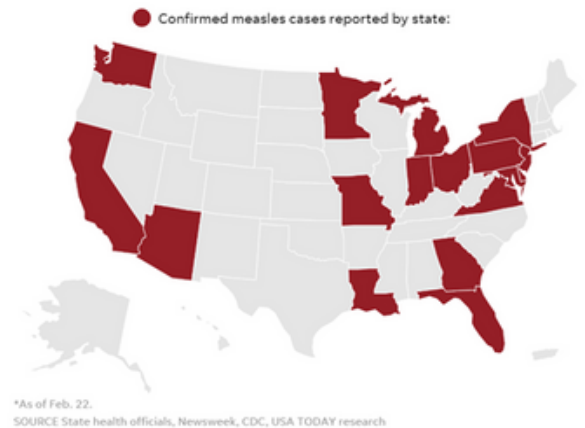
TO-THE-POINT

A Vaccine Provider Newsletter from the Barry-Eaton District Health Department

MEASLES CASES IDENTIFIED IN 15 STATES

As of February 22, 2024, a total of 35 measles cases were reported by 15 states. On Feb. 23rd, MDHHS issued a [press release](#) stating Michigan has confirmed a case of measles in an Oakland County child associated with international travel. This is the first confirmed case of measles in the state since 2019. On Feb 26th an [eighth confirmed case](#) of measles was identified in Florida, which included a child under five indicating the spread of measles beyond an elementary school where the outbreak first began. Individuals not vaccinated for measles have a 90 percent chance of developing measles if exposed. Clinicians should ensure patients are up to date with their recommended vaccines against Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) such as measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, and pertussis (whooping cough). Providers should discuss the importance of the MMR vaccine and other ACIP-recommended vaccines with parents/guardians and listen and respond to their questions. Questions do not necessarily mean they won't accept vaccines. Sometimes they simply want to be heard and hear your answers to their questions.

Measles cases by state

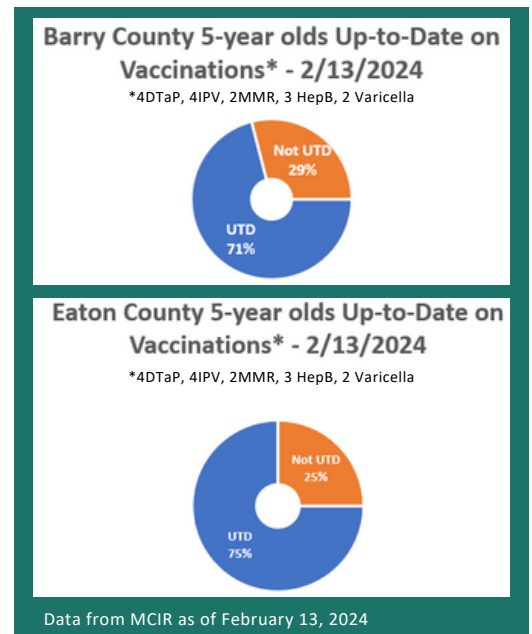


The MMR vaccine is 97% effective at preventing measles when both doses are given.

VACCINATION RATES IMPROVING FOR ROUTINE CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENT IMMUNIZATIONS

The [MCIR COVID Impact Report](#) contains child and adolescent coverage estimates and dose administration reporting trends.

- Statewide coverage for children 19 through 35 months with the 43133142 series (4 DTaP, 3 Polio, 1 MMR, 3 Hib, 3 HepB, 1 Varicella, 4 PCV, 2 HepA) in December 2023 (57.3%) is 2.1 percentage points higher than September 2023 (55.2%) and is about 1 percentage point below pre-pandemic levels (58.2% in Jan 2020).
- The disparity between coverage levels for Medicaid and non-Medicaid kids has now decreased. Coverage for both groups still lags behind the pre-pandemic levels but it is encouraging to report an increase in coverage level in December 2023 as compared to the last quarter for both groups.
- Statewide coverage for adolescents 13 through 17 years of age for the 1323213 series (1 Tdap, 3 Polio, 2 MMR, 3 HepB, 2 Varicella, 1 MenACWY, 2 or 3 HPV) increased by 2.9 percentage points from 43.2% in Jan 2020 just before the pandemic to 46.9% in December 2023. However, coverage for the same series without HPV fell by 2 percentage points from 77% in Jan 2020 to 75% in December 2023.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s [“Lets RISE”](#) initiative (Routine Immunizations on Schedule for Everyone (RISE) | CDC) provides useful resources for effective strategies to enhance routine immunizations on schedule for everyone.



REDESIGNED IMMUNIZE.ORG WEBSITE!

Immunize.org (formerly the Immunization Action Coalition) has redesigned its flagship website! The new site features enhanced navigation while continuing to provide the timely, accurate resources relied upon for decades by public health professionals and the nurses, doctors, pharmacists, and medical assistants who administer vaccinations.

The redesigned [Immunize.org](https://immunize.org) website continues to provide:

- Curated links to the latest clinical resources
- Vaccination guidance from CDC, FDA, and major professional organizations
- Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) translations in numerous languages
- More than 1,000 Ask the Experts answers to clinical questions about vaccines

New features of the redesigned Immunize.org website:

- A homepage navigation guide to introduce visitors to new search options
- New mobile responsive design: comfortable viewing and navigation from smartphones
- Enhanced search tools: use built-in filters or enter keywords and phrases to narrow searches
- Featured resources showcased at a glance on the home page
- A streamlined subscription process for the weekly email newsletter, IZ Express

The updated site is designed to continue to support longtime users while simplifying access to resources by new visitors and the next generation of vaccinators.

VACCINE HESITANCY

CDC Director Dr. Mandy Cohen's urges doctors to become more engaged in health messaging. Personal doctors are crucial in promoting vaccination, and Dr. Cohen said doctors speaking with patients is key to turning public health priorities such as vaccination into realities. A recent study confirms that [personal healthcare providers are the most trusted sources](#), outpacing public officials, in influencing vaccine uptake. A [recent survey](#) of more than 70,000 people in 67 countries found high levels of trust in scientists, with many saying they want [researchers to get more involved in policymaking](#).

The Center for Health Security's new [Practical playbook for addressing health misinformation](#) is designed to help public health practitioners, health professionals, and other health communicators respond when faced with misinformation. The guide provides detailed tools, checklists, templates, and examples to help prepare for rumors and understand when and how to respond. The publication, which was supported by the CDC, builds on the agency's new Health Information Management and Alert System, which outlines a 4-phase approach to tackling circulating health misinformation.

RESOURCES

[Vaccine Information Statements \(VIS\) \(michigan.gov\)](#) - In Michigan, it is important that vaccine recipients, their parents, or their legal representatives be given the Michigan versions of VIS because they include information about the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR). By state law in Michigan, parents must be informed about MCIR.

[Federal law requires](#) that VISs be handed out before each dose of certain vaccinations. Providing a translation along with the current English VIS reduces barriers to important vaccination information. [VIS Translations | Immunize.org](#)

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