

**Ohio Department of Health**

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*Ted Strickland, Governor*  
*Alvin D. Jackson, M.D., Director*



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**Office of Public Affairs**  
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For immediate release – Sept. 3, 2009

**CDC: OHIO RANKS THIRD IN U.S. VACCINATION RATES**

*Ohio's Immunization Rate Jumps to 81.8 Percent*

COLUMBUS – Ohio's childhood immunization rates are the third-highest in the country.

Nearly 82 percent of Ohio children 19 to 35 months old have been fully immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, Haemophilus influenzae type B, hepatitis B and chickenpox, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) 2008 National Immunization Survey (NIS). Ohio's rate of 81.8 percent was bested by only Louisiana (81.9 percent) and Massachusetts (82.3 percent).

"This wonderful news for Ohio's children and would not have been possible without partnership at every level," said Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Director Alvin D. Jackson, M.D. "Public and private health care providers and local, state and federal level public health agencies are working every day to ensure a healthy future for our children."

Ohio's completion rate jumped 4.1 percent from 2007, according to CDC and is higher than the national rate of 76.1 percent.

These figures represent children born between January 2005 and June 2007 who received the full 4:3:1:3:3:1 series of vaccines.

Vaccines in the series are:

- Four or more doses of diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine.
- Three or more doses of polio vaccine.
- One or more doses of measles, mumps and rubella vaccine.
- Three or more doses of Haemophilus influenzae type b vaccine.
- Three or more doses of hepatitis B vaccine.
- One or more doses of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine.

"ODH is committed to reaching its goal of having 90 percent of children fully immunized by 24 months of age," Jackson said. "ODH and its partners are committed to working to protect and improve the health of all Ohio's children."

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