

Vaccines Work!

CDC statistics demonstrate dramatic declines in vaccine-preventable diseases when compared with the pre-vaccine era

DISEASE	PRE-VACCINE ERA ESTIMATED ANNUAL MORBIDITY ¹	MOST RECENT REPORTS OR ESTIMATES OF U.S. CASES	PERCENT DECREASE
Diphtheria	21,053	2 ²	>99%
<i>H. influenzae</i> (invasive, <5 years of age)	20,000	14 ^{2,3}	>99%
Hepatitis A	117,333	(est) 24,900 ⁴	79%
Hepatitis B (acute)	66,232	(est) 21,600 ⁴	67%
Measles	530,217	1,287 ²	>99%
Meningococcal disease (all serotypes)	2,886 ⁵	329 ²	89%
Mumps	162,344	3,509 ²	98%
Pertussis	200,752	15,662 ²	92%
Pneumococcal disease (invasive, <5 years of age)	16,069	1,700 ⁷	93%
Polio (paralytic)	16,316	0 ²	100%
Rotavirus (hospitalizations, <3 years of age)	62,500 ⁸	30,625 ⁹	51%
Rubella	47,745	4 ²	>99%
Congenital Rubella Syndrome	152	0 ²	100%
Smallpox	29,005	0 ²	100%
Tetanus	580	19 ²	96%
Varicella	4,085,120	102,128 ¹⁰	>98%

1. CDC. *JAMA* November 14, 2007; 298(18): 2155–63.

2. CDC. National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System, Week 52 (2019 Provisional Data), Unpublished, Atlanta, GA. CDC Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance, 2020. Accessed on January 21, 2020.

3. An additional 12 cases of Hib are estimated to have occurred among the 243 notifications of Hi (<5 years) with unknown serotype.

4. CDC. Viral Hepatitis Surveillance – United States, 2018. Published July 2020. Estimated total cases account for under-reporting.

5. CDC. *MMWR* October 6, 1995; 43(53):1–98.

6. CDC. Enhanced Meningococcal Disease Surveillance Report, 2018 at www.cdc.gov/meningococcal/downloads/NCIRD-EMS-Report-2018.pdf.

7. CDC. Active Bacterial Core Surveillance, 2016 data (unpublished).

8. CDC. *MMWR*, February 6, 2009; 58(RR-2): 1–25.

9. CDC. New Vaccine Surveillance Network, 2017 data (unpublished); U.S. rotavirus disease now has a biennial pattern.

10. CDC. Varicella Program, 2017 data (unpublished).