

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	1 ²	>99%
<i>H. influenzae</i> (invasive, <5 years of age)	20,000	33 ^{2,3}	>99%
Hepatitis A	117,333	4,000 ⁴	97%
Hepatitis B (acute)	66,232	20,900 ⁴	68%
Measles	530,217	273 ²	>99%
Meningococcal disease	2,886 ⁵	340 ²	88%
Mumps	162,344	2,251 ²	99%
Pertussis	200,752	13,439 ²	93%
Pneumococcal disease (invasive, <5 years of age)	16,069	1,700 ⁶	89%
Polio (paralytic)	16,316	0 ²	100%
Rotavirus (hospitalizations, <3 years of age)	62,500 ⁷	30,625 ⁸	51%
Rubella	47,745	5 ²	>99%
Congenital Rubella Syndrome	152	0 ²	100%
Smallpox	29,005	0 ²	100%
Tetanus	580	20 ²	97%
Varicella	4,085,120	102,128 ⁹	98%

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

2. CDC. National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System, Week 52 (Provisional Data), Weekly Tables of Infectious Disease Data, Atlanta, GA. CDC Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance, 2019. Available at www.cdc.gov/nndss/infectious-tables.html. Accessed January 4, 2019.

3. An additional 11 cases of Hib are estimated to have occurred among the 221 notifications of Hib (<5 years) with unknown serotype.

4. CDC. Viral Hepatitis Surveillance – United States, 2016.

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

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 Active Bacterial Core Surveillance, 2016 data (unpublished).

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

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 New Vaccine Surveillance Network, 2017 data (unpublished); U.S. rotavirus disease now has a biennial pattern.

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 Varicella Program, 2017 data (unpublished).