

Immunizations — A Tool for Keeping Kansas Healthy

Quality Corner Call August 13, 2025

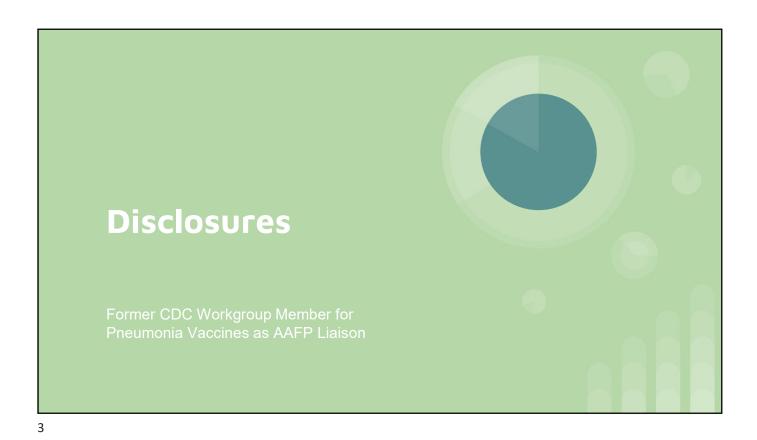






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Vaccines Update 8/13/25 Lynn Fisher MD Associate Professor Family Medicine KUSM-Wichita



Kansas Kindergarten Coverage Assessment Statewide Vaccine Coverage and Exemptions **District Exemption Private Districts District Coverage About the Data** Statewide School Entry Vaccine Coverage by Academic Year REQUIRED Academic Year DTAP IPV MMR VAR HEPB HEPA HIB PCV 94.05% 94.77% 94 47% 81.04% 2019-2020 93.91% 97.46% 95.31% 89.89% 89.38% 2020-2021 91.84% 92.74% 92.47% 91.88% 96.98% 95.54% 88.54% 90.44% 82.13% 2021-2022 91.03% 92.15% 91.31% 90.52% 96.79% 94.78% 87.37% 88.66% 79.91% 2022-2023 90.25% 91.90% 91.04% 90.50% 96.48% 94.60% 87.22% 88.28% 80.08% 2023-2024 90.21% 91.70% 90.21% 89.65% 96.30% 93.96% 86.69% 88.37% 80.19% Statewide School Entry Vaccine Coverage by Academic Year 100.00% 95.00% 90.00% 85.00% 80.00% 75.00% 2019-2020 2020-2021 2021-2022 2022-2023 2023-2024 Vaccine IPV MMR. REQUIRED HIB ■ PCV DTAP VAR HEPB ■ HEPA

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				Sta	atewide	Exemption	n Rates	by Acade	mic Year					
Exemption	2010- 2011	2011-	2012-	2013- 2014	2014-2015	2015- 2016	Academ 2016- 2017	2017- 2018	2018- 2019	2019-	2020- 2021	2021-	2022- 2023	2023- 2024
Medical Exemption Rate	0.29%	0.34%	0.34%	0.27%	0.30%	0.24%	0.30%	0.35%	0.32%	0.26%	0.20%	0.22%	0.32%	0.25%
Religious Exemption Rate	0.75%	0.95%	1.03%	1.34%	1.16%	1.40%	1.48%	1.51%	1.82%	1.86%	1.77%	2.06%	2.60%	2.74%
otal Exemption Rate	1.04%	1.29%	1.37%	1.61%	1.46%	1.64%	1.78%	1.86%	2.14%	2.12%	1.97%	2.27%	2.91%	2.99%
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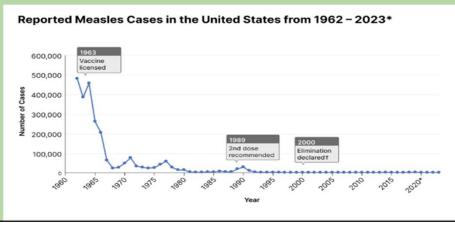
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Measles

Officially eliminated from US in 2000

No spread of measles in the country and new cases found only when someone contracts from abroad and returns to the US



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Measles-Kansas

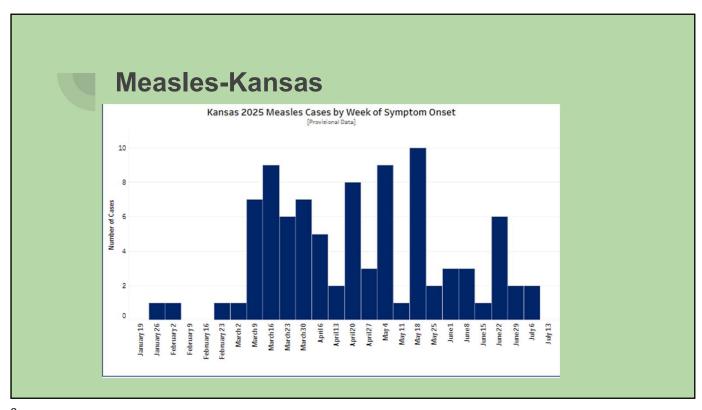
KDHE website 2025 Kansas Measles Case Data

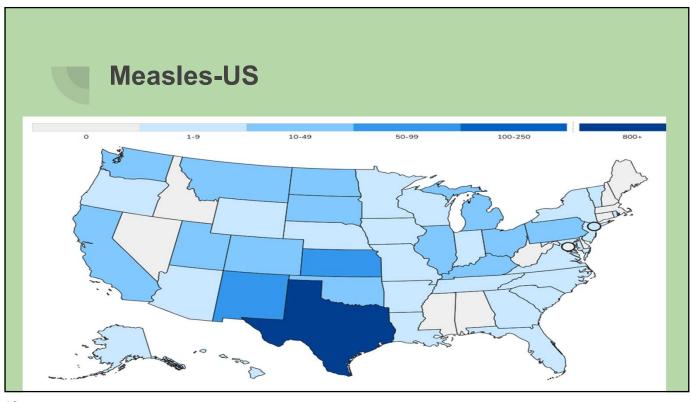
Total cases: 90 Outbreak Associated: 87

Counties with Cases: 12

Cases by County [Provisional Data]							
County	Case						
Finney	1-5						
Ford	1-5						
Grant	1-5						
Gray	29						
Haskell	19						
Kiowa	6						
Morton	1-5						
Pawnee	7						
Reno	1-5						
Sedgwick	1-5						
Seward	1-5						
Stevens	10						

Kansas 2025 Measles







Measles-US

- According to the CDC website, 1356 confirmed cases through August 5th in 41 states
- 32 outbreaks and 87% of confirmed cases are outbreak-associated
- 28% less than 5 years
- 37% 5-19 years of age
- 34% are 20+ years
- Vaccinated status: unvaccinated or unknown in 92%; 4% with 1 MMR dose and 4% with 2 MMR doses
- https://www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html

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Measles-US

- 13% of cases during the outbreak were hospitalized in US (171 of 1356)
- 3 confirmed deaths in the US
- Before the vaccine, estimated 48,000 hospitalized per year and 400-500 people died in the US each year

https://www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html



MMR Vaccine

- 1 dose is 93% effective and 2 doses are 97% effective at preventing measles
- Breakthrough infections occur when someone is infected after vaccination and is approximately 5% of cases
- Vaccination coverage among US Kindergartners

2019-2020: **95.2**%

2023-2024: **92.7**%

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Measles Protection

CDC considers protected if

- You have received 2 doses of MMR
- 1 dose of MMR and preschool aged child or adult who will not be in a high-risk setting for measles transmission
- Lab confirmation of measles immunity
- Born before 1957

https://www.cdc.gov/measles/about/questions.html



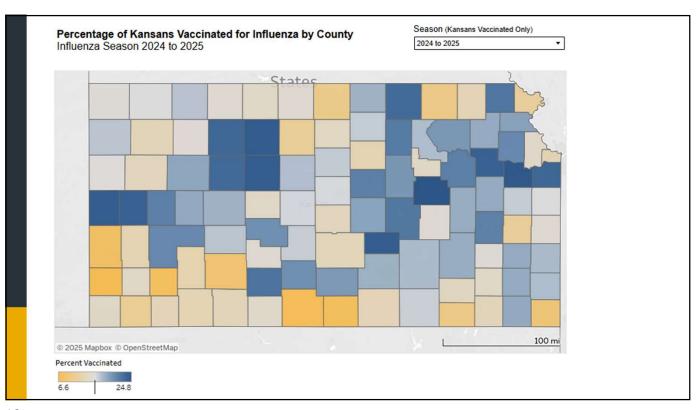
Influenza Vaccine

- Recommended for everyone 6 months and older
- All flu vaccine will be trivalent for 2025-2026 season
- For 2025-2026 flu season, CDC recommends formulations that are free of thimerosal as a preservative for children, pregnant women, and adults

Thimerosal is used for multi-dose vials

AAP: no evidence to suggest thimerosal in dosages used is unsafe or contributes to any harms (ie increased rates of autism)

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Influenza Vaccination Rates. Healthcare Professionals

- Overall, 75.4% of health care personnel in the United States reported receiving influenza vaccination during the 2023–2024 season (31.3%) reported having received the updated 2023–24 COVID-19 vaccine)
- In Kansas, among 78 Critical Access Hospitals reporting, 79 percent of CAH employees reported receiving the influenza vaccination during the 2024 - 2025 flu season



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Influenza Vaccine-Best Practices

- Standing Order Sets: https://www.immunize.org/wp-content/uploads/catg.d/p3067.pdf
 Staff education regarding importance of
- vaccines
- Office/Hospital Vaccine ChampionsOptimization of EMR Immunization
- Flags/Rules
- QI Projects



Covid Vaccine

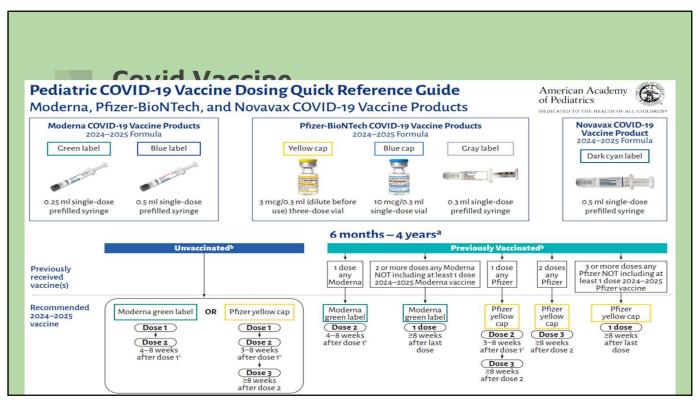
- Current CDC guidelines are as follows:
 - Most adults 18 and older should receive a 2024-2025
 Covid vaccine
 - Especially important for 65 and older and if at high risk for severe Covid 19
 - Parents of children 6 months to 17 years of age should discuss with physician the benefits
- Vaccination helps protect against severe illness, hospitalization, and death

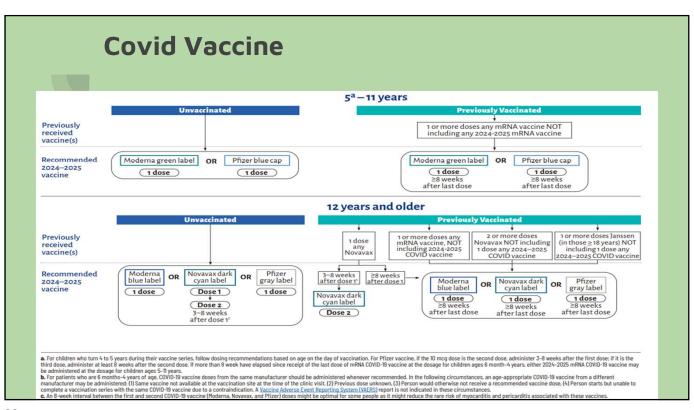
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Covid Vaccine

- AAP recommends Covid-19 vaccination for all infants 6 months of age and older, children, and adolescents who don't have a contraindication to the vaccine
- Includes primary series and boosters
- https://downloads.aap.org/AAP/PDF/COVID%20Vaccine%20D osing Quick%20Reference.pdf







Covid Vaccine Updates (per AI)

- May 2025:
 - May 12: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issues an overview of COVID-19 vaccines, recommending the 2024–2025 Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA vaccines for everyone 6 months and older, and the 2024–2025 Novavax vaccine for individuals 12 years and older. These recommendations include guidance for routine vaccination schedules and specific recommendations for individuals who are moderately or severely immunocompromised.
 - May 27: Kennedy announces in a video statement that the COVID-19 vaccines are no longer recommended for healthy children and pregnant
 women on the CDC's recommended immunization schedule. This decision is made without the input of the CDC Advisory Committee on
 Immunization Practices (ACIP), the expert panel typically responsible for such recommendations.
 - o May 30: The FDA approves a new Moderna COVID-19 vaccine but with restrictions, limiting its use to seniors and high-risk individuals.
- June 2025:
 - June 6: The CDC updates its guidance, recommending a 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine for most adults 18 and older, and suggesting parents
 consult with healthcare providers regarding vaccination for children aged 6 months to 17 years.
 - June 9: Kennedy dismisses all 17 members of the ACIP, the expert panel responsible for developing vaccine recommendations, and announces
 plans to appoint a new committee.
 - o June 11: Kennedy names new advisers to the ACIP, including some individuals known for vaccine skepticism and criticism of COVID-19 vaccines.
 - o June 13: Kennedy defends his decision to alter the COVID vaccine schedule, facing questions about bypassing the CDC's formal process.
 - June 26: Kennedy's vaccine advisers vote to recommend flu shots that do not contain thimerosal, a preservative falsely linked to autism. This
 decision comes after a presentation from an anti-vaccine group's former leader.
 - June 27: Reports emerge detailing a conflict between Kennedy's vaccine policies and earlier promises he made, raising concerns about undermining vaccine science and endangering public health.

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Covid Vaccine Updates (per Al)

- July 2025:
 - July 8: Health organizations file a lawsuit against RFK Jr. over his vaccine policy changes, alleging they were "arbitrary" and in violation of federal law.
 - July 12: The CDC updates its vaccine recommendations based on ACIP discussions, recommending the updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 and flu vaccines for everyone 6 months and up.
- August 2025:
 - August 5: Kennedy cancels \$500 million in mRNA vaccine development funding in the US.
 - August 11: A medical journal rejects Kennedy's request to retract a study that found aluminum in vaccines does not increase health risks for children.



DNA vs mRNA Vaccines

https://molecularmedicine.umc.edu/articles/the-differences-between-mrna-and-dna-vaccines/

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Vaccine Confidence

- Simple, clear message: "These are the vaccines you need today" vs "What do you think about getting the influenza vaccine?"
- Recommendation from a physician for vaccination is the most influential factor for a patient
- True even for patients with a negative attitude towards vaccinations

 $\underline{https://www.aafp.org/dam/brand/aafp/pubs/fpm/issues/2014/0300}$

/p22.pdf



Vaccine Confidence

Use positive language

Avoid saying "It's too bad you have to get shots today" or staff telling a patient "I haven't gotten my vaccine yet" as negative framing of vaccines can undermine physician/APP efforts

 Spend time educating nursing and front staff about important of vaccinations; create office/hospital vaccine champions

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HR Issues

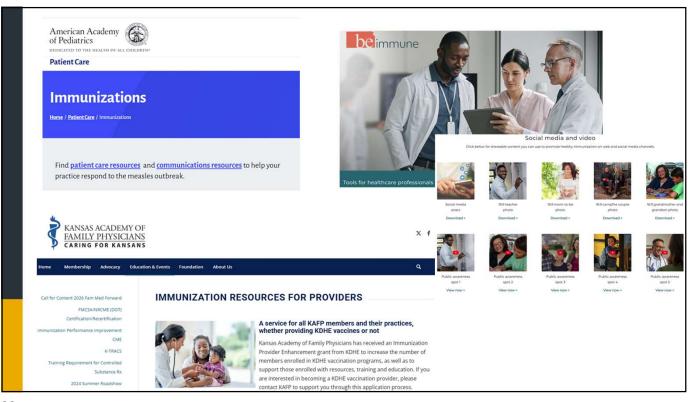
- Education, education, education
- Champions
- Converts sharing their story
- Masking October through April when out of workspace

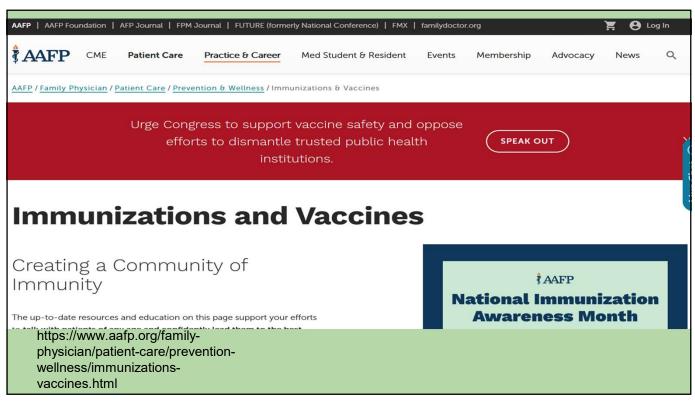


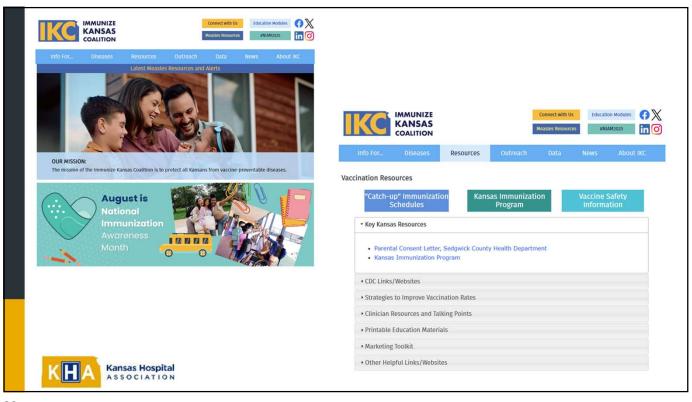
Partnership Opportunities

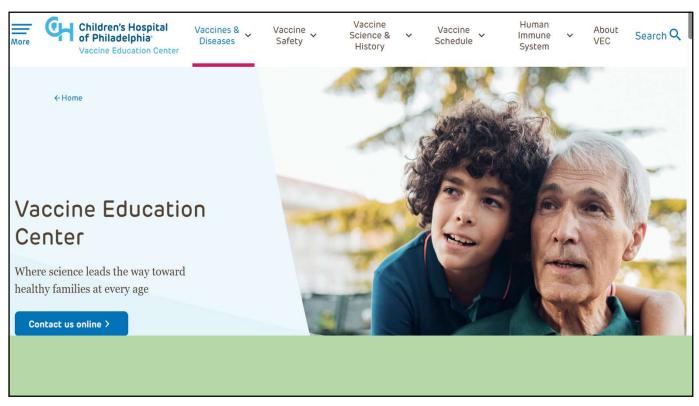
- Health Departments/Pharmacies
- Schools
- Churches/Faith Organizations
- Civic/Community Service Organizations

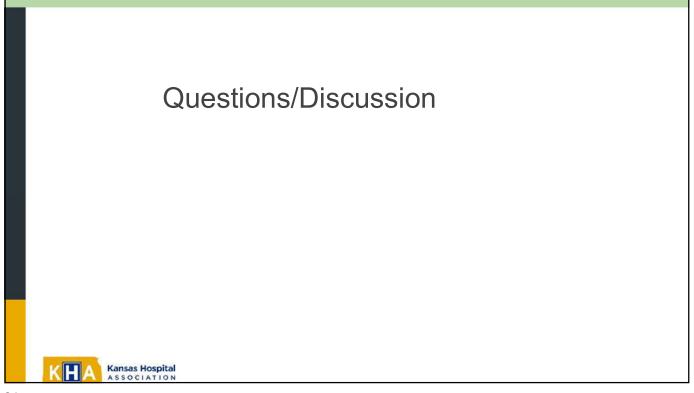
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HEALTHWORKS

