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## California Releases 2016 Vaccination Rates for Kindergarten

California is one of several states which provide data for each school online in an effort to inform the public, strengthen immunization programs, and guide vaccination policies.

The Kindergarten data for the 2015-2016 School Year along with a summary report is posted on the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH's) Website. Results from licensed child care and for 7th grade will follow later in 2016. Data from prior years is also available on the Department's Website.

The annual school immunization assessment is conducted each fall to monitor childhood immunization

levels and compliance with California school immunization law. Each year schools and child care are required to report immunization status of students. The data for the 2015-2016 School Year were collected in the fall of 2015.

The assessment measures immunization coverage among children entering licensed child care facilities, Kindergarten and 7th grade in California public and private schools. Data are reported to the CDPH by public and private childcare centers and schools. CDPH routinely posts summary statewide coverage data as well as county-level and school-level data online in an

effort to strengthen immunization programs, guide vaccination policies, and inform the public. The child care and 7th grade data and reports will be available in February.

*For 2015, the proportion of kindergarteners with all required immunizations was 92.9%, which represents an increase of 2.5% from the prior year. This increase was matched by a 2.5% reduction in those reported as small decline in the proportion of children with a personal belief exemption (PBE).*

### WEBSITES

#### [Annual Immunization Data](#)

(<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Pages/ImmunizationLevels.aspx>)

#### [SB 277 \(Pan & Allen, Chapter 35, Statutes of 2015\)](#)

([http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB277](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB277))

#### [AB 2109 \(Pan, Chapter 821, Statutes of 2012\)](#)

([http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201120120AB2109](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201120120AB2109))

#### [CDPH Immunization Branch](#)

(<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/immunize/Pages/Default.aspx>)

#### [Shots for School](#)

(<http://www.shotsforschool.org/>)

## SB 277 (Pan & Allen, Chapter 35, Statutes of 2015) & Existing Law

SB 277 (Pan and Allen, 2015), removed Personal Belief Exemption as an option for children entering school and child care, took effect on January 1, 2016.

Under AB 2109 (Pan, Chapter 821, Statutes of 2012) requesting a PBE to immunizations required additional documentation from the parent or medical provider.

Following implementation of this law, the proportion of children entering Kindergarten with a PBE decreased from 3.15% in 2013 to 2.54% in 2014 and now to 2.38% in 2015. This decline in the percentage of kindergarteners entering school with PBEs follows several years of rising PBE levels.

California Health and Safety Code Sections 120325-75

require students to provide proof of immunization for school and child care entry. Additionally, California child care facilities to assess and Health and Safety Code Section 120375 and California Code of Regulation Section 6075 require all schools and report annually the immunization status of their enrollees.

### CONNECT

