

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*	MOST RECENT REPORTS OR ESTIMATES [†] OF U.S. CASES	PERCENT DECREASE
Diphtheria	21,053	0 [†]	100%
<i>H. influenzae</i> (invasive, <5 years of age)	20,000	31 [‡]	>99%
Hepatitis A	117,333	2,890 [§]	98%
Hepatitis B (acute)	66,232	18,800 [§]	72%
Measles	530,217	187 [†]	>99%
Mumps	162,344	584 [†]	>99%
Pertussis	200,752	28,639 [†]	86%
Pneumococcal disease (invasive, <5 years of age)	16,069	1,900 ^{**}	88%
Polio (paralytic)	16,316	1 [†]	>99%
Rotavirus (hospitalizations, <3 years of age)	62,500 ^{**}	12,500 ^{††}	80%
Rubella	47,745	9 [†]	>99%
Congenital Rubella Syndrome	152	1 [†]	99%
Smallpox	29,005	0 [†]	100%
Tetanus	580	26 [†]	96%
Varicella	4,085,120	167,490 ^{§§}	96%

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

[†] CDC. *MMWR* August 15, 2014; 63(32):702–15.

[‡] An additional 10 cases of Hib are estimated to have occurred among the 185 reports of Hib (<5 years) with unknown serotype.

[§] CDC. Viral Hepatitis Surveillance – United States, 2011.

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

^{**} CDC. Active Bacterial Core Surveillance, 2013 data (unpublished).

^{††} CDC. New Vaccine Surveillance Network, 2013 data (unpublished); U.S. rotavirus disease now has a biennial pattern.

^{§§} CDC. Varicella Program, 2013 data (unpublished).