

2005 SELECTIVE REVIEW RESULTS  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, IMMUNIZATION BRANCH

Introduction

The annual selective review conducted each spring provides information on compliance with the California School Immunization Law. The purpose of this review is to evaluate enforcement of the school entry immunization requirements and follow-up of students who are missing immunizations. This report presents results from this year's selective review and the attached tables present comparisons of immunization coverage among the selected schools.

Methods and Participants

This year's selective review was conducted in a sample of approximately 2-5% of California's schools. Local health departments visited 224 schools with kindergartens, and 184 schools with seventh grades. During this site visit there was a short interview with school staff and a complete review of student immunization records. For kindergarten, data were analyzed by comparing immunization coverage reported by schools during the fall and that reported by local health departments during the spring. For seventh grade, schools did not report on immunization coverage during the fall. Therefore, data were analyzed by comparing immunization coverage reported by local health departments during last spring and that reported by local health departments during this spring.

Results and Discussion

Overall, results of the 2005 selective review indicate that schools are in compliance with the California School Immunization Law. Over 90% of kindergarten and seventh grade students had received all the required immunizations and coverage for each vaccine was above 95%.

Kindergarten (Table 1)

The percent of kindergarten students with all required immunizations measured during the spring selective review ( $93.6 \pm 1.3\%$ ) was similar to that during the fall assessment ( $92.4 \pm 1.6\%$ ). Like previous years, estimates of immunization coverage in the selected kindergartens varied by the type of school (public or private). In spring, the percent of students with all required immunizations was higher in public schools ( $95.0 \pm 1.1\%$ ) than in private schools ( $82.0 \pm 7.3\%$ ).

Seventh Grade (Table 2)

The percent of seventh grade students with all required immunizations measured during the spring selective review was an impressive  $94.3 \pm 1.2\%$ . This is almost a 5% increase from last year's selective review ( $89.5 \pm 2.5\%$ ). This spring, only  $4.46 \pm 1.19\%$  of seventh grade students were missing one or more of the required immunizations. The percent of students with personal beliefs exemptions and permanent medical exemptions were  $1.10 \pm 0.39\%$  and  $0.18 \pm 0.17\%$ , respectively. Coverage for Hepatitis B ( $97.0\% \pm 1.0$ ) and the second dose of MMR ( $97.5\% \pm 1.0$ ) among seventh grade students were higher than

ever. The increase between Spring 2004 and Spring 2005 might be attributed to the fact that this year, for the first time, students entering seventh grade were subject to the hepatitis B and second dose measles requirement in kindergarten.

### Conclusion

Maintaining compliance with the California School Immunization Law requires school staff to have a thorough understanding of the entry requirements. Selective review provides an opportunity to educate school staff regarding the requirements and to emphasize the importance of following up on students who are missing immunizations. Higher coverage levels measured in the spring could be an indication that follow-up of conditional entrants is occurring. Conversely, similar or lower estimates of coverage measured in the spring could be an indication that more support and training for schools in conducting follow-up would be beneficial.

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**SELECTIVE REVIEW**  
CALIFORNIA, 2005

Table 1: Kindergarten Immunization Coverage, Comparison of Fall 2004 Assessment and Spring 2005 Selective Review

	All Schools n = 224		Public Schools n = 153		Private Schools n = 71	
	Fall 2004 Assessment	Spring 2005 Selective Review	Fall 2004 Assessment	Spring 2005 Selective Review	Fall 2004 Assessment	Spring 2005 Selective Review
Total Enrollment	15,447	15,379	14,011	13,963	1,436	1,416
Percent Immunized for 4+ DTP	96.7±1.0%	97.3±0.9%	97.0±1.0%	98.4±0.6%	94.6±2.2%	88.6±6.5%
3+ Polio	96.7±1.2%	97.8±0.8%	97.0±1.3%	98.7±0.5%	94.3±2.3%	90.0±5.5%
2+ MMR	96.8±1.1%	97.5±0.8%	97.1±1.2%	98.6±0.5%	94.7±2.3%	88.8±5.8%
3+ Hep B	98.3±0.5%	98.9±0.4%	98.4±0.5%	99.0±0.4%	97.9±1.1%	98.4±0.9%
1+ Var	99.0±0.5%	99.2±0.3%	99.0±0.5%	99.3±0.3%	98.3±1.2%	98.4±0.8%
Percent with All Required Immunizations	92.4±1.6%	93.6±1.3%	92.9±1.8%	95.0±1.1%	88.4±3.3%	82.0±7.3%
Percent Missing One or More Immunizations	6.14±1.61%	4.69±1.13%	5.77±1.78%	3.35±0.92%	9.12±3.18%	15.5±7.0%
Percent with Permanent Medical Exemptions	0.10±0.08%	0.06±0.05%	0.09±0.08%	0.06±0.05%	0.14±0.27%	0.07±0.14%
Percent with Personal Belief Exemptions	1.32±0.37%	1.67±0.46%	1.19±0.39%	1.57±0.50%	2.37±1.15%	2.47±1.10%

**SELECTIVE REVIEW**  
CALIFORNIA, 2005

Table 2: Seventh Grade Immunization Coverage, Comparison of Spring 2004 Selective Review and Spring 2005 Selective Review

	All Schools		Public Schools		Private Schools	
	n = 196 Spring 2004 Selective Review	n = 184 Spring 2005 Selective Review	n = 100 Spring 2004 Selective Review	n = 100 Spring 2005 Selective Review	n = 96 Spring 2004 Selective Review	n = 84 Spring 2005 Selective Review
Total Enrollment	22,392	22,775	20,288	20,881	2,104	1,894
Records Reviewed	12,686	12,380	10,706	10,486	1,980	1,894
Percent Immunized for 2+ MMR	96.8±1.0%	97.0±1.0%	97.3±1.1%	97.1±1.1%	94.2±1.7%	96.2±1.4%
3+ Hep B	92.7±2.3%	97.5±1.0%	92.9±2.7%	97.8±1.1%	91.4±3.1%	95.7±1.6%
Percent with All Required Immunizations	89.5±2.5%	94.2±1.2%	90.3±2.9%	94.9±1.3%	85.2±3.8%	90.7±2.8%
Percent Missing One or More Immunizations	9.04±2.47%	4.47±1.19%	8.43±2.84%	4.07±1.38%	12.3±3.5%	6.65±2.20%
Percent with Permanent Medical Exemptions	0.11±0.08%	0.19±0.17%	0.09±0.09%	0.17±0.19%	0.20±0.20%	0.26±0.28%
Percent with Personal Belief Exemptions	1.36±0.34%	1.10±0.40%	1.20±0.36%	0.87±0.36%	2.27±1.00%	2.38±1.56%