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## Parents Deserve To Know More Than School Vaccination Rates

Posted: 9/8/2015 4:46:10 PM | with [23 comments](#) (</NVIC-Vaccine-News/September-2015/parents-deserve-more-than-vaccination-rates.aspx#comments>)

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 [Podcast Available on SoundCloud \(https://soundcloud.com/nvicstandup/parents-deserve-to-know-more?in=nvicstandup/sets/vaccination-risks-failures\)](https://soundcloud.com/nvicstandup/parents-deserve-to-know-more?in=nvicstandup/sets/vaccination-risks-failures)

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by **Barbara Loe Fisher**

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NVIC recently reported that the federal government has directed all public and private schools to publish vaccination and personal belief vaccine exemption rates, even though less than 1.7 percent of kindergarten children have any vaccine exemptions and less than one percent of children under 36 months old are unvaccinated.<sup>1 2 3</sup> This Centers for Disease Control (CDC) directive comes at a time when nationwide 94 percent of kindergarten students have gotten multiple doses of federally recommended vaccines for the past three decades,<sup>4</sup> including five doses of pertussis and two doses of measles containing vaccines.

But what the CDC is not telling parents, is the rest of the story about the real health status of school children in America. Perhaps the CDC is pursuing higher and higher vaccination rates and gutting vaccine exemptions to try to take attention away from the chronic disease and disability epidemic sweeping through classrooms that makes it harder and harder for children to learn and be healthy.

California: CDC's Role Model

California is serving as the CDC's role model for how states can go about shaming schools with less than a 95 percent vaccine coverage rate and blaming students with non-medical vaccine exemptions for endangering the public health. After California health officials joined with the liability free pharmaceutical and medical trade industries this year to lobby for elimination of the personal belief vaccine exemption (PBE) so they could segregate partially and unvaccinated children into homeschools,<sup>5</sup> they created a new website with an interactive map to post the names and addresses of kindergarten and middle schools; the numbers of children enrolled; the personal belief exemption (PBE) rate; up to date (UTD) vaccination rate, and the coverage rates for nine state mandated vaccines, including DPT, polio, MMR, hepatitis B and varicella zoster vaccines.<sup>6</sup>



## Putting Color Stars on Schools

The CDC has created a similar national website dedicated to incentivizing all states to use electronic medical records and vaccine tracking systems to publish school vaccination and PBE rates. <sup>7</sup> But health officials in California have gone one step further: they also "rate" schools from "safest" to "most vulnerable" with the following color coded rating system:

- GREEN \* **Safest.** 95 to 100 percent of students fully vaccinated.
- YELLOW \* **Moderately vulnerable.** 90 to 95 percent fully vaccinated.
- ORANGE \* **More vulnerable.** 80 to 89 percent fully vaccinated.
- RED \* **Most vulnerable.** Less than 79.9 percent fully vaccinated.
- BLUE \* **Did Not Report** in 2014-2015.

## Giving Parents More Relevant School Health Information

If government health officials are determined to violate the medical privacy of children and post detailed vaccination and PBE rates for schools, then at the end of the 2015-2016 school year, parents should have access to much more relevant health information about each school and the students attending those schools, information like:

- The total number of **sick days** taken by students due to illness;
- The percentage of students infected with **HIV, hepatitis, tuberculosis, syphilis** and other transmittable diseases;
- The percentage of chronically ill students **on medication** for **asthma, diabetes, ADHD, epilepsy, anxiety, bipolar disorder and depression**;
- The percentage of students with life threatening peanut and other **severe allergies**;
- The percentage of students with **learning disabilities, autism and other conditions** requiring special education services; and
- The percentage of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated students who **contracted infectious diseases**.

## The Immune Deficient: More Virus Shedding and Transmission



Parents may also want to know the percentage of children in each school who have **cancer** and other **immune compromising diseases**. Immune deficient children and adults, whether or not they have been vaccinated, are much more vulnerable to becoming infected with both wild type and vaccine strain viruses. The immune-compromised also are more likely to shed wild type and vaccine strain viruses for longer periods of time in their body fluids and transmit viral infections to other vaccinated and unvaccinated persons.<sup>8</sup>

If, in the name of transparency and the public health, government health officials are going to identify and demonize schools with a vaccine coverage rate of less than 95 percent and encourage discrimination against and segregation of students with religious

and conscientious belief vaccine exemptions – especially when almost no medical condition qualifies for a medical exemption<sup>9</sup> - then parents deserve to know the truth and nothing but the truth about the health of children attending different schools.

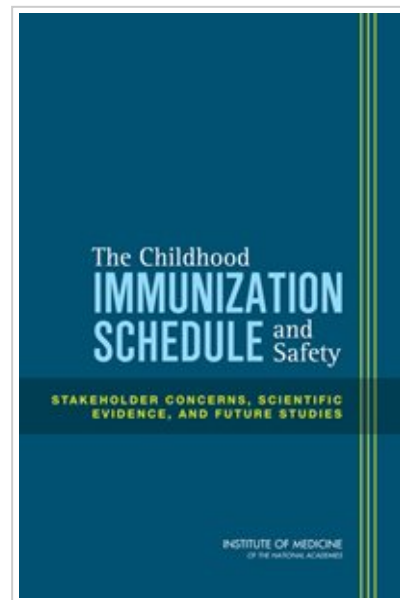
## How Many Highly Vaccinated Students Are Not Well?

Just exactly how many children attending public and private schools with different vaccine coverage rates *are* chronically sick and disabled?<sup>10 11</sup> How many are taking medication for severe allergies, asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, anxiety, bi-polar disorder and depression;<sup>12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22</sup> or are suffering with learning disabilities, ADHD and autism;<sup>23 24 25 26</sup> or are severely immune compromised and sick with cancer, HIV, hepatitis, tuberculosis, syphilis and other kinds of immune compromising diseases, some of them transmissible?<sup>27 28 29 30 31 32 33</sup>

These crippling medical conditions have increased by 10 to 100 percent or more among school children over the past 30 years at exactly the same time that public health officials have pounded children with three times more vaccinations than children used to get. There are long standing vaccine safety research gaps that the Institute of Medicine identified 20 years ago and as recently as 2013,<sup>34 35 36</sup> including lack of adequate evidence that the government's childhood vaccine schedule of 49 doses of 14 vaccines before age six is safe.<sup>37</sup> And there are still no credible scientific studies funded by government to compare the health of highly vaccinated children with children receiving fewer or no vaccines.

## Full Transparency or Respect for Human Rights?

Full transparency about the health of schools and student populations would provide parents with a way to identify which schools and school populations are actually healthier, not simply how many children in a school have personal belief vaccine exemptions or what color star public health officials have pinned on them. Of course, a more intelligent and compassionate operation of our nation's public health program would serve the people much better, starting with respect for the human right to informed consent to medical risk taking and rejection of the politics of demonization, discrimination and segregation.<sup>38</sup>



Protect your right to know and freedom to choose by becoming a vaccine choice advocate in your community today. Go to [NVIC.org](http://NVIC.org) and [NVICAdvocacy.org](http://NVICAdvocacy.org) to learn how.

It's your health. Your Family. Your Choice.

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