

School Immunization Survey Overview

General Description

This dataset contains aggregate data from Schools in New York State regarding the immunization status of all the students attending the school.

New York State Public Health Law Section 2164 (PHL Section 2164) requires that children attending public and private school in New York State be immunized against the diseases cited in PHL Section 2164. PHL Section 2164 also requires schools to annually submit a summary of the immunization status of the students attending school.

The purpose of conducting an annual immunization survey is to identify and monitor under-immunized children attending school to ensure high immunization coverage rates which will reduce or eliminate vaccine preventable diseases in the New York State population.

Data Collection

The School Immunization Survey data is reported via the Bureau of Immunization Online School Assessment Survey (OSAS) in the Health Commerce System (HCS).

New York City public schools report the immunization status of all students via the Automate the Schools system (ATS). The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene provides the aggregate data by district to the New York State Department of Health

An exemption from one or more of the required immunizations is allowed if the student:

- has a valid medical or religious exemption;
- has documented immunity of disease through serologic testing (measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, and all 3 serotypes of poliomyelitis found in the polio vaccines); or can demonstrate he or she had varicella (chickenpox) as verified by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant statement.

Limitations of Use

The data is self-reported by the Schools. Data is presented by percent to eliminate confidentiality issues for schools with a small number of students. The data for the individual public schools in New York City is not reported separately from the school district data.