

Hennepin County  
Public Health  
Assessment Team

# FACT SHEET

## Childhood immunizations

### Why is this indicator important?

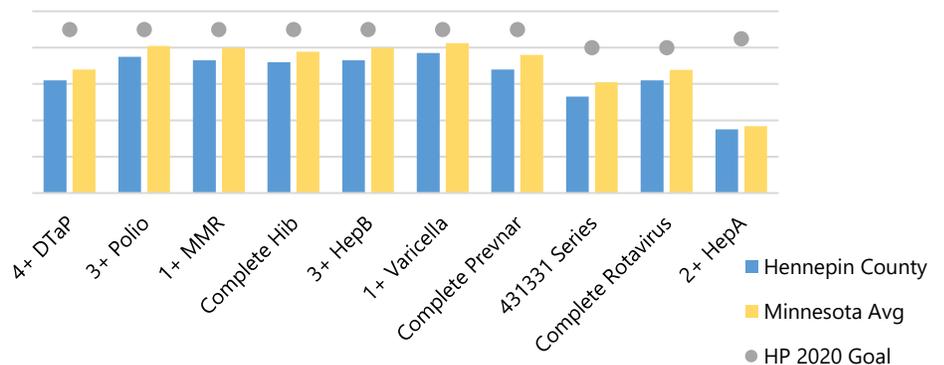
Vaccines are one of the best ways to help keep children healthy. Many outbreaks of preventable diseases occur when children in the community do not receive the recommended vaccines. A higher coverage rate indicates a greater level of overall protection against vaccine-preventable diseases.

By two years of age, it is recommended that all children should have received 4 doses of diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DTaP), 3 doses of polio, 1 dose of measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), 3 doses of Hepatitis B, 3 doses of Haemophilus Influenza, type B (Hib), and 1 dose of Varicella vaccine. This series is known as complete series or "4:3:1:3:3:1."

### What is the current status?

In 2017, 53% of Hennepin County children age 24-35 months completed the 431331 series. The Healthy People 2020 target goal for complete series is 80%. Since young children are at a higher risk for vaccine-preventable diseases, increasing the rate is important (Figure 1).

**Figure 1. Vaccination coverage among children age 24 through 35 months in MIIC, 2017**



	4+ DTaP	3+ Polio	1+ MMR	Comp Hib	3+ HepB	1+ Var	Comp Prev	Comp Series	Comp Rota	2+ HepA
HC	62%	75%	73%	72%	73%	77%	68%	53%	62%	35%
MN Avg	68%	81%	80%	78%	80%	82%	76%	61%	68%	37%



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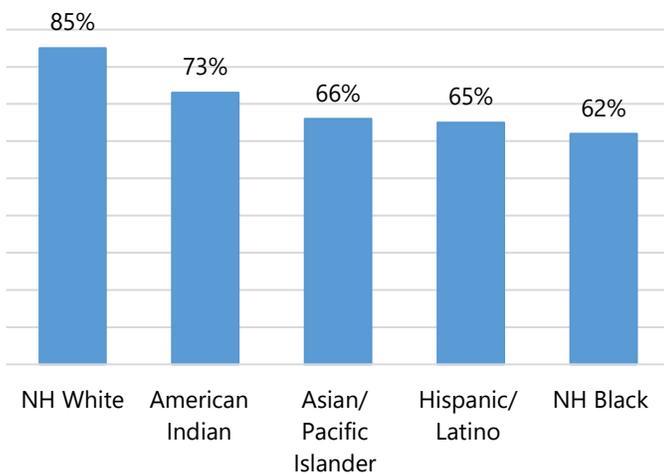
**For more information** on the health of Hennepin County residents, visit: [www.Hennepin.us/PublicHealthData](http://www.Hennepin.us/PublicHealthData) or email: [PublicHealthData@hennepin.us](mailto:PublicHealthData@hennepin.us)

## What are the disparities?

MIIC does not collect demographic information on racial/ethnic groups, insurance status, income level and other information to determine immunization disparities; however, in 2008 the Minnesota Department of Health published a report on immunizations and health disparities. They analyzed the 2001 Minnesota Kindergarten Retrospective Survey to measure the 4:3:1 (4 DTaP, 3 Polio and 1 MMR) vaccine series among White children and non-White children at 24 months of age.

Though older data, the report still highlights there were disparities among populations of color for the 4:3:1 Series at 24 months in Minnesota (Figure 2).

**Figure 2. Percent of up-to-date at 24 months by race & ethnicity, 2001**



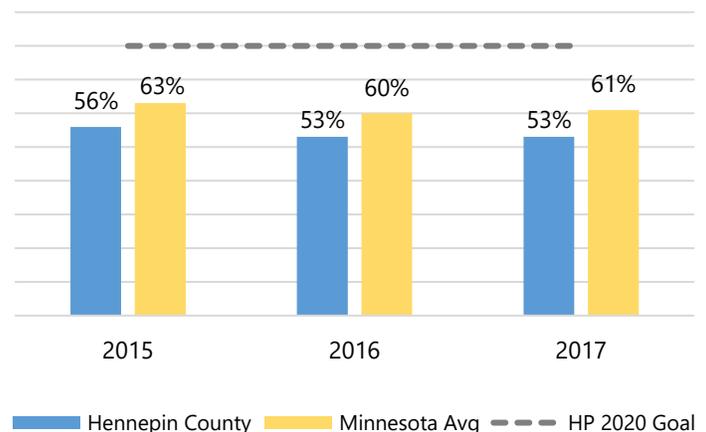
## How do we compare?

Hennepin County's coverage rates of 24-35 months of age for the complete (431331) series are slightly lower than the Minnesota average in all three years (2015-2017). The Healthy People 2020 target goal for the complete series is 80%. Hennepin County also falls below the 80% goal all three years (Figure 3).

Hennepin County has the highest population of 24-35 month olds at 17,858, which compose 24% of the total Minnesota 24-35 month olds population (n=74,406 in 2017). There are a couple contributing factors that influence Hennepin County rates to be slightly lower than the Minnesota average:

1. MIIC participation of health care providers are voluntary and immunization data submission is not mandatory. It is possible that MIIC may not have all immunization records to truly indicate a completed series.
2. The Hennepin County 24-35 months old population may include children who have moved out of the county but not updated their address in MIIC. These children may still be included in the denominator causing the rate to be lower than what it should be.

**Figure 3. Complete series rate comparison, 2015-2017**



The data shown in this fact sheet came from the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC) registry.