



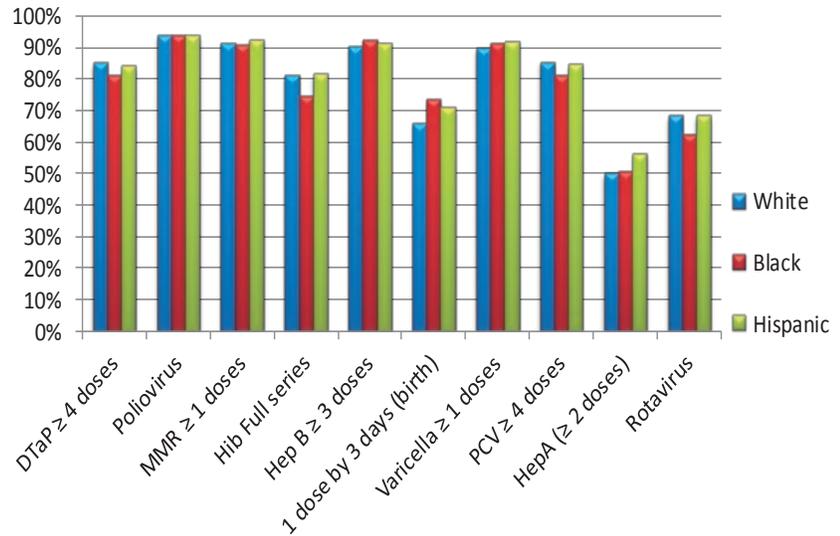
ASSOCIATION OF IMMUNIZATION MANAGERS

Vaccines for Children Program The Role of State, Territorial and Local Immunization Programs

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program is a federally funded entitlement program that provides vaccines at no cost to children 18 years or younger who are Medicaid-enrolled, have no health insurance, are American Indian or Alaska native, or underinsured. Underinsured children are eligible to receive VFC vaccine only through a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), or Rural Health Clinic (RHC), or under an approved deputization agreement. These children might otherwise miss vaccinations because of inability to pay.

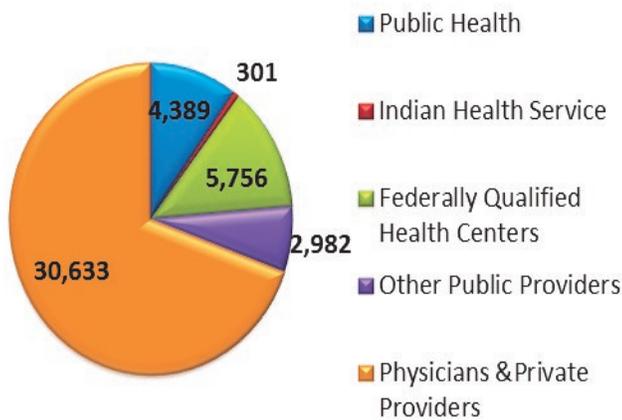
The VFC program has reduced disparities and contributed to record high childhood immunization coverage rates.

Estimated vaccination coverage among children aged 19-35 months, by selected vaccines and dosages by race/ethnicity²



Public Private Partnership

Enrolled VFC Providers¹



The VFC program is a successful federal, state and private sector partnership. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides federal oversight and management while state and local agencies administer the program and enroll vaccine providers. There are VFC programs in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Chicago, New York City, Houston, San Antonio and Philadelphia.

The VFC program is designed to provide vaccine in the child's medical home, the private or public site providing routine health care to the child. More than 44,000 public and private provider sites participate in the VFC program. Approximately 50% of young children and 30% of adolescents throughout the United States and its territories are served by the VFC program.



Accountability

Since the VFC program became operational in 1994, the budget for this program has risen steadily to nearly \$4 billion in 2011. CDC and state and local immunization programs are committed to ensuring that all aspects of the program are implemented appropriately and that visible oversight of publicly-purchased vaccine is maintained and documented.

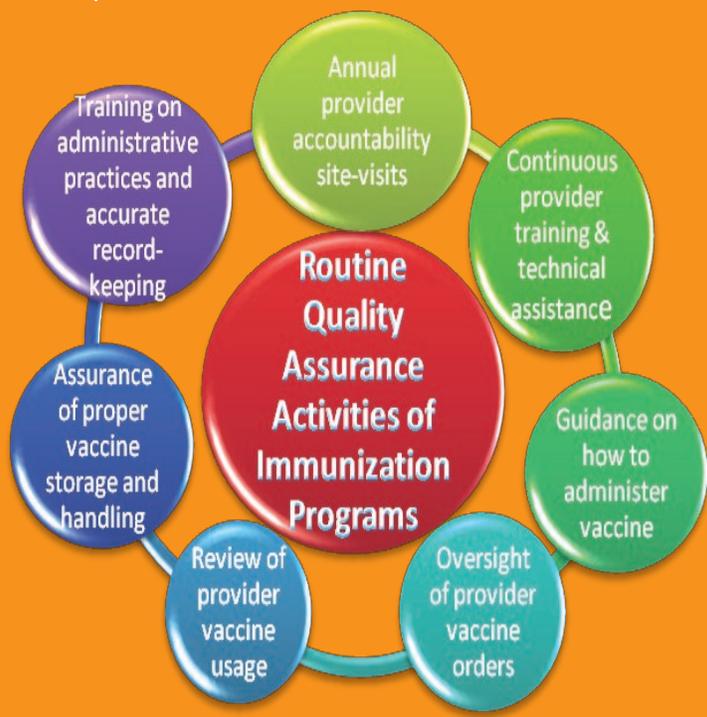
Site Visits

Using a checklist for compliance with VFC requirements, state and local immunization program staff visit each of the 44,000 participating VFC providers at least once every two years. It takes an average of 7 full time employees per program to conduct site visits, which typically include an inspection of vaccine storage and handling practices and equipment, a review of office management practices, and a patient chart review to assess coverage rates and verify VFC eligibility. Follow-up education and training is provided.

In 2010, a total of 38,450 site visits to public and provider offices were conducted by VFC program staff. Over 24,000 providers received a compliance site visit, including 60% of public providers and almost 55% of private providers enrolled in the program. In addition, 2,318 new providers received an enrollment visit for education and training on the VFC program. Over 8,000 follow-up visits and nearly 4,000 additional secondary and tertiary follow-up visits were conducted.

Quality Assurance

The VFC program has improved efficiency and assured high quality vaccination practices in thousands of provider offices, including over 30,000 physicians and private providers across the country and U.S. territories. 90% of U.S. children are vaccinated by a provider who participates in the VFC program, so nearly all children benefit from the program's strong personal interaction with providers and their staff.



1 Source: 2010 Grantee Annual Report Submitted to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

2 Source: National Immunization Survey for 2011

Number of Site Visits Conducted in Public and Private Provider Offices

