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CDC report calls state immunization rate improvement 'statistically significant'

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued results of the 2010 National Immunization Survey that indicate the immunization coverage rate for several vaccines showed “statistically significant” improvement in West Virginia for children age 19-35 months for several vaccine types.

The vaccinations for which West Virginia’s coverage rates are touted include: haemophilus influenzae type b or Hib (+20.5 percent), hepatitis b full series (6.7 percent increase), hepatitis b birth dose (13 percent increase) and the overall coverage rate for all tracked vaccines (17.20 percent increase).

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Division of Immunization Services Director Jeff Neccuzi said, “This data confirms we are on the right track in improving immunization rates,” adding, “The improvement is the result of the dedication of our local health departments, pediatricians and other providers of infant and toddler health care that participate in the West Virginia Vaccines for Children Program.”

To learn more about immunization in West Virginia, log onto www.wvimmunization.org.