

Youth Vaccine Rates During the Pandemic

2021 Indiana School Health Network
Virtual Conference

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Objectives

Identify the impact of the pandemic on youth vaccination rates.

Identify a strategy to improve vaccine rates.

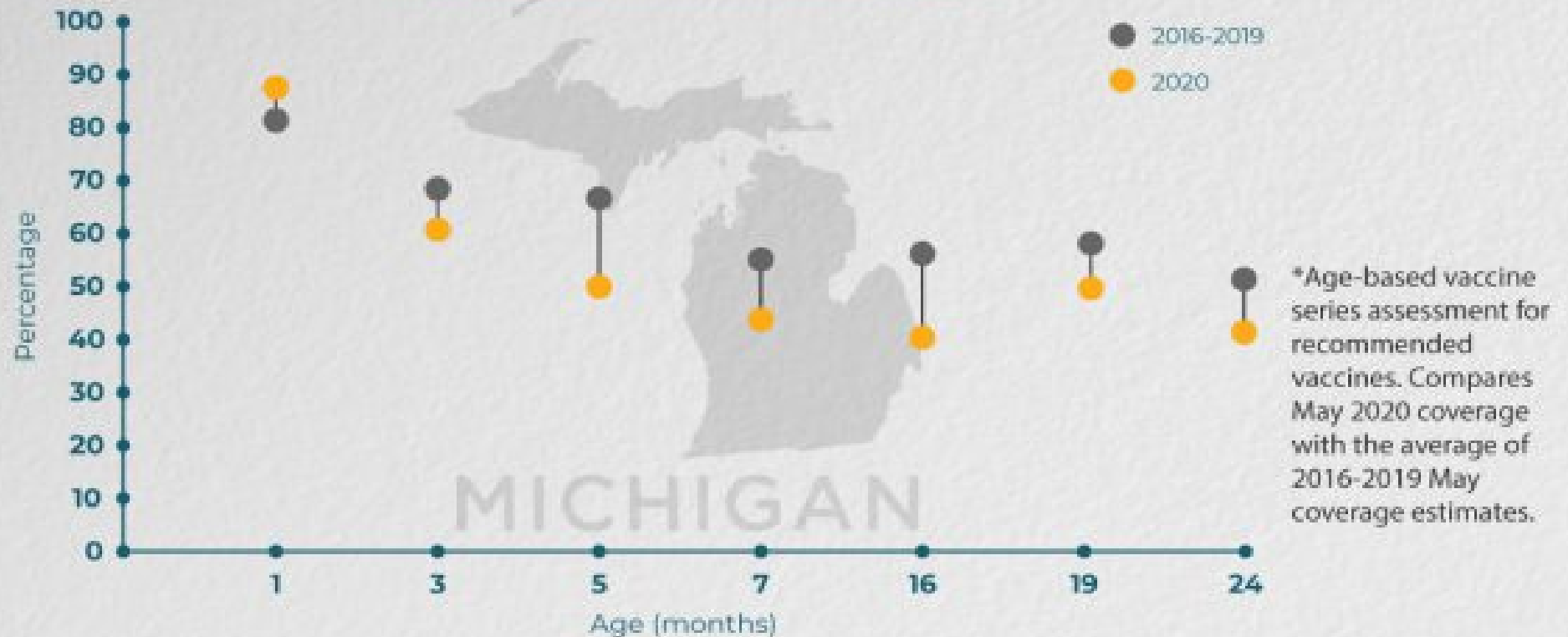
Pandemic Leads to Waning Vaccination Rates

- **July 2020 : The World Health Organization and UNICEF warned of an alarming decline in the number of children receiving life-saving vaccines around the world.**
- **Disruptions threaten to reverse hard-won progress to reach more children and adolescents with a wider range of vaccines, which has already been hampered by a decade of stalling coverage.**

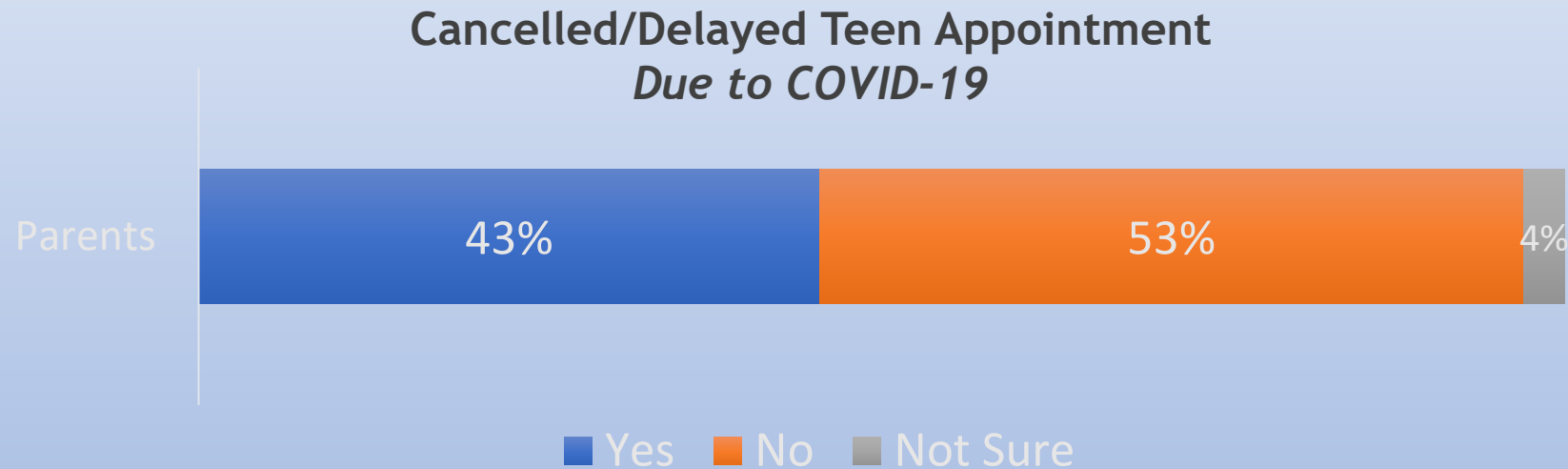
Why were vaccine services disrupted during the pandemic?

- Lock down orders and quarantine lead to missed routine medical visits and missed vaccinations.
- Loss of jobs and economic hardships lead to cancelled medical visits.
- Health providers redeployed for COVID clinics, so well child or vaccine appointments were not offered.

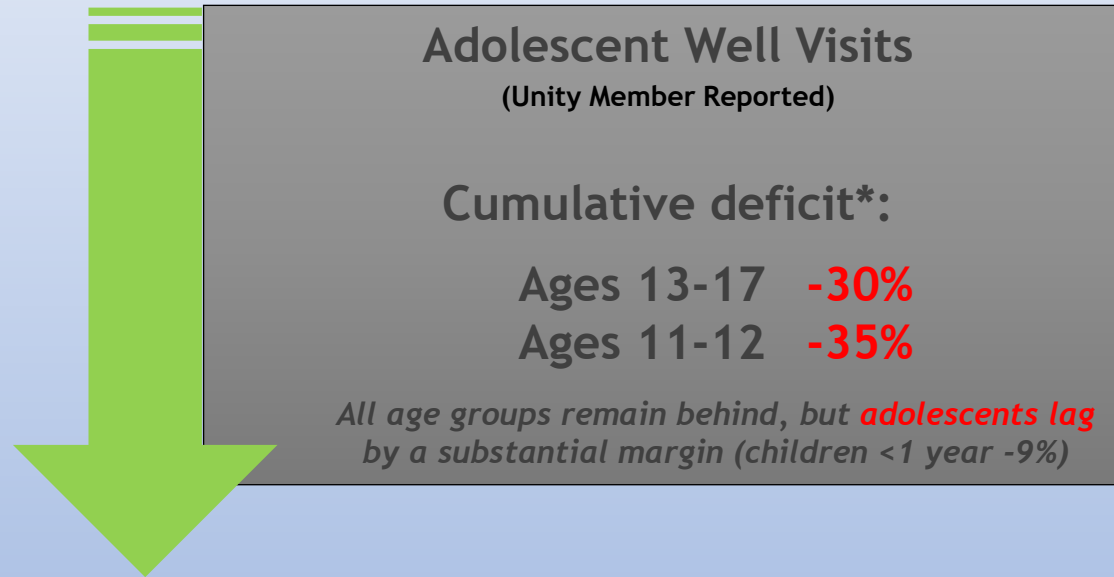
UP-TO-DATE* VACCINATIONS HAVE DECLINED TO <50% AMONG MOST CHILDREN ≤2 YEARS



More than 4 in 10 parents continue to report a missed healthcare visit for their teen due to COVID-19



Well visits dropped dramatically during the pandemic, with adolescents lagging in recovery



Based on comparisons of weekly well visit trends compared to 3 year historical averages, Week ending Feb 14, 2021.

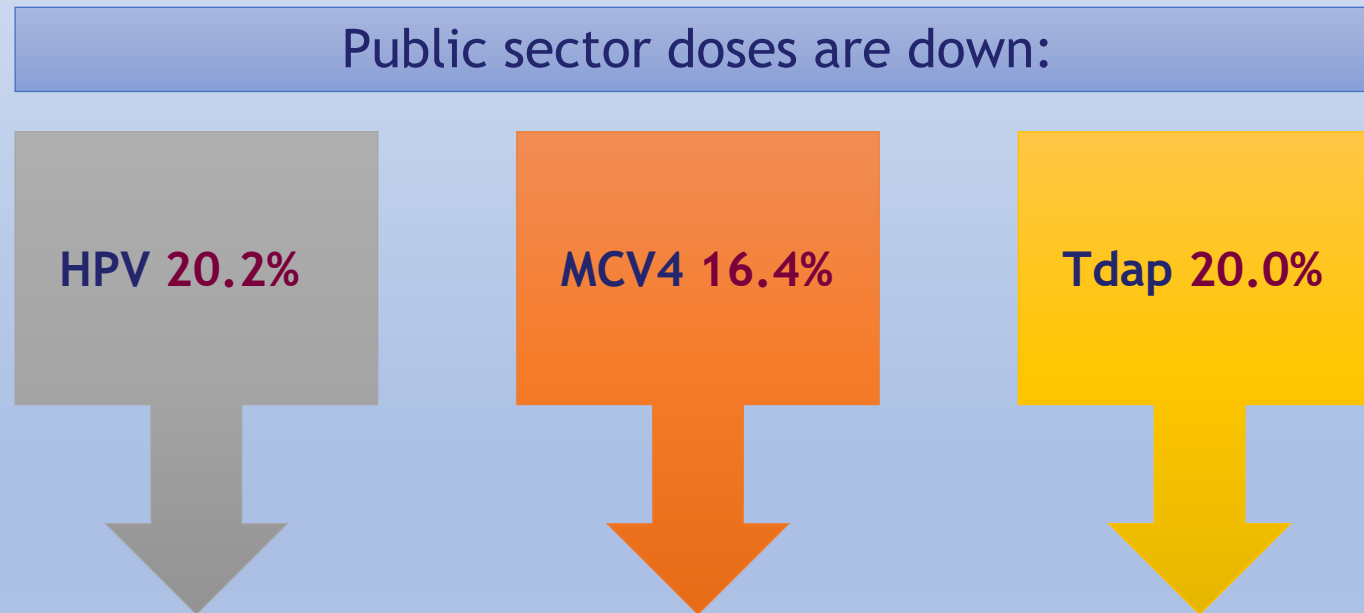
Data provided by Unity member and shared with Unity for informational purposes.

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Significant gap remains on adolescent vaccines delivered - Pandemic vs 2019

Vaccines for adolescents have larger gaps vs those primarily given to younger children.

CDC reports a slower recovery in the public sector vs. the private sector.



CDC, Data through week ending March 21, 2021



2021 Back to School
Vaccination Season
has Unique Challenge

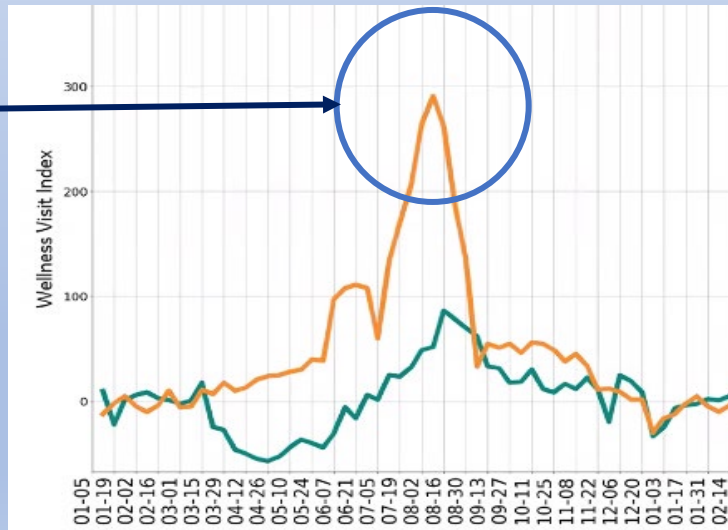
The timing problem of the 2021 Back to School vaccination season

Teens ages 12 and over may be eligible for COVID-19 vaccine this summer

Schools are considering COVID-19 vaccine requirements for Fall

Historically, July-August is when adolescent well-visits spike and routine vaccinations are administered

Other vaccines cannot be administered +/-2 weeks of COVID-19 vaccination, creating a potential 8-week blackout period



- Implications:
- Many adolescents may not have the time to get routine vaccines in July and August, thus delaying again.
- Ideally, routine vaccines would be given in Spring, but many parents and providers were unaware of the need.

National Call to Action: The Time is Now for Outreach to Parents and Teens on Well Visits and Routine Immunization



Overarching Messages for You to Share

Adolescent and young adult well visits and immunizations are down

Adolescents and young adults need their recommended immunizations

Now is the time to catch up on missed well visits and immunizations

Ensure AYAs are UTD so they're ready to go back to school

It is safe to visit a doctor, pharmacy or other healthcare professional

How Indiana Immunization Coalition is Helping to Improve Youth Vaccination Rates in our State



Kick Off-
September
2020 with
Support from
Indiana State
Department
of Health!



A Medical Director (physician) oversees clinic policies and procedures to ensure best-practice.

Licensed primary care providers such as (nurses, physicians or EMT's administer vaccines

CDC best-practice guidelines are followed when ordering, storing handling, and administering vaccines.



IIC Mobile Clinics Address Barriers to Vaccination

Economic and Racial Disparities are Reduced By:

Locating clinics in underserved and under-immunized communities that may lack access to care

Providing language translation that may not exist in traditional medical clinics

Providing free vaccines to those who cannot pay

Offering clinics after work hours which is more convenient than traditional medical clinics

Accommodating walk-ins

Window of Opportunity to Provide All Vaccines at Mobile Clinic

IIC has access to CHIRP statewide immunization registry.

Staff check CHIRP record for each patient to determine vaccines that are needed.

Mobile clinic is equipped with all CDC recommended vaccines for the entire lifespan (including COVID).

Clinic nurses recommend and administer all shots that patient is due for.

**We are
making a
difference!**

In the first four months:

Almost 4000 people received vaccines.

Of 18 schools visited, the average FRSL participant rate was 58%.

Almost 65% of patients were under or uninsured and received free vaccines.

Looking Ahead.....

- Requests for the clinic remain high.
- Clinics are scheduled almost daily into the foreseeable future.
- Clinic staff is being expanded to meet the need and run simultaneous clinics daily.
- ISDH continues to support the efforts of the clinic.
- Additional grant funding is sought to help defray costs.
- While we do accept insurance, our priority is to vaccinate those who cannot pay and who are under-immunized.

We partner with school nurses, health departments, health agencies, churches, community businesses and more to offer clinics.

We ask you to help us find a prominent location and promote the clinic in your community.

There is no charge to community partners.

Request a clinic with our online form on our website:
www.vaccinateindiana.org

We Aim to Please!



For further information:

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