



Indiana
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Health

BUILDING ON THE SUCCESS OF THE COVID-19 RESPONSE

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Objectives

- Recognize pandemic successes
- Identify and access school resources on the IDOH website
- Uncover the strengths, weaknesses and challenges within your school's health program
- Learn how to review your school plan for measuring health outcomes and develop more robust health outcomes including:
 - Access to care
 - Vaccination rates
 - Vision and hearing screening
 - Health education

Thank You!

- The most challenging time for our schools in history
- Schools pivoted on short notice, shifted to virtual, hybrid, had to build new ways of teaching
- Guidance changed as CDC learned more, which made communication and credibility challenging
- Resources are different in every school district, so it's not one-size-fits all
- We recognize the burden on school nurses and administrators in navigating both the normal workload and the uncertainty of "could this be COVID?"
- COVID was such a heavy lift for schools and became the only priority for many school nurses. The normal cadence of school nursing that includes acute illness and injury management, chronic disease management, mental health support, immunization compliance, vision and hearing screenings, dental screenings and education was disrupted
- Throughout it all, you have pivoted, adapted, taken on new duties – thank you!

IDOH Support During the Pandemic

- Partnered with IDOE throughout the pandemic to provide consistent messaging and guidance
- Hired a chief nurse consultant for schools
- Provided weekly school webinars
- Provided a BackToSchool phone line and email for COVID-19 questions
- Provided training for schools to perform COVID testing during the school day – spring 2021
- Provided home tests to schools who requested them – spring 2022

Fight against COVID-19



COVID-19 Updates



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COVID-19: Where We Are Now

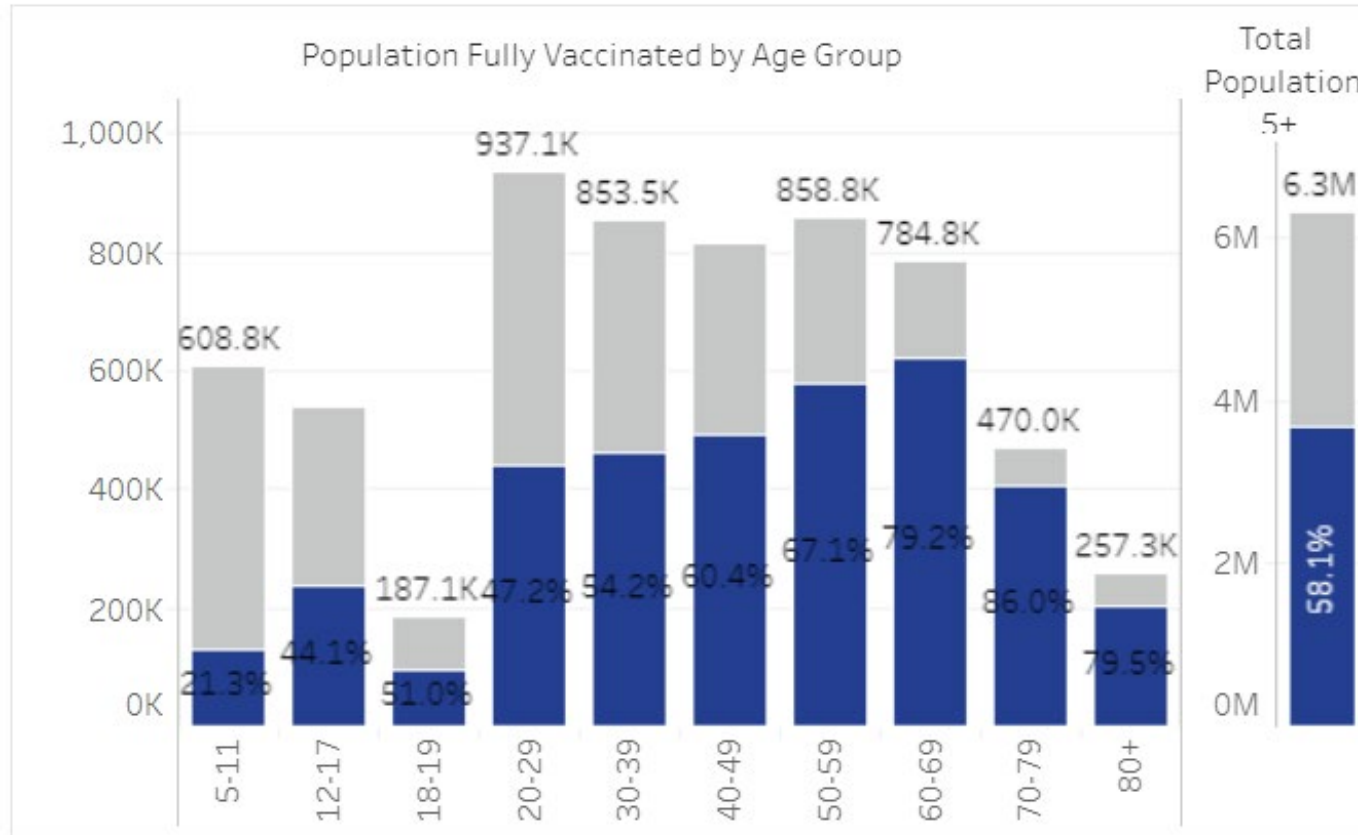
- **Progress**

- 2 mRNA vaccines are widely available: Moderna, Pfizer
- Vaccines are available at more than 1,300 locations around the state
- Hoosiers aged 6 months and older are the next age group to be vaccinated
- 3,786,644 million Hoosiers are fully vaccinated, and that number continues to grow

- **Challenges**

- We will not reach herd immunity
- Those under 5 years of age will begin to receive their COVID-19 vaccine within the next two weeks
- Need to see increased uptake in younger age groups
- We continue to battle misinformation about vaccine safety
- We may continue to see new variant strains

Vaccine uptake as of June 14



Variant Update

- Two new versions of the Omicron variant, called BA.4 and BA.5 are talking hold in the U.S.
- Early studies and some real-world data suggest these variants are more transmissible than earlier Omicron variants and more likely to cause breakthrough infections.
- Key mutations in these variants can allow them to better infect cells and cause disease
- These variants do not appear to cause more severe disease



U.S. FDA: At-home OTC Tests

- U.S. FDA created a web page focusing on counterfeit tests:
https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/counterfeit-home-otc-covid-19-diagnostic-tests?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
 - Page includes updated FAQs
 - How to tell if test is FDA-authorized
 - Signs that a test may be counterfeit
 - A list of identified counterfeit tests
- FDA has also created a page with a list of authorized at-home tests and expiration date: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/home-otc-covid-19-diagnostic-tests#list>
 - Please check before discarding any tests with an expired date on box label



Recommendations and Guidance



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IDOH Recommendations for Schools

- Encourage parents, caregivers, or guardians (“caregivers”) to monitor their children for symptoms of infectious illness every day **before** they leave for school through home-based symptom screening
- IDOH does not recommend quarantine or contact tracing in K-12 schools
- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 should continue to isolate for at least 5 days (see isolation guidance)
- Schools should assist their LHD with exposure notification when there is a cluster or outbreak of COVID-19 cases

IDOH Recommendations for Schools

- Reach out to your LHD for local community guidance and recommendations
- One way for you to keep up is to check COVID-19 by County on the CDC website <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>
- Continue to encourage vaccination to all who are eligible
- Consult with local health departments to provide access to vaccination
- Continue utilizing best practice mitigation strategies



IDOH Masking/Mitigation Recommendations (K-12)

- There are no recommendations regarding face coverings in school or in most local communities and IDOH has no plans to implement any in the future.
- Students and staff who feel more comfortable wearing a mask should feel free to do so without negative repercussions from others
- Some schools may decide (based on local school case counts or community level) to implement masking and other mitigation strategies.
 - Example – late spring mitigation at an IPS school put masking back in place due to an increased cases in a school



CDC Recommended Operational Guidance for K-12 and Early Childhood Education (ECE)

- Guidance updated May 27 to support safe, supportive in-person learning environments
- The guidance provides flexibility so schools and early childhood programs can adapt to changes in community levels if they desire to do so
- Recognizes that schools provide critical access to services that help mitigate disparities, such as school lunch programming
- Recognizes that schools play a critical role in promoting equity in learning, particularly for groups disproportionately affected by COVID-19.
- Providing comprehensive strategies to keep students, staff and school communities safe demonstrates a commitment to a supportive environment for in-person learning
- Though this guidance is written for COVID-19 prevention, many of the layered prevention strategies described can help prevent the spread of other infectious diseases, such as influenza (flu), respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and norovirus, and support healthy learning environments for all.

CDC Strategies for Everyday Operations

- Stay up to date on vaccinations – staying up to date on routine vaccinations is essential to prevent illness from many different illnesses
- Stay home when sick – people with symptoms of infectious illness including COVID-19, influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and GI illness should not attend school or work
 - Staying home when sick lowers the risk of spreading infectious illnesses to others.
- Optimize ventilation and improve indoor air quality
 - https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2022-03/508-cleanairbuildings_factsheet_v5_508.pdf
- Promote hand washing and respiratory etiquette
- Consider cleaning surfaces at least once a day to reduce the risk of germs spreading by touching surfaces

CDC Recommended Mitigation Strategies

When the COVID-19 community levels increase or schools have outbreaks, schools could consider adding additional mitigation measures to reduce the risk of spread of illness in consultation with their local public health department

- Wearing a well-fitted mask consistently and correctly reduces the spread of illness so support those who chose to wear a mask in the school environment
- Recommend COVID-19 testing if someone presents with symptoms
- Cohorting during the school day may be considered in areas of high community transmission

Check Your County's COVID-19 Community Level

CDC looks at the combination of three metrics to determine the COVID-19 community level

- New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population in the past 7 days
- The percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients
- Total new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days

New COVID-19 admissions and the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied represent the current potential for strain on the health system. Data on new cases acts as an early warning indicator of potential increases in health system strain in the event of a COVID-19 surge.

CDC COVID-19 Community Levels

COVID-19 Community Levels				
COVID-19 Community Levels – Use the Highest Level that Applies to Your Community				
New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

Recommended Nursing Practice

- For COVID and other respiratory symptoms – mask up the student and separate them from others during nursing evaluation and while awaiting parent pick-up
- For non-respiratory symptoms – try to separate from others during nursing evaluation. Mask if warranted
- Temperature threshold has changed to 100.4 F
- Nursing staff – CDC recommends masking at all times in school nurses' offices and other healthcare settings regardless of vaccination status or the current COVID-19 Community Level
- If your school clinic space can accommodate an isolation area you are welcome to continue that practice, but the other recommendations will be sufficient if space limitations make isolation impractical
- Over time we have seen many healthcare providers relax their infection control prevention measures. Now, it's time to make sure we follow common sense infection control practices such as wearing a mask when caring for respiratory illnesses and gloving up when evaluating rashes. Common sense and best practice prevail.

Back To School Resources Page

On IDOH 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

- <https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/public-resources>
 - Back to School Resources tab
- Resources available for:
 - Parents and Caregivers
 - School Administrators and Nurses
 - Includes mental health resources from Be Well Indiana
<https://www.in.gov/bewellindiana/#support>
 - The location of the school resources tab may change in the coming months, but the content will still be available to you

Moving Forward

- COVID-19 has been added to our updated 2022 Communicable Disease Guide for Schools: <https://www.in.gov/health/files/2022-Communicable-Disease-Reference-Guide-for-Schools.pdf>
- COVID-19 joins a list of illnesses that can be of concern during the school year
- 20% absenteeism within a school warrants notification of the LHD and IDOE
- Continue to reach out to backtoschool@isdh.in.gov for support with any school health-related questions or concerns
- School webinars will pivot to monthly informational webinars to provide education, best practice recommendations and support to schools as schools return for the 2022-2023 school year
- Our focus is on getting back on track with supporting the physical and mental health needs of students



Other Public Health Concerns



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Playing Catch-up

- Our goal is to use the 2022-23 school year to catch-up students who need routine immunizations, screenings and other services that may be provided in the school setting
- IDOH has provided grant funding to participating LHDs to partner with schools to increase accessibility to services
- The grant will focus on providing a school liaison to serve at the local level. The school liaisons will help support school health initiatives such as:
 - Catching up childhood vaccinations
 - Ensuring vision and hearing screenings are up to date
 - Providing education and links to additional resources where needed

Playing Catch-up

- To ensure our K-12 immunization data is accurate, we are preparing for a vaccination audit in collaboration with IDOE
- Our current statistics show a 10% reduction in routine childhood immunizations over the past two years
- School superintendents were sent a letter informing them of the need to vaccinate
- Communications have been shared with LHD's, Medicaid managed care and school nurses about upcoming vaccination activities
- Parents will be receiving a letter shortly emphasizing the need to make sure their children are up to date with their vaccinations

Playing Catch-up

- IDOH is launching a vaccination campaign focused on making sure children are up to date in their school-required, as well as ACIP-recommended, vaccines
- 10 mobile vans, along with LHD clinics and other vaccine partner-sponsored events, will vaccinate as many students as possible beginning in July
- We will be launching a state-wide media campaign to bring awareness to the clinics within your community
- If your school has a back-to-school event or you are interested in hosting a school-based vaccination clinic, please reach out to your LHD or email backtoschool@isdh.in.gov

Additional Opportunities are Being Explored

- Health assessment, teaching and health promotion
 - Increasing access to dental health education and potentially screening
 - Smoking/vaping education
- School safety initiatives
 - Ensuring school nurses have access to emergency medications
 - Albuterol
 - Epinephrine
 - Naloxone
 - Ensuring access to Stop the Bleed training and supplies
- Barriers to care
 - Identify those who need assistance with Medicaid enrollment and link to enrollment navigator and connection to providers
- Evaluation of Indiana Code health requirements to make sure basic student needs are met by utilizing best practice techniques

Governor's Public Health Commission

Child and adolescent health is one of the Governor's Public Health Commission's (GPHC) areas of focus:

- Improve student learning by mitigating health barriers
- Enhance early childhood education and school-based health education, prevention, and wellness activities
- Improve access to child and adolescent health care
- Reduce childhood injuries

Child and Adolescent Discussion

- Several issues have been identified during our meetings including:
 - The number of school nurses we have supporting Hoosier students
 - The need to support whole child wellness, including mental health in schools
 - Increasing evidenced-based health education and physical activity in schools and early childhood education settings to emphasize the focus on physical activity during the school day
 - Supporting access to health screening and services that can be appropriately delivered in school and early childhood education settings to ensure access to health services for all students
 - Consideration on how best to support childhood injury and violence prevention to reduce unintentional firearms deaths, suicide and other childhood injuries
 - The need to increase provider education and awareness
 - Providing support for schools who want to explore the possibility of a school-based health center

2021 YRBS

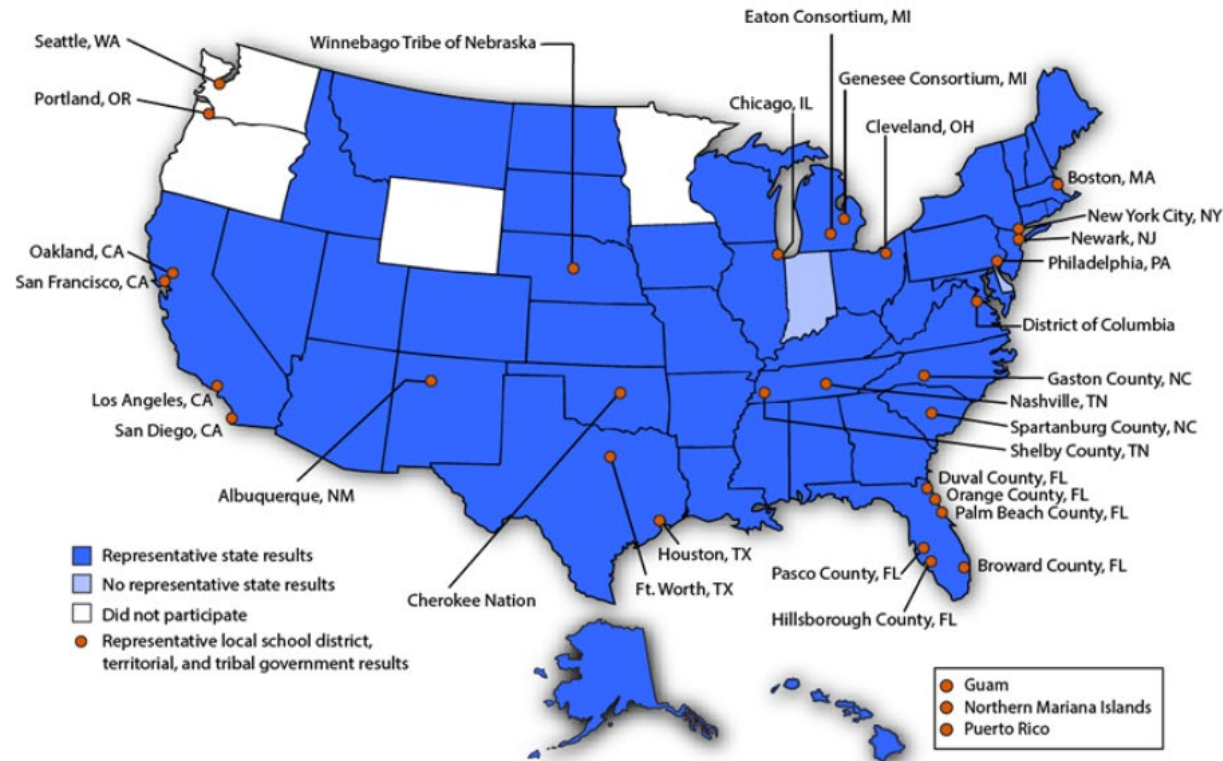
- 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey gave us weighted data
- 1,029 students in grades 9-12 in 43 Indiana public high schools completed the anonymous, voluntary survey
- Looks at six categories: unintentional injury and violence; sexual behaviors related to unintended pregnancy; alcohol and other drug use; tobacco use; unhealthy dietary behaviors; and inadequate physical activity
- Weighted data will allow us to compare ourselves to other states



2019 High School YRBS Participation Map

Current Participation Maps and Participation History

2019 High School YRBS Participation Map



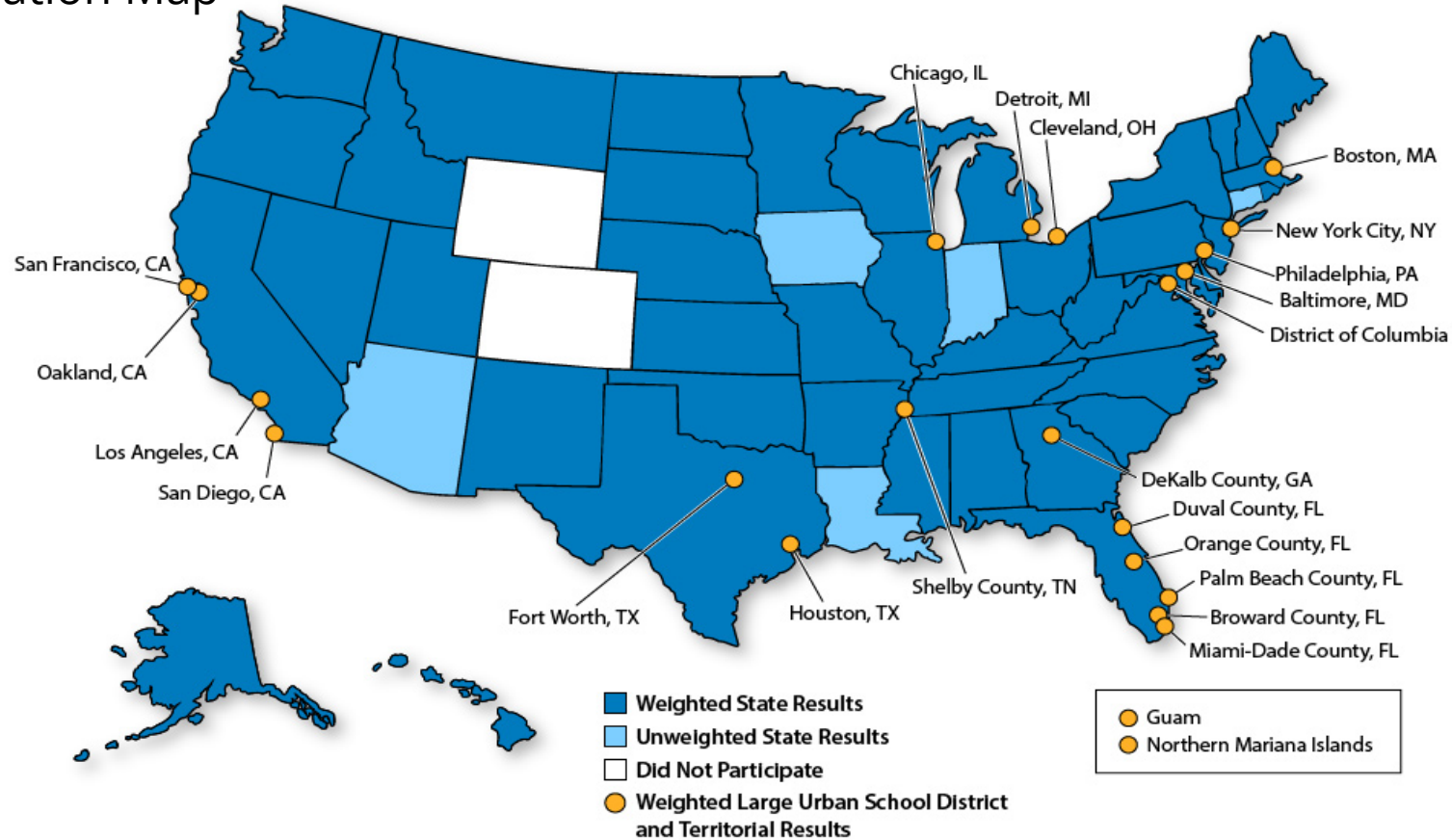
2021 Sample Characteristics

- The 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was completed by 1,029 students in 43 public high schools in Indiana during the spring of 2021.
- The school response rate was 88%, the student response rate was 81%, and the overall response rate was 71%.
- The results are representative of all students in grades 9-12.
- The weighted demographic characteristics of the sample are as follows:

Gender	Grade	Age	Race/Ethnicity
Female: 49.0%	9th: 25.9%	15 or younger: 32.7%	Black*: 10.8%
Male: 51%	10th: 25.8%	16 or 17: 51.1%	Hispanic/Latino: 11.7%
	11th: 24.5%	18 or older: 16.2	White*: 70.3%
	12th: 23.8%		All Other Races*: 4.1%
			Multiple Races*: 3.2%

School Health Profile 2018

2018 Participation Map



CDC Student and Staff Surveys

- Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) – first weighted data for Indiana since 2015
- School Health Profiles – 70+% response rate providing weighted data
- Youth Tobacco Survey – last weighted data is from 2018
 - The combination of the three surveys provides us with the only regularly collected information on Indiana youth
 - CDC identifies the schools that are surveyed
 - Some schools are selected to participate more often, a reflection of
 - School size and location
 - Demographics
 - Social vulnerability index (SVI)
- The time commitment is minimal in exchange for the information we receive
- Our ability to assess the needs of Indiana youth is dependent on adequate participation
- If you or your school is asked to participate, please make it a priority

Monkeypox 2022

- Smallpox and monkeypox viruses are closely related, and the first generation of smallpox vaccines appear up to 85% effective in preventing monkeypox, according to the WHO
- Two smallpox vaccines are available (Jynneos and ACAM2000). The U.S. has vaccine available if needed
 - Jynneos is only approved for adults 18 years and older
- As of June 18, there were 113 confirmed cases in 21 states and DC. Indiana identified its first case on June 18
- Incubation period averages 7-14 days (range 5-21 days) with prodrome of fever, malaise, headache, fatigue, swollen lymph nodes, sore throat, cough
- Lesions begin to develop simultaneously and evolve together through five stages—macular, papular, vesicular, pustular, scabbing
- Appear firm, deep-seated and umbilicated; can appear on palms and soles, often very painful
- Report suspect cases to IDOH at 317-233-7125 or 317-233-1325 (after hours) and arrange testing

Monkeypox Risk Factors

- Contact with anyone diagnosed with or having symptoms of monkeypox
- International travel to areas where monkeypox cases have been identified
- Skin-to-skin contact with someone in a social network experiencing monkeypox activity
- Contact with dead or live wild animals or pets that exists only in Africa or used a product derived such animals

Pediatric Hepatitis

- Multiple states are conducting investigations into pediatric hepatitis cases, most of which are in younger than age 10
- About 10% of the cases are requiring a liver transplant
- CDC continues to encourage standard management of hepatitis cases and reporting to the state
- Indiana now has 4 cases that have tested positive for adenovirus. Two of them are being subtyped to see if they are adenovirus 41 (the adenovirus that has been found in several hepatitis cases). There have been 10 total cases of hepatitis in Indiana.
- CDC's MMWR from June 17 reports no increase in pediatric hepatitis or adenovirus above pre-pandemic levels

2022 Indiana Black & Minority Health Fair

July 14-July 17, 2022 at the Indiana Convention Center
100 S. Capitol Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

- Free Health Screenings and Education available for the entire family including:
- COVID-19 vaccination
- School aged vaccinations
- Sports physicals
- Dental and vision education

Use the link below for the most up to date flyer to share with your schools/families



Recognizing Great Partners

- Indiana Department of Education
- Indiana K-12 schools
- Indiana Institutes of Higher Education
- FSSA and 211
- IHSAA
- Indiana AAP
- Local Health Departments
- CDC

Questions?

backtoschool@isdh.in.gov

