



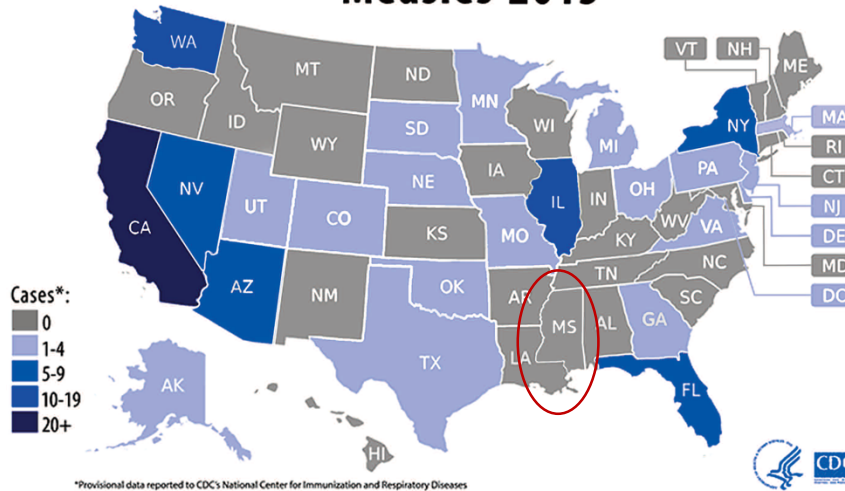
KNOW THE FACTS.

GIVE MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN THEIR BEST SHOT AT A HEALTHY FUTURE.

Diseases are still a threat.

- Measles outbreak in Disneyland park led to a nationwide outbreak in 2015, but not in Mississippi.
- 32,971 “Whooping Cough” cases were reported in the U.S. in 2014, with 68 cases in Mississippi.

Measles 2015



Immunizations protect our children.

- Immunizations protect the individual, the community and those unprotected due to medical conditions, or who are too young to be vaccinated.
- For U.S. children born between 1994 and 2013, immunizations will prevent over 300 million illnesses, 21 million hospitalizations, and 732,000 deaths.

Get the facts about current school-entry immunization requirements.

- Only 5 vaccines (with a maximum total of 16 injections over 5 years) are required for school entry. They are: MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), DTap (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis [“whooping cough”]), Varicella (“chicken pox”), Polio, and Hepatitis B.
- The actual schedule followed is at the discretion of the parents and their child’s health care provider, as long as the child is immunized prior to school entry.

Keep Mississippi’s immunization current exemption policy.

- The Mississippi Department of Health grants every medical exemption requested by pediatricians, family practitioners or internists licensed to practice in Mississippi.
- Like 32 other states, Mississippi does not allow for philosophical exemptions from immunization for school entry. The granting of philosophical exemptions is linked to disease outbreaks.
- The Mississippi Supreme Court deemed religious exemptions unconstitutional in 1979.

Immunizations save money, too.

- Every dollar used for immunizations saves \$5 in direct medical costs and \$11 in total expenses.

The Mississippi Public Health Association supports retaining MS’s current immunization laws, because **immunizations save lives.**