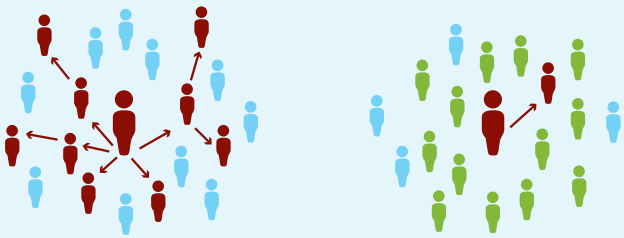
Ohio Chapter
INCORPORATED IN OHIO
American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

Ohio Department of Health

COMMUNITY IMMUNITY: STRONGER AND SAFER TOGETHER

Community immunity means a disease has a hard time spreading because many people are protected, either from vaccination or prior illness. When fewer people are at risk, it becomes much harder for the infection to move through the community—helping protect everyone.

HOW COMMUNITY IMMUNITY WORKS:



Community Immunity requires a high percentage of immune people to be effective. For example, the following diseases require these percentages to achieve community immunity:

Mumps:	Measles:	Pertussis *(Whooping Cough)*:	Polio:
75-85%	**95%**	**92-95%**	**80-86%**

Source:
https://www.voicesforvaccines.org/toolkits/community-immunity-toolkit/understanding-community-immunity/

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT COMMUNITY IMMUNITY?

Get Vaccinated: Vaccines are safe, effective, and our best defense against disease.

Stay Informed: Follow public health guidelines for disease. Ask health providers, school nurses, and other trusted sources about local community immunity rates.

Practice Prevention: Use good hygiene techniques like washing your hands throughout the day and staying home when you are sick.

Spread the Word: Share reliable vaccine information with your community and identify others who are passionate about community immunity.

OHIO SUPPORTS COMMUNITY IMMUNITY

87%

of Ohioans think that it's **very important or important** that parents get their kids vaccinated.

86%

of Ohioans think routine vaccines are **very safe or safe** for most children.

89%

were **confident** their pediatrician/family physician provides them the information they need to make informed decisions about vaccines.

75%

of Ohioans believe that parents **should be required** to have their children vaccinated against preventable diseases.

Source: *https://ohioaap.org/new-poll-reveals-public-opinion-on-immunizations/*

FAST FACTS ABOUT VACCINES

- **Vaccines are rigorously tested**; the U.S. Food and Drug Administration oversees all stages of vaccine development.
- **Severe allergic reactions to vaccines are rare** (about one per 1,000,000 doses*).
- **Vaccines are effective.** Smallpox has been eradicated worldwide, and polio has nearly been eliminated.
- The AAP recommended vaccine schedule **has been tested and is safe.** It does not overwhelm the immune system.
- Diseases (like measles) **return** when vaccination rates fall.

**https://www.hhs.gov/immunization/basics/safety/side-effects/index.html#:~:text=Serious%20side%20effects%20from%20vaccines%20are%20extremely%20rare.,Difficulty%20breathing*