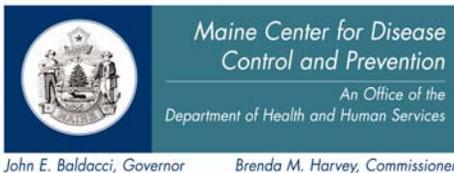


# Immunization

## Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Immunizations that protect children and adults from vaccine-preventable diseases represent the most effective medical intervention known to prevent death and disease. Maine, like the rest of the nation, has enjoyed the drastic decline in vaccine-preventable diseases over the past several decades owing to public and private collaborative efforts to deliver vaccine to citizens. In order to strengthen what has been achieved in immunization, Maine faces the following challenges:

- ❑ Maine's childhood immunization rate has dropped to the national average;
- ❑ Public confidence in vaccine safety needs to be improved;
- ❑ Federal funds for immunization are inadequate and need to be increased and secured.



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The Maine Immunization Program (MIP) strives to ensure full protection of children and adults in Maine from vaccine-preventable diseases. Through cooperative partnerships with public and private health care providers, local and municipal health departments, and community agencies, the MIP provides free vaccines, comprehensive education to the public and providers, supporting services and technical assistance to providers, vaccine-preventable disease surveillance and outbreak control, population-based needs assessments, immunization information for overseas travel, and early childhood health referral services.

### Primary activities include:

- ❑ Distributing over 550,000 doses of free vaccine, annually to over 700 public and private health providers in the State;
- ❑ Conducting assessments of immunization levels in schools, child care and Head Start centers, hospitals, and public and private health providers' offices;
- ❑ Providing educational materials to address providers' needs and public concerns on Immunization issues;
- ❑ Maintaining a web-based immunization registry (ImmPact2) to electronically track and manage vaccinations;
- ❑ Conducting vaccine-preventable disease surveillance and outbreak investigations and intervention;
- ❑ Promoting prenatal screening of Hepatitis B infection among pregnant women and conducting case management of all infants born to mothers with chronic infection;
- ❑ Participating in the Maine CDC's pandemic influenza preparedness and emergency response planning.

### Funding Sources:

The Immunization Program is mainly funded by a federal cooperative agreement with the CDC. It also receives funds from the tobacco settlement for adult influenza and pneumococcal vaccine purchases and from the Maine Association of Health Plans for childhood vaccine purchases.

Total Budget: \$12.9 million (FY07)

Staff Count: 20