

Vaccine coverage in Cowlitz County & Washington State

Key findings

Complete vaccine coverage

- The rate of **complete vaccine coverage** among Cowlitz County kindergarteners is 90%, **slightly higher than Washington State's** rate of 86%. Complete vaccine coverage has **gone down over the past 13 years** in Cowlitz County and Washington State.

Conditional or Out Of Compliance status

- The percent of kindergarteners who are **Conditional or Out Of Compliance** has **risen steadily** in Cowlitz County and Washington State. Cowlitz's current rate is 5%, which is **half the state rate** of 10%.

Vaccine exemptions

- The percent of Cowlitz County kindergarteners with a **vaccine exemption** is 5.0%. This is **on par with Washington State's** rate of 4.7%. Cowlitz County's exemption rate has **gradually increased** over the past 13 years; Washington State's appears to have peaked in SY 2008-09 and has held steady since SY 2011-12.
- Just under four percent (3.7%) of Cowlitz County's kindergarteners have a **personal vaccine exemption**, which is **on par with Washington State's** rate of 3.7%. Personal exemptions appear to be **holding steady** or **slightly increasing** over the past 5 years.

Measles vaccine coverage

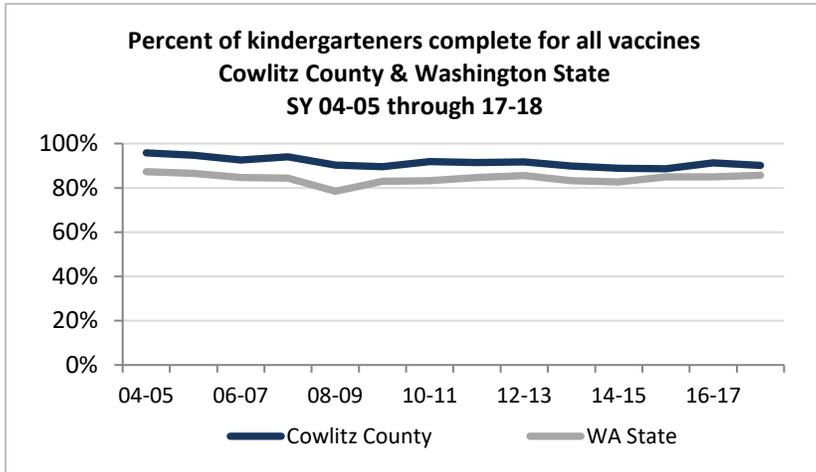
- **Measles vaccine coverage** among kindergarteners appears to be **steadily declining** in Cowlitz County. Washington State's rate appears to have declined previously but held steady since SY 2011-12. Currently, 93% of Cowlitz County kindergarteners are complete for the MMR vaccine, which is **on par with the state rate** of 91%.

Immunization Status Definitions

- Complete: The student meets all the school-entry requirements for their age and grade.
- Exempt: The student has a signed Certificate of Exemption on file at the school excusing the student from one or more vaccinations due to medical, personal, or religious beliefs.
- Out of Compliance (OOC): The student has not been fully immunized and does not have an exemption on file, or lacks appropriate documentation.

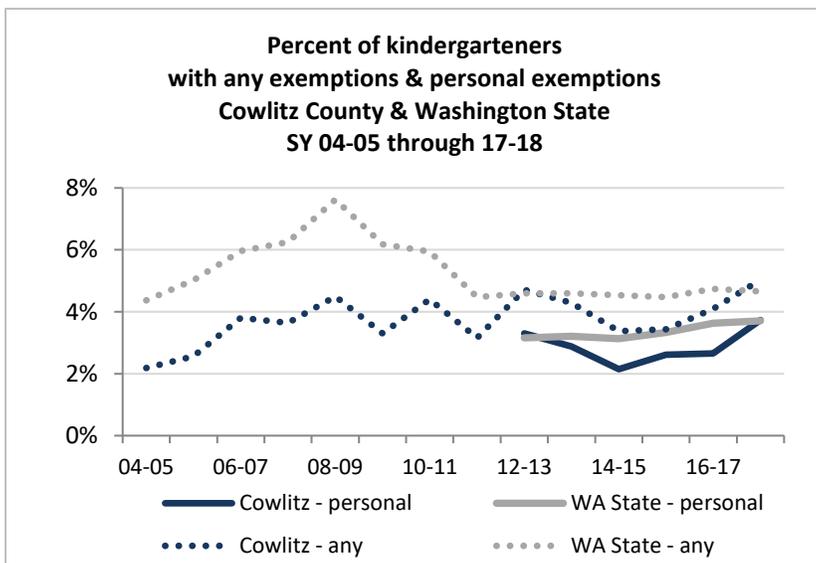
Technical notes

- These data are based on total counts of students by immunization status as reported by public and private schools to DOH, excluding schools in jails or hospitals, parent partnership programs, schools located outside of district, and online schools.
- Student immunization status is based on parent reports to the school and may not be verified by a healthcare provider.
- Data for this report were obtained online from <https://www.doh.wa.gov/DataandStatisticalReports/HealthBehaviors/Immunization/SchoolReports/DataTables>.



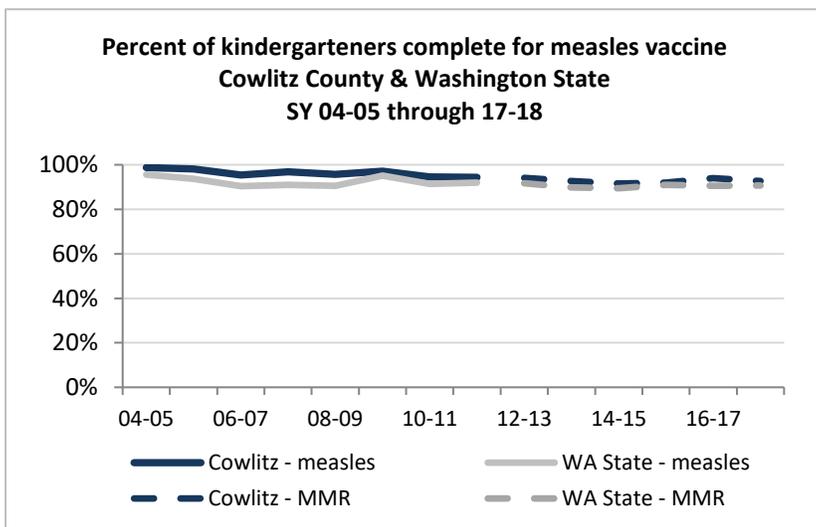
The percent of kindergarteners who are documented to have complete vaccine coverage has gradually declined in Cowlitz County & Washington State over the past 13 years. In SY 17-18, 90% of kindergarteners in Cowlitz County, and 86% in Washington State, were complete for all of their vaccines.

The percent of kindergarteners who are Conditional or Out of Compliance status has risen gradually in Cowlitz County and at the state level (data not shown). Cowlitz County's rate is currently 5%, which is half the state rate of 10%.



The percent of kindergarteners with vaccine exemptions peaked in SY 2008-09 in Washington State, and has held steady since SY 2011-12. In Cowlitz County, this figure has gradually increased over the past 13 years. Cowlitz County's vaccine exemption rate of 5.0% is currently on par with Washington State's rate of 4.7%.

Data on personal exemptions has been collected since SY 2012-13. Personal vaccine exemptions appear to be holding steady or slightly increasing over the past 5 years. Cowlitz County's personal exemption rate is currently 3.7%, which is on par with the state rate of 3.7%.



The percent of kindergarteners who are complete for measles vaccine appears to be steadily declining in Cowlitz County. In Washington State, this rate appears to have declined between SY 04-05 and 11-12, and held steady since then. Currently, 93% of Cowlitz County kindergarteners are complete for the MMR vaccine, vs. 91% in Washington State.

Please note that the break in the graph indicates a change in data collection methods (documenting complete MMR vaccination vs measles only). Because of this, time trends cannot be definitively assessed over the entire time period.