Health Care Access

Adolescent Tdap vaccine (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis)

Pertussis (“whooping cough”) causes the highest incidence of vaccine preventable diseases in Oregon. In 2012, 910 cases of pertussis were reported in Oregon. While vaccination rates are high among younger children, immunity wanes over time, leaving adolescents and adults susceptible. They, in turn, can transmit the infection to infants too young to be vaccinated. Infants are at the highest risk of severe disease and complications. Beginning in 2005, a single booster dose of Tdap was recommended for teens age ≥11 years. Under Oregon school law, a dose of Tdap is required for school attendance beginning at 7th grade.

In 2014, 90.5% of teens in Oregon had received at least one dose of Tdap.

![FIGURE 1](source: ALERT Immunization Information System)

Teens (age 13-17 years) with ≥1 dose Tdap, Oregon, 2007–2014

Source: ALERT Immunization Information System
The school mandate for Tdap has led to increased rates of vaccination of adolescents. However, pertussis is highly infectious, and preventing its spread requires even higher immunization rates.

**Additional Resources:** [ALERT Immunization Information System](#)

**About the Data:** Data source is the ALERT Immunization Information System. Data include the percent of Oregon teens ages 13–17 years with at least one dose of Td or Tdap vaccine (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) for 2007-2011, and at least one dose of Tdap vaccine for 2012 to 2014.

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