

THE CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION INITIATIVE: PURPOSE AND TARGETS

The Public Health Service (PHS) has established the purpose of the Childhood Immunization Initiative (CII) as being the elimination of childhood cases of six vaccine-preventable diseases -- diphtheria, *Haemophilus influenzae* type b, measles, poliomyelitis, rubella (German measles), and tetanus -- in the United States by 1996. Recent trends in the incidence of these diseases, as well as of three others -- hepatitis B, mumps, and pertussis (whooping cough) -- are shown in table 6, together with the CII targets for 1996.

Table 6: Number of cases reported in the United States in 1992-1993 for diseases preventable by routine childhood vaccination, and CII targets for 1996¹

Disease	Total Cases		No. Cases Among Children Under 5 Years of Age ²		CII Target 1996
	1992	1993	1992	1993	
Diphtheria	3	0	1	0	0
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> ³	1,412	1,264	592	399	0
Hepatitis B ⁴	16,126	12,396	215	142	⁵
Measles	2,231	281	1,116	104	0
Mumps	2,485	1,640	364	275	⁵
Pertussis	3,935	6,335	2,261	3,753	⁵
Poliomyelitis (paralytic) ⁶	--	--	--	--	0
Rubella	157	195	24	36	0
Tetanus	44	43	0	1	0

Source: CDC data.

¹Data for 1992 are final; data for 1993 are provisional.

²For 1992 and 1993, age data are available for 90% or more of the total cases for each disease, with two exceptions: 1992 age data for mumps and rubella are available only for 84% and 64% of of all cases, respectively.

³Invasive disease; *H. influenzae* serotype is not routinely reported to the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System.

⁴Because most hepatitis B virus infections among infants and children under the age of 5 years are asymptomatic (although likely to become chronic), acute disease surveillance does not reflect the incidence in this age group of the effectiveness of hepatitis B vaccination in infants.

⁵To be determined.

⁶Four cases of suspected poliomyelitis were reported in 1993; four of the five suspected cases with onset in 1992 were confirmed, and the confirmed cases were vaccine-associated.