

# 10 Facts Every Parent Needs to Know About Vaccinations

by [Children's Health Defense](#)

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*"The greatest crisis that America faces today is the chronic disease epidemic in America's children" –Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Chairman, Children's Health Defense*

The epidemic of poor health in American children started after 1986, coterminous with the passage of the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act which resulted in an explosion of the vaccine schedule. For American kids born in 1986, [only 12.8%](#) had chronic diseases. [That number has grown to 54% among](#)

[the vaccine generation](#) (those born after 1986) in lockstep with the expanding vaccine schedule.

### **1. Children have never been sicker than today.**

[54% of American children](#) have serious chronic health conditions according to a 2011 survey funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Conditions include neurodevelopmental disorders, asthma, allergies, mental health/behavioral disorders and obesity.

### **2. A growing body of peer- reviewed [animal](#) and [human](#) studies link childhood chronic illness epidemics to vaccines–**

including Vaccine Adverse Event Reports and manufacturers' product inserts. The world's most aggressive vaccine schedule has not given our country the world's healthiest children. [We now rank 35th in overall health outcomes](#) –just behind Costa Rica, making the U.S., by most measures, including [infant mortality](#), the sickest in the developed world.

### **3. Vaccine manufacturers and healthcare providers cannot be held liable for vaccine injuries.**

In 1986, Congress passed [the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act](#) freeing companies from liability for injuries resulting from childhood vaccines–“[no matter how toxic the ingredients](#), how negligent the manufacturer or how grievous the harm.” The act created the [National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program](#) (NVICP) that is governed by HHS. Over [\\$4.2 billion](#) has been paid by consumers for vaccine injuries. The U.S. vaccine schedule has more than tripled since the 1986 Act.

### **4. Vaccines [CAN and DO](#) cause injuries. The message that vaccine injuries are rare is not supported by facts and anecdotal evidence.**

An [HHS-sponsored study](#) by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality found that vaccine injuries, when tracked using

electronic medical records, occurs in [1 in 39 vaccines](#) given.

**5. Post-licensure vaccine safety surveillance is failing the American people and children around the world.**

The Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System ([VAERS](#)), where doctors and patients voluntarily report adverse vaccine events, received [58,381 reports in 2018](#), including 412 deaths, 1,237 permanent disabilities, and 4,217 hospitalizations. An [HHS-funded review of VAERS](#) concluded that “fewer than 1% of vaccine adverse events are reported” to VAERS. The CDC has [refused to mandate or automate VAERS reporting](#).

**6. None of the vaccines on the U.S. CDC recommended [childhood vaccine schedule](#) were tested against an inert saline placebo in clinical trials.**

[Vaccines are regulated](#) by the FDA as “[biologics](#)” and are not always put through the same level of safety testing as new pharmaceuticals. Pre-licensing clinical trials are sometimes as short as a few days or weeks, making it impossible to evaluate longer-term outcomes such as autoimmune illness or cancer. Clinical trials for Merck’s Recombivax hepatitis B vaccine administered on the first day of life monitored fewer than 150 infants and children for just [five days after each dose](#).

**7. HHS has ignored its statutory obligations to study vaccine injuries and improve vaccine safety.**

In 1986, Congress—recognizing that drug companies no longer had any incentive to make vaccines safe—ordered HHS to study vaccine injuries, work to improve vaccine safety, and [report to Congress](#) on its progress every two years. It has not sent one safety report to Congress in over 30 years.

**8. Vaccines are neither completely safe nor effective and the concept of ‘[herd immunity](#)’ is a myth.**

[About 2%–10% of healthy individuals fail to mount antibody levels to routine vaccines](#), and vaccine-induced immunity wanes over time. Highly vaccinated populations frequently have outbreaks of [pertussis](#), [mumps](#), [measles](#), and [chickenpox](#). Many diseases were on the decline prior to the development of vaccines. Civil engineers, not vaccines, produced the [large gains in life expectancy over the 20th century](#).

## **9. CDC Vaccine-Researcher-Turned-Whistleblower Dr. William Thompson, Ph.D.**

was [denied the ability to testify](#) regarding [scientific fraud and destruction of evidence by senior CDC officials](#) in critical CDC vaccine safety studies regarding an association between childhood vaccines and autism. Thompson invoked federal whistleblower status and [alleges](#) that the CDC destroyed evidence that black boys are 3.36 times more likely to develop autism if they receive the MMR vaccine before age three.

## **10. Conflicts of interest undermine children's health.**

CDC, frankly, is a vaccine company; it owns [56 vaccine patents](#) and buys and distributes [\\$4.6 billion in vaccines annually](#) through the Vaccines for Children program. Further, Pharma directly funds, populates and controls dozens of CDC programs through the [CDC Foundation](#). The CDC and FDA have become [dominated](#) by the interests of vaccine manufacturers rather than acting in the public interest. The vaccine industry is forecasted to [exceed \\$48 billion by 2025](#).

## **Facts About Children's Poor Health**

- Over half of America's children ([54%](#)) have one or more chronic health conditions.
- One in every two ([49.5%](#)) 13-18 year olds have been diagnosed with at least one mental health disorder.
- One in every six American children ([17%](#)) has a developmental disability according to the CDC.

- One in every eight American children ([14%](#)) requires special education services.
- One in twelve American children has asthma ([8.4%](#)).
- [One in every 13](#) American children has at least one food allergy and two fifths of those with food allergies have a history of severe reactions including deadly peanut allergies.
- [One in 285 U.S. children](#) will be diagnosed with cancer before their 20th birthday. Each year, an estimated [15,780 U.S. children and adolescents ages 0 to 19](#) will be diagnosed with cancer.