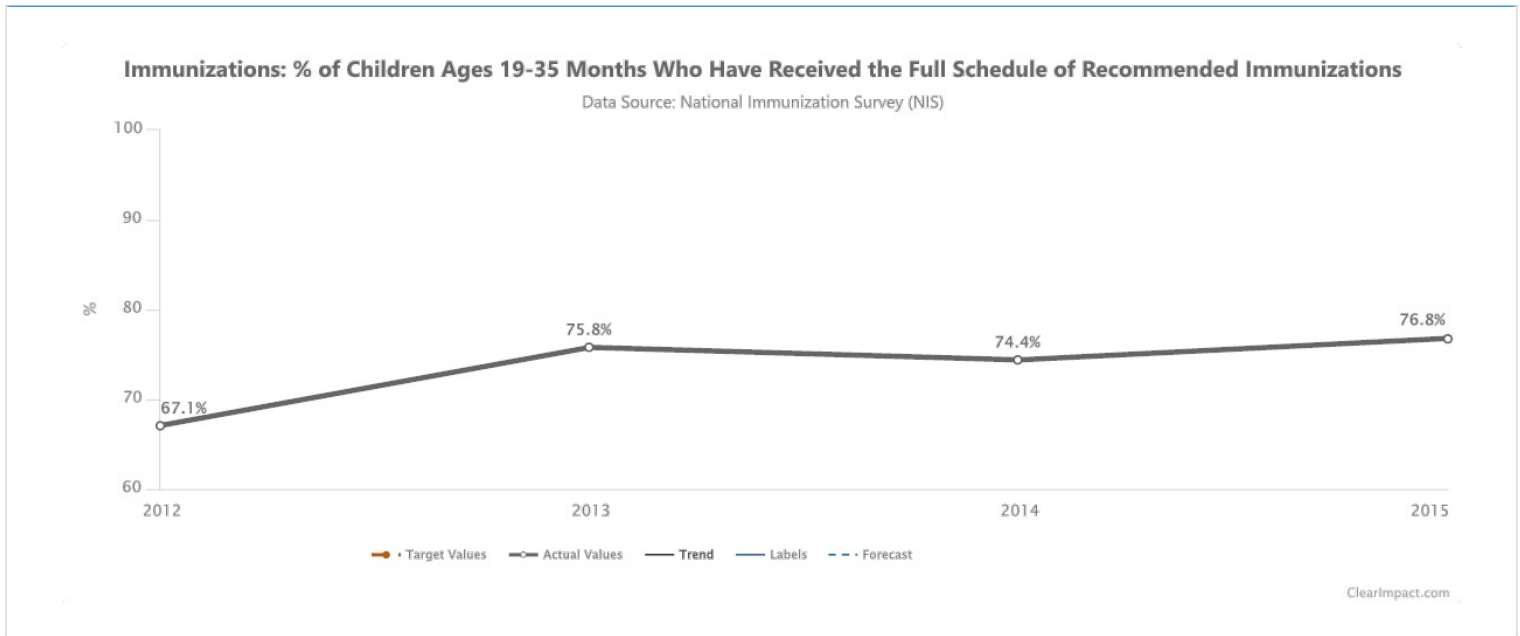


R Healthy Children (Statewide)

I Immunizations: % of Children Ages 19-35 Months Who Have Received the Full Schedule of Recommended Immunizations



Story Behind the Curve

The immunization status of young children is a positive predictor of avoidance of illness, death, disability, or developmental delays associated with immunization-preventable diseases. Maryland's 2015 immunization coverage was above the national average for children aged 19 through 35 months, at 76.8% versus the national average of 72.2% for the recommended full 7 vaccine schedule. Maryland has been above the national average for the last three years.

What Works

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene's ongoing work with private vaccine providers through an initiative known as VFC/AFIX (Assessment, Feedback, Incentive, Exchange), an analytical and quality control tool, continues to show positive results. VFC/AFIX is an analytical and quality control tool that involves annual visits to physicians' offices, where patient charts are reviewed to ensure immunization records are up-to-date. In those instances where the records are incomplete, the physician is urged to correct the missed opportunity.

Data Discussion

Percent of children 19-35 months of age who have received the full schedule of recommended immunizations. The recommended full schedule is 4 doses of diphtheria vaccine, 3 doses of polio vaccine, 1 dose of measles-containing vaccine, 3 doses of Hib vaccine, 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine, 1 dose of varicella vaccine, and 4 doses of pneumococcal vaccine (4:3:1:3:3:1:4 series).