

2011 to 2021 saw increase in vaccination timeliness for infants

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From 2011 to 2021, there was an increase in vaccination timeliness among U.S. children aged 0 to 19 months, according to a [study](#) published

online April 12 in *JAMA Network Open*.

Sophia R. Newcomer, Ph.D., M.P.H., from the University of Montana in Missoula, and colleagues conducted a cross-sectional study analyzing nationally representative data from the 2011 to 2021 National Immunization Survey-Child (NIS-Child) to measure vaccination timeliness among U.S. children aged 0 to 19 months.

The surveys included 179,154 children, of whom 31.4, 32.4, and 30.2 percent lived above the [federal poverty level](#) with more than \$75,000 in annual family income, lived at or above the poverty level with \$75,000 or less in annual family income, and lived below the poverty level, respectively.

The researchers observed a decrease in the median average days undervaccinated for the combined seven-vaccine series, from 22.3 days in the 2011 survey to 11.9 days in the 2021 survey. There was an increase seen in the prevalence of on-time receipt of the combined seven-vaccine series, from 22.5 to 35.6 percent.

The mean annual increase in on-time vaccination was 4.6, 2.8, and 2.0 percent for children with more than \$75,000 in annual family income, for children living at or above the poverty level with \$75,000 or less in annual [family](#) income, and for children living below the poverty level, respectively.

"Disparities in timely vaccination signal the need for an increased focus on access to and quality of immunization services for lower-income families and [children](#) without [private health insurance](#)," the authors write.

More information: Sophia R. Newcomer et al, Vaccination Timeliness Among US Children Aged 0-19 Months, National Immunization Survey–Child 2011-2021. *JAMA Network Open* (2024). DOI: [10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2024.6440](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2024.6440)

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