

7317-100A(L)
(3-2009)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. Census Bureau
Washington, DC 20233-0001
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear

A while ago, you or a member of your household participated in the American Community Survey, which provides information about the population of the United States. We thank you for your time and cooperation.

Now we are writing to you to ask for your help with a survey that the U.S. Census Bureau is conducting for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), called the National Immunization Survey. We would like to conduct a short telephone interview with you to collect information on your child(ren)'s immunizations.

We understand that parents or guardians might have some concerns regarding their child's immunization records. We guarantee all responses are confidential and will be used only for statistical purposes. The interviewers are trained professionals, sworn to protect the confidentiality of the data.

One of our interviewers will call your household to conduct the interview. If you would like to schedule a specific time for your interview, please do so by calling 1-888-595-1340.

The back of this letter provides you with information about the study and how the data from this survey are used. Your participation is voluntary, and we hope that you will participate in this important study.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Thomas L. Mesenburg in black ink.

Thomas L. Mesenburg
Acting Director
U.S. Census Bureau

Handwritten signature of Anne Schuchat in black ink.

Anne Schuchat, M.D.
Rear Admiral, United States Public Health Service
Director, National Center for Immunization and
Respiratory Diseases

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National Immunization Survey – Evaluation Study

Frequently Asked Questions

How long will this survey take?

It will take approximately 28 minutes to complete the interview.

Why can't you contact somebody else?

We are asking for your help instead of calling another household because we can reduce costs for the government and save time. By returning to people who participated in the previous Census Bureau survey we will save tax dollars and collect better information. We hope that you will participate in this study, as information you provide will represent many others in your community.

How are the data used?

Although childhood vaccination rates are at an all-time high of approximately 90%, many children still do not have all of their shots. In response, the Department of Health and Human Services wants to improve immunization services while lowering the cost of vaccines. Local, state, and federal health officials need the results of this survey to help achieve those goals.

Data are collected from households with children between the ages of 19 and 35 months living in the United States at the time of the interview. These data are used to analyze vaccination levels among young children in the United States, to identify groups at risk of vaccine-preventable diseases and to evaluate the effectiveness of programs designed to increase vaccination coverage.

The results of this survey also help local, state, and federal health officials understand how to improve health care services for all children. Therefore, some households may be asked questions about the types of health services their children need or use.

What confidential protection do I have?

This survey is authorized by Title 42, United States Code, Sections 306 & 2102(a)(7) of the Public Health Service Act and by The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. Legal authorization for the Census Bureau to conduct the survey is granted by Title 13, United States Code, Section 8. The information you provide will be treated confidentially, as specified by law in Section 9 of Title 13. We will not release any information that could identify you, your child, or the child's medical history. The information collected will be used for statistical purposes only. Although your participation is voluntary, we hope that you will choose to participate in this very important study.

What if I have comments about this survey?

If you have comments about the time estimate or any other aspect of this survey, please send them to Paperwork Project 0607-####, U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, AMSD & 3K138, Washington, DC 20233. You may email comments to Paperwork@census.gov; use "Paperwork Project 0607-####" as the subject. The approval number from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is 0607-#### and it will expire on Month/Date/Year. Without this approval from the OMB, the Census Bureau could not conduct this survey.