

The time to vaccinate children against COVID-19 is now.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, over 15 million children in the United States have gotten COVID-19. New COVID-19 variants are more dangerous and infectious to children than the original strains.

Children can also spread COVID-19 to others and develop serious complications from COVID-19, such as “long COVID” or a dangerous inflammatory disease called MIS-C.



Nationwide, COVID-19 has caused:



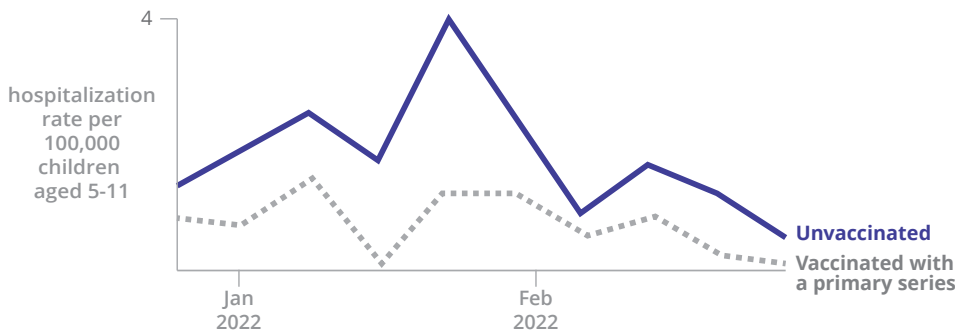
Over **2,000 deaths** in children



185,000 hospitalizations in children

Most children do not experience serious side effects from the vaccine. Vaccination remains the strongest tool we have to protect against severe illness, hospitalizations, and death.

During the omicron-predominant period, unvaccinated children were 2 times as likely to be hospitalized with COVID-19 illness compared to vaccinated children.



Sources:

[National Center for Health Statistics | CDC COVID Data Tracker: Hospital Admissions](#) | [American Academy of Pediatrics: Children and COVID-19](#) | [Washington Department of Health COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#) | [Children and COVID-19: A State Data Report](#) | Graph adapted from [CDC COVID-NET](#)

Staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccination of children 6 months and older is strongly recommended.



Children in Washington:

Ages 6 months – 4 years old

82% have not received their first dose of the vaccine

89% have not completed their primary series

79% of those eligible have not received an updated booster

Ages 5–11 years old

63% have not received their first dose of the vaccine

67% have not completed their primary series

75% of those eligible have not received an updated booster

Statewide, COVID-19 has caused:



Over 370,000 cases in children



Over 2,000 hospitalizations in children



21 deaths in children



Visit [VaccinateWA.org/kids](https://www.vaccinatewa.org/kids) to learn more.

