



PUBLIC HEALTH

**ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER WASHINGTON**

2012 Learning Congress

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Washington State Secretary of Health

November 1, 2012

Protecting and improving Washington's health

- Immunization rates
- Patient safety
- Tobacco use



Washington's Health



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



LITTLE MAN, WHAT NOW?

Yep, a measles shot! One of our "mini" protesters goes down to defeat . . . fighting! (See pages 4 & 5)

Photo courtesy White Salmon Enterprise

Goal: Washington will be one of the top ten healthiest states in the nation

Measure: Increase the proportion of children who receive all recommended vaccines (series)

Target: 80% by 2010

Analysis:

Vaccine series rate = percentage of children that got all recommended vaccines on-time

- 78% of Washington's toddlers now get the right immunizations at the right time
- The differences in those immunized to those not immunized cannot be explained by race, gender, ethnicity or social characteristics

Actions To Reach Current Rates

Parent focused

- Educating parents about immunizations
- Sending parents reminders to schedule check-ups

Provider focused

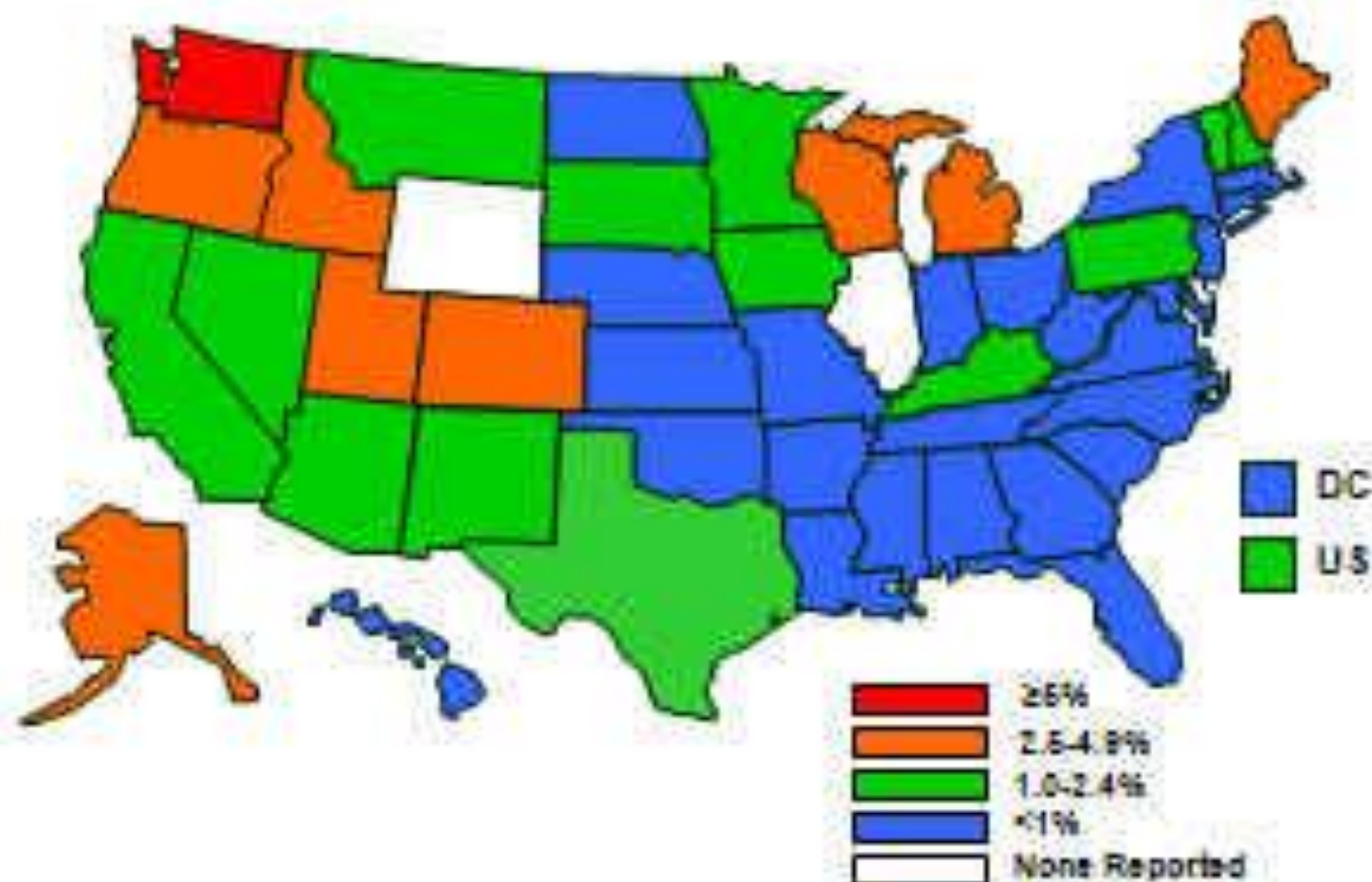
- Educating providers about vaccines
- Distributing vaccine – assuring providers have vaccine when the child needs it
- Getting providers to use the CHILD Profile registry as a clinical judgment tool
- Visiting provider offices – rates analysis and best practice consultation

Population focused

- Identifying under-immunized groups as well as annually identify vaccines with lower rates
- Increasing data in the CHILD Profile registry for better tracking and more accurate community and state rates

Washington's 14 Dose Series:
Significant Upward Trend





A shot in the arm for immunization rates

- Childhood vaccination rates



- Exemption rates





The Seattle Times
Sunday
Seattle Post-Intelligencer

APRIL 23, 2006
\$1.50
seattletimes.com

A SEATTLE TIMES SPECIAL REPORT |

License to harm

State lets hundreds of doctors, counselors and others
keep practicing despite their sexual misconduct

REGULATORS REACT |
Times investigation leads

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2005

A P-I INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

Our state often is more lenient and slower
to act on problem dentists than other states

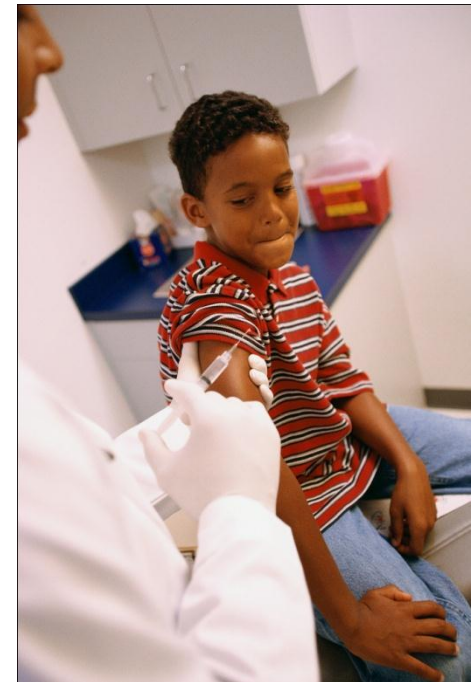
TOOTHLESS

WASHINGTON'S LAX DENTAL OVERSIGHT

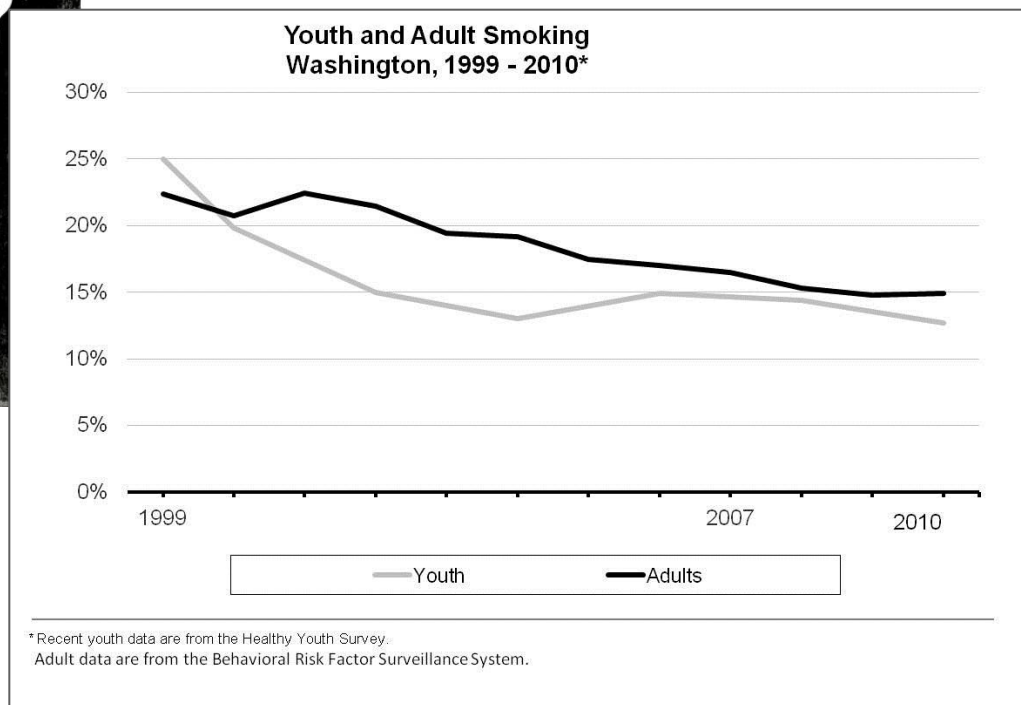
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Patient safety – principles and goals

- Qualified applicants
- Prompt, informed discipline
- Processes to reduce recidivism
- Public information
- Public representation



Tobacco prevention



Lean

- Saving time and resources
- Improving customer service
- Better outcomes



QI is making a difference

- Public Health Standards
- Public Health Accreditation
- Making an impact

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