

New Report Shows Impact of Partnership to Prevent HPV Cancers

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ATLANTA - June 22, 2022 – Through domestic and global programming as well as research, the American Cancer Society (ACS) serves as the national leader and catalyst for human papillomavirus (HPV) cancer prevention. The *ACS 2021 HPV VACs Impact Report* released today highlights the local and regional outcomes of the organization’s work to increase HPV vaccinations. The report estimates that over the two years of the COVID-19 pandemic approximately 3 to 4 million doses have been missed. Despite challenges in 2021, ACS health care partners maintained rates for 9- to 13-year-olds, growing shot series initiation by 2 percent for ages 9 to 10 and shot completion by 2 percent for age 13.

The goal of Mission: HPV Cancer Free, a public health initiative meant to eliminate vaccine-preventable HPV cancers as a public health problem, is to reach an annual vaccination rate of 80 percent of 13-year-olds in the United States by 2026. The ACS VACs (Vaccinate Adolescents against Cancers) program is focused on specifically improving adolescent (ages 9-12) HPV vaccination rates through engaging health systems, payors, federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), state health departments and other state-based partners. The program increases the availability and utilization of the vaccine using clinic-level interventions, quality improvement efforts, provider education, and system-wide process changes. Under the VACs program, ACS has partnered with 43 health systems in 13 states, five health plans across seven states, and regional coalitions across 22 states to reach more than 289,000 children in 2021.

Every year, approximately 14 million people in the U.S. are infected with HPV, a common virus that can cause six types of cancer. Almost 35,000 men and women are diagnosed with HPV caused cancer each year. HPV vaccination can prevent more than 90 percent of these cancers if given at the recommended ages.

Read the full report [here](#).

Learn more about HPV vaccination [here](#).

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About the American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society is on a mission to free the world from cancer. We invest in lifesaving research, provide 24/7 information and support, and work to ensure that individuals in every community have access to cancer prevention, detection, and treatment. For more information, visit cancer.org.

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