



# 101

## IIS 101: The Basics

**IIS** /i-i-s/ *Noun, plural:* confidential, population-based, computerized databases that record all immunization doses administered by participating providers to persons residing within a given geopolitical area. The most powerful tool for managing immunization records and supporting healthier communities. The following are five ways an IIS makes the community stronger:

### 1 Connects People with Information

IIS are public health systems that maintain electronic vaccination records, managed by health departments in states, territories, counties, and cities. Each of the systems collects and shares data across multiple healthcare organizations, clinics, and pharmacies in a jurisdiction. IIS provide a consolidated record of administered vaccines, connecting participating providers with patients' complete vaccination history. Access to this data is critical for maintaining accurate patient records across multiple point-of-care providers.

### 2 Promotes Comprehensive Immunization Records

As confidential, electronic systems, IIS allows healthcare providers, pharmacies, health administrators, health insurance payers, school systems, and consumers varying levels of access to comprehensive vaccination histories. For example, IIS help public health implement



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federal vaccine program recommendations; likewise, IIS ensure the integrity of patient data across a wider network. Consolidation of vaccination records from multiple point-of-care providers through data exchange helps prevent individuals from receiving too many or too few vaccinations, saving time and money, and improving patient care.

### 3 Encourages Accuracy in Timing and Dosage

IIS simplify immunization record keeping and support best practices for vaccination, organizing patient data into one reliable source. As immunization schedules become more complex, IIS evaluation and forecasting tools assist point-of-care providers in determining which vaccinations their patients need. At the point of clinical care, participating providers can manage patients' immunizations through timely alerts when vaccines are due or missing based on the recommended immunization schedule. IIS streamline data collection and provide quality, meaningful information to guide both clinical and patient decision-making.

### 4 Increases Visibility into Areas of Need

As an IIS grows, the system benefits by network effect, becoming a clearer window into the overall health of a population. As vaccination providers continue to input patient data, aggregate data from IIS provides a more comprehensive view of the opportunities and pockets of need in a community. Health officials can leverage this data to guide public health initiatives and measure progress toward reducing vaccine-preventable diseases thus keeping communities healthy.

### 5 Facilitates Public Health Response in the Event of Outbreak

With expanded usage, an IIS becomes an invaluable tool in response to outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases. With the ability to retrieve data from a single, consolidated record, community health officials can determine needs and risk levels based on individuals' vaccination records to take quicker, more effective action.

Learn more ways  
IIS strengthen  
communities at  
[immregistries.org](http://immregistries.org).



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