

Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) - National vaccine objection (conscientious objection) data

This page provides a table of historical national conscientious objection by calendar year, 1999 to 2015.

Conscientious objection statistics are given as at a point in time, not a total number recorded each year. Children continually come onto the AIR when they are registered and removed when they are over seven years of age.

Since 1 January 2016, conscientious objection has been removed as a valid reason for a vaccination exemption. Families can only receive family assistance payments linked to immunisation status such as childcare assistance and Family Tax Benefit Part A Supplement if they:

- fully immunise their children
- are on a recognised immunisation catch- up schedule
- have an approved medical exemption.

The Department of Human services has further details about [immunisation requirements and immunisation medical objections](#).

As at date	Total children	Number children with conscientious objection recorded	% children with conscientious objection recorded
31 December 1999	1,863,427	4,271	0.23%
31 December 2000	1,846,431	7,624	0.41%
31 December 2001	1,808,231	9,987	0.55%
31 December 2002	1,790,992	12,042	0.67%
31 December 2003	1,785,336	13,790	0.77%
31 December 2004	1,790,014	15,479	0.86%

As at date	Total children	Number children with conscientious objection recorded	% children with conscientious objection recorded
31 December 2005	1,808,420	16,922	0.94%
31 December 2006	1,842,829	18,899	1.03%
31 December 2007	1,885,004	20,737	1.10%
31 December 2008	1,933,014	23,123	1.20%
31 December 2009	1,976,134	25,706	1.30%
31 December 2010	2,082,263	28,306	1.36%
31 December 2011	2,127,489	29,968	1.41%
31 December 2012	2,176,279	31,800	1.46%
31 December 2013	2,215,825	35,698	1.61%
31 December 2014	2,231,205	39,523	1.77%
31 December 2015	2,242,925	30,092	1.34%