

# HOW VACCINES STRENGTHEN YOUR BABY'S IMMUNE SYSTEM



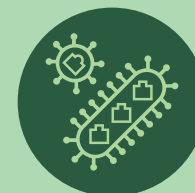
Your child is exposed to thousands of germs every day in his environment.

*This happens through the food he eats, air he breathes and things he puts in his mouth.*



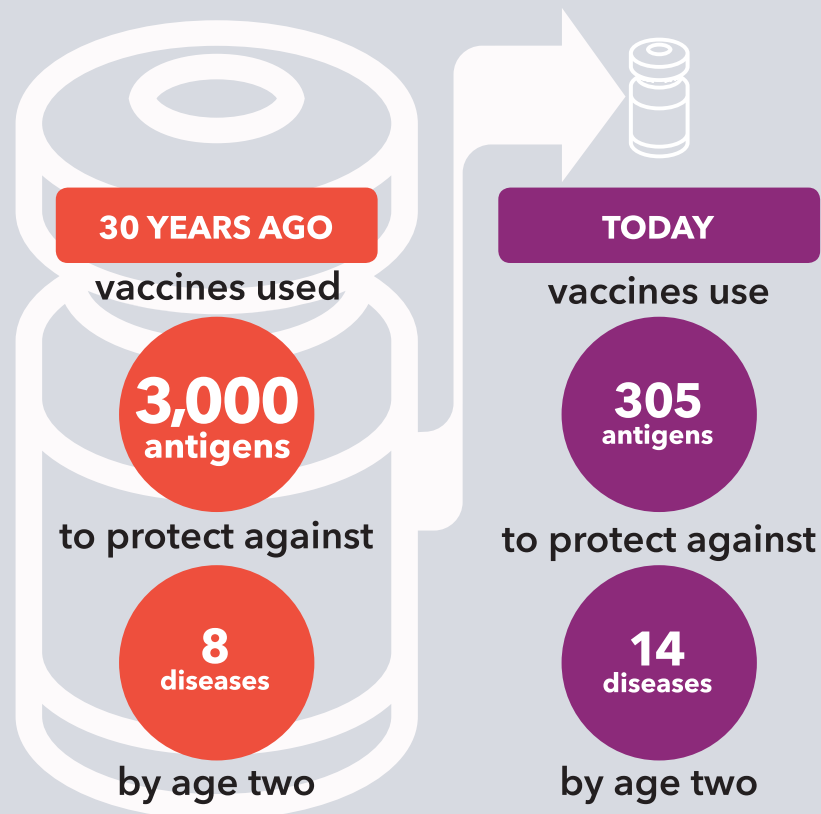
Babies are born with immune systems that can fight most germs, but there are some deadly diseases they can't handle.

*That's why they need vaccines to strengthen their immune system.*



Vaccines use very small amounts of antigens to help your child's immune system recognize and learn to fight serious diseases.

*Antigens are parts of germs that cause the body's immune system to go to work.*



Thanks to scientific advances, today's vaccines can protect children from more diseases using fewer antigens.

*Vaccines contain only a tiny fraction of the antigens that babies encounter in their environment every day.*

*Vaccines help strengthen your baby's immune system and keep him safe from vaccine-preventable diseases.*

## IMMUNIZATION. POWER TO PROTECT.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents)