

The Lucrative Vaccine Market

The vaccine market is highly profitable, especially since vaccines are liability-free pharmaceutical products. Once an FDA licensed vaccine receives a recommendation by the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for use in children, pharmaceutical companies are indemnified. This means that they cannot be sued in a civil court of law, even when their vaccine causes injury or death.

Individuals who receive compensation for harm caused by vaccines receive financial awards paid by consumers through a 75-cent tax levied on all purchased vaccines.¹

The global vaccine market is estimated to surpass more than \$50 Billion by 2024,² with some reporting the market will be worth more than \$100 Billion dollars.³

In the first quarter of 2019, **Merck** made \$496 million dollars on sales of its measles-mumps-rubella vaccine (MMRII) and \$828 million on Gardasil, its human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.⁴ **Pfizer**, the maker of the pneumococcal vaccine Prevnar, reported that this vaccine earned the company \$1.49 billion in the first quarter of 2019.⁵ **Sanofi Pasteur**, the maker of several vaccine products, including flu vaccines, Tdap, and more, reported that their first quarter vaccine sales rose by 20% in 2019.⁶

In the second quarter of 2019, **GlaxoSmithKline** reported that the sales of Shingrix vaccine, its shingles vaccine, had more than doubled in earnings to \$482 million.⁷

A March 2020 study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* reported that between 2000 and 2018, 35 major pharmaceutical companies received a combined revenue of \$11.5 trillion, with a gross profit of \$8.6 trillion. This study reported that the profits made by large pharmaceutical companies were "significantly greater than other large, public companies..."⁸

There are currently hundreds of vaccines in development by U.S. pharmaceutical companies. Vaccines for HIV, Herpes, allergies, cocaine addiction, and more.^{9 10}

Vaccines are big business with big profits. They are even more profitable for pharmaceutical companies when they are recommended for use by the CDC and mandated for all children as a condition for school entry. The pharmaceutical and health care industry is also the MOST powerful lobbying group in Washington. In 2019, this industry spent nearly \$300 Million on lobbying efforts and outspent the next leading industry, Electronics Manufacturing & Equipment, by nearly double.^{11 12}

¹ Health Resources and Services Administration National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program June 2019 (<https://tinyurl.com/y6ab9ykg>)

² Press Release. [At 6.2% CAGR, Vaccines Market Set to Register 50900 million USD by 2024](https://www.marketwatch.com/story/at-6-2-cagr-vaccines-market-set-to-register-50900-million-usd-by-2024-2019-02-06). *MarketWatch* Feb. 6, 2019.

(<https://tinyurl.com/y5knfqbh>)

³ Pistilli M Global Vaccine Market Experiencing Substantial Growth *Life Science* Nov. 27, 2013. (<https://tinyurl.com/y3o34dfn>)

⁴ Misra M Merck raises full-year forecasts as vaccines power profit beat *Reuters* Apr. 30, 2019(<https://tinyurl.com/y4otlaja>)

⁵ Mathias T, Erman M Vaccine and blood thinner help drive Pfizer to quarterly earnings beat *Reuters* Apr. 30, 2019

(<https://tinyurl.com/y26vxzs>)

⁶ Paton J Sanofi Profit Jumps on Sales of Vaccines and a Rising New Drug *Bloomberg* Apr. 26, 2019 (<https://tinyurl.com/y3t3powy>)

⁷ Aripaka P, Banerjee A GSK raises 2019 earnings expectations after standout quarter for Shingrix *Reuters* July 24, 2019

(<https://tinyurl.com/y4z4fzo2>)

⁸ Ledley FD, McCoy SS, Vaughan G, Cleary EG. Profitability of Large Pharmaceutical Companies Compared With Other Large Public Companies.

JAMA. 2020;323(9):834–843 (<https://tinyurl.com/yxd2epus>)

⁹ Phrma List of Medicines in Development for Vaccines 2017 Nov. 8, 2017 (<https://tinyurl.com/y22hvfzw>)

¹⁰ Doheny K COVID-19 Vaccine: Latest Updates Aug. 21, 2020 (<https://tinyurl.com/y5bdb83t>)

¹¹ Open Secrets Industry Profile: Pharmaceuticals/Health Products 2019 (<https://tinyurl.com/yxsuxwuo>)

¹² Open Secrets Industries 2019 (<https://tinyurl.com/yvu7m7rz>)