

3 Charts Show How Vaccines Have Impacted 20th Century Diseases

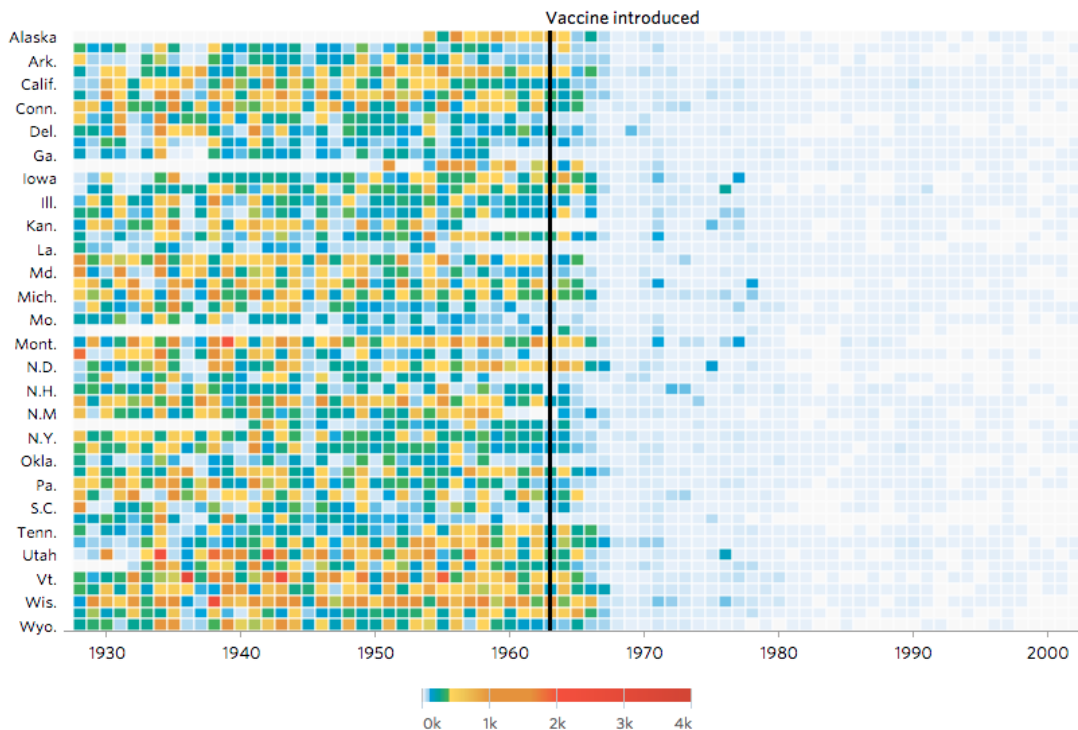
By [Benjamin Starr](#)

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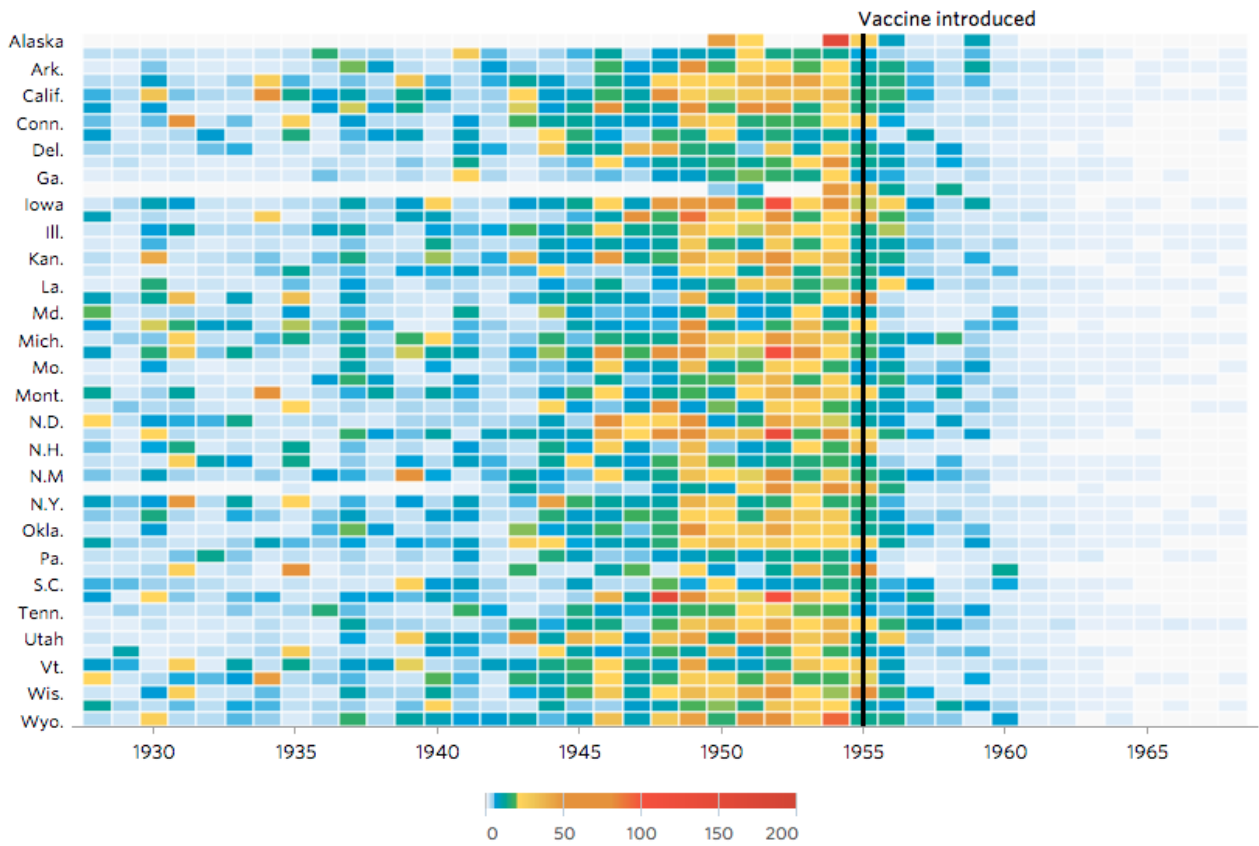
Despite the few *very loud* voices still claiming vaccines are dangerous (and getting a lot of attention in the process), there is overwhelming evidence that they make the world a much safer place. Take the seven interactive heat maps [created by Tynan DeBold and Dov Friedman](#) for the Wall Street Journal. Each of the three examples we've featured here show the number of cases before and after a vaccine was introduced. Striking isn't it?

Measles



Each square on these charts represents the number of cases per 100,000 people. For highly infectious diseases like [polio](#), [measles](#) and [rubella](#), the thousands of people infected each year often had life changing, if not life-ending consequences. However, after the introduction of each vaccine (represented by the black line on the chart) cases quickly dwindled away, leaving us as we are today – with faint memories of the suffering in a world without vaccines.

Polio



See the impact vaccines had on hepatitis A, mumps, whooping cough and smallpox, at the [Wall Street Journal](#).

