

# Follow Up of Children Overdue on ACIR

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# Background

- Project initially commenced in 2005 on Central Coast
- ACIR 11A report
- Looked at 9 - 10 month old cohort
- Main issue identified - record errors
- April 2008 - area wide approach commenced

# Data

- Download ACIR 11A report monthly
- Access database - simple SQL query
- Widened to 3 different age cohorts
  - 9 - 10 months
  - 14 - 15 months
  - 50 - 51 months
- Information received
  - Child's name, DOB, address, contact name, provider details & overdue vaccines

# Follow Up

- Check child's record on ACIR

## No immunisation history

- parent/carer letter + child's details form
- advised to attend immunisation provider if truly overdue
- if parent considers child up to date → request to send photocopy of history plus child's details form

## YOUR CHILD'S DETAILS

Please complete the following information and return it to us in the reply paid envelope provided.

Please include a photocopy of your child's immunisation record in the enclosed reply paid envelope.

<b>Child's <u>medicare</u> number</b>	_____ __ (number next to this child's name)
<b>Child's surname</b>	
<b>Child's given names</b>	
<b>Child's Date of Birth</b>	
<b>Parent's daytime telephone contact number</b>	
<b>Parent/Guardian name</b>	

Thank you for completing this form. One of our Immunisation Officers will contact you if necessary.

## Follow Up cont.

### No immunisation history (cont.)

- if child is up to date, parent contacted and reminded when next vaccine due
- if catch up required, PHU sends catch up schedule letter to parent (addressed to 'immunisation provider')

6<sup>th</sup> April 2010,

Dear Immunisation Provider,

**RE – (Child's Name) D.O.B. (Child's date of birth)**

This child has been identified by the Australian Childhood Immunisation Register as overdue for vaccination. Please could you provide the following as an immunisation 'catchup' schedule.

**DUE NOW**

**HIBERIX (DOSE 3)**

**PRIORIX (DOSE 2)**

*Please do not hesitate to contact me on the telephone number below if you require further information.*

Yours faithfully

## Follow Up cont.

- Check child's record on ACIR

### Overdue for 4 or 6 month schedule

- last provider contacted to provide info
- parent not contacted if provider can correct
- parent contacted by phone (if number & consent provided by provider) otherwise standard mailout sent

## Follow Up cont.

- Check child's record on ACIR

### Overdue for more than 12 month / 4yr schedule

- parent/carer letter + child's details form
- if simple recording error, provider contacted to correct
- if parent considers child up to date → request to send photocopy of history plus child's details form

## Follow Up cont.

- Check child's record on ACIR

### Overdue for just 12 month or 4 yr schedule

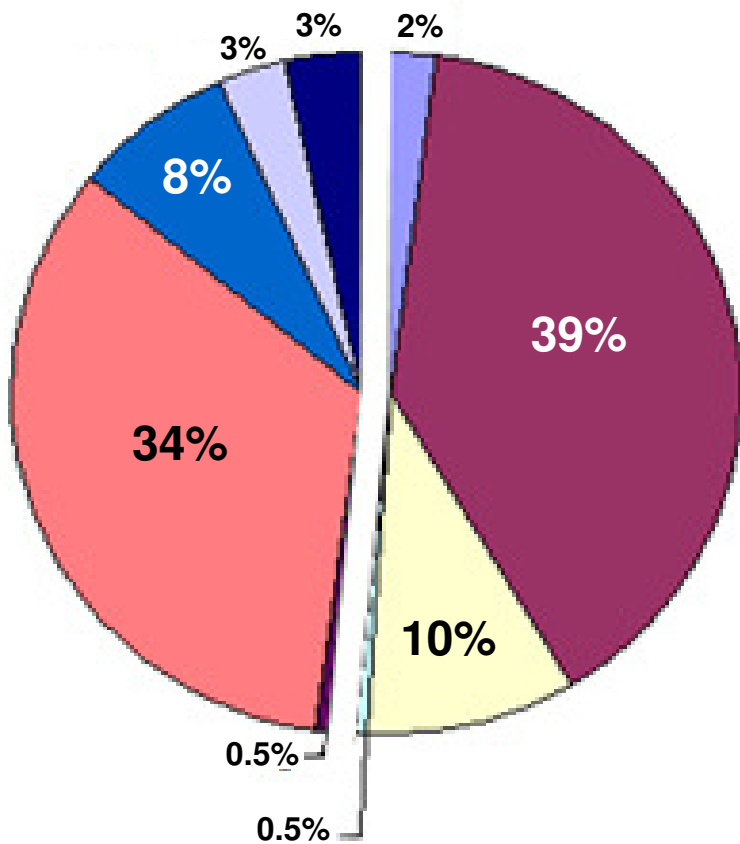
- one reminder letter sent
- no other intervention

# Results

Northern Sydney, May - Dec 2009  
9 - 10 month cohort, 1023 children

Overdue  
48.5%

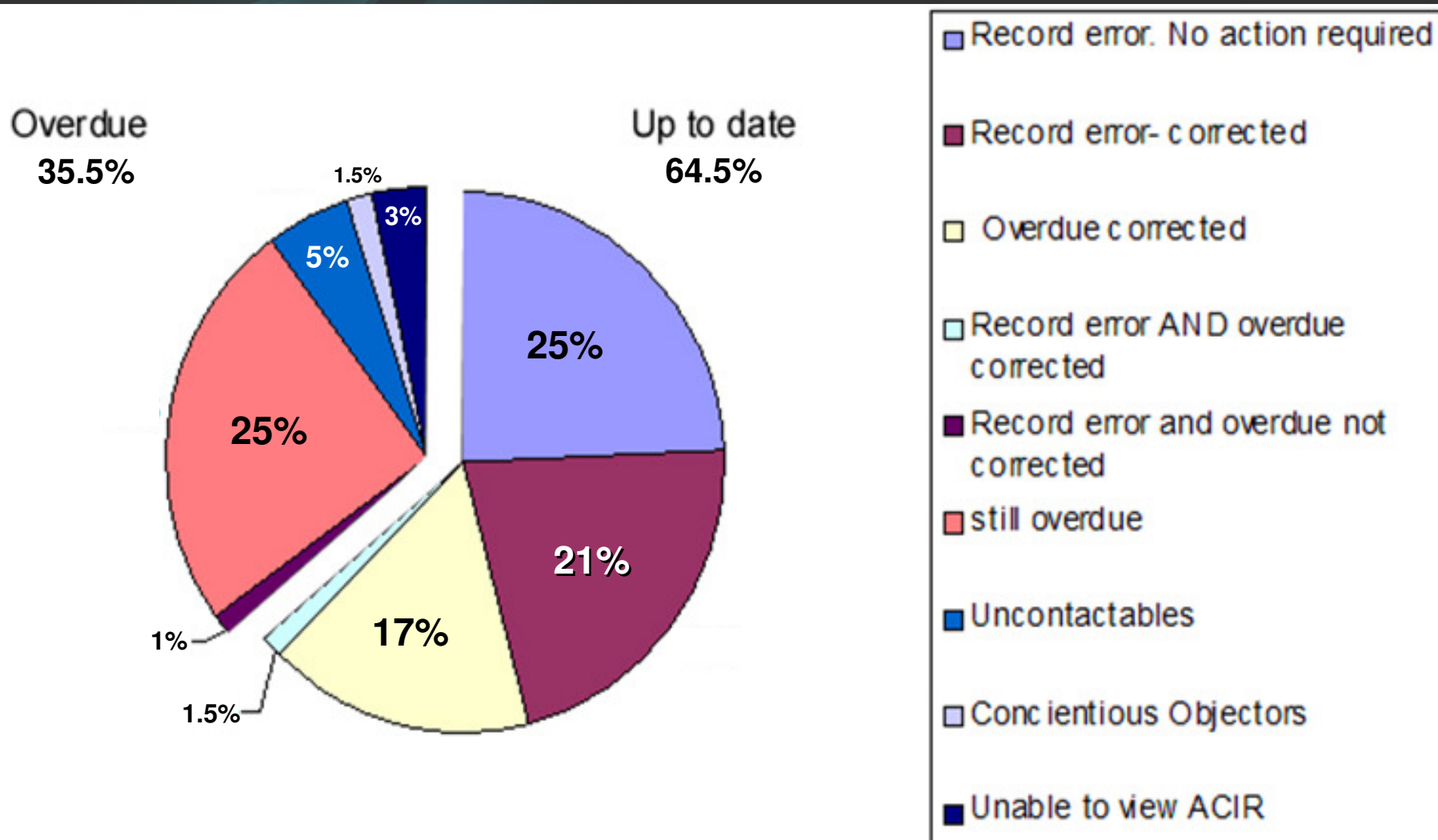
Up to date  
51.5%



- Record error. No action required
- Record error- corrected
- Overdue corrected
- Record error AND overdue corrected
- Record error and overdue not corrected
- still overdue
- Uncontactables
- Conscientious Objectors
- Unable to view ACIR

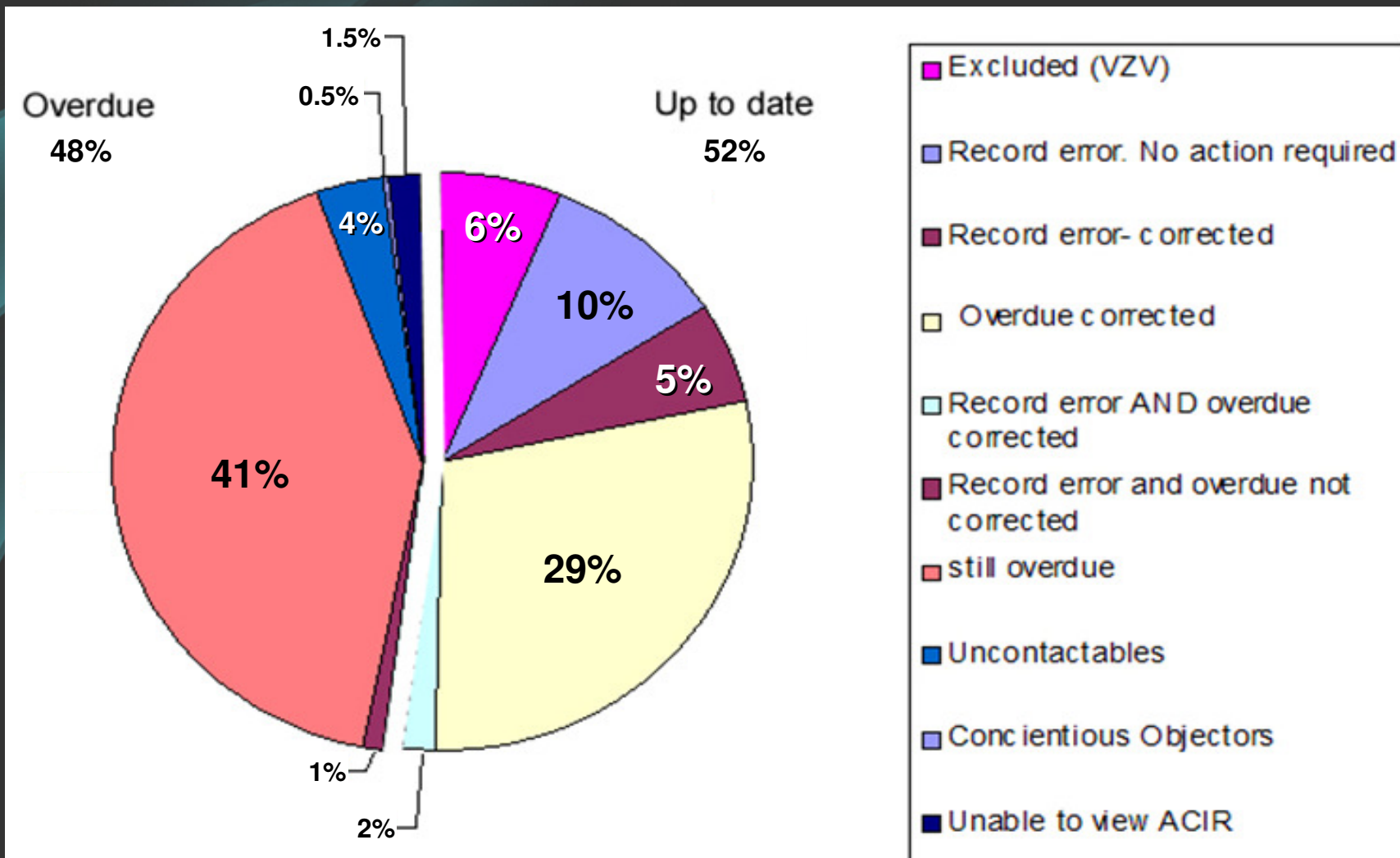
# Results

Northern Sydney, May - Dec 2009  
14 - 15 month cohort, 1697 children



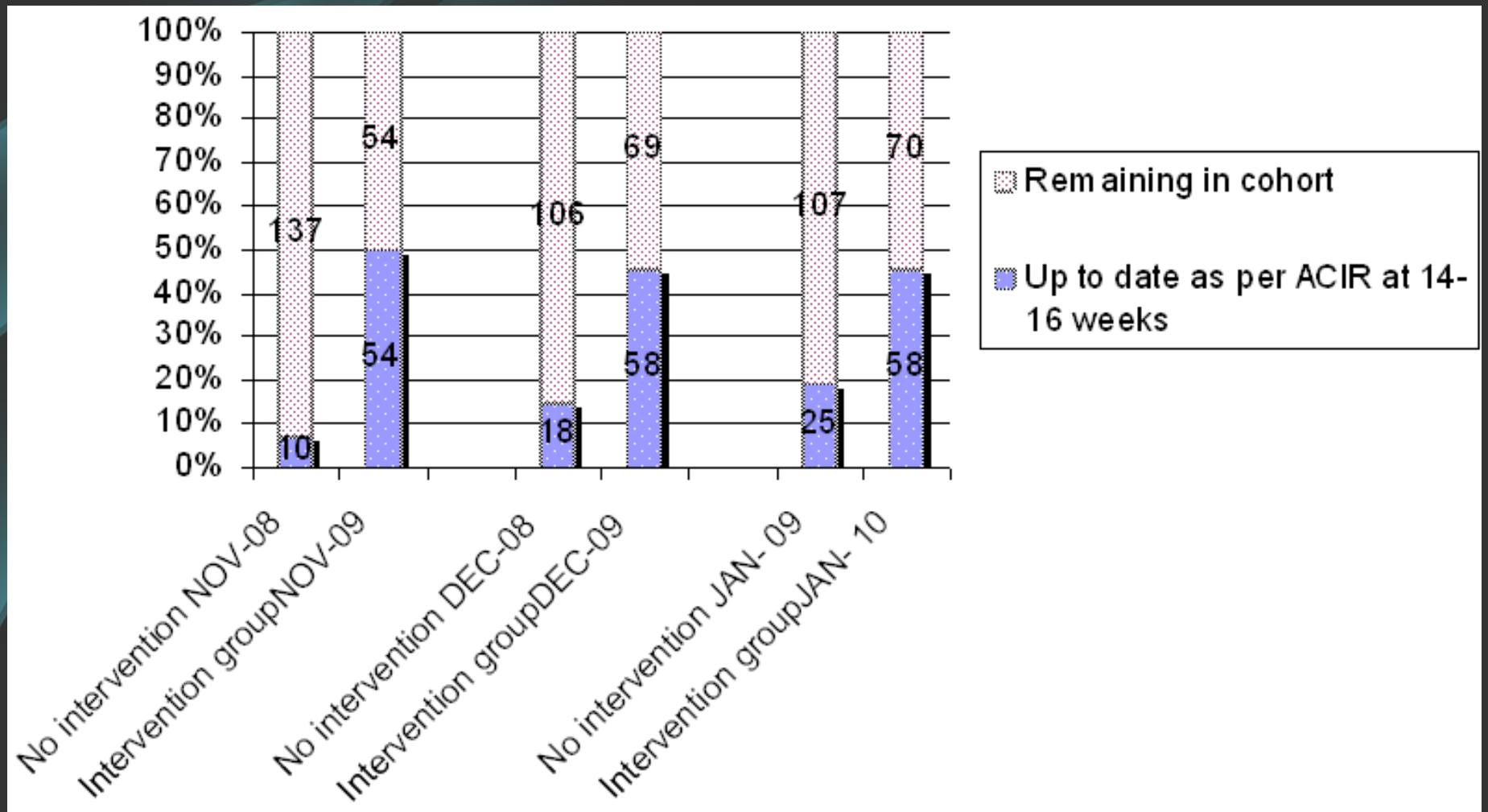
# Results

Northern Sydney, May - Dec 2009  
50 - 51 month cohort, 3519 children



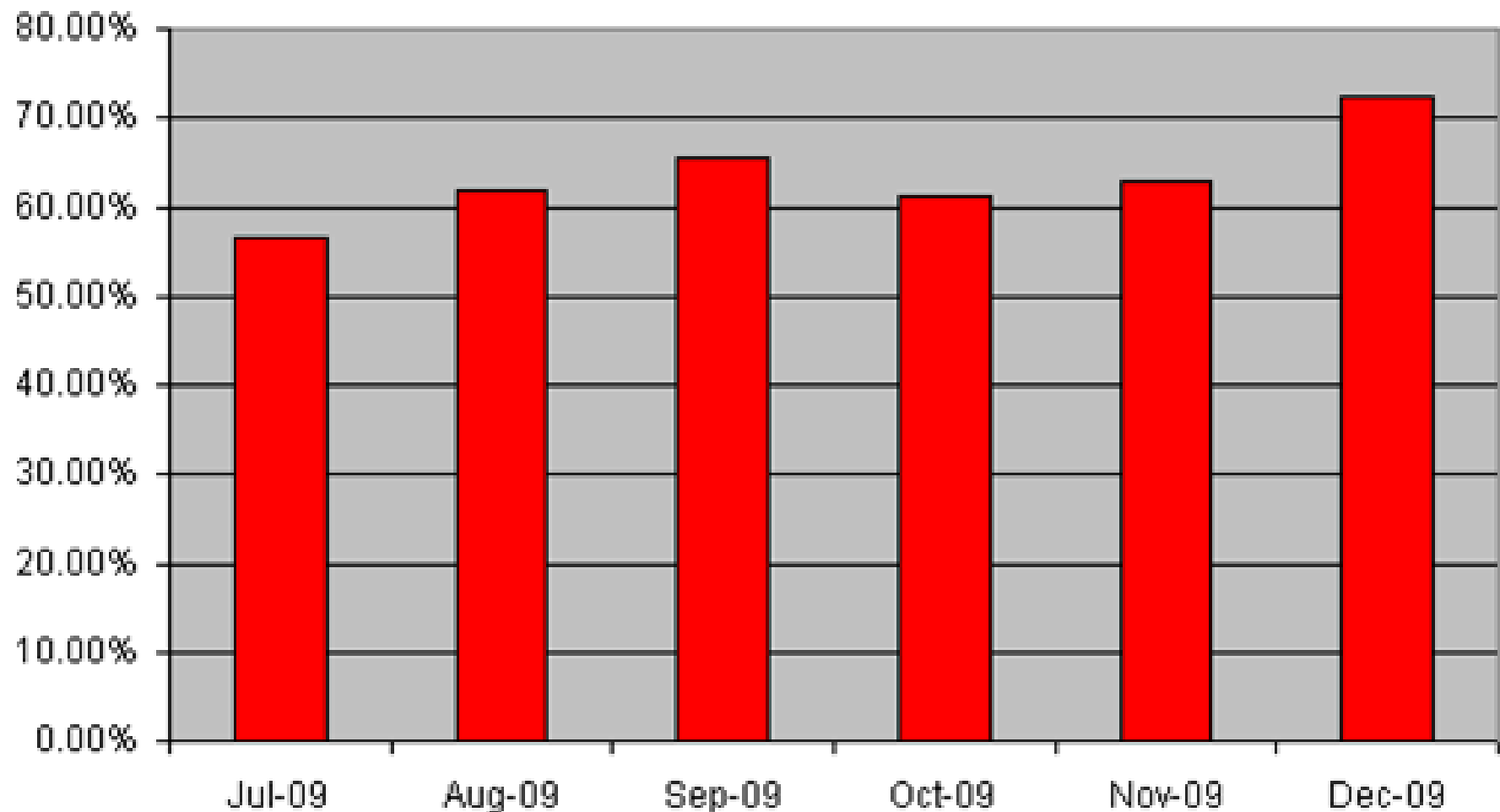
# Results

## Northern Sydney 9 - 10 month old Case Control Comparison



# Results

Northern Sydney Central Coast, 4 yr old  
Up to date 3 months post reminder letter



# Identified Issues

- Different characteristics between NS & CC populations
- More immigrants in NS - more histories & catch ups required for children born overseas
- Many sole practice GP surgeries not willing to assist
- GPs main provider of immunisation

Issues cont.

## **Children born overseas**

- Overdue siblings also able to be caught up
- Parents often told child from overseas up to date when not
- Routine age vaccines often given without checking history
- Parents often think if child up to date in COB then no need for anything in Aus

Issues cont.

## Specific to GPs

- Recording errors
  - dose numbers, incorrect vaccines, late reporting
- Split vaccine schedules (12 month particularly)
- Few GPs could identify correct catch up
- Lack of knowledge
  - hep B doses
  - Men ACW<sub>135</sub>Y & NZB

Issues cont.

## **Specific to ACIR**

- History form not user friendly
- 'Unable to display' often for unknown reason
- ACIR missing errors
- Children living overseas still classed as overdue

# Positive Outcomes

- Greater collaboration between GPs and PHU
- Increased education
- Ability to target individual 'repeat offenders'
- Fixed several issues with ACIR
- Conscientious Objectors identified & forms completed
- Notify ACIR of children living overseas - removed from GP overdue list

# Recommendations

- New, simplified ACIR History form required
- Easy program to undertake

**More children vaccinated =  
Decreased risk of disease**



*Thanks for  
listening*