



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

Tony Evers, Governor
Andrea Palm, Secretary

August 5, 2019

Jeffrey Renk
Senate Chief Clerk
Room B20 Southeast
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Patrick E. Fuller
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Room 401
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

Dear Mr. Renk and Mr. Fuller:

I am pleased to submit to the Legislature the enclosed report as required by Wis. Stat. ch. 252. The report describes the success of the statewide Immunization Program during CY 2018. The statewide Immunization Program produced all required reports.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Palm", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrea Palm
Secretary-designee

Enclosure

Report on the Success of the Statewide Immunization Program during CY 2018

Wisconsin Stat. § 252.04 (11) directs the Department of Health Services to submit an annual report to the Legislature by July 1 on the success of the statewide Immunization Program. Overall, the percentage of residents receiving influenza immunization increased for each age group as well as 3% statewide. Other age-specific immunization rates are summarized below.

School immunization rates

Wisconsin Admin. Code ch. DHS 144 requires students to receive a minimum number of immunizations, be in the process of receiving those immunizations, or have a signed waiver in order to attend school and be in compliance with the law. Every fall, schools are required to report the aggregate number of students who have met the minimum immunization requirements, are in the process of meeting the requirements, are behind schedule, have a waiver, or have no immunization record or waiver on file.

For the 2018-19 school year, 2,963 schools reported information on 966,184 students.

- The percentage of students meeting the minimum immunization requirements decreased 0.4% from the previous year, 92.3% to 91.9%.
- The percentage of students with a waiver (personal conviction, religious, or medical) for one or more immunizations increased from 1.6% during the 1997-98 school year to 5.3%. The percentage of students with religious and medical waivers have remained relatively constant, but the percentage of students with a personal conviction waiver increased from 1.2% during the 1997-98 school year to 4.6%.
- The percentage of students behind schedule was 1.6%, similar to results from previous years.
- Only 1.1% of students waived all immunizations during 2018-19 school year, a 0.1% increase from last school year.

Preschool-age children immunization estimates

Estimates of immunization levels among Wisconsin preschool-age children (19-35 months of age) are determined using the Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR). A child's primary immunization series includes: four DTaP; three polio; one MMR; three or more *Haemophilus influenzae* Type B; three hepatitis B; one varicella; and four pneumococcal conjugate vaccine. The percentage of preschool-age children who completed the primary series for 2018 decreased from 72.9% to 72.1%.

Adolescent immunization estimates

CY18 immunization activities also included those specific to adolescents aged 13 through 18. The adolescent vaccine platform includes HPV, MCV4 and Tdap. The following represent coverage rates for the adolescent platform using WIR data:

- ≥1 HPV (56.5%), HPV Complete* (42.7%)
- ≥1 MCV4 (72.0%), MCV4 up to date** (46.0%)
- ≥1 Tdap (78.9%)

Overall, the percentage of adolescents completing the HPV series increased by 3.74% and the percentage of adolescents completing the MCV4 series increased by 2.08%.

Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR)

The Wisconsin Immunization Registry, also called WIR, is an internet database that tracks vaccine records for Wisconsin children and adults. It helps providers track patients who visit multiple clinics, it forecasts what immunizations a patient needs, and can run reports that measure a clinic's vaccine rates. It also allows patients, parents, and guardians to view their vaccine record and keep track of their vaccines.

- **Number of records:** WIR contains more than 9.3 million client records with 103 million associated immunizations in the system. Each day approximately 14,034 vaccine administration records are added to WIR.
- **Active users:** WIR currently has 16,575 active users. This number includes 2,379 schools and school districts, all of which have the ability to enter data into WIR. The count of active users does not include those who enter the system through an electronic health record (EHR) or electronic medical record (EMR) with a real-time interface with WIR.
- **Utilization:** There were approximately 64,527 average public access attempts per month during 2018; with a peak of 84,106 public access attempts during August 2018.
- **State collaborations on system upgrades:** Sharing of code to upgrade state immunization registries has benefited multiple states using the WIR platform.
- **Data exchange:** Immunization data exchange with Michigan began in 2018. The state is now receiving immunization records for Wisconsin residents who received immunizations in Michigan.

*HPV Complete: Represents either a two- or three-dose series, depending on age at vaccine series initiation.

**MCV4 up to date: Includes only clients 17-18 years old. Clients are considered up to date (UTD) if they have received a meningococcal ACWY dose prior to age 16 and a booster dose at or after 16 or if they received one meningococcal ACWY dose at or after age of 16.