

WCHQ Health Insights

Infant Immunizations in Wisconsin | April 2026

On-time completion of infant immunizations has steadily decreased since 2020, dropping by **6%** between 2020 and 2025.



WHY THIS MATTERS

 **Infant immunizations are a safe and effective way to protect children from preventable diseases such as whooping cough, measles, and RSV.**

IMPACT OF DECLINING IMMUNIZATION RATES (2025)*

- **36 cases of measles**
- **776 cases of whooping cough**
- **155 cases of chickenpox**

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN

Cases of vaccine-preventable illnesses are increasing. This is especially concerning for children who cannot be vaccinated due to age or medical conditions.

WHAT LAWMAKERS SHOULD KNOW

Positive Movement

Health systems are actively working to improve access and increase vaccination rates.

Concerning Trend

On-time completion of infant immunizations has declined. Barriers include limited access, medical mistrust, and misinformation.

Policy Implication

Targeted investments in outreach, education, and access can improve health outcomes while helping control healthcare costs.

IMPROVING ON-TIME INFANT IMMUNIZATIONS



Statewide Improvement Goal: Increase on-time immunization completion by reaching **1,500 additional infants.**

Identify vaccines that are barriers to completing the full series.

Expand “catch up” vaccination efforts.

Focus on disproportionately impacted populations, including underserved communities.

INFANT IMMUNIZATIONS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT RESULTS

Strategies for Improvement

- Increase access through community-based settings
- Strengthen trust between parents and providers
- Leverage community health workers

Wisconsin can prevent the spread of communicable diseases like measles, RSV, whooping cough, and chickenpox.

ABOUT WCHQ

We are Wisconsin’s only comprehensive electronic health record data hub, representing over 80% of primary care. WCHQ brings together health systems in a statewide collaborative to improve healthcare quality and value. With more than 15 years of longitudinal clinical data, WCHQ supports research, innovation and health equity across Wisconsin. At the present time, more than \$30 million in Wisconsin research grants depend on WCHQ data via our accessible statewide data infrastructure for Wisconsin.