



December 2024 | Issue #3

# ImmuNews

Wisconsin Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program Newsletter

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## Seasonal Shipping Delays Reminder

As a reminder, please check your vaccine inventory and ensure you have sufficient vaccine (a four week inventory is suggested) to meet your needs given ordering blackouts and limited shipping dates.

### December

Orders received in WIR after December 11, 2024, may not ship until after January 2, 2025.

There will be limited deliveries beginning December 23, 2024. Regular vaccine deliveries will resume January 3, 2025.

### January

There will be no vaccine deliveries on January 13, 2025, due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

# Preparing for the 2025-2026 Flu Vaccine Prebook Season



Mark your calendars for the end of January! Influenza pre-book is announced around the third week of January each year, and the prebooking is due about 14 days later.

It is important that you turn in your prebook order so that you have vaccine for the following season. Further instructions on ordering will be included in the January announcement.

Be on the lookout in January for more information regarding how to prebook for influenza vaccine for the 2025-2026 influenza season.

## Beyond Use Date (BUD) Guidance

According to CDC, products that are beyond use date (BUD) need to be returned. Follow the return instructions in the [VFC Resource Guide](#) for most returns. COVID-19 vaccines that are obtained through the VFC or VFA program that are expired, spoiled, or beyond use date must be returned to McKesson. Follow these [instructions](#) and complete the return form.

Please account for all BUD doses as "Doses Spoiled" to remove them from the inventory in WIR.

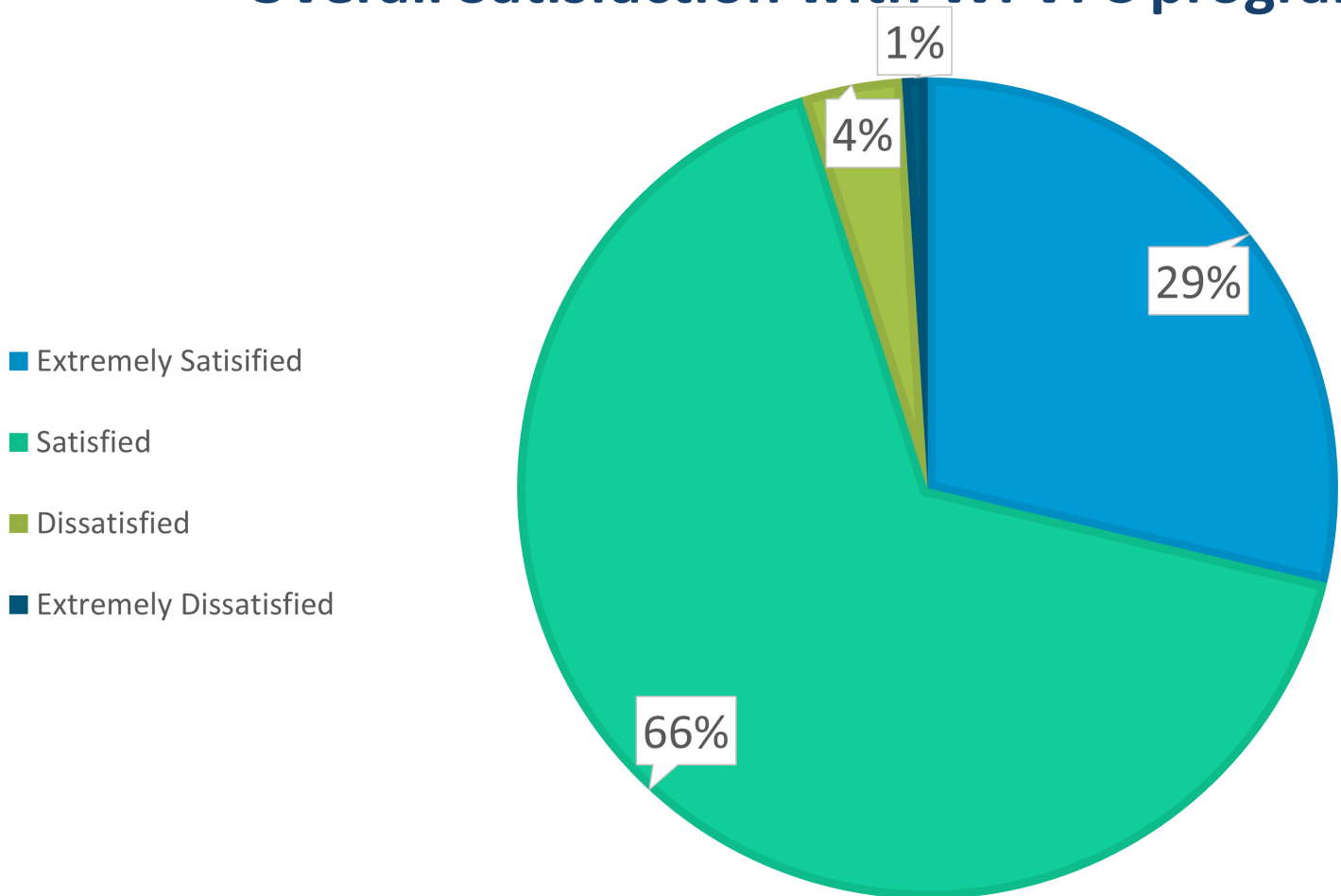
The only exception is opened Pfizer 2024-2025 6M-4Y vaccine. Opened multidose vials cannot be returned and should be noted as "Wasted" in WIR.

# VFC Provider Satisfaction Survey Results

In April of this year the VFC program sent out a survey to all VFC providers to gauge clinic's experience and satisfaction with the Wisconsin VFC program. Your experiences are important for the continued success of Wisconsin's VFC program. A big thank you to the 185 providers who completed the survey and provided us with great feedback! Below are some of the results of the survey.

**Figure 1:** A combined 95% of the 185 survey participants stated they were satisfied or extremely satisfied with the WI VFC program.

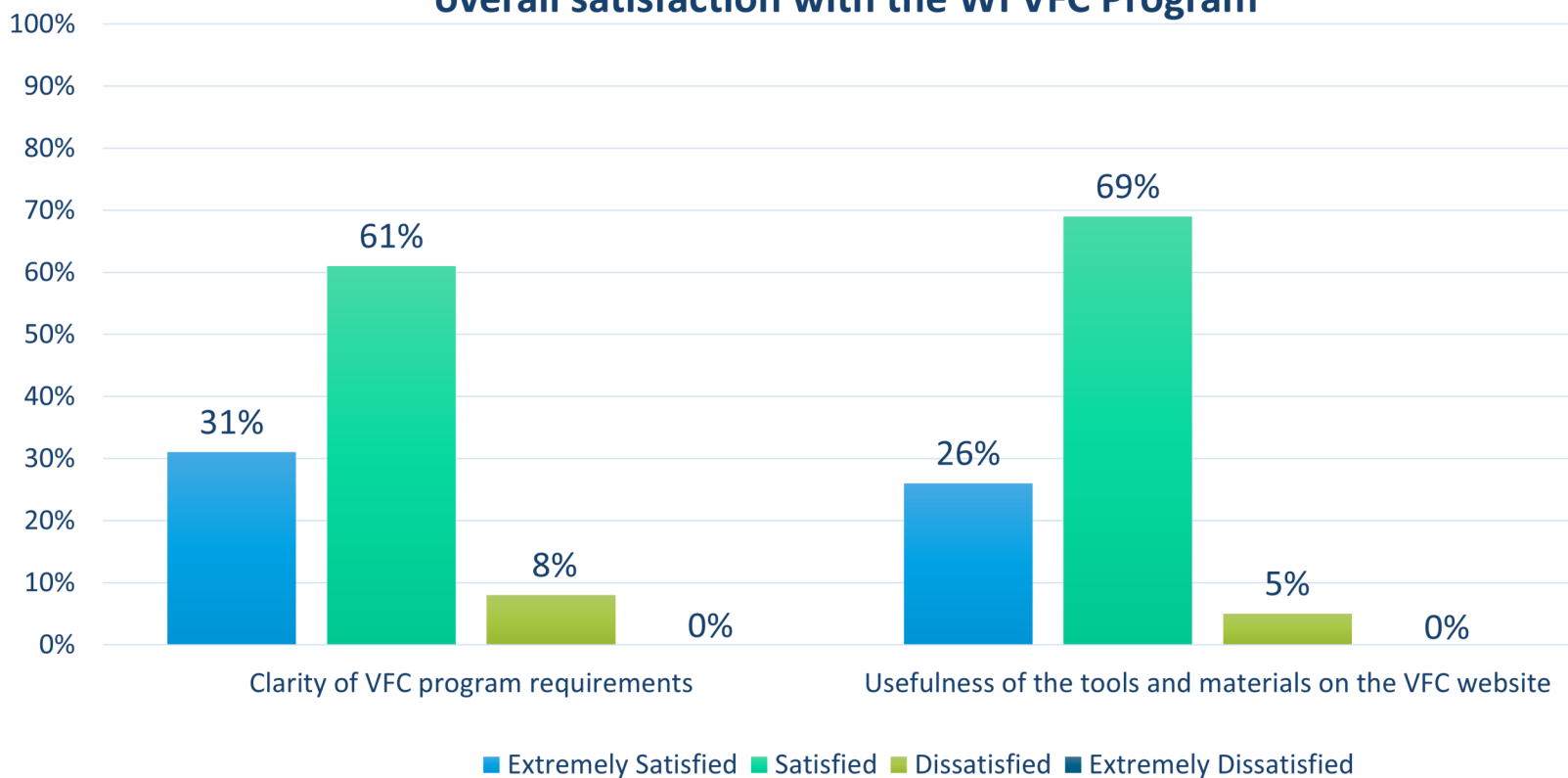
## Overall Satisfaction with WI VFC program



# VFC Provider Satisfaction Survey Results

**Figure 2:** One of the takeaways we received based on your responses were the need to make the VFC program requirements more clear to our providers, and to improve the usefulness of existing tools and materials we have on our VFC webpage. We are working on ensuring VFC program requirements are clear, and we are developing and revising materials and tools you can use. Check out page 6 of the newsletter for details on the updated VFC Resource Guide and tips to help you have a successful site visit.

Based on your experiences in the past 12 months, please rate your overall satisfaction with the WI VFC Program

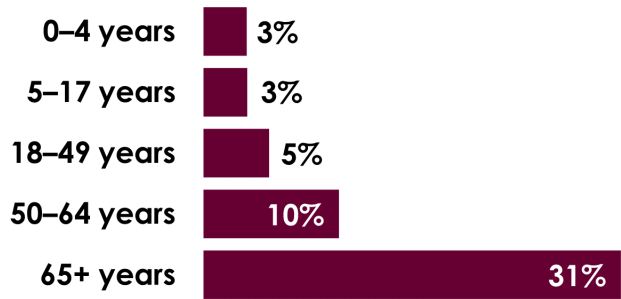


# Current Respiratory Vaccination Coverage in Wisconsin

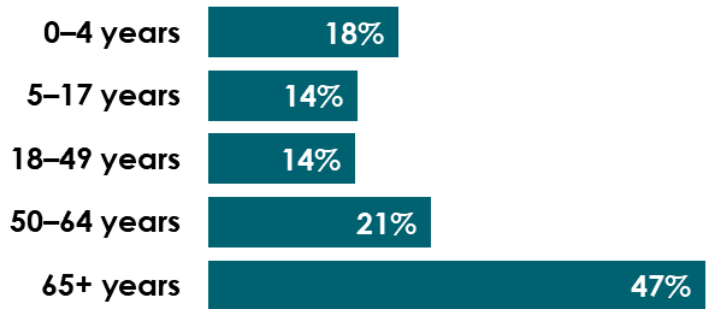
It has been a busy respiratory season in Wisconsin, and we have some recent data to share regarding respiratory vaccination coverage for COVID-19, influenza, and nirsevimab. See the graphs below to see vaccination coverage by vaccine and age group.

Visit our [Respiratory Illness Data](#) page for a summary of the latest information on respiratory illnesses in Wisconsin.

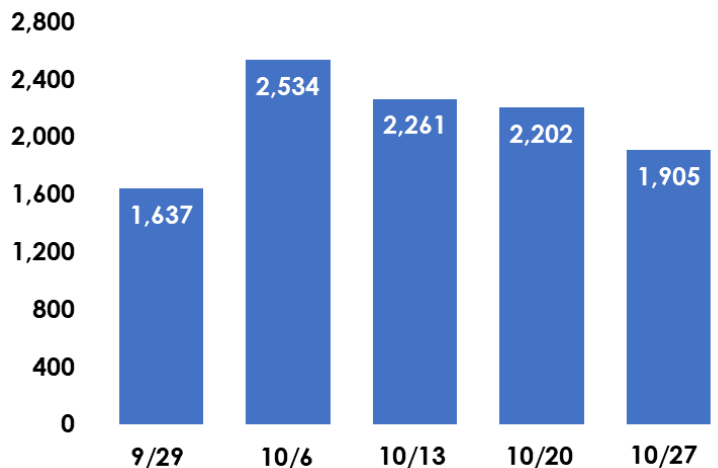
COVID-19 vaccination coverage by age group in Wisconsin, August 23, 2024–November 1, 2024.



Influenza vaccination coverage by age group in Wisconsin, July 1, 2024–November 1, 2024.



Nirsevimab administration among Wisconsin infants ages 0-19 months by week, October 1, 2024–November 1, 2024.



# Updated VFC Resource Guide

The [VFC Resource Guide](#) has been updated and is now available online. In addition, the guide's format has been changed for easier navigation. [Each section](#) can be easily accessed as a separate PDF document.

Many new VFC coordinators expressed a need for more training and resources to orient them to the VFC program. To assist all VFC coordinators with implementing the VFC requirements, new sections have been added to the resource guide. These include:

[Responsibilities of a Vaccine Coordinator](#)

[VFC Requirements Checklist](#)

**Tip:** Bookmark the resource guide in your internet browser for easy access later on.

## Tips for a Successful VFC Site Visit



Participating in VFC compliance visits is part of the VFC program. Compliance site visits typically happen every other year.

When your clinic is due for a site visit, a member of the VFC program will reach out to schedule the visit. If you would like to make sure you are prepared, the VFC resource guide now has a [checklist](#) that you can use.

If you have any questions about the site visit or any other VFC requirements, you can access the full [resource guide](#) or reach out to the program at [vfc@wi.gov](mailto:vfc@wi.gov).

# Cervical Health Awareness Month

January has been designated as Cervical Health Awareness Month. We encourage your clinic to use January as an opportunity to raise awareness of cervical cancer and the importance of getting vaccinated against the human papilloma virus (HPV), the main cause of cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer is one of the most preventable cancers due to the availability of HPV vaccination and preventative health screenings.

The HPV vaccine is recommended for all children aged 11 or 12, though vaccination can begin as early as age 9 and is recommended through age 26 years for those who were not adequately vaccinated when they were younger.

Check out these resources you can use for your clinic and patients:

[Vaccines Recommended at Ages 11-12: What Parents Should Know | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)

[Human Papilloma Virus \(HPV\) | Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)

[HPV Vaccination Resources for Health Professionals | American Cancer Society](#)

## Recent ACIP Recommendations

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) met on October 23 and 24 to approve several ACIP vaccine recommendations. Full details on the most recent recommendations made at the October ACIP meeting are available at [ACIP Recommendations | ACIP | CDC](#)

# VFC Open Forum Dates

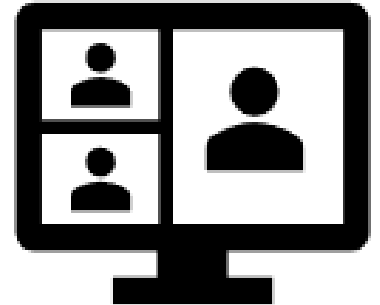
Reminder that the VFC program along with the WIR unit are holding monthly open forum sessions to afford you an opportunity to ask questions about the VFC program, vaccine ordering, WIR, WIR reports, and more. Participation is not required.

The following dates for VFC Open Forums are:

January 8, 2024, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

February 5, 2024, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

[Join the VFC Open Forum via zoom](#)



## Additional Training and Resources

Check out the vaccine-related trainings below.

**Bonus:** CE credits are being offered upon completion.

### [Fostering a Culture of Immunization in Your Practice](#)

From medical assistants to clinicians, it is important to involve the entire clinical practice in effectively communicating about immunizations to ensure patients receive vaccinations safely and on time. This self-guided online course provides health care professionals with practical strategies and resources to help create a positive culture of immunization in their clinics.

Updated Pink Book Web-on-Demand training modules covering immunization basics can be found at [Pink Book Education Series | Vaccine Trainings | CDC](#). Continuing education is available for each module. There is no registration process to view the sessions.



# Contact Us

## Program Contact Information

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### **VFC Program**

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