

Immunizations

Our Mission: The mission of the Division of Immunization Services (DIS), located within the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health, is to promote prevention and control of vaccine-preventable diseases among children, adolescents, and adults in West Virginia.



Immunizations Information

- The Vaccines for Children (VFC) Quality Improvement 2022 year is close to the end. Help us achieve our goals and submit your follow-up items ASAP!
- Immunization Quality Improvement for Providers, formerly AFIX, will start in July 2022.
- Please ensure the email address of the **Primary Vaccine Coordinator** is accurate at all times.
- Providers must submit their federally required bi-annual VFC re-enrollment or they will face an interruption in their ability to order vaccine. To confirm your clinic has re-enrolled, call **Sandra Wright**, (304) 352-6226.
- CDC is excited to share new resources for parents, vaccine providers, and partners. A [new website for parents and caregivers](#) includes information on COVID-19 vaccination for children and adolescents. [Two new fact sheets](#) are available in nine languages that can be printed and shared. Also, list of [resources for vaccine providers](#) is available to help support conversations with families about vaccination and to highlight ways to improve vaccine accessibility for children, including those with disabilities and special healthcare needs. Jurisdictions, community partners, vaccine providers and others can visit [COVID-19 Vaccination for Children](#) for up-to-date information and resources to help inform planning for pediatric vaccination.

Reminders and Important Dates

- Most recent Health Alert Publication:
 - [WVHAN_194.pdf](#)
- Immunization Summit – June 10:
 - www.ruralhealth.org/event/2022-immunization-summit

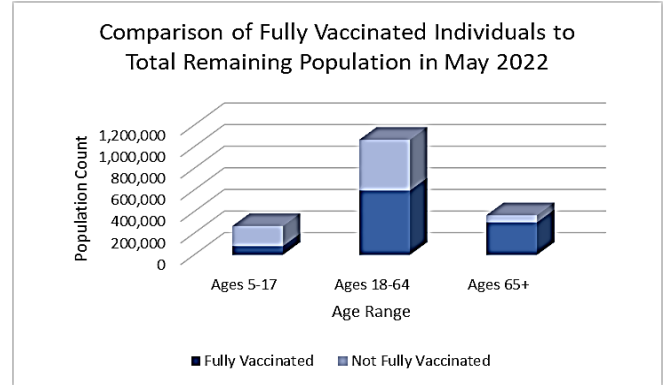
Just Bobbin' Along... by DIS Director Bob Wines

DIS is fortunate to have assistance from a team of dedicated public health professionals from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Foundation. This team of nine individuals has been assigned to West Virginia for a two-year period, ending in June 2023, and are assisting with Quality Assurance in the clinical setting, systems improvements with West Virginia Statewide Immunization Information System, as well as overall COVID-19 crisis management. The expertise

and energy they bring to our sections has enabled us to expand our focus beyond COVID-19 and focus on the other mandated services we must provide as the immunization authority within our jurisdiction.

COVID-19

Featured: Visual comparison of West Virginia's current population that is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by age range.



Useful COVID-19 Tools:

- v-safe After Vaccination Health Checker: Available to help patients review and keep up with their health and symptoms post-vaccination. To learn more about v-safe, visit: cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/vsafe.html
- Current COVID-19 Daily Cases and 7-Day Averages: coronavirus.wv.gov
- COVID-19 Due Date Calendar: dhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/Vaccine.aspx



Employee Spotlight

This month's employee spotlight is Lara Sitler. She joined DIS in July 2021 as a Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Coordinator.

Lara has worked as a nurse for more than 20 years for numerous state programs as well as simultaneously working with hospital patients suffering from psychiatric and polysubstance abuse issues. While working in the inpatient setting, Lara frequently encountered patients affected by the opioid crisis along with the associated diseases that have come with hepatitis B and hepatitis C. This work led to her current position where she works to achieve the goal of eliminating hepatitis B in West Virginia.

Hepatitis B is a preventable disease that can be eradicated with the help of vaccines. Lara's dedication to her work is admirable, and we hope you enjoy working with her as much as we do!

To reach Lara:
email: lara.i.sitler@wv.gov; phone: (304) 352-6263