



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Winnebago County
Health Department**

Vaccination Exemption Information

Types of School Vaccination Requirements exemptions^{1,2}

- Religious Exemptions: 44 states have religious exemptions, but the requirements differ.
- Personal Belief (Conviction) Exemptions: **Only 15 states allow personal exemptions** for children whose parents have a philosophical or personal belief objection to vaccination.
- Medical Exemptions: All states allow exemption from vaccination requirements for medical reasons. 5 states allow only medical exemptions.

Vaccine Facts³

- 88% of U.S. adults said the benefits of the MMR vaccine outweigh the risks
- 8 in 10 U.S. adults said MMR vaccination should be a requirement in order to attend public schools because of the potential risk for others when children are not vaccinated
- **Nearly 1300 students** in Winnebago County schools have not been vaccinated/protected from preventable diseases for personal reasons compared to just over 200 students who aren't vaccinated for medical or religious reasons (data below)

WCHD Jurisdiction School Data (WCHD data 2018-19 School year; November 2018)

Public school data in WCHD Jurisdiction (does not include Menasha)

44 public schools-- waiver numbers (Average %)

- 74 Health Waivers (>1%)
- 91 Religious Waivers (>1%)
- 1058 Personal Waivers (5%)
 - 5 Schools have Personal Waivers greater than 10%
 - 19 Schools have Personal Waivers between 5-10%

Private school data in WCHD Jurisdiction (does not include Menasha)

16 private schools-- waiver numbers (average %)

- 6 Health Waivers (<1%)
- 52 Religious Waivers (2%)
- 232 Personal Waivers (8%)
 - 2 schools have personal waiver rates above 20%
 - 1 school has a personal waiver rate of 13%
 - 6 schools have a personal waiver rate of 5%-12%

It's not just Measles

In Winnebago County there were 93 cases of Pertussis in 2016 compared to 20 in 2015

- 1-3 weeks of being contagious before symptoms appear
- 5 days of quarantine (which means no work and no school; lost education and lost wages)

1 Vaccination laws. 2019. Retrieved from FindLaw: <https://healthcare.findlaw.com/patient-rights/vaccination-laws.html>

2 Pew Research Center. 2019. <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/06/28/nearly-all-states-allow-religious-exemptions-for-vaccinations/>

3 Pew Research Center. 2019. 5 facts about vaccines in the U.S. <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/03/19/5-facts-about-vaccines-in-the-u-s>