

Participation Count Issue Identified

06/21/23

An issue has been identified in HuBERT that is impacting the participation counts for a subset of the Fully Breastfed (FBF) infants < 6 months of age and Some-Breastfeeding Women (SBF) > 6 months postpartum.

This issue is caused by having both the Woman and Infant folders open in HuBERT at the same time when starting the certification. Since a very specific scenario creates the issue, the total impact varies across the state. Some agencies will see no difference in their participation counts while others may see an increase. The impact to the total statewide participation is <1%.

Issue Background

There was a bug, previously identified in HuBERT, where the user received an error when both the woman and infant folders were open when beginning a certification. The HuBERT fix to resolve the error was to create a placeholder record in the database to allow both certifications to be completed. This placeholder record is causing the system to **not** count some of the linked members, during the End-of-Month (EOM) process, who weren't issued food benefits when the other linked member (woman or infant) was issued benefits.

Issue Correction

A correction is being made to the EOM process to ignore the placeholder record if one exists. This will ensure these participants are added to the database tables, and they will be correctly counted moving forward.

Updating Participation Counts

The fix to the EOM process will only correct the database tables and participation count in HuBERT for months May 2023 and after. Participation reports, run in HuBERT or Infoview, that include the months of October 2022 to April 2023 will not include the updated counts.

The MN WIC state office will manually add the missed participation counts to the posted reports on the [WIC Monthly Participation](#) page on the MDH WIC website to ensure local agency participation is reflected correctly for Federal Fiscal Year 2023.

You **can** use HuBERT or Infoview to view previous fiscal year participation counts.

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 23 Funding Adjustments

Local Agency WIC funding is based on previous participation for each local agency (e.g., FFY 23 funding was based on the average participation from July 2021 to June 2022). We have identified the number of participants that were missed in the participation count by agency to

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ensure local WIC agencies receive the correct funding based on participation during this time. Adjustments for this missed participation will be applied to local agencies final payouts at the end of the fiscal year.

Reference – Complete Listing of Hyperlinks

WIC Monthly Participation

(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/wic/localagency/participation.html>)

Minnesota Department of Health - WIC Program, 625 Robert St N, PO BOX 64975, ST PAUL MN 55164-0975; 1-800-657-3942, health.wic@state.mn.us, www.health.state.mn.us; to obtain this information in a different format, call: 1-800-657-3942.

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