

IIS Insight Analytics

Making Immunization Data Actionable in Maine



Gainwell Technologies became the Immunization Information System (IIS) partner to the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in 2018 — two years before the COVID-19 pandemic would intensely underscore the importance of these systems to vaccine distribution.

When the Maine IIS program received a government mandate to begin publishing its immunization data in 2020, they elicited Gainwell's support to make this information easily accessible so that both IIS leadership and the public could understand how much of the population had been vaccinated against COVID-19. At the program level, this information would help to enable targeted interventions to expand vaccine access in lower vaccinated areas — for example, by deploying mobile vaccination units to areas most in need.

To deliver on these objectives, Gainwell partnered with Maine IIS leadership to create multi-user-friendly analytics dashboards — applying appropriate privacy masking controls to conceal potentially identifiable information. Prior-day data was made accessible within 24 hours, allowing program staff to closely monitor immunization activity and measure the impact of their efforts.

Broadening Perspectives, Maximizing Impact

When analyzing immunization data, it is one thing to see what is happening within a single entity or jurisdiction; being able to measure the data against other localities and regions is where the real power of analytics lies. Gainwell's analytics dashboards enabled IIS staff to understand which counties were experiencing higher vaccination rates than others. With that information, program leaders were able to work with other public health stakeholders — hospital and health system leadership, EMS agencies, fire departments and independent pharmacies — to better understand these trends and apply lessons learned to boost vaccination rates in lower-uptake areas.

From a surveillance perspective, by layering in COVID-19 outbreak data, case investigators could use the IIS dashboards to understand the effectiveness of vaccine distribution efforts and make informed decisions about how best to allocate the stock. This data was also used to identify gaps in vaccine access and deploy targeted outreach based on specific barriers, such as transportation issues or the need for additional education in specific populations. For example, the IIS program was able to engage influential community partners to work with specific populations, such as densely populated islands off the coast of Maine.

On a national level, the Maine IIS program was able to leverage its immunization data and analytics tools to procure additional COVID-19 vaccine doses from other states with excess stock. The IIS dashboards allowed program staff to identify areas of need and make data-driven requests of the White House to address gaps in under-vaccinated communities. Beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, this approach has helped bolster Maine's preparedness for outbreaks of other vaccine-preventable diseases.

Transforming Data Into Outcomes

Gainwell's public health, analytics and clinical experts work in close collaboration to maximize use of health and social data. Our partnership with the state of Maine exemplifies our commitment to equipping health and human services stakeholders with the clear and actionable insight they need to improve outcomes and population health.

Beyond IIS, Gainwell serves as the full fiscal agent for Maine DHHS' Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). Long before implementing the IIS dashboards, Gainwell took over the hosting of the state's immunization system, "ImmPact," saving the state significant costs in IT staffing and maintenance, and providing a more modern and stable infrastructure. This allowed the state to take advantage of new functionalities they would not have been able to on the state's legacy software.

About Gainwell

Gainwell Technologies is the leading provider of digital and cloud-enabled solutions vital to the administration and operations of health and human services programs. With more than 50 years of proven experience, Gainwell has a reputation for service excellence and unparalleled industry expertise. We offer clients scalable and flexible solutions for their most complex challenges. These capabilities make us a trusted partner for organizations seeking reliability, innovation and transformational outcomes. Learn more at gainwelltechnologies.com.

