



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WIC Vendor Management Study: 2015 Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) Pilot

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Key Variables and Data Sources

Vendor Characteristics

WVMES Key Analysis Variables	State plans / SA follow-up	TIP	Compliance Buy	EBT Reconciliation data / APL
Type of WIC vendor		x		
Number of registers			x	
Geographic location		x	x	
Volume of WIC sales		x		
High-risk status		x		
Number of routine monitoring visits in previous year		x		
Type of training received in previous year		x		

Transaction Characteristics

WVMES Key Analysis Variables	State plans / SA follow-up	TIP	Compliance Buy	EBT Reconciliation data / APL
Buy type (potential minor sub, potential major sub)			x	
Use of scanning equipment			x	
Stand-alone kiosk used to scan WIC items			x	
Cashier scans UPC on scan board at register instead of scanning bar code on item			x	
Cashier suggested buyer purchase additional WIC items			x	

Vendor Management Characteristics and State Policies

WVMES Key Analysis Variables	State plans / SA follow-up	TIP	Compliance Buy	EBT Reconciliation data / APL
Online versus offline EBT system	x			
Vendor-to-participant ratio		x		
Frequency of monitoring and compliance visits	x			
Whether inventory audits are conducted	x	x		
Requires PLU codes to be used versus having generic WIC produce code	x			
Frequency of state APL/UPC database updates	x			
Frequency with which vendors are required to upload APL database	x			
Requires participants to separate WIC foods from non-WIC	x			
Types of fruits and vegetables authorized (fresh/frozen/canned)	x			

Violations of Program Rules (Administrative Errors)

WVMES Key Analysis Variables	State plans / SA follow-up	TIP	Compliance Buy	EBT Reconciliation data / APL
Cashier asks for EBT card and/or PIN			x	
Identified allowable WIC item as unallowable			x	x
Any violation committed			x	

Violations Resulting in Improper Payments

WVMES Key Analysis Variables	State plans / SA follow-up	TIP	Compliance Buy	EBT Reconciliation data / APL
Repeat offender behavior (violations committed on multiple buys)				
CB offered cash or store credit for EBT card			x	
CB offered cash or store credit for WIC foods on EBT card			x	
Major substitution allowed			x	x
Minor substitution allowed			x	x
Vendor overcharge			x	x

Appendix B: Compliance Buy Data Collection Instrument

COMPLIANCE BUY FORM – PAPER COPY

Buy Type: **TYPICAL** or **SUBSTITUTION**

Case Type: _____

Vendor ID: _____

PART I: IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

1. Compliance Buyer's Name: _____
2. Compliance Buyer's ID #: _____
3. Date of Buy (month, day): _____, 2015
4. Day of Week of Buy: Sunday 01, Monday 02, Tuesday 03, Wednesday 04, Thursday 05, Friday 06, Saturday 07
5. Time of Buy (*Time you entered the store: hour, minutes*): _____ am 01 or _____ pm 02
6. Vendor Name: _____
7. Vendor Address: _____
8. EBT Card Number: _____

COMPLIANCE BUY RESULT

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|------------------|
| 1. Conducted | 01 | ➔ Go to PART II |
| Not conducted | 02 | ➔ Go to #2 below |
| 2. Reason not conducted | | |
| Vendor out of business..... | 01 | |
| Vendor no longer WIC-authorized | 02 | |
| Other (<i>specify</i>) | 03 | |

PART II: DESCRIPTION OF COMPLIANCE BUY

(Complete This Section Immediately after Leaving the Store.)

Typical Buy or Substitution Buy

Please think about your purchase for the following questions.

(Choose one number for each question)

1. How many registers did this store have? _____
2. FOR TYPICAL BUY ONLY. FOR SUBSTITUTIONS, SKIP TO 3. Do you recall the total amount rung up on the register?
 Yes01 ➔ Go to 2a
 No02
 2a. Enter amount you saw on register: \$ _____
3. Were all items on your shopping list available in the required quantities and sizes?
 Yes01
 No02
4. Were you asked to take your purchase to a register specifically for WIC participants?
 Yes01
 No02
 4a. Did the cashier enter the transaction in a “stand-beside” device?
 Yes01
 No02
5. FOR SUBSTITUTIONS ONLY. FOR TYPICAL BUYS, SKIP TO 6. Were you asked to separate out your WIC foods from non-WIC foods?
 Yes01
 No02
6. Were you asked to give the cashier your EBT card?
 Yes01 ➔ Go to 6a
 No02
 6a. Did the cashier swipe the EBT card for you?
 Yes 01
 No, I swiped the EBT card..... 02
7. Were you asked for your EBT PIN number by the cashier?
 Yes01 ➔ Go to 7a
 No02

- 7a. Did the cashier enter your PIN number for you?
- Yes, before the transaction was rung up 01
- Yes, after the transaction was rung up 02
- No, I entered the PIN myself..... 03
8. Were your items scanned?
- Yes, all items were scanned 01
- Yes, some items were scanned 02
- No, none of the items were scanned 03
9. When the items were scanned at the point of sale, did the cashier scan a label or barcode from a board or book at the register **for any item** instead of scanning the barcode on the item itself?
- Yes01 → Go to 9a
- No02
- 9a. Which items were scanned this way?
- Enter food item types: _____
- Do not recall/Could not see
10. Did you observe the cashier manually enter any UPCs for any items other than fruits and vegetables?
- Yes01 → Go to 10a
- No02
- 10a. Which items were scanned this way?
- Enter food item types: _____
- Do not recall/Could not see
11. Do you recall any errors showing up on the register screen during the scanning process?
- I could see the screen and observed no errors 01
- I could not see the screen 02
- Yes, I saw errors when item(s) were scanned 03 → Go to 11a
- 11a. Please explain the errors you saw on the register screen.
12. Were you asked to accept another item in substitution for the WIC foods you attempted to purchase?
- Yes01 → Go to 12a
- No02

12a. Please explain:

13. Did the cashier scan a loyalty card or frequent shopper card for you?

Yes01

No02

14. Did the cashier scan any coupons for you?

Yes01

No02

15. Were you asked to provide payment (e.g., cash, check) for any portion of the purchase?

Yes01 → Go to 15a for substitutions; Go to 15c for typical buys.

No02

[FOR SUBSTITUTIONS]

15a. Was the cashier able to void the non-WIC items?

Yes, without assistance 01

Yes, with assistance from manager or other store staff 02

No, the cashier did not void the items (explain) 03 → Go to 15b

Other (explain) 05 → Go to 15b

15b. Please explain.

[FOR TYPICAL BUYS]

15c. Why were you asked to provide payment?

Fruit and vegetable purchase exceeded cash value benefit available on EBT card 01

Not allowed to purchase allowable WIC food item with EBT card 02

Do not know 03

16. Were there any allowable WIC food items that you were not allowed to purchase?

Yes01

No02

16a. Which allowable WIC food items were you not allowed to purchase?

Enter food item types: _____

Do not recall

16b. Please explain.

17. Were you provided with a register receipt for the purchase?

Yes01 ➔ Go to 17a

No02

17a. Enter amount on register receipt: \$ _____

Remember to take a picture of all receipts after you leave the store.

18. Were you offered cash or credit in exchange for your EBT card or any portion of the WIC food benefit?

Yes01 ➔ Go to 18a

No02

18a. Enter amount of cash or credit offered: \$ _____

19. Some stores have a small “store-within-a-store” for WIC customers where WIC foods are displayed together on the shelves, separate from the rest of the regular food items. Did you have to go to a separate section or aisle within the store to shop for some or all of your WIC foods?

Yes01

No02

20. Were any incentives offered to encourage initial or continued use of this store?

Yes01 ➔ Go to 20a

No02

20a. What type of incentive was offered/provided?

21. Were you able to scan all of the UPC codes for your food items?

Yes, I scanned UPCs for all items on my shopping list while in the store (both purchased items and items attempted to purchase but were unable to) 01

Yes, I scanned UPCs for only my purchased items after leaving the store 02

No, I was unable to scan UPCs for any of my items 03

Other (explain)..... 04 ➔ Go to 21a

21a. Please explain:

PLEASE PROCEED TO PART III

PART III: WIC PURCHASE INFORMATION
(Complete immediately after leaving the store.)

ITEM CODES FOR FINAL ITEM DISPOSITION

(*Enter all codes that apply.)

- 03 – Purchased alternate item at vendor suggestion
- 04 – Purchased additional item at vendor suggestion
- 05 – Accepted rain check at vendor suggestion
- 11 – This item was identified as unallowable

PRICE CODES

(In Column F, enter all codes that apply.)

- 01 – Price marked on item
- 02 – Price observed in store
- 03 – Price obtained through other method (*explain in notes section*)
- 04 – Item was on sale/special offer (*explain in notes section*)
- 05 – Item was on sale/special offer but only for loyalty card members
- 06 – Per unit price

NOTES:

ENTER WIC FOODS

Item Type	Qty	(A) Size/unit	(B) Brand/Flavor	(C) UPC	(D) SHELF PRICE DISPLAYED ON SHELF OR FOOD ITEM? (Yes/No/Not Sure)	(E) SHELF PRICE (if column D = yes) Unit Price	(F) Price Code	(G) LOYALTY CARD PRICE (if price code = 05)	(H) Item purchased (left store)	(I) RECEIPT PRICE	(J) Item code (If Item purchased = No)
Milk	1	0.5 gal	Oakhurst / 2%	048800145088	Y	\$4.56	02,05	\$4.25	Y	\$4.25	--
Eggs	1	dozen	Egglands Best / white	07056092615	Y	\$2.34	01	\$	N	\$	11
Apples	1	Bag	Cortland	07056092622	Y	\$2.99	02	\$	Y	\$2.99	--
Cherries	1.2	lbs	--	4910	Y	\$3.99	06	\$	Y	\$4.79	--

ENTER NON-WIC FOODS (MINOR SUBSTITUTION)

Item Type	Qty	(A) Size/unit	(B) Brand/Flavor	(C) UPC	(D) SHELF PRICE DISPLAYED ON SHELF OR FOOD ITEM? (Yes/No/Not Sure)	(E) SHELF PRICE (if column D = yes) Unit Price	(F) Price Code	(G) LOYALTY CARD PRICE (if price code = 05)	(H) Item purchased (left store)	(I) RECEIPT PRICE	(J) Item code (If Item purchased = No)
Cereal	1	32 oz	Frosted Flakes	01116116050	Y	\$4.35	01,05	\$2.50	N	\$	11

ENTER NON-WIC FOODS (MAJOR SUBSTITUTION)

Item Type	Qty	(A) Size/unit	(B) Brand/Flavor	(C) UPC	(D) SHELF PRICE DISPLAYED ON SHELF OR FOOD ITEM? (Yes/No/Not Sure)	(E) SHELF PRICE (if column D = yes) Unit Price	(F) Price Code	(G) LOYALTY CARD PRICE (if price code = 05)	(H) Item purchased (left store)	(I) RECEIPT PRICE	(J) Item code (If Item purchased = No)
Candy bar	1	--	--	--	Y	\$0.99	02	--	Y	\$0.99	--

If receipt was provided, enter amount of each item from receipt, and enter total from receipt. If no receipt provided, do not enter any amount in Column F.
Refer to Item Codes and Price Codes on previous page to complete columns B & G.

If anything happened during the course of your compliance buy that was not captured by this form, please describe it here. Please be specific.

PART IV: CERTIFICATION AND APPROVAL

A. CB: Please review the information below.

TABLE WITH FOOD ITEMS

By entering my initials below, I certify that I have completed and reviewed this form and the information contained in this report is accurate.

Compliance Buyer's Initials _____ Date _____

Compliance Buyer's ID # _____

ATTACH RECEIPTS HERE

Appendix C: Study Population Data Tables

Table D-1.

Weighted and Unweighted Vendor Sample Sizes by Buy Type

Buy Types Completed	n	Weighted N
At least one buy completed	584	8262
Vendors with a Typical buy	501	8262
Vendors with a Minor substitution buy	285	8262
Vendors with a Major substitution buy	290	8262
Both buys completed	492	8262

Table D-2.

Number and Percent of WIC Vendors by Vendor Characteristics¹

VENDOR CHARACTERISTICS	n	Weighted N	Weighted %	Weighted SE %
Total WIC Vendors	584	8262	-	-
WIC vendor type: Retail/Grocery	575	8135	98.5	0.7
WIC vendor type: WIC only*	9	127	1.5	0.7
Stand-alone kiosk used to scan WIC items: Yes	78	1134	13.9	3.1
Stand-alone kiosk used to scan WIC items: No	498	7009	86.1	3.1
Vendor size: Small, 0-2 registers	68	980	11.9	2.3
Vendor size: Medium, 3-7 registers	191	2684	32.5	2.8
Vendor size: Large, 8 or more registers	324	4585	55.6	3.4
Geographic location²: Urban	448	6326	76.6	4.8
Geographic location²: Large rural city/town	71	1034	12.5	2.8
Geographic location²: Small rural town	34	471	5.7	1.6
Geographic location²: Isolated small rural town	31	431	5.2	1.8
Volume of WIC sales in FY2014 (monthly average)³: \$3500-\$8999	154	2181	26.4	2.0
Volume of WIC sales in FY2014 (monthly average)³: \$9000-\$19,999	141	2010	24.3	1.7
Volume of WIC sales in FY2014 (monthly average)³: \$20,000+	151	2155	26.1	2.5
Identified as high-risk by State WIC agency: Yes	112	1562	18.9	2.9
Identified as high-risk by State WIC agency: No	472	6700	81.1	2.9
Number of routine monitoring visits received in FY2014: None*	57	841	20.9	7.3
Number of routine monitoring visits received in FY2014: One	169	2438	60.6	5.8
Number of routine monitoring visits received in FY2014: Two	44	645	16.0	3.8
Number of routine monitoring visits received in FY2014: Three or more*	7	100	2.5	1.2
Type of training received in previous year: Annual	277	3975	49.2	6.8
Type of training received in previous year: Interactive	293	4091	50.6	6.8
Type of training received in previous year: None*	1	14	0.2	0.2

*Estimates in this row do not meet standards of reliability (n<20 or relative standard error >30%). ¹For all vendors having completed at least one buy during the study. ² Geographic location is based on the rural-urban commuting area (RUCA) approximation. ³ Volume of WIC sales will be based on quantiles calculated from 2014 vendor redemptions reported in TIP.

Table D-3.

Number and Percent of WIC Vendors by State Agency Vendor Management Practices¹

VENDOR MANAGEMENT PRACTICES	n	Weighted N	Weighted %	Weighted SE %
Total WIC Vendors	584	8262	-	-
Online WIC system: Yes	392	5738	69.5	7.7
Online WIC system: No	192	2524	30.6	7.7
Vendor to participant ratio: High (1: 100 to 146)	142	1932	23.4	7.1
Vendor to participant ratio: Medium (1: 147 to 246)	250	3658	44.3	8.4
Vendor to participant ratio: Low (1: 247 to 451)	192	2672	32.3	7.8
Monitoring conducted at least annually: Yes, all vendors	143	2043	24.7	7.3
Monitoring conducted at least annually: Yes, for a subset of vendors	254	3365	40.7	8.2
Monitoring conducted at least annually: Less frequently than annually or as needed	187	2854	34.5	8.1
Conducts inventory audits: Yes	492	7051	85.3	5.9
Conducts inventory audits: No	92	1211	14.7	5.9
Requires PLU codes to be used versus generic WIC produce codes: Yes	191	2562	31.0	7.7
Requires PLU codes to be used versus generic WIC produce codes: No	393	5700	69.0	7.7
Frequency of State APL database updates:² Daily	365	5119	62.0	8.2
Frequency of State APL database updates:² Less often than daily or as needed only	219	3143	38.0	8.2
Frequency with which vendors are required to upload APL database:² Daily	376	5508	66.7	7.9
Frequency with which vendors are required to upload APL database:² Less often than daily or as needed only	208	2754	33.3	7.9
Requires participants to separate WIC foods from non-WIC foods: Yes	112	1562	18.9	6.5
Requires participants to separate WIC foods from non-WIC foods: No	472	6700	81.1	6.5
Types of fruits and vegetables authorized: Fresh only	142	1932	23.4	7.1
Types of fruits and vegetables authorized: Fresh and frozen only	221	3216	38.9	8.2
Types of fruits and vegetables authorized: Fresh, frozen, and canned	221	3114	37.7	8.1

¹ For all vendors having completed at least one buy during the study. ² Information on frequency of APL updates and uploads has not yet been collected from every study SA; therefore, these categories are subject to change.

Table E-1a.
Number and Percent of Vendors Committing Administrative Errors, Typical Buys Only¹

ADMINISTRATIVE ERRORS	n	Weighted N	Weighted %	Weighted SE %
Total vendors with Typical Buy	501	8262	-	-
Cashier asked for EBT card and/or PIN: Yes*	1	17	0.2	0.2
Cashier asked for EBT card and/or PIN: No	500	8245	99.8	0.2
Identified allowable WIC item as unallowable: ² Yes	53	841	10.2	1.6
Identified allowable WIC item as unallowable: ² No	448	7421	89.8	1.6
Any violation committed: Yes	130	2114	25.6	2.3
Any violation committed: No	371	6148	74.4	2.3
Multiple violation committed (during a single buy): Yes*	9	157	1.9	0.6
Multiple violation committed (during a single buy): No	492	8105	98.1	0.6

*Estimates in this row do not meet standards of reliability (n<20 or relative standard error >30%). ¹ Results are based on a weighted estimate of vendors that were visited for a typical buy and committed the particular violation. ² An administrative error occurred if the compliance buyer identified an item as allowable, she was not allowed to purchase it, and we were able to verify that the item was allowable by comparing its UPC against the State agency-provided authorized product list.

Table E-1b.
Number and Percent of Vendors Committing Administrative Errors, Minor Substitution Buys Only¹

ADMINISTRATIVE ERRORS	n	Weighted N	Weighted %	Weighted SE %
Total vendors with Minor Substitution	285	8262	-	-
Insufficient stock: Yes	33	970	11.7	2.6
Insufficient stock: No	252	7292	88.3	2.6
Cashier asked for EBT card and/or PIN: Yes*	1	31	0.4	0.4
Cashier asked for EBT card and/or PIN: No	284	8231	99.6	0.4
Identified allowable WIC item as unallowable: ² Yes	18	522	6.3	1.1
Identified allowable WIC item as unallowable: ² No	267	7740	93.7	1.1
Any violation committed: Yes	51	1483	18.0	2.6
Any violation committed: No	234	6779	82.1	2.6
Multiple violation committed (during a single buy): Yes*	4	125	1.5	0.7
Multiple violation committed (during a single buy): No	281	8137	98.5	0.7

*Estimates in this row do not meet standards of reliability (n<20 or relative standard error >30%). ¹ Results are based on a weighted estimate of vendors that were visited for a substitution buy and committed the particular violation. ² An administrative error occurred if the compliance buyer identified an item as allowable, she was not allowed to purchase it, and we were able to verify that the item was allowable by comparing its UPC against the State agency-provided authorized product list.

Table E-1c.
Number and Percent of Vendors Committing Administrative Errors, Major Substitution Buys Only¹

ADMINISTRATIVE ERRORS	n	Weighted N	Weighted %	Weighted SE %
Total vendors with a Major Substitution	290	8262	-	-
Cashier asked for EBT card and/or PIN: Yes	0	0	0	0
Cashier asked for EBT card and/or PIN: No	290	8262	100	0
Identified allowable WIC item as unallowable: ² Yes	17	464	5.6	1.4
Identified allowable WIC item as unallowable: ² No	273	7798	94.4	1.4
Any violation committed: Yes	52	1441	17.4	2.9

ADMINISTRATIVE ERRORS	n	Weighted N	Weighted %	Weighted SE %
Any violation committed: No	238	6821	82.6	2.9
Multiple violation committed (during a single buy): Yes*	7	210	2.5	1.0
Multiple violation committed (during a single buy): No	283	8052	97.5	1.0

*Estimates in this row do not meet standards of reliability (n<20 or relative standard error >30%). ¹ Results are based on a weighted estimate of vendors that were visited for a substitution buy and committed the particular violation. ² An administrative error occurred if the compliance buyer identified an item as allowable, she was not allowed to purchase it, and we were able to verify that the item was allowable by comparing its UPC against the State agency-provided authorized product list.

Table E-2a.
Number and Percent of Vendors that Identified an Allowable WIC Item as Unallowable, Across Both Buys¹

IDENTIFIED AN ALLOWABLE WIC ITEM AS UNALLOWABLE	n	Weighted N	Weighted %	Weighted SE %
Total vendors with a typical and substitution buy	492	8262	-	-
Number of occurrences of identified an allowable WIC item as unallowable: None	420	7091	85.8	1.8
Number of occurrences of identified an allowable WIC item as unallowable: One	66	1060	12.8	1.8
Number of occurrences of identified an allowable WIC item as unallowable: Two*	6	111	1.3	0.6
Identified an allowable WIC item as unallowable at least once	72	1171	14.2	1.8

*Estimates in this row do not meet standards of reliability (n<20 or relative standard error >30%). ¹ Results are based on a weighted estimate of vendors that had two completed buys.

Table E-2b.
Number and Percent of Vendors that Identified an Allowable WIC Item as Unallowable, by Transaction Characteristics, Typical Buys Only¹

IDENTIFIED AN ALLOWABLE WIC ITEM AS UNALLOWABLE	n	Weighted N	Weighted %	Weighted SE
Total vendors with Typical Buy	501	8262	-	-
Use of scanning equipment: All items were scanned	68	1087	14.6	2.0
Use of scanning equipment: None or only some of the items were scanned *	5	77	9.4	4.5
Stand-alone kiosk used to scan WIC items: Yes*	2	34	3.1	2.0
Stand-alone kiosk used to scan WIC items: No	70	1114	15.7	2.1
Scanned a barcode from a board or book rather than the item itself or manually entered UPCs for one or more items: Yes*	4	63	13.1	5.6
Scanned a barcode from a board or book rather than the item itself or manually entered UPCs for one or more items: No	69	1102	14.2	1.9
Cashier suggested buyer purchase additional WIC items: Yes*	6	98	54.5	15.1
Cashier suggested buyer purchase additional WIC items: No	67	1067	13.3	1.8

*Estimates in this row do not meet standards of reliability (n<20 or relative standard error >30%). ¹ Results are based on a weighted estimate of vendors that had a typical buy completed and committed the particular violation at least once.

Table E-2c.

Number and Percent of Vendors that Identified an Allowable WIC Item as Unallowable, by Vendor Characteristics, Across Both Buys¹

IDENTIFIED AN ALLOWABLE WIC ITEM AS UNALLOWABLE	n	Weighted N	Weighted %	Weighted SE %
Total vendors with a typical and substitution buy	492	8262	-	-
WIC vendor type: Retail/Grocery	72	1171	14.4	1.9**
WIC vendor type: WIC Only	0	0	0.0	0.0**
Vendor size: Small, 0-2 registers*	4	63	6.5	3.5
Vendor size: Medium, 3-7 registers	20	301	11.2	2.5
Vendor size: Large, 8 or more registers	48	807	17.5	3.1
Geographic location: Urban	57	952	14.9	2.1
Geographic location: Large rural city/town*	9	133	13.6	4.0
Geographic location: Small rural town*	3	44	8.8	4.7
Geographic location: Isolated small rural town*	3	41	10.5	5.2
Volume of WIC sales in FY2014 (monthly average): ² <\$3500*	15	208	11.3	2.8
Volume of WIC sales in FY2014 (monthly average): ² \$3500-\$8999*	17	285	12.6	3.1
Volume of WIC sales in FY2014 (monthly average): ² \$9000-\$19,999*	18	293	14.8	3.3
Volume of WIC sales in FY2014 (monthly average): ² \$20,000+	22	385	17.5	3.8
Identified as high risk by State WIC agency: Yes*	12	192	12.5	3.9
Identified as high risk by State WIC agency: No	60	979	14.6	2.2
Number of routine monitoring visits received in FY2014: ³ None*	6	103	12.1	6.9
Number of routine monitoring visits received in FY2014: ³ One*	15	272	11.1	2.7
Number of routine monitoring visits received in FY2014: ³ Two*	5	87	13.7	4.8
Number of routine monitoring visits received in FY2014: ³ Three or more	0	0	0.0	0.0
Type of training received in previous year: Annual	25	438	10.9	2.2
Type of training received in previous year: Interactive	47	732	18.1	2.9
Type of training received in previous year: None	0	0	0.0	0.0

*Estimates in this row do not meet standards of reliability (n<20 or relative standard error >30%). **p<0.05 ¹ Results are based on a weighted estimate of vendors that had two completed buys and committed the particular violation at least once. ² Volume of WIC sales will be based on quantiles calculated from 2014 vendor redemptions reported in TIP. ³ Number of routine monitoring visits was not available for several vendors, the total n=223.

Table E-2d.

Number and Percent of Vendors that Identified an Allowable WIC Item as Unallowable, by Vendor Management Practices, Across Both Buys¹

IDENTIFIED AN ALLOWABLE WIC ITEM AS UNALLOWABLE	n	Weighted N	Weighted %	Weighted SE %
Total vendors with a typical and substitution buy	492	8262	-	-
Online WIC system: Yes	35	639	11.1	1.9**
Online WIC system: No	37	531	21.1	3.4**
Vendor to participant ratio: High (1: 100 to 146)*	15	246	12.8	2.0**
Vendor to participant ratio: Medium (1: 147 to 246)*	19	348	9.5	2.6**
Vendor to participant ratio: Low (1: 247 to 451)	38	576	21.6	3.3**
Requires store to provide receipt: Yes, always	61	982	14.7	2.2
Requires store to provide receipt: Yes, but only when asked*	11	189	12.1	2.4
Monitoring visits conducted at least annually: Yes, all vendors*	9	153	7.5	3.1
Monitoring visits conducted at least annually: Yes, for a subset of vendors	42	627	18.6	3.2
Monitoring visits conducted at least annually: Less frequently than annually or as needed	21	391	13.7	2.1
Conducts inventory audits: Yes	63	1017	14.4	1.9
Conducts inventory audits: No*	9	153	12.6	5.1
Requires PLU codes to be used versus generic WIC produce codes: Yes	21	305	11.9	3.6
Requires PLU codes to be used versus generic WIC produce codes: No	51	866	15.2	2.0
Frequency of State APL database updates:² Daily	43	690	13.5	2.5
Frequency of State APL database updates:² Less often than daily or as needed only	29	481	15.3	2.4
Frequency with which vendors are required to upload APL database:² Daily	31	578	10.5	1.9**
Frequency with which vendors are required to upload APL database:² Less often than daily or as needed only	41	593	21.5	3.2**
Requires participants to separate WIC foods from non-WIC foods: Yes*	11	189	12.1	2.4
Requires participants to separate WIC foods from non-WIC foods: No	61	982	14.7	2.2
Types of fruits and vegetables authorized: Fresh only*	15	246	12.8	2.0
Types of fruits and vegetables authorized: Fresh and frozen only	39	614	19.1	3.0
Types of fruits and vegetables authorized: Fresh, frozen, and canned*	18	310	10.0	3.1

*Estimates in this row do not meet standards of reliability (n<20 or relative standard error >30%). ** $p<0.05$ ¹ Results are based on a weighted estimate of vendors that had two completed buys and committed the particular violation at least once.

² Information on frequency of APL updates and uploads has not yet been collected from every study SA; therefore, these categories are subject to change.