Flu Vaccination Coverage for 2021-22 Season: Where are we at?

Overview of CDC’s Weekly Flu Vaccination Dashboard

- The data shared in these slides are a preview of what will be shared publicly tomorrow, Friday 12/10/2021, by 1PM EST (via data updates to the figures on the CDC Weekly Flu Vaccination Dashboard).
- Therefore, these estimates are not official until then.
- Please do not distribute or disseminate further until data are public.

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvoxview/dashboard/vaccination-dashboard.html
Overview of CDC’s Weekly Flu Vaccination Dashboard

- Since 2019 CDC has been exploring and assessing various data sources to enable us to share ‘real-time’ flu (and other vaccines) vaccination estimates
- In December 2020, CDC launched the Weekly Flu Vaccination Dashboard (FluVaxDash) [https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/dashboard/vaccination-dashboard.html](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/dashboard/vaccination-dashboard.html)
  - Part of FluVaxView [https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/index.htm) and larger VaxViews family (Child, Teen, School, Adult, Flu, & COVID-19)
- On October 7, 2021, FluVaxDash was re(launched) for the 2021-2022 season
  - Data have been updated every 1-2 weeks this season, based on data availability and other factors

Overview of CDC’s Weekly Flu Vaccination Dashboard

- Dashboard Goal: Share preliminary, within season estimates to help inform CDC’s, jurisdictions’ & other partners’ program decisions
- Utilizes both long-standing and new data sources to estimate coverage overall and by age, race/ethnicity, risk factors
- Only national-level estimates were shared last season
  - Child jurisdiction-level estimates shared last week
  - Adult jurisdiction-level estimates will be shared 1/7/2022
- Estimates, for a given week or month, are mostly similar over time but do change as data are updated (e.g. additional claims are processed)
Child Flu Vaccination Coverage by Week and Season

Figure 2A. Weekly Cumulative Influenza Vaccination Coverage*, by Flu Season and Race/Ethnicity. Children 6 Months–17 Years, United States
Data Source: NIS-Flu
Data are current through November 27, 2021

This season: 40%
Last season same time: 47%
7 percentage points lower this season

NOTE: These estimates are not official until they are released publicly on Friday 12/10/21.

Child Flu Vaccination Coverage by Race/Ethnicity and Season

Figure 2B. Cumulative Influenza Vaccination Coverage*, by Week, Flu Season, and Race/Ethnicity. Children 6 Months–17 Years, United States
Data Source: NIS-Flu
Data are current through November 27, 2021

For this season:
14 percentage points lower coverage for Black non-Hispanic children compared with White non-Hispanic children

This season compared to same time last season:
- 8 percentage point drop for White non-Hispanic children
- 5 percentage point drop for Hispanic/Latino children
- 4 percentage point drop for Black non-Hispanic children

NOTE: These estimates are not official until they are released publicly on Friday 12/10/21.
Child Flu Vaccination Coverage by Jurisdiction and Season

This season:
Coverage among states and DC ranges from 20% to 64%; national coverage is 40%.

Coverage for all jurisdictions is similar or lower this season.

NOTE: These estimates are not official until they are released publicly on Friday 12/10/21.

Pregnant Persons Flu Vaccination Coverage

This season: 48%
Last season same time: 62%
14 percentage points lower this season.

NOTE: These estimates are not official until they are released publicly on Friday 12/10/21.
This season compared to same time last season:
- 16 percentage point drop for Hispanic/Latino PP
- 16 percentage point drop for Asian non-Hispanic PP
- 14 percentage point drop for White non-Hispanic PP
- 10 percentage point drop for Black non-Hispanic PP

For this season:
23 percentage points lower for Black non-Hispanic pregnant persons (PP) compared with White non-Hispanic pregnant persons

NOTE: These estimates are not official until they are released publicly on Friday 12/10/21.
Flu Vaccinations administered in physician medical offices

This season: 22 million
Last season same time: 28 million
6 million fewer vaccinations

NOTE: These estimates are not official until they are released publicly on Friday 12/10/21.

Adult Flu Vaccination Coverage for 2021-2022

Among all adults (2,013 took the survey)
- 44% already vaccinated and 14% plan to receive it
  - Projected coverage for 2021-22 = 58%
- 15% are not sure if they will receive it
- 28% do not plan to receive it

Already vaccinated by Age group:
- 34% of 18-49 yrs.
- 45% of 50-64 yrs.
- 66% of 65+ yrs.

NOTE: These estimates are not official until they are released publicly on Friday 12/10/21.
By Race/Ethnicity:
- 48% of White non-Hispanic already vaccinated
- 36% of Black non-Hispanic
- 34% of Hispanic/Latino

NOTE: These estimates are not official until they are released publicly on Friday 12/10/21.

55% reported getting vaccinated last season (this # not shown on figure)
- Projected coverage by the end of this season for all adults is 58%
- Projected coverage by the end of this season is expected to be higher end of last season:
  - 3 percentage points higher for all adults
  - 3 percentage points higher for adults 18-49 yrs.
  - 5 percentage points higher for adults 50-64 yrs.
  - 8 percentage points higher for Black non-Hispanic adults

Caveat: People who plan to get vaccinated may not get vaccinated.
Among the 1,616 adults already vaccinated or definitely planning to get COVID-19 vaccination:
- 55% have received flu vaccination
- 16% plan to get flu vaccination
- 12% are not sure about getting flu vaccination
- 17% do not plan to get flu vaccination

Among the 301 adults who probably or definitely will NOT get COVID-19 vaccination:
- 10% have received flu vaccination
- 3% plan to get it

Flu Vaccination Coverage for CMS Medicare Fee-for-service beneficiaries 65 and older

This season as of Oct 2, 2021: 11%
Last season same time: 29%
18 percentage points lower this season

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluuvaxview/dashboard/vaccination-coverage-adults-65-over.htm
Possible reasons for drop in coverage are not known but could be related to:

- Lower than usual flu activity during the 2020-21 flu season.
- Vaccine fatigue caused by ongoing COVID-19 vaccination efforts.
- Confusion about the need for a flu vaccine this season or a belief that COVID-19 vaccine will protect against flu.
- Changes in health care seeking behavior that result in people making fewer visits to vaccine providers.
- Fewer flu vaccination clinics compared to previous years.

Summary

- Influenza vaccination coverage in children and pregnant persons is lower so far this season compared to last season
- Coverage for Black non-Hispanic children and Black non-Hispanic pregnant persons is lower compared with White non-Hispanic children and White non-Hispanic pregnant persons
- Fewer adults have been vaccinated at pharmacy and physician medical offices so far this season compared to last season
- CMS claims data for Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries 65 and older show lower coverage this season
- Survey data suggest possibility that coverage in adults by end of this season may be similar to last season
Limitations

- Survey-based estimates subject to non-response bias and error in parental or self-reported vaccination status; may be too high
- Survey-based estimates of projected coverage for adults assume those who report they plan to get vaccinated actually will
- Estimates for pregnant persons from the Vaccine Safety Datalink may not be nationally representative
- Pharmacy and physician medical office claims do not include vaccinations administered in other settings such as workplaces and community settings

Upcoming

- Data will be updated tomorrow, Friday 12/10/21 by 1PM
  - Reminder to please not share these data any further until then
- Data refresh planned for Friday 12/17/21 (last refresh for 2021)
- Coverage data for adults by jurisdiction will be added January 7, 2022
- Continue evaluating estimates from data sources and explore if/how these estimates can be integrated
Thank you for all you are doing to keep everyone healthy!
Please email with feedback or questions.

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Thursday December 9, 2021

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Extra slides
Figure 1. Flu Vaccination Coverage by Age Group, Children 6 months—17 years, United States, 2010–2021

Data Source: National Immunization Survey-Flu (NIS-Flu)
Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals around the estimates.

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/coverage-2021estimates.htm

Figure 2. Flu Vaccination Coverage by State, Children 6 months—17 years, United States, 2020–21 Season

Data Source: National Immunization Survey-Flu (NIS-Flu)
Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals around the estimates.

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/coverage-2021estimates.htm
**Figure 3. Flu Vaccination Coverage by Racial/Ethnic Group, Children 6 months—17 years, United States, 2010–2021**

Data Source: National Immunization Survey-Flu (NIS-Flu)
Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals around the estimates.

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvoxview/coverage-2021estimates.htm

**Figure 4. Flu Vaccination Coverage by Age Group, Adults 18 years and older, United States, 2010–2021**

Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals around the estimates.

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvoxview/coverage-2021estimates.htm
Figure 6. Flu Vaccination Coverage by Racial/Ethnic Group, Adults 18 years and older, United States, 2010–2021

Percentage vaccinated

[Graph showing percentage vaccinated by flu season and racial/ethnic group from 2010-11 to 2020-21]

Data Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals around the estimates.

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/coverage-2021estimates.htm

Figure 7. Place of Flu Vaccination, Children 6 months–17 years, United States, 2020–21 Season

Percentage

[Bar graph showing percentage of flu vaccinations by place of vaccination for children 6 months to 17 years, with Doctor's Office at 68%, Pharmacy at 12%, Clinic or Health Center at 12%, Hospital at 3%, School at 2%, Other Place at 2%, and Health Department at 1%]

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/coverage-2021estimates.htm
Figure 8. Place of Flu Vaccination, Adults 18 years and older, United States, 2020–21 Season

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluaxview/coverage-2021estimates.htm