

Influenza Vaccination



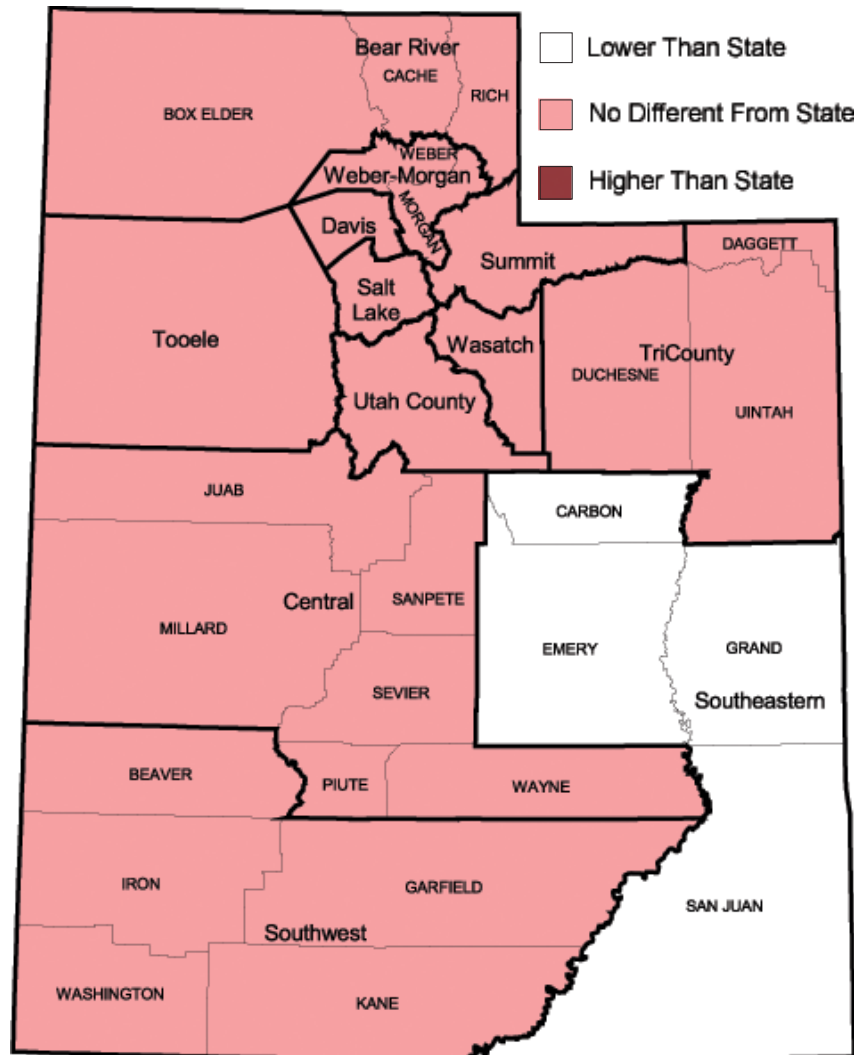
Question: During the past 12 months, have you had a flu shot?

Each year since 1969 an average of 114,000 people are hospitalized nationwide for influenza related complications.¹⁷ This number climbs markedly during severe flu seasons. In the U.S. the annual direct medical costs (hospitalizations, doctors office visits, medications, etc.) of influenza are estimated at up to \$4.6 billion. Total direct and indirect costs (work days lost, school days lost, etc.) of a severe flu epidemic are at least \$12 billion.¹⁷ Older adults are at increased risk of contracting influenza and pneumonia due to a natural decline in the strength of their immune system.

Pneumonia and influenza together are the fifth leading cause of death among adults 65 or over in Utah.¹⁸ Influenza vaccine can prevent 50 to 60 percent of hospitalizations and up to 80 percent of deaths from influenza-related complications among the elderly.¹⁷

- In many sparsely-populated areas, lack of local availability of health care services often presents a significant barrier to getting needed care. This may be at least partially responsible for the low vaccination rates in Southeastern Health District on this map. The population in this region is rural, and access to vaccination was limited by distance and the number of sites.
- The table on the facing page indicates several districts in Utah where vaccination rates on the BRFSS were lower than the state rate, however the difference in rates was not statistically significant, partially due to small sample size of adults ages 65+.
- In Utah, the estimated percentage of persons ages 65 or over who reported having a flu shot within the past 12 months increased substantially from 54.8% in 1993 to 68.7% in 2001. Nationwide, the rate for the same group dropped from 67.4% in 1999 to 66.2% in 2001. The age-adjusted rates shown here for influenza vaccination do not differ significantly from the crude rates.

Flu Shot in Past 12 Months by Whether the Local Health District Percentage Differed From the State, Utah Adults Ages 65+, 1999 and 2001

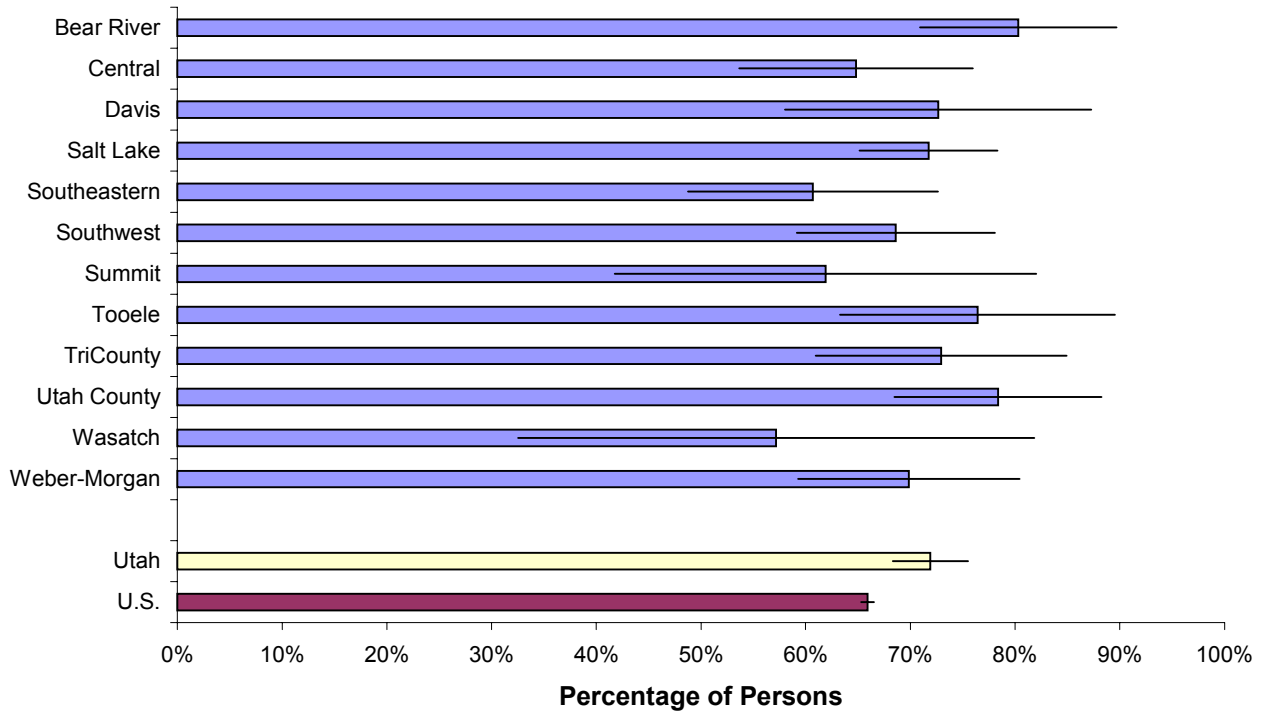


Age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population. Percentage for a local health district was considered different from the state percentage if its 95% confidence interval did not include the state percentage. Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System



Percentage of Persons Who Reported Having a Flu Shot in the Past 12 Months*

by Local Health District, Utah, and U.S., Adults Ages 65+, 1999 and 2001



* crude rates
Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

District	Sample Size	Total Number of Adults 65+	Crude Rates			Age-adjusted Rates**		
			Number of Adults 65+ With Flu Shot	Percent	95% CI Range	Percent	95% CI Range	
Bear River	79	11,306	9,100	80.3%	70.9% 89.7%	80.4%	71.3% 89.5%	
Central	92	7,870	5,100	64.8%	53.7% 76.0%	67.8%	58.1% 77.6%	
Davis	42	17,629	12,800	72.6%	58.0% 87.3%	72.6%	57.4% 87.8%	
Salt Lake	253	73,036	52,400	71.7%	65.1% 78.3%	72.8%	66.5% 79.1%	
Southeastern	74	6,064	3,700	60.7%	48.7% 72.6%	60.3%	48.2% 72.4%	
Southwest	105	20,904	14,300	68.6%	59.1% 78.1%	68.0%	58.4% 77.5%	
Summit	46	1,461	900	61.9%	41.8% 82.0%	62.8%	45.8% 79.9%	
Tooele	75	3,034	2,300	76.4%	63.3% 89.5%	79.2%	68.1% 90.4%	
TriCounty	71	3,990	2,900	72.9%	61.0% 84.9%	76.0%	65.9% 86.1%	
Utah County	77	23,717	18,600	78.4%	68.5% 88.3%	77.5%	67.3% 87.7%	
Wasatch	86	1,303	700	57.2%	32.5% 81.8%	59.7%	42.1% 77.4%	
Weber-Morgan	96	21,009	14,700	69.9%	59.3% 80.4%	72.7%	63.1% 82.3%	
Utah	1,096	191,323	137,600	71.9%	68.3% 75.5%	72.8%	69.3% 76.3%	
U.S.				65.9%	65.3% 66.5%	66.4%	65.8% 67.1%	

** Age adjusted to U.S. 2000 standard population

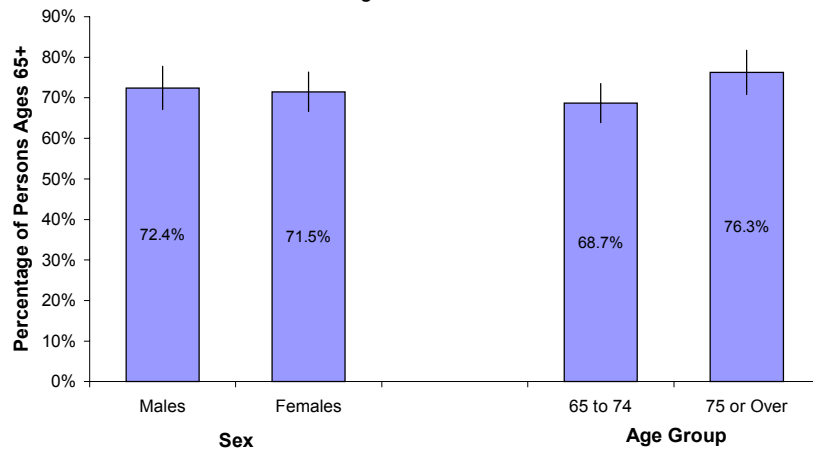
Note: Estimates based on a sample size of less than 50 should be considered statistically unreliable.

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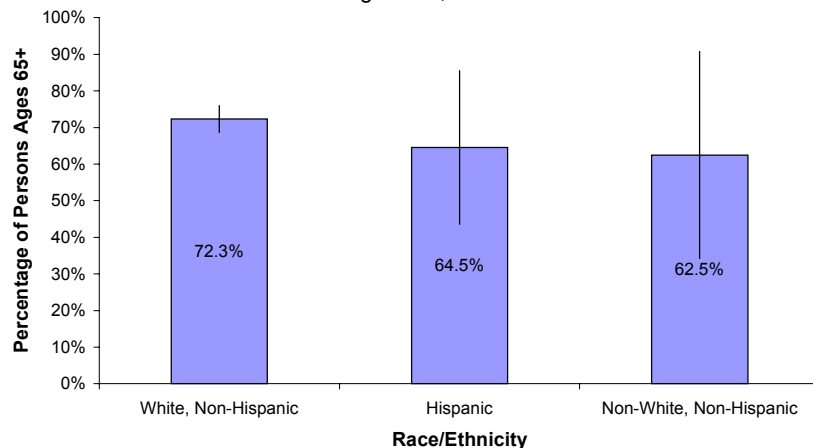
- Adults in the 75 or over age group were more likely than adults ages 65 to 74 to report a flu shot in the past 12 months.

Percentage of Persons Who Reported Having a Flu Shot in the Past 12 Months by Sex and Age, Utah Adults Ages 65+, 1999 and 2001



- Though the data makes it look as though racial and ethnic minority senior citizens in Utah were less likely to report a flu shot in the past 12 months, the sample size was too small to ascertain whether this difference was significant.

Percentage of Persons Who Reported Having a Flu Shot in the Past 12 Months by Race/Ethnicity, Utah Adults Ages 65+, 1999 and 2001



The Utah Immunization Program encourages adults 50 or over, those with high-risk conditions, healthy children between 6 and 23 months of age, women who are more than three months pregnant, and all others wishing to protect themselves to get an annual influenza vaccination. For more detailed influenza recommendations or general information about symptoms of influenza, please call our immunization hotline at 1-800-275-0659 or visit our website at: <http://www.immunize-utah.org>.

Utah Objective: Increase to 90% the proportion of adults aged 65 or over who are vaccinated annually against influenza over the next five years (age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population).

HP2010 Objective 14-29a: Increase to 90% the proportion of noninstitutionalized adults aged 65 years or over who are vaccinated annually against influenza (age adjusted to the U.S. 2000 standard population).



Percentage of Persons Who Reported Having a Flu Shot in the Past 12 Months by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Utah Adults Ages 65+, 1999 and 2001.

Demographic Subgroup	Utah Population		Survey Estimates				
	Distribution	Number of Persons ¹	Percentage of Persons Ages 65+ Who Reported a Flu Shot in Past 12 Months ²			Number of Persons ^{1,3}	Distribution of Persons Ages 65+ Who Reported a Flu Shot in Past 12 Months by Category
			95% Confidence Intervals				
			Lower	Upper			
Had Flu Shot in Last 12 Months							
Yes	71.9%	137,500					
No	28.1%	53,800					
Total, Ages 65+	100.0%	191,300					
Sex							
Males	43.8%	83,700	72.4%	67.1%	77.8%	60,600	44.1%
Females	56.2%	107,600	71.5%	66.6%	76.3%	76,900	55.9%
Total, Ages 65+	100.0%	191,300	71.9%	68.3%	75.5%	137,500	100.0%
Age Group							
65 to 74	53.4%	102,100	68.7%	63.9%	73.5%	70,100	50.7%
75 or Over	46.6%	89,200	76.3%	70.8%	81.8%	68,100	49.3%
Total, Ages 65+	100.0%	191,300	71.9%	68.3%	75.5%	137,500	100.0%
Race/Ethnicity							
White, Non-Hispanic	94.8%	181,400	72.3%	68.6%	76.0%	131,200	95.3%
Hispanic	3.9%	7,400	64.5%	43.6%	85.5%	4,800	3.5%
Non-White, Non-Hispanic	1.3%	2,500	62.5%	34.2%	90.8%	1,600	1.2%
Total, Ages 65+	100.0%	191,300	71.9%	68.3%	75.5%	137,500	100.0%
Income							
Less Than \$20,000	28.1%	53,700	70.0%	62.7%	77.2%	37,600	27.1%
\$20,000-\$49,999	56.6%	108,200	73.2%	68.1%	78.3%	79,200	57.0%
\$50,000 or Over	15.4%	29,400	75.6%	65.8%	85.3%	22,200	16.0%
Total, Ages 65+	100.0%	191,300	71.9%	68.3%	75.5%	137,500	100.0%
Education							
Less Than High School	10.4%	20,000	69.6%	58.9%	80.4%	13,900	10.1%
H.S. Grad or G.E.D.	33.2%	63,600	75.2%	69.8%	80.7%	47,800	34.8%
Some Post High School	31.9%	60,900	66.7%	60.0%	73.4%	40,600	29.5%
College Graduate	24.5%	46,800	75.2%	67.2%	83.1%	35,200	25.6%
Total, Ages 65+	100.0%	191,300	71.9%	68.3%	75.5%	137,500	100.0%

1 Rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

2 Plus or minus 95% confidence interval.

3 Figures in these columns may not sum to the total because some surveyed individuals had missing values on the grouping variables.

Population counts for age, sex, and total population were the 2000 estimates provided by the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. Population count estimates for race/ethnicity, income, and education populations were derived from averaging three years of the BRFSS surveys from 1999-2001.