Flu vaccinations for the 2021-22 season...

The data say No.
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/fluvaxview/dashboard/vaccination-dashboard.html
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
- Launched December 2020
  - Part of FluVaxView and larger VaxViews family (Child, Teen, School, Adult, Flu, & COVID-19)
- Relaunched October 7, 2021 for the 2021-2022 season; updated every 1-2 weeks
- Uses multiple long-standing and new data sources
- 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)

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/dashboard/vaccination-dashboard.html
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. Please do not disseminate further.
Child Flu Vaccination Coverage by Race/Ethnicity and Season

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

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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.

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Pregnant Persons Flu Vaccination Coverage

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

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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

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Flu Vaccinations administered in pharmacies

This season: 33 million
Last season same time: 44 million
11 million fewer vaccinations

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Flu Vaccinations administered in physician medical offices

Vaccinations in physician medical offices:
This season: 22 million
Last season same time: 28 million
6 million fewer vaccinations

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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.

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Already Vaccinated by Race/Ethnicity:
- 48% of White non-Hispanic
- 36% of Black non-Hispanic
- 34% of Hispanic/Latino

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Adult Flu Vaccination Coverage for 2021-2022

- 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.

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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 flu vaccination

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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.
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.