



Childhood Vaccination Coverage Findings of the New Hampshire Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey & School Immunization Survey

This data brief reports on the findings of the 2006 and 2008 New Hampshire Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (NH BRFSS) and 2008/09 School Immunization Survey and is intended to inform the NH healthcare providers, document the childhood vaccination coverage, monitor trends over time, detect changes and facilitate planning.

Influenza Vaccine Use Among New Hampshire Children

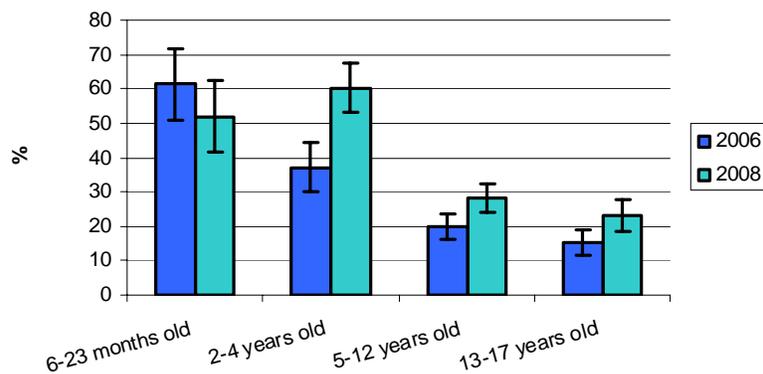
The influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness and at times can lead to death. Young children, and those with certain health conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, or heart disease), are among those at risk for serious flu complications. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccination each year. For the 2004-05 influenza season, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommended annual influenza vaccinations for all children aged 6-23 months. Beginning in the 2006-07 influenza seasons, ACIP extended its recommendation to include all children aged 6-59 months and children aged 6 months through 18 years who have certain high-risk medical conditions. The ACIP recommends influenza vaccination for all children regardless of age for the 2009-10 influenza season.

During the 2006 and 2008 calendar years, adult respondents reported flu vaccination coverage among children living within their household (the data were not collected in calendar year 2007). The influenza coverage was estimated as a percentage of children receiving influenza vaccine during the previous 12 months. The point estimate and its 95% confidence intervals are reported in this brief.

In 2006, approximately 23.4% (20.9-25.9%) of all NH children age 6 months and older were reported to have received a flu vaccine during the previous 12 months. In 2008, 33.1% (30.3-36.0%) reported receiving the flu vaccine. The increase from 2006 to 2008 was statistically significant. The reason most cited for not receiving the flu vaccine was “not being needed or recommended” (58.3% in 2006 and 53.0% in 2008).

Chart 1 shows influenza coverage by age groups as reported in 2006 and 2008. Significant changes occurred among 2 to 4-years-old and 5 to 12-years-old children.

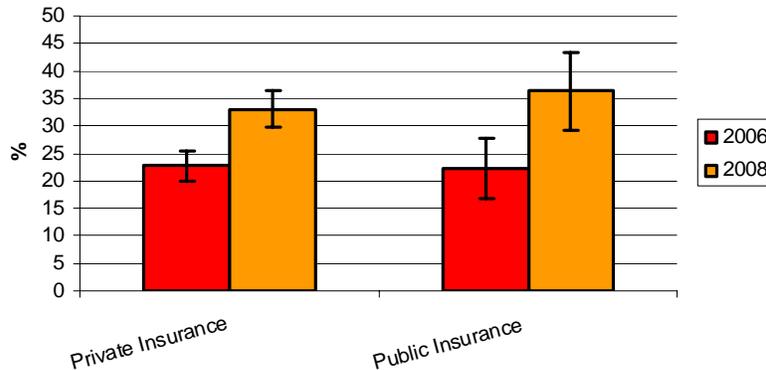
**Chart 1: Influenza Vaccination Among Children
During Previous 12 Months,
New Hampshire, 2006 and 2008**



Among children with reported chronic disease conditions (2006 and 2008 years combined), approximately 43.9% (37.1-50.7%) reported influenza vaccination during the previous 12 months.

Immunization against flu among those with public and private health insurance is depicted in chart 2. The noted increase was significant among those with private as well as public health insurance.

Chart 2: Influenza Vaccination Among Children During Previous 12 Months, New Hampshire, 2006 and 2008



School Immunization Survey

The New Hampshire Immunization Program collaborates with the New Hampshire Department of Education to conduct annual school immunization assessments. Randomly selected kindergarten and 7th grade students enrolled in private and public schools were assessed during the 2008/09 school year.

Estimated coverage for private kindergarten vaccination, New Hampshire, 2008

New Hampshire Estimate	Kindergarten	
	Percent up-to-date	Number up-to-date*
Polio (3+)	97.1	270
Diphtheria (4+)	95.0	264
Tetanus (4+)	95.0	264
Pertussis (4+)	95.0	264
Measles (2+)	94.6	263
Mumps (1+)	97.8	272
Rubella (1+)	97.8	272
Hepatitis B (3+)	98.9	275
Varicella (1)	99.6	277

*Estimates based on 278 surveyed children

At school entry, 7.2% of private kindergarten students were conditionally enrolled and 1.8% were exempt from vaccination based on their religious beliefs.

Estimated coverage for public kindergarten vaccination, New Hampshire, 2008

New Hampshire Estimate	Kindergarten	
	Percent up-to-date	Number up-to-date*
Polio (3+)	93.3	416
Diphtheria (4+)	94.2	420
Tetanus (4+)	94.2	420
Pertussis (4+)	94.2	420
Measles (2+)	93.0	415
Mumps (1+)	97.1	433
Rubella (1+)	97.1	433
Hepatitis B (3+)	97.1	433
Varicella (1)	98.0	437

*Estimates based on 446 surveyed children

At school entry, 8.1% of public kindergarten students were conditionally enrolled and 0.2% were exempt from vaccination due to medical reasons. Approximately 1.6% were exempt based on their religious beliefs.

Estimated coverage for private 7th grade vaccination, New Hampshire, 2008

New Hampshire Estimate	Kindergarten	
	Percent up-to-date	Number up-to-date*
Tdap/TD (1+)	100.0	260
Hepatitis B (3+)	100.0	260
Measles (2+)	99.6	259
Mumps (1+)	100.0	260
Rubella (1+)	100.0	260
Varicella (1)	99.2	258

*Estimates based on 260 surveyed children

At school entry, 0.4% of private 7th grade students were conditionally enrolled and 1.5% were exempt based on their religious beliefs.

Estimated coverage for public 7th grade vaccination, New Hampshire, 2008

New Hampshire Estimate	Kindergarten	
	Percent up-to-date	Number up-to-date*
Tdap/TD (1+)	99.6	504
Hepatitis B (3+)	99.4	503
Measles (2+)	99.6	504
Mumps (1+)	99.8	505
Rubella (1+)	99.8	505
Varicella (1)	99.6	504

*Estimates based on 506 surveyed children

At school entry, 0.8% of public 7th grade students were conditionally enrolled and 0.6% were exempt from vaccination due to medical reasons. Approximately 0.6% were exempt based on their religious beliefs.

References:

Prevention and Control of Influenza, Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), MMWR - May 28, 2004/53(RR06);1-40; MMWR - July 28, 2006 / 55(RR10);1-42; MMWR - August 8, 2008 / 57(RR07);1-60