

BRFSS Fact Sheet

Flu and Pneumonia Vaccination



Tennessee
Department of Health

Cordell Hull Bldg.
425 5th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37243

<http://state.tn.us/health>

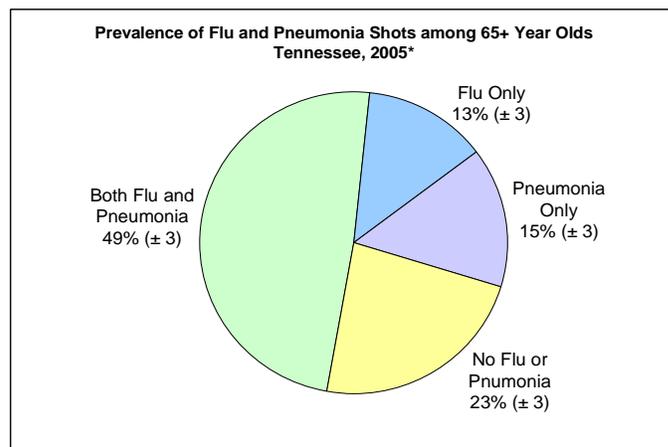
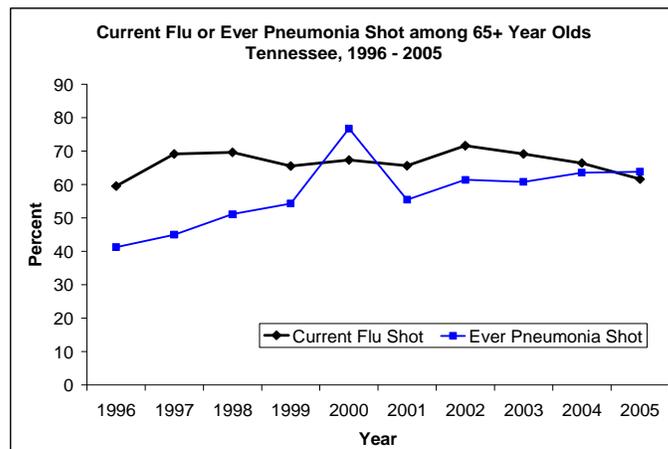
In 2004, influenza and pneumonia were the 8th leading cause of death in the United States and in Tennessee.¹ Each year, approximately 1,800 people die from flu and pneumonia in Tennessee. An important way to prevent flu and pneumonia is through vaccination.² Two of the Healthy People 2010 goals are to increase to 90% both the proportion of adults aged 65 and older who are vaccinated annually against influenza and the proportion who have ever been vaccinated against pneumococcal disease.³ Improving adherence to vaccination recommendations is important for reaching these goals and for increasing the quality and years of healthy life among all Tennesseans.

- In 2005, 61.6% (± 3.5)* of Tennessee elderly (i.e. 65 years and older) reported they had received a flu vaccine in the past 12 months, compared to 65.5% for the United States.⁴ This was the lowest percentage with a current flu shot since 1996.
- In 2005, 63.8% (± 3.5) of Tennessee elderly reported they had ever received a pneumonia vaccine, compared to 65.7% for the United States.⁴ Between 1996 and 2005, the percentage of elderly who had ever had a pneumonia shot increased from 41.3% to 63.8%.

- Approximately half of adults aged 65 and older had both a pneumonia vaccine *and* a current flu vaccine. Approximately a fifth had not received either shot.

- A higher percentage of elderly males (65.1%) had a current flu shot than did females (59.1%). However, a higher percentage of females than males had ever had a pneumonia shot (66.5% vs. 59.8%, respectively)

- A higher percentage of elderly whites had a current flu shot or had ever had a pneumonia shot (63.4% and 66.4%, respectively) than did blacks (51.9% and 46.9%).



References:

1. National Center for Health Statistics. Deaths: Final Data for 2004. (www.cdc.gov/nchs)
2. National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (www.nfid.org)
3. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Healthy People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health*. 2nd ed. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, November 2000.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov/brfss) U.S. data includes DC and territories.
5. National Immunization Program (www.cdc.gov/nip)

Prepared by the Tennessee Department of Health; Office of Policy, Planning and Assessment; Surveillance, Epidemiology and Evaluation section based on 2005 TN Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System data.

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- Flu and pneumonia shots are recommended for persons with certain medical conditions, regardless of age (see box at right).
- Among adults aged 18 and older, 36.4% of people with a history of diabetes, coronary heart disease and/or asthma had received a flu shot in the past 12 months, compared to 26.0% of those without a history of these chronic health conditions.
- Among adults aged 18 and older, 41.0% of people with a history of diabetes, coronary heart disease and/or asthma had ever received a pneumonia shot, compared to 17.0% of those without a history of these chronic health conditions.
- A new nasal-spray flu vaccine was licensed in 2003 for use in healthy people between the ages of 5 and 49 years. Among adult Tennesseans aged 18-49 who reported receiving a flu vaccination in the past 12 months, 93.8% (± 4.9) received the flu shot, 2.5% (± 1.5) received the flu nasal-spray and 3.6% (± 4.7) received both the shot and nasal-spray.

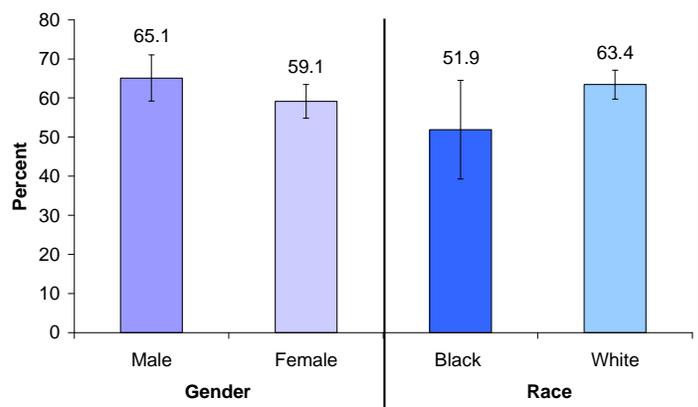
Who should get an annual flu shot?⁵

- Children 6-59 months of age
- Women who will be pregnant during flu season
- People 65 years of age and older
- People with weakened immune systems
- People with certain chronic medical conditions such as heart, lung or kidney disease, asthma, or diabetes
- People who live in nursing homes and other long term care facilities
- People who live with or care for those at high risk for flu

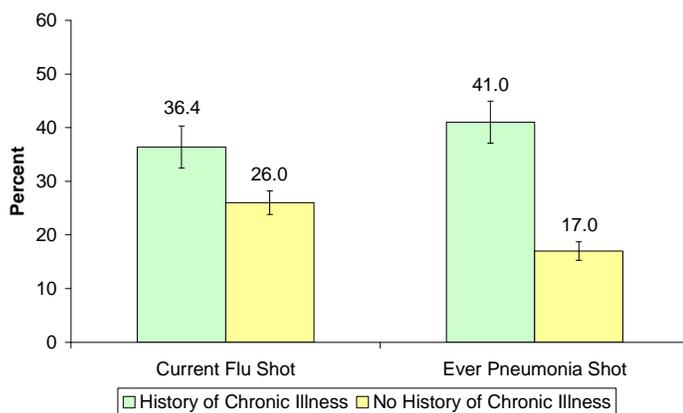
Who should get a pneumonia shot?²

- People 65 years of age and older
- People with weakened immune systems
- People with sickle cell disease or without a spleen
- People with certain chronic medical conditions such as heart, lung, liver or kidney disease, diabetes, or alcoholism

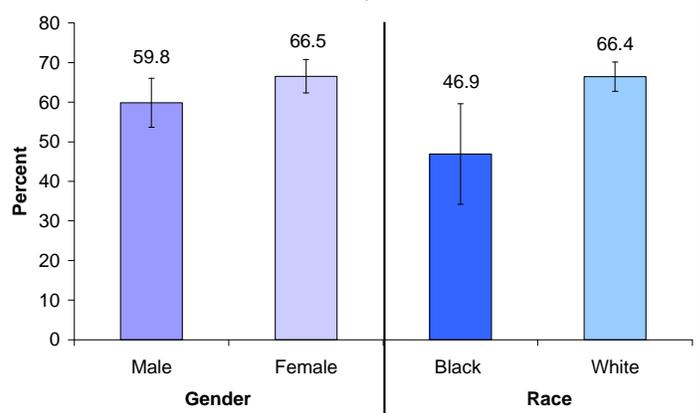
Current Flu Shot by Gender or Race among 65+ Year Olds Tennessee, 2005*



Vaccination Status by History of Chronic Illness among 18+ Year Olds Tennessee, 2005*



Ever Pneumonia Shot by Gender or Race among 65+ Year Olds Tennessee, 2005*



*The number above each column indicates the percent value for that column. Error bars represent 95% confidence intervals, as do ranges for percentages given in the text.