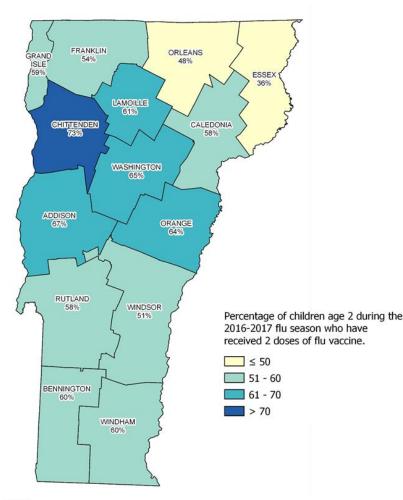
Influenza - Assessing Coverage to Improve Outreach

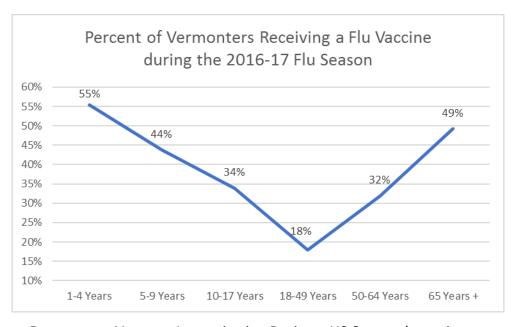
Between 2004 and 2012, 830 pediatric deaths were attributed to influenza in the US. Vaccination remains the most effective means to prevent infection, and the Vermont Immunization Registry is an excellent resource for assessing how well this vulnerable population is protected. By the age of 2, children should have received at least two doses of the flu vaccine. The map below shows the coverage rates for last year's flu season by county, showing the percentage of 2-year-olds that received two doses by age 2. The overall state rate is 62%.

Seasonal vaccination against the flu remains important throughout a person's life. The Vermont Immunization Registry is a terrific resource for assessing this larger population as well, especially since the Registry is now getting data from all hospital clinics, and most Vermont pharmacies, where many older Vermonters get their annual flu shot.

The graph below demonstrates that last year flu vaccination rates were low in the adolescent and young adult population, and higher in young children and older adults.



Data source: Vermont Immunization Registry



Data source: Vermont Immunization Registry, US Census denominator