

The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is a survey of women who recently gave birth that asks about their experiences and behaviors before, during and shortly after their pregnancy. Vermont has participated in PRAMS since 2001. This is a report on flu vaccination and healthcare worker advice on the flu vaccine for Vermont births in the years 2012-2015.



Among 2015 Vermont births, 86.7% of mothers had a healthcare worker advise them to get a flu shot or offer them a flu shot. This number was not statistically different than 2013 or 2014, and slightly higher than 2012.

For 2015, 59.9% of mothers got a flu shot in the 12 months before giving birth. 10.7% got a flu shot in the three months before pregnancy, and 49.3% got one during pregnancy.

Being offered a flu shot and/or being advised to get the flu shot by a healthcare worker was strongly associated with getting a flu shot in the twelve months before giving birth.



Around two-thirds (68.9%) of women who had been offered or advised to get a flu shot got a flu shot in the 12 months before delivery.

Less than 20% of those who did not get any such offer or advice got a flu shot in the year before delivery. There were significant demographic differences in getting the flu shot in the year before giving birth. Women were more likely to get a flu shot in the year before giving birth if they were age 25 or older, a woman of color (not a non-Hispanic white), had any college education, lived in households with an income of 200% or more of the Federal Poverty Limit, or had private insurance for prenatal care. Women who received a prenatal home visit from a healthcare worker or who were enrolled in WIC were less likely to get a flu shot, as well.



Demographic Differences in Flu Vaccination 12 Months Before Delivery, 2012-2015 Vermont Births

There were statistically significant, but small, differences in being offered a flu shot across some demographic groups (not pictured). Women not enrolled in WIC, those who did not have a prenatal home visit, those with private insurance, those with higher incomes and educations, and those age 25 or older were all slightly more likely to be offered a flu shot or told to get one. There was no difference between white women and women of color in receiving flu shot advice.

Demographic differences in flu shot advice did not account for the demographic differences in getting a flu shot, and 80% or more of women in each of these demographic subgroups were offered a flu shot or told to get one.

## The following PRAMS flu shot questions were used for this data brief:

- During the 12 months before the delivery of your new baby, did a doctor, nurse, or other health care worker offer you a flu shot or tell you to get one?
- During the 12 months before the delivery of your new baby, did you get a flu shot?
  - o No
  - Yes, before my pregnancy
  - Yes, during my pregnancy

Questions or comments about this report, or requests for further data, may be sent to John Davy at <u>john.davy@vermont.gov</u> or (802) 863-7661. More information about Vermont PRAMS can also be found at <u>http://healthvermont.gov/PRAMS/</u>.