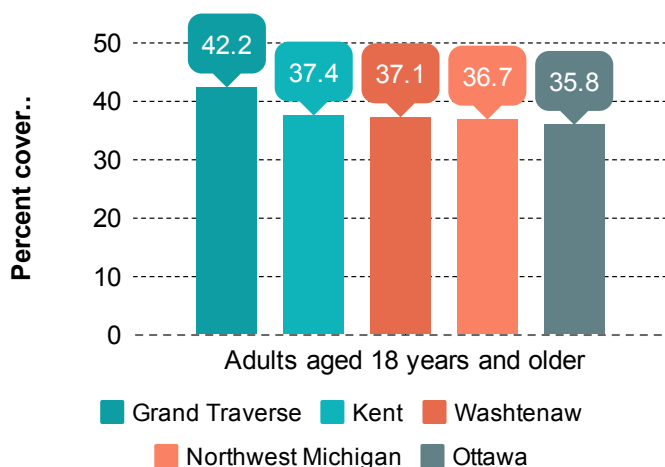
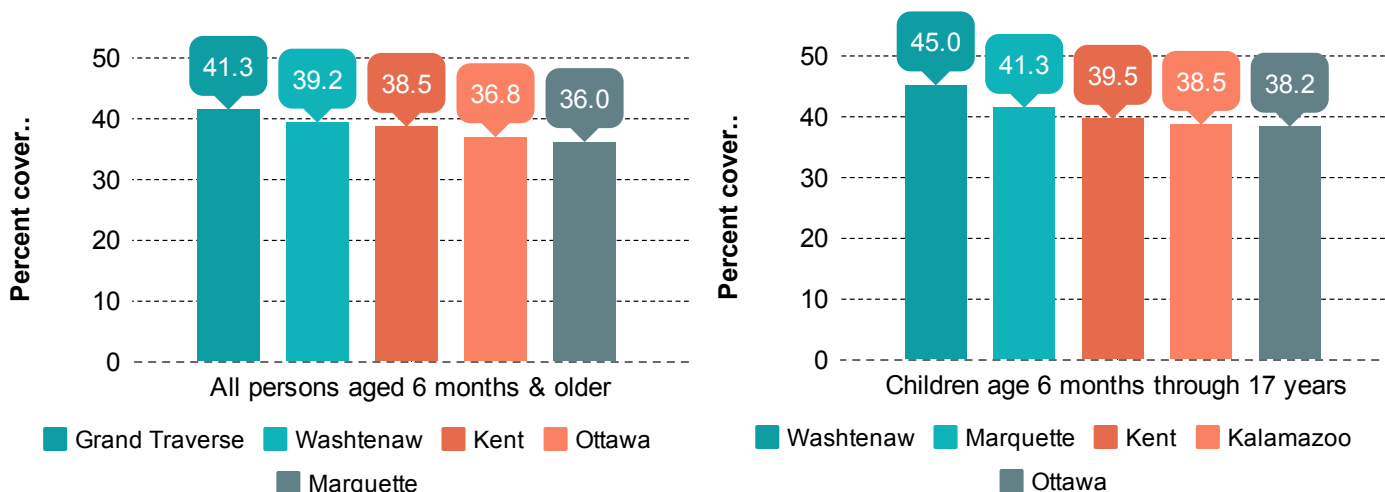


Influenza Vaccination Best Practices

For the 2017-18 influenza season, Michigan ranked 38th in the U.S. for flu vaccination coverage of all persons aged 6 months and older. In an effort to increase our states' flu vaccination coverage rates, MDHHS asked the top performing local health departments (LHDs) for the 2017-18 flu season and LHDs that have improved their influenza vaccination coverage by at least 10% over the past five years about the activities to which they attribute their success.

To see national rankings of influenza vaccination coverage levels, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluview/1718season.htm>

LHD jurisdictions with the highest influenza vaccination coverage levels for the 2017-18 flu season by age group



TOP 10 PRACTICES FOR LHDs

1. Offer clients flu vaccine at every visit, and document client refusal.
2. If a child needs 2 doses, schedule the second dose before the client leaves the LHD.
3. Send out recall messages, every year and throughout the season for 2nd doses.
4. Hold flu clinics throughout the community.
5. Continue vaccinating against flu through June 30 or until the vaccine expires.
6. Enter every vaccination into MCIR, and assess MCIR at every client visit for flu vaccination status.
7. Promote flu vaccination throughout the season to community partners and through local media.
8. Offer extended clinic hours and flu-only appointments to capture the different needs of the community.
9. Bill private insurances for flu vaccine and other immunizations.
10. Educate providers and the community through multiple methods including newsletters, websites, and social media- coordinated outreach efforts.

LHD Testimonials

- *Ottawa County uses a "Refusal to Consent for Vaccination" form for every declination of vaccination.*
- *Kent County offers flu clinics during the fall with evening and weekend hours.*
- *Marquette, NW Michigan, and Kalamazoo County hold many community flu clinics targeting schools, local businesses, senior centers, adult foster care homes, and more to reach a diverse community population.*
- *Kalamazoo County integrates influenza vaccination into other out-clinics to reach certain vulnerable populations.*
- *HDNW provides AVP, VFC, and Private Pay vaccines in all of their programs and reaches out to local jails and treatment centers to provide flu vaccination to these communities.*
- *Washtenaw, Kent, and Kalamazoo Counties send out second dose recall messages throughout the flu season and will vaccinate community members until vaccine expires.*
- *Kent and Kalamazoo Counties discuss influenza vaccination rates at provider meetings to encourage and educate providers on influenza vaccination.*

Targeted Vaccination Efforts

- Utilize the Michigan Care Improvement Registry
- Targeted education and outreach efforts
- Focus on specific vulnerable and underserved populations
- Partner with other LHD programs and external organizations

INCREASING COVERAGE



Health departments that increased coverage more than 10% over the past five influenza seasons were also contacted to identify strategies they used to improve influenza vaccination coverage within their communities.

These health departments include:

- District Health Department 2 (DHD2)
- District Health Department 4 (DHD4)
- Benzie-Leelanau
- Livingston County
- Wayne County

- Benzie-Leelanau utilized coordinated outreach efforts to improve their rates. When holding clinics, and educating at-risk populations regarding Hepatitis A. They also would stress the importance of the flu vaccine and offer it to anyone arriving at the clinic.

- DHD4 holds drive-through flu clinics to try and capture community members not coming specifically to other LHD clinics.

- DHD2 understands the importance of a strong provider recommendation and encourages clerks and nursing staff to approach flu vaccination as if it were any other routine vaccine.

- Wayne County Health Department measures influenza coverage for individual VFC providers by running monthly jurisdictional profile reports in MCIR and assessing the reports with each provider during VFC compliance visits.

- Livingston utilizes the VFC pre-booking tool provided by MDHHS Immunization Division to assist providers with VFC pre-booking and ordering age-appropriate VFC influenza vaccine.

RESOURCES

- MDHHS Influenza Website: www.michigan.gov/flu
- MDHHS Guidance for Holding Vaccination Clinics: www.michigan.gov/documents/mdch/Considerations_252215_7.pdf
- CDC Flu Toolkit: www.cdc.gov/flu/resource-center/toolkit/index.htm
- MDHHS Materials for Healthcare Providers: www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550_2955_22779_40563_48357-191504--,00.html
- CDC Prevent Flu Homepage: www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/index.html

MDHHS- Division of Immunization intends this document to be used as a tool by LHDs to incorporate these best practices into their flu vaccination efforts. It is necessary to have administrative support to implement new activities in the future that may increase flu vaccination coverage in your jurisdiction. If you have any questions about activities in this document and would like to contact your fellow LHDs to find out more, please contact Shelly Doeblner, Influenza Epidemiologist, at DoeblerM@michigan.gov or 517-284-4874 to be connected with the appropriate LHD.
