

**Working Papers
Project on the Public and Biological Security
Harvard School of Public Health**

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FLU I

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Many Americans at High Risk from the Flu Have Not Gotten Vaccinated This Season

One in 10 Americans Report Difficulty Involving Shortages

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BOSTON, MA — The latest national poll conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health *Project on the Public and Biological Security* finds that a significant number of Americans at high risk of serious complications from the flu have not gotten a flu vaccine this season. The CDC highly recommends the vaccine for certain high-risk groups including people with chronic illnesses, children between the ages of six and 23 months, and people aged 65 and over. Nearly half (47%) of people with chronic illnesses have not had a flu vaccination in the past three months. In addition, more than three-fourths (78%) of parents report that their children ages six to 23 months have not received a flu vaccine so far this season. This is the case even though the vaccine recommendation for these young children is widely known by Americans (74%).

One success this year in getting high-risk people vaccinated has been seniors. More than two-thirds (71%) of people aged 65 and older have received a flu vaccine so far this season.

“Clearly, in the weeks ahead, the focus has to be on trying to get these high-risk groups vaccinated,” said Robert J. Blendon, professor of Health Policy and Political Analysis at the Harvard School of Public Health.

Shortages of Flu Vaccine Affect One in 10 Americans

One in 10 Americans (10%) report that they have not gotten a flu vaccine due at least in part to shortages. About one-third of these people (3% of the public) still plan to get vaccinated in the next three months, but two-thirds (7%) do not.

One in 10 parents (10%) report that they have not gotten their children age six months to under 18 years old a flu vaccination due at least in part to shortages. Half (5%) still plan to get their child a vaccination this season, but half (5%) do not.

Four percent of Americans age 65 and older and 6 percent of adults with chronic illnesses report that they have not gotten a flu vaccine due at least in part to shortages.

Only two percent of those who have gotten a flu vaccine report having had any difficulty getting it.

These findings, based on interviews with 1,037 non-institutionalized adults nationwide, including 340 parents of children age six months to under 18 years old, come at a time when influenza activity is reported as widespread in 36 states.

Reasons Why Many Americans Don't Plan to Get Flu Vaccine

Nearly half (49%) of American adults report that they do not plan to get a flu vaccine this season, mainly citing reasons other than vaccine shortages. Of those who do not plan to get vaccinated, only 14 percent say shortages are a reason. The most frequently named reasons for not planning to get a flu vaccination are: they do not think they are at risk of getting a serious case of the flu (54%); they do not think the vaccine would be effective in preventing them from getting the flu (45%); and they are concerned about side effects (42%). One in eight Americans (13%) believe that they have had the flu in the past three months.

Some 44 percent of parents do not plan to get a flu vaccine this season for their children between the ages of six months to under 18 years old. Of parents who do not plan to get their children vaccinated, one in eight (12%) cite vaccine shortages as a reason. The most frequently named reasons for not getting their child a flu vaccination are: they do not think their child is at risk of getting a serious case of the flu (46%); they are concerned about side effects (41%); their child does not like shots (36%); and they do not think the vaccine would be effective in preventing their child from getting the flu (36%). The CDC does not make a specific recommendation that all adults and children receive the flu vaccine.

“Shortages of the flu vaccine are not the main reason people are not getting vaccinated,” said Prof. Blendon, “but there are still many Americans who want to get the vaccine who are going without it because of the scarcity. This needs to be addressed by public policy makers.”

Concerns about the Side Effects of Flu Vaccine

Although there is substantial public demand for the flu vaccine, a share of the public has concerns about the safety of the flu vaccine. About three in 10 (29%) believe that a person who gets a flu shot is very or somewhat likely to become seriously ill or die. Nearly half (45%) believe that a person getting a flu shot is likely to get the flu from the vaccine. According to the CDC: “The risk of a vaccine causing harm or death is extremely small. Serious problems from flu vaccine are very rare.”

<http://www.cdc.gov/nip/publications/VIS/vis-flu.pdf>

At the same time, most Americans underestimate the number of people who die from the flu in this country. Three in five (58%) believe that 10,000 or fewer people die from the flu in the U.S. in a typical year, less than one-third of the actual number of fatalities from the disease (the average is 36,000 per year).

Many Americans Believe the Flu Is Worse This Year Than in Past Years and Most Believe the U.S. Is Experiencing a Flu Vaccine Shortage

Half of Americans believe that more people are getting sick with the flu this year (50%) and that this year's flu is more likely to make a person seriously ill compared with past outbreaks (45%). Three in five (62%) are concerned that they or a family member may

get the flu in the next three months. More than three-fourths (80%) of Americans believe the U.S. has been experiencing shortages of the flu vaccine this year.

Nasal Spray Vaccine

This year a nasal spray vaccine called FluMist™ has been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as an alternative to a flu shot for healthy people age five to 49. Most people (73%) have heard of FluMist™, but only one in eight adults getting a flu vaccine during the last three months (13%) say they were told by their health care provider that the nasal spray vaccine was available to them. The survey did not measure how many people actually received the nasal spray vaccine.

The CDC is the Most Trusted Source of Information about the Flu Vaccine

In a year when there has been some conflicting information about who should receive the flu vaccine, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is the most trusted of several groups as a source of reliable information about the flu vaccine. Three-fourths (75%) said they trusted the CDC a great deal or a good amount. About two-thirds trust their state (66%) and local health department (65%).

The complete survey can be seen at: www.hsph.harvard.edu/xxx

Charts and graphs: www.hsph.harvard.edu/yyy

Tables: www.hsph.harvard.edu/zzz

(For information about the flu, go to the CDC website, <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>).

Methodology

This is the 13th in a series of studies by the Harvard School of Public Health *Project on the Public and Biological Security*. The project was funded through the federally-supported Center for Public Health Preparedness at HSPH.

The study was designed and analyzed by researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health. The project director is Robert J. Blendon of the Harvard School of Public Health. The research team also includes John M. Benson, Catherine M. DesRoches, Kathleen Weldon, Elizabeth Raleigh, Stephen Pelletier, and Kalahn Taylor-Clark of the Harvard School of Public Health and Melissa J. Herrmann of ICR/International Communications Research. Fieldwork was conducted via telephone for the Project by ICR/International Communications Research of Media (PA) between December 12-16, 2003. The survey was conducted with a nationally representative sample of 1,037 non-institutionalized adults age 18 and over, including 340 parents of children age six months or older but under 18 years old. The margin of error for the total sample is plus or minus three percentage points; for the parents, plus or minus 5.5 percentage points.

Figure 1:

Who Has and Has Not Gotten a Flu Vaccine, Past 3 Months

	Gotten flu vaccine in past 3 months	Haven't gotten but plan to	Don't plan to
Total Adults	33%	17%	49%
Age 65+	71%	7%	20%
Have chronic disease	51%	12%	35%
Children 6 mos- under 18 yrs.*	21%	30%	44%
Children 6-23 mos.*	17%	37%	41%

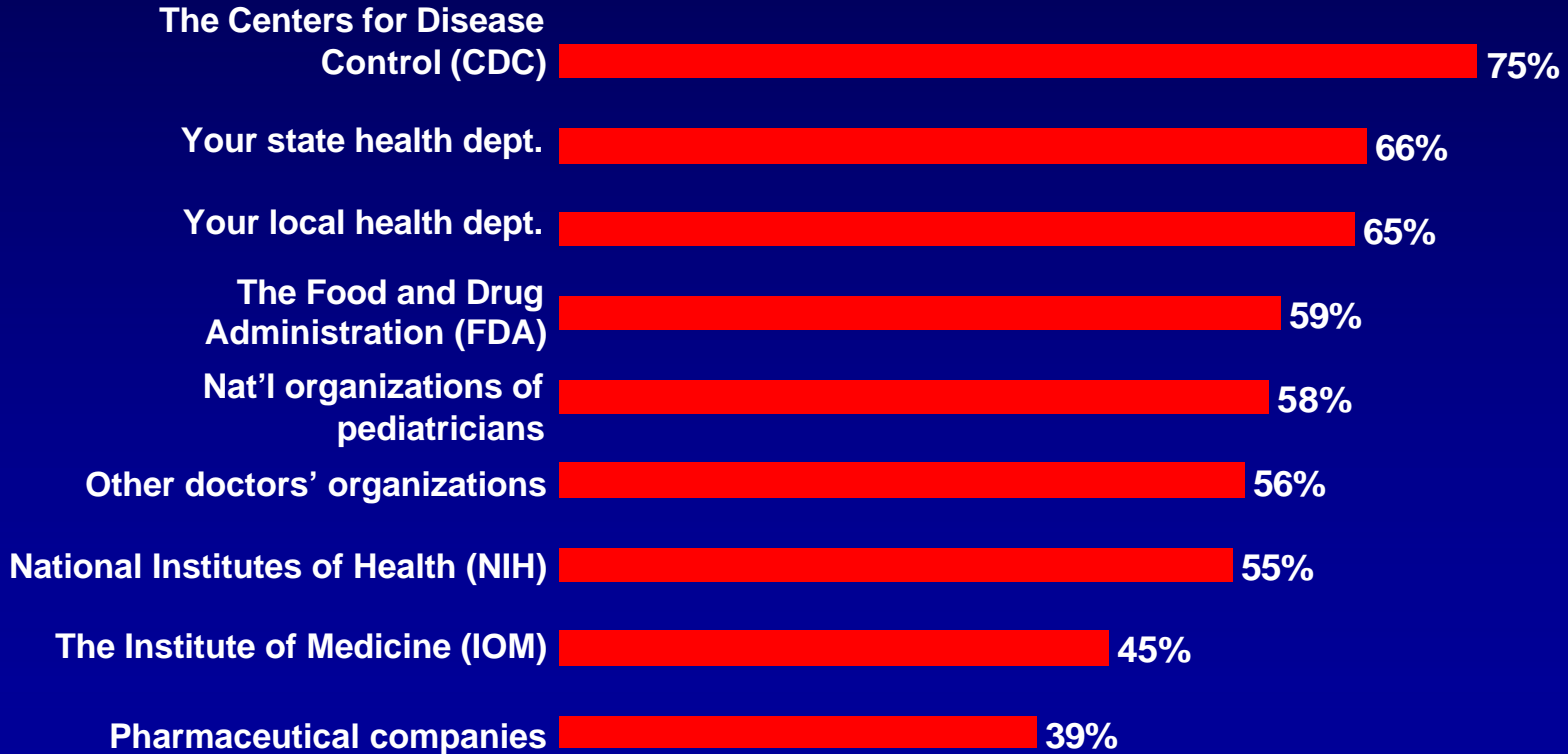
*Parent reports

"Don't know" not shown

Harvard School of Public Health *Project on the Public and Biological Security*, December 2003

Figure 2: Trust in Information Sources on Flu Vaccine

Percent saying they trust each source a great deal or a good amount



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**Harvard School of Public Health
Project on the Public and Biological Security**

FLU SURVEY

**December 12-16, 2003
N=1037 non-institutionalized adults nationwide**

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I N T E R N A T I O N A L C O M M U N I C A T I O N S R E S E A R C H

**Harvard School of Public Health
Project on the Public and Biological Security
Flu Survey
Final Topline**

The Harvard School of Public Health/CDC Flu Study was conducted by telephone from December 12-16, 2003 among a nationally representative sample of 1037 non-institutionalized adults age 18 and older. All fieldwork by ICR/International Communications Research of Media, PA. The margin of error for the total sample is plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Concern

FL-1. How concerned are you that you or a family member will get each of the following in the next 3 months?
Would you say you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not concerned at all about getting (INSERT ITEM)?

a. The flu

	CONCERNED			NOT CONCERNED			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all		
12/16/03	62	29	33	37	21	17	*	--

b. SARS, a respiratory disease from Asia

	CONCERNED			NOT CONCERNED			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all		
12/16/03	29	16	14	70	28	42	1	--

c. An infectious disease caused by bioterrorism

	CONCERNED			NOT CONCERNED			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all		
12/16/03	36	18	19	62	27	36	1	*

Past Flu Experience

FL-2. Have you had the flu at any time in the last 12 months or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
	19	81	*	--

(Asked of total who have had the flu in the past 12 months; n = 187)

FL-3. Was that in the last three months, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	66	34	--	--

FL-2/3. Combo Table

	Have had flu in the last 3 months	Have not had flu in the last 3 months	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	13	87	*	--

(Asked of total who have had the flu in the past 12 months; n = 187)

FL-4. Did your doctor or other health professional tell you that you had the flu?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	36	63	1	--

FL-2/4. Combo Table

	Had flu in the past 12 months			Did not have flu in the past 12 months	Don't know	Refused
	NET	Doctor/other health professional told you	Doctor/other health professional didn't tell you			
12/16/03	19	7	12	81	*	--

(Asked total whose doctor or health professional told them they had the flu; n =69)

FL-5. Did the doctor order a lab test to make sure you had the flu, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	33	56	11	--

(Asked of total whose doctor or health professional did not tell them they had the flu;

n = 116)

FL-6. Did you have any of the following symptoms the last time you were sick with the flu? Did you have (INSERT)?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
a. A sudden high fever of 102 degrees or more	37	56	4	2
b. Muscle aches and extreme tiredness	88	11	--	*
c. A runny nose	76	21	3	*
d. Nausea and vomiting	44	55	1	*
e. Diarrhea	36	62	2	*
f. A headache	79	19	2	*
g. A dry cough	65	30	5	*
h. A sore throat	75	23	2	*
i. An earache	15	84	1	--

(Asked of total who have not had the flu in the past 12 months; n = 850)

FL-7. When adults get the flu, which of these symptoms do you think they get? Do you think they have (INSERT), or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
a. A sudden high fever of 102 degrees or more	84	14	3	--
b. Muscle aches and extreme tiredness	95	3	2	--
c. A runny nose	74	22	3	*
d. Nausea and vomiting	71	25	4	--
e. Diarrhea	53	39	8	--
f. A headache	86	11	3	--
g. A dry cough	64	30	6	--
h. A sore throat	77	18	5	*
i. An earache	32	61	7	--

Respondent's Vaccination Experience

I am going to ask you a few questions about the flu shot or flu vaccine.

FL-8. Did you get a flu vaccine **last** year or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	36	64	*	--

FL-9. Have you talked to your doctor or health professional about the flu **this** year or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	30	70	--	--

FL-10. Has your doctor or health professional recommended that you get a flu shot **this** year or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	38	60	2	--

FL-11. Please tell me if...?

	You have gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months	You haven't gotten one yet, but plan to soon	You don't plan to get a flu vaccine	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	33	17	49	1	--

(Asked of total who have gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months; n = 406)

FL-12. Was that in September, in October, in November, in December, or don't you remember?

	September	October	November	December	Don't remember	Refused
12/16/03	9	44	35	9	3	--

FL-11/12. Combo Table

	Have gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months					Haven't gotten one yet but plan to soon	Don't plan to get a flu vaccine	Don't know	Refused
	NET	In September	In October	In November	In December				
12/16/03	33	3	15	12	3	17	49	1	--

(Asked of total who have gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months; n = 406)

FL-13. Where did you go to get the vaccine? Did you get the vaccine at your doctor's office or clinic, a hospital, a health department, your school or workplace, a pharmacy or supermarket, a community center or some other place?

	12/16/03
Doctor's office or clinic	52
A hospital	8
A health department	6
School or workplace	17
A pharmacy or supermarket	7
A community center	2
Some other place	7
Don't know	1
Refused	--

(Asked of total who have gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months; n = 406)

FL-14. Did you experience any difficulties in getting your vaccine or not?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	2	98	--	--

(Asked of total who got vaccinations but experienced difficulties in getting it; n = 9)

FL-15. Please tell me if each of the following was a major problem you experienced in getting your vaccine, a minor problem, or not a problem at all:

- a. It was too hard to get to a place where I could get a vaccine
- b. The vaccine was not available at a time when I could get it
- c. There were shortages of the vaccine
- d. You couldn't afford the vaccine
- e. The lines were very long

[INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF CASES FOR ANALYSIS]

(Asked of total who haven't gotten a flu vaccine yet, but plan to soon; n = 153)

FL-16. Have you tried to get the vaccine but experienced difficulties in doing so, haven't tried yet because it seemed too difficult at the time, or have you just not gotten around to getting the vaccine yet?

	Tried but experienced difficulties	Haven't tried because it seemed too difficult	Haven't gotten around to it	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	25	13	61	1	--

FL-11/16. Combo Table

	Have gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months	Haven't gotten one yet, but plan to soon				Don't plan to get a flu vaccine	Don't know	Refused
		NET	Tried but experienced difficulties	Haven't tried because it seemed difficult	Haven't gotten around to it			
12/16/03	33	17	4	4	10	49	1	--

(Asked of those who plan to get flu vaccinations, have tried, but experienced difficulties; %s based on total sample)

FL-17. Please tell me if each of the following was a major problem you experienced in trying to get a vaccine, a minor problem, or not a problem at all:

Percentage of total sample who have tried to get vaccine but had major/minor problem with each of the following, still plan to get vaccine

- | | | |
|----|--|----|
| a. | It was too hard to get to a place where I could get the vaccine | 1% |
| b. | The vaccine was not available at a time when I could get it | 3% |
| c. | There were shortages of the vaccine | 3% |
| d. | You couldn't afford the vaccine | 1% |
| e. | The lines were very long | 1% |
| f. | The health care provider told you that you shouldn't get one because there were shortages of the vaccine | 2% |
| g. | The health care provider told you that you shouldn't get one for medical reasons | 1% |

(Asked of total who don't plan to get a flu vaccine; n = 471)

FL-19. Please tell me if each of the following is a major reason why you don't plan to get a flu vaccine, a minor reason, or not a reason at all?

a. You don't think you are at risk to get a serious case of the flu

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	22	32	45	2	--

b. You don't think the vaccine would be effective in preventing you from getting the flu

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	23	22	52	3	*

c. You are concerned about side effects

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	21	21	57	*	--

d. It is too expensive

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	4	11	83	2	--

e. It is too hard to get to a place where I could get the vaccine

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	5	11	83	*	--

f. You have had a flu shot before and don't need one

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	7	9	84	1	--

g. You don't like shots

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	17	17	66	--	--

h. You tried to get the vaccine, but experienced difficulties

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	6	8	86	*	--

i. The health care provider told you that you shouldn't get one because there were shortages of the vaccine

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	5	7	88	1	--

j. The health care provider told you that you shouldn't get one for some other reason

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	6	6	87	*	--

(Asked of total who don't plan to get a flu vaccine and said that a major or minor reason why was that they had tried to get the vaccine, but experienced difficulties; %s based on total of those who do not plan to get flu vaccine)

FL-20. Please tell me if each of the following was a major problem you experienced in trying to get a vaccine, a minor problem, or not a problem at all:

Percentage of those who don't plan to get a flu vaccine who said that a major or minor reason why was that they had tried to get the vaccine, but experienced major or minor difficulties with each of the following

- a. It was too hard to get to a place where I could get the vaccine 4%
- b. The vaccine was not available at a time when I could get it 7%

- c. There were shortages of the vaccine 8%
- d. You couldn't afford the vaccine 5%
- e. The lines were very long 4%

FL-19i/20c. Combination Table (shortages as major/minor reason), based on those who don't plan to get flu vaccine

	There are shortages of vaccine or health care provider told you shouldn't get vaccine because of shortages
12/16/03	14

Combination table for Qs.FL-17-20 (based on total sample)

*Note: Includes difficulty due to shortages of vaccine or health care provider telling you that you shouldn't get vaccine because of shortages

	Haven't gotten/had difficulty involving shortages in getting flu vaccine*		
	NET	Tried to get vaccine but had difficulty involving shortages, still plan to get*	Don't plan to get vaccine because experienced difficulty involving shortages*
12/16/03	10	3	7

Vaccination Experience of Children

Note: This section represents parents' responses about a randomly chosen child in their household age 6 months to under 18 years old (n=340)

(Thinking of the child 6 months or older but under 18 years old who has the next birthday...)

Now I'd like to ask you some questions about that child...

(Asked of total who have children in household 6 months to 17 years old; n = 340)

FL-23. Has (that child) had the flu in the last 3 months or not?

	Yes, had flu	No, did not have flu	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	16	83	1	--

(Asked of total whose child had the flu in the last 3 months; n = 52)

FL-24. Did a doctor or health professional tell you that your child had the flu?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	47	52	1	--

(Asked of total whose doctor diagnosed child's flu; n = 27)

FL-25. Did the doctor order a lab test to make sure your child had the flu, or not?

[INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF CASES FOR ANALYSIS]

(Asked of total who have children in household 6 months to 17 years old; n = 340)

FL-26. Thinking of (that child), please tell me if...?

	S/he has gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months	S/he hasn't gotten one yet, but plan to do it soon	You don't plan to get him/her a flu vaccine	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	21	30	44	5	--

(Asked of total whose child has gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months; n = 76)

FL-27. Is this the first time your child got a flu vaccine?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	52	44	4	--

(Asked of total whose child has gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months; n = 76)

FL-30. Did you experience any difficulties in getting your child's vaccine?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	10	88	2	*

(Asked of total whose child got vaccine but experienced difficulties in getting it; n = 8)

FL-31. Please tell me if each of the following was a major problem you experienced in getting your child a vaccine, a minor problem, or not a problem at all:

- It is too hard to get to a place where my child could get the vaccine
- The vaccine was not available at a time when my child could get it
- There were shortages of the vaccine
- You couldn't afford the vaccine
- The lines were very long

[INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF CASES FOR ANALYSIS]

(Asked of total whose child hasn't gotten vaccine yet, but plan to soon; n = 89)

FL-32. Have you tried to get the vaccine for your child but experienced difficulties in doing so, haven't tried yet because it seemed too difficult at the time, or have you just not gotten around to getting the vaccine yet?

	Tried but experienced difficulties	Haven't tried because it seemed too difficult	Haven't gotten around to it	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	22	9	66	3	--

FL-26/32. Combo Table

(Total who have children in household 6 months to 17 years old; n = 340)

	Child has gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months	Child hasn't gotten one yet, but plan to soon				You don't plan to get child a flu vaccine	Don't know	Refused
		NET	Tried but experienced difficulties	Haven't tried because it seemed difficult	Haven't gotten around to it			
12/16/03	21	30	7	3	20	44	5	--

(Asked of total who plan to get their child vaccinated, tried to but experienced difficulties; %s based on total parents)

FL-33. Please tell me if each of the following was a major problem you experienced in trying to get the vaccine for your child, a minor problem, or not a problem at all:

Percentage of total parents who have tried to get vaccine but had major/minor problem with each of the following, still plan to get child vaccinated

a.	It is too hard to get to a place where my child could get the vaccine	2%
b.	The vaccine was not available at a time when my child could get it	6%
c.	There were shortages of the vaccine	5%
d.	You couldn't afford the vaccine	1%
e.	The lines were very long	1%
f.	The health care provider told you that your child shouldn't get one because there were shortages of the vaccine	2%
g.	The health care provider told you that your child shouldn't get one for some other reason	2%

(Asked of total who don't plan to get their child a flu vaccine; n = 163)

FL-35. Please tell me if each of the following is a major reason why you don't plan to get a flu vaccine for your child, a minor reason, or not a reason at all?

a. You don't think your child is at risk to get a serious case of the flu

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	17	29	52	2	--

b. You don't think the vaccine would be effective in preventing your child from getting the flu

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	19	17	61	3	--

c. You are concerned about side effects

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	21	20	57	2	--

d. It is too expensive

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	2	7	89	2	--

e. It is too hard to get to a place where my child could get the vaccine

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	5	9	84	2	--

f. Your child has gotten a flu shot before and doesn't need one

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	1	5	91	3	--

g. Your child doesn't like shots

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	20	16	64	--	--

h. The health care provider told you that your child shouldn't get one because there were shortages of the vaccine

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	1	7	90	2	--

i. The health care provider told you that your child shouldn't get one for some other reason

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	4	6	88	2	--

j. You tried to get your child the vaccine, but experienced difficulties

	Major reason	Minor reason	Not a reason at all	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	5	8	85	3	--

(Asked of parents who don't plan to get their child a flu vaccine and said that a major or minor reason why was that they had tried but experienced difficulties; %s based on parents who do not plan to get their child a flu vaccine)

FL-35a. Please tell me if each of the following was a major problem you experienced in trying to get your child a vaccine, a minor problem, or not a problem at all:

Percentage of parents who don't plan to get their child a flu vaccine who said that a major or minor reason why was that they had tried to get the vaccine, but experienced major or minor difficulties with each of the following

a. It was too hard to get to a place where I could get the vaccine 7%

- b. The vaccine was not available at a time when I could get it 9%
- c. There were shortages of the vaccine 11%
- d. You couldn't afford the vaccine 5%
- e. The lines were very long 5%

FL-35h/35ac. Combination Table (shortages as major/minor reason), based on parents who don't plan to get their child a flu vaccine

	There are shortages of vaccine or health care provider told you shouldn't get vaccine because of shortages
12/16/03	12

Combination table for Qs.FL-33-35ac (based on total parents)

*Note: Includes difficulty due to shortages of vaccine or health care provider telling you that you shouldn't get vaccine because of shortages

(Total who have children in household 6 months to 17 years old; n = 340)

Haven't gotten/had difficulty involving shortages in getting flu vaccine for child*			
	NET	Tried to get vaccine for child but had difficulty involving shortages, still plan to get*	Don't plan to get child vaccine because experienced difficulty involving shortages*
12/16/03	10	5	5

Vaccination Experience of Children 6 Months or older but under 2 Years Old

NOTE: This section presents parents' responses about a randomly chosen child in their household 6 months or older but under 2 years old (n=65).

FL-22/36 (Screener). (Asked of those who have children in household 6 months to 17 years old, n=340) Thinking of the child 6 months or older but under 18 years old who has the next birthday, please tell me how old that child is. (If randomly -chosen child is not 6-23 months old) In your household, is there also a child who is 6 months or older but under 2 years old?

(Sample consist of those who had child 6-23 months old in answer to either question)

(Asked of total who have child in household 6 months to 23 months old; n= 65)

FL-26/37. Please tell me if...?

	S/he has gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months	S/he hasn't gotten one yet, but plan to do it soon	You don't plan to get him/her a flu vaccine	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	17	37	41	5	--

Knowledge and Beliefs about Flu Vaccine

FL-46. Do you think the flu shot that is available this year is very effective at preventing people from getting the flu, somewhat effective, not too effective, or not at all effective?

	EFFECTIVE			NOT EFFECTIVE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	Not at all		
12/16/03	62	18	45	18	11	7	20	*

FL-47. How likely do you think it is that a person who gets the flu shot would experience the following sorts of side effects from the vaccination? How about (INSERT ITEM)? Do you think that it is very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

a. Getting the flu from the vaccine

	LIKELY			NOT LIKELY			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not very	Not at all		
12/16/03	45	11	34	51	25	26	3	*

b. Fever or extreme tiredness

	LIKELY			NOT LIKELY			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not very	Not at all		
12/16/03	54	15	39	40	22	17	6	*

c. Serious illness

	LIKELY			NOT LIKELY			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not very	Not at all		
12/16/03	23	5	17	72	38	34	6	*

d. Death

	LIKELY			NOT LIKELY			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not very	Not at all		
12/16/03	17	4	13	79	36	42	4	*

FL-47 Combo Table
Base = Total Respondents

	Think serious illness or death is very/somewhat likely	Do not think serious illness or death is likely
12/16/03	29	71

FL-48. Have you heard of the new nasal spray vaccine, FluMist, which can be an alternative to receiving a flu shot, or haven't you heard of it?

	Yes, heard of it	No, have not heard of it	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	73	27	*	--

(Asked of those who have gotten a flu vaccine in the last 3 months; n=406)

FL-49. When you got your flu vaccine, did your health care provider tell you that the nasal spray vaccine FluMist was available to you or not?

	Yes, did tell you	No, did not tell you	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	13	85	2	--

Vaccine Supply

FL-50. To the best of your knowledge, is there enough flu vaccine in your community this year for everyone who wants one or has your community been experiencing shortages of the flu vaccine?

	Yes, enough	No, experiencing shortages	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	28	53	19	--

FL-51. To the best of your knowledge, is there enough flu vaccine in the U.S. this year for everyone who wants one or has the U.S. been experiencing shortages of the flu vaccine?

	Yes, there is enough vaccine this year for everyone who wants one	No, the US has been experiencing shortages of the vaccine	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	11	80	9	--

(Asked of one half total respondents; n=516)

FL-52. How much would you trust each of the following as a source of reliable information on the flu? If you haven't heard enough about that organization to have an opinion, just tell me. (First) How much would you trust (INSERT)? A great deal, a good amount, only some, or very little?

a. The CDC or Centers for Disease Control

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	70	44	26	17	10	7	12	--

b. The IOM or Institute of Medicine

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	42	20	22	22	14	9	35	--

c. The NIH or the National Institutes of Health

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	57	32	25	23	18	5	20	--

d. Your local health department

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	66	33	33	29	20	9	5	--

e. Your state health department

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	64	32	32	29	18	11	7	--

f. National organizations of pediatricians

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	64	35	29	22	13	9	14	--

g. Other doctors' organizations

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	59	27	32	33	23	10	8	*

(Asked of one half total respondents; n=521)

FL-53. How much would you trust each of the following as a source of reliable information on the flu vaccine? If you haven't heard enough about that organization to have an opinion, just tell me. (First) How much would you trust (INSERT)? A great deal, a good amount, only some, or very little?

a. The CDC or Centers for Disease Control

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	75	44	31	19	13	6	6	--

b. The FDA or Food and Drug Administration

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	59	26	33	37	24	13	4	--

c. The IOM or Institute of Medicine

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	45	20	25	20	12	8	34	--

d. The NIH or the National Institutes of Health

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	55	29	26	25	15	9	21	--

e. Your local health departments

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	65	32	33	28	21	7	6	--

f. Your state health departments

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	66	30	36	29	20	9	5	--

g. National organizations of pediatricians

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	58	29	29	23	17	7	18	--

h. Other doctors' organizations

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	Refused
	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little		
12/16/03	56	24	32	31	22	9	13	*

i. Pharmaceutical companies

	GREAT DEAL/GOOD AMOUNT			ONLY SOME/VERY LITTLE			Don't know	

	NET	Great	Good	NET	Some	Little	know	Refused
12/16/03	39	15	24	56	26	30	5	--

Knowledge and Beliefs about the Flu

FL-54. To the best of your knowledge, is this year’s flu more likely to make you seriously ill compared to the flu in other years, less likely or about as likely?

	More likely	Less likely	About as likely	Don’t know	Refused
12/16/03	45	10	38	7	*

FL-55. To the best of your knowledge, are more people getting sick with the flu this year compared to other years, fewer people or about the same number of people as usual?

	More	Fewer	About the same as usual	Don’t know	Refused
12/16/03	50	4	40	6	--

FL-56. How many people do you think die in a typical year from flu in the United States? Just your best guess.

	<500	500-999	1K-4.9K	5K-9.9K	10K-24.9K	25K-49.9K	50K-99.9K	100K +	Don’t know	Refused
12/16/03	34	4	16	4	8	9	3	2	21	*

Vaccine Recommendations

(Items a-e: Asked of one half of total respondents; n = 516)

(Items f-i: Asked of one half of total respondents; n = 521)

FL-57. Currently, the CDC, or Centers for Disease Control, highly recommends that some people get the flu vaccine. I am going to read a list of people. For each, please let me know if you think the CDC highly recommends that these people get the flu vaccine. If you don’t know, just say so. How about (INSERT)? Do you think the CDC highly recommends that they get the flu vaccine?

a. Healthy adults ages 18-49

	Yes, CDC highly recommends	No, CDC doesn’t highly recommend	Don’t know	Refused
12/16/03	38	56	6	*

b. Children 6-23 months old

	Yes, CDC highly recommends	No, CDC doesn’t highly recommend	Don’t know	Refused
12/16/03	74	16	10	*

c. Women who are more than three months pregnant

	Yes, CDC highly recommends	No, CDC doesn’t highly recommend	Don’t know	Refused
12/16/03	35	40	24	*

d. People with asthma

	Yes, CDC highly recommends	No, CDC doesn’t highly recommend	Don’t know	Refused
12/16/03	72	12	16	*

e. People who are HIV-positive

	Yes, CDC highly recommends	No, CDC doesn’t highly recommend	Don’t know	Refused
12/16/03	62	15	23	*

f. Adults between 50-64

	Yes, CDC highly recommends	No, CDC doesn’t highly recommend	Don’t know	Refused
12/16/03	74	18	8	--

g. Adults 65 and older

	Yes, CDC highly recommends	No, CDC doesn't highly recommend	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	90	5	6	--

h. People who have reacted to the flu vaccine before

	Yes, CDC highly recommends	No, CDC doesn't highly recommend	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	19	62	19	--

i. People who have diabetes

	Yes, CDC highly recommends	No, CDC doesn't highly recommend	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	58	14	27	--

FL-58. Have you been told by a doctor or health professional that you have any of the following medical conditions: heart or lung disease, asthma, kidney disease, diabetes, or a disease that causes decreased immunity such as cancer or HIV/AIDS?

	Yes	No	Don't know	Refused
12/16/03	23	76	*	*