

Influenza Immunization of Staff in British Columbia Long Term Care Facilities

NOTES

Data are submitted by Health Authorities (Annual Influenza Immunization Program Survey). Data for 1997/98 to 2002/03 were compiled by Population Health and Wellness Division, BC Ministry of Health Services. Data for 2003/04 onward were compiled by Epidemiology Services, BC Centre for Disease Control.

For the 2009/10 influenza season priority was placed on the H1N1 vaccination campaign. Coverage of H1N1 vaccine was reported by facilities in the same manner as seasonal influenza vaccination coverage for FHA, NHA and VCHA, and was reported through the WHITE system for PHSA, IHA and VIHA. Data from the WHITE system only includes vaccination data on Health Care Workers employed by the Health Authority and not those employed by a private facility and thus is not included in this report.

For the purposes of this analysis, "Long Term Care Facilities" are defined as residential facilities that have 50% or more residents aged 65 years and older AND are either (a) licensed under the Community Care and Assisted Living Act and provide some health care services, or (b) licensed under the Hospital Act.

For the purpose of this analysis, "Staff" includes all persons who work, volunteer or train on a full time, part time or casual basis in a facility or hospital who have direct or indirect contact with patients or residents, regardless of whether they are health care providers.

Some facilities reported coverage for only staff on payroll, while other facilities included contracted staff, volunteers and/or trainees.

It is common for staff to work in more than one long term care facility, or work in a long term care facility and an acute care hospital. In most situations, these staff members are included in the calculations of influenza immunization statistics for all facilities they are associated with and are therefore accounted for more than once.

Due to difficulties in accurately determining the number of people who meet the definition of "Staff" in each facility, changes in immunization coverage rates may be a result of changes in methods of calculating the denominator (the total number of "staff").

Percent of long term care facilities in each Health Authority providing staff influenza immunization data:

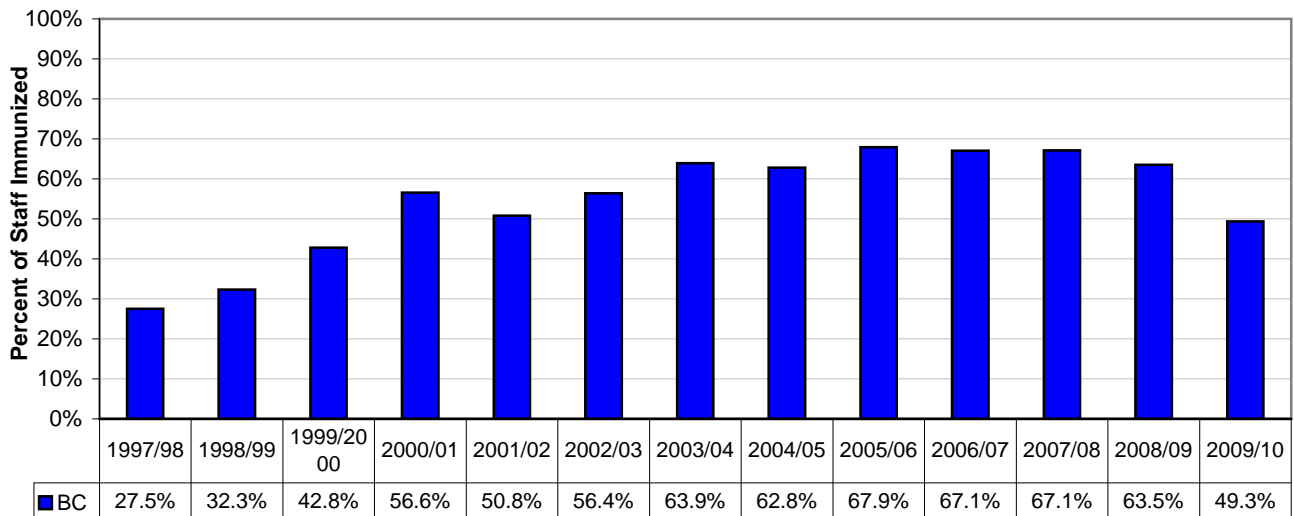
Year	% of Facilities Reporting Immunization Data
2009/10	83%-99%
2008/09	91%-100%
2007/08	99%-100%
2006/07	89%-100%
2005/06	95%-100%
Prior to 2005/06	unrecorded

Data for 2000/2001 include health care workers in acute care facilities. Data for 2001/2002 include health care workers in acute care facilities for some Health Authorities.

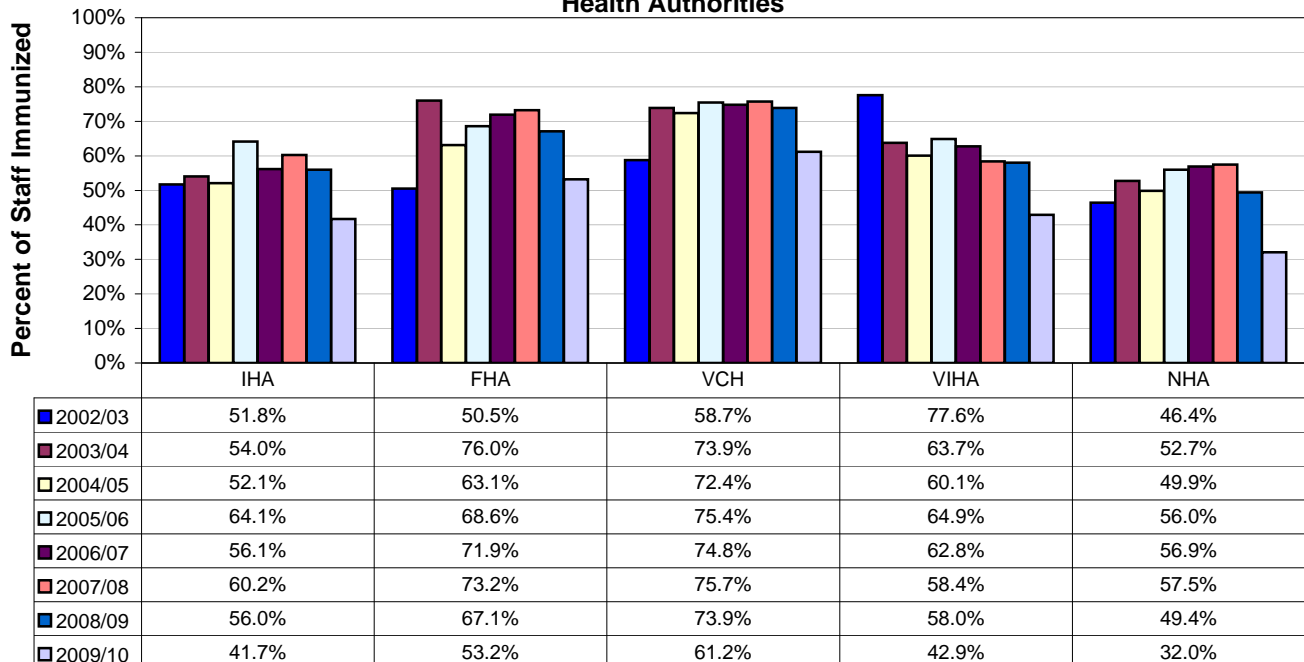
Data may not be comparable by facility and Health Authority from year to year due to ongoing changes in data collection methods, changes in geographic health area boundaries and changes in facility denominators as licensed bed capacity changes. However, assuming consistency in reporting practices, overall trends in immunization coverage can be assessed by examining these data.

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**Influenza Immunization Rates for Staff of Long Term Care Facilities
British Columbia**



**Influenza Immunization Rates for Staff of Long Term Care Facilities
Health Authorities**



Abbreviations:

IHA = Interior Health

FHA = Fraser Health

VCH = Vancouver Coastal Health

For an explanation of BC Health Authorities, please visit:

VIHA = Vancouver Island Health

NHA = Northern Health

BC = Province of British Columbia

<http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/socsec/index.html>