

Manitobans continue to lag in flu vaccination rates

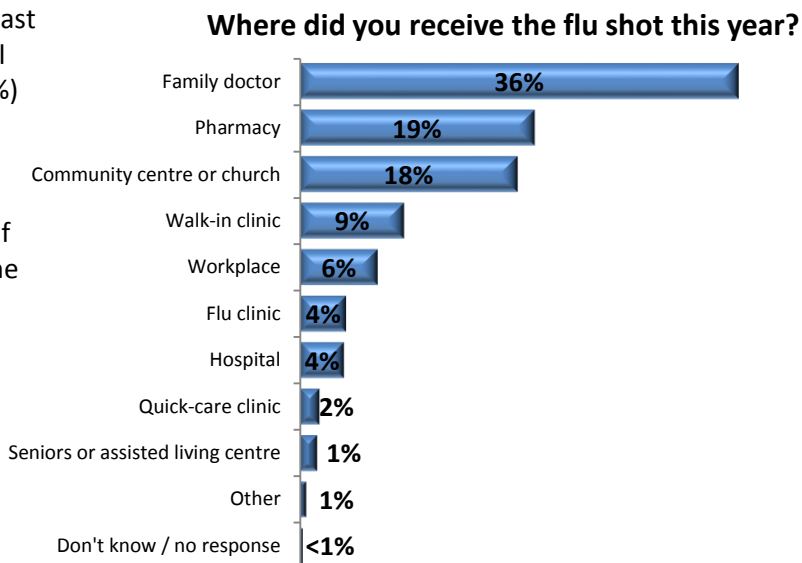
Vaccination rates are lowest among the youngest Manitobans

Overall, 32% of Manitobans reported that they received a flu vaccination this past flu season, that is, between September 2015 and March 2016. According to Statistics Canada data, this result places Manitoba behind all other provinces — except for Quebec (24%) and Newfoundland/Labrador (28%) — in flu vaccination rates. The Manitoba vaccination rate also varies dramatically with age, as those under 40 largely avoided the flu vaccination. For those under 40, the vaccination rate was around 15%. Among those 65 and older, the rate jumps to 65%.

Vaccination rate by age	
	April 2016 % (n = 791)
18 to 29	15%
30 to 39	16%
40 to 64	31%
65 and older	65%
Note: These represent statistically significant differences among age groups.	

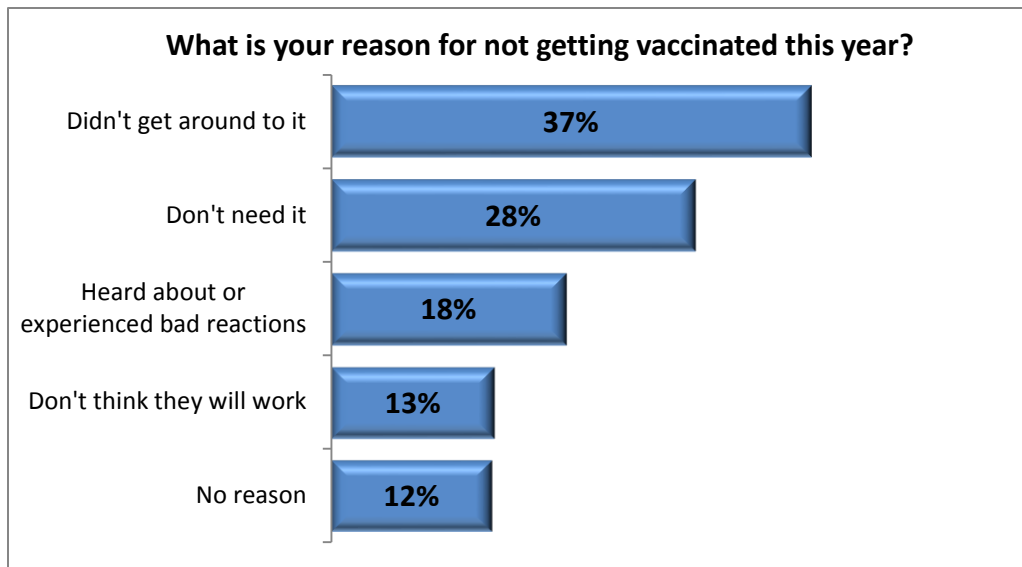
The family doctor remains the place of choice for receiving the flu shot

Among those who received the flu shot this past flu season, family doctors delivered 36% of all flu vaccinations, followed by pharmacies (19%) and community centres/churches (18%). This year saw large numbers of pharmacists offering the flu shot, but it is not possible to determine at this point whether this source of vaccination will become more important in the future.



Most people just did not “get around to it”

Most people just could not be bothered to get a flu shot (37%) or didn't think it was necessary (28%). Almost a fifth of respondents had either heard of or personally experienced a bad reaction to previous flu shots. Some 13% thought that the flu vaccine is ineffective, and 12% declined to offer a reason for not being vaccinated this year.



PRA Inc. sponsored these questions independently. No other organization, public or private, funded this study in whole or in part.

**For more information about the research, please contact
Nicholas Borodenko, Partner, at borodenko@pra.ca
(204) 594-2080 or toll-free at 1-888-877-6744**

METHODOLOGY

PRA interviews adult Winnipeggers by telephone, using random digit dialling to select individuals. This allows the inclusion of individuals with unlisted or new telephone numbers, ensuring a random sample with the best possible representation of eligible respondents.

Survey dates	April 11–May 4, 2016
Sample size	791
Approximate maximum error	± 3.5%, 19 times out of 20

As any sample may not represent the population perfectly, PRA corrects statistically for discrepancies in gender, age, and region to ensure the sample corresponds as closely as possible to Statistics Canada information.