

HPV vaccination among Utah adults age 18-49

Main findings:

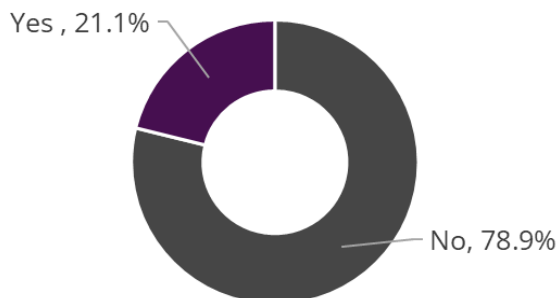
- Fewer than one quarter of Utah adults under age 49 report receiving an HPV vaccine.
- Utah had the lowest adult HPV coverage among states asking this survey question.
- Reduced HPV vaccination coverage was found to be associated with living in a rural setting, being male, and having less than a college education.

Recommendations:

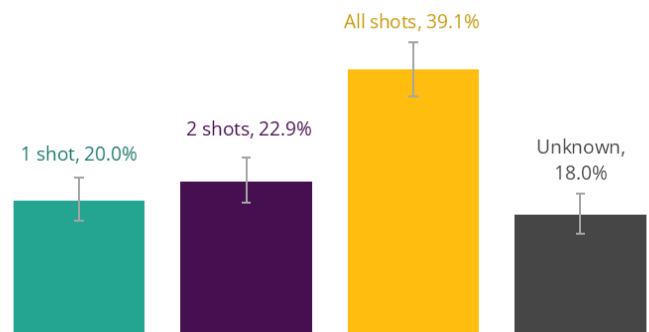
- HPV vaccine is recommended for all people aged 9-26 and can be given up to age 45. All adults aged 18-45 should ask their doctor about HPV vaccination.
- Healthcare providers throughout Utah, but particularly in rural areas, should inform adult patients of their eligibility and the cancer protection benefits of the HPV vaccine.

The Utah Department of Health and Human Services Immunization Program expanded the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) in the 2024 survey year and incorporated a CDC-approved module on adult HPV vaccination. Survey respondents aged 18–49 were asked about receipt of an HPV vaccine and the specific number of doses received. The following data visualizations describe the relevant survey findings. This is the first BRFSS Utah-specific data on adult HPV vaccine uptake.

Have you ever had an HPV vaccine?

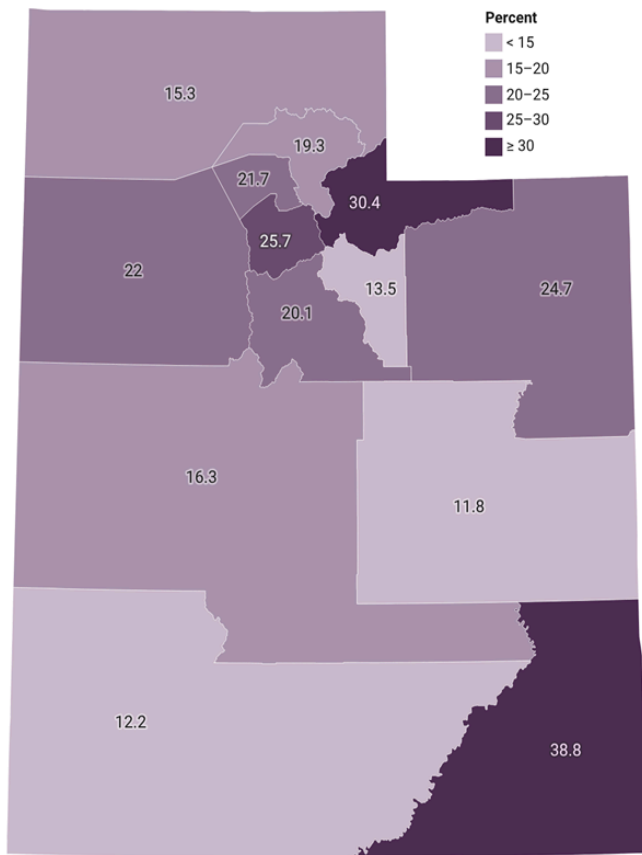


How many shots have you had?



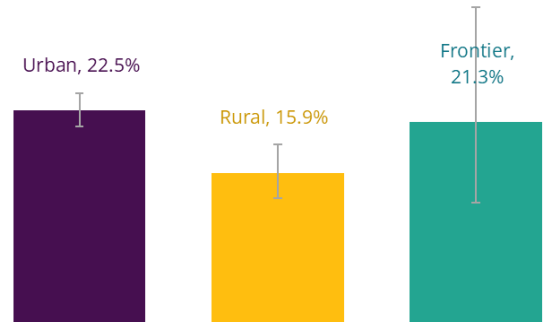
Only 21% of respondents between ages 18-49 report having received an HPV vaccine. This low rate reflects, in part, the vaccine's history: its use was restricted to ages 9–26 from 2006–2018, when approval expanded to age 45. Most vaccinated adult respondents (62%) reported receiving 2 or more vaccines.

Percent of Utah adults age 18-49 who have ever received an HPV vaccine, BRFSS 2024



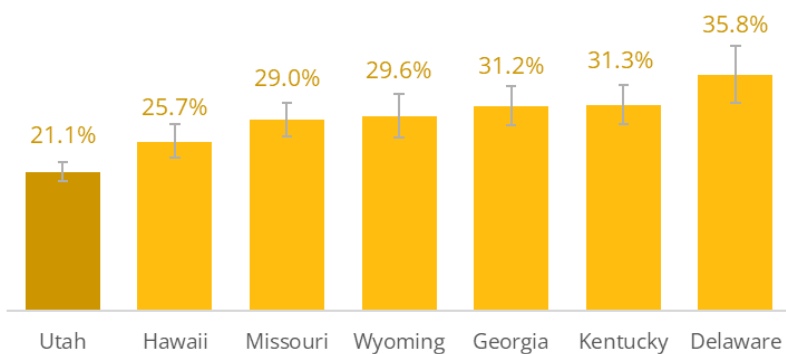
HPV vaccine uptake was uneven across Utah. From this map, you can see that populations along the Wasatch Front tended to have higher vaccination rates than more rural local health districts. Note that the survey sample size was small in San Juan and this estimate has low confidence.

HPV adult vaccination by urbanicity



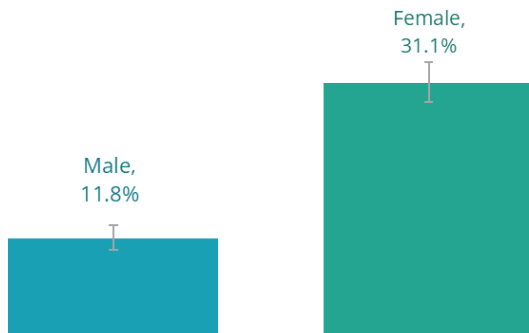
Like many vaccines, HPV uptake is significantly higher in Utah's urban areas than in rural regions. Due to this survey's small sample sizes in frontier areas, these estimates carry wide confidence intervals and are less reliable.

HPV adult vaccination by all US states asking this question



Because these questions are part of a CDC-approved optional module, 6 other states also chose to ask them. Of these, Utah had the lowest adult HPV vaccine coverage estimate of any state using this module. This difference is statistically significant.

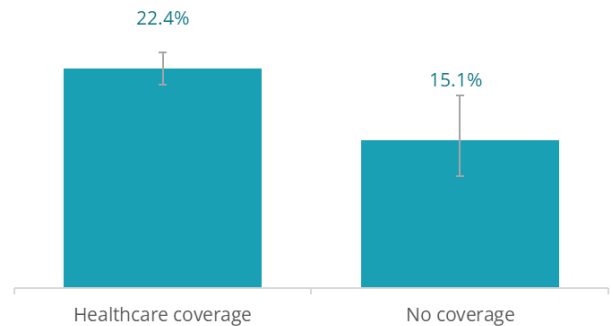
HPV adult vaccination by sex



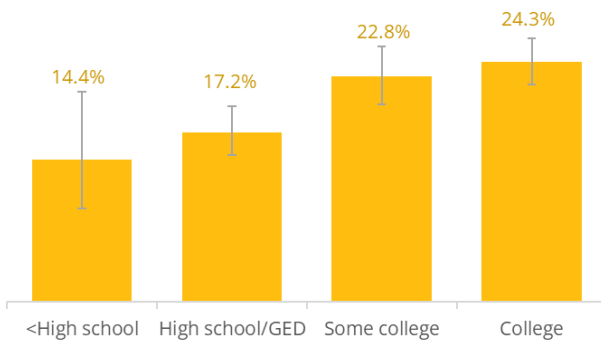
Adult female respondents reported HPV vaccination at nearly triple the rate of males. This is expected since, initially, the HPV vaccine was only recommended for girls aged 9-26. The FDA approval of HPV vaccines was expanded to include boys in 2009 and was routinely recommended for boys starting in 2011.

Those who reported access to healthcare coverage were significantly more likely to have received an HPV vaccination.

HPV adult vaccination by access to healthcare coverage

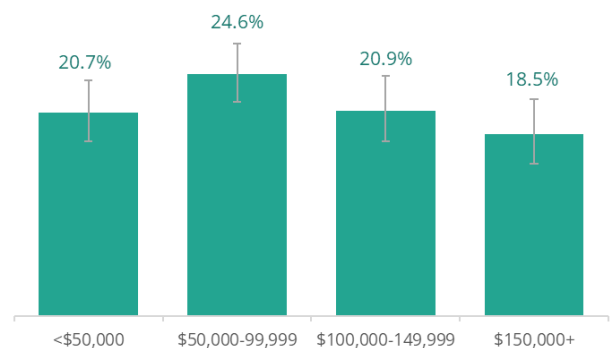


HPV adult vaccination by education



Adult HPV vaccination was strongly correlated with education. Those who had some college or completed college had significantly higher HPV vaccination rates.

HPV adult vaccination by household income



Although not statistically significant, HPV vaccination was slightly more common among respondents with an annual household income between \$50,000-\$100,000.

These adult HPV vaccination questions are planned to be included on the 2026 Utah BRFSS. We will provide updates to these measures and multi-year trends when that data is available.