









# Ohioans' Experiences with Reductions in Salaries and Benefits













Results From The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati



Almost <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> of Ohioans (62%) reported that the current economy was a cause of stress in their lives, according to the 2009 Ohio Health Issues Poll. In addition, 37% reported having problems finding a good-paying job. Over half of Ohio's adults also reported that they or their family members had a cut in pay or benefits over the last year.

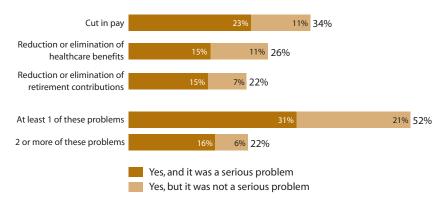
# Over Half of Ohio's Adults Had a Cut in Salary or Benefits

The Poll asked Ohio adults if they or their family members experienced specific problems in the last 12 months:

- 34% reported a cut in pay
- 26% reported a reduction or elimination of healthcare benefits, and
- 22% reported a reduction or elimination of retirement contributions.

One in two Ohio adults (52%) reported that they had at least 1 of these 3 problems, and almost 1 in 4 Ohio adults (22%) said they had 2 or more of these problems.

In addition, 21% of Ohio adults said that they had a reduction or elimination of retirement income. Have you or your family experienced any of the following problems in the past 12 months, or not? Was this a serious problem, or not? (Graphs present percentage of people reporting this was a problem only.)



## **Cuts in Pay**

One in four Ohio adults (23%) reported that they or their family experienced a serious problem with a cut in pay. Ohio adults more likely to report a serious problem experiencing a cut in pay over the last 12 months included Ohioans who:

- were ages 30–45 (37%)
- had fair or poor health status (36%)

#### **Reduction or Elimination** of Healthcare Benefits

One in six Ohio adults (15%) reported that they or their family experienced a serious problem with a reduction or elimination of healthcare benefits.

### **Reduction or Elimination** of Retirement **Contributions**

One in six Ohio adults (15%) reported that they or their family experienced a serious problem with a reduction or elimination of retirement contributions. Ohio adults ages 30-45 were more likely to report a **serious** problem experiencing a reduction or elimination in retirement contributions over the last 12 months, with 1 in 4 (25%) reporting a serious problem.

#### **Reduction or Elimination** of Retirement Income

One in seven Ohio adults (14%) reported that they or their family experienced a serious problem with a reduction or elimination of retirement income.

These findings unless otherwise noted are from The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati's Ohio Health Issues Poll, part of the Ohio Poll conducted June 1-12, 2009, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 812 adults from throughout Ohio was interviewed by telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, statewide estimates will be accurate to ±3.4%. In addition to sampling error, there are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects that can introduce error or bias. For more information about the Ohio Health Issues Poll, please visit www.healthfoundation.org/ohip.html.