

Trends in Ohioans' Health Status and Income



Since 2005, household incomes in Ohio have steadily declined. In 2005, 65% of Ohio adults were living in households with an annual income over 200% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG),¹ compared to 58% of Ohio adults in 2010.

Having a good income is linked to having good health, and vice versa. Do healthy people make more money because they are well and able to work more days or better jobs? Or are people who make more money healthier because they have the resources to preserve and improve their health?

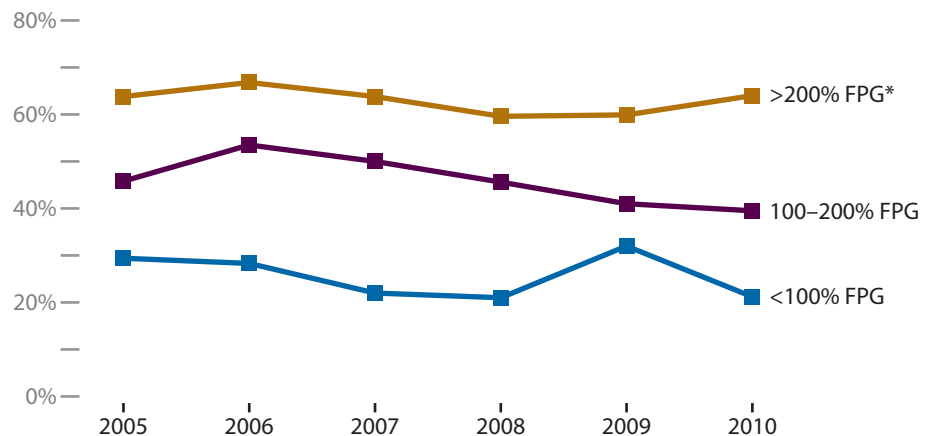
It is not possible to clearly answer these questions, as many factors play a part in both health status and income. Regardless, the *Ohio Health Issues Poll* has seen since it started in 2005 that people with higher incomes report better health. This is consistent with research done around the country.

Trend of Ohioans with Higher Incomes Reporting Better Health Continues

Since the *Ohio Health Issues Poll* began in 2005, it has consistently

¹ 200% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) in 2009 was an annual household income of \$44,100 for a family of 4.

Ohio adults reporting "excellent" or "very good" health, by household income, 2005–2010



Household Income	% of Ohioans reporting "excellent" or "very good" health, by household income and year					
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<100% FPG	29	28	22	21	32	21
100–200% FPG	46	54	50	46	41	40
>200% FPG	64	67	64	60	60	64

*100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) in 2009 was an annual household income of \$22,050 for a family of 4.

seen people with higher incomes reporting better health status. About 2 in 3 Ohioans living above 200% FPG have reported being in "excellent" or "very good" health since 2005. This compares to the 1 in 4 Ohioans living below

100% FPG who have reported being in "excellent" or "very good" health. About half of the people living between 100–200% FPG have reported being in "excellent" or "very good" health.