

# The Uninsured in Greater Cincinnati

Results from The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati's 2005 Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey

The Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey (GCCHSS) is a project of The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati. The GCCHSS is conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati.

Topics included in the GCCHSS include access to and satisfaction with healthcare, medical debt, mental and physical health status, nutrition and exercise, cigarette and alcohol use, and others.

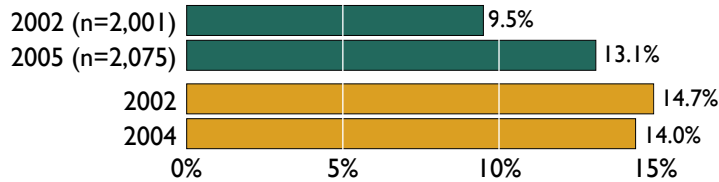
A total of 2,077 randomly selected adults residing in 8 Ohio counties, 9 Kentucky counties, and 5 Indiana counties were interviewed by telephone between August 16 and October 24, 2005. The potential sampling error for the survey is  $\pm 2.2\%$ .

For more information, please visit our web site at [www.healthfoundation.org/gcchss.html](http://www.healthfoundation.org/gcchss.html). For the complete survey dataset, visit [www.oasis.uc.edu](http://www.oasis.uc.edu).

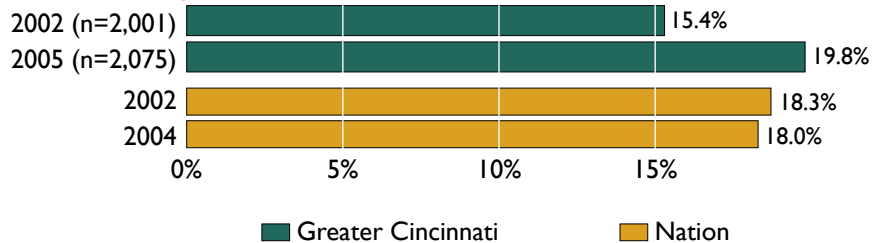
Community partners that helped develop the GCCHSS include:

- + Anthem Foundation of Ohio
- + Center for Closing the Health Gap
- + Child Policy Research Center
- + City of Cincinnati Health Department
- + Council on Aging
- + Employer Health Care Alliance
- + Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky
- + Hamilton County Health Department
- + Health Improvement Collaborative
- + Northern Kentucky Health Department
- + Northern Kentucky University Center for Latino and Multicultural Studies
- + United Way of Greater Cincinnati
- + University of Cincinnati Institute for Policy Research
- + University of Cincinnati Institute for the Study of Health
- + Urban Appalachian Council

## Currently uninsured



## Uninsured at any time in the last 12 months



Health insurance status is a primary factor in determining whether someone has the ability to seek appropriate healthcare in a timely manner. Those without insurance are less likely to get care when they need it.

The Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey collects information about insurance status through two questions. The first asks whether a person *currently* has health insurance. The second asks whether the person has been *without health insurance at any time during the past 12 months*. It is important to have information from both questions to get the most complete regional picture of insurance-related barriers to healthcare.

## Currently Uninsured

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Health Interview Survey, 14.0% of Americans were currently uninsured in 2004 (the most recent year national data are available). This is similar to the 2002 national rate of currently uninsured (14.7%).

In Greater Cincinnati, the rate for currently uninsured has risen from 9.5% in 2002 to

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Greater Cincinnatians *more* and *less* likely to be currently uninsured (2005 data)

Demographic	% of currently uninsured
<b>Region</b>	13.1%
<b>Age</b>	
18 to 29	24.2%
65+	1.0%
<b>Sex</b>	
Male	15.8%
Female	10.6%
<b>Ethnicity</b>	
African American	23.8%
White Non-Appalachian	10.2%
<b>Family Income</b>	
Below 100% FPG <sup>1</sup>	25.0%
Above 200% FPG	9.1%
<b>Education</b>	
Less than high school	20.3%
College graduate	3.9%

<sup>1</sup> The federal poverty guideline (FPG) in 2005 was an annual income of \$19,350 for a family of 4.

13.1% in 2005. As income and education level decrease, the likelihood of being currently uninsured increases. As age increases, the likelihood of being uninsured decreases.

## Uninsured at any time in the past 12 months

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's National Health Interview Survey from 2004 (the most recent year national data are available), 18.0% of Americans were uninsured at any time during the past 12 months, slightly lower than the 2002 rate (18.3%).

In Greater Cincinnati, the number of people who have been uninsured at any time during the past 12 months has varied over time. In 2002, the rate was 15.4%. However, the 2005 rate jumped to 19.8%. As income and education level decrease, the likelihood that a person has been without insurance at some point during the last 12 months increases. As age increases, the likelihood the person has been without insurance in the past year decreases.

Greater Cincinnatians **more** and **less** likely to have been uninsured at some point during the last 12 months (2005 data)

Demographic	% who had been uninsured at some point during the last 12 months
<b>Region</b>	19.8%
<b>Age</b>	
18 to 29	36.7%
65+	2.6%
<b>Sex</b>	
Male	23.8%
Female	16.2%
<b>Ethnicity</b>	
African American	36.5%
White Non-Appalachian	14.4%
<b>Family Income</b>	
Below 100% FPG <sup>1</sup>	41.5%
Above 200% FPG	12.8%
<b>Education</b>	
Less than high school	34.1%
College graduate	5.3%
<b>Health Insurance<sup>2</sup></b>	
Medicaid	25.9%
Medicare	1.9%

<sup>1</sup>The federal poverty guideline (FPG) in 2005 was an annual income of \$19,350 for a family of 4.

<sup>2</sup>This category represents the person's insurance status at the time of the survey.