

Women's Healthcare 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.

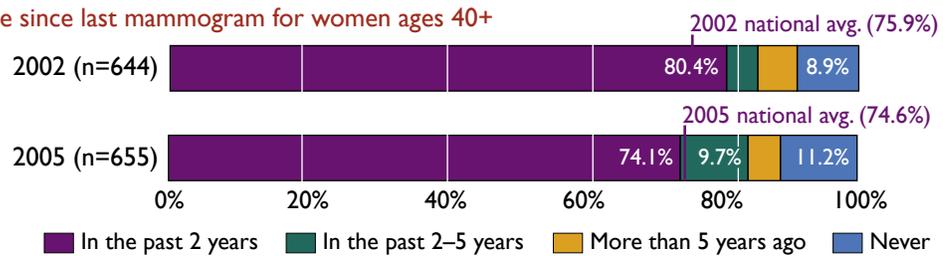
A total of 2,077 randomly selected adults residing in 8 Ohio counties, 9 Kentucky counties, and 5 Indiana counties were interviewed by telephone between August 16 and October 24, 2005. The potential sampling error for the survey is $\pm 2.2\%$.

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

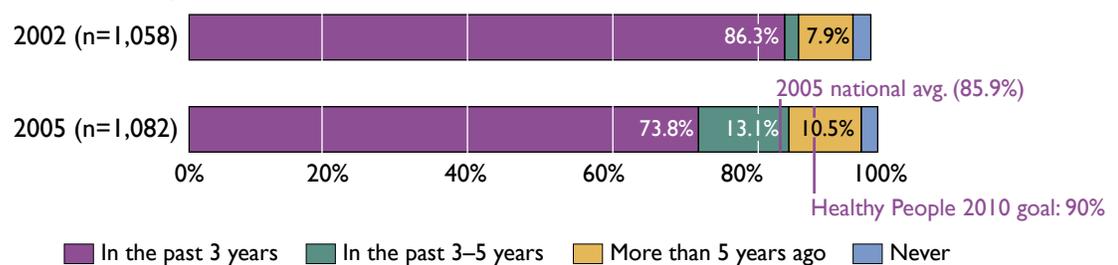
Community partners that helped develop the GCCHSS include:

- + 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

Time since last mammogram for women ages 40+



Time since last Pap smear



Mammograms

A mammogram is the recommended screening test for early detection of breast cancer in women. The American Cancer Society recommends that women ages 40 and older have a mammogram every year. The U.S. National Cancer Institute recommends that women ages 40 and older have one every 1-2 years.

According to the 2005 Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey, 74.1% of women ages 40 and older have had a mammogram in the past 2 years, compared to the national average of 74.6%. However, in 2002, more women over age 40 both in the region (80.4%) and in the nation (75.9%) had a mammogram in the past 2 years than women in 2005. Additionally, just over 11% of women in the region report that they have never had a mammogram. This is slightly higher than the 8.9% reported in 2002.

Greater Cincinnati women ages 40 and older **more** and **less** likely to have had at least one mammogram in the past 2 years (2005 data)

Demographic ¹	% having a mammogram in the past 2 years
Region	74.1%
Ethnicity	
African American	85.6%
White Non-Appalachian	73.8%

¹ Demographic subgroups with fewer than 75 respondents are not included.

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Pap tests

A Pap test is the recommended screening test for early detection of cervical cancer in women. Both the American Cancer Society and U.S. National Cancer Institute recommend that all women begin cervical cancer screening approximately 3 years after they begin having vaginal intercourse, or starting when they reach age 21, whichever comes first. Screening should be conducted every 1–3 years depending on age and previous Pap test results.

Just over 80% of women in Greater Cincinnati (81.9%) reported having a Pap test within the past 3 years, lower than the 2005 national average (85.9%) and the 2002 regional rate (86.3%). These are all below the Healthy People 2010 goal of 90% of women having a Pap test within the preceding 3 years. In general, as income or education level increases, so does the likelihood that a woman received a Pap test within the recommended time frame of at least once every 3 years.

As age increases, the likelihood that a woman received a Pap test within the recommended time frame decreases. Current guidelines recommend that women ages 65–70 who have had at least three normal Pap tests and no abnormal Pap tests in the last 10 years may no longer need to have regular Pap tests¹. However, women over age 65 account for almost 25% of cervical cancer cases and almost 41% of cervical cancer deaths².

Nationally, only about half of women over age 65 have had a Pap test in the last 3 years. Effective July 2001, Medicare covers one Pap test every two years³. In Greater Cincinnati, 63.9% of women over age 65 and 67.7% of women on Medicare have had a Pap test within the recommended time frame.

Greater Cincinnati women **more** and **less** likely to have had at least one Pap test in the past 3 years (2005 data)

Demographic	% having a Pap test in the past 3 years
Region	81.9%
Age	
18 to 29	92.4%
65+	63.9%
Ethnicity	
African American	91.4%
White Appalachian (1st and 2nd generation)	79.4%
Family Income	
Above 200% FPG ¹	88.1%
100–200% FPG	77.2%
Education	
College graduate	95.6%
Less than high school	72.9%
Health Insurance	
Medicaid	89.5%
Medicare	67.7%

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

¹ National Cancer Institute (reviewed 2/12/2003). *The Pap Test: Questions and Answers*. Available online at <http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/factsheet/Detection/Pap-test>. [Page accessed 17 February, 2006.]

² Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (last updated 2/2/2005). *Medicare Learning Network: Preventive Services*. Available online at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedlearnProducts/35_PreventiveServices.asp. [Page accessed 17 February, 2006.]

³ *Ibid.*