



July 2014

Chronic illness more likely among less educated, poor

Chronic illness can be a heavy burden for an individual and a household. This toll may be physical, emotional and financial, affecting many aspects of a person's life. The 2013 Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey asked respondents if they had ever been diagnosed with one of several chronic conditions.

Asthma, diabetes, cancer, depression increase

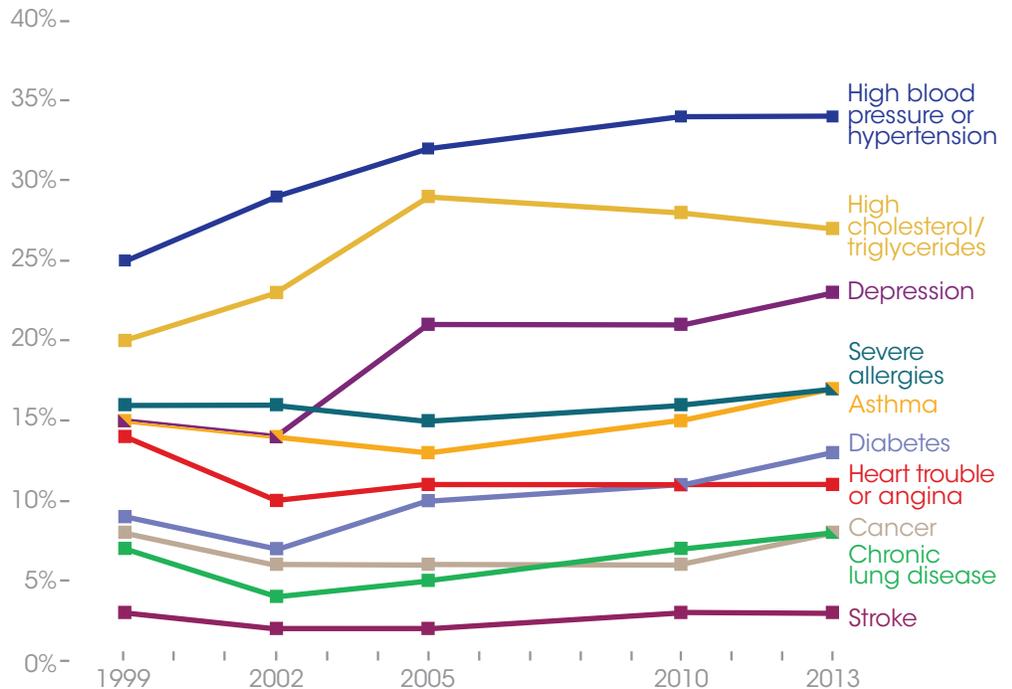
Since 2010, Greater Cincinnati saw an increase in the percentage of people who had been told they had asthma, diabetes, cancer and depression:

- Asthma (15% to 17%)
- Diabetes (11% to 13%)
- Cancer (6% to 8%)
- Depression (21% to 23%)

Percentages of people who had been told they have severe allergies or chronic lung disease also increased slightly. However, the percentage of people being told they had high cholesterol or triglycerides continued to decline, from 29% in 2005 to 27% in 2013.

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Adults in Greater Cincinnati reporting a doctor or other healthcare provider has ever told them they had one of the following health conditions



Percentage of Greater Cincinnati adults reporting a doctor or other healthcare provider has ever told them they have...

	1999	2002	2005	2010	2013
Asthma	15%	14%	13%	15%	17%
Cancer	8%	6%	6%	6%	8%
Chronic lung disease	7%	4%	5%	7%	8%
Diabetes	9%	7%	10%	11%	13%
Heart trouble or angina	14%	10%	11%	11%	11%
High blood pressure or hypertension	25%	29%	32%	34%	34%
High cholesterol or triglycerides	20%	23%	29%	28%	27%
Stroke	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%
Severe allergies	16%	16%	15%	16%	17%
Depression	15%	14%	21%	21%	23%

The Greater Cincinnati Community Health Status Survey (CHSS) is a project of Interact for Health. The CHSS is conducted by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A total of 4,929 randomly selected adults residing in 8 Ohio counties, 9 Kentucky counties, and 5 Indiana counties were interviewed by telephone between Aug. 20, 2013, and Jan. 19, 2014. This included 4,324 landline interviews and 605 cell phone interviews. The potential sampling error for the survey is ±1.5%. For more information, including other topics and the list of community partners, please visit our web site at www.interactforhealth.org/greater-cincinnati-community-health-status-survey. For the complete survey dataset, visit www.oasisdataarchive.org. If you have further questions, email Jennifer Chubinski at jchubinski@interactforhealth.org.

Those with less education, lower income more likely to be told they have chronic condition

For nine of these conditions, people with less education were more likely to have been told they had the condition. This was true for asthma, diabetes, high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, heart trouble or angina, stroke, severe allergies, high cholesterol and depression.

- Respondents with less than a high school education had been told they had these conditions more often than people with a high school education or higher.
- These percentages again dropped for people who had

some college or a college degree, when compared with people with only a high school diploma. (See graphs below.)

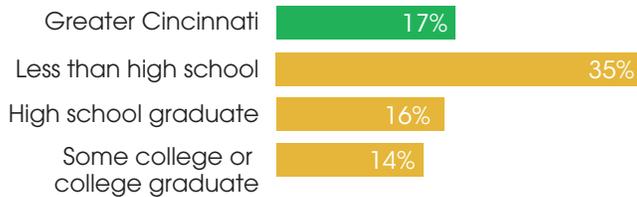
For eight of these conditions, people living at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL¹) were more likely to have been told they had that condition. The rates decreased as income increased. (See graphs on next page.)

The exceptions were cancer and high cholesterol or triglycerides. People with higher incomes were more likely to have been told they had these conditions than people with lower incomes.

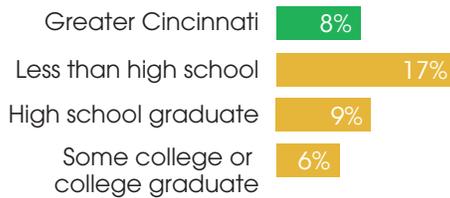
¹ In 2013, 100% FPL for a family of four was an annual income of \$23,550.

Greater Cincinnati adults, by education level, who reported a doctor or other healthcare provider had ever told them they had ...

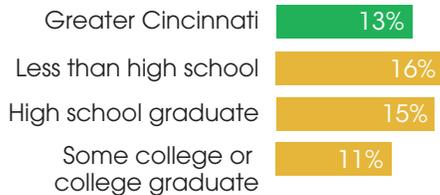
Asthma



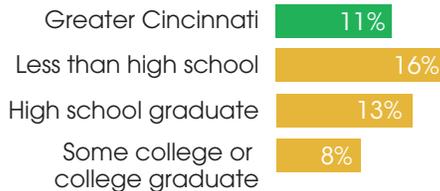
Chronic lung disease



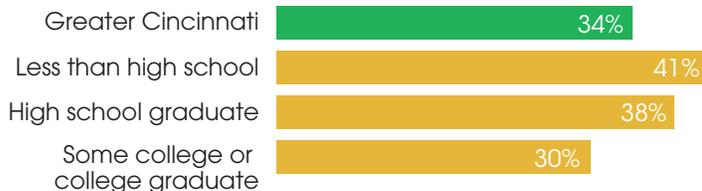
Diabetes



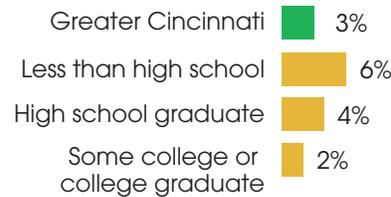
Heart trouble/angina



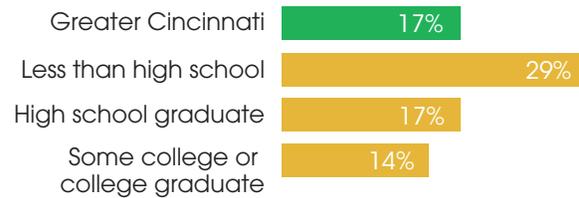
Hypertension



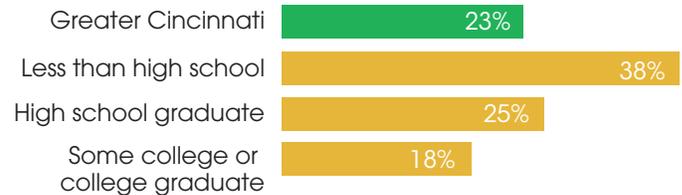
Stroke



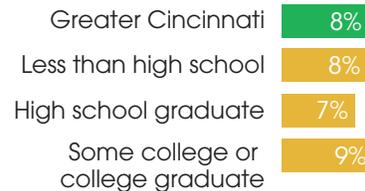
Severe allergies



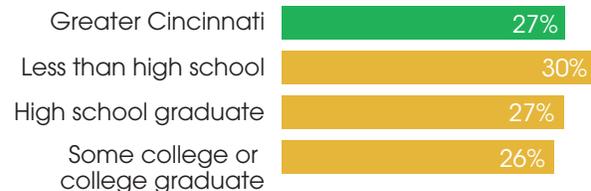
Depression



Cancer



High cholesterol/triglycerides



White Appalachians, African Americans more likely to have been told they have high blood pressure, diabetes

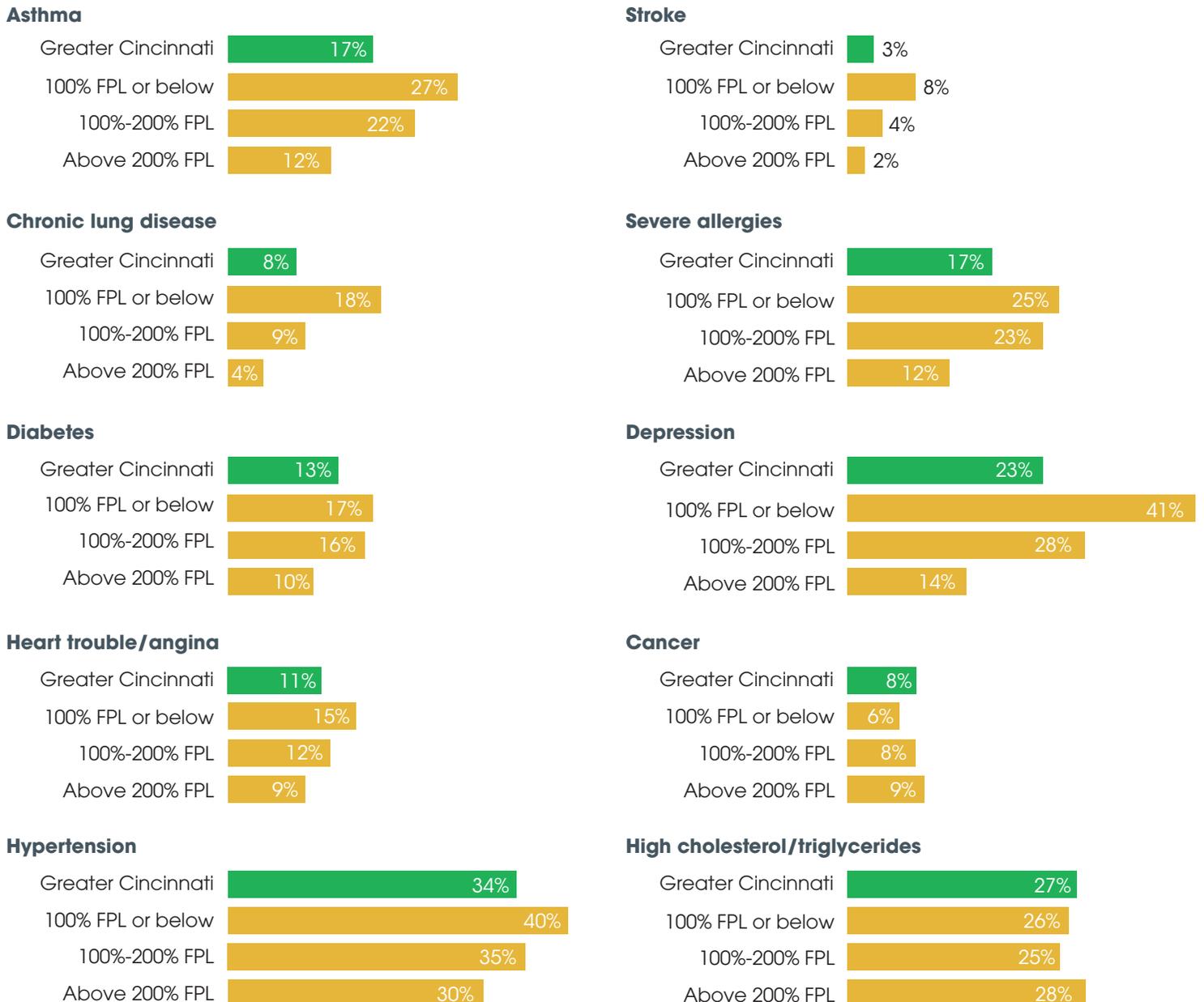
African Americans and White Appalachians² reported higher rates of being told they had diabetes or high blood pressure than White non-Appalachians. These results are consistent with 2010. (See graphs on next page.)

² White Appalachian adults are adults who indicated they were white and that either themselves or one of their parents were born in any Appalachian-designated county in the U.S.

White Appalachians more likely to have been told they have asthma, cancer, chronic lung disease, depression

White Appalachians reported being told they had asthma, cancer, chronic lung disease or depression more frequently than either African Americans or White non-Appalachians. White Appalachians also reported higher smoking rates (29%) than White non-Appalachians (24%), which may be associated with asthma and chronic lung disease. (See graphs on next page.)

Greater Cincinnati adults, by poverty level, who reported a doctor or other healthcare provider had ever told them they had ...



Greater Cincinnati adults, by race or ethnicity, who reported a doctor or other healthcare provider had ever told them they had ...

High blood pressure



Diabetes



Asthma



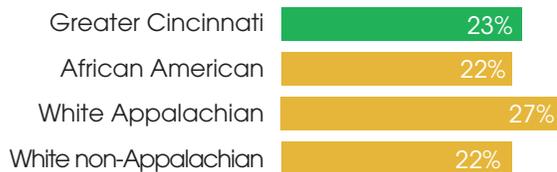
Cancer



Chronic lung disease



Depression



Rates of most chronic conditions increase as age increases

For seven of these conditions, rates increased, sometimes dramatically, as age increased. This was true for chronic lung disease, diabetes, heart trouble or angina, hypertension, stroke, cancer, and high cholesterol or triglycerides. This will have important consequences for our healthcare system as the proportion of our population older than 60 continues to increase.

Percentage of Greater Cincinnati adults in each age category reporting a doctor or other healthcare provider has ever told them they have...

	18-29	30-45	46-64	65 and older
Asthma	24%	17%	17%	12%
Cancer	<1%	3%	10%	24%
Chronic lung disease	5%	5%	11%	14%
Diabetes	4%	9%	17%	26%
Heart trouble or angina	3%	6%	13%	27%
High blood pressure or hypertension	8%	23%	46%	64%
High cholesterol or triglycerides	5%	19%	38%	51%
Stroke	1%	2%	4%	9%
Severe allergies	17%	15%	18%	17%
Depression	20%	26%	24%	18%