



# Ohioans' Experiences with Poverty

*A demographic profile of poverty in Ohio 2005-2007*

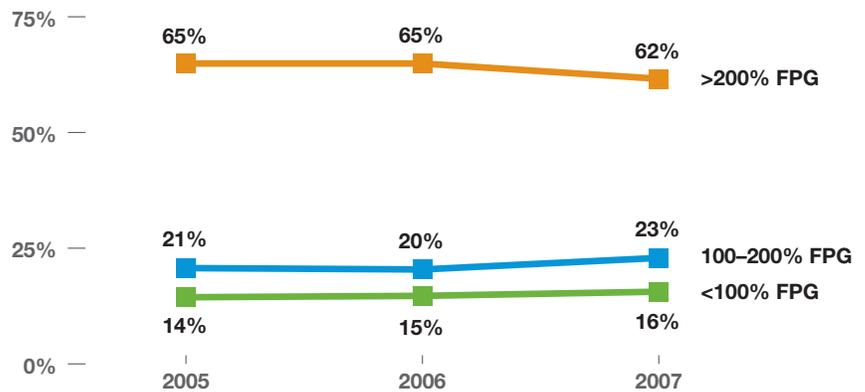


Results From The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati



The percentage of Ohioans living below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) has increased slightly since 2005, the *Ohio Health Issues Poll* has found. The percentage of Ohioans living at 100-200% FPG has also increased, while the number living above 200% FPG has decreased.

**Ohioans living at below 100%, between 100-200%, and above 200% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) for 2005-2007.**



The 2007 *Ohio Health Issues Poll* also found that Ohioans more likely to live below 100% FPG are:

- Women
- African American
- 18-29 years old
- not high school graduates
- unemployed
- living in households with children
- living in urban counties
- living in southeast Ohio

*Ohioans more and less likely to live below 100% FPG*

| Demographic                    | % who live below 100% FPG |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Ohio</b>                    | 16%                       |
| <b>Sex</b> (see page 3)        |                           |
| Female                         | 19%                       |
| Male                           | 12%                       |
| <b>Ethnicity</b> (see page 3)  |                           |
| African American               | 24%                       |
| White                          | 14%                       |
| <b>Age</b> (see page 4)        |                           |
| 18 to 29                       | 21%                       |
| 46 to 64                       | 11%                       |
| <b>Education*</b> (see page 5) |                           |
| Less than h.s. diploma         | 36%                       |
| College graduate               | 4%                        |

\* Education reflects the highest level of education the respondent achieved.

| Demographic                               | % who live below 100% FPG |
|---|---------------------------|
| <b>Ohio</b>                               | 16%                       |
| <b>Employment</b> (see page 6)            |                           |
| Not employed*                             | 57%                       |
| Employed                                  | 43%                       |
| <b>Children in Household</b> (see page 6) |                           |
| Yes                                       | 17%                       |
| No  | 14%                       |
| <b>Type of County</b> (see page 7)        |                           |
| Urban                                     | 18%                       |
| Suburban                                  | 9%                        |
| <b>Geographic Region</b> (see page 8)     |                           |
| Southeast Ohio                            | 32%                       |
| Southwest Ohio                            | 12%                       |

\* Not employed includes Ohioans who reported they were unemployed, disabled, or retired, and Ohioans who indicated they were students or were "keeping house."

Ohioans living below 100% FPG are more likely than Ohioans in other income groups to:

- be without health insurance currently,
- have been uninsured at some point in the past 12 months, and
- report lower health status.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services calculates the FPG each year for all of the states and the District of Columbia. FPG is based on household size and total household annual income.

Federal and state programs use the FPG to determine eligibility for various public programs<sup>1</sup>.

*Federal poverty guidelines (FPG) for a family of four (48 contiguous states and District of Columbia)*

| Year* | 100% FPG | 200% FPG |
|-------|----------|----------|
| 2004  | \$18,850 | \$37,700 |
| 2005  | \$19,350 | \$38,700 |
| 2006  | \$20,000 | \$40,000 |

\* The Ohio Health Issues Poll collects self-reported household annual income for the year prior to the survey from each respondent. Therefore, the Poll uses the previous year's federal poverty guidelines to classify Ohio residents into the income groups.

For different demographic groups, the percentage of Ohioans living below 100% FPG has changed dramatically. There have also been changes in the percentage of Ohioans living at 100–200% FPG. People at this level are often less resilient to financial setbacks, such as increases in housing costs, accidents or unforeseen events, loss of employment, and other setbacks.

This *Demographic Profile of Poverty in Ohio* highlights how the percentage of Ohioans in each income category

has changed for different demographic groups. It also looks at the health insurance status and self-reported health status of people in different income groups (see “Poverty and Health” beginning on page 10).

Due to rounding, percentages for each year for each income group may not add up to 100%. Changes noted as “significant” are statistically significant at least at the 95% confidence level. See the Methodology section below for more information about the *Poll*.

<sup>1</sup> The U.S. Census Bureau uses poverty thresholds to prepare its estimates of how many Americans live in poverty. These poverty thresholds are different from the FPG. For more information, please visit <http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/07poverty.shtml>.

## Methodology

These findings are from The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati’s *Ohio Health Issues Poll*, part of the *Ohio Poll* conducted every year by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati.

| Year | Dates in field     | Sample size |
|------|--------------------|-------------|
| 2005 | March 21– April 10 | 846         |
| 2006 | May 9–21           | 841         |
| 2007 | April 26–May 8     | 825         |

Each year, a random sample of adults from throughout Ohio was interviewed by telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, the statewide estimates will be accurate to ±3.4%. For demographic subgroups, the margin of error will be higher depending upon the number of people in the sample. In addition to sampling error, there are other sources of variation

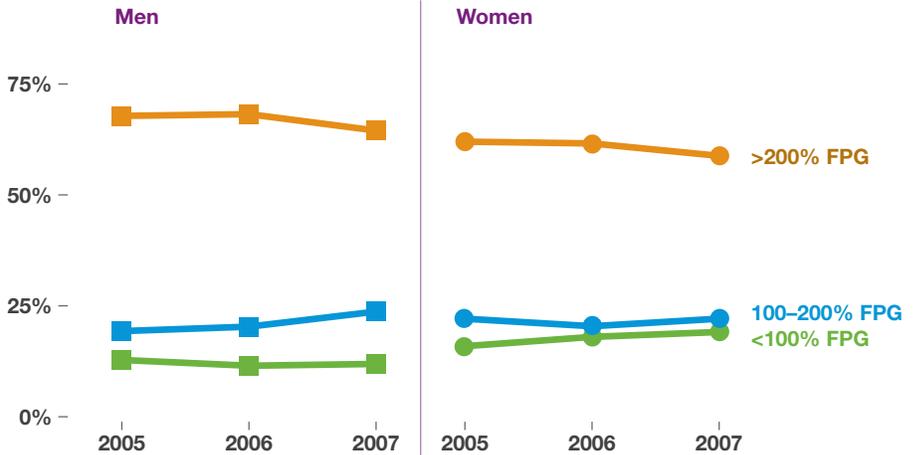
inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-response, question wording, or context effects that can introduce error or bias.

To test for significance, we used statistical measures to test that the differences obtained in the survey between and among groups were not the result of chance variation. When the outcome of a statistical test has statistical significance, the investigator is willing to say that the estimated differences between two groups are real and not chance differences. The changes noted as significant in this profile are statistically significant at least at the .05 level, meaning we have at least 95% confidence that the differences are real and are not by chance.

For more information about the Ohio Health Issues Poll, please visit [www.healthfoundation.org/ohip.html](http://www.healthfoundation.org/ohip.html).

### Sex

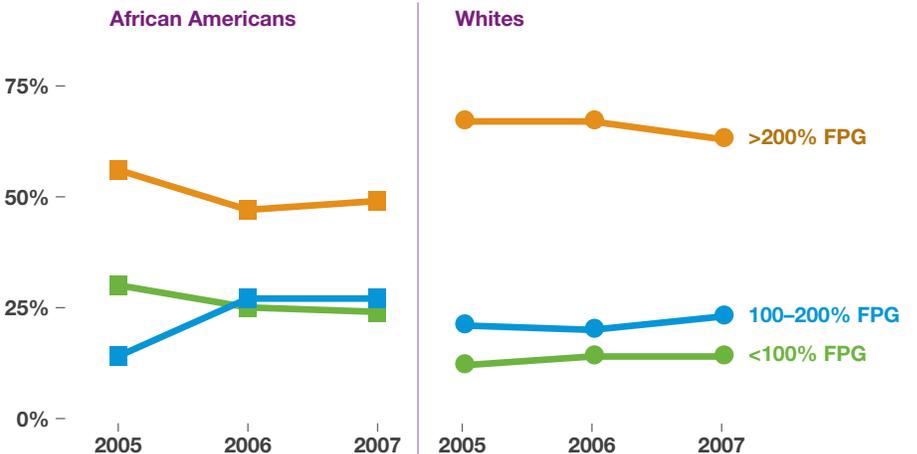
More women than men live below 100% FPG. In 2006 and 2007, the percentage of women living below 100% FPG increased significantly, while the percentage of men has decreased slightly. While the percentage of men living at 100–200% FPG has increased, the increase is not significant. For both men and women, the percentage living above 200% FPG has decreased since 2005.



### Ethnicity

In all three years, there were significant differences between the percentage of African Americans and the percentage of Whites living below 100% FPG, and between the percentage of African Americans and the percentage of Whites living above 200% FPG.

The percentage of African American Ohioans living below 100% FPG decreased between 2005 and 2007. At the same time, the percentage living at 100–200% FPG significantly increased, almost doubling between 2005 and 2007. There was also a decrease in the percentage of African American Ohioans living above 200% FPG, although not significantly so.



The percentages of White Ohioans living below 100% FPG and living at 100–200% FPG both showed minor increases between 2005 and 2007, leading to a minor decrease in the percentage of White Ohioans living above 200% FPG. However, no changes were significant.

| African Amer. | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|---------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG     | 30%  | 25%  | 24%  |
| 100–200% FPG  | 14%  | 27%  | 27%  |
| >200% FPG     | 56%  | 47%  | 49%  |

| White        | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 12%  | 14%  | 14%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 21%  | 20%  | 23%  |
| >200% FPG    | 67%  | 67%  | 63%  |

### Age

There were many significant differences between the age groups and levels of poverty across the three years. Differences within age groups are described below.

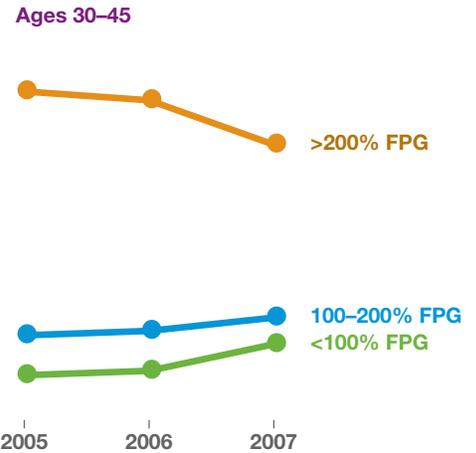
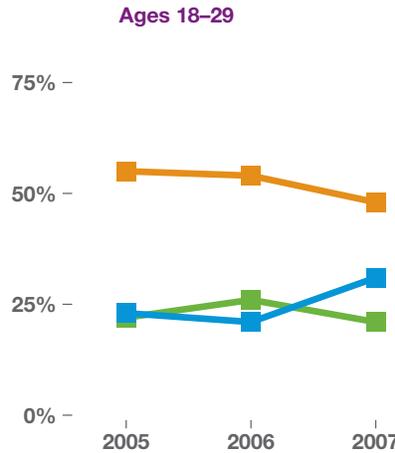
The percentage of Ohioans ages 18–29 living at 100–200% FPG increased significantly between 2006 and 2007. The percentage of Ohioans ages 18–29 living below 100% FPG rose slightly between 2005 and 2006, then decreased in 2007. The number living above 200% FPG also decreased, but not significantly.

For Ohioans ages 30–45, the percentage living below 100% FPG had a significant increase between 2005 and 2007.

Meanwhile, the number living at 100–200% FPG increased slightly. These increases led to a significant decrease in the percentage of Ohioans ages 30–45 living above 200% FPG.

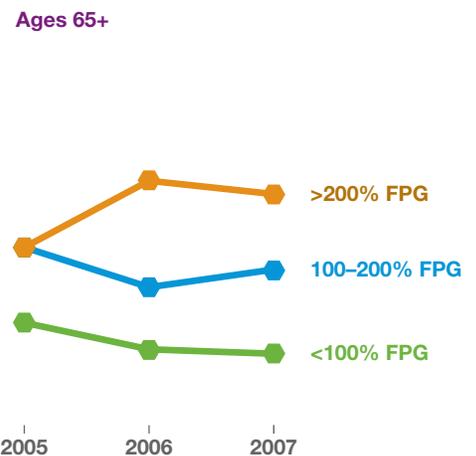
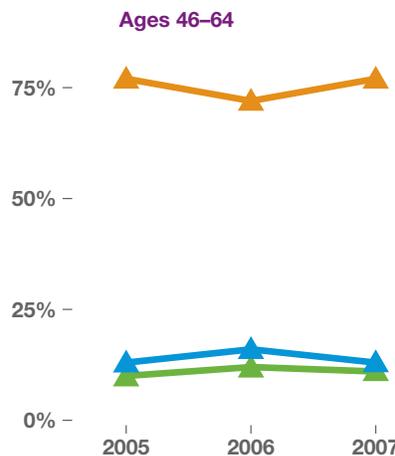
The percentage of Ohioans ages 45–64 living at different FPG levels has remained relatively constant over the last three years. There were slight changes in 2006, but in 2007, the income groups returned to about the same percentages as in 2005.

Of all age groups, only Ohioans ages 65 and older showed an overall increase in the percentage living above 200% FPG. In fact, the percentage of Ohioans living above 200% FPG rose significantly between 2005 and 2006, while the percentage living between 100–200% FPG and below 100% FPG both decreased, although not significantly.



| Ages 18–29   | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 22%  | 26%  | 21%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 23%  | 21%  | 31%  |
| >200% FPG    | 55%  | 54%  | 48%  |

| Ages 30–45   | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 9%   | 10%  | 16%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 18%  | 19%  | 22%  |
| >200% FPG    | 73%  | 71%  | 61%  |



| Ages 46–64   | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 10%  | 12%  | 11%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 13%  | 16%  | 13%  |
| >200% FPG    | 77%  | 72%  | 77%  |

| Ages 65+     | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 22%  | 16%  | 15%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 39%  | 30%  | 34%  |
| >200% FPG    | 39%  | 54%  | 51%  |

## Education

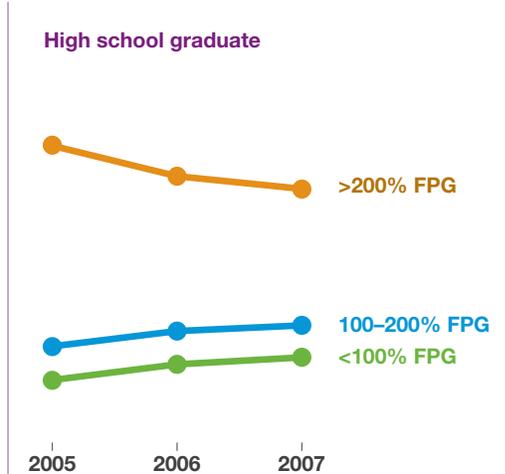
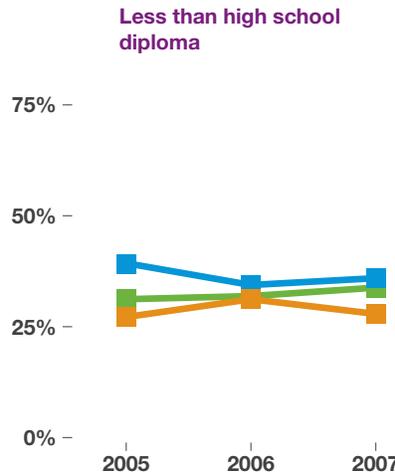
Statistically significant differences were seen across all education and income levels for all three years. The exception was that high school graduates were significantly different than those with some college only for those living below 100% FPG or above 200% FPG in 2006 and 2007. Differences within education levels are described below.

Of all the demographic groups, only Ohioans with less than a high school diploma had a lower percentage of people living above 200% FPG than living between 100–200% or below 100% FPG. The percentage of Ohioans with less than a high school diploma living below 100% FPG has steadily risen since 2005.

For Ohioans whose highest level of education was a high school diploma or GED, the percentage living above 200% FPG has significantly decreased since 2005. Meanwhile, the percentages living between 100–200% FPG and below 100% FPG have steadily risen.

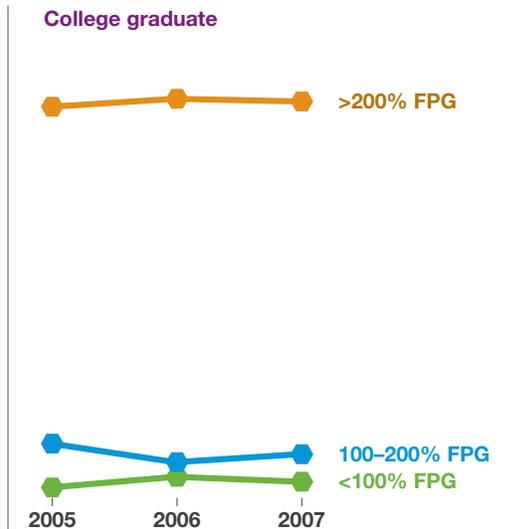
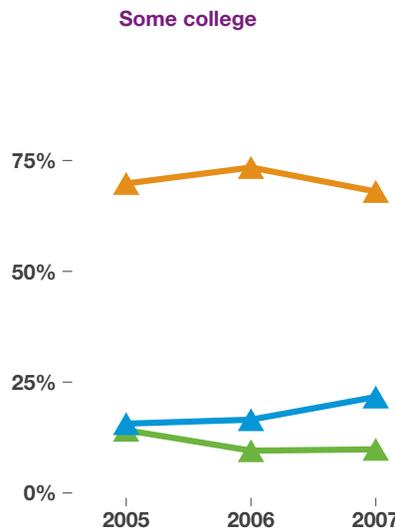
The percentage of Ohioans with some college education living below 100% FPG has decreased. However, the percentage living between 100–200% FPG increased significantly.

Ohioans with a college degree have the highest percentage of people living above 200% FPG of all demographic groups. They also have the lowest percentage of people living below 100% FPG. And although the percentage of Ohioans with a college degree living below 100% FPG has risen since 2005, the percentage living above 200% FPG has also increased slightly.



| Less than h.s. diploma | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG              | 32%  | 33%  | 35%  |
| 100–200% FPG           | 40%  | 35%  | 37%  |
| >200% FPG              | 28%  | 32%  | 29%  |

| High school graduate | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG            | 13%  | 17%  | 18%  |
| 100–200% FPG         | 21%  | 24%  | 26%  |
| >200% FPG            | 66%  | 59%  | 56%  |



| Some college | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 14%  | 10%  | 10%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 16%  | 17%  | 22%  |
| >200% FPG    | 70%  | 74%  | 68%  |

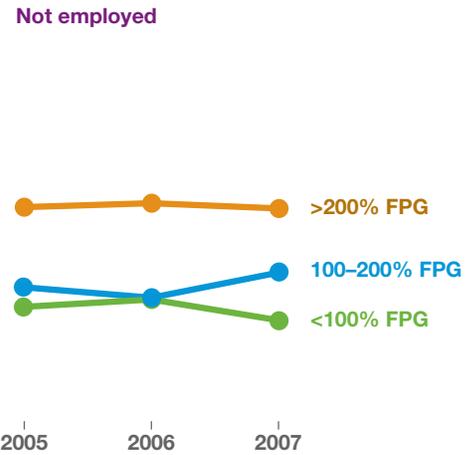
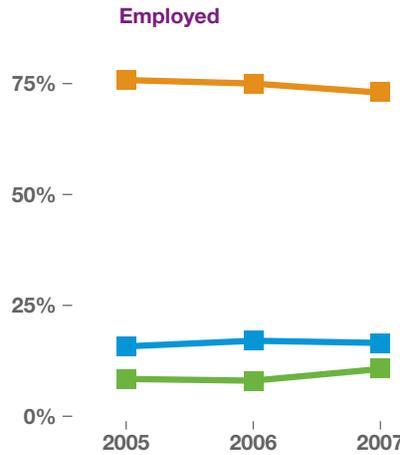
| College grad. | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|---------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG     | 1%   | 4%   | 3%   |
| 100–200% FPG  | 11%  | 7%   | 9%   |
| >200% FPG     | 87%  | 89%  | 89%  |

### Employment Status

Across all three years, there were significant differences between the percentage of employed and unemployed Ohioans at all income levels. Differences within employment groups are discussed below.

The percentage of employed Ohioans living below 100% FPG has increased since 2005, while the percentage living above 200% FPG decreased, although neither was significant. The percentage of employed Ohioans living between 100–200% FPG stayed consistent.

For unemployed Ohioans, the percentage living below 100% FPG decreased, while the percentage living between 100–200% FPG increased. However, neither change was significant. The percentage of unemployed Ohioans living above 200% FPG stayed consistent.



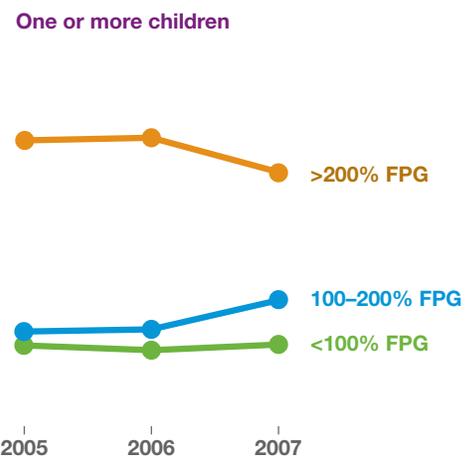
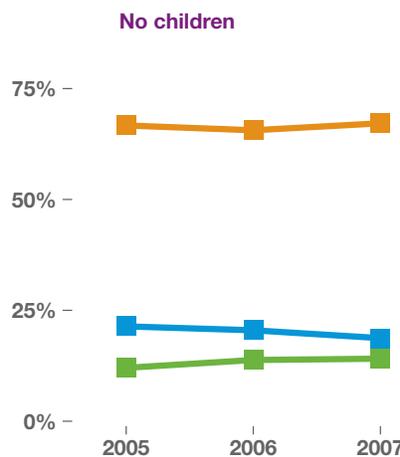
| Employed     | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 8%   | 8%   | 11%  |
| 100-200% FPG | 16%  | 17%  | 17%  |
| >200% FPG    | 76%  | 75%  | 73%  |

| Not employed | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 24%  | 26%  | 21%  |
| 100-200% FPG | 29%  | 26%  | 32%  |
| >200% FPG    | 47%  | 48%  | 47%  |

### Children in Household

For Ohioans living in households with no children ages 18 and under, the percentage living below 100% FPG increased slightly between 2005 and 2007. At the same time, the percentage living between 100–200% FPG decreased slightly, while the percentage living above 200% FPG remained consistent.

For Ohioans living in households with at least one child, the percentage living above 200% FPG decreased significantly between 2005 and 2007. Meanwhile, the percentage living between 100–200% FPG increased significantly. The percentage living below 100% FPG remained consistent.



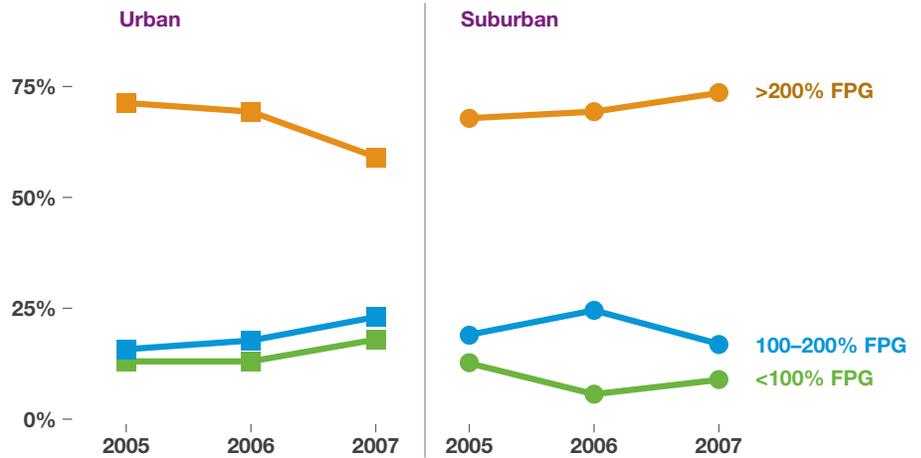
| No children  | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 12%  | 14%  | 14%  |
| 100-200% FPG | 21%  | 21%  | 19%  |
| >200% FPG    | 67%  | 66%  | 67%  |

| One+ children | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|---------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG     | 17%  | 16%  | 17%  |
| 100-200% FPG  | 20%  | 21%  | 27%  |
| >200% FPG     | 63%  | 64%  | 56%  |

### Type of County

For Ohioans living in urban counties, the percentage living below 100% FPG and between 100–200% FPG increased significantly. Meanwhile, the percentage living above 200% FPG decreased significantly.

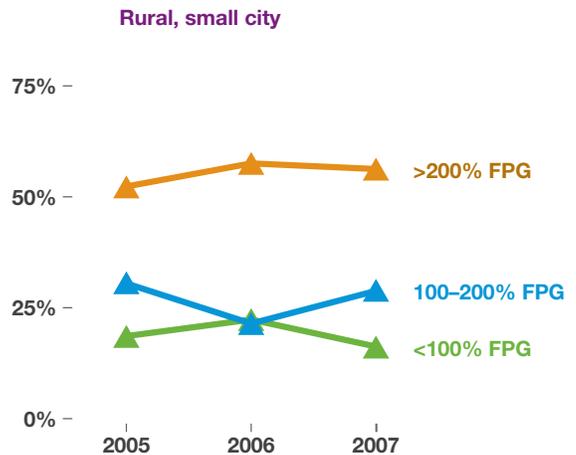
The percentage of Ohioans living in suburban counties and below 100% FPG decreased by half between 2005 and 2006, and then rose slightly in 2007. The percentage living between 100–200% FPG rose between 2005 and 2006, then decreased significantly in 2007. Meanwhile, the percentage living above 200% FPG increased significantly since 2005.



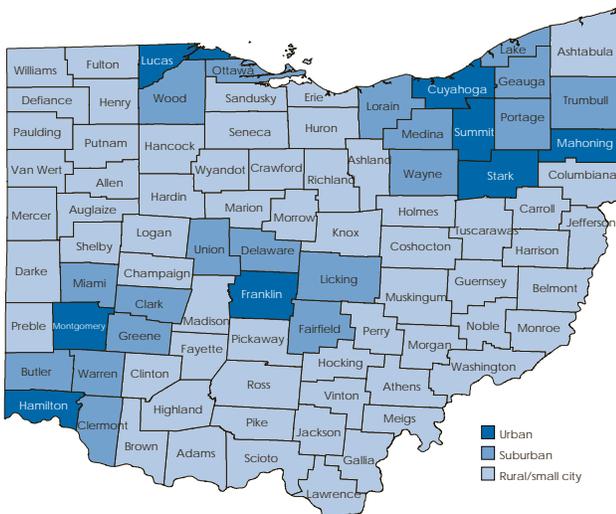
| Urban        | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 13%  | 13%  | 18%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 16%  | 18%  | 23%  |
| >200% FPG    | 71%  | 69%  | 59%  |

| Suburban     | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 13%  | 6%   | 9%   |
| 100–200% FPG | 19%  | 25%  | 17%  |
| >200% FPG    | 68%  | 70%  | 74%  |

In rural counties, the percentage of Ohioans living below 100% FPG rose between 2005 and 2006, then dropped significantly by 2007. The opposite happened for the percentage of Ohioans living between 100–200% FPG. The percentage of Ohioans living in rural counties and above 200% FPG rose significantly between 2005 and 2006, then fell slightly in 2007.



| Rural, small city | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG         | 18%  | 22%  | 16%  |
| 100–200% FPG      | 30%  | 21%  | 29%  |
| >200% FPG         | 52%  | 57%  | 56%  |



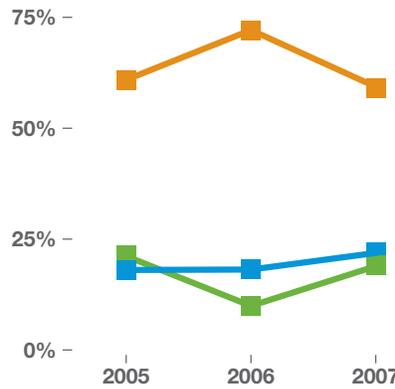
### Geographic Region

In Northwest Ohio, the percentage of people living below 100% FPG dropped significantly between 2005 and 2006, then rose significantly between 2006 and 2007. The opposite happened for people living above 200% FPG. Meanwhile, the percentage living between 100–200% FPG rose slightly.

Changes in Northeast Ohio were less dramatic. The percentage of people living below 100% FPG stayed consistent, while the percentage living above 200% FPG decreased and the percentage living between 100–200% FPG increased.

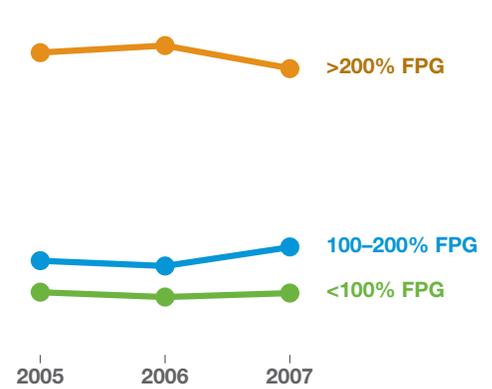
In Central Ohio, the percentage of people living below 100% FPG decreased between 2005 and 2006, then almost tripled between 2006 and 2007. The percentages of people living between 100–200% FPG and above 200% FPG both increased slightly between 2005 and 2006 before decreasing significantly between 2006 and 2007.

Northwest



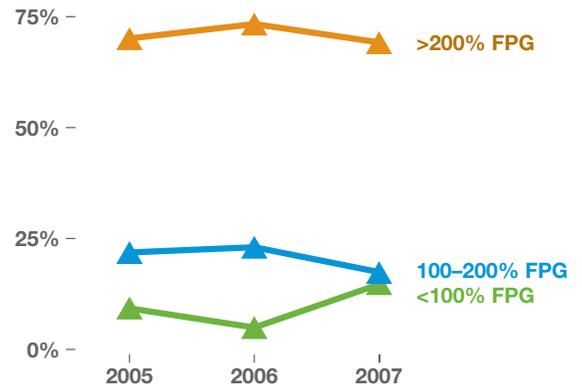
| Northwest    | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 21%  | 10%  | 19%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 18%  | 18%  | 22%  |
| >200% FPG    | 61%  | 72%  | 59%  |

Northeast

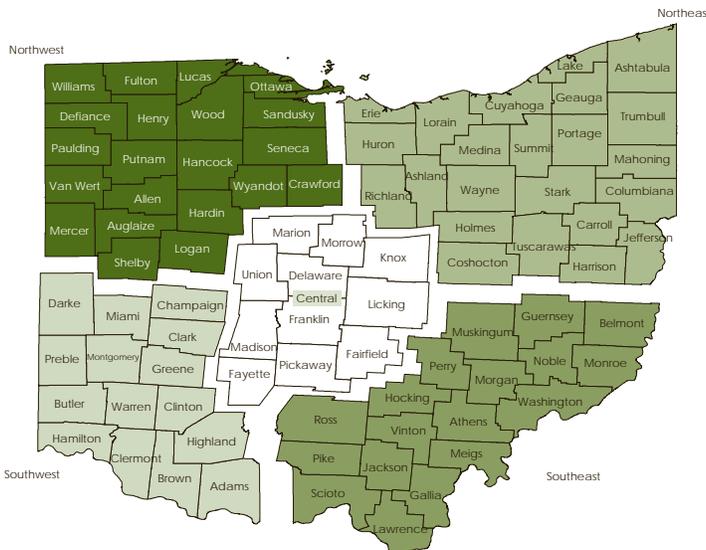


| Northeast    | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 13%  | 12%  | 13%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 20%  | 19%  | 23%  |
| >200% FPG    | 67%  | 69%  | 64%  |

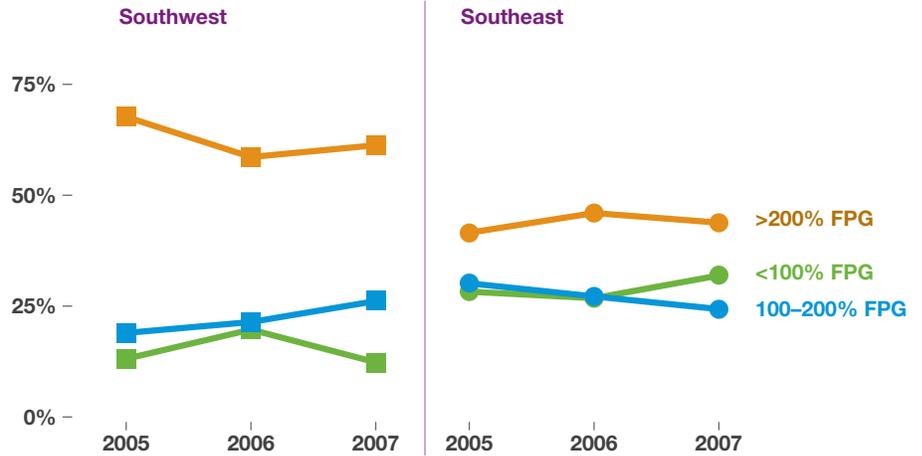
Central



| Central      | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 9%   | 5%   | 14%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 21%  | 23%  | 17%  |
| >200% FPG    | 70%  | 73%  | 69%  |



In Southwest Ohio, the percentage of people living between 100–200% FPG has risen steadily since 2005. The percentage of people living below 100% FPG increased significantly between 2005 and 2006, then decreased significantly between 2006 and 2007. Meanwhile, the percentage of people living above 200% FPG decreased significantly between 2005 and 2006, then rose slightly between 2006 and 2007.



Of the five geographic regions in Ohio, Southeast Ohio is the only region that does not contain a city with a population larger than 100,000 people. The Southeast region has the smallest percentage of people living above 200% FPG of all the regions in Ohio. The percentage of people living between 100–200% FPG has decreased steadily between 2005 and 2006, while the percentage of people living below 100% FPG has increased significantly.

| Southwest    | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 13%  | 20%  | 12%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 19%  | 22%  | 26%  |
| >200% FPG    | 68%  | 59%  | 61%  |

| Southeast    | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| <100% FPG    | 28%  | 27%  | 32%  |
| 100–200% FPG | 30%  | 27%  | 24%  |
| >200% FPG    | 42%  | 46%  | 44%  |

# Poverty and Health

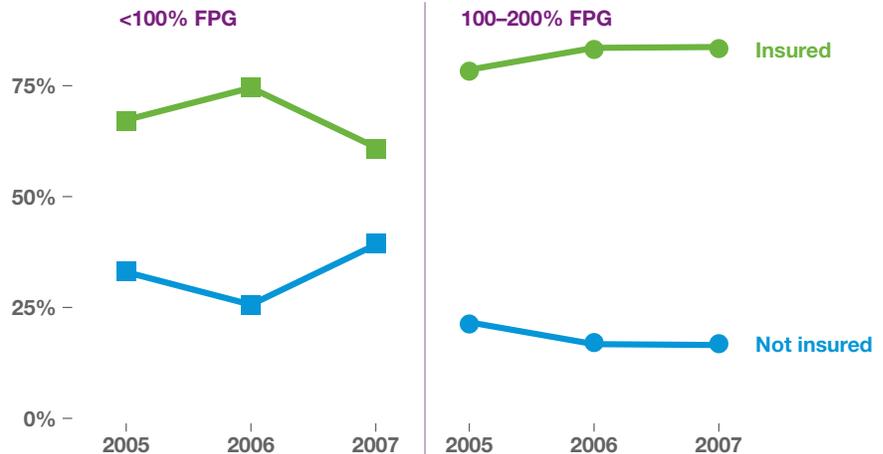
The Health Foundation is interested in whether people have access to health care. Having health insurance often makes it easier for people to get health care. The *Ohio Health Issues Poll* asks respondents whether they have health insurance so we can track uninsurance rates across the state. The *Poll* also asks respondents how they would rate their general health status. This gives us a sense of how healthy Ohioans think they are.

## Current Health Insurance Status

More than twice as many Ohioans living below 100% FPG are uninsured than Ohioans living in other income groups. About 40% of Ohioans living below 100% FPG were currently uninsured in 2007. Although the percentage decreased significantly between 2005 and 2006, it increased significantly between 2006 and 2007.

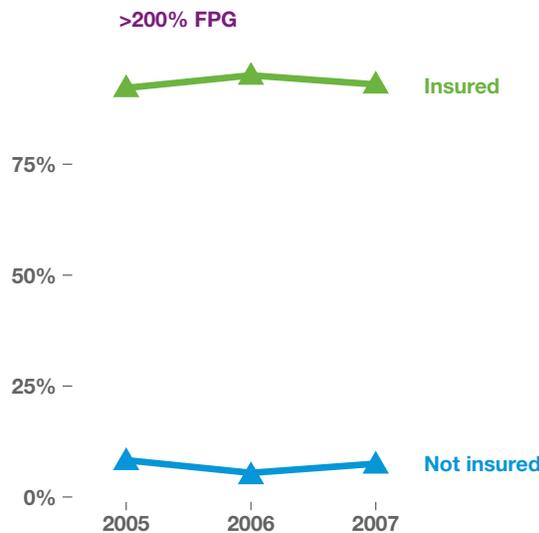
In comparison, only 16% of Ohioans living between 100–200% FPG were currently uninsured in 2007. This rate has decreased since 2005.

The percentage of Ohioans living above 200% FPG who are currently uninsured decreased slightly between 2005 and 2006, then increased slightly between 2006 and 2007. Still, less than 1 in 10 Ohioans living above 200% FPG are currently uninsured.



| <100% FPG   | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|-------------|------|------|------|
| Insured     | 67%  | 74%  | 61%  |
| Not insured | 33%  | 26%  | 39%  |

| 100–200% FPG | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|--------------|------|------|------|
| Insured      | 79%  | 83%  | 84%  |
| Not insured  | 21%  | 17%  | 16%  |



| >200% FPG   | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|-------------|------|------|------|
| Insured     | 92%  | 95%  | 93%  |
| Not insured | 8%   | 5%   | 7%   |

### Insurance Coverage during the Past Year

Health insurance status can change over the course of a year, especially for low-income people. Besides asking if respondents currently had health insurance, the 2006 and 2007 *Ohio Health Issues Polls* asked if respondents had been without health insurance coverage at any time in the past 12 months. The 2005 *Poll* did not include this question.

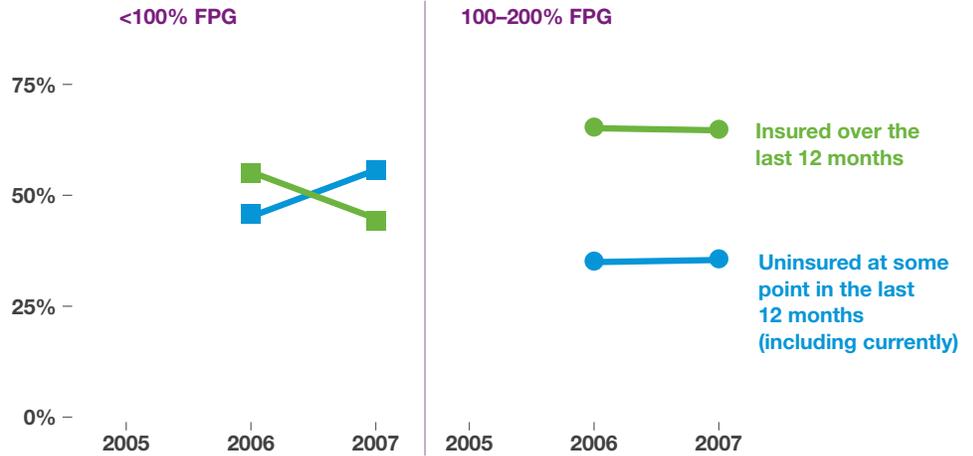
We found significant differences among income groups when looking at whether Ohioans were uninsured at any point during the past 12 months. Differences within income groups are discussed below.

In 2007, over half of all Ohioans living below 100% FPG reported they were uninsured at some point in the last 12 months, compared to just less than half in 2006. Comparatively, the percentage of Ohioans living between 100–200% FPG who were uninsured at some point in the last 12 months stayed constant.

The percentage of Ohioans living above 200% FPG who were uninsured at some point in the last 12 months increased between 2006 and 2007, going from 10% to 15%.

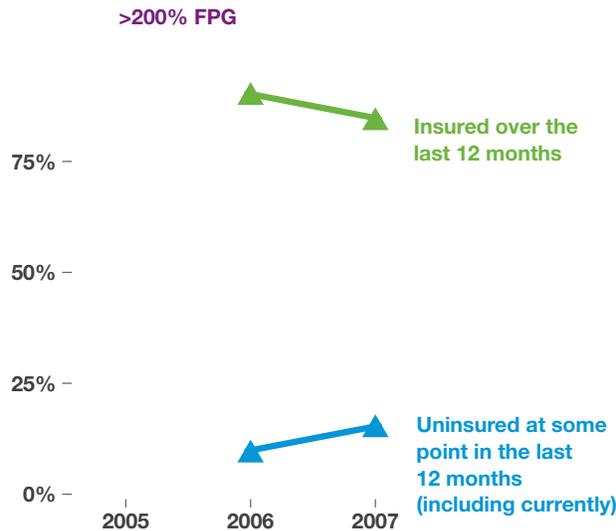
### Health Status

The *Ohio Health Issues Poll* asked respondents to say, in general, if their health was excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor. This is self-reported health status information and was not based on any diagnoses or medical records.



| <100% FPG                                     | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|---|------|------|------|
| Insured over last 12 months                   | n/a  | 55%  | 44%  |
| Uninsured at some point in the last 12 months | n/a  | 45%  | 56%  |

| 100–200% FPG                                  | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|---|------|------|------|
| Insured over last 12 months                   | n/a  | 65%  | 65%  |
| Uninsured at some point in the last 12 months | n/a  | 35%  | 35%  |



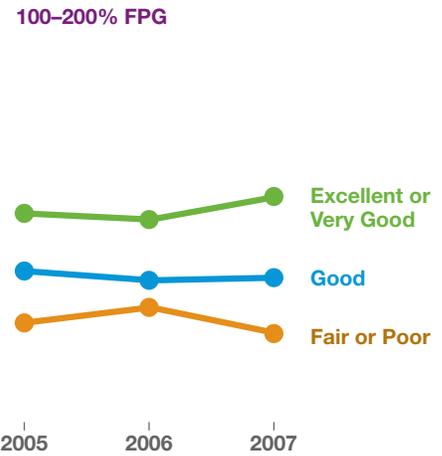
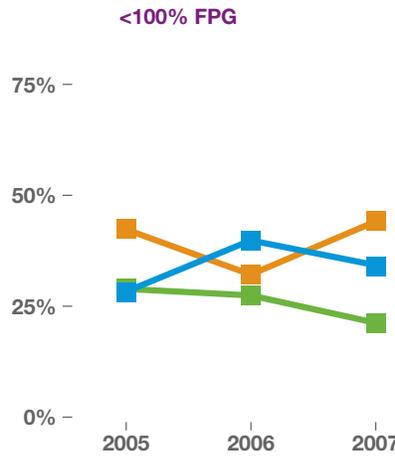
| >200% FPG                                     | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|---|------|------|------|
| Insured over last 12 months                   | n/a  | 90%  | 85%  |
| Uninsured at some point in the last 12 months | n/a  | 10%  | 15%  |

Ohioans living below 100% FPG reported poorer health status than those living between 100-200% FPG and those living above 200% FPG.

Since 2005, the percentage of Ohioans living below 100% FPG who report excellent or very good health status has steadily decreased, while the percentage who report fair or poor health status has increased. In 2007, the percentage of Ohioans living below 100% FPG who reported fair or poor health status was significantly higher than the percentage who reported excellent or very good health status.

The percentage of Ohioans living between 100–200% FPG who reported excellent or very good health status decreased slightly between 2005 and 2006, then increased between 2006 and 2007. The percentage who reported fair or poor health status rose between 2005 and 2006, then decreased between 2006 and 2007.

For Ohioans living above 200% FPG, the percentage who reported excellent or very good health status increased slightly between 2005 and 2006 before decreasing in 2007 to the about same level it was in 2005. The percentage who reported fair or poor health status decreased slightly between 2005 and 2007.



| <100% FPG              | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| Excellent or Very Good | 29%  | 28%  | 21%  |
| Good                   | 28%  | 40%  | 34%  |
| Fair or Poor           | 43%  | 32%  | 45%  |

| 100-200% FPG           | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| Excellent or Very Good | 46%  | 45%  | 50%  |
| Good                   | 33%  | 31%  | 31%  |
| Fair or Poor           | 21%  | 25%  | 19%  |



| >200% FPG              | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|
| Excellent or Very Good | 64%  | 67%  | 64%  |
| Good                   | 24%  | 25%  | 26%  |
| Fair or Poor           | 12%  | 9%   | 10%  |

## Implications

*Ohio Health Issues Poll* data suggest that there was a slight increase in the percentage of those living below 100% FPG and of those living at 100-200% FPG between 2005 and 2007. These findings are consistent with recent national data.

According to the latest Census data on poverty<sup>2</sup>, Ohio is the only state to have two cities—Cleveland and Cincinnati—among the nation's 10 cities<sup>3</sup> with the highest levels of poverty. Cleveland had the lowest median income of any city in the nation, with an average household income of \$26,535. Cincinnati had the 6th lowest median income of any city, with an average household income of \$31,103. Additionally, the lowest income town<sup>4</sup> in the nation was Youngstown, Ohio, which had a median household income of only \$21,850.

Increasing poverty can also mean decreases in state revenue

from taxes and in the parts of the economy driven by consumer spending. In fact, adjusted for inflation, Ohio's revenue authority has dropped 8% since 2000 and Ohio's sales tax revenues have decreased by about 4% since 2003.<sup>5</sup> In areas where poverty has increased significantly—such as Southeastern Ohio and in urban counties—the effect on the economy may be more pronounced.

The increases in poverty in Ohio are having a disparate effect on women, the young, the less educated, and those who live in rural Southeastern Ohio. Poverty status is a strong indicator of health insurance status and self-reported health status. Not only are people living below 200% FPG more likely to be uninsured currently, they are also more likely to be uninsured at some point in the last 12 months, indicating unstable sources of insurance and unstable access to healthcare services. In

addition, as household income goes down, the likelihood of reporting poor health goes up.

Additionally, women, African Americans, those ages 18-29, and those with lower education levels—demographic groups more likely to live below 100% FPG—are more likely to go without health insurance and to report poorer overall health status. Those living in the urban counties and those living in Southeast Ohio also report higher rates of poverty, lower rates of health insurance, and higher rates of poor health status.

While the latest national Census data indicate a slight increase in median household income from 2005 to 2006, the trend in Ohio is just the opposite. It seems that while the majority of the country is digging out from the 2001 recession, Ohio has not fared as well. It is important to keep a watchful eye on these data, as poverty negatively affects many aspects of a person's life as well as the economic strength of the state.

<sup>2</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2007). 2006 American Community Survey

<sup>3</sup> Of cities with 250,000 residents or more.

<sup>4</sup> Of towns with 65,000 residents or more.

<sup>5</sup> Source: Health Policy Institute of Ohio (2007). *Profile of Ohio Uninsured and Economic Considerations*. Author: Columbus, Ohio.

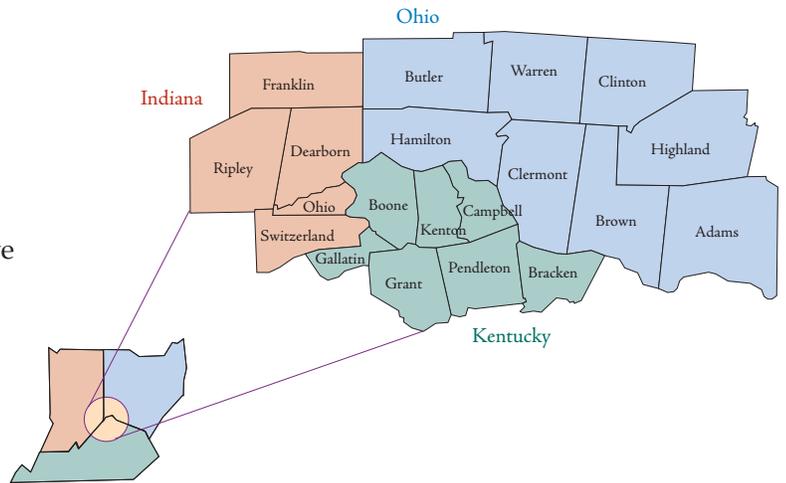


# About The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati

Since 1997, The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati has invested over \$76 million to address health needs in the 20-county region surrounding Cincinnati. The majority of our work falls within our four focus areas:

- Community Primary Care
- School-Aged Children's Healthcare
- Substance Use Disorders
- Severe Mental Illness

We help create enduring projects that will improve health, and grantee sustainability is vital to our mission. We help grantees move toward sustainability by offering workshops, staff consultations, and other technical assistance. We also help grantees find other funders who might be interested in their work.



Through our Health Data Improvement Program, we work to improve the local health data available so communities can make data-driven decisions. Results of the *Ohio Health Issues Poll* and our other health-related surveys, as well as other local, state, and national health data, are available at OASIS, our Online Analysis and Statistical Information System, found at [www.oasis.uc.edu](http://www.oasis.uc.edu). Our data can also be used to make powerful health-related population maps through *HealthLandscape*, found at [www.healthlandscape.org](http://www.healthlandscape.org).

For more information about the Health Foundation and our grantmaking interests, capacity building programs for nonprofits, and local health data, please contact us at 513-458-6600, toll-free at 888-310-4904, or visit our web site at [www.healthfoundation.org](http://www.healthfoundation.org).

Our **mission** is to improve the health of the people of the Cincinnati region.

Our **vision** is to be one of the healthiest regions in the country.

Our **values** are:

- » Innovation. We are a catalyst in creating innovative solutions to promote enduring change.
- » Caring. We are committed to serving vulnerable and underserved populations.
- » Education. We believe in the power of education to transform communities.
- » Stewardship. We operate in an accountable, ethical, and transparent manner.

*The*  
**Health**  
 **Foundation**  
*of Greater Cincinnati*

Rookwood Tower  
3805 Edwards Road, Suite 500  
Cincinnati, OH 45209-1948  
513.458.6600 [TF] 888.310.4904  
[www.healthfoundation.org](http://www.healthfoundation.org)