



Ohioans' Experiences with *Going without Care because of Cost*

August 2009



Results From The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati



The cost of healthcare has been increasing for several decades. For some, the cost of healthcare has become prohibitively expensive. The 2009 *Ohio Health Issues Poll* asked Ohio adults about going without needed medical care, dental care, and prescription medications because of cost.

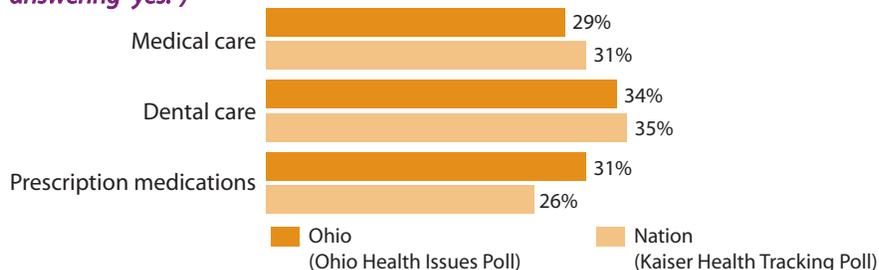
1 in 3 Ohioans Go without Care

Twenty-nine percent (29%) of Ohioans reported that, in the last year, they or a member of their household delayed or went without needed medical care, 34% delayed or went without needed dental care, and 31% delayed filling or did not fill a needed prescription. In general in Ohio, as education and income increased, the percentage of respondents reporting that they went without care because of cost decreased.

These results are comparable to results from a national poll¹ in which 31% of Americans reported that they or a member of their household put off getting needed health care, 35% skipped dental care or checkups, and 26% did not fill a prescription.

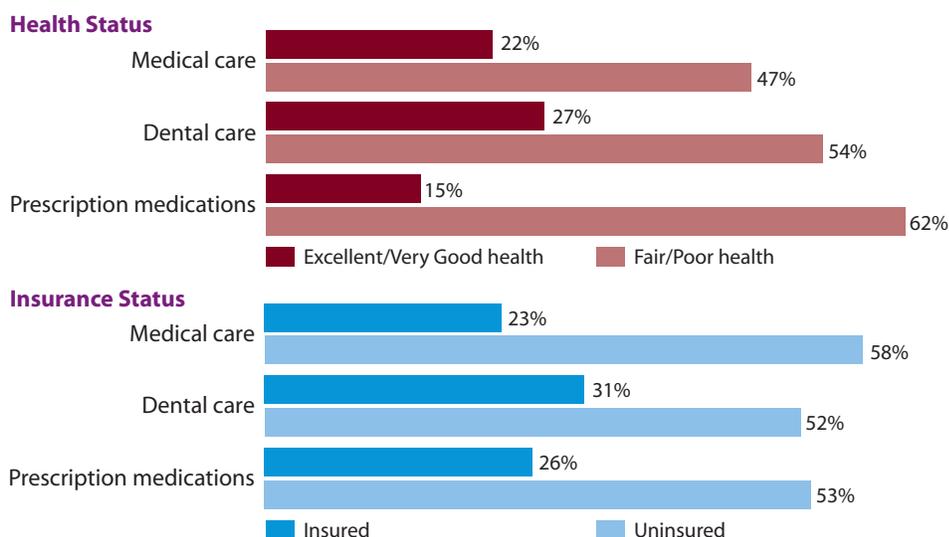
¹ National polling results come from the June 2009 Kaiser Health Tracking Poll available at: <http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls/posr061609pkg.cfm>.

In the past 12 months, was there a time when you or another member of your household needed medical care, dental care, or a prescription medication but did not get it or delayed getting it because of the cost?* (Graph reflects the percentage answering "yes.")



*The question asked of national respondents was comparable, but slightly different: "In the past 12 months, have you or another family member living in your household put off or postponed getting health care you needed, not filled a prescription for medicine, or skipped dental care or checkups because of the cost, or not?"

Ohio adults reporting themselves or a household member delayed getting or did not get care in the past 12 months, by group (Graph reflects the percentage answering "yes.")



Ohioans in Fair or Poor Health and Uninsured Ohioans at Higher Risk
Ohioans reporting fair or poor health status and those without

insurance went without or delayed getting care at a much higher rate than other groups tracked by the *Poll*.

These findings unless otherwise noted are from The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati's *Ohio Health Issues Poll*, part of the *Ohio Poll* conducted June 1–12, 2009, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 812 adults from throughout Ohio was interviewed by telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, statewide estimates will be accurate to $\pm 3.4\%$. 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. For more information about the *Ohio Health Issues Poll*, please visit www.healthfoundation.org/ohip.html.