



What Ohioans Think about *What Is Important to Them about Healthcare*

October 2009



Results From The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati



Congress is currently debating various healthcare reform options. How important are these various options to Ohioans? What matters most to Ohio's residents?

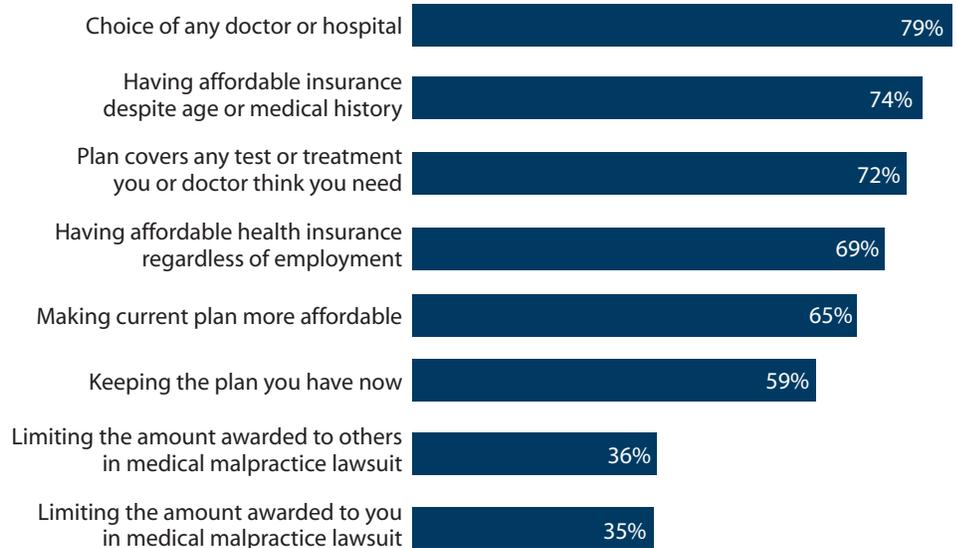
Choice, Affordability Are Important

The Fall 2009 *Ohio Health Issues Poll* found that almost 8 out of 10 Ohio adults (79%) felt that having the choice of any doctor or hospital was extremely important. Almost 3 out of 4 Ohio adults felt that having affordable insurance despite age or medical history was extremely important (74%) or that having a plan cover any test or treatment you or your doctor think you need was extremely important (72%).

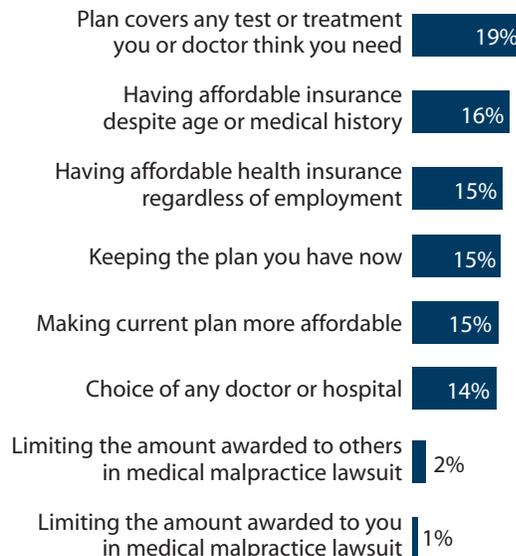
Ohioans Divided on What Is Most Important

When asked what single issue was the MOST important, Ohioans were divided on what was most important to them. The most frequent responses were having a plan that covers any test or treatment they or their doctor think they need (19%) and having affordable insurance despite age or medical history (16%).

Congress is currently considering major changes to the way the healthcare system works in this country. Thinking about how such changes might affect you, personally, and using a 5 point scale, how important is ...? (Graph reflects the percent of Ohio adults who rated the item as 5, extremely important.)



Which of these is MOST important to you? (Respondents could pick only one. Question was asked only of respondents who rated at least one of the above items as 5, extremely important.)



These findings unless otherwise noted are from The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati's *Ohio Health Issues Poll*, part of the *Ohio Poll* conducted September 16–26, 2009, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 818 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.