



Ohio adults cite drug use, insurance as top health problems

The 2016 **Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP)** asked Ohio adults how they feel about health in the state overall and about their personal health.

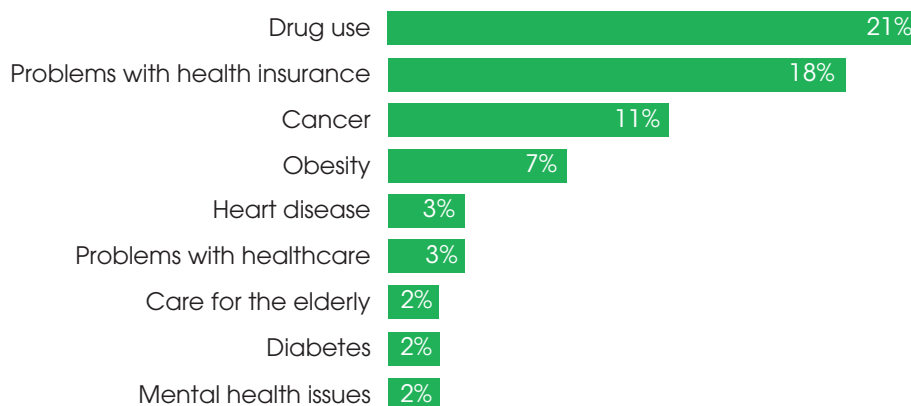
2 in 10 say drug use, health insurance are top health problems

OHIP asked Ohio adults: "What is the most urgent health problem facing the state of Ohio at the present time?" Respondents could provide any answer. **Drug use** (21%) and **problems with health insurance** (18%) were the most frequent responses. Concerns about health insurance included cost, coverage gaps when insured, accessibility to all groups, and general concerns about the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare.

About 1 in 10 Ohio adults said **cancer** (11%) or **obesity** (7%) was the top health problem in the state. Other responses included heart disease (3%), problems with healthcare (3%), care for the elderly (2%), mental health issues (2%) and diabetes (2%).

OHIP's findings are similar to national surveys. In a November

What is the most urgent health problem facing the state of Ohio at the present time? (Percentages do not add to 100 because the responses "environmental issues," "don't know," "other" and "none" are not included.)



2015 Gallup poll, adults nationwide said the top four health problems in the nation were affordable healthcare/health insurance (22%), access to healthcare (20%), obesity (15%) and cancer (14%).¹

Self-rated health stable, varies by income, education

OHIP also asks adults to rate their general health as excellent, very good, good, fair or poor.

Research has found a powerful link between people's response to this question and the predicted length and quality of their lives.²

In 2016, half of Ohio adults (48%) reported that their health was excellent or very good. More than 3 in 10 adults (34%) said their health was good. Almost 2 in 10 adults (18%) said their health was fair or poor. This is about the same as in 2015.

Continued on back

¹ Riffkin, R. (2015). Americans again cite cost and access as top health issues. November 2015 Gallup Poll. Retrieved Nov. 22, 2016 from <http://bit.ly/2fE7kSR>.

² DeSalvo, K.B., et al. (2006). Clinical Review: Mortality Prediction with a Single General Self-Rated Health Question. Journal of General Internal Medicine, 21(3), 267-275.

This release co-sponsored by:



These findings unless otherwise noted are from Interact for Health's Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP) conducted July 14-Aug. 5, 2016, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 863 adults throughout Ohio was interviewed by telephone. This included 439 landline telephone interviews and 424 cell phone interviews. In 95 of 100 cases, statewide estimates will be accurate to $\pm 3.3\%$. 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 OHIP, please visit www.interactforhealth.org/ohio-health-issues-poll. If you have questions about the data in this document, please contact Susan Sprigg, Research Officer, at 513-458-6609 or ssprigg@interactforhealth.org.

Adults with higher incomes were more likely to have better self-reported health. Among those earning more than 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)³, nearly 6 in 10 (58%) reported excellent or very good health. That compares with fewer than 4 in 10 adults earning 200% FPL or less (36%). This gap has been consistent over the past decade. (See graph.) These findings match national and international work that has identified economic stability as one of the key social factors that influence health⁴

Education is another factor that influences health. Six in 10 college graduates (61%) reported excellent or very good health. This compares with 5 in 10 adults with some college (51%), and only 4 in 10 adults with a high school diploma (39%) or less education (41%).

³In 2015, 200% of the Federal Poverty Level was \$48,500 for a family of four.

⁴Healthy People 2020. (2016). Social Determinants of Health. Accessed Nov. 22, 2016, at <http://bit.ly/2fRBYX3>.

Percentage of Ohio adults reporting excellent or very good health

