



# 7 in 10 Ohio adults report having usual and appropriate place for care

The **Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP)** is conducted every year to learn more about the health opinions, behaviors and status of adults in Ohio. In 2017, OHIP asked Ohio adults several questions about their health care usage and general health status.

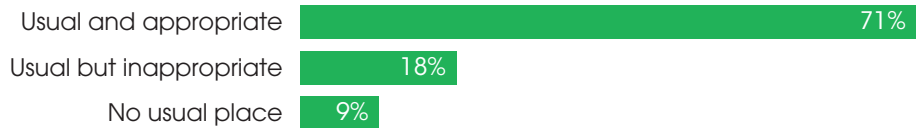
## WHAT DID OHIP FIND?

OHIP asks a series of questions<sup>1</sup> to assess if adults in Ohio have a usual and appropriate place for health care. People with a usual and appropriate place for care have better health outcomes and fewer health disparities than those who do not.<sup>2</sup> Appropriate places include private doctor's offices, community-based health centers and public health clinics, clinics at retail stores, and hospital outpatient departments.

<sup>1</sup> OHIP asks: "Is there any particular clinic, health center, doctor's office or other place that you usually go to if you are sick or need advice about your health?" and "When you are sick or need advice about your health, to which of the following places do you usually go? Would you say a private doctor's office other than a public health clinic or community-based health center, a community-based health center or public health clinic, a clinic at a retail store, a hospital outpatient department, a hospital emergency room, urgent care center, or some other kind of place?"

<sup>2</sup> Healthy People 2020. (2016). Access of Health Services. Accessed Dec. 4, 2017, at <http://bit.ly/2ckzegn>.

## Place where Ohio adults get health care\*



\* Appropriate places include private doctor's offices, community-based health centers and public health clinics, clinics at retail stores, and hospital outpatient departments. Inappropriate places for care include hospital emergency rooms, urgent care centers and other places.

## About how long has it been since you personally last visited a health care professional for a routine checkup?



Inappropriate places for care include hospital emergency rooms, urgent care centers and other places.

## Ohio adults reporting usual and appropriate place for care stable

In 2017, 7 in 10 Ohio adults (71%) reported having a usual and appropriate place for care. This compares with 1 in 10 (9%) who reported having a usual but inappropriate place and 2 in 10 (18%) who reported having no usual place. These percentages have not changed since the last

time these questions were asked in 2012.

## Most have had routine checkup in past year

OHIP asked respondents how long it had been since their last routine checkup. Eight in 10 Ohio adults (79%) reported having had a routine checkup in the past year. More than 1 in 10 adults (13%) reported having a routine checkup within the past two to five years, and nearly 1 in 10 (8%) have not had a routine checkup in more than five years.

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## Nearly half rate their own health as excellent or very good

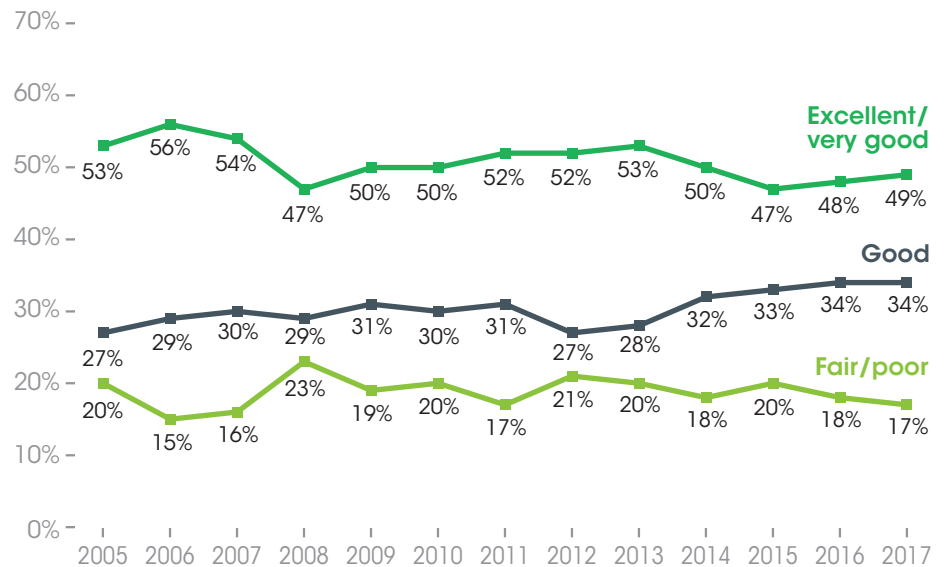
OHIP also asked respondents to rate their own health as either excellent, very good, good, fair or poor. In 2017, 5 in 10 Ohio adults (49%) rated their own health as excellent or very good, 3 in 10 (34%) rated their health as good, and 2 in 10 (17%) rated their health as only fair or poor. These measures have remained relatively stable over time.

### WHY DO WE ASK THESE QUESTIONS?

Access to quality health care promotes and maintains health and prevents disease, disability and premature death. Building a personal relationship with an appropriate health care provider promotes healthy behaviors and the use of preventive services.<sup>3</sup> OHIP shows how Ohio adults

<sup>3</sup> National Center for Health Statistics. (February 2017). Health Insurance and Access to Care. Retrieved from National Center for Health Statistics Fact Sheet: [https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/factsheets/factsheet\\_hiac.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/factsheets/factsheet_hiac.pdf).

### In general, would you say your health is excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?



INTERACT  
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across the state are currently engaging the health care system. This may point out potential future gaps in capacity, or a need for patient education about the value of a regular health care provider.

The survey asks about adults' self-reported health status because this is an important indicator of

general well-being. Research has suggested a strong link between a person's self-reported health and their predicted length and quality of life.<sup>4</sup> Assessing these questions helps paint a picture of the current and future health of the state of Ohio.

<sup>4</sup> 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.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW

Innovative models have been designed to address barriers to accessing preventive health care. One of these is school-based health centers (SBHCs). In an SBHC, a medical provider partners with a school to open a health center within the building walls. The SBHC can provide both preventive care and illness care in this convenient location to students, and sometimes also to teachers, staff members and families. Currently 63 SBHCs operate across the state of Ohio.