



September 2014

Oral health varies by income and education level, location

According to the 2013 Greater Cincinnati Community Health Survey (CHSS), about 3 in 4 adults (76%) in Greater Cincinnati report that the condition of their mouth and teeth, including false teeth and dentures, is good or very good. This percentage has remained stable since 2005, but is lower than the 79% who reported good or very good oral health in 2002.

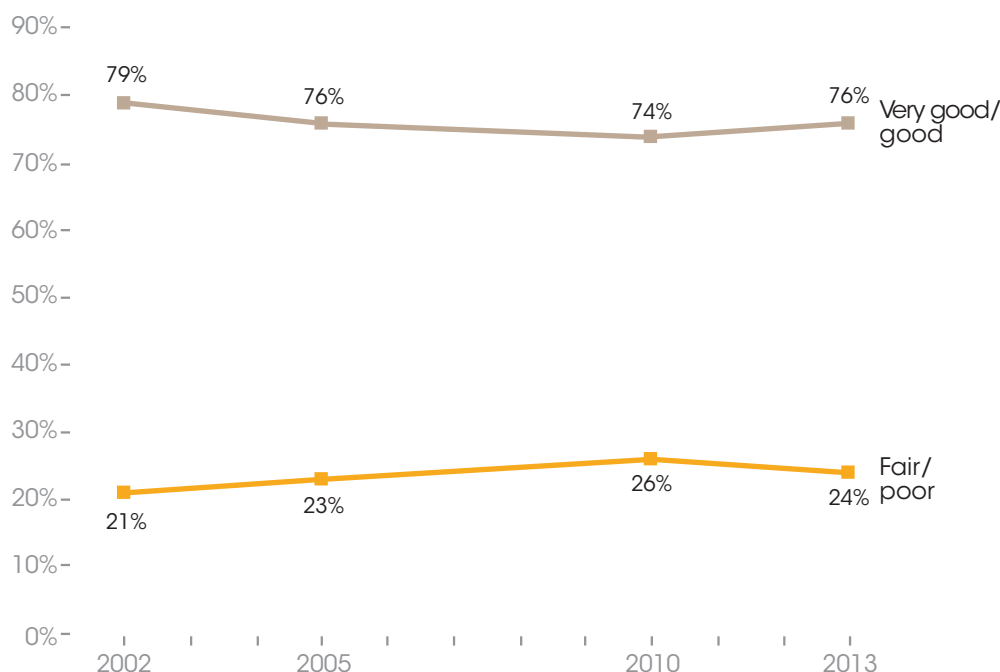
Poorer, less educated adults more likely to report poor oral health

Adults with lower income are much more likely to report that they have poor oral health. About 5 in 10 Greater Cincinnati adults (51%) living at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)¹ report fair or poor oral health. Only 3 in 10 adults (28%) living between 100% and 200% FPL and about 1 in 10 adults (14%) living above 200% FPL report fair or poor oral health.

Poor oral health is also more likely among adults with less education. Five in 10 adults with less than a high school diploma (47%) report fair or poor oral health. This compares with 3 in 10 high school graduates (29%)

¹ The Federal Poverty Level (FPL) in 2012 was \$23,050 for a family of four; 200% FPL was \$46,100.

Percentage of adults reporting that their mouth and teeth, including false teeth and dentures, were in very good/good or fair/poor condition



and only 1 in 10 college graduates (10%).

White Appalachians, African Americans report poorer oral health

About 3 in 10 African-American adults (32%) and White Appalachian adults (31%) report fair or poor oral health. This compares with only 2 in 10 White non-Appalachian adults (19%).

Rural Kentucky adults more likely to report poor oral health

Reported oral health varies across our region. Adults in rural Kentucky counties² (36%) are most likely to report fair or poor oral health, followed by adults in rural Ohio counties³ (28%), the City of

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² Bracken, Carroll, Gallatin, Owen and Pendleton counties.

³ Adams, Brown, Clermont and Highland counties.

Cincinnati (28%), and urban Kentucky counties⁴ (26%). Only 23% of adults in Hamilton County suburbs and Indiana counties⁵ report fair or poor oral health. The percentage in Indiana declined from 32% in 2010. In Butler, Clinton and Warren counties, only 19% of respondents report fair or poor oral health.

3 in 10 adults delayed or did not get dental care

Among Greater Cincinnati adults, 32% report that sometime in the past 12 months they thought they needed dental care but did not get it or delayed getting it. This percentage is about the same as in 2010 (31%), but has been rising since 1999.

Adults with poorer oral health more likely to delay dental care

Many of the same groups that report fair or poor oral health are also more likely to report delaying dental care in the past year. These include:

- **Low-income adults:** More than half of adults living below 100% FPL (54%) report delaying dental care, compared with only one-quarter of adults living above 200% FPL (25%).
- **Adults who are not White non-Appalachians:** Both African Americans (38%) and White Appalachians (34%) are more likely than White non-Appalachians (30%) to report delaying dental care.
- **Less-educated adults:** 4 in 10 adults with a high school diploma (38%) or less (40%) report delaying dental care, compared with only 2 in 10 adults (20%) with a college degree.

⁴ Boone, Campbell, Grant and Kenton counties.

⁵ Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley and Switzerland counties.

Percentage of adults who report that in the past 12 months there was a time they thought they needed dental care but did not get it or delayed getting it

