



Ohioans' Experiences with Problems Due to Recent Changes in the Economy

September 2009



Results From The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati



One in four Ohio adults (26%) reported that the current economy is a source of serious stress in their lives, according to the 2009 *Ohio Health Issues Poll*. Another 1 in 3 Ohio adults (36%) reported that the economy is a source of stress, but not a serious one.

The *Poll* went on to ask about specific problems Ohio adults have experienced as a result of the economy. *The Kaiser Health Tracking Poll*¹ asked adults across the nation similar questions.

Ohioans Having Serious Problems Getting Good-Paying Jobs and Losing Money in Stock Market

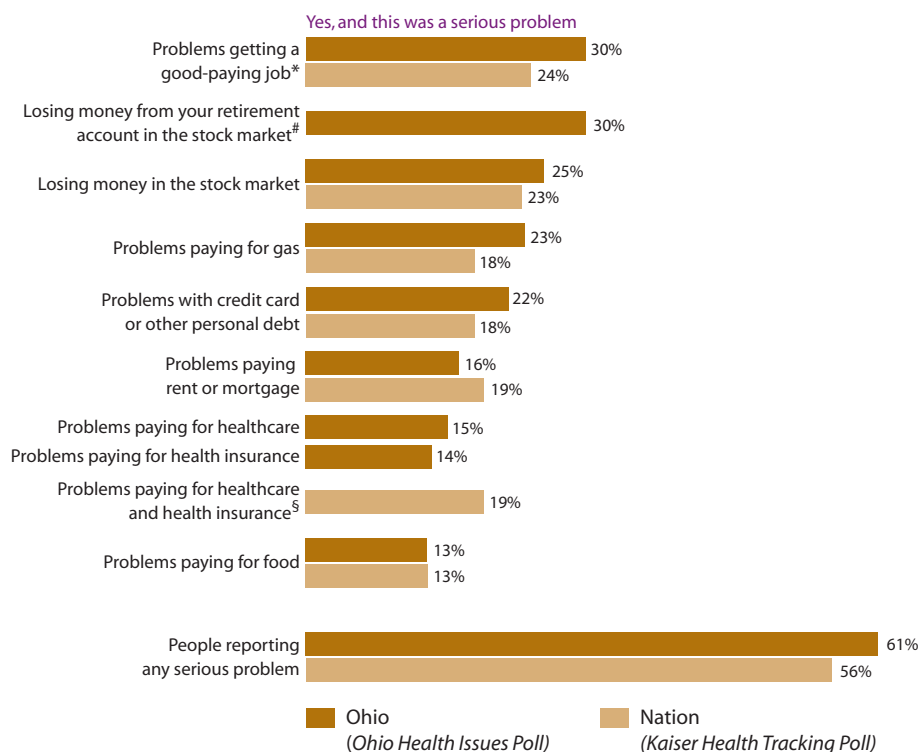
About 1 in 3 Ohio adults (30%) reported having serious problems getting a good-paying job, compared to 1 in 4 adults in the nation (24%). Ohio adults more likely than other demographic groups to report this included those who were:

- Living below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG; 63%)²
- African American (59%)
- uninsured (49%)

¹ Data from the Kaiser Health Tracking Poll can be found at <http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls/trackingpoll.cfm>.

² 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) in 2008 was an annual income of \$21,200 for a family of 4.

As a result of recent changes in the economy, have you or your family experienced any of the following problems, or not? Was this a serious problem, or not? (Graphs present percentage of people reporting this was a serious problem only.)



* The Ohio Health Issues Poll asked if the respondent had "problems getting a good-paying job", while the Kaiser Health Tracking Poll asked if the respondent had "problems getting a good-paying job or a raise in pay."

[#] The Kaiser Health Tracking Poll did not ask this question.

[§] The Ohio Health Issues Poll had "problems paying for healthcare" and "problems paying for health insurance" as two separate choices, while the Kaiser Health Tracking Poll had them as one choice.

About 1 in 3 Ohio adults (30%) reported having serious problems losing money from retirement accounts in the stock market. Ohioans who had at least some college education, including a college degree, were most likely at 41% to report having serious problems losing money from their retirement accounts. There were minor differences among other demographic groups.

About 1 in 4 Ohio adults (25%) and adults across the nation (23%) reported having serious problems losing money in the stock market. Ohioans more likely than other demographic groups to report this included those who were:

- college graduates (38%)
- over age 65 (36%)
- living above 200% PFG (32%)
- insured (29%)