



# What Ohioans Think about *Federal Healthcare Reform*

August 2009



Results From The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati



Healthcare reform is currently in the spotlight as a top issue as Congress begins debating various healthcare reform proposals. The 2009 Ohio Health Issues Poll asked Ohio adults their opinions about healthcare reform and elements that are likely to be part of various proposed healthcare reform plans.

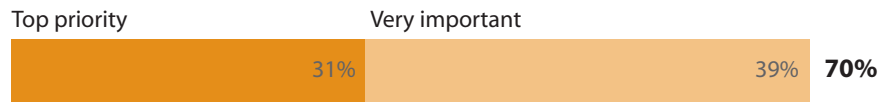
## Healthcare Reform is Important to Most Ohio Adults

In general, Ohio adults think that healthcare reform is important: 7 in 10 Ohio adults identified healthcare reform as a top priority (31%) or very important (39%) for the President and Congress to deal with in the next 12 months.

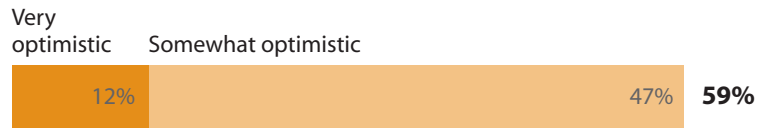
Larger percentages of young adults ages 18-29, African Americans, and Ohioans living below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG)<sup>1</sup> than other demographic groups stated that healthcare reform is important in the next year.

<sup>1</sup> 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) in 2008 was an annual income of \$21,200 for a family of 4.

**Thinking about the next twelve months, do you think healthcare reform should be a top priority for President Obama and Congress, very important but not a top priority, somewhat important, or not that important?** (Graph presents the percentage of respondents reporting it was a top priority or very important only.)



**Would you say you are very optimistic, somewhat optimistic, somewhat pessimistic or very pessimistic that meaningful health care reform will be passed by Congress and approved by the President?** (Graph presents the percentage of respondents reporting they were very or somewhat optimistic only.)



## Ohio Adults Are Optimistic that Meaningful Health Reform Will Happen

About 6 in 10 Ohio adults (59%) are very (12%) or somewhat (47%) optimistic that meaningful health care reform will be passed by Congress and approved by the President.

Larger percentages of African Americans, young adults ages 18-29, and Ohioans living below 100% FPG than other demographic groups are very or somewhat optimistic that meaningful health care reform will be passed.