What Ohioans Think about How Healthcare Reform Will Affect Them























In early 2010, Congress passed two pieces of federal legislation that have the potential to profoundly change healthcare in this country. Before the legislation passed, Congress and others debated whether those changes would be for the better or for the worse. The 2010 *Ohio Health Issues Poll* asked Ohio adults what they thought about how the healthcare reform legislation will affect them and the healthcare system.

Majority of Ohioans Say Reform Will Help Them or Not Affect Them

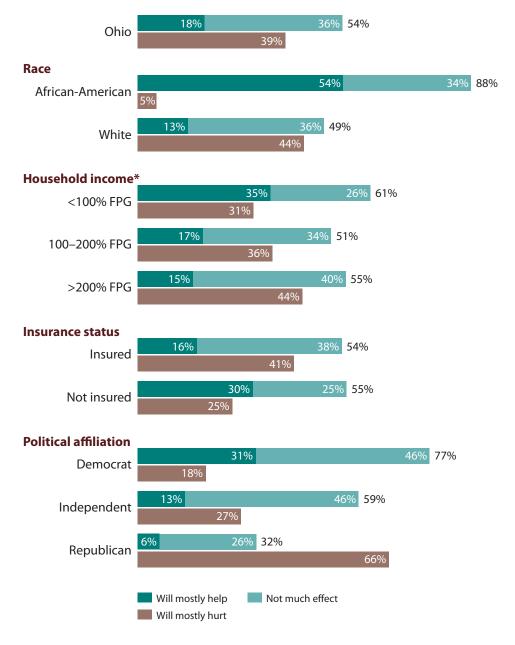
Over half of Ohio adults (54%) said that healthcare reform would mostly help (18%) or not affect them much (36%) in the next 10 years. Another 39% said that the reform law will mostly hurt them, and 7% didn't know how they would be affected.

African Americans (54%), adults living below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG; 35%),¹ and the uninsured (30%) said more frequently that the healthcare reform law would help them.

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\$22,050 for a family of 4.

Which of the following statements best describes how you think the new healthcare reform law will affect you over the next 10 years? (Percentages will not add to 100% because the percent responding "don't know" are not included.)



^{*100%} of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) in 2009 was an annual household income of \$22,050 for a family of 4.

These findings unless otherwise noted are from The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati's Ohio Health Issues Poll, part of the Ohio Poll conducted May 11–20, 2010, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 898 adults from throughout Ohio was interviewed by telephone. This included 818 landline interviews and 80 cell phone interviews with people who did not have a landline telephone. In 95 of 100 cases, statewide estimates will be accurate to ±3.3%. In addition to sampling error, 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 the Ohio Health Issues Poll, please visit www.healthfoundation.org/ohip.html.

¹ 100% of the federal poverty guidelines (FPG) in 2009 was an annual household income of

Majority of Ohioans Say Reform Will Make U.S. Healthcare System Better or No Different

The majority of Ohio adults (57%) say that healthcare reform would make the healthcare system better than it is now (33%) or will not make much difference (24%) in the long run. 40% say that reform will make the US Healthcare System worse that it is now.

Support for Reform Very Partisan

Support for healthcare reform falls strongly along party lines. Democrats state more frequently than Republicans that reform will mostly help them individually over the next 10 years, at 31% and 6% respectively. In terms of the effect on the healthcare system in general, 6 in 10 Democrats thought that healthcare reform will make the U.S. healthcare system better than it is now, while 7 in 10 Republicans thought that healthcare reform will make the U.S. healthcare system worse.