



Many have no dentist or dental insurance

People who have dental insurance and a person they consider to be their personal dentist are more likely to get regular oral health checkups. Combined with good oral hygiene habits, routine oral health checkups are important for better overall health.

According to the 2013 **Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP)**, 75% of Ohio adults who have dental insurance had been to a dentist or dental clinic in the past year, compared with 51% of Ohio adults without dental insurance. OHIP also found

that 85% of Ohio adults who have a personal dentist or oral health provider had been to the dentist within the past year for any reason. This compares with 32% who did not have a personal dentist.

Ohioans without dental insurance

Having dental insurance is just the first step in getting appropriate oral healthcare. In Ohio, 4 in 10 Ohio adults (39%) said they did not have dental insurance of any kind. Some groups tracked by OHIP were more likely to report not having dental insurance. Adults without health insurance, those living in poverty and those older than age 65 report not having dental insurance at higher rates.

Many Medicare recipients (53%) report not having dental insurance, and 38% of adults covered by Medicaid said they do not have dental insurance. However, Ohio Medicaid covers dental care, which means that almost half of Medicaid recipients don't know they have coverage.

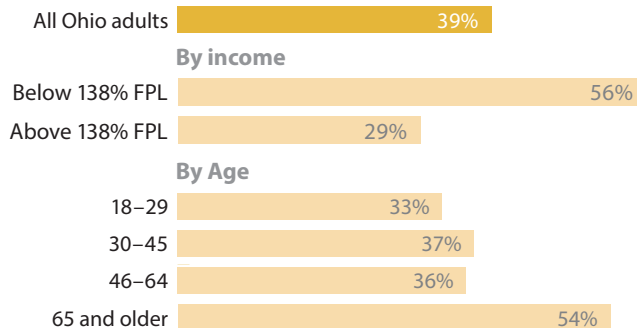
Ohioans without a dentist or oral healthcare provider

Almost 4 in 10 Ohio adults (37%) do not have a provider that they think of as their personal dentist or oral health provider. Some groups that were less likely to have a personal dentist or oral healthcare provider include Ohioans who:

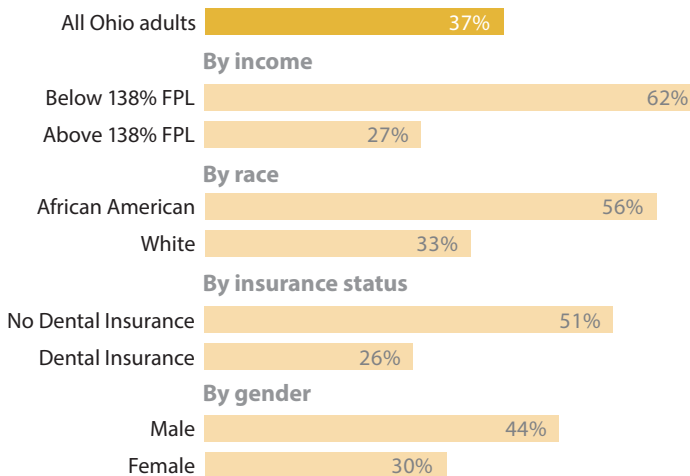
- Live below 138% FPL¹ (62%)
- Are African American (56%)
- Do not have dental insurance (51%)
- Are male (44%)

¹ 138% of the federal poverty level (FPL) in 2012 was \$31,800 for a family of four.

No dental insurance



No personal dentist or oral healthcare provider



These findings unless otherwise noted are from Interact for Health's Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP) conducted May 19-June 2, 2013, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. The oral health questions were co-sponsored by the HealthPath Foundation of Ohio. A random sample of 868 adults throughout Ohio was interviewed by telephone. This included interviews conducted by both landline telephone and cell phone. In 95 of 100 cases, statewide estimates will be accurate to $\pm 3.3\%$.

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 OHIP, please visit www.interactforhealth.org/ohio-health-issues-poll. If you have questions about the data in this document, please contact Jennifer Chubinski, Director of Community Research, at 513-458-6608 or jchubinski@interactforhealth.org.