



INTERACT  
FOR HEALTH



OHIP • 2014  
Ohio Health Issues Poll

September 2014

# Self-reported health linked to income, education, age

There are many ways to assess a person's health. One method is to ask a person to evaluate his or her own health. The **Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP)** asks Ohio adults: "In general, would you say your health is excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?" Research has made a strong and powerful link between people's response to this question and their predicted length and quality of life.

## Half of Ohio adults report excellent or very good health

Half of Ohio adults (50%) reported that their health is excellent or very good in 2014. This has remained stable since 2008.

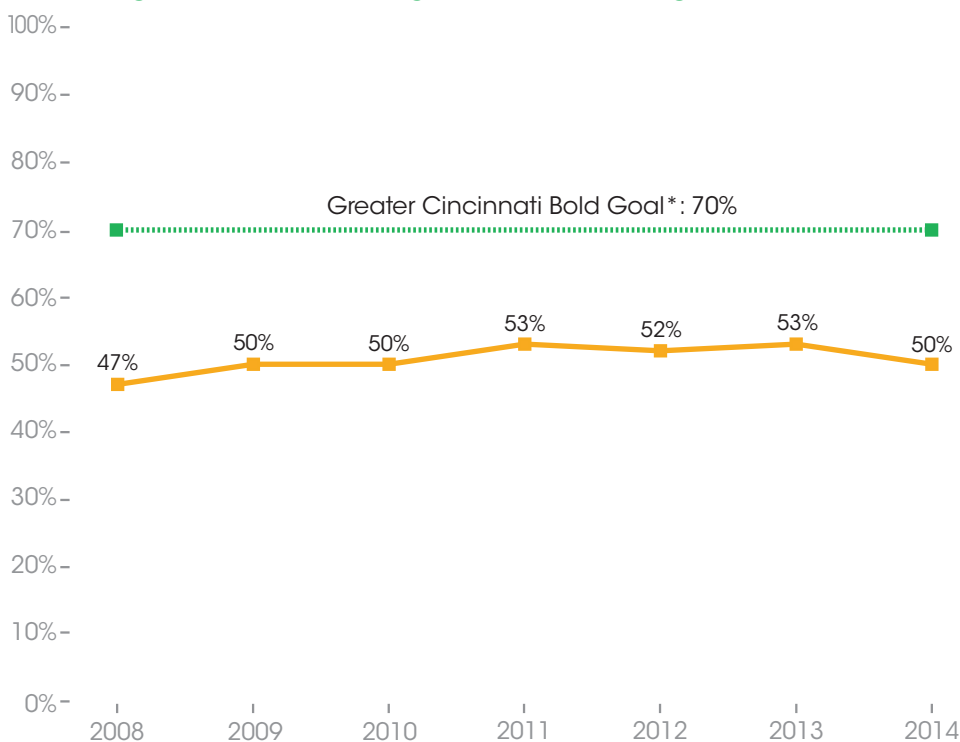
## Better health reported among higher-income, more-educated adults

As noted in previous OHIP results, better self-reported health is strongly associated with higher income. Six in 10 adults living above 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)<sup>1</sup> reported excellent or very

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<sup>1</sup> In 2013, 138% FPL was an annual household income of \$32,500 for a family of four; 200% FPL was \$47,100 for a family of four.

## Percentage of adults reporting excellent or very good health



\* The Bold Goal: By 2020, at least 70% of the community will report having excellent or very good health. For more information on the Bold Goals, please visit [www.uwgc.org/community-impact/bold-goals](http://www.uwgc.org/community-impact/bold-goals).

## Percentage of Ohio adults reporting excellent or very good health, by education level



These findings unless otherwise noted are from Interact for Health's Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP) conducted May 7-20, 2014, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 820 adults throughout Ohio was interviewed by telephone. This included 489 landline telephone interviews and 331 cell phone interviews. In 95 of 100 cases, statewide estimates will be accurate to  $\pm 3.4\%$ . 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](http://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](mailto:jchubinski@interactforhealth.org).

good health in 2014. This compares with only 4 in 10 adults (39%) living between 138%-200% FPL, and fewer than 4 in 10 adults (35%) living below 138% FPL.

Better health is also associated with more education. Nearly 7 in 10 college graduates (66%) reported excellent or very good health, but only 3 in 10 adults with less than a high school education (31%) did so. (See graphic on front.)

### Self-rated health declines as age rises

Ohio adults are also less likely to report excellent or very good health as they get older. More than 6 in 10 adults age 18 to 29 (63%) reported excellent or very good health. Only 4 in 10 adults age 65 and older (40%) did so.

### Percentage of Ohio adults reporting excellent or very good health, by age

