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Insights and Spending Habits of Modern Grandparents

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Telephone survey data collected by Woelfel Research, Inc.
In-depth Interviews conducted by Alan Newman Research

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Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Summary Highlights	1
Methodology	2
About this Report	3
Section 1: General Overview	4
The grandparenting experience	4
Grandchildren demographics	5
Gender and closeness	5
How distance affects grandparenting	5
Reasons not see grandchildren enough.....	6
Relationship with grandchildren’s parents.....	7
Communicating with grandchildren	8
Topics grandparents and grandchildren are discussing.....	9
What grandparents worry about.....	9
Activities with grandchildren	10
Spending and the economy.....	11
Effect of economy on spending.....	12
Information needs.....	12
About the RDD sample.....	13
Section 2: Overview of Modules	14
Grandparenting in multiracial and multiethnic families	14
Grandparents living with and raising grandchildren	16
Grandparents providing daycare services.....	17
Section 3: Summary of Findings	19
APPENDIX 1: Grandparenting Telephone survey – Annotated Questionnaire	21
Introduction.....	22
Module Participants.....	38
Multiracial Family Module (Questions 23a thru 23d)	38
Live with Module (Questions 23 thru 29).....	41
Primary Caregiver Module (Questions 29a thru 29e).....	43
Daycare Module (Questions 30 thru 33a)	45
Spending/Economy Module (Questions 18 thru 20e).....	50
Core Section II (General opinions about grandparenting, Questions 34 thru 37)	53
Core Section III (Demographics, Questions Cell1 thru D15).....	54
APPENDIX 2: Grandparenting In-depth Interviews (IDIs) – Moderator’s Guide	59

Introduction

This report highlights the results of two grandparenting studies conducted in 2011:

- in-depth interviews (IDIs) with grandparents age 50+ (including those who are the primary caregivers for their grandchildren); and
- a national telephone survey of grandparents age 50+ (including special modules on grandparenting in multicultural or multiethnic families and grandparents providing daycare services).

This report provides a snap shot of the experiences, triumphs and challenges of grandparents age 50+ as described by in-depth interview of participants, by summarizing the current research on grandparents age 50+, including topics such as grandparents raising grandchildren; grandparent-grandchild communication tools; frequency & quality of grandparent-grandchild visits; how grandparents support grandchild rearing; spending and gifting trends among grandparents; and issues that affect grandparent-grandchild relations.

Summary Highlights

- The vast majority of grandparents in the quantitative study said they play a very (59%) or somewhat (30%) important role in the lives of their grandchildren.
- About seven in ten (69%) grandparents live within 50 miles of their closest grandchildren. Another 10% indicated that they have to travel over 200 miles to see their closest grandchildren. A little over four in ten (43%) grandparents have to travel over 200 miles to see their grandchildren who live furthest away from them.
- Grandparents who said they did not see their grandchildren enough most often cited distance (67%) as a reason why; followed by the grandchildren's busy schedules (64%).
- The most frequently mentioned methods of communicating with grandchildren were either face-to-face or telephone. In the telephone survey, nearly six in ten grandparents said they speak with their grandchildren at least once a week (58%).
- Conversely only a quarter (26%) of the grandparents in the survey indicated that they communicate with at least one of their grandchildren using electronic technology (i.e., email, text, Skype) every few weeks or more; nearly half (48%) said they never use this method to communicate with their grandchildren.
- Grandparents see their role as shapers of another generation. Specifically, grandparents mentioned the importance of passing on values and helping their grandchildren develop morally and spiritually.
- The majority of grandparents in the telephone survey indicated that they have discussed morals and values (78%) and religion or spirituality (66%) with at least one of their grandchildren. As a corollary, nearly half (47%) indicated that they have attended religious services with their grandchildren in the past six months.
- Grandparents do a lot of other things with their grandchildren. Grandmothers were more likely than grandfathers to say they go shopping (65% v 58%) or cook or bake (63% v 48%) with their grandchildren. Grandfathers were more likely to say they do physical activities like exercise or play sports with their grandchildren (63% v 56%).

- Most grandparents also see themselves as counselors on sensitive issues. Half or more participants indicated that they have spoken to their grandchildren about general problems the grandchild is dealing with (61%) and the child's overall health or obesity (61%).
- While some grandparents in the qualitative and telephone surveys admitted that the current economy has affected how much they spend on their grandchildren, the majority (55%) of the participants in the telephone survey said that the economy has not affected their spending on their grandchildren.
- Nearly one in five grandparents surveyed said they have grandchildren that are mixed race (18%) or a different race (17%) than the grandparent. Fifteen percent said they have grandchildren that are a different ethnicity than the grandparent. The vast majority of these grandparents do not feel it is difficult to relate any of their grandchildren.
- About one in ten (11%) grandparents who participated in the telephone survey indicated that they have grandchildren living in the household. When looking at African American grandparents alone, the proportion of grandparents with grandchildren living with them increases to almost two in ten (19%). Comparatively, thirteen percent of the Latino grandparents said they have grandchildren living with them.
- Sixteen percent of the grandparents who are not primary caregivers said they provide child daycare services for their grandchildren while the parents are at work or school. This proportion differs slightly for African American grandparents (14%) and Hispanic/Latino grandparents (19%).

Methodology

In-depth Interviews (IDI) Qualitative Survey. Alan Newman Research (ANR) conducted 143 30-minute in-depth telephone interviews (IDIs) with grandparents who had participated in the February 2011 AARP Integrated Tracking Survey (ITS), grandparenting module and indicated a willingness to be re-contacted. The IDIs were conducted in August 2011. The base IDI sample was a construct from two sources: (1) grandparents who reported in the February 2011 ITS survey that they were not providing care for their grandchildren and (2) grandparents who reported that they were either the primary caregiver¹ or assist with providing day-to-day care for at least one grandchild. These two groups were further divided into to the eight AARP Life Stage Segments. Interviewees were randomly selected from each subgroup to ensure adequate representation from all segments.

The overall objective of the interviews was to explore grandparents' attitudes, opinions, perceptions and experiences related to grandparenting, their grandchildren and resource and information needs they have as grandparents. The second objective was to provide input into the design of subsequent quantitative research with grandparents.

¹ Primary caregiver is defined as either the legal guardian of the grandchild or the grandparent had sole responsibility for the grandchild's care.

Telephone survey. The AARP 2011 Grandparenting Survey obtained telephone interviews with a sample of 1904 grandparents aged 50 and older drawn at random from the United States. This sample was then boosted to obtain additional interviews with African Americans and Hispanics aged 50 and older who were also grandparents. The interviews were conducted in English and Spanish by Woelfel Research, Inc. from August 25 to October 6, 2011. The margin of sampling error for the random sample of 1904 is $\pm 2.2\%$. The margin of sampling error for the African American sample of 385 is $\pm 5\%$. The margin of sampling error for the Hispanic sample of 401 is $\pm 4.9\%$.

About this Report

The telephone survey was designed to gather a variety of information from a random sample of grandparents. This is called the core group. In addition, the survey design employed modules to delve deeper in to special topics such as grandparents raising grandchildren, grandparenting in multicultural or multiethnic families and grandparents as daycare providers. All participants were asked these core questions. Participants who met certain criteria were also asked module questions.

The first section of this report provides an analysis of the core questions answered by all participants in the random sample (n=1904).

The second section of the report provides a separate analysis of the special module topics.

Section 1: General Overview

The grandparenting experience

It comes as no surprise that participants were extremely positive about grandparenting and the grandparenting experience. In the in-depth interviews, the most common initial response to the question about how the grandparent felt about being a grandparent was “joy.”

“...no morning sickness, no bloat with all the pleasure... [and] more fun...” (IDI participant)

Many characterized grandparenting as providing the enjoyable aspects of parenting without some of the negative aspects, particularly the primary responsibility for care and discipline. Some grandparents noted that their older age and life stage gave them more of an ability to appreciate their grandchildren. When describing the benefits of grandparenting versus parenting, one participant exclaimed “no morning sickness, no bloat with all the pleasure... [and] more fun...”

Specific benefits of grandparenting mentioned included the feeling of a grandchild’s unconditional love, which they described as different from the love they felt from their own child. Others expressed a rejuvenation of sorts being able to play with children again. As one IDI participant expressed, “...keeps old Paw Paw moving around...”.

The ability to watch their grandchildren accomplish milestones was another benefit often mentioned. Grandparents carry a sense of personal triumph when they see their grandchildren mastering the skills they previously taught their own children.

The gratification of grandparenthood also comes from the ability to help shape another generation. Grandparents mentioned the importance of passing on values and helping their grandchildren develop morally and spiritually. As one participant expressed, “[I] can help make sure they grow up right...give them guidance.”

The feeling of family, generations and intergenerational continuity was also an important and oft mentioned theme. For some grandfathers there was also the joy of having someone “carry on your name.”

While the vast majority of grandparents expressed a joy in grandparenting, the younger grandparents did describe a concern that becoming a grandparent made them feel “old.” One 60 year old participant explained, “At first it shocked me...[I’m] kind of young to be a grandma.” A few grandparents raising their grandchildren described the expense and added responsibility as a burden to being a grandparent. About half (49%) of the grandparents in the telephone survey said they were less than 50 years old when they first became a grandparent.

Regardless of how they describe the grandparent experience, we found from our telephone survey that the vast majority of grandparents think they play a very (59%) or somewhat (30%) important role in the lives of their grandchildren. The majority of grandparents also feel they are doing an excellent (28%) or above average (38%) job as a grandparent.

Grandchildren demographics

One in ten grandparents in the telephone survey said they have 1 grandchild (9%). A little over four in ten (45%) grandparents said they have between two and five grandchildren. Nearly a quarter (23%) of grandparents report that they have ten or more grandchildren. On average, the grandparents surveyed had about seven grandchildren.

Nearly four in ten (39%) grandparents in the telephone survey indicated they have grandsons age 5 and under. Just under half (49%) said they have grandsons 18 and older. Similarly, nearly four in ten (38%) grandparents surveyed said they have granddaughters age five and under and nearly half (48%) said they have granddaughters 18 or older.

Gender and closeness

Does the gender of the grandchild affect the grandparent-grandchild relationship? For the most part, the answer is no. While some of the grandparents in the in-depth interviews acknowledged that the activities they participated in with their grandchildren differed by gender, they added that this did not affect their relationship with their grandchildren in general.

Among those who did acknowledge a difference in the relationship based on gender, some said it was because they could relate more to activities of their own gender, some said it was because boys or girls had different personalities and degrees of openness and others acknowledged that they had an easier time relating to one gender or another (frequently, but not always, their own gender). One grandmother offered, “[I] am closer to the girls because [I] do more with girls...Grandpa is not well...[so the] boys get slighted. I don’t do many boy things.”

This phenomenon was also apparent in the telephone survey. When asked about the types of things grandparents do with their grandchildren, grandmothers were more likely than grandfathers to say they go shopping (65% v 58%) or cook or bake (63% v 48%) with their grandchildren. Grandfathers were more likely to say they do physical activities like exercise or play sports with their grandchildren (63% v 56%).

How distance affects grandparenting

About seven in ten (69%) participants in the telephone survey said they live within 50 miles of the closest grandchildren (54% live within 10 miles of their closest grandchildren). Another one in ten (10%) indicated that they have to travel over 200 miles to see the closest grandchildren. A little over four in ten (43%) grandparents said they have to travel over 200 miles to see the grandchildren who live furthest away from them.

Slightly more than half (52%) of the grandparents surveyed said they see the grandchildren closest to them at least once a week. Another quarter (25%) said they see their closest grandchildren every few weeks or at least once a month. As might be expected, grandparents see the grandchildren who live furthest away less often. About a quarter or fewer reported seeing the grandchildren who live furthest away about once every few months (25%) or once a year (20%), with another one in nine (11%) reporting that they see their grandchildren less than once a year.

Regardless of how often they see the grandchildren who live furthest away, most grandparents feel they do not see them often enough. When asked if they felt they saw their grandchildren who lived furthest way “not often enough, about the right amount of time, or too often,” six in ten (61%) said not often enough (see Figure 1).

On the other end of the spectrum, when talking about the grandchildren who live closest to them, the majority (60%) said they see them about the right amount of time. However, about a third (34%) said they did not see their grandchildren who live closest to them often enough (see Figure 2).

Figure 1:
See grandchildren furthest from them...

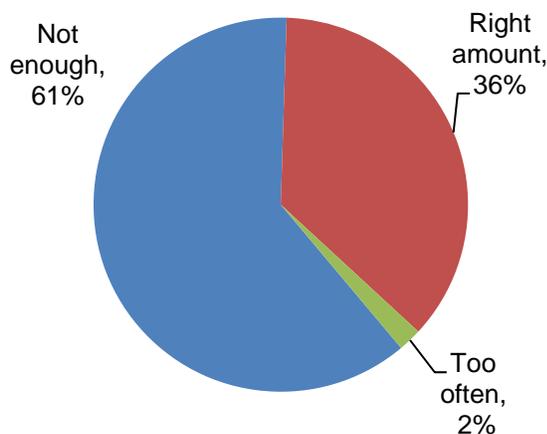
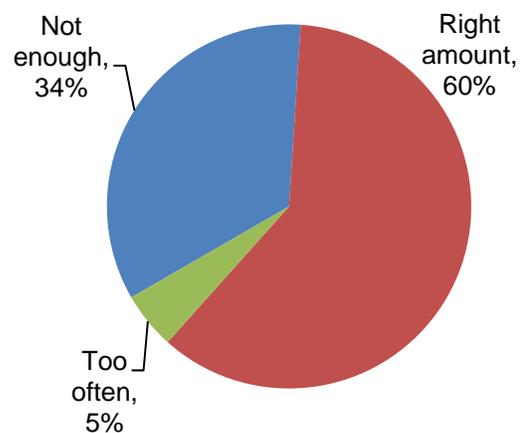


Figure 2:
See grandchildren closest to them...



Reasons not see grandchildren enough

The grandparents who indicated that they felt they did not see their grandchildren enough were asked why they didn't see their grandchildren as much as they would like. Most often, grandparents cited distance (67%) as a reason why they do not see their grandchildren enough. The grandchild's busy schedule (64%) was also a reason stated, followed by the grandparent's health problems (43%), the grandparent's busy schedule (42%), lack of money (41%), lack of energy (39%), a difficult relationship with the parent(s) (22%), and divorced or separated parents (21%).

Similarly, grandparents in the in-depth interviews expressed disappointment that they did not see their grandchildren as frequently as they would like, usually because of geographical separation, because of an illness or physical condition of their own that made frequent contact difficult, or because the grandchildren were older and busier and consequently had less contact with them.

Distance can affect the grandparent-grandchild relationship. In the qualitative study, grandparents were asked if distance impacts their relationship with their grandchildren. Participants who acknowledged that there was a difference in their relationships because of distance said it is more difficult to establish a close relationship when they see grandchildren infrequently.

Grandparents who felt they did not bond well with the grandchildren who live furthest away from them indicated a concern that they can't influence those grandchildren. This concern dovetails with the joy grandparents get from passing on values and helping their grandchildren develop as mentioned earlier.

Although the majority of grandparents surveyed did not cite the relationship with or between their grandchild's parents as a reason for not seeing the grandchild enough, one-fifth (22%) of the participants in the telephone survey did say it was an impediment.

Relationship with grandchildren's parents

The impact of strained relationships with parents on the grandparent-grandchild relationship was highlighted in the in-depth interviews. Estrangement from or conflict with a child or the child's spouse was most frequently mentioned and led to far less contact with that child's children. This problem was exacerbated if the grandchildren's parents were divorced and sharing custody/caretaking of the children. As one participant explains: "...[My daughter is] divorced [and the grandchildren] have lived with the father for the past two years. [We have a] bad relationship with the father and so [we] see less of [the grandchildren]."

*"...[My daughter is] divorced [and the grandchildren] have lived with the father for the past two years. [We have a] bad relationship with the father and so [we] see less of [the grandchildren]."
(IDI participant)*

For the most part, however, the majority of the qualitative study participants reported strongly positive relationships with both parents. This was true in a number of cases of divorce or separation where participants said they maintained positive relationships with both their child and the other parent. In the majority of the remaining cases, participants reported a strong relationship with one of the grandchild's parents, usually, but not always, their own child. In a very few cases, participants did report distant or negative relationships with both parents.

The relationship between the participant's sons and daughters and how that might influence the relationship with the grandchildren was explored in the telephone survey. About half (49%) of the grandparents surveyed said they have grandchildren from both sons and daughters. Of those, about four in ten (38%) said that they are closer to either their son's children or their daughter's children.

As one might expect, again distance played a great role in how close a grandparent is to his or her grandchildren. Grandparents who indicate that they are closer to one set of grandchildren over another most often cited distance as being the reason for the closeness. However, several participants did say they were closer to one set of grandchildren because they were closer to that son (9%) or daughter (18%). Other less common reasons for the closer relationship included: children are older (son 1%, daughter 3%), children are younger (son 4%, daughter 2%), and because the son (2%) or daughter (4%) is their biological child.

Participants in the in-depth interviews were asked to reflect on their feelings about the grandchild who they felt closest to. When describing their relationship with that grandchild, many grandparents portrayed their relationship as extremely close and loving. Several said their grandchild is like a son or daughter to them. In a number of cases, they described what they

perceived to be a unique relationship, which included verbal and physical affection, trust and intensity. Some seemed to run out of superlatives in trying to describe the relationship. As one grandmother describes, "...he listens to me...comes to me with problems...we're open with each other...we have a closeness... [he] feels like my child." Other grandparents mention a high level of trust between them and their grandchild as well as an emotional connection.

Grandparents with "tween" and teen grandchildren express the common emotional distance and emerging independence children feel at that age. As one grandparent express, "[Right now the relationship is] sensitive...now that she's a teenager... [she] wants to be an adult... [it's a] strained relationship from time to time." Another grandfather explains, "[Our relationship is] good even though he is at that age where he thinks he doesn't need much help."

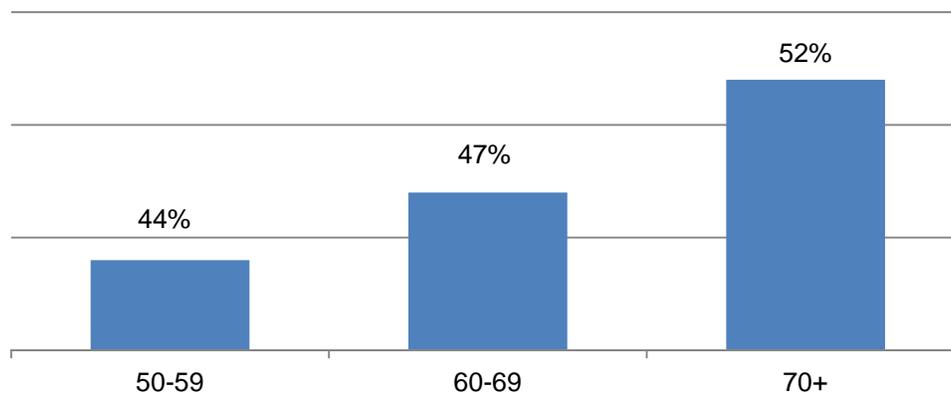
Communicating with grandchildren

Grandparents were asked how often they used various ways to communicate with their grandchildren. The most frequently mentioned methods of communicating with grandchildren were either face-to-face or by telephone. In the telephone survey, nearly six in ten grandparents said they speak with their grandchildren at least once a week (58%). Grandparents also send cards and letters- though less frequently.

Although the percentage of the 50+ population who use electronic technology for communicating is ever increasing,² only a quarter (26%) of the grandparents in the telephone survey indicated that they communicate with at least one of their grandchildren using electronic technology (i.e., email, text, Skype) every few weeks or more frequently; nearly half (48%) indicated they never use this method to communicate with their grandchildren. As one might expect, the likelihood that the grandparent uses electronic technology to communicate with their grandchildren decreases as the age of the grandparent increases (see Figure 3). A little over four in ten (44%) of the 50 to 59 year old grandparents reported that they never use this type of communication. Comparatively, roughly half (47%) of the 60 to 69 year olds and those 70 and older (52%) said they never use electronic means of communication.

Figure 3:

Never use electronic means to communicate with grandchildren



² See AARP's report: Social Media and Technology Use Among Adults 50+ (June, 2010).

Topics grandparents and grandchildren are discussing

Whichever way they choose to communicate, grandparents discuss a wide variety of topics with their grandchildren. Although it isn't clear how these subjects come up, over half (53%) of the grandparents in the telephone survey said that their grandchildren come to them for advice and nearly all (94%) of the grandparents said they are comfortable giving advice. Grandparents also talk to their children about their grandchildren. The vast majority (84%) of the grandparents indicated that they speak to their children about their grandchildren at least monthly.

What topics are grandparents discussing with their grandchildren? We learned from the IDIs that gratification of grandparenthood comes from the ability to help shape another generation. Specifically, grandparents mentioned the importance of passing on values and helping their grandchildren develop morally and spiritually. This was also evident in the telephone survey.

When asked if it was the grandparents' role, the parent's role, or both, to teach children values, eight in ten (80%) said both. Nearly seven in ten (67%) also agreed that it was both the parents' and grandparents' role to teach the grandchildren about religion and spirituality. Thus it is not surprising that the majority of grandparents in the telephone survey indicated that they have indeed discussed morals and values (78%) and religion or spirituality (66%) with at least one of their grandchildren. As a corollary, when asked about specific activities grandparents do with their grandchildren, nearly half (47%) indicated that they have attended religious services with their grandchildren in the past six months.

The majority of grandparents also indicated that they have spoken to their grandchildren about staying safe (73%), school or career plans (72%) and news or current events (65%).

Most grandparents see themselves as their grandchildren's counselors on sensitive issues as well. Half or more respondents to the telephone survey indicated they have spoken to their grandchildren about general problems the grandchild is dealing with (61%), the grandchild's overall health or obesity (61%), smoking cigarettes (54%), peer pressure or bullying (53%), illegal drug use or the illegal use of prescription drugs (50%), and drinking alcohol (50%).

Less than half of the grandparents in the survey indicated that they have spoken to one of their grandchildren about issues with their parents (45%) or dating and sex (37%).

What grandparents worry about

Topics grandparents are discussing with their grandchildren mirrors what they worry about most. When IDI participants were asked to discuss top of mind issues they worry about, most had no difficulty identifying a greatest worry. The most frequently listed issues were around the topics of health and safety, the economic future, education and college, and moral development and religion.

“...I worry about the quality of life they'll have when they are adults... the economy and jobs... Things have deteriorated; there won't be opportunities there for them.” (IDI participant)

On the topic of health and safety, grandparents specifically identified fears for their grandchildren around drug use, gun violence, sexual molestation (almost exclusively for granddaughters – many mentioned on-line predation) and more general teen years problems (e.g., dangerous driving, falling in with a bad crowd, etc.). Some also mentioned anxiety about terrorism.

Apprehension about the current and future economy also weigh heavily on grandparent's minds. Many mentioned current problems with the deficit and the economy and their fears that the future would be worse for their grandchildren than it has been for them. One grandparent stated, "I worry about the quality of life they'll have when they are adults...the economy and jobs... Things have deteriorated, there won't be opportunities there for them." Another participant stated that he worries about "their future because the economy is so bad... there's no more middle class - just rich and poor." He asks, "What [jobs] will be there for them?"

On the topic of education, some worried that their children would not be able to afford their grandchildren's higher education, while others voiced a general concern that their grandchildren will not be motivated to continue their education. Grandparents also expressed concerns about the quality of education in general and the role of technology. As one grandparent stated, "[This generation] is not learning basic skills in reading, writing and arithmetic...[they are] too dependent on computers..." Similarly, another participant expressed fear about the "incredible influence of media and technology." She continued, "[I] don't want them to lose their memory...[I] want my grandchildren to see technology as a tool rather than a necessity."

Many expressed a concern that their grandchildren had or would fall away from the religion and moral principles that the grandparents hold. A number of participants also mentioned more general anxiety about their grandchildren's future (wanting them to be happy and find happiness in marriage and a career) and about the general social decline of the world in which their grandchildren would find themselves as adults.

Activities with grandchildren

Since grandparents worry about sensitive issues like drugs and alcohol use, they often talk to their grandchildren about those issues. However, there is also the lighter, more fun aspect of grandparenting. Majorities of grandparents in the telephone survey indicated that it is both the parent's and grandparent's role to take children on outings (72%) and entertain and have fun with the children (87%).

When asked about specific activities grandparents have done with their grandchildren in the past six months, grandparents also said they have: watched TV or videos at home (75%), gone shopping (63%); participated in physical activities like exercise, playing sports, and gardening (58%); cooked or baked (58%); gone on outings like to the movies, museums and amusement parks (55%); and played games on a computer or gaming system (i.e., Wii, Playstation, etc.) (35%).

As mentioned earlier, grandmothers (65%) were more likely than grandfathers (58%) to indicate that they've gone shopping with their grandchildren. In either case, for more than a third of the grandparents interviewed in the telephone survey, it is seen as the grandparent's "role" to spoil their grandchildren by buying them too much (36% said it is the grandparent's role, 21% said both, 31% it is neither the parent's nor the grandparent's role). A quarter (26%) of the

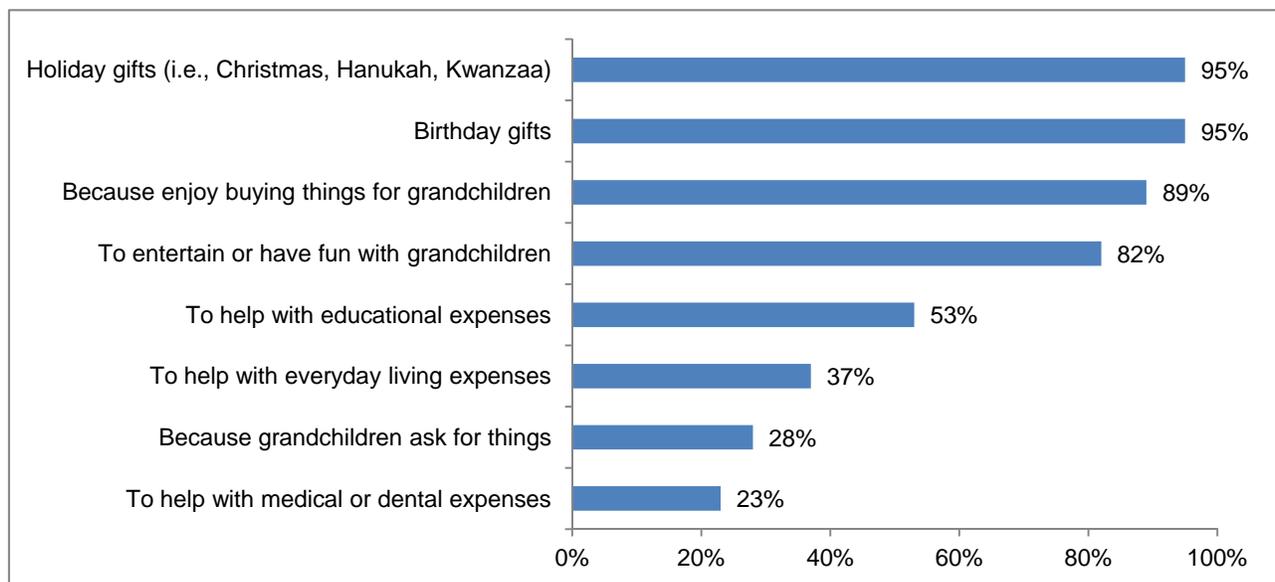
grandparents also said it's their role (rather than the parents') to give their grandchildren special gifts (62% said it's both the parent's and the grandparent's role).

Spending and the economy

The vast majority (96%) of grandparents in the quantitative study said they spend money on their grandchildren. Most say they buy gifts for their grandchildren because they enjoy buying things for them (89%). When asked how much money they have spent on their grandchildren in the past twelve months, one-quarter (25%) said they spent less than \$250; one-quarter (24%) said they spent between \$250 and \$750, one quarter (25%) said they spent over \$1,000, and only four percent said they spent between \$750 and \$999. Grandparents are spending money on their grandchildren for a variety of reasons.

The most common reason for spending on grandchildren was for birthday (95%) and holiday gifts (95%). These grandparents also spend money on necessities like educational expenses (53%), everyday living expenses (37%) and medical or dental expenses (23%) (see Figure 4).

Figure 4:
Reasons spend money on grandchildren (n=1904)



In the in-depth interviews (IDIs), grandparents were asked to think about their spending habits on the one grandchild they feel closest to. Most of the grandparents were either the primary caregiver or shared in the day-to-day responsibility of caring for the grandchild. These participants reported paying for food, clothing, school tuition, fees and supplies, and medical, prescription drug and dental expenses. In several cases, participants said that the grandchild had lived with them for a period of time or was currently living with them and that they paid all of that grandchild's living expenses during those stays. Grandparents also mentioned that they were providing money to their child – the grandchild's parents – for housing and other daily living expenses.

Several grandparents also commented that they spend money for their grandchild that they would categorize as neither a “necessity” nor “non-necessity” spending. These items included contributions to savings accounts, college funds and college savings plans, purchasing life insurance for their grandchild and paying daycare or private school tuition.

Effect of economy on spending

While some grandparents in the in-depth interviews and telephone survey said the current economy has affected how much they spend on their grandchildren, the majority (55%) of the participants in the telephone survey said the economy has not affected their spending on their grandchildren. However, this number most likely understates the impact of the recession as a number of grandparents in the IDIs mentioned that while they have cut back in other places, spending on their grandchildren is a higher priority. One participant commented, “We still [spend on our grandchild], but it makes a bigger impact [on us] than it did in the past.” Another grandparent explained, “[I was] laid off in October, but [I] try not to have the situation affect my grandchildren.”

“We still [spend on our grandchild], but it makes a bigger impact [on us] than it did in the past.”
(IDI participant)

IDI participants who have cut back describe general belt tightening in grandchild spending as well as particular economizing with fewer impulse expenditures for their grandchild, smaller gifts, and reducing the number of occasions for which gifts are given. In some cases, they have concentrated spending on necessities.

This coincides with the findings from the telephone survey. Grandparents who said that the current economy has affected their spending on their grandchildren indicated that they now decrease the amount they spend on non-necessities like games (23%), buy less expensive gifts (19%), and decrease the amount they give for birthdays and special occasions (13%).

Even though some grandparents have had to cut back on spending, the majority (65%) of grandparents say that their current situation has little or no effect on their ability to be a good grandparent. However, a little more than one in ten (13%) grandparents said their current financial situation has an effect on their ability to be a good grandparent.

Information needs

Grandparents in the telephone survey and in-depth interviews were asked what type of help or information they may need to assist them as grandparents. The IDI participants were asked an open-ended question. About half of the grandparents said they did not need any help related to grandparenting. They generally had few questions about being a grandparent and felt they had the resources they needed. Those who did provide an answer listed a range of needs that can be grouped in the following categories: additional financial resources, better health, a forum to talk with other grandparents, information about childrearing, and activities to do with grandchildren. A few grandmothers with grandsons mentioned the need for a male presence in their grandson’s life.

Similarly, very few grandparents who participated in the quantitative study were able to cite a list of information needs without prompting. When asked about specific topic areas of interest, about four in ten said they would be interested in information about the importance of grandparents to a child's well being (41%) and fun things to do with grandchildren of all ages (43%). About a third or less said they would be interested in information about how to speak with their grandchildren about issues in their lives (35%), how to speak to their children about issues concerning the grandchildren (31%), gifts for children (34%), keeping in touch long distance (33%), how to connect with their grandchildren (31%), and children's developmental stages (30%).

Grandparents who have sought help or information get it from a variety of sources including the Internet, book stores, libraries, friends and family, AARP (specifically the AARP Magazine), community centers and religious or spiritual organizations.

When grandparents in the telephone survey were asked about specific ways in which they would like to receive information on grandparenting, about four in ten (39%) said they would like to receive information via books or magazine or news articles (39%). One-third (33%) said they would like to receive newsletters or brochures sent in the mail. A few participants indicated they would like to receive the information in other forms like email, in-person workshops and via web sites.

About the RDD sample

At the conclusion of the fielding period, responses had been received from 1,904 individuals in the random sample. The sampling error is $\pm 2.2\%$ at the 95% confidence level. This means that in 95 out of 100 samples of this size, the results would fall in a range of no more than roughly two percentage points of what would have been obtained if every grandparent age 50 or older had been surveyed.

Respondents in the random sample were ages 50 and over with nearly one-fifth (19%) between ages 50-59, about a third (32%) between ages 60 and 69, and nearly half (46%) ages 70 or older. The majority were women (69%) and three in ten were men (31%).

More than eight in ten (84%) respondents in the random sample were white, nearly one in ten (9%) were black, four percent were American Indian or Alaska Native and three percent were Hispanic/Latino.

A little over four in ten (44%) had a high school education or less, while nearly three in ten (27%) had some college or technical training. Two in ten (19%) had a college degree or post graduate study. Nearly one in ten (8%) of respondents in the random sample had a graduate or professional degree. The majority (62%) of the random sample were retired and no longer looking for work. Another six percent had retired and are now working again. Nearly two in ten (18%) were currently working – never retired.

One-quarter (25%) have household incomes of less than \$25,000 per year, while one-fifth (21%) have household incomes of \$25,000-\$49,999 per year.

Thirteen percent reported an annual household income of \$50,000-\$74,999, while a little less than one-fifth (17%) reported an annual household income of \$75,000 or more. About half (48%) of the sample respondents said they were AARP members.

Section 2: Overview of Modules

This section provides an overview of the major findings from the telephone survey modules on grandparenting in multicultural and multiethnic families, grandparents raising grandchildren and grandparents providing daycare for their grandchildren. This analysis includes eligible respondents from the African American and Hispanic/Latino boost samples. Relevant findings from the IDIs are also included throughout the text.

The telephone survey design employed modules to delve deeper into special topics such as grandparenting in multicultural or multiethnic families, grandparents raising grandchildren, and grandparents as daycare providers. Participants who met certain criteria were asked module questions.

In addition, grandparents who participated in the in-depth interviews (IDIs) were asked questions about grandparents as primary caregivers and daycare providers. This section provides an overview of the quantitative module findings as well as relevant findings from the IDIs.

Grandparenting in multiracial and multiethnic families

The telephone survey included a module designed to measure the thoughts and opinions of grandparents who have multiracial or multiethnic grandchildren or grandchildren from different races or ethnicities (n=592).³ The first set of questions measured the grandparent's thoughts on the importance of connecting with his or her own cultural, racial or ethnic heritage.

A grandparent's love ... seems to overshadow any possible racial or ethnic barriers.

These grandparents were then asked a series of questions designed to explore their opinions about being a grandparent in a multiracial or multiethnic family. This analysis attempts to measure the relationship between the grandparent's thoughts about his or her heritage and how he/she feels about the challenges and opportunities of being a grandparent to grandchildren who are of different racial or ethnic backgrounds than their own.

Less than one in five grandparents surveyed said they have grandchildren that are of mixed race (18%) or a different race (17%) than the grandparent. Fifteen percent said they have grandchildren that are a different ethnicity than the grandparent. Of the grandparents who have grandchildren that are in one of these categories, about one in five (18%) also have grandchildren that are the same race or ethnicity as the grandparent.

When asked to rate their connectedness to their own cultural, racial or ethnic heritage or roots, the vast majority (72%) indicated a strong (high rating) connection. When rating the importance of being connected to their heritage, nearly two-thirds (64%) indicated high importance.⁴

³ This analysis includes all eligible respondents from the random digit dial (RDD) sample and the Black/African American and Hispanic/Latino boost samples.

⁴ Using a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 meant "not strong at all" or "not important at all" and 10 meant "extremely strong" or "extremely important" participants were grouped into low (rating of 1 to 3), medium (4 to 7) or high (8 to 10).

Table 1 presents the responses to several opinion statements. It shows the percentage of grandparents who agreed with the statement (“strongly agree” or “agree”). The grandparents are grouped by how they rated the importance of being connected to their own heritage or roots. For example, looking at the first statement (“*It is important that all my grandchildren know about my heritage and roots.*”), almost all (97%) of the grandparents who gave a rating of 8, 9 or 10 (high) on the question of the importance of being connected to their own heritage agreed with the statement. Comparatively, roughly seven in ten (69%) grandparents who gave themselves a low (1, 2 or 3) rating agreed with the statement.

A grandparent’s love for his or her grandchildren seems to overshadow any possible racial or ethnic barriers. The vast majority of grandparents who have grandchildren with different racial or ethnic identities than the grandparent do not feel it is difficult to relate to any of their grandchildren. Similarly, grandparents do not feel they can better relate to the grandchildren who have the identical race or ethnicity they have.

As stated earlier, one of the joys of grandparenting is the ability to teach grandchildren about their heritage. In this module, we see that the strength of the grandparent’s own personal connection to his or her heritage affects the level of importance the grandparent places on teaching grandchildren about racial, ethnic or cultural heritages. Nearly all (97%) grandparents who placed high importance on being connected to their own race or ethnic heritage also said it is important that their grandchildren know about that heritage. Similarly, more than eight in ten (82%) of those same grandparents said they also try to help their grandchildren who are a different race or ethnicity than the grandparent learn about all of the grandchild’s heritages and roots.

The telephone survey results did not provide a definitive answer as to whether grandparents in multiracial or multiethnic families believe it is more challenging to have a multiracial or multiethnic family: about half of the grandparents surveyed agreed and half the grandparents disagreed.

<i>Importance of being connected rating:</i>	% Agree		
	<i>High (8-10)</i>	<i>Medium (4-7)</i>	<i>Low (1-3)</i>
“It is important that all my grandchildren know about my heritage and roots.”	97	86	69
“I make an effort to help my grandchildren who are a different race/ethnicity than I am, learn about their heritage and roots.”	82	77	71
“I have a good relationship with my grandchild’s parent who is a different race or ethnicity than I am.”	81	86	67
“I have a good relationship with my mixed-race grandchild’s other set of grandparents.”	79	76	64
Grandparents who have grandchildren from a different race/ethnicity have more challenges than grandparents who do not have grandchildren from different races.”	47	54	45
“Children who are of different races/ethnicities than their grandparents have more challenges than children who are not.”	47	50	55
I can relate better with my grandchildren who are the identical race/ethnicity as I am.”	35	21	25
“Having different racial/ethnic identities makes it difficult to relate to my grandchild.”	15	9	8

Grandparents living with and raising grandchildren⁵

The telephone survey included a second module designed to measure the thoughts and opinions of grandparents who are living with and raising grandchildren (n=264). About one in ten (11%, n=2485)⁶ of all grandparents who participated in the telephone survey indicated that they have grandchildren living in the household. When looking at African American grandparents alone, the proportion of grandparents with grandchildren living with them is almost twice that figure (19%, n=385). In comparison, thirteen percent (n=401) of the Latino grandparents said they have grandchildren living with them.

The vast majority of grandparents in the survey who have grandchildren living with them have either one (62%) or two (22%) grandchildren living with them. Nearly half (47%) of the grandparents living with their grandchildren are also living with the grandchild's parent or parents. The majority of the parents of the children who live with their grandparents are separated (39%) or divorced (27%). Children of daughters represented the majority (63%) of the grandchildren living with their grandparents.

About half (46%) of the grandparents who have grandchildren living with them have had them for four or more years. Similarly, nearly half (47%) expect that their grandchildren will be living with them more than five additional years.

The grandparents who live with grandchildren were asked if they were the primary caregiver for any of the children. A little over four in ten (42%) indicated that they were the primary caregiver of at least one grandchild living with them. Half (51%) of those grandparents indicated they have been their grandchild's primary caregiver for five years or more. Nearly four in ten (38%) said they expect they will be the primary caregiver for five years or more.

“[My] daughter and granddaughter had no place to go. I felt I had to. If not, I would not see them again [or they would be] homeless.”
(IDI participant)

The in-depth interviews (IDIs) also included a section of questions for grandparents who were the primary caregivers or who shared in the day-to-day responsibilities of raising their grandchildren. When asked if they felt they had a choice in their role as caregiver, the majority of the IDI participants said they felt they had a choice and felt it was their responsibility or duty to take on the role. A number of the cases in which grandparents said they had no choice were extreme – their grandchild would have been put up for adoption or placed into the child welfare system, the child and grandchild would have been homeless unless the grandparents took them in, or a child was dying and asked her parents to take care of their grandchild. As one participant explained, “[My] daughter and granddaughter had no place to go. I felt I had to. If not, I would not see them again [or they would be] homeless.” Similarly, one grandparent described, “She was a single parent. Yes, I had a choice. But I could not turn her out in the street.”

⁵ Readers should note this is a small sample of grandparents living with/raising grandchildren (n=264) and combines eligible participants from both the RDD and boost samples. The analysis is for directional use only.

⁶ Includes RDD and boost samples combined.

In both the telephone survey and the in-depth interviews, grandparents raising their grandchildren were asked what types of information or services they think grandparents raising grandchildren need. The IDI participants listed a variety of things including information on:

- Communicating with grandchildren at various ages, particularly during adolescence
- Developmental issues – physical, mental, emotional (e.g., peer pressure, bullying)
- Drugs and alcohol
- Autism
- How to parent as a grandparent
- Modern technology, including use of social media, texting and email abbreviations (e.g., BFF, LOL)
- Age-appropriate activities to do with grandchildren
- Information to help grandchildren with their school work
- Grandparents’ rights
- Financial planning for college

The grandparents in the quantitative study who were primary caregivers listed similar informational needs. Table 2 enumerates the items they mentioned most often.

Table 2: Information grandparents raising grandchildren need (n=87)	%
How to cope with the stress of raising children	25
Grandparent’s legal rights	21
The latest information on childcare/rearing	16
How to pay for college	16
How to get child help with home work	13
Age appropriate activities for grandchildren	10
How to prepare a healthy diet for kids/prevent obesity	10
Medical insurance	10

Grandparents raising grandchildren in both studies were also asked where they go to get information or assistance with raising their grandchildren. Both groups listed similar resources. For grandparents in the quantitative study, the most frequently mentioned resources were family, friends and neighbors (29%) and religious or spiritual organizations (25%). Interestingly, one-fifth (20%) said there was no place to go or they did not need any assistance.

Correspondingly, grandparents who were the primary caregiver in the quantitative study were also asked whether they agreed with the following statement: “There are already enough resources out there to assist grandparents who are raising their grandchildren.” Forty-one percent agreed and forty-one percent disagreed. Another nine percent said they weren’t sure.

Grandparents providing daycare services

Participants in the telephone survey who were not primary caregivers were asked about providing daycare services for their grandchildren. More than one in ten (16%) said they provide child daycare services for their grandchildren while the parents are at work or school. This proportion differs slightly for African American grandparents (14%) and Hispanic/Latino grandparents (19%).

Of those who did not currently provide daycare, a little more than a third (36%) said they had provided the service in the past, with the majority (66%) saying they provided daycare service for their grandchildren more than two years ago. Both grandparents who currently provide daycare service and those who provided the service in the past participated in this module. This group of daycare providers represent thirty percent of the survey participants (n=799).

On average, grandparents reported they have been providing or provided daycare for their grandchildren for six years. On average, those currently providing daycare expect to provide these services for six more years. The typical grandparent provides/provided daycare for two grandchildren while their parents are/were at work or school. They provide/provided daycare for various types of situations, including care when the child is/was sick and cannot/couldn't go to school (70%), before and after school care (63%), and during the summer breaks (62%).

Why do/did grandparents provide daycare service for their grandchildren? A number of the IDI participants said they did it because they did not like the idea of sending their grandchild to day care or to a babysitter or because their son or daughter could not afford professional care and the grandparent wanted to help.

Nearly half (49%) of the grandparents in the telephone survey said they provide/provided care because they just wanted to. Roughly one-fifth also stated that they provide/provided service to spend more time with the grandchild (21%), because the parent's couldn't afford to pay (20%), and because no one else was available (19%). Grandparents usually stopped providing daycare because the child didn't need it any longer (53%) or the grandchild moved away (15%).

Some grandparents in the telephone survey said they provide/provided daycare services when the parents are/were not at work or school, but the majority (54%) said they never provide/provided this service.

Finally, the grandparents in the quantitative study were asked how much they enjoy/enjoyed providing daycare service for their grandchildren. The participants were asked to use a scale of one to ten, where one meant "don't/didn't enjoy it at all and ten meant "enjoy/enjoyed it a great deal." As one might expect, the overwhelming majority (93%) rated their level of enjoyment highly (rating of an 8, 9 or 10).

Section 3: Summary of Findings

This section provides a summary of the findings from both the in-depth interviews (IDIs) and the national telephone survey.

For the most part, grandparents love the grandparenting experience. Specific benefits of grandparenting include the feeling of a grandchild's unconditional love, being able to play with children again and watching their grandchildren accomplish milestones. Grandparents also feel a great responsibility to teach their grandchildren about morals and values as well as their own personal heritage. The vast majority of grandparents think they play an important role in the lives of their grandchildren.

However, many grandparents think they do not see their grandchildren enough mostly because they live too far apart. In some instances, the grandparent feels the grandchild is too busy to make time to be together. The parent's marital situation can also negatively influence the amount of time the grandparent sees the grandchild. Sometimes, when the grandparent is closer to a parent, it increases the chance that the grandparent will see the child of that parent more often.

Since they do not see their grandchildren enough, grandparents must communicate with their grandchildren by other means. By far, grandparents communicate with their grandchildren mostly by telephone. Although electronic communication is very popular with children and young adults, the majority of grandparents still have a long way to go to adopt the new technologies.

Grandparents take their role as teacher and advisor very seriously. They talk to their grandchildren about a variety of topics including staying safe, school or career plans, problems the grandchild is dealing with and other sensitive areas such as peer pressure or bullying and the use of drugs and alcohol. What grandparents talk about with their grandchildren is pretty much what they worry about internally. Grandparents worry about health and safety, the economic future, education and the moral development of their grandchildren.

Overall, grandparents continue to be an active bunch. When asked about specific activities they do with their grandchildren, the majority of grandparents said they play sports, go shopping and go on outings such as to the museum or amusement parks. And these grandparents are willing to "pay to play." Nearly every grandparent surveyed indicated that he or she spends money on his or her grandchildren. Most often grandparents are buying birthday and holiday gifts. They see this as part of the role of being a grandparent.

Although the current economy has affected how much some grandparents spend on their grandchildren, most grandparents are quick to say they will sacrifice something else before they let their financial situation affect their grandchildren. If they must cut back on spending, most grandparents say they decrease the amount they spend on non-necessities like games or decrease the amount of money they give for birthdays and special occasions. Grandparents, for the most part, do not feel as if the current economy affects their ability to be a good grandparent.

As a whole, a small percentage of grandparents live with their grandchildren, while nearly two in ten African American grandparents have grandchildren living with them. About four in ten of these grandparents are the primary caregiver for the grandchild. Some grandparents who have become the primary caregiver, feel they had no choice. In extreme cases, if the grandparent did not take them into their home, the grandchild may have otherwise been placed in a foster home or homeless.

About a third of the grandparents surveyed either currently provide daycare or provided daycare in the past. Most often, grandparents provide/provided daycare because they want/wanted to help their children and to spend additional time with their grandchildren. The vast majority of the grandparents who provide/provided daycare enjoy/enjoyed it thoroughly.

The findings presented in this report suggest that grandparents play an important role in all aspects of their grandchildren's lives. They are teachers and advisors, they finance necessities (like food and clothing) and non-necessities like games, they are their grandchildren's confidants and buddies. Grandparents are undeniably the mainstay in their grandchildren's lives.

APPENDIX 1:

Grandparenting Telephone survey - Annotated Questionnaire

Survey on Grandparenting ANNOTATED QUESTIONNAIRE

Total RDD n=1904, Sampling Error =±2.2%

Introduction

Hello, my name is (NAME) from _____, a survey research firm. We are conducting an important study about a variety of topics and would very much like to include your opinions. We are not selling anything and everything you tell us will be kept confidential.

First we are interested in learning more about American families.

1a. Do you have any grandchildren, including great grandchildren, step-grandchildren or adopted grandchildren?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 = Yes, have grandchildren | (Go to Q2) |
| 2 = No, do not have grandchildren | (Go to Q1b) |
| 7 = [DO NOT READ] Don't know (vol.) | (Go to Q1b) |
| 8 = [DO NOT READ] Refused (vol.) | (Go to Q1b) |

1b. We are especially interested today in speaking with grandparents. Is there anyone in your household who has grandchildren, including great grandchildren, step-grandchildren or adopted grandchildren?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 = Yes, will get | (Go to Q1c) |
| 2 = Yes, but not available | (ASK FOR NAME AND SCHEDULE CALL BACK) |
| 3 = No | (THANK AND TERMINATE) |
| 7 = [DO NOT READ] Don't know (vol.) | (THANK AND TERMINATE) |
| 8 = [DO NOT READ] Refused (vol.) | (THANK AND TERMINATE) |

1c. Hello, my name is (NAME) from _____, a survey research firm. We are conducting an important study about a variety of topics and would very much like to include your opinions. We are not selling anything and everything you tell us will be kept confidential.

First we are interested in learning more about families.

(Go to 1a)

Core Section I (General Information; Question 2 thru 23)

2a. How many grandchildren do you have? Please include great grandchildren, step-grandchildren or adopted grandchildren

_____ (RANGE 0-50, 50 = 50+; 98 = DK, 99 = R)
(If Q2a = 0; Thank and terminate)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
1	9
2	14
3	11
4	11
5	9
6	7
7	7
8	5
9	4
10 or more	23
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5
Mean	6.9

2. I'm going to read you a list of things that adults sometimes do with children. Please tell me if you think each of these is more a part of the grandparents' role, the parents' role, or both?

Teaching children values

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	3
Parent	17
Both	80
Neither	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Telling children about the family history

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	28
Parent	5
Both	66
Neither	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Taking children to cultural events such as museums or concerts

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	5
Parent	21
Both	72
Neither	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Entertaining or having fun with children

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	6
Parent	7
Both	87
Neither	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	-

Teaching children about religion and spirituality

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	4
Parent	28
Both	67
Neither	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Spoiling children by buying them too much

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	36
Parent	11
Both	21
Neither	31
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Giving children treats or special gifts

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	26
Parent	9
Both	62
Neither	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Ask 2b if Q2a = 1 to 50; else skip to Q3

2b Do you have grandchildren from a son, a daughter or both sons and daughters?

Base: Have grandchildren	%
Son/Grandson	25
Daughter/Granddaughter	26
Both	49
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	-

If Q2b = 3 (both), continue with Q2c, else skip to Q3.

2c Do you have a closer relationship with your son's children or your daughter's children?

Base: Have grandchildren from both sons and daughters	%
Son/Grandson	10
Daughter/Granddaughter	28
[DO NOT READ] All equally	61
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

2d Why do you say you have a closer relationship with your [fill in from Q2c]'s children?

Base: Have closer relationship with son's children (n=90)	%
They live closer/with me	74
I have a closer relationship with my son/daughter	9
He/she is my biological son/daughter	2
My son/daughter's children are older	1
My son/daughter's children are younger	4
My son/daughter-in-law and I don't get along	1
I raised them	1
First grandchild/First born	1
See them more often	1
Son/daughter won't let me see them much	1
Babysat/took care of these grandchildren	1
Other (Specify)	6
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	3
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1
Base: Have closer relationship with daughter's children (n=257)	%
They live closer/with me	67
I have a closer relationship with my son/daughter	18
He/she is my biological son/daughter	4
My son/daughter's children are older	3
My son/daughter's children are younger	2
My son/daughter-in-law and I don't get along	2
Other (Specify)	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

3. If 2a = 1 Read: How close do you live to your grandchild? If 2a NE 1 Read: What is the distance you need to travel to see your grandchild who lives the furthest from you? (DO NOT READ LIST; Probe for miles only then select choice)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
10 miles or less	21
11 – 50 miles	17
51 – 100 miles	7
101 – 150 miles	4
151 – 200 miles	4
More than 200 miles	43
[DO NOT READ] Only have grandchildren who live with me	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

If Q3 = 96 Skip to Q5; else continue

3a If 2a = 1 Read On average, how often do you see your grandchild? If 2a NE 1 Read On average, how often do you see the grandchild(ren) who lives furthest from you? Would you say... (DO NOT READ LIST; probe if necessary)

Base: Have grandchild(ren) who do not live in household with me (n=1884)	%
At least once a week	22
Once every couple of weeks	9
About once a month	9
Once every few months	25
About once a year	20
Less than once a year	11
[DO NOT READ] Never	2
[DO NOT READ] All grandchildren live same distance	1
[DO NOT READ] Only have grandchildren who live in household	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

If Q3a = 96 Skip to Q5; else continue

3b. If 2a = 1 Read In general, do you feel you see this grandchild/these grandchildren not often enough, about the right amount of time, or too often? If 2a NE 1 Read In general, do you feel you see the grandchild/grandchildren who live(s) furthest away from you not often enough, about the right amount of time, or too often?

Base: Have grandchild(ren) who do not live in household with me (n=1883)	%
Not often enough	61
About the right amount of time	36
Too often	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

If Q2a = 1 OR Q3a = 95 or 96 skip to instructions before Q5; else continue.

4. What is the distance you need to travel to see the grandchild(ren) who lives the closest to you? Please do not include grandchildren who live with you. DO NOT READ LIST; Probe for miles only then select choice)

Base: Have grandchildren who do not live in household with me/at varying distances (1700)	%
10 miles or less	54
11 – 50 miles	15
51 – 100 miles	5
101 – 150 miles	2
151 – 200 miles	2
More than 200 miles	10
[DO NOT READ] Only have one grandchild/They all live the same distance	8
[DO NOT READ] Only have grandchildren who live in household with me	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

If Q4 = 95 or 96 skip to instructions before Q5; else continue.

4a. On average, how often do you see the grandchild(ren) who lives closest to you? Would you say... .. (DO NOT READ LIST; probe if necessary)

Base: Have grandchildren who do not live in household with me/at varying distances (n=1529)	%
At least once a week	52
Once every couple of weeks	14
About once a month	11
Once every few months	12
About once a year	6
Less than once a year	2
[DO NOT READ] Never	1
[DO NOT READ] They all live the same distance	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Only have grandchildren who live in household with me	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

4b. In general, do you feel you see this grandchild/these grandchildren who live closest to you not often enough, about the right amount of time, or too often?

Base: Have grandchildren who do not live in household with me/at varying distances (n=1517)	%
Not often enough	34
About the right amount of time	60
Too often	5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Ask Q4c if Q3b =1 or Q4b = 1 (not often enough), else skip to Q5.

Q4c. There are many things that might prevent you from spending as much time with your grandchildren as you would like. As I read some of these, please tell me for each one whether it is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason at all why you don't spend as much time as you would like with your grandchildren.

Lack of money

Base: Do not see grandchildren often enough (n=1195)	%
Major	20
Minor	21
Not a reason	59
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	-

Your busy schedule

Base: Do not see grandchildren often enough (n=1195)	%
Major	18
Minor	24
Not a reason	58
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	-

Your grandchildren's busy schedule

Base: Do not see grandchildren often enough (n=1195)	%
Major	34
Minor	30
Not a reason	36
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Lack of energy

Base: Do not see grandchildren often enough (n=1195)	%
Major	15
Minor	24
Not a reason	61
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	-

Your health problems

Base: Do not see grandchildren often enough (n=1195)	%
Major	21
Minor	22
Not a reason	56
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	-

Living too far away

Base: Do not see grandchildren often enough (n=1195)	%
Major	53
Minor	14
Not a reason	32
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Q4c. (continued) Divorce or separation of your child from grandchild's mother or father

Base: Do not see grandchildren often enough (n=1195)	%
Major	11
Minor	10
Not a reason	78
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Difficult relationship with your grandchild's parent/parents

Base: Do not see grandchildren often enough (n=1195)	%
Major	10
Minor	12
Not a reason	79
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	-

5. I'm going to read you some activities you may or may not do with your grandchildren. For each one please tell me whether it is something you have done with your grandchild/ren in the past six months.

Physical activities like exercise, play sports, garden, etc.

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	58
No	42
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Go to the library, read to or with them

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	49
No	51
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Go on outings like the movies, museums and amusement parks

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	55
No	45
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	-

Attend religious services

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	47
No	53
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Go shopping

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	63
No	37
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Q5. (continued) Watch TV or videos at home

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	75
No	25
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Play games on a computer or gaming system (i.e., Wii, playstation, etc)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	35
No	65
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Cook or bake

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	58
No	42
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

6. How often do you speak to at least one of your grandchildren on the telephone? Would you say... (DO NOT READ LIST; probe if necessary)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
At least once a week	58
Once every couple of weeks	12
About once a month	11
Once every few months	7
About once a year	2
Less than once a year	2
[DO NOT READ] Never	5
[DO NOT READ] Only have grandchildren who live nearby	1
[DO NOT READ] Child too young	2
[DO NOT READ] Only have grandchildren who live in household	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

7. How often do you communicate with at least one of your grandchildren using traditional mail such as sending letters or cards in the mail? Would you say... (DO NOT READ LIST; probe if necessary)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
At least once a week	4
Once every couple of weeks	4
About once a month	9
Once every few months	23
About once a year	20
Less than once a year	4
[DO NOT READ] Never	32
[DO NOT READ] Only have grandchildren who live nearby	1
[DO NOT READ] Child too young	1
[DO NOT READ] Only have grandchildren who live in household	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

8. How often do you communicate with at least one of your grandchildren using electronic technology such as email, texting, FaceTime, Skype or Facebook/Myspace? (DO NOT READ LIST; probe if necessary)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
At least once a week	20
Once every couple of weeks	6
About once a month	7
Once every few months	4
About once a year	1
Less than once a year	1
[DO NOT READ] Never	48
[DO NOT READ] Only have grandchildren who live nearby	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Child too young	4
[DO NOT READ] I don't have any such devices/Don't use Internet	8
[DO NOT READ] Only have grandchildren who live in household	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

10. Now I'm going to read you a list of some topics you may or may not discuss with your grandchildren. For each one please tell me whether it is something you have discussed with at least one of your grandchildren? If your grandchild(ren) is/are too young to talk to you about the topic please just say so

Dating, sex

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	37
No	38
Too young	25
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Q10. (continued) School, college or career plans

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	72
No	15
Too young	13
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Staying safe (i.e., don't talk to strangers, Internet safety, improper touching, dating violence, etc)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	73
No	20
Too young	6
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Smoking cigarettes

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	54
No	31
Too young	15
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Peer pressure or bullying

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	53
No	36
Too young	10
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Issues with their parents

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	45
No	45
Too young	10
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Use of illegal drugs or illegal use of prescription drugs

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	50
No	31
Too young	18
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Religion or spirituality

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	66
No	27
Too young	6
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Q10. (continued) Problems or issues your grandchild is dealing with

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	61
No	29
Too young	9
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Morals or Values

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	78
No	14
Too young	7
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Drinking or Alcohol use

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	50
No	30
Too young	19
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Their overall health (i.e., obesity)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	61
No	30
Too young	9
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

News and current events

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	65
No	23
Too young	12
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

11. Now I'm going to read you a list of issues your grandchildren may want to talk to someone about. Please tell me if you think your grandchildren would be more likely to talk to you, more likely to talk to their parents, or equally likely to talk to you or their parents about the following issues? If your grandchildren are too young to talk to you about these issues please just say so.

Smoking cigarettes

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	9
Parent	33
Both	34
Too young	17
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Q11. (continued) Dating or having sex

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	7
Parent	44
Both	20
Too young	25
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	3
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Being bullied at school

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	6
Parent	45
Both	36
Too young	9
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	4
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Drug or alcohol use

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	7
Parent	35
Both	35
Too young	20
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	3
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Religion or Spirituality

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	13
Parent	32
Both	45
Too young	7
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Problems with friends

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grandparent	7
Parent	46
Both	37
Too young	8
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

12. Has your grandchild(ren) ever asked for your advice to help them deal with a particular issue?

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	53
No	45
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

13. How comfortable do you feel giving advice to your grandchild(ren)? Would you say...?(READ LIST)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Very comfortable	77
Somewhat comfortable	17
Not too comfortable	2
Not at all comfortable	2
[DO NOT READ] It depends on t the topic	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

14. How often do you speak with the parents of your grandchildren about your grandchildren? (DO NOT READ LIST; probe if necessary)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
At least once a week	62
Once every couple of weeks	12
About once a month	10
Once every few months	6
About once a year	2
Less than once a year	2
[DO NOT READ] Never	4
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

21. Now I'm going to read you some things about being a grandparent that you may wish you had more information about. Please tell me which of these, if any, you wish you had more information about.

The importance of grandparents to a child's well being

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	41
No	58
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

How to speak to your grandchildren's parents about issues concerning your grandchildren

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	31
No	68
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Fun things to do with grandchildren of all ages

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	43
No	57
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Q21. (continued) Resources/information for grandparents raising grandchildren

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	24
No	76
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Grandparent's legal rights

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	29
No	70
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Grandparenting in a blended family

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	22
No	74
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	4
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Grandparenting in a multicultural family

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	18
No	81
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Keeping in touch long distance

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	33
No	66
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Gifts for grandchildren

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	34
No	66
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	-

Children's developmental stages

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	30
No	69
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

How to connect with your grandchildren

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	31
No	69
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Q21. (continued) How to speak to your grandchildren about issues in their lives

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	35
No	64
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Other

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	3
No	96
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

22. Please tell me whether you would like to get information about grandparenting in the following ways....**E-mails**

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	17
No	83
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Web sites

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	24
No	75
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

In person workshops or seminars in your hometown

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	20
No	79
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Books

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	39
No	61
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Magazine or newspaper articles

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	39
No	60
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Q22. (continued) Newsletters or brochures sent in the mail

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	33
No	67
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

DVDs

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	21
No	78
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Module Participants – Participants were asked one set of module questions depending on eligibility. The module priority was multiracial families, living with/primary caregivers, daycare providers and spending/economy.

Multiracial Family Module (Questions 23a thru 23d)

23a Now we'd like to ask you a few questions about your grandchildren. Are any of your grandchildren....

Bi-racial or of mixed race

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	16
No	83
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

A Race different than yours

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	16
No	84
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

An ethnicity (i.e., Latino/Hispanic) different than yours

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	14
No	86
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

The identical race/ethnicity as yours

Base: Multiracial/multiethnic families (n=611)	%
Yes	72
No	26
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

If no to all 1, 2 and 3 Skip to next section; else, continue

23b OK, we'd like to ask a few questions about multi-racial and multi-ethnic families. First we have a few questions about you. On a 1 to 10 scale where "1" means not strong at all and "10" means extremely strong, how strong is your connection to your own cultural, racial or ethnic heritage or roots?

Base: Multiracial/multiethnic families (n=592)	%
1 Not strong at all	4
2	1
3	2
4	1
5	10
6	2
7	5
8	11
9	7
10 Extremely strong	53
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	3
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

23c On a 1 to 10 scale where "1" means not important at all and "10" means extremely important, how important is it to you to be connected to your , cultural, racial or ethnic heritage or roots?

Base: Multiracial/multiethnic families (n=592)	%
1 Not important at all	7
2	2
3	2
4	1
5	12
6	3
7	6
8	11
9	7
10 Extremely important	46
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

23d Please tell me, do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements

It is important that all my grandchildren know about my heritage and roots.

Base: Valid Respondents (n=592)	%
Strongly agree	549
Agree	37
Disagree	6
Strongly disagree	1
N/A	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

23D. (continued) Having different racial/ethnic identities makes it difficult to relate to my grandchild.

Base: Valid Respondents (n=517)	%
Strongly agree	4
Agree	9
Disagree	38
Strongly disagree	42
N/A	4
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

I have a good relationship with my grandchild's parent who is a different race/ethnicity as I am.

Base: Valid Respondents (n=592)	%
Strongly agree	39
Agree	33
Disagree	10
Strongly disagree	6
N/A	9
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

I can relate better with my grandchildren who are the identical race/ethnicity as I am.

Base: Valid Respondents (n=422)	%
Strongly agree	14
Agree	16
Disagree	31
Strongly disagree	30
N/A	5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	3
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

I have a good relationship with my mixed-race grandchild's other set of grandparents.

Base: Valid Respondents (n=456)	%
Strongly agree	36
Agree	31
Disagree	9
Strongly disagree	7
N/A	12
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	4
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Grandparents who have grandchildren from a different race/ethnicity have more challenges than grandparents who do not have grandchildren from different races.

Base: Valid Respondents (n=517)	%
Strongly agree	17
Agree	30
Disagree	28
Strongly disagree	18
N/A	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	4
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Q23d. (continued) Children who are of different races/ethnicities than their grandparents have more challenges than children who are not.

Base: Valid Respondents (n=517)	%
Strongly agree	16
Agree	32
Disagree	29
Strongly disagree	17
N/A	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	4
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

I make an effort to help my grandchild(ren) who are a different race/ethnicity than I am, learn about their heritage and roots.

Base: Valid Respondents (n=417)	%
Strongly agree	35
Agree	39
Disagree	14
Strongly disagree	3
N/A	6
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	2

Live with Module (Questions 23 thru 29)

23. Do any of your grandchildren live in your household?

Base: Total Eligible Respondents (n=2485)	%
Yes	11
No	89
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

If No to Q23 (No grandchildren living in household) skip to Q30.

24. How many of your grandchildren live with you?

(RANGE 1-12, 12 = 12+; 98 = DK, 99 = R)

Base: Grandchildren live in your household (n=264)	%
1	62
2	22
3	10
4	4
5	1
10 or more	1
Don't know	<0.5
Refused	<0.5

25. Thinking about the grandchild(ren) who live(s) with you. Do any of their parents live with you as well?

Base: Grandchildren live in your household (n=264)	%
Yes	47
No	53
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	-
[DO NOT READ] Refused	-

26. Thinking about the grandchildren who live with you, are their parents together, separated, divorced, deceased or institutionalized? (Multiple Response)

Base: Grandchildren live in your household (n=264)	%
Together	25
Separated (either married or never married)	39
Divorced	27
Deceased	7
Institutionalized (i.e., incarcerated, rehabilitation, etc.)	5
Other (Specify)	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Other parent unknown/never in child's life	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

27. Are these/this grandchild your son's child/children or your daughter's child/children?

Base: Grandchildren live in your household (n=264)	%
Son/Grandson	31
Daughter/Granddaughter	63
Both	5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

27a. For how long has at least one of your grandchildren lived with you? (Read list)

Base: Grandchildren live in your household (n=264)	%
Less than 6 months	11
6 months to a year	8
A year to 2 years	11
2 years to 3 years	9
3 years to 4 years	6
4 years to 5 years	9
More than 5 years	35
Indefinitely	12
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

28. For how long do you expect for at least one of your grandchildren to live with you?

Base: Grandchildren live in your household (n=264)	%
Less than 6 months	7
6 months to a year	8
A year to 2 years	10
2 years to 3 years	5
3 years to 4 years	4
4 years to 5 years	3
More than 5 years	13
Indefinitely	35
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	15
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

29. Again, thinking about the grandchildren who live with you, for how many, if any, of those grandchildren are you the primary caregiver—meaning you are either the legal guardian of the grandchild or solely responsible for the grandchild’s care?

Base: Grandchildren live in your household (n=264)	%
0	52
1	31
2	6
3	4
4	1
5	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	4

If Q29 = 0 (not primary caregiver for any grandchildren, skip to Q30, Daycare Module; else continue)

Primary Caregiver Module (Questions 29a thru 29e)

29a. How long have you been your grandchild/children’s primary caregiver?

Base: Grandchild/children’s primary caregiver (n=87)	%
1 year or less	16
2 yrs	6
3 yrs	5
4 yrs	8
5 yrs	6
6 yrs	6
7 yrs	2
8 yrs	5
9 yrs	1
10 yrs	5
11 yrs	2
12 yrs	3
13 yrs	1
14 yrs	1
15 yrs	2
17 yrs	1
18 yrs	3
19 or more yrs	11
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	10

29b. How long do you think you will be your grandchild/children's primary caregiver?

Base: Grandchild/children's primary caregiver (n=87)	%
1 year or less	15
2 yrs	7
3 yrs	2
4 yrs	5
5 yrs	9
6 yrs	1
7 yrs	2
10 yrs	5
12 yrs	1
14 yrs	1
18 yrs	5
18 or more yrs	1
Forever	13
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	22
[DO NOT READ] Refused	12

29c What type of special information or services do you think grandparents raising grandkids need? (MULTIPLE choice, Read a few choices to probe, if necessary)

Base: Grandchild/children's primary caregiver (n=87)	%
Grandparent's legal rights	21
How to cope with the stress of raising children	25
The latest information on childcare/rearing	16
How to pay for college	16
How to get child help with home work	13
Respite/babysitting services	5
Discounts on activities like museums and Imax	8
Age appropriate activities for grandchildren	10
How to prepare a healthy diet for kids/prevent obesity	10
Medical insurance	10
Other (Specify)	18
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	18
[DO NOT READ] Refused	22

29d. Where do you go or who do you turn to when you need information or assistance with raising your grandchildren? (MULTIPLE choice, Do Not Read)

Base: Grandchild/children's primary caregiver (n=87)	%
Government programs	7
Social Service organizations	9
Religious organization	25
Internet (general)	7
Family/Friends/Neighbors	29
AARP	1
Magazines/Newspaper	1
Library	2
Schools	2
Counselor	2
[DO NOT READ] None/There are no places/ Never needed help	20
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	7
[DO NOT READ] Refused	16

29e. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "There are already enough resources out there to assist grandparents who are raising their grandchildren." Would you say you completely agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or completely disagree.....

Base: Grandchild/children's primary caregiver (n=87)	%
Completely agree	17
Somewhat agree	24
Somewhat disagree	18
Completely disagree	23
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	9
[DO NOT READ] Refused	8

Skip to Q18 (Rs who are primary care givers do not get day care module.)

Daycare Module (Questions 30 thru 33a)

30. Do you provide child day care services for any of your grandchildren while their parents are at work/school?

Base: Not a primary caregiver (n=2398)	%
Yes	16
No	84
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

If Q30 = 1 (Provides daycare services while parents are at work), skip to Q31, else continue.

Q30a Have you ever provided child day care services for any of your grandchildren while their parents were at work/school?

Base: Not a primary caregiver and not currently providing daycare (n=2009)	%
Yes	36
No	64
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

If Q30 and Q30a NE 1 (Does/has not provide daycare services while parents are at work), skip to Q33, If Q30a = 1 ask Q30b, else skip to Q31.

Q30b When was the last time you provided daycare services for any of your grandchildren while their parents were at work/school? Was it...

Base: Provided child day care services for grandchildren in the past (n=504)	%
Less than 6 months ago	17
Between 6 months and a year ago	6
Between 1 and 2 years ago	8
More than 2 years ago	66
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

31. For how many of your grandchildren do/did you provide child day care services while their parents are at work/school? READ IF Q29 = Yes: "Please do not include children for whom you are the primary care giver."

Base: Have provided child day care services for grandchildren (n=779)	%
1	38
2	34
3	13
4	6
5	2
6	1
7	1
8	<0.5
9	<0.5
10 or more	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	3
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

32. What type of daycare do/did you provide? Do/did you provide ... (READ LIST)

Regular everyday care for grandchildren not old enough to be in school yet

Base: Have provided child day care services for grandchildren (n=779)	%
Yes	57
No	42
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

32. (continued) Care for grandchildren either before or after school

Base: Have provided child day care services for grandchildren (n=779)	%
Yes	63
No	37
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Care for grandchildren during school holidays

Base: Have provided child day care services for grandchildren (n=779)	%
Yes	56
No	43
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Back up daycare when regular daycare falls/fell through

Base: Have provided child day care services for grandchildren (n=779)	%
Yes	60
No	39
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Sick care

Base: Have provided child day care services for grandchildren (n=779)	%
Yes	70
No	30
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

For grandchildren during summer breaks

Base: Have provided child day care services for grandchildren (n=779)	%
Yes	62
No	37
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

32a About how long have/did you provide daycare services for your grandchild/children while their parents were at work/school?

Base: Have provided child day care services for grandchildren (n=779)	%
Less than 1 yr	15
1 yr	9
2 yrs	11
3 yrs	8
4 yrs	6
5 yrs	7
6 yrs	4
7 yrs	3
8 yrs	3
9 yrs	1
10 yrs	6
11 yrs	1
12+ yrs	16
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	10
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Ask Q32a1 if Q30 = 1 (currently providing daycare while parents are at work) else, skip to Q32b

32a1 About how long do you think you will be providing daycare services for your grandchild/children while their parents were at work/school?

Base: Currently provides child day care services for grandchildren (n=275)	%
Less than 1 yr	14
1 yr	8
2 yrs	5
3 yrs	4
4 yrs	2
5 yrs	7
6 yrs	3
7 yrs	2
8 yrs	1
9 yrs	1
10 yrs	7
11 yrs	1
12+ yrs	13
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	32
[DO NOT READ] Refused	2

32b Why do/did you provide daycare services for your grandchild/children while their parents were at work? (Multiple Response; Read list to probe if necessary)

Base: Have provided child day care services for grandchildren (n=779)	%
Parent(s) can't/couldn't afford to pay for daycare	20
I just wanted to	46
To spend more time with grandchild/children	21
No one else available	19
I didn't have a choice/obligated	6
Because I love them	2
Convenient	2
Didn't want them in daycare	1
Didn't want kids with strangers/trust issue	1
Parents at school or work	7
Illness/sickness	2
Live/lived with me	1
Parents split up/single parent/divorce	1
Handicapped grandchild	<0.5
Other (Specify)	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	3

Ask 32c if 30b = 1 (ever provided daycare services for grandchild/children), else skip to Q33

32c Why did you stop providing daycare services for your grandchild/children while their parents were at work/school? (Multiple Response; Read list to probe if necessary) mollifying solidify

Base: Provided child day care services for grandchildren in past (n=504)	%
Grandchild/children moved away	15
Other grandparent(s) started providing daycare	1
Grandchild/children grew up/didn't need services any longer	40
Parents started paying for regular daycare	7
It was too hard for me/I became ill	5
Parent(s) lost job	4
I went back to work	5
Didn't need it/No longer needed	8
Started school	5
Change in schedule	1
Other (Specify)	3
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	7
[DO NOT READ] Refused	6

33. How often do you provide child care for your grandchildren when their parents are NOT at work/school? Please do not include regular planned visits. Would you say...

Base: Not primary caregiver (n=2398)	%
At least once a week	14
Once every couple of weeks	8
About once a month	7
Once every few months	8
About once a year	3
Less than once a year	3
Never	54
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	2

Ask 33a if Q30 or Q30a = 1 or Q33 NE 7, 8 or 9 (Respondent has provided daycare/child care services for grandchild/children), else skip to Q18

33a Next I'd like to ask you about how much you enjoy/enjoyed taking care of your grandchild/children? On a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 means you don't/didn't at all enjoy it and 10 means you greatly enjoy/enjoyed it, please tell me how much you enjoy/enjoyed taking care of your grandchildren.

Base: Have provided child care (n=1489)	%
1 Not at all	1
2	<0.5
3	<0.5
4	<0.5
5	2
6	1
7	2
8	9
9	8
10 A great deal	76
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Spending/Economy Module (Questions 18 thru 20e)

NOTE: All respondents are asked questions 18 and 19

Now, we'd like to ask you a few questions about your spending habits as they relate to your grandchildren.

18. Approximately how much money have you spent on your grandchild/children (total) in the past twelve months? Please give us your best estimate. (READ LIST IF NECESSARY)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Under \$100	10
\$100 - \$249	15
\$250 - \$499	13
\$500 - \$749	11
\$750 - \$999	4
\$1,000 - \$2,499	15
\$2,500 or more	10
Nothing, don't spend money on grandchildren	4
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	13
[DO NOT READ] Refused	4

If Q18 = 96 (didn't any money on grandchildren), skip to instructions before Q20, else continue

19. Now I'm going to read you some reasons why some people might spend money on their grandchildren. Please tell me if this is a reason why you spend money on your grandchildren.

To help with educational expenses

Base: Spent money on grandchildren in past year (n=1832)	%
Yes	53
No	47
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

To help with everyday living expenses

Base: Spent money on grandchildren in past year (n=1832)	%
Yes	37
No	62
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

To help with medical or dental expenses

Base: Spent money on grandchildren in past year (n=1832)	%
Yes	23
No	77
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

19. (continued) Birthday gifts

Base: Spent money on grandchildren in past year (n=1832)	%
Yes	95
No	5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	-
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Holiday gifts such as Christmas, Hanukah or Kwanzaa

Base: Spent money on grandchildren in past year (n=1832)	%
Yes	95
No	5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	-
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Because you enjoy buying things for your grandchildren

Base: Spent money on grandchildren in past year (n=1832)	%
Yes	89
No	11
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Because your grandchildren ask you for things

Base: Spent money on grandchildren in past year (n=1832)	%
Yes	28
No	71
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

To entertain or have fun with your grandchildren

Base: Spent money on grandchildren in past year (n=1832)	%
Yes	82
No	17
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Remainder of this Module (q20 to Q20d) is for Respondent who have NOT completed ANY of the previous modules.

If Respondent has not completed ANY of the previous modules **AND** Q18 =96 (did not spend any money on grandkids) skip to Q20a

All else (have completed a previous module) skip to Q34

20a Has the current economy affected how much you spend on your grandchildren?

Base: Eligible Module Respondents (n=1044)	%
Yes	44
No	55
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

Ask Q20b if Q20a = 1 (yes, economy has affected spending); else skip to Q20c

20b How has the current economy affected how much you spend on your grandchildren? (Multiple response; DO NOT READ)

Base: Current economy has affected how much you spend on your grandchildren (n=455)	%
Decrease the amount I spend on non-necessities like games	23
Decrease the amount I spend on necessities like food and clothing	12
Decrease amount I save for their college education	3
Decrease amount I give to them for birthdays and special events	13
Spend less on entertainment activities like going to the movies	9
Don't see them as often/travel less to see them	9
Shorten vacation time with them	3
Vacation closer to home	1
Buy less expensive gifts	19
Go out to dinner less	2
Do more free activities like go to the library or the park	3
Only buy necessities like clothing and food	5
Income is less/Fixed income	8
Spend less on them/cut back	10
Not as much money to spend	11
Retired/not working	5
Helping out with college expenses now	<0.5
Looks for sales	<0.5
Prices are too high	3
Other (Specify)	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	6
[DO NOT READ] Refused	6

20c In the past three years, have you had to change your living arrangements because of the economy, in a way that affected the amount of time you spend with your grandchildren?

Base: Eligible Module Respondents (n=1044)	%
Yes	10
No	87
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Ask Q20d if Q20c = 1 (yes, has changed living arrangement), else skip to 20e

20d How did you change your living arrangement? (Multiple Response, DO NOT READ)

Base: Have changed your living arrangement (n=106)	%
Moved in with my child and Grandchildren	8
Moved to smaller home/apartment	18
Grandchildren moved in with me	5
Moved further away from my grandchildren	7
Moved closer to my grandchildren	3
Don't have money to spend	18
Price of gas	3
Can't travel as much/take less vacations	8
I retired	3
Work more	4
Husband died	3
Moved to nursing home/retirement home	3
Other (Specify)	9
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	9
[DO NOT READ] Refused	6

20e. On a 1 to 10 scale where “1” means not at all and “10” means a great deal, how much would you say your current financial situation is affecting your ability to be a good grandparent?

Base: Eligible Module Respondents (n=1044)	%
1 Not at all	58
2	4
3	3
4	2
5	9
6	3
7	3
8	3
9	2
10 A great deal	8
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	3
[DO NOT READ] Refused	3

Core Section II (General opinions about grandparenting, Q. 34 thru Q. 37)

34. Overall, how important of a role do you think you play in your grandchild/children’s lives? Would you say you play a very, somewhat, little, or not at all important role in the lives of your grandchildren ?

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Very important	59
Somewhat important	30
A little important	8
Not at all important	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

**37. Overall, how would you rate yourself on the job you are doing as a grandparent?
Would you say...**

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Excellent	28
Above average	38
Average	30
Below average	2
Poor	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

Core Section III (Demographics, Questions Cell1 thru D15)

OK. We are almost done. I only have a few more questions for classification purposes only.

Cell1 Do you personally have a working cell phone?

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	70
No	29
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	<0.5

If Cell1 = 2 (no), skip to D1, else continue

Cell2 Considering all of the phone calls you receive, would you say all or most calls of your calls are received on your cell phone, some are received on your cell phone and some on your regular phone, or would you say very few or none of the phone calls you receive are received on your cell phone?

Base: Have a working cell phone (n=1337)	%
All/almost all received ON CELL	19
Some received ON CELL	31
Very few/None received ON CELL	49
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

D1. What year were you born? _____

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
50 – 59	19
60-69	32
70+	46
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	3

D2. Are you ... (READ LIST)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Married	55
Single, living with a partner	2
Single, never been married	2
Divorced/Widowed/Separated	40
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

D3. How many children (age 17 or younger) live with you?

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
0	88
1	5
2	3
3	1
4	<0.5
5	<0.5
10 or more	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1
Mean	0.2

D4. Now, thinking about all of your grandchildren, including great-grandchildren step-grandchildren and adopted grandchildren. How many of your grandchildren are male (IF NECESSARY SAY: boys)?

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
0	9
1	22
2	18
3	15
4	10
5	7
6	4
7	4
8	3
9	2
10 or more	4
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1
Mean	3.3

D5. In which of the following age groups are your grandsons? Are any of them...

(READ LIST)

Base: Have male grandchildren	%
5 and under	39
6 – 12	44
13 – 17	37
18 and older	49
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	3
[DO NOT READ] Refused	2

(43 cases not shown here because they were not eligible to be placed in categories as a result of a change in the question during the first week of the field period.)

D6. How many of your grandchildren are female (IF NECESSARY SAY: girls)?

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
0	11
1	23
2	20
3	13
4	9
5	6
6	4
7	3
8	2
9	2
10 or more	5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	2
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1
Mean	3.3

D7. In which of the following age groups are your grandsons? Are any of them...

(READ LIST) (IF "0" IN PREVIOUS QUESTIONS SKIP TO QD8)

Base: Have female grandchildren (n=1700)	%
5 and under	38
6 – 12	42
13 – 17	34
18 and older	48
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	3
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

(39 cases not shown here because they were not eligible to be placed in categories as a result of a change in the question during the first week of the field period.)

D8. How old were you when your first grandchild was born? _____

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
18-49	49
50-59	27
60-74	8
75+	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	14
[DO NOT READ] Refused	3

D9. What is your employment status? Are you (READ LIST)?

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Retired, no longer working	62
Retired, working part-time	5
Retired, working full-time	1
Employed full-time (never been retired)	15
Employed part-time (never been retired)	3
Self-employed	3
Unemployed, not looking for work	1
Unemployed looking for work	1
Homemaker	3
Disabled	6
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	-
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

D10. What was the last grade of school you completed? (DO NOT READ LIST)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Grade 0 to 12 (no diploma)	12
High School Graduate (or equivalent)	32
Post High School vocational or technical training	5
Some college (no degree)	22
College graduate (4 year degree)	15
Post graduate study	4
Graduate or professional degrees	8
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

D11. Do you consider yourself to be of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin, or not?

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	3
No	96
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	<0.5
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

D12. Which of the following best describe your race? You can select more than one.

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	4
Asian	1
Black or African American	9
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	<0.5
White	84
Multi-race	2
Hispanic	1
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	3

D13. What was your household's total income from all sources in 2010? (READ LIST)

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Less than \$10,000	7
\$10,000 to under \$25,000	18
\$25,000 to under \$50,000	21
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	13
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	8
\$100,000 to under \$150,000	5
\$150,000 to under \$200,000	2
\$200,000 or more	2
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	8
[DO NOT READ] Refused	17

D14. Are you a current member of AARP?

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Yes	48
No	50
[DO NOT READ] Don't know	1
[DO NOT READ] Refused	1

D15 GENDER—INTERVIEWER RECORD BY OBSERVATION

Base: Total RDD Respondents (n=1904)	%
Male	31
Female	69

APPENDIX 2:

Grandparenting In-depth Interviews (IDIs) – Moderator’s Guide

AARP Grandparents IDIs - Moderator's Guide

July 2011

Introduction

A. Good (morning, afternoon, evening). I am calling you from Alan Newman Research, on behalf of AARP. In February, you participated in a research survey conducted by AARP with grandparents. At that time you agreed to be re-contacted to participate in additional research. Now, we are interested in talking with people like you, who are grandparents, about your experiences. Our discussion will only take about 30 minutes. Thanks for participating in this important project.

B. Disclosure

- Audio recording for record keeping
- Confidentiality assured

C. Ground Rules

- No right or wrong answers; your personal opinions
- Be candid; moderator has no vested interest

D. Participant Introductions

- Name
- In what city do you live? _____
- How long have you lived in that city? _____
- Confirm they are a grandparent – if not, thank and terminate

Yes _____

No _____

1a. First, please tell me how many grandchildren do you have? _____

1b. I would like to ask a few questions about each of your grandchildren.

For each grandchild (limit 10 grandchildren):

- 1) Son/Daughter: Is this the child of a son or a daughter?
- 2) Age: How old is this grandchild?
- 3) Gender: Gender of grandchild
- 4) Distance: How close do you live to this grandchild? Unaided. Accept one answer. Record verbatim and code. Only offer scale A-F if participant is unable to answer otherwise

Distance scale: Read scale and record corresponding letter

- A. Live with child
- B. Walking distance
- C. Short drive
- D. Long drive
- E. Must take plane in U.S.
- F. Another country

2. How do you feel about being a grandparent?

If more than one grandchild in 1a, ask Q 3. Otherwise skip to Q.4

3. You mentioned that you have more than one grandchild.

Do you have different relationships with different grandchildren because of

- a. Your relationship with your grandchild's parent(s)

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain:

- b. The gender of your grandchildren

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain:

- c. The age of your grandchildren:

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain:

- d. How close you live to your grandchildren:

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain:

**4. What one thing do you worry about most for your grandchild/children? *Unaided.*
*Accept one answer. Record verbatim and code.***

Worry _____

Worry code: _____

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. Dating, sex | H. Lack of religion or spirituality |
| B. School, college or career plans | I. Problems or issues your grandchild is dealing with |
| C. Staying safe | J. Morals or values |
| D. Smoking cigarettes | K. Drinking or alcohol use |
| E. Peer pressure/relationships | L. Getting basics (food, clothing, home) |
| F. Issues with their parents | M. Their overall health |
| G. Illegal drugs such as Marijuana or Cocaine or drug use | N. Other |

5. How do you think this issue can be addressed?

All participants will be asked questions 6-10. These questions will be segmented between grandparents who spend a lot of time with their grandchild/grandchildren (Sample 1aS values 1-8) and those who spend a minimal amount of time with their grandchild/grandchildren (Sample 1aS values 10-17)

Please think about the grandchild you spend the most amount of time with as you answer the following questions. *[If more than one grandchild equal amount of time R can just pick one to talk about for example either the oldest or the youngest]*

Before we start, which grandchild is that?

Interviewer will identify grandchild from Q1b.

#	Grandchild First Name

6. I would like to ask you a few questions about your relationship with this grandchild.

a. How often do you see this grandchild? *Record verbatim and code:*

How often? _____

Frequency code: _____

- A. Everyday/Almost everyday
- B. Between a couple of times a week and once a week
- C. Between a few times a month and once a month
- D. A few times a year
- E. Less frequently than a few times a year

b. What types of things do you typically do with this grandchild?

c. How would you describe your relationship with this grandchild?

d. How would you describe your relationship with this grandchild's parents?

7. Do you pay for necessities, like food, clothing, and healthcare for this grandchild?

a. Yes_____

1) What type of expenses do you pay for this grandchild

2) About how much do you spend each month for this grandchild on these items? *[If R cannot answer monthly, or if R cannot separate costs for a single grandchild, record spending however he/she can respond. For expenses estimated for several grandchildren, record # of grandchildren] Unaided. Record verbatim and code. Do not prompt with code ranges.*

How much?_____

Spending code_____

- A. Under \$100
- B. \$100 - \$249
- C. \$250 - \$499
- D. \$500 - \$749

- E. \$750 - \$999
- F. \$1000 - \$2499
- G. \$2500 or more
- H. OTHER

b. No_____

8. Do you pay for items that are not necessities, like entertainment, toys, trips, etc. for this grandchild?

a. Yes_____

1) What type of expenses do you pay for this grandchild?

2) About how much do you spend each month on these items? *[If R cannot answer monthly, or if R cannot separate costs for a single grandchild, record spending however he/she can respond. For expenses estimated for several grandchildren, record # of grandchildren] Unaided. Record verbatim and code. Do not prompt with code ranges.*

How much? _____

Spending code _____

- A. Under \$100
- B. \$100 - \$249
- C. \$250 - \$499
- D. \$500 - \$749
- E. \$750 - \$999
- F. \$1000 - \$2499
- G. \$2500 or more
- H. OTHER

b. No _____

9. Has the recession affected your spending on this grandchild?

a. Yes _____

1) How has it affected your spending?

b. No _____

10. What methods do you use to communicate with this grandchild? *[Prompt if needed: Phone, text, email, Facetime, Skype, FaceBook/MySpace, face-to-face/in-person or child is too young. If face-to-face/in person, probe for additional electronic methods]*

a. *(If more than one way in Q10)* What method do you use most often?

Some grandparents provide additional care for their grandchild. We'd like to ask you a few more questions about this.

11a. Do you live with any of your grandchildren?

1) Yes _____

Which grandchild/grandchildren (from Q1b)

#	Grandchild First Name

2) No _____

11b. Are you the primary caregiver for any of your grandchildren?

1) Yes_____

Which grandchild/grandchildren (from 1b)

#	Grandchild First Name

If yes, skip to Q12

2) No_____

If no, go to 11c.

11c. Do you share day to day care of any of your grandchildren?

1) Yes_____

Which grandchild/grandchildren (from 1b)

#	Grandchild First Name

If yes, go to Q12

2) No_____

If no, skip to Q15

12. Do you feel you had a choice in taking on this role?

Yes_____ No_____

a. Why or why not?

13. What types of care do you typically provide this grandchild?

[Note to interviewer: If more than one grandchild for whom they provide primary or shared care R can just pick one to talk about for example either the oldest or the youngest. If more than one grandchild for whom they provide primary or shared care, do not pick the one they have discussed previously, with whom they spend the most time- see p 6]

[Prompt if needed: bathe, dress, feed, medical/dental care, contact with school system, socialization (teaching behaviors, values, helping with homework)]

14. What types of things do you do just for fun with this grandchild?

- a. How much time do you devote to fun with this grandchild?

15. What types of help, if any, do you need as a grandparent?

- a. Where do you get that help?

16. What information do you need as a grandparent?

- a. Where do you get that information?

If AARP mentioned in Q 15 or Q 16, skip to Q18

17. Are you familiar with AARP?

- a. Yes _____

- b. No _____

If no, proceed to conclusion

18. How do you think AARP could help you as a grandparent?

Before we conclude our interview, I have a few general questions about your family background.

19. Do you and your spouse/partner have a blended family? A blended family is a couple that has children from a previous relationship/marriage as well as biological children from their current relationship/marriage.

- a. Yes _____

Could you tell me more about that, like the number of children you have and whether or not they are from your current relationship/marriage?

1) Total number of children _____

2) Children from previous relationship/marriage _____

3) Children from current relationship/marriage _____

- b. No _____

20. Do any of your children have a blended family?

- a. Yes _____
How many? _____

For each child with a blended family, could you tell me more about that, like the number of children they have and whether or not these children are from their current relationship/marriage or a previous relationship/marriage?

- 1) Total number of children _____
2) Children from previous relationship/marriage _____
3) Children from current relationship/marriage _____

- b. No _____

Conclusion

A. AARP may discuss the issues related to being a grandparent with the news media (newspapers, TV news organizations, etc.). In some cases reporters ask to interview a grandparent. Would you be willing to have a reporter call you and discuss with you some of the issues of being a grandparent? If you agree, your contact information will only be provided to reporters who contact AARP directly for this information. This is entirely voluntary on your part – you should feel free to say yes or no. Would you be willing to be contacted?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, ask questions 1-5

If no, skip to B.

1. Would you prefer to be contacted by telephone or email?

a. Telephone _____

1) Preferred number (_____) _____

2) Secondary number (if available) (_____) _____

b. Email _____

1) Email address _____ @ _____

2. May I have your full name, so the reporter will know who to ask for?

B. Thank participant

C. Remind them that incentive check will be sent to them within about 4 weeks.

D. CONFIRM MAILING ADDRESS.



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