

Hispanic Survey Results

(Direct all inquiries about this survey to AARP Media Relations at 202-434-2560)

This national survey of Hispanic adults at least 18 years old finds that when it comes to Medicare and Social Security, Hispanics believe Washington is trying to make too many decisions behind closed doors and Washington needs to spend more time listening to ordinary citizens like them. Hispanics feel that both Medicare and Social Security are important to people's health and financial security in retirement, however confidence in the programs being there throughout retirement is not very strong. The survey was conducted by Woelfel Research, Inc., an independent research firm, among 503 Hispanics age 18+ from February 13 – March 3, 2012. The survey has a margin of sampling error of +/- 4.4%.

Medicare

- **Hispanic adults (100%) believe Medicare is *important* to people's health in retirement, including over nine in ten who believe it is *very important* (94%).** This sentiment holds true across political parties, as 100% of Democrats, 100% of Republicans*, and 99% of Independents believe the program is *important* to people's health in retirement.
- **Just over half (57%) of Hispanic adults are *confident* that Medicare will be there for them throughout their retirement. However, less than a quarter (21%) are *very confident* about this.**

Social Security

- **Over nine in ten Hispanic adults (97%) believe Social Security is *important* to people's financial security in retirement, including over eight in ten who believe it is *very important* (86%).** This sentiment holds true across political parties as 97% of Democrats, 95% of Republicans, and 98% of Independents believe the program is *important* to people's financial security in retirement.
- **Just over half (57%) of Hispanic adults are *confident* that Social Security will be there for them throughout their retirement. However, less than a quarter (22%) are *very confident* about this.**

Views about Washington

- **Over six in ten Hispanic adults (62%) agree Washington is trying to make too many decisions behind closed doors when it comes to Medicare and Social Security.** Agreement is seen across political parties: 68% of Democrats, 75% of Republicans, and 57% of Independents.
- **Over nine in ten Hispanic adults (95%) agree Washington needs to spend more time listening to ordinary citizens like them when it comes to decisions about Social Security and Medicare, including over eight in ten (83%) who *strongly agree*.** Agreement is seen across political parties: 95% of Democrats, 100% of Republicans, and 93% of Independents.

* For directional use only given small cell size

METHODOLOGY

The national survey of Hispanic adults was conducted by Woelfel Research, Inc., an independent research firm, among 503 adults age 18+ from February 13 – March 3, 2012. A combination of landline and cellular random digit dial (RDD) samples were used to represent all Hispanic adults nationwide who have access to either a landline or cellular telephone. A three-stage weighting procedure was used to weight this dual-frame sample. The first stage weight adjusts for the probability of selection within a household and for phone use (overlapping landline and cellular sample frames). The second stage weight combines the cell phone and landline usage to be consistent with national Hispanic statistics. The third stage weight adjusts the age, gender, and language spoken at home to be consistent with the distribution nationwide among Hispanics. The survey has a margin of sampling error of +/- 4.4%.

DATA TABLES

Notes:

Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding

Less than 0.5% shown as “-“

N's shown are unweighted

*Small cell size, therefore directional use only

1. How important would you say Social Security is to people's financial security in retirement? Would you say it is [READ LIST]

	ALL	PARTY AFFILIATION		
	Total N=503	Dem N=208	Rep N=54*	Ind N=145
Very important	86%	89%	83%	82%
Somewhat important	11	8	12	16
Not too important	1	-	6	-
Not at all important	1	1	-	1
Don't know [DON'T READ]	2	2	-	1
Refused [DON'T READ]	-	-	-	-

2. How confident are you that Social Security will be there for you throughout your retirement? Would you say you are [READ LIST]

	ALL	PARTY AFFILIATION		
	Total N=503	Dem N=208	Rep N=54*	Ind N=145
Very confident	22%	22%	14%	29%
Somewhat confident	35	31	45	36
Not too confident	23	27	25	17
Not at all confident	14	16	12	15
Don't know [DON'T READ]	6	4	3	3
Refused [DON'T READ]	-	-	-	-

3. How important would you say Medicare is to people's health in retirement? Would you say it is [READ LIST]

	ALL	PARTY AFFILIATION		
	Total N=503	Dem N=208	Rep N=54*	Ind N=145
Very important	94%	93%	93%	93%
Somewhat important	6	7	7	6
Not too important	-	-	-	-
Not at all important	-	-	-	-
Don't know [DON'T READ]	-	-	-	-
Refused [DON'T READ]	-	-	-	-

4. How confident are you that Medicare will be there for you throughout your retirement? Would you say you are [READ LIST]

	ALL	PARTY AFFILIATION		
	Total N=503	Dem N=208	Rep N=54*	Ind N=145
Very confident	21%	17%	34%	21%
Somewhat confident	36	38	22	40
Not too confident	26	30	29	22
Not at all confident	12	13	13	13
Don't know [DON'T READ]	6	2	3	4
Refused [DON'T READ]	-	-	-	-

5. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: When it comes to Medicare and Social Security, Washington is trying to make too many decisions behind closed doors.

	ALL	PARTY AFFILIATION		
	Total N=503	Dem N=208	Rep N=54*	Ind N=145
Strongly agree	37%	40%	39%	38%
Somewhat agree	25	28	36	19
Somewhat disagree	13	9	14	18
Strongly disagree	15	16	7	15
Don't know [DON'T READ]	11	7	4	10
Refused [DON'T READ]	-	-	-	-

6. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: When it comes to decisions about Social Security and Medicare, Washington needs to spend more time listening to ordinary citizens like me.

	ALL	PARTY AFFILIATION		
	Total N=503	Dem N=208	Rep N=54*	Ind N=145
Strongly agree	83%	90%	75%	74%
Somewhat agree	12	5	25	19
Somewhat disagree	2	4	-	1
Strongly disagree	2	1	-	6
Don't know [DON'T READ]	1	-	-	-
Refused [DON'T READ]	-	-	-	-