

2015

A SURVEY OF
Dutchess County
Voters Age 35-69

AARP Real Possibilities in

New York

HIGH ANXIETY:

Dutchess County
Gen X and Boomers
Struggle with
Stress, Savings and Security



About AARP

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, with a membership of nearly 38 million, that helps people turn their goals and dreams into real possibilities, strengthens communities and fights for the issues that matter most to families such as healthcare, employment and income security, retirement planning, affordable utilities and protection from financial abuse. We advocate for individuals in the marketplace by selecting products and services of high quality and value to carry the AARP name as well as help our members obtain discounts on a wide range of products, travel, and services. A trusted source for lifestyle tips, news and educational information, AARP produces AARP The Magazine, the world's largest circulation magazine; AARP Bulletin; www.aarp.org; AARP TV & Radio; AARP Books; and AARP en Español, a Spanish-language website addressing the interests and needs of Hispanics. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to political campaigns or candidates. The AARP Foundation is an affiliated charity that provides security, protection, and empowerment to older persons in need with support from thousands of volunteers, donors, and sponsors. AARP has staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Learn more at www.aarp.org.

Acknowledgements

AARP staff from the New York State Office; Community, State and National Affairs (CSN); and AARP Research contributed to the design, implementation and reporting of this study.

Contributors include:

Beth Finkel, Bill Ferris, David McNally, Erik Kriss, Erin Mitchell, Donna Liquori from the New York State office; Sarah Mysiewicz and Reshma Mehta from CSN; Angela Houghton, Eowna Young Harrison, Brittne Nelson, Kate Bridges, Rachele Cummins, Darlene Matthews and Cheryl Barnes from AARP Research.

Special thanks to Precision Opinion for the collection and tabulation of these data.

For more information contact:

Angela Houghton, Senior Research Advisor
State Research
AARP Research
Tel. (202) 434-2261
ahoughton@aarp.org

Copyright © 2015 AARP
AARP Research
601 E Street NW Washington, DC 20049
www.aarp.org/research

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Executive Summary & Key Survey Findings	4
About the Survey & Report Terms.....	6
Detailed Survey Findings.....	7
Current Financial Situation	7
Confidence In Retiring.....	9
Access to Retirement Plans (Among Employed)	11
Retirement Savings Behavior.....	12
Retirement Income Expectations	13
Debt and Other Barriers to Saving	14
New York Affordability.....	16
Support for A State-Facilitated Retirement Savings Option	17
Demographic Profile of Respondents	19
Methodology	21

INTRODUCTION



This year Generation X turned 50! With over 2.5 million members across the state including 55,000 in Dutchess County, AARP New York is the state’s leading advocate for the 50-plus. We believe now is the time for us to take stock of the financial plans of Gen Xers and how prepared they are for their financial future. To that end, AARP New York presents, “High Anxiety: Dutchess County Gen X and Boomers Struggle with Stress, Savings and Security,” one in a series of reports detailing the findings behind a groundbreaking survey of voters across New York State aged 35 to 69, Generation X and Baby Boomers together.

As Gen Xers emerge from the long shadow cast by the Baby Boomers, they find themselves sandwiched between raising their children and caring for their aging parents while working longer hours to pay bills and student debt. Gen Xers lack the time, knowledge, and for many even the reasonable opportunity to manage and plan for their future. We found that not building a secure retirement is adding more worry to this important and stressed population. It is vital that these worries are addressed by our elected leaders because an uncertain financial future for New Yorkers is an uncertain financial future for Dutchess County and New York State – especially with 76% of Dutchess County Gen X voters considering fleeing New York, signaling a possible “Gen-Xodus”.

Survey results reveal that almost a fourth (23%) of Dutchess County’s Gen X and Boomer voters have neither a workplace nor personal retirement savings account. At the same time, they’ve told us that their top financial worries are not saving enough and not planning enough for retirement. At AARP New York, we believe the level of stress among voters of both generations reflected in this “High Anxiety” report is proof that a new kind of retirement blueprint is required to foster better financial and retirement security and independence.

One solution Illinois and Washington recently enacted is a state-facilitated retirement plan that would provide a path to saving for many workers whose employers offer no workplace pension or 401k. AARP believes such a plan for New York would ease the worries of Gen X and future generations of New York workers. Americans generally are 15 times more likely to save for retirement when they have a retirement plan available to them at work. Fully 52% of private sector workers aged 18 to 64 across our state lack access to any kind of retirement savings plan through their employer. A strong majority (74%) of Gen X and Boomer voters in Dutchess County support a proposal for a state-facilitated plan in New York. State elected officials and policymakers are in a position to lend a helping hand to workers in Dutchess County and all of New York by ensuring that all who want to save for their retirement have a simple option for doing so.

AARP is committed to ensuring New Yorkers are able to live their best lives as they age, and we believe financial and retirement security are key to that goal. In the long run, helping our citizens plan for their future and help themselves helps us all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth Finkel".

Beth Finkel
State Director, AARP New York

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Much attention has been paid to America's looming retirement crisis. With disappearing pensions, increasing longevity, a culture of spending versus saving and most recently the impact of the Great Recession on wealth and security – the very way that Americans “retire” is changing. While Boomers are at the forefront of this evolution, Gen X is the first generation that will fully come into retirement age with a new playbook, having lived the entirety of their working years during the rise of 401k plans and a shift away from traditional pension plans.

As the first Gen Xers turn 50 this year, survey results reveal that Dutchess County's Gen X voters are as anxious about retirement as their Boomer counterparts, reflecting the trend across the state. With lower confidence in Social Security, fewer guaranteed benefits from retirement plans and more widespread debt, Gen X has reason to be worried.

One-fourth (25%) of Dutchess County's Gen X and Boomer aged labor force are not confident they will ever be able to retire and another one-third are only somewhat confident. Similar portions (about six in ten) of both cohorts are anxious about whether they will be able to live comfortably in retirement.

One significant difference between Dutchess County Gen X and Boomer voters relates to their Social Security expectations. Thirty-one percent (31%) of Gen X voters do not expect to receive any Social Security in retirement - more than 2 times the share of equally pessimistic Boomers (14%). Moreover, the majority of Gen Xers who do expect to receive any Social Security think it will be only a minor share of their retirement income.

Despite weaker expectations about Social Security, Gen Xers are only marginally more likely than Boomers to be saving for retirement. Among all voters in each cohort and taking into consideration both workplace retirement savings and personal retirement accounts, 22% of Gen X and 29% of Boomers do not have any retirement savings account at all.

KEY SURVEY FINDINGS: DUTCHESS COUNTY VOTERS

Gen X (73%) and Boomer (64%) voters worry most about not saving enough. Not planning for retirement is the second highest worry (66% Gen X and 59% Boomer).

64% of Gen X and 61% of Boomers feel anxious about being able to have a comfortable retirement.

25% of Gen X and Boomers do not expect to ever retire.

22% of Gen Xers and 29% of Boomers have no retirement savings account.

31% of Gen Xers do not expect to receive any Social Security income at all.

74% of combined Gen X and Boomer voters support a state-facilitated retirement savings option for workers.

Top barriers to retirement saving include current bills (54%), fallen home values (49%), paying for education (49%), job loss (42%), health needs (40%) and debt (40%).

69% of Gen Xers are either current or expected future borrowers of student debt.

76% of Gen X and 64% of Boomers are likely to leave New York in retirement.

Large portions of Gen Xer and Boomer voters in Dutchess County cite multiple obstacles to saving for retirement. Top reasons that voters in these generations are not able to save include not having enough money after paying bills and paying for children's education, particularly for Gen X. Sixty-nine percent (69%) of Gen X voters either currently have (26%) or expect to acquire (43%) student loans in the future to pay for college education for themselves or their children. With almost seven in ten (68%) student loan borrowers saying these loans make it even harder to save for retirement, a significant number of Gen Xers are at risk of further jeopardizing their retirement security due to student debt.

At the same time, a majority share of Dutchess County Gen X (76%) and Boomer voters (64%) say they are at least somewhat likely to leave the state during their retirement. Concern about future affordability in New York, combined with an inability to save, may be amounting to a potential "Boomer Flight" and "Gen-Xodus" from New York.

The Schwartz Center for Economic Policy Analysis estimates that 32% of New Yorkers nearing retirement are at risk of retiring with incomes below poverty level. The next generation of retirees has arguably less favorable retirement circumstances, and yet, the majority of Dutchess County Gen X voters expect to retire by age 65 or younger. This disconnect suggests that despite the high levels of worry, there remains some measure of a retirement reality gap and demonstrates the need for more public financial literacy as well as new solutions. Without a drastic change in their current retirement preparedness, Gen X will be forced to make choices different than their parents' generation for their retirement years. Retirement options for many may include working longer, relying on family and public assistance or significantly reducing their standard of living.¹

AARP research shows that workers are 15 times more likely to save for retirement if their employer offers a plan.² Across New York State, 52% of private sector workers aged 18 to 64, or 3,507,000 people, are not offered a workplace retirement plan through their employer.³ In Dutchess County, 21% of Gen X and 25% of Boomer workers surveyed are not covered by a workplace retirement plan. Those numbers include all workers age 35 to 69 who are registered voters, but the lack of coverage is much more severe for younger generations of workers and for private sector employees. Among Dutchess County survey respondents, 47% of small business owners or employees lack access.

Whether for themselves or others, 83% of Gen X and Boomer voters in Dutchess County worry about New Yorkers having to rely on public assistance in retirement because they have not prepared or lack access to savings plans. About three-fourths (74%) support a legislative proposal for a state-facilitated workplace retirement savings option to help New Yorkers save and prepare for a more financially secure retirement. Portability, whereby the account follows workers from job to job, is considered by 85% of Dutchess County voters in these generations to be a very important feature to a possible state-facilitated savings option.

Gen X and Boomer voters in Dutchess County are clear that they want elected officials to support the creation of a state-facilitated retirement savings option. Seventy-six percent (76%) want this to be a concern of elected officials so more New York workers have an opportunity to save for retirement.

¹ *The Reality of the Retirement Crisis*, January 2015. Center for American Progress.

² Data compiled by AARP's Public Policy Institute from unpublished estimates from the Employee Benefit Research Institute of the 2004 Survey of income and Program Participation Wave 7 Topical Module (2006 data).

³ <http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/ppi/2015-07/AARP-NewYork-state-fact-sheet.pdf>

ABOUT THE SURVEY & REPORT TERMS

Terms In This Report

Gen X: Age 35 to 50

Boomer: Age 51 to 69

In Labor Force: Currently employed or unemployed and looking for work

Workers: Currently employed

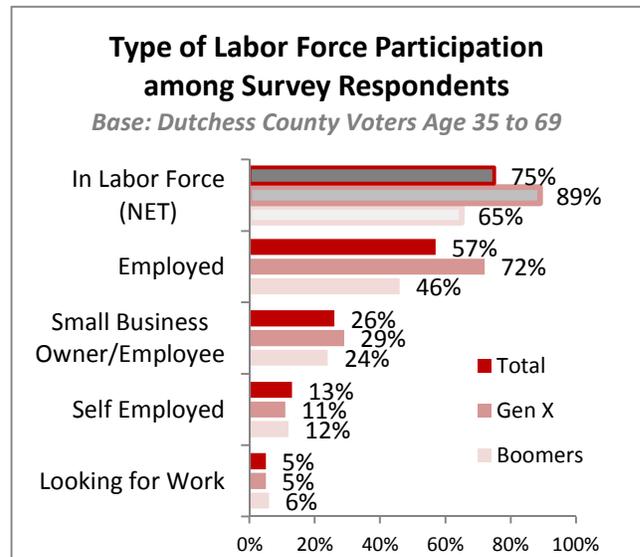
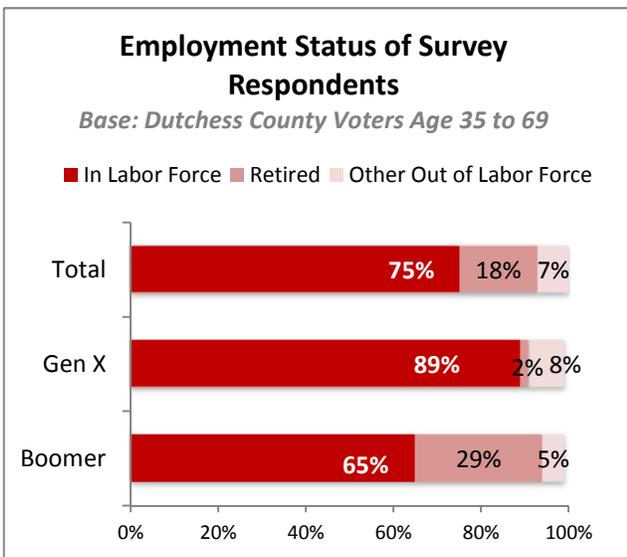
With Access to Retirement Plans: Currently employed and have access to an employer-sponsored retirement plan

Without Access to Retirement Plans: Currently employed and do not have access to an employer-sponsored retirement plan

The data in this report is from a telephone survey of 800 registered voters in Dutchess County, New York aged 35 to 69. Results are analyzed for two generational cohorts: Gen X, age 35 to 50; and Boomers, age 51 to 69. The Dutchess County sample is part of a larger survey of New York voters and one in a series of related reports.⁴

The majority (75%) of Dutchess County survey respondents is currently in the labor force based on stated employment status, which is defined in this report as either currently employed, self-employed or unemployed and looking for work. Eighty-nine percent (89%) of Gen X voters are currently in the labor force; and while comparatively fewer Boomers are working or looking for work, it remains a majority of them (65%).

About one-fourth (26%) of all survey respondents, or a third of all in the labor force, is an owner or employee of a small business. “Small business” was not defined for survey participants.



⁴ Additional details on the research methodology, a fully annotated questionnaire and additional reports can be found at www.aarp.org/nygenxandboomers.

DETAILED SURVEY FINDINGS

CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION

Generation X and Baby Boomers were particularly hard hit by the Great Recession. Five years after its official end, in spite of indicators of a macro economic recovery, the toll on the personal financial security of Gen Xers and Boomers continues to be felt. In a 2014 national survey of Gen X and Boomer workers, more than one-third believed the Great Recession had not yet ended and only one-fourth of either cohort felt the economy was recovering or had fully recovered.⁵

Survey results in Dutchess County reveal a similar sense of insecurity and financial vulnerability among large shares of Gen X and Boomer voters. In fact, on almost all concerns related to savings, debt and expenses Gen X voters in Dutchess County are more likely to worry than Boomer voters, even while large portions of 50 and 60-something voters share the concerns of their younger counterparts.

By a clear margin, Gen X voters are most likely to worry about not saving enough. Seven in ten (73%) Gen X voters say they worry at least sometimes about not inadequate savings and 42% of them worry “often”. Just under two-thirds (64%) of Boomer voters worry about insufficient saving.

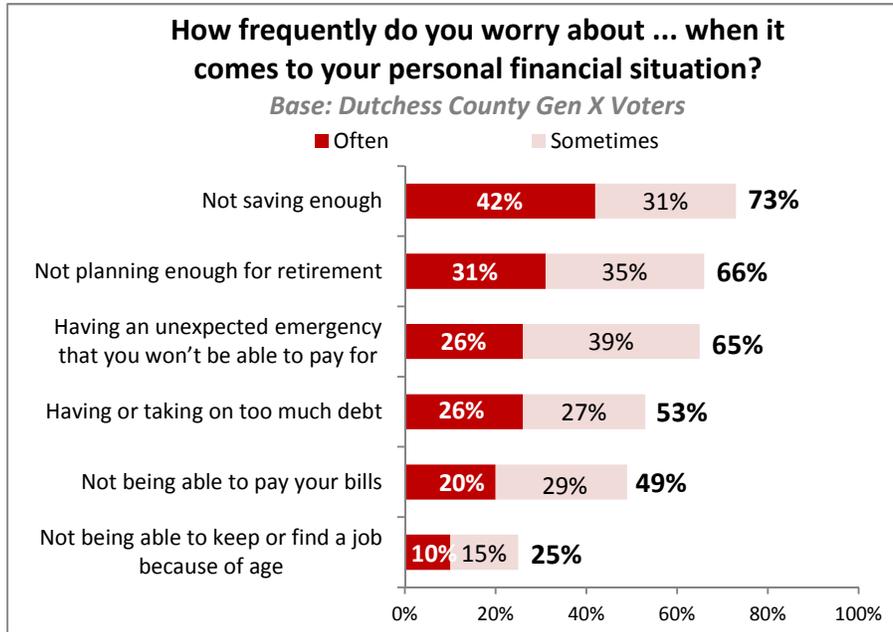
Sixty-six percent (66%) of Gen X voters and 59% of Boomer voters worry about not planning enough for retirement, followed closely by short term savings concerns for immediate emergencies: 65% of Gen X voters and 57% of Boomer voters worry about having an unexpected emergency they cannot afford.

Taking on too much debt is much more likely to be a worry for Gen X voters in Dutchess County. Fifty-three percent (53%) of Gen X voters and 41% of Boomer voters are concerned about the amount of debt they have. Similar proportions worry at least sometimes about not being able to pay their bills (49% Gen X and 41% Boomer).

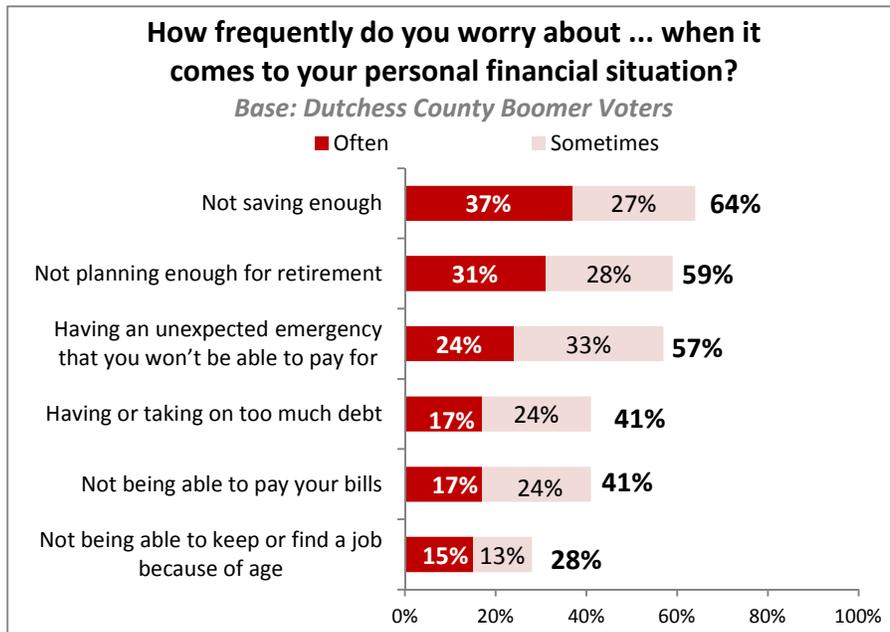
On the income side of the equation, 25% of Dutchess County Gen X voters and 28% of Boomer voters worry about not being able to find or keep a job because of age.

⁵ *The Retirement Readiness of Three Unique Generations: Baby Boomers, Generation X, and Millennials. 15th Annual Transamerica Retirement Survey of Workers*, April 2014, Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies (TCRS) https://www.transamericacenter.org/docs/default-source/resources/center-research/tcrs2014_sr_three_unique_generations.pdf

Gen X:

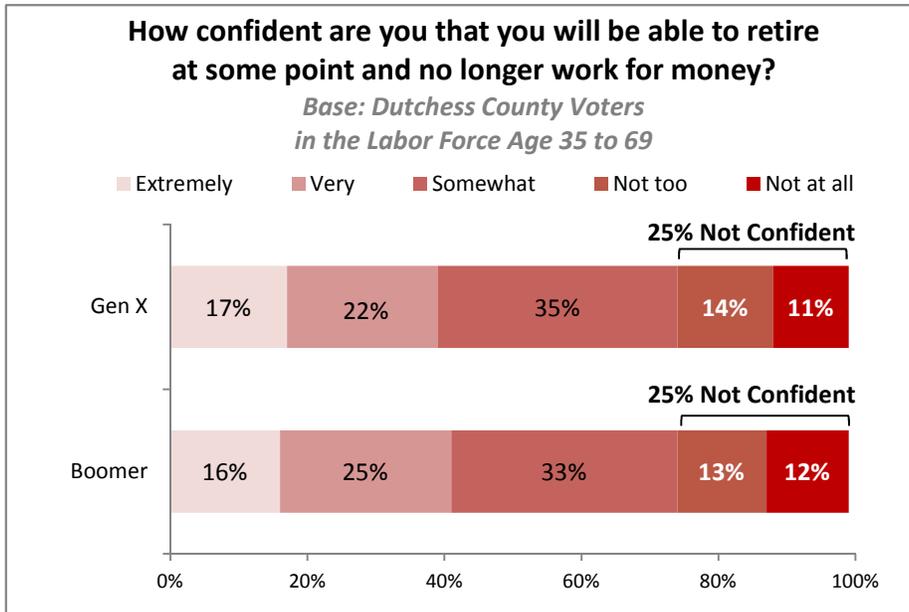


Boomer:



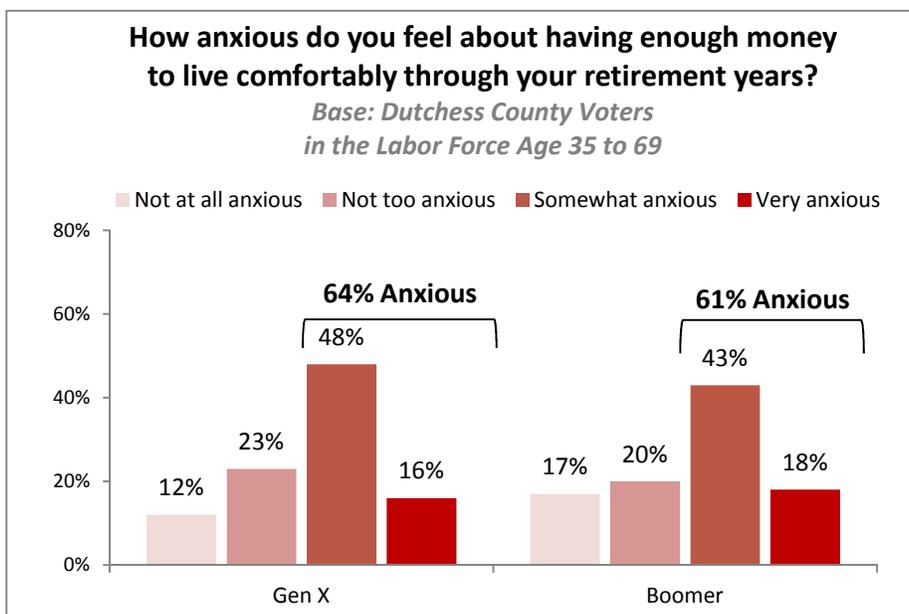
CONFIDENCE IN RETIRING

As further evidence that a lack of sufficient retirement planning and saving is a significant source of insecurity, there is lagging confidence among working voters in both the Gen X and Boomer cohorts that they will ever be able to stop working for money. Twenty-five percent (25%) of workers in both groups are not confident they will ever be able to stop working and another one-third is only somewhat confident. In both voter groups, more than six in ten of those participating in the labor force express anxiety about having enough money to live comfortably through their retirement years.



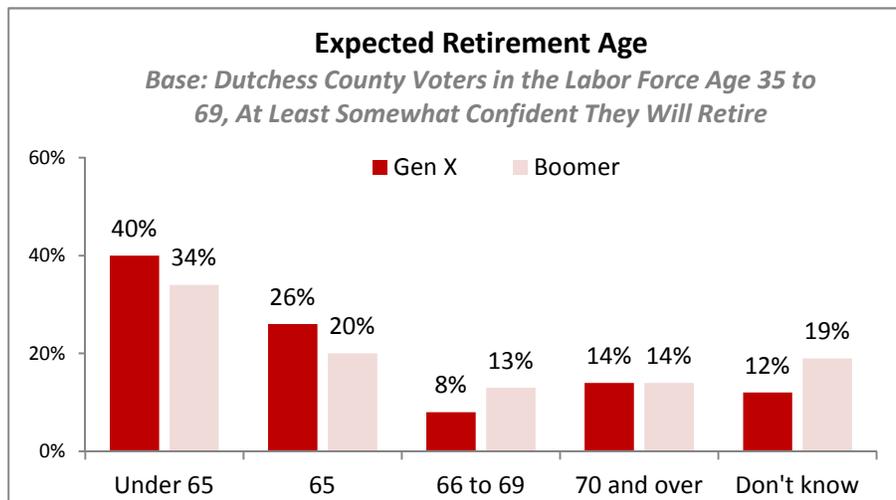
Although Gen X has more time to accelerate savings and planning before a hoped-for retirement age, they are not any more optimistic than their Boomer counterparts.

Sizeable portions of both Gen X and Boomer generations may face a future of working indefinitely or having to reduce their standard of living to below what is considered comfortable.



For the three-fourths of voters age 35 to 69 currently in the Dutchess County labor force that are at least somewhat confident they will be able to retire, the average age of expected retirement is 63 for Gen X and 64.5 for Boomers. Two-thirds of Dutchess County Gen Xers and 54% of Boomers expect to retire at age 65 or *before*.

By and large, Gen X is more likely to have expectations of a traditional retirement age of 65. Boomers are at least somewhat less definite with one-third saying they will work past 65 or they don't know when they will retire. Similar results are reported nationally, though at lower proportions than what we see in our Dutchess County survey sample: Gen X workers across the country are significantly more likely than Boomer workers to expect to retire at age 65 (36% vs 18%).⁶ Gen X retirement expectations may be unrealistic given their concerns about insufficient savings and suggest a perceptual gap among these working voters which can result in retirement insecurity. Statewide in 2014, one in three (32%) near retirees in New York State was at risk of retiring with incomes below the poverty level.⁷

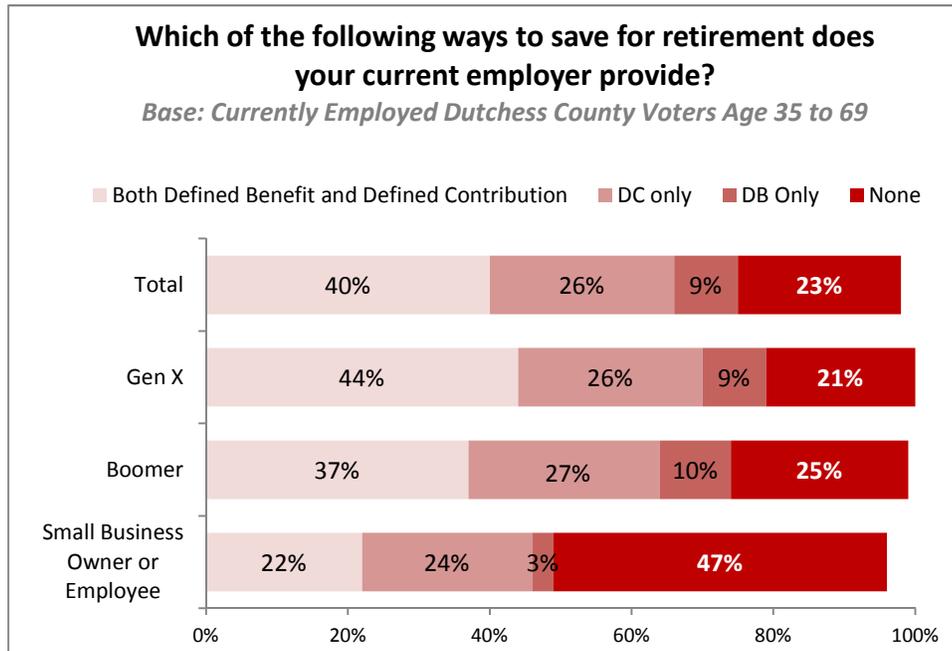


⁶ https://www.transamericacenter.org/docs/default-source/resources/center-research/tcrs2014_sr_three_unique_generations.pdf

⁷ *Are U.S. Workers Ready for Retirement?* Schwartz Center for Economic Policy Analysis. 2014.

http://www.economicpolicyresearch.org/images/docs/research/retirement_security/Are_US_Workers_Ready_for_Retirement.pdf

ACCESS TO RETIREMENT PLANS (AMONG EMPLOYED⁸)



NET PLAN ACCESS

Defined Contribution
(such as 401k, 403b)

Total = 66%
 Gen X = 70%
 Boomer = 64%
 Small Business = 46%

Defined Benefit
(traditional pension plan)

Total = 49%
 Gen X = 53%
 Boomer = 47%
 Small Business = 25%

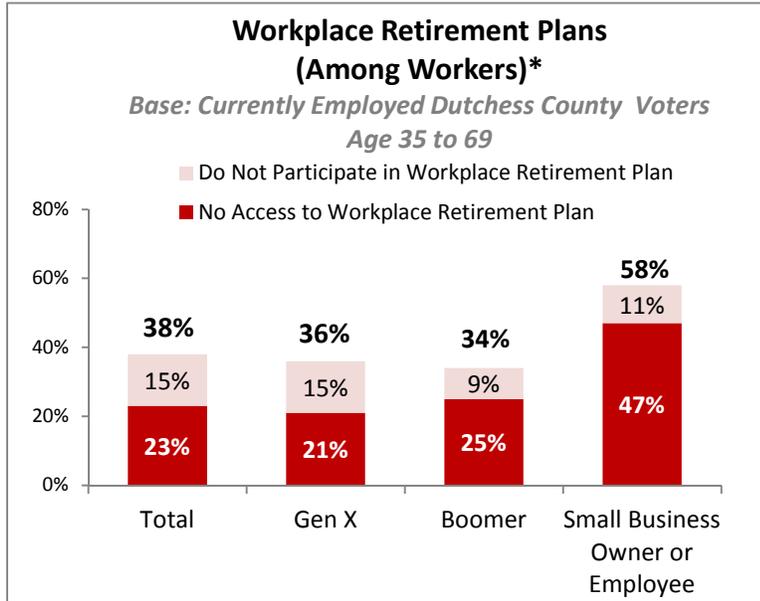
One-fifth (21%) of Gen X workers and one-fourth (25%) of Boomer workers in Dutchess County have no access to any type of workplace retirement savings plan. Among Gen X and Boomer-aged owners and employees of small businesses in Dutchess County, almost half (47%) have no access at all to a workplace retirement savings plan. Among all private sector workers age 18 to 64 in New York State as many as 52% or more than 3.5 million workers statewide lack such access, leaving them no option to save at work.⁹

Workers currently without access to retirement plans at work see the value of such plans. Eighty-two percent (82%) positively affirm they would participate in a way to save for retirement at work if offered.

⁸ Survey data includes both public and private sector workers.
⁹ <http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/ppi/2015-07/AARP-NewYork-state-fact-sheet.pdf>

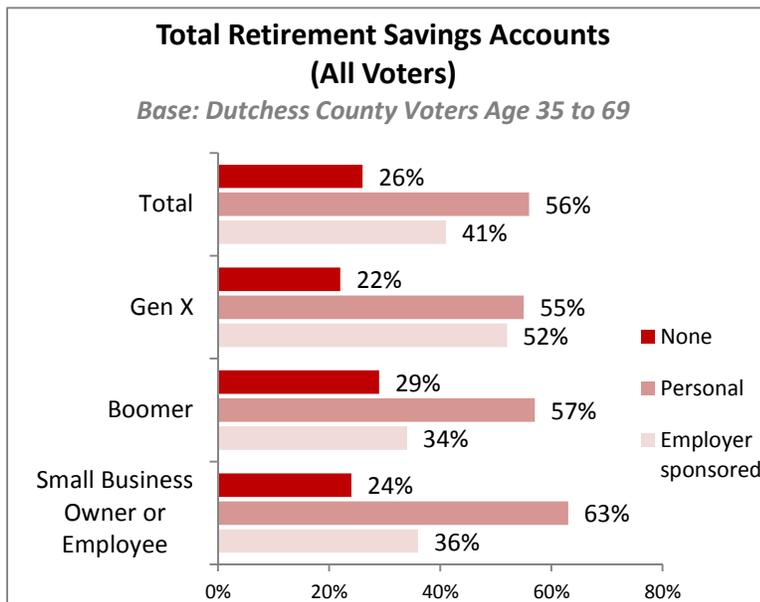
RETIREMENT SAVINGS BEHAVIOR

Taking into account plan participation in addition to access, 36% of Gen X workers and 34% of Boomer workers are not saving through a workplace retirement plan. Largely due to the limited availability of plans for small business owners and employees, as many as 58% of this group of workers are not actively saving for retirement through a workplace plan.



Without workplace retirement plans, it is even more important to build up personal savings through an IRA or other retirement savings plan. Fifty-six percent (56%) of surveyed Dutchess County voters age 35 to 69 have a personal retirement savings account.

When taken together and on net, 22% of Gen X voters in Dutchess County and 29% of Boomers are not actively saving for retirement - neither through a work sponsored nor a personal retirement savings plan. Though a majority (63%) of small business owners and employees surveyed are saving in personal retirement savings accounts outside of work, 24% still have no retirement savings account at all.

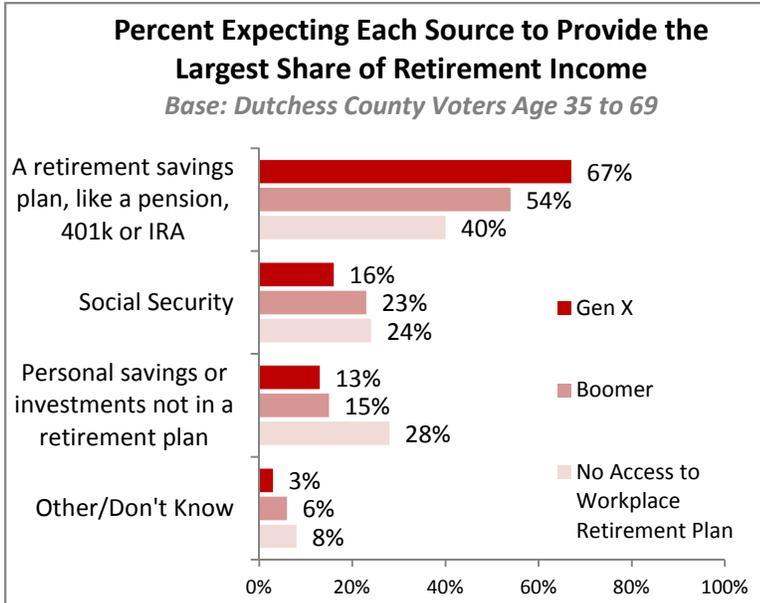


*Note: Survey data include both public and private workers.

RETIREMENT INCOME EXPECTATIONS

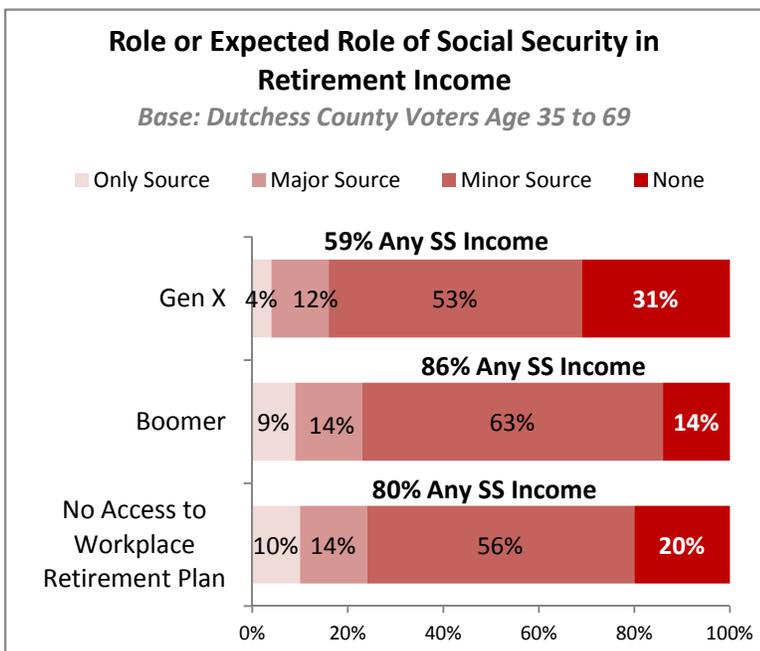
Both Gen X and Boomers are most likely to expect their largest share of retirement income to come from a retirement savings plan. But, when it comes to expectations of Social Security, there are significant differences between the generations.

Eighty percent (80%) of Gen X say their savings will provide the largest share of their income in retirement – either from a retirement plan (67%) or their own personal savings outside of a retirement plan or account (13%). Just 16% of Gen X says that Social Security will be their largest share of income, and 31% does not expect to receive any Social Security income at all.



Compared to Gen X voters, Boomer voters in Dutchess County are more likely to say Social Security will be their largest source of income in retirement (23%) and just 14% do not expect to receive any Social Security income at all in retirement.

Among workers without access to workplace retirement plans, about four in ten (40%) expect their personal retirement plan to be their major source of income and 28% say their savings outside of a plan will provide the most income in retirement.



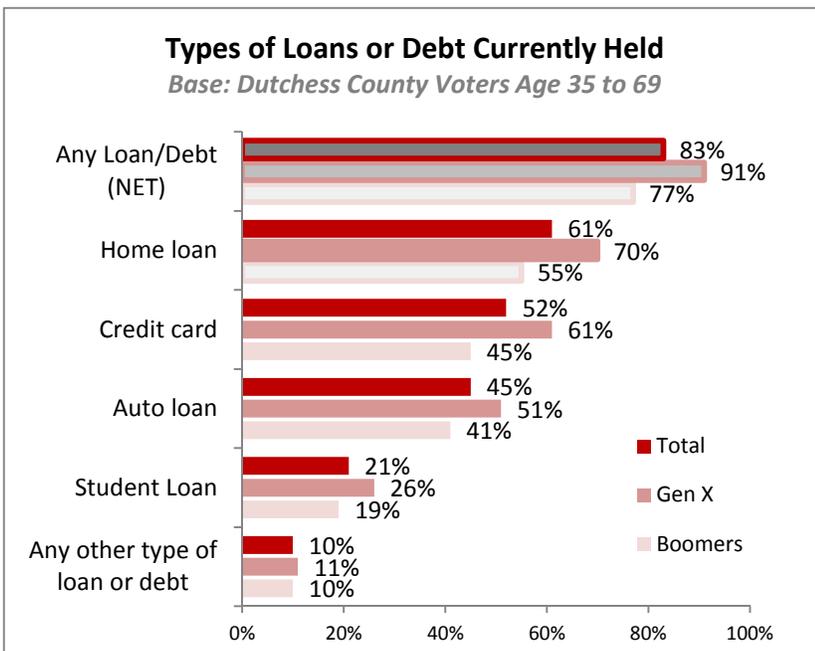
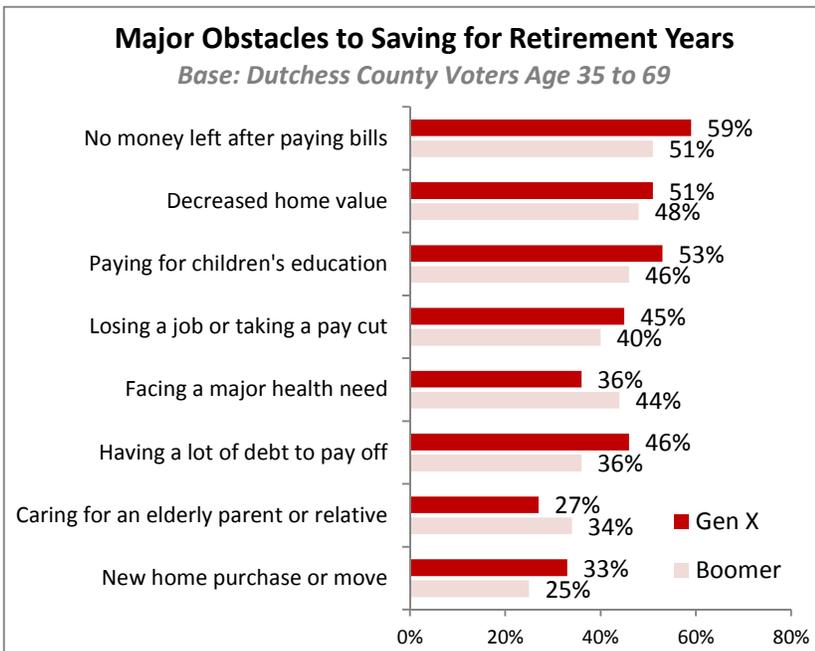
DEBT AND OTHER BARRIERS TO SAVING

Many Dutchess County voters age 35 to 69 say not having enough money left after paying bills is an obstacle to saving for retirement years with 59% of Gen X and 51% of Boomers reporting this as a barrier to saving.

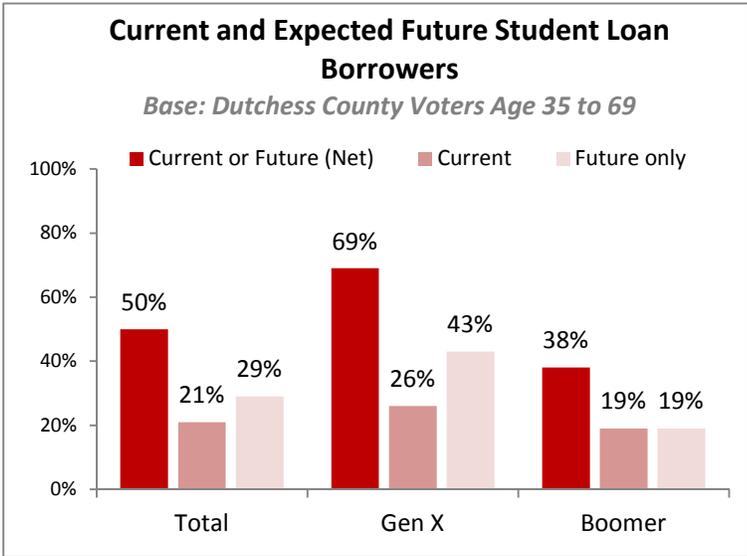
Decreased home values are relatively common among voters in Dutchess County – 51% of Gen X and 48% of Boomer voters say fallen home value has impacted their retirement savings. Paying for

children’s education is the second most commonly cited barrier for Gen X voters (53%) and a high proportion of Boomers is also affected (46%). For their part, Boomer voters are more likely than Gen X voters to cite facing a major health needs (44%) and caregiving for elderly love ones (34%) as barriers to saving.

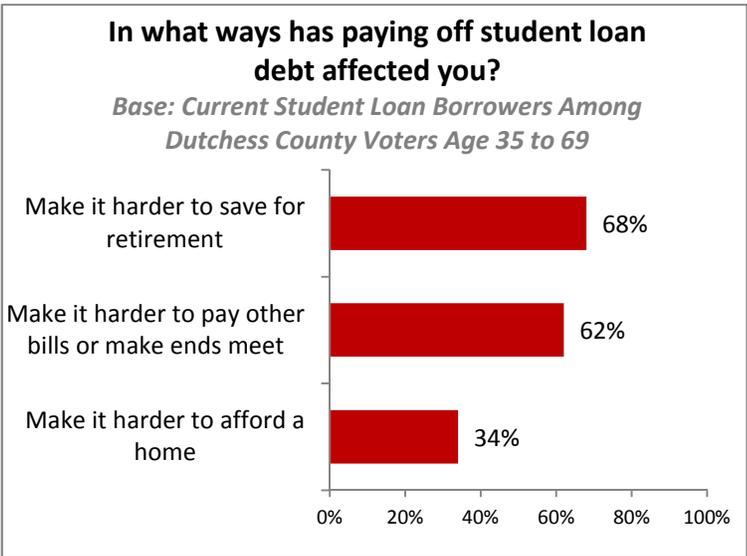
Gen X voters are more likely than Boomers to identify debt as a barrier to retirement saving (46%). In its ongoing Retirement Confidence Survey, the Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI) has consistently found the level of debt among workers negatively impacts retirement confidence.¹⁰ In Dutchess County, the vast majority of Gen X and Boomer aged voters (83%) have some form of debt. Gen X voters are more likely than Boomers to carry all categories of debt, including home loans (70%), credit cards (61%), auto loans (51%) and student loans (26%).



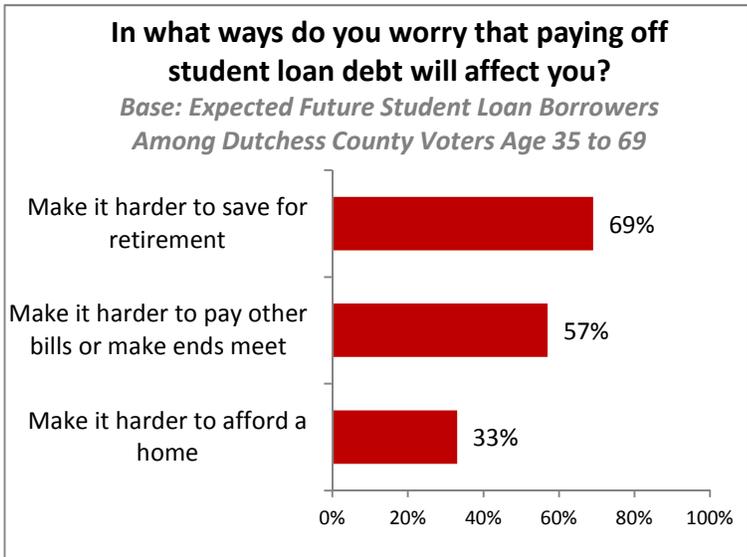
¹⁰ 2015 Retirement Confidence Survey, Employee Benefit Research Institute. <http://www.ebri.org/surveys/rcs/2015/>



With regard to student loans specifically, about one-fourth (26%) of Gen X voters currently carry student loan debt and even more (43%) expect to acquire student loans in the future. Among Boomers, levels are relatively lower but still almost one in four (38%) are either current or future expected student loan borrowers.

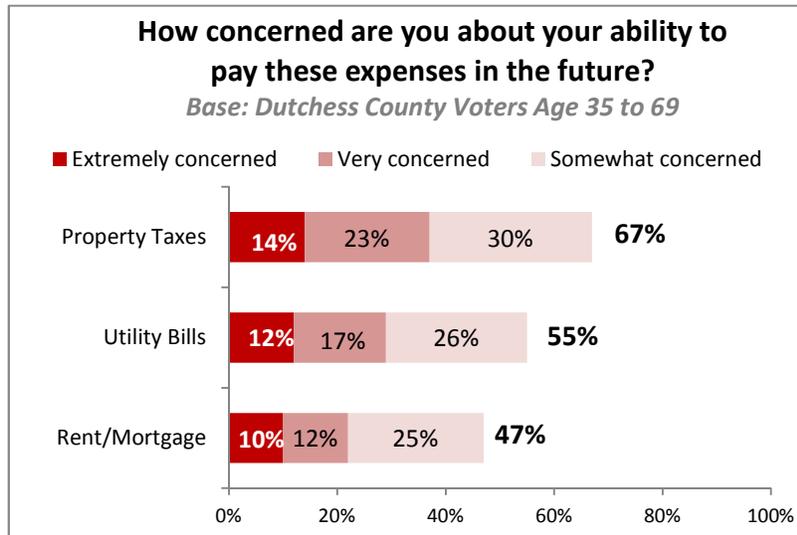


Borrowers of student loans seem to incur that debt at the expense of their future retirement security. Two-thirds of current student loan borrowers (68%) say paying off such debt has made it harder to save for retirement and as many future loan borrowers expect the same. A large portion also acknowledges the negative impact on affording current expenses as well. Sixty-two percent (62%) of current debtors and 57% of future expectant debtors say paying back student loan debt makes it harder to pay bills or make ends meet. Affording a home is less likely to be affected than paying bills or saving for retirement but still more than one-third of current and future borrowers of student loans say paying back that debt makes home ownership harder.

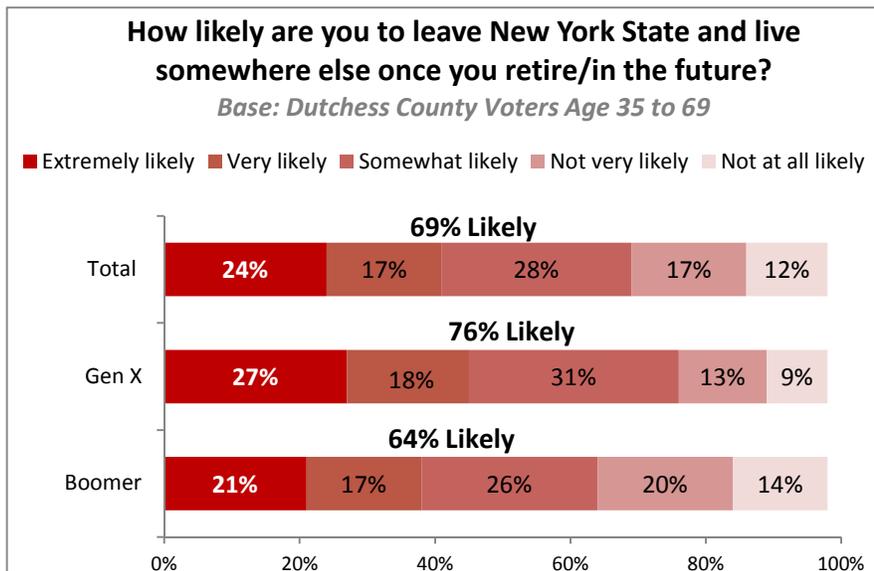


NEW YORK AFFORDABILITY

As discussed above, having enough money left after paying bills is the most commonly cited obstacle to saving for retirement among Dutchess County Gen X and Boomer voters. Housing expenses in particular are a concern for many: more than two-thirds (67%) of Gen X and Boomers together are at least somewhat concerned about their ability to afford property taxes in the future. More than half (55%) are concerned about home energy costs and 47% worry about being able to pay their rent or mortgage in the coming years.



Sixty-nine (69%) of Dutchess County voters age 35 to 69 say they are at least somewhat likely to leave New York once they retire or in the future. Consistently across New York State and including Dutchess County, Gen X indicates a stronger intent to leave post retirement than Boomers. In Dutchess County, 76% of Gen X voters report at least some likelihood to leave the State and 45% can scarcely see themselves staying, saying they are extremely or very likely to leave. Among Dutchess County's Boomer voters, 64% are at least somewhat likely to leave.



SUPPORT FOR A STATE-FACILITATED RETIREMENT SAVINGS OPTION

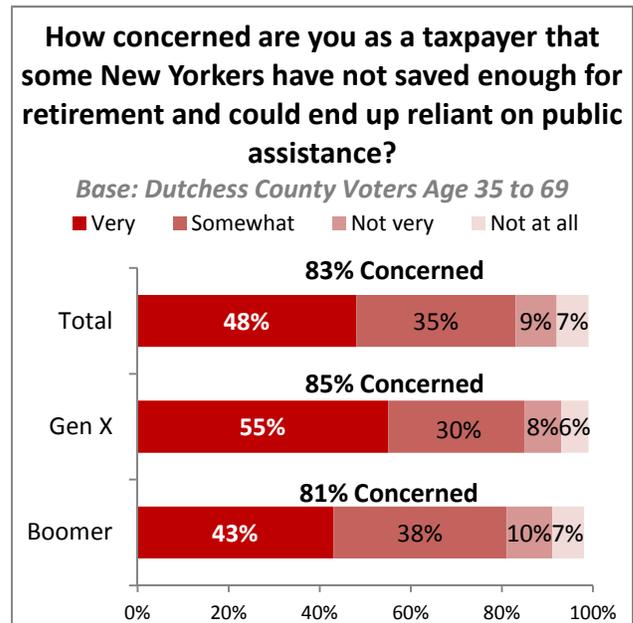
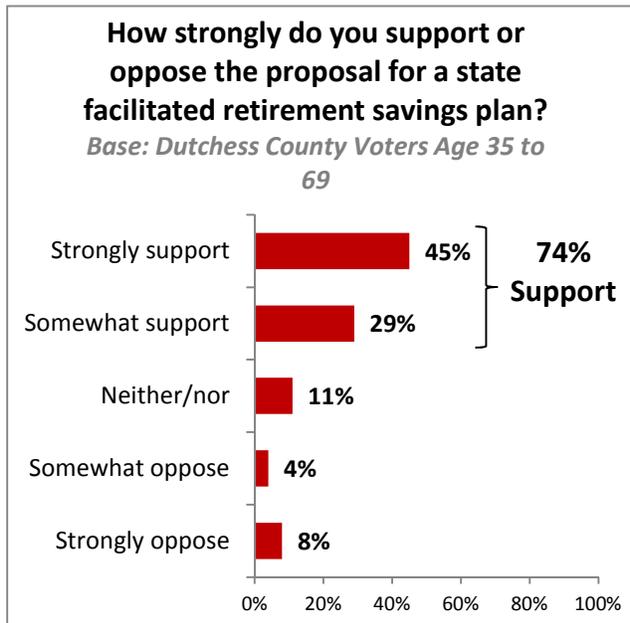
PROPOSED STATE-FACILITATED RETIREMENT SAVINGS OPTION FOR WORKERS

One way to help more New Yorkers save would be for the state to set up a retirement savings plan, similar to a 529 college savings plan, where workers can contribute to a private retirement account that is professionally managed. Workers can choose whether or not to participate, and the account would be portable from job to job. The plan would have low fees and not cost taxpayer dollars.

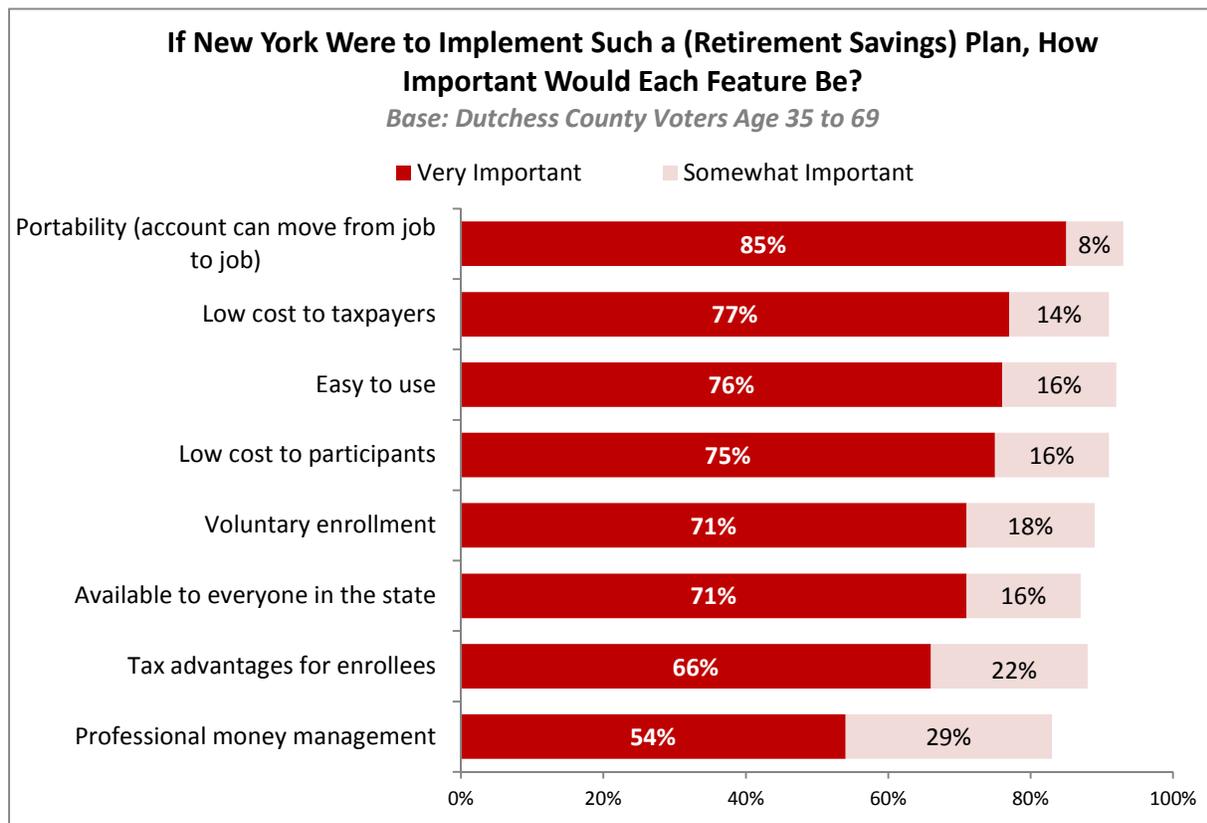
In order to help close the gap in access to retirement savings plans, 74% of Dutchess County voters age 35 to 69 support a state-facilitated retirement savings option for New York State, with four in ten strongly in support. Majorities of all sub-groups of voters consistently support a state-facilitated plan, including each generation, workers without current access to a plan at work and small business owners or employees.

Three-fourths (76%) of Dutchess County voters age 35 to 69 agree that New York State elected officials should support creating a state-facilitated retirement savings plan so more workers have an opportunity to save for retirement, with 44% agreeing strongly that

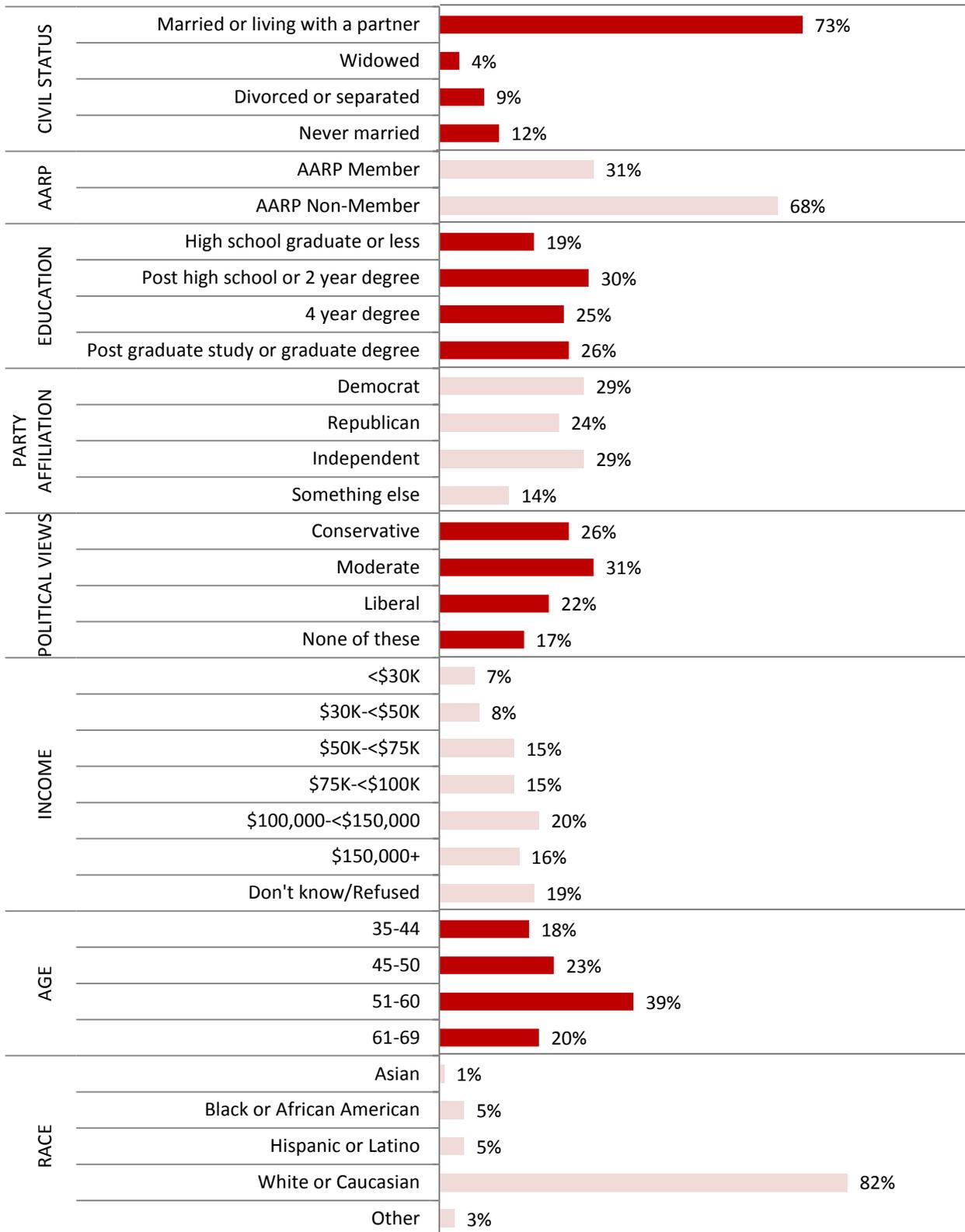
this should be a concern of elected officials. A large majority (83%) of Dutchess County Gen X and Boomer voters is also concerned that New Yorkers who have not saved enough for retirement will have to rely on public aid.



When asked about potential features in a state-facilitated savings option for retirement, survey respondents ranked portability most important – a distinctive feature that would allow the retirement account to automatically follow workers from job to job thereby simplifying participation and eliminating the need to roll over funds. Eight in ten Gen X and Boomer voters surveyed (85%) believe it is *very* important that account funds should be portable so that the money travels with the owner. About three-fourths say it is very important that the plan carry a low cost for taxpayers (77%); is easy to use (76%); and pose a low cost to participants (75%). Voluntary involvement and availability to everyone in the state is each very important to 71%. Many also believe it is important that enrollees realize tax advantages (66%) and that the plan be professionally managed (54%).



DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS



	Gen X	Boomers
Gender		
Male	46%	48%
Female	54%	52%
Civil Status		
Married or living with a partner	76%	72%
Widowed	1%	6%
Divorced or separated	9%	9%
Never married	14%	10%
Membership		
AARP	9%	46%
AARP Non-Member	91%	53%
Education		
High school graduate or less	13%	22%
Post high school or 2 year degree	29%	30%
4 year degree	27%	24%
Post graduate or graduate degree	31%	22%
Party Affiliation		
Democrat	27%	30%
Republican	28%	21%
Independent	30%	28%
Something else	13%	15%
Political Views		
Conservative	26%	26%
Moderate	34%	29%
Liberal	18%	25%
None of these	20%	16%
Income		
<\$30K	7%	7%
\$30K-<\$50K	6%	9%
\$50K-<\$75K	14%	17%
\$75K-<\$100K	16%	15%
\$100,000-<\$150,000	23%	17%
\$150,000+	20%	13%
Don't know/Refused	14%	22%
Race/Ethnicity		
Asian	2%	0%
Black or African American	5%	5%
Hispanic or Latino	7%	3%
White or Caucasian	80%	84%
Mixed/some other race	4%	4%

METHODOLOGY

This report is based on data collected through a telephone survey of registered voters in the state of New York age 35 to 69, with oversamples in seven targeted geographies including Dutchess County and among multicultural voters in New York City. Survey results discussed in this report are limited to the sample of voters in Dutchess County.

Interviews were conducted by Precision Opinion from February 26th to May 17th, 2015. Respondents were sampled from a registered voter list provided by L2 then screened to confirm their age, registered voter status and state of residence. Out of a statewide representative sample of qualified New York voters, 2% were from Dutchess County. Additional interviews were completed to bring the total Dutchess County voter sample up to 800. The Dutchess County oversample was split into two strata by age (Gen X and Boomer) and targets were set in order to achieve 400 interviews in each of these age cohorts. The actual number of completed interviews in each group was 398 Gen X and 402 Boomer. The sample was weighted by gender within age group in order to maintain the proper representation of males and females. The total combined sample was also weighted by age.

The margin of sampling error for the total Dutchess County sample of 800 is +/-3.5%. The margin of sampling error for the Gen X and Boomer samples of 400 each is +/-5.0%.

Additional details on the survey execution, sample design and data weighting are in the full methodology statement which can be found together with a fully annotated questionnaire and more information about this survey including additional reports at www.aarp.org/nygenxandboomers.



AARP New York

780 Third Ave 33rd Floor

New York, NY 10017

Phone: (866) 227-7442

Email: nyaarp@aarp.org

Website: <http://www.aarp.org/ny>

AARP Research

601 E Street NW

Washington, DC 20049

www.aarp.org/research