VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact Hispanic/Latino Adults Age 45 and Older, September 2021

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INTRODUCTION

There are currently about 117 million Americans who are 50 and older; this number will grow to 157 million by 2050. The 50 and older population is and will continue to be an essential contributor to American society. Understanding the needs and opinions of older Americans is critical to ensuring they live longer and healthier lives.

Vital Voices is a new and exciting program of research undertaken by AARP. Through this research program, we are launching a new initiative that will deliver critical, current, and state-specific data to 53 states on a rolling three-year schedule between 2019 and 2021. We are making this data available to the public to assist with the development of programs, products, and policies for older adults. This data will allow those in leadership positions to:

- Predict the need for a specific program or interest in a particular issue.
- Enhance program and product innovation and development.
- Track issues and attitudes over time to assess shifts in public opinion.
- Take action on critical advocacy issues.

Never before has AARP launched a research program of this size and with this much promise. We give it to you, hoping that it will significantly impact the work you do.
National Survey Results - Health Questions

Issues That Impact Hispanic/Latino Adults Age 45 and Older
ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ think many healthcare issues are important, with staying mentally sharp topping the list.

Important Healthcare Issues

- Staying mentally sharp: 95%
- Staying physically healthy: 94%
- Having adequate health insurance coverage: 91%
- Having Medicare benefits available to you in the future: 89%
- Paying for health care expenses: 81%
- Paying for prescription drugs: 75%

**I1. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=514)**
Nearly one-third (31%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ are currently providing unpaid help to an adult relative or friend.
One-third (36%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ who are not currently unpaid caregivers have provided this type of care in the past.

Percent Providing Unpaid Adult Care in The Past

- Yes: 64%
- No: 36%
If you or a loved one needed long-term care, where would you prefer to receive that help? (n=514)

Nearly three-quarters (72%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ would prefer long-term care at home with caregiver assistance for themselves or a loved one if needed.

**Preferred Long-Term Care Setting**

- At home with caregiver assistance: 72%
- In an assisted living facility or group home: 11%
- In a nursing home: 5%
- Something else: 3%
- Don't know: 11%

*CARE37a. If you or a loved one needed long-term care, where would you prefer to receive that help? (n=514)*
LONG-TERM CARE

Staying at home for as long as possible is extremely important to two-thirds (66%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+.

Importance of Long-Term Care at Home

- Extremely important: 66%
- Very important: 26%
- Not very important: 7%
- Not important at all: 0%

CARE38a. If you or a loved one needed long-term care, how important would it be to have services that would help you or your loved one stay at home for as long as possible? (n=514)
Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ have mixed concern about getting COVID-19 in the next year.

Worry About Getting COVID-19 in the Next Year (as of September 2021)

- 42% Somewhat worried
- 32% Not very worried/ not at all worried
- 26% Extremely worried/ very worried
- 3% Somewhat worried

CVD-6. How worried are you about getting coronavirus in the next year? (n=514)
As of September 2021, eight in ten (85%) Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ have gotten the COVID-19 vaccine (or plan to get it).

COVID-19 Vaccination Status
(as of September 2021)

- Yes (already got): 81%
- Yes (plan to): 12%
- No: 4%
- Don't know/ refused: 3%
As of September 2021, 58% of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ who are not planning to get the COVID-19 vaccine are worried about vaccine side effects.

Reasons for Not Getting the COVID-19 Vaccine (as of September 2021)

- Worried about side effects 58%
- Don’t think the vaccine has been tested enough 52%
- Do not trust the government 46%
- Don’t trust the drug companies that make the vaccine 40%
- Taking adequate precautions to avoid COVID-19 34%
- Want to wait and see how it goes for other people who get the vaccine 34%
- Believe the risks of taking a new vaccine outweigh any benefits 31%
- Do not think the vaccination will work to protect from infection 28%
- Healthy and don’t need a COVID-19 vaccine 15%
- Already had COVID-19, so you don’t think you can get it again 14%
- Do not think you would get very sick if you got COVID-19 8%
- Cannot get the vaccine for other health reasons 6%
- Concerned about the cost of the vaccine 1%
National Survey Results - Wealth Questions

Issues That Impact Hispanic/Latino Adults Age 45 and Older
Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ find many economic issues important, particularly those related to savings and retirement.

**Important Economic Issues**

- Having enough savings for emergencies: 91%
- Having enough income or savings to retire: 90%
- Having adequate Social Security benefits: 89%
- Protecting yourself against consumer fraud: 86%
- Being able to manage your debt: 85%
- Being able to save money for your retirement years: 84%
- Protecting yourself against unfair financial practices: 84%
- Being able to stop working for pay at the age you want: 81%
- Having online security: 81%
- Protection from age discrimination: 76%
- Having good employment opportunities in your community: 73%
- Having access to high-speed internet: 72%
- Maintaining relevant job skills and experience: 71%

11. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=514)
One-quarter (25%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ expect that their personal financial situation will get worse in the next 12 months.
### Sources of Income Relied On or Planning to Rely On

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Income</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Security</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Savings</td>
<td>38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>401(k) or other defined contribution program</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time work</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employer paid pension</td>
<td>23%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public assistance such as SSI, SNAP, etc.</td>
<td>21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Part-time work</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freelancing or working in the 'gig' economy</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting your own business</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial support from family or friends</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran's benefits</td>
<td>6%</td>
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**Q728.** Which, if any, of the following sources of income do you currently rely on or plan to rely on as you get older? (Percent ‘yes’) (n=514)

Small cells have been removed; see annotation for all categories
Two-thirds (67%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ are extremely or very interested in finding new ways to make money.

**Interest in Work-Related Activities**

- Finding new ways to make money: **67%**
- Advancing in your job or career (n=372): **59%**
- Having flexible work arrangements: **59%**
- Keeping up with technology to maintain job skills: **58%**
- Learning about other types of jobs where your skills would be applicable: **54%**
- Gaining new job-related skills and experiences: **50%**
- Starting or running your own business: **38%**
- Starting a new job or career: **38%**

**WORK2.** How interested are you in [ITEM]? (Percent ‘extremely interested’ or ‘very interested’) (n=514)
Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ have mixed levels of confidence about having enough money to live comfortably throughout their retirement years.

Confidence in Retirement Money Lasting

- Ratings of 1-3: 33%
- Ratings of 4-7: 24%
- Ratings of 8-10: 38%
- Don’t know/ refused: 5%

**RET3.** Overall, how confident are you that you will have enough money to live comfortably throughout your retirement years? Please use a 1 to 10 scale, where 1 means you are not confident at all and 10 means you are extremely confident. (n=514)
In the last 12 months, 13% of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ have been a victim of a scam or fraud.

Victim of a Scam or Fraud in the Past Year

- Yes: 82%
- No: 5%
- Don't know: 13%
FRAUD

One-third (35%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ know a family member or close friend who may have been victims of a scam or fraud.

Friend or Family a Victim of a Scam or Fraud

- Yes: 65%
- No: 35%

FRA20. Do you know of a family member or close friend who may have been victims of a scam or fraud? (n=514)
Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ have mixed levels of concern about personally becoming the victim of a scam or fraud.

Concern About Scams and Fraud

- Extremely concerned: 11%
- Very concerned: 30%
- Somewhat concerned: 22%
- Not very concerned: 21%
- Not at all concerned: 16%

**FRA4.** How concerned are you, personally, about becoming the target or victim of a scam or fraud? (n=514)
Half (54%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ own their residence.
Nearly two-thirds (64%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ currently live in a single-family house.

**Current Residence**

- A single-family house: 64%
- An apartment or condominium: 24%
- A mobile home: 4%
- A townhouse or row house: 4%
- A two-family house or a lot that has two separate living units: 3%
- Senior housing or assisted living facility: 1%

**COMM10.** Which of the following types of homes best describes where you currently live? (n=514)
National Survey Results - Self Questions

Issues That Impact Hispanic/Latino Adults Age 45 and Older
Aging in place is extremely or very important to a majority (84%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+.

### Important Independent Living Issues

- Staying in your own home as you get older: 84%
- Getting to the places you need to go independently: 84%
- Caring for a loved one: 81%
- Having high quality long-term care in your community: 80%
- Having alternatives to nursing home care: 72%

11. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=514)
Nearly two-thirds (65%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ are extremely or very concerned about being able to afford to remain in their home as they age.

**Independent Living Concerns**

- **Being able to afford to remain in your home as you age**: 65%
- **Being able to get around your community to get the things you need and do the things you want to do as you age**: 59%
- **Being connected with others in your community and having opportunities to socialize as you age**: 46%

**LIVCOMM1.** How concerned are you about the following? (Percent ‘extremely concerned’ or ‘very concerned’) (n=514)
LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

Two in ten (22%) Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ feel they will likely move to a different community as they age.

- Move to a different community
- Move into a different residence within your current community
- Stay in your different residence and never move
- Don't know

COMM6. Thinking about your future years, are you more likely to…? (n=514)
If you were to consider moving out of your current residence, how much of a factor would the following be in your decision to move? (Percent ‘a major factor’) (n=514)

Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ may consider relocating for a variety of reasons as they age.

Factors in Decision to Move

- Wanting a home that will help you live independently as you age: 59%
- Cost of maintaining your current residence: 54%
- Wanting a home that is easier to maintain: 49%
- Wanting a smaller home: 31%
- Wanting a larger home: 19%
One in ten (12%) Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ have contact with family, friends, or neighbors once a month or less.

ISO1. How often do you have contact with family, friends, or neighbors who do not live with you? (n=514)
Feelings of isolation impact Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ in a variety of ways.

Frequency of Feeling Isolated

- Lacking companionship: 14%
- Feeling isolated from others: 13%
- Feeling left out: 13%
As of September 2021, one-quarter (25%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ reported that discrimination due to race has negatively impacted their wellbeing.

**Issues Negatively Affecting Wellbeing**

- **The coronavirus/ COVID-19**: 55%
- **Increasing housing costs**: 38%
- **The toxic political discourse**: 34%
- **Affording the healthcare you need**: 33%
- **Climate change**: 31%
- **Discrimination due to race**: 25%
- **Discrimination due to age**: 24%
- **Natural disasters**: 24%
- **Human rights abuses**: 22%
- **Mass shootings**: 20%
- **The opioid epidemic**: 17%
- **Families separated at the border**: 15%
- **Excessive use of police force**: 15%
- **News about rising suicide rates**: 15%

Q741. Have any of the following affected your wellbeing in a negative way? (Percent ‘yes’) (n=514)
About half (49%) of Hispanic/Latino adults age 45+ believe racism is a big problem in society today.

RACE-1. How big a problem would you say racism is in our society today? (n=514)
In August 2021, AARP engaged ANR Market Research Consultants to conduct a quantitative research study among Hispanic/Latino adults age 45 and older. Topics included healthcare, the economy, financial issues, independent living, long-term care, caregiving, retirement issues, and opinions of AARP.

ANR completed a total of 514 interviews (45 via landline telephone, 25 via cell phone, and 444 online). Respondents were screened to meet the following criteria:

- Age 45+
- U.S. resident
- Hispanic/Latino

Survey length averaged 23.1 minutes by telephone and 19.4 minutes online.
METHODOLOGY

Sampling Procedure

Landline, cell phone, and online sampling were used for this research, with the telephone sample drawn randomly from a list of U.S. residents age 45 and older, purchased from Aristotle, and online sample provided by Fulcrum. A total of 56,325 records were utilized. The list of 134,316,800 U.S. residents age 45 and older was randomly divided into 134,317 replicates of 1,000 records for telephone dialing. Initially, 20 replicates were released for calling, with additional replicates being opened as necessary. In all, 45 replicates representing a total of 44,106 records were dialed to complete the telephone portion of this study.

The sample of 514 Hispanic/Latino respondents yields a maximum statistical error of ±4.3% at the 95% level of confidence. (This means that in 95 out of 100 samples of this size, the results obtained in the sample would be within ±4.3 percentage points of the results obtained had everyone in the population been interviewed.)

Interview Methodology

The survey was launched on August 30, 2021 and closed on September 26, 2021, offered in English and Spanish.

Telephone interviewing was active between 5:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., with some additional calling done between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. If necessary, up to 8 call attempts per telephone number were made to reach an eligible respondent. All numbers were called at multiple times of the day as well as days of the week to maximize each resident’s opportunity for inclusion in the study.

Percentages of some questions may exceed 100% due to rounding or the use of multiple response question formats.

All data have been weighted by age and gender according to 2019 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey (CPS) statistics.
ABOUT AARP

AARP is the nation’s largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. With nearly 38 million members and offices in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, AARP works to strengthen communities and advocate for what matters most to families with a focus on health security, financial stability and personal fulfillment. AARP also works for individuals in the marketplace by sparking new solutions and allowing carefully chosen, high-quality products and services to carry the AARP name. As a trusted source for news and information, AARP produces the nation’s largest circulation publications, AARP The Magazine and AARP Bulletin. To learn more, visit www.aarp.org or follow @AARP and @AARPadvocates on social media.
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This research was designed and executed by AARP Research.