

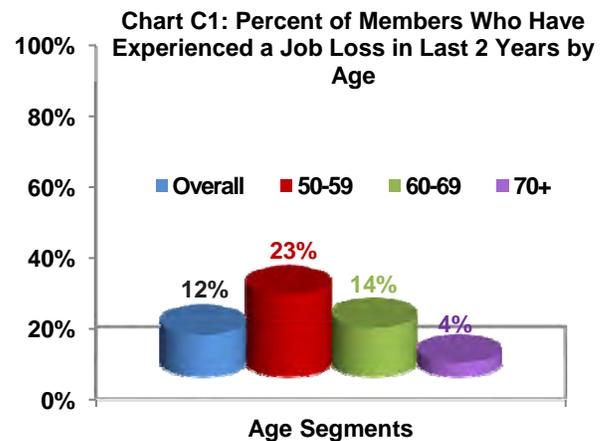
## Work

### Headline: Two-fifths of AARP members are working

While half of all AARP members are retired, many AARP members are working or looking for work. The concerns of the working 50+ are unique and understanding this population helps AARP provide them needed programs and support.

While half of all AARP members (50%) are retired, two-fifths (40%) of AARP members are working. One in ten members are unemployed and looking for work, disabled or are homemakers.

AARP members have experienced difficulty with the recent economy. One in ten members (12%) reported a job loss for themselves or a spouse in the last two years, and younger members were twice as likely to experience a job loss compared to members as a whole (23% of ages 50-59) (see Chart C1).

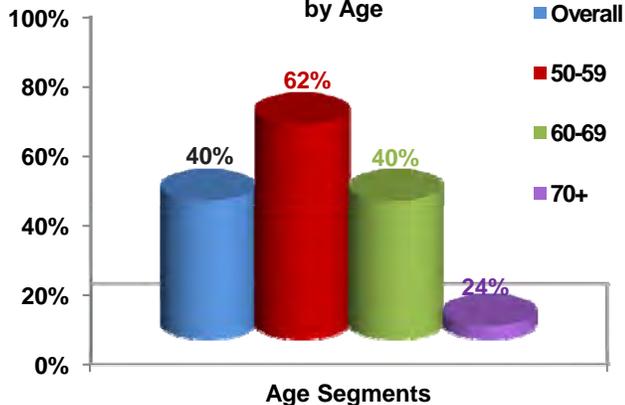


Many work-related issues are of concern to members including having employment opportunities in their community (40% extremely/very concerned), age discrimination at work (33%), having relevant job skills (31%) and losing their job (25%). Not surprisingly, younger members were more likely to have workplace concerns. Half of younger members (50-59) are extremely or very concerned about age discrimination in workplace (51%), maintaining relevant job skills (51%) and losing a job (46%).

In particular, three-fifths (62%) of younger members (50-59) are concerned about finding local job opportunities. And while older AARP members are less concerned than their younger counterparts, one-quarter (24%) of members 70+ are concerned about finding local job opportunities (see Chart C2, next page).

## Issue Spotlight: **Work**

Chart C2: Percent of Members Who are Concerned about Finding Local Jobs by Age



In addition to concerns, AARP also asked members about their level of interest in a variety of work related areas. Members are interested (either extremely or very interested) in learning about jobs where their skills would be applicable (19%), gaining new job-related skills or experiences (17%), advancing in their job or career (14%), starting a new job or career (11%), and starting their own business (8%).

While less than ten percent of AARP members are interested in starting their own business, currently 4 percent of members own their own business. The majority of AARP members who own their own business (91%) employ under 20 employees.

For additional information on **Work** please visit [AARP.ORG](http://AARP.ORG).

The following reports provide additional research and information on **Work**:

[Staying Ahead of the Curve 2007: The AARP Work and Career Study](#)

[Understanding the Impact of Family Caregiving and Work](#)

[What are older workers seeking? And AARP/SHRM Survey of Older Workers \(2012\)](#)

[Boomers Envision What's Next](#)



# Methodology

AARP's Member Opinion Survey is the largest single survey of members conducted by AARP. In 2012, AARP contacted a stratified random sample of 140,000 members, inviting them to participate in this survey. The survey was dual mode, conducted via mail and web, and was available in Spanish. A total of 38,155 members completed and returned their surveys for an overall response rate of 27.3 percent (margin of error  $\pm 1\%$ ). The data has been weighted to approximate the AARP membership. For a full description of the methodology as well as additional findings, please visit: [www.aarp.org/memberopinions](http://www.aarp.org/memberopinions).

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, with a membership of more than 37 million, that helps people 50+ have independence, choice and control in ways that are beneficial to them and society as a whole. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to either political campaigns or candidates. We produce AARP The Magazine, the definitive voice for Americans 50+ and the world's largest-circulation magazine; AARP Bulletin, the go-to news source for the 50+ audience; AARP VIVA, a bilingual lifestyle multimedia platform addressing the interests and needs of Hispanic Americans; and national television and radio programming including My Generation and Inside E Street. 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](http://www.aarp.org)



Research & Strategic Analysis

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