VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact Hawai‘i Adults Age 45 and Older, October 2021
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction to Vital Voices Surveys 3
Health Questions 4
Wealth Questions 11
Self Questions 19
Methodology 30
About AARP 32
Contact 33
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.
Survey Results for Hawai'i-Health Questions

Issues That Impact Hawai'i Adults Age 45 and Older
Hawai'i residents age 45+ think many healthcare issues are important, with staying mentally sharp topping the list.

Important Healthcare Issues

- Staying mentally sharp: 94%
- Staying physically healthy: 93%
- Having adequate health insurance coverage: 92%
- Having Medicare benefits available to you in the future: 88%
- Paying for health care expenses: 81%
- Paying for prescription drugs: 74%

Note: For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=704)
CARE1. Are you currently providing unpaid help to a relative or friend 18 years or older to help them take care of themselves? (n=704)

Nearly one-third (32%) of Hawai‘i residents age 45+ are currently providing unpaid help to an adult relative or friend.
About four in ten (42%) Hawai‘i residents age 45+ who are not currently unpaid caregivers have provided this type of care in the past.
LONG-TERM CARE

Four in ten (40%) Hawai'i residents age 45+ would prefer a combination of family and paid help at home if they needed long-term care.

Preferred Long-Term Care Arrangement

- A combination of family and paid help providing care in your residence: 40%
- Having a nurse or a personal care aide who provides care in your residence: 21%
- Having family and/or friends who provide all the care in your residence: 16%
- Care provided in a residential setting, such as an assisted living facility that includes meals and personal care: 13%
- Care provided in a nursing home: 3%

HBCS1. If you had a chronic illness or disability (in the future/as an older adult) and needed long-term care for help with regular daily activities, or help with medical nursing tasks, which of the following living arrangements would you prefer? (n=704)
Chart does not equal one-hundred percent due to removal of small cells; see annotation for all categories.
COVID-19

As of October 2021, the majority (86%) of Hawai’i residents age 45+ had gotten the COVID-19 vaccine (or plan to get it (3%)).

COVID-19 Vaccination Status (as of October 2021)

- Yes (already got) 86%
- Yes (plan to) 3%
- No 3%
- Don’t know/ refused 7%
- Don’t know/ refused 3%
As of October 2021, eight in ten (80%) Hawai‘i residents age 45+ who had gotten the COVID-19 vaccine also plan to get the booster when it is available.
Survey Results for Hawai‘i-Wealth Questions

Issues That Impact Hawai‘i Adults
Age 45 and Older
Hawai’i residents age 45+ find many economic issues important, particularly those related to financial security and retirement savings.

**Important Economic Issues**

- Having financial security throughout your life: 93%
- Having enough income or savings to retire: 91%
- Being able to afford groceries or other household necessities: 91%
- Having adequate Social Security benefits: 87%
- Having affordable utilities: 82%
- Protecting yourself against unfair financial practices: 81%
- Protecting yourself against consumer fraud: 80%
- Having online security: 70%
- Being able to stop working for pay at the age you want: 69%
- Having a way to save for retirement through the workplace: 66%
- Protection from age discrimination: 65%
- Having good employment opportunities in your community: 65%
- Having access to high-speed Internet: 55%
- Maintaining relevant job skills and experience: 54%

I1. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=704)
PENSION TAX

About three-quarters (74%) of Hawai‘i residents age 45+ strongly or somewhat oppose taxing pensions to address the state budget deficit.

Support for Taxing Pensions to Increase State Budget

- 74%
- 8%
- 10%
- 7%

Strongly support/ somewhat support
Neither support nor oppose
Strongly oppose/ somewhat oppose
Don't know/ refused

TAX6_HI. Many states in the U.S. are currently facing budget deficits. Some have suggested that Hawai‘i could tax pensions to increase the state budget. Do you support or oppose taxing pensions to address the state budget deficit? (n=704)
More than six-in-ten (63%) of Hawai‘i residents age 45+ currently reside in a single-family house.

**Housing**

- A single-family house: 63%
- A condominium: 12%
- An apartment: 11%
- A two-family house or a lot that has two separate living units: 6%
- A townhouse or row house: 5%
- With extended family or multi-generational dwelling: 3%
- Senior housing or an assisted living facility: 1%

**COMM10_2.** Which of the following types of homes best describes where you currently live? (n=704)

Chart does not equal one-hundred percent due to removal of small cells; see annotation for all categories.
Nearly three-quarters (72%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ own their residence.
More than half (54%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ who reside in a condominium have lived there for 20+ years.

**Years Residing in Condominium**

- Yes: 46%
- No: 54%

**CONDO1.** Have you lived in your condo for 20 years or more? (n=66)
Almost half (47%) of Hawai‘i residents age 45+ who live in a condo reported that their housing maintenance fees have increased at approximately 5% per year.

**Housing Maintenance Fees**

- Increased at approximately 5% per year: 47%
- Increased more than 5% in the last 20 years: 25%
- Remained the same: 12%
- Become more than you can afford: 5%
- Caused you to consider moving: 3%
- None of these: 9%
- Don’t know: 4%

*CONDO2. Have your maintenance fees...? (n=66)*
In the past year, 14% of Hawai‘i residents age 45+ stopped saving for retirement because they were struggling to pay their rent or mortgage.

Actions Taken as a Result of Struggling to Pay Rent or a Mortgage

- Stop saving for retirement: 14%
- Accumulate credit card debt: 13%
- Cut back on healthy, nutritious food: 13%
- Moved or thinking about moving to the mainland: 9%
- Take on an additional job or work more at your current job: 9%
- Cut back on health care: 5%
- Move to a neighborhood that you feel is less safe: 3%
- Move to a place where the schools are not as good: 1%
- None of these: 65%
- Don't know/ refused: 1%

HOME-3. Which of the following actions, if any, have you personally had to do in the past year because you were struggling to be able to pay your rent or mortgage? (=704)
Survey Results for Hawai‘i-Self Questions

Issues That Impact Hawai‘i Adults Age 45 and Older
ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Aging in place is extremely or very important to a majority (83%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+.

Important Independent Living Issues

- Staying in your own home as you get older: 83%
- Caring for a loved one: 83%
- Getting to the places you need to go independently: 80%
- Having affordable long-term care options in your community: 75%
- Having paid time off to care for yourself or a seriously ill family member: 64%

11. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent 'extremely important' or 'very important') (n=704)
Nearly two-thirds (65%) of Hawai‘i residents age 45+ are extremely or very concerned about being able to age in place.

**Long-Term Care Concerns**

- Staying in your own home as you get older: 65%
- Having long-term care or home health services available: 62%
- Providing support, help, or caregiving for a loved one: 58%
- Paying for long-term care such as nursing home or home health services: 56%
- Continuing to drive or get around as you get older: 53%
- Feeling isolated or lonely: 30%

GLTC1. How concerned are you about the following? (Percent ‘extremely concerned’ or ‘very concerned’) (n=704)
A majority (83%) of Hawai‘i residents age 45+ have high-speed Internet at home.
There are a variety of reasons Hawai'i residents age 45+ do not have high-speed Internet at home.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You don't need it</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You don't want it</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You don't feel comfortable using it</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>It is not available where you live</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Among Hawai'i residents age 45+ with high-speed Internet at home, nearly one-third (31%) feel it is not affordable.
Half (51%) of Hawai‘i residents age 45+ who do not have high-speed Internet at home have somewhere they can go in their community to access high-speed Internet easily, affordably, and privately.
TECH6. Thinking about all of the places where the Internet is available to you, even if you haven’t actually used the Internet at these places—in which of the following places is access to the Internet available to you? (n=51)

Hawai’i residents who do not have high-speed internet at home age 45+ reported that Internet access is available to them in a variety of places.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Places Where Internet is Available</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library or school</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee shop or business other than your workplace</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community center or senior center</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place of worship</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At home</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At work</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhere else</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of these</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

None of these: 4%

Somewhere else: 7%

At work: 16%

At home: 17%

Place of worship: 18%

Community center or senior center: 33%

Coffee shop or business other than your workplace: 36%

Library or school: 78%
TECH5. Which of the following do you currently use to connect to the Internet for things such as surfing the Internet, using email, using apps, etc.? (n=704)

Over two-thirds (70%) of Hawai‘i residents age 45+ use their mobile phone or smartphone to connect to the Internet.

Devices Used to Connect to the Internet

- Mobile phone or smartphone such as Android, iPhone, Windows, or Blackberry: 70%
- Laptop computer, including notebooks and netbooks such as Chromebook: 54%
- TV or Smart TV, such as watching YouTube on your TV or streaming through services like Netflix: 43%
- Tablet, such as iPad, Amazon Fire, or Google Nexus: 43%
- Desktop computer: 41%
- Other type of device: 2%
- None of the above/ does not apply: 9%
About one-third (32%) of Hawai‘i residents age 45+ have used a voice assistant like Siri or Amazon Alexa when accessing the Internet.
In the past 12 months, Hawai’i residents age 45+ turned to a variety of sources when they needed help using the Internet.

**Sources of Internet Help**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child/ grandchild</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online search</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service provider/ manufacturer</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other family member</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coworker</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbor</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public library</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhere else</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does not apply or haven’t needed help</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know/ refused</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*TECH10. In the past 12 months, when you needed help with using the Internet, where or to whom did you turn for answers? (n=704)*
METHODOLOGY

In September 2021, AARP engaged ANR Market Research Consultants to conduct a quantitative research study among Hawai‘i residents age 45 and older. Topics included healthcare, the economy, financial issues, independent living, long-term care, caregiving, retirement issues, and opinions of AARP.

704 Interviews
Hawai‘i Adults Age 45+
Fielded in September-October 2021

ANR completed a total of 704 interviews (346 via landline telephone, 186 via cell phone, and 172 online). Respondents were screened to meet the following criteria:

• Age 45+
• Resident of Hawai‘i

Survey length averaged 19.8 minutes by telephone and 17.3 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 Hawai‘i residents age 45 and older, purchased from Aristotle, and online sample provided by Fulcrum. A total of 40,896 records were utilized. The list of 603,529 Hawai‘i residents age 45 and older was randomly divided into 604 replicates of 1,000 records for telephone dialing. Initially, 20 replicates were released for calling, with additional replicates being opened as necessary. In all, 41 replicates representing a total of 40,109 records were dialed to complete the telephone portion of this study.

The sample of 704 respondents yields a maximum statistical error of ±3.7% 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 ±3.7 percentage points of the results obtained had everyone in the population been interviewed.)

Interview Methodology

The survey was launched on September 16, 2021 and closed on October 5, 2021, offered in English and Tagalog.

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, gender, and race/ethnicity 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.
CONTACT

Aisha Bonner Cozad, ABonner@aarp.org

For media inquiries, please contact media@aarp.org.

This research was designed and executed by AARP Research.