# VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact Oklahoma Adults Age 45 and Older, October 2021

## Issues of Importance to Oklahoma Adults Age 45+

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Care</th>
<th>Economic/Financial</th>
<th>Independent Living/Long-Term Care</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staying mentally sharp</td>
<td>Adequate Social Security benefits</td>
<td>Staying in your own home as you get older</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate health insurance coverage</td>
<td>Having enough income or savings to retire</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staying physically healthy</td>
<td>Protection against consumer fraud</td>
<td>Caring for a loved one</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare benefits available in the future</td>
<td>Protection against unfair financial practices</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paying for health care expenses</td>
<td>Being able to stop working at the age you want</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paying for prescription drugs</td>
<td>Having a way to save for retirement through the workplace</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<td>Adequate Social Security benefits</td>
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<td>Having enough income or savings to retire</td>
<td>Caring for a loved one</td>
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<td>Protection against consumer fraud</td>
<td>Getting to the places you need to go independently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection against unfair financial practices</td>
<td>High quality long-term care in your community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Being able to stop working at the age you want</td>
<td>Improvements to state long-term care services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having a way to save for retirement through the workplace</td>
<td>Alternatives to nursing home care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally.*

% “extremely important” or “very important”
Interviews were conducted with 706 residents of Oklahoma by landline (50%), cell phone (25%), and online (25%) between October 6, 2021 and October 20, 2021.

Age
- 45 to 49: 13%
- 50 to 64: 43%
- 65+: 44%

Education
- Some college or less: 64%
- 4-year college degree: 19%
- Post-graduate study or degree: 17%

Employment
- Full-time: 30%
- Part-time: 8%
- Retired: 49%

Gender
- Female: 54%
- Male: 45%

Race/Ethnicity
- White/ Caucasian: 77%
- American Indian/ Alaska Native: 11%
- African American/ Black: 6%
- Other: 6%

Political Views
- Conservative: 41%
- Moderate: 35%
- Liberal: 14%

Marital Status
- Married/ living with partner: 58%
- Divorced/ separated: 17%
- Widowed: 14%
- Never married: 11%

Annual Household Income
- Less than $50,000: 47%
- $50,000 to less than $100,000: 28%
- $100,000+: 13%

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