# VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact U.S. Adults Age 45 and Older, September 2021

## Issues of Importance to U.S. 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>Getting to the places you need to go independently</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staying physically healthy</td>
<td>Having enough income or savings to retire</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate health insurance coverage</td>
<td>Adequate Social Security benefits</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicare benefits available in the future</td>
<td>Protection against consumer fraud</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paying for health care expenses</td>
<td>Protection against unfair financial practices</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paying for prescription drugs</td>
<td>Being able to manage debt</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

0% 50% 100%

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

% “extremely important” or “very important”
Interviews were conducted with 800 U.S. residents by landline (50%), cell phone (25%), and online (25%) between August 30, 2021 and September 8, 2021.

**Age**
- 45 to 49: 13%
- 50 to 64: 49%
- 65+: 38%

**Education**
- Some college or less: 58%
- 4-year college degree: 21%
- Post-graduate study or degree: 21%

**Employment**
- Full-time: 30%
- Part-time: 9%
- Retired: 43%

**Gender**
- Female: 52%
- Male: 47%

**Race/Ethnicity**
- White/ Caucasian: 68%
- Hispanic/ Latino: 12%
- Black/ African American: 11%
- Other: 9%

**Political Views**
- Conservative: 35%
- Moderate: 35%
- Liberal: 23%

**Marital Status**
- Married/ living with partner: 54%
- Divorced/ separated: 18%
- Widowed: 10%
- Never married: 14%

**Annual Household Income**
- Less than $50,000: 44%
- $50,000 to less than $100,000: 29%
- $100,000+: 19%