A Survey on Issues that Impact Montana Adults Age 45 and Older

TAXATION ON SOCIAL SECURITY INCOME

Montana is one of only 12 states that still taxes Social Security income

Three in four (77%) find it extremely or very important that Montana legislators work to offer a state income tax exemption or reduction in the tax rates for Social Security income

Two in five (41%) would support a state income tax exemption or reduction even if it meant cutting senior or other state services

Democrat 32%
Republican 52%
Libertarian 47%

PROPERTY TAXES

Montana adults age 45+ want property tax relief¹

70% Registered voters age 45+ in Montana support property tax circuit breakers

68% Believe it is extremely or very important that Montana state legislators work to offer significant property tax relief in the next legislative session

64% Are concerned about being able to afford property taxes over the next 5 years

48% Spend over $2,000 on property taxes each year

¹ % “extremely concerned,” “very concerned,” or “somewhat concerned”

INDEPENDENT LIVING AND LONG-TERM CARE

Independent living and long-term care is a priority issue, with the following being important² to Montana adults age 45+:

85% Staying in your own home as you get older
84% Getting to places you need to go independently
83% Being able to afford the costs of owning and maintaining your home
76% Having high quality long-term care in your community

72% Having affordable housing options in your community
70% Staying in your community as you get older
67% Having flexibility in your schedule to care for a loved one

² “For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally.” % “extremely important” or “very important”
Vital Voices: Issues That Impact Montana Adults Age 45+, July 2022

Respondent Profile

**Age**
- 45 to 49: 9%
- 50 to 64: 46%
- 65+: 44%

**Education**
- Some college or less: 60%
- 4-year college degree: 22%
- Post-graduate study or degree: 18%

**Gender**
- Female: 51%
- Male: 49%

**Caregiver Status**
- Current: 17%
- Past: 47%

**Political Views**
- Conservative: 44%
- Moderate: 32%
- Liberal: 18%

**Political Party**
- Republican: 39%
- Democrat: 27%
- Independent: 16%
- Libertarian: 4%

**Employment**
- Full-time: 33%
- Part-time: 10%
- Retired: 47%

**Annual Household Income**
- Less than $50,000: 47%
- $50,000 to less than $100,000: 29%
- $100,000+: 17%

**Race/Ethnicity**
- White/Caucasian: 94%
- American Indian/Alaska Native: 3%
- Hispanic/Latino: 2%
- Black/African American: 1%
- Other: 2%

**Marital Status**
- Married/living with partner: 59%
- Divorced/separated: 18%
- Widowed: 12%
- Never married: 10%

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