Issues That Impact California’s Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) Adults Age 45 and Older, November 2021
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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 California-Health Questions

Issues That Impact California’s AAPI Adults Age 45 and Older
ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

California’s AAPI residents age 45+ think many healthcare issues are important, with staying physically healthy topping the list.

Important Healthcare Issues

- Staying physically healthy: 94%
- Having adequate health insurance coverage: 93%
- Staying mentally sharp: 92%
- Having Medicare benefits available to you in the future: 89%
- Paying for health care expenses: 86%
- Paying for prescription drugs: 74%
- Being able to access health care providers remotely by computer or phone: 63%

I1. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent 'extremely important' or 'very important') (n=402)
California’s AAPI residents age 45+ feel it is very important to have help navigating a variety of life experiences as they age, particularly those related to health changes (74%).

### Importance of Help Navigating Life Transitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>Importance (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health changes</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolling in Medicare and Social Security</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in finances</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caregiving for an adult loved one</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social challenges like age, gender, or race discrimination</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of life planning</td>
<td>53%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Changes in family structure, including additions and losses</td>
<td>47%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Changes in driving or using new transportation options</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing changes, such as moving to a new home or making renovations</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making new friends and social connections</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment changes, such as starting a new job or business</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LET1.** For each of the following life experiences, how important do you think it would be to have help navigating each, if you were to experience it? (Percent 'very important') (n=402)
The vast majority (94%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ have already gotten the COVID-19 vaccine (or plan to get it).
Are you currently providing unpaid help to a relative or friend 18 years or older to help them take care of themselves? (n=402)

About one-quarter (27%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ are currently providing unpaid help to an adult relative or friend.

CARE1
Three in ten (29%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ who are not currently unpaid caregivers have provided this type of care in the past.
**TELEHEALTH**

Half (50%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ would be extremely or very interested in using telehealth services for themselves or a loved one.

**Interest in Telehealth for Self or Loved One**

- 50% Extremely interested/ very interested
- 29% Somewhat interested
- 20% Not very interested/ not at all interested
- 0% Don’t know/ refused

**HEAL5.** How interested are you in using tele-health services for yourself or a loved one if needed? (n=402)
Survey Results for California-Livable Community Questions

Issues That Impact California’s AAPI Adults Age 45 and Older
Independent living is extremely or very important to a majority of California’s AAPI residents age 45+.

### Important Independent Living Issues

- Getting to the places you need to go independently: 87%
- Staying in your own home as you get older: 85%
- Caring for a loved one: 84%
- Having high quality long-term care in your community: 77%

11. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=402)
LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

Safe sidewalks and streets are extremely or very important to nearly three-quarters (73%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+.

Important Livable Community Features

- Safe, walkable sidewalks, and safe, bikeable streets: 73%
- Access to outdoor parks and recreation: 59%
- Public transportation: 45%

11. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=402)
About half of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ agree a variety of factors could impact their ability to remain in their home as they age.

Factors That May Impact the Ability to Age in Place

- Being able to make the necessary repairs and modifications to your home so you can continue to live there safely: 54%
- Being close to goods and services: 54%
- Increasing maintenance costs: 49%
- Heating and cooling costs: 46%

HOME-1. How much do you think each of the following would impact your ability to remain in your home as you age? (Percent ‘a lot’) (n=402)
Three-quarters (77%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ reside in a single family home.

Current Residence

- A single family home: 77%
- An apartment or condominium: 19%
- Housing for older adults: 2%
- Some other type of living arrangement: 2%
- Don't know/ refused: 2%
Nearly three-quarters (74%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ are homeowners.

- Rent
- Own (or being bought by you or someone in your household)
- Neither own nor rent but live with an adult child or others
- Other
- Don't know/ refused
Nearly one-third (31%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ have moved in the past 5 years due to price changes in the housing market (or know someone else who has).
MIGRATION

About a quarter (26%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ have considered moving from the state in the past year.

Considered Moving from California in the Past Year

- **Yes**: 26%
- **No**: 74%

MIG-1. In the past year, have you personally considered moving from California? (n=402)
The top reasons for AAPI residents age 45+ considering moving from California involve cost (lower cost of living, lower housing costs, and lower taxes).

**Reasons for Considering Moving from California**

- Lower overall cost of living: 97%
- Lower housing costs: 92%
- Lower taxes: 86%
- A safer community or lower crime rate: 66%
- Natural disasters: 41%
- Climate concerns: 39%
- Better job opportunities: 33%
- To be with or live closer to other family members: 30%
- Other: 19%

*MIG-2. What are your reasons for considering moving from California? (Percent ‘yes) (n=106)*
California’s AAPI residents age 45+ have been impacted by a variety of climate conditions in the past year, including bad air quality (63%).

QCA2. Which of the following climate change impacts have affected you, your family, or your friends living in California, during the past year? (Percent ‘yes’) (n=402)
QCA3. Do you or a family member have a health condition that is made worse due to extreme weather, like hotter days or bad air quality? (n=402)

CLIMATE CHANGE

About one-third (32%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ have a health condition that is made worse due to extreme weather (or have a family member who does).

Health Condition Made Worse by Extreme Weather
Two-thirds (67%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ are extremely or very concerned about the changing climate in California.

**QCA1.** How concerned are you about the changing climate in California, specifically the extreme heat and drought, affecting your life today, as well as the lives of future generations? (n=402)
Over half (54%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ are extremely or very concerned about being impacted by natural disasters.

Concern about Being Impacted by Natural Disasters

- Extremely concerned: 35%
- Very concerned: 32%
- Somewhat concerned: 8%
- Not very concerned: 3%
- Not at all concerned: 3%
One-quarter (25%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ reported having seen or experienced racism very often or often.

FP16. Discrimination can take a variety of forms in society. How often do you personally see or experience the following types of discrimination? (Percent ‘very often’ or ‘often’) (n=402)
Survey Results for California Wealth Questions

Issues That Impact California’s AAPI Adults Age 45 and Older
California’s AAPI residents age 45+ find many economic issues important, particularly those related to retirement and financial security.

Important Economic Issues

- Having enough income or savings to retire: 94%
- Having financial security throughout your life: 93%
- Being able to afford groceries or other household necessities: 88%
- Having adequate Social Security benefits: 88%
- Protecting yourself against unfair financial practices: 85%
- Having affordable utilities: 84%
- Protecting yourself against consumer fraud: 84%
- Being able to stop working for pay at the age you want: 80%
- Having online security: 77%
- Protection from age discrimination: 71%
- Maintaining relevant job skills and experience: 60%
- Having good employment opportunities in your community: 59%

**Note:** For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=402)
An increase in utility bills would be a major problem for one-third (33%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+.

- Major problem: 23%
- Minor problem: 33%
- Not a problem: 41%
- Don't know/ refused: 27%

**GUTIL1.** Thinking about your monthly costs for household utilities including heating, cooling, electricity, and natural gas, would an increase in your utility bill be a major problem, minor problem, or not a problem for you? (n=402)
Only 15% of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ feel that they understand their utility rates and fees very well.

**Understanding of Utility Rates and Fees**

- Very well: 55%
- Somewhat well: 27%
- Not well at all: 15%
- Not applicable: 0%

**CAUT-1.** How well do you understand the rates and fees you are being charged for your utilities? (n=402)
Half (50%) of California’s AAPI residents age 45+ do not believe state elected officials are doing enough to keep utilities affordable.

Believe State Officials Are Doing Enough to Keep Utilities Affordable

- Yes: 50%
- No: 29%
- Don't know/refused: 21%
METHODOLOGY

In November 2021, AARP engaged ANR Market Research Consultants to conduct a quantitative research study among Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) residents of California age 45 and older. Topics included healthcare, the economy, financial issues, independent living, long-term care, caregiving, and retirement issues.

402 Interviews
AAPI Adults Age 45+
Fielded in November 2021

ANR completed a total of 402 interviews (54 via landline telephone, 31 via cell phone, and 317 online). Respondents were screened to meet the following criteria:

- Age 45+
- AAPI resident of California

Survey length averaged 24.2 minutes by telephone and 21.0 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 California residents age 45 and older, purchased from Aristotle, and online sample provided by Fulcrum. A total of 69,355 records were utilized to achieve a statewide sample of 1,000 California residents age 45 and older and additional responses from at least 400 Asian American/Pacific Islander and 400 Hispanic/Latino residents age 45 and older.

The list of 15,708,017 California residents age 45 and older was randomly divided into 15,709 replicates of 1,000 records for telephone dialing. Initially, 20 replicates were released for calling, with additional replicates being opened as necessary. In all, 61 replicates representing a total of 60,408 records were dialed to complete the telephone portion of this study.

The sample of 402 AAPI respondents yields a maximum statistical error of ±4.9% 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 ±4.9 percentage points of the results obtained had everyone in the population been interviewed.)

**Interview Methodology**

The survey was launched on November 10, 2021 and closed on November 29, 2021, offered in English, Spanish, and Mandarin.

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 and gender according to 2019 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey (CPS) statistics.
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.
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This research was designed and executed by AARP Research.