# VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact California Adults Age 45 and Older, November 2021

## Issues of Importance to California 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>Having enough income or savings to retire</td>
<td>Staying in your own home as you get older</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate health insurance coverage</td>
<td>Having financial security throughout your life</td>
<td>Getting to the places you need to go independently</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staying physically healthy</td>
<td>Being able to afford groceries or other household necessities</td>
<td>Caring for a loved one</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medicare benefits available in the future</td>
<td>Adequate Social Security benefits</td>
<td>Having high quality long-term care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paying for health care expenses</td>
<td>Having affordable utilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paying for prescription drugs</td>
<td>Protection against consumer fraud</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

76%  50%  100%  93%  92%  91%  88%  85%  84%  87%  86%  83%  77%

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

% “extremely important” or “very important”
Interviews were conducted with 1,000 residents of California by landline (40%), cell phone (22%), and online (38%) between November 10, 2021 and November 19, 2021.

**Age**
- 45 to 49: 16%
- 50 to 64: 46%
- 65+: 38%

**Education**
- Some college or less: 54%
- 4-year college degree: 24%
- Post-graduate study or degree: 22%

**Employment**
- Full-time: 34%
- Part-time: 11%
- Retired: 40%

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

**Race/Ethnicity**
- White/ Caucasian: 45%
- Hispanic/ Latino: 29%
- Asian: 16%
- Black/ African American: 6%
- Other: 4%

**Political Views**
- Conservative: 29%
- Moderate: 37%
- Liberal: 26%

**Marital Status**
- Married/ living with partner: 56%
- Divorced/ separated: 16%
- Widowed: 9%
- Never married: 18%

**Annual Household Income**
- Less than $50,000: 38%
- $50,000 to less than $100,000: 28%
- $100,000+: 27%

For more information, contact state specific advisor: Kate Bridges, KBridges@aarp.org