VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino Adults Age 45 and Older, June 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 Chicago-Health Questions

Issues That Impact Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino Adults Age 45 and Older
Chicago's Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ think many healthcare issues are important, with having adequate health insurance coverage topping the list.

**Important Healthcare Issues**

- Having adequate health insurance coverage: 95%
- Staying mentally sharp: 94%
- Staying physically healthy: 94%
- Having Medicare benefits available to you in the future: 92%
- Paying for health care expenses, including premiums and co-pays: 87%
- Paying for prescription drugs: 83%

**Notes:** For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=400)
More than four in ten (42%) of Chicago's Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ are currently providing unpaid help to an adult relative or friend.

Percent Providing Unpaid Adult Care

- Yes: 58%
- No: 42%
More than four in ten (42%) of Chicago's Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ who are not currently unpaid caregivers have provided this type of care in the past.
CARE43. How likely is it that you or your family would face serious financial hardship if you had to take up to a few months of unpaid time off from work because of a serious illness or injury, to care for a new child, or to care for a family member with a serious illness or disability? (n=400)

Over half (55%) of Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ feel they would be extremely or very likely to face financial hardship if they needed unpaid time off work to care for a loved one.

Likelihood of Facing Financial Hardship If Unpaid Leave Is Needed

- Extremely likely: 33%
- Very likely: 22%
- Somewhat likely: 18%
- Not very likely: 12%
- Not likely at all: 12%
- Don't know/ refused: 3%

(n=400)
Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ have significant concerns about health and long-term care issues.

Health and Aging Concerns

- Having long-term care or home health services available when needed: 79%
- Staying safe in your own home and community as you get older: 78%
- Providing support, help, or caregiving for a loved one: 73%
- The quality of care in Illinois nursing homes: 72%
- The quality of healthcare services available to you in your community: 72%
- Paying for long-term care such as nursing home or home health services: 70%

GLTC1. How concerned are you about the following? (Percent ‘extremely concerned’ or ‘very concerned’) (n=400)
COVID-19

As of June 2021, four out of five (79%) Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ in Chicago say they have received the COVID-19 vaccine.

Plans To Get The COVID-19 Vaccine (as of June 2021)

- Yes (already got): 78%
- Yes (plan to): 12%
- No: 3%
- Don’t know/ refused: 7%

CVD-11. Have you gotten or do you plan to get the COVID-19 vaccine? (n=400)
Sixty-two percent of Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ who are not getting the COVID-19 vaccine (or are undecided) said they are worried about side effects.

**Reasons for Not Getting the COVID-19 Vaccine**

- Worried about side effects: 62%
- Don’t think it has been tested enough: 55%
- Want to wait and see how it goes for other people: 54%
- Don’t trust the drug companies that make the vaccine: 54%
- The risks of taking a new vaccine outweigh any benefits: 53%
- Do not trust the government: 42%
- Do not think the vaccination will work to protect from infection: 25%
- Healthy and don’t need a COVID-19 vaccine: 23%
- Keeping away from health care sites to avoid COVID-19: 12%
- Do not think you will get that sick if you get COVID-19: 10%
- Already had COVID-19, so you can’t get it again: 8%
- Concerned about the cost of the vaccine: 5%
- Other (specify): 2%

*CVD-12. What are some reasons why you [do not plan to/are unsure if you will] get the COVID-19 vaccine? (Percent ‘yes’) (n=55)*
Survey Results for Chicago-Wealth Questions

Issues That Impact Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino Adults Age 45 and Older
Chicago's Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ find many economic issues important, particularly those related to retirement.

**Important Economic Issues**

- Having enough income or savings to retire: 98%
- Having adequate Social Security benefits: 91%
- Being able to stop working for pay at the age you want: 90%
- Protecting yourself against unfair financial practices: 90%
- Protecting yourself against consumer fraud: 89%
- Having affordable utilities: 87%
- Protection from age discrimination: 79%
- Having online security: 76%
- Having good employment opportunities in your community: 73%
- Having access to affordable high-speed Internet: 69%
- Maintaining relevant job skills and experience: 69%

**Notes:** For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=400)
RETIREMENT ISSUES

Over three-quarters (77%) of Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ are very or somewhat anxious about having enough money to live comfortably throughout retirement.

Anxiety About Finances For Retirement

- Very anxious (40%)
- Somewhat anxious (37%)
- Not very anxious (13%)
- Not anxious at all (9%)

RET4. As you think about your finances in the future, how anxious do you feel about having enough money to live comfortably through your retirement years? (n=400)
Nearly one-quarter (23%) of Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino workers age 45+ works for an employer that does not provide a way to save for retirement.
Survey Results for Chicago-Livable Community Questions

Issues That Impact Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino Adults Age 45 and Older
Three out of five (59%) Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ in Chicago own their home.
ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Being able to live independently is extremely or very important to a majority of Chicago's Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+.

Important Independent Living Issues

- Getting to the places you need to go independently: 90%
- Caring for a loved one: 89%
- Having enough services so people who want to can be cared for in their homes as they age: 87%
- Staying in your own home as you get older: 86%
- Having high quality long-term care in your community: 84%
- Having flexibility in your schedule to care for a loved one: 82%
- Having alternatives to nursing home care: 77%
- Having paid time off to care for yourself or a seriously ill family member: 77%
- Having ways to be connected to your community and socialize as you age, both in-person and online: 68%

11. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent ‘extremely important’ or ‘very important’) (n=400)
Among Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+, seven in ten (70%) are extremely or very concerned about having streets that are safe and easy for all pedestrians to use.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livable Community Concerns</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Having streets that are safe and easy for all pedestrians to use</td>
<td>70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Being able to afford to remain in your home as you age</td>
<td>62%</td>
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<td>Being able to find affordable housing if you needed to downsize or move to another community</td>
<td>60%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Being able to afford modifications to your home so that it is easier to live in as you age</td>
<td>57%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Having access to transportation near your home if you are unable or prefer not to drive</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Being able to get around your community</td>
<td>55%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Being able to afford groceries or household necessities</td>
<td>54%</td>
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Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ cite a variety of factors that would impact their ability to remain in their home as they age, with increasing rent and property taxes being the top factors threatening their ability to age in place.

**Factors Impacting Ability to Age in Place**

- Increasing rent (if renting): 72%
- Increasing property taxes (if own): 70%
- Safety in your neighborhood: 68%
- Safety in your home: 62%
- Heating and cooling costs: 61%
- Increasing maintenance costs: 58%
- Being close to goods and services: 57%
- Being able to make the necessary repairs and modifications to your home so you can continue to live there safely: 54%

**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=400)
MIGRATION

Half (50%) of Chicago's Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ have considered leaving Illinois in the past year.

Considered Leaving Illinois in the Past Year
(as of June 2021)

50% Yes
50% No

MIG-1. In the past year, have you personally considered leaving Illinois? (n=400)
Chicago's Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ who have considered leaving the state in the past year cite a variety of reasons for doing so, but wanting lower overall cost of living (92%) and lower taxes (89%) are the reasons most often given.

### Reasons for Considering Leaving Illinois

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lower overall cost of living</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower taxes</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower housing costs</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A safer community or lower crime rate</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better climate</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To live in someplace with a better managed state government</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be in a home that is safer for older adults</td>
<td>57%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Better job opportunities</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Better access to health care</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<tr>
<td>More financial assistance</td>
<td>42%</td>
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<tr>
<td>To be with or live closer to other family members</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4%</td>
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HOME-2. Are you in danger of losing your home due to an eviction or foreclosure brought about by financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic? (n=400)

Eight percent (8%) of Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ feel they are in danger of eviction or foreclosure brought about by financial hardship during the pandemic.
Three in five (60%) Hispanic/Latino homeowners age 45+ in Chicago would consider creating an ADU within their home or property if they had the space available to do so.

ADU-2. An Accessory Dwelling Unit, or ADU, is a residential unit built on the same lot as an existing single-family home. It is commonly referred to as a "granny flat" or "in-law quarters." ADUs provide complete separate living quarters, including a kitchen and bathroom, that can allow older adults to age in their existing home with live-in care, make it possible for adults to assist their aging parents or other loved ones, or be used for rental income. If you had the space to create an ADU within your home or on your property, would you consider doing that? (n=235)
DISCRIMINATION

Three-quarters (75%) of Chicago's Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ agree that racism is a big problem in society today.

Racism as a Problem in Society Today

- A big problem: 75%
- Somewhat of a problem: 14%
- A small problem: 5%
- Not a problem at all: 4%
- Don't know/refused: 2%

RACE-1. How big a problem would you say racism is in our society today? (n=400)
**DISCRIMINATION**

Sixty percent of Chicago’s Hispanic/Latino residents age 45+ have often personally seen or experienced racism.

**Frequency Seeing or Experiencing Discrimination**

- **Racism**: 60%
- **Ageism or age discrimination against someone older**: 46%
- **Sexism**: 44%

**FP16.** How often do you personally see or experience the following types of discrimination? (Percent ‘very often’ or ‘often’) (n=400)
In May 2021, AARP engaged ANR Market Research Consultants to conduct a quantitative research study among Hispanic/Latino residents of Chicago City age 45 and older. Topics included healthcare, the economy, financial issues, independent living, long-term care, caregiving, and retirement issues.

400 Interviews
Hispanic/Latino Chicago
Adults Age 45+
Fielded in May/June 2021

ANR completed a total of 400 interviews (97 via landline telephone, 269 via cell phone, and 34 online). Respondents were screened to meet the following criteria:

- Age 45+
- Hispanic/Latino resident of Chicago City

Survey length averaged 22.3 minutes by telephone and 20.5 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 Illinois residents age 45 and older, purchased from Aristotle, and online sample provided by Fulcrum. A total of 63,344 records were utilized. The list of 5,270,291 Illinois residents age 45 and older was randomly divided into 5,271 replicates of 1,000 records for telephone dialing. Initially, 20 replicates were released for calling, with additional replicates being opened as necessary. In all, 54 replicates representing a total of 53,141 records were dialed to complete the telephone portion of this study.

The sample of 400 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 May 17, 2021 and closed on June 7, 2021, offered in both English and Spanish.

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.