



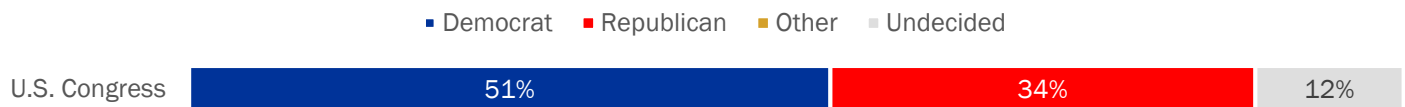
Background

Americans over the age of 50 consistently show up more often to vote compared to younger voters. Given the influence this powerful voting bloc will likely have on the 2018 mid-term elections, AARP surveyed 601 voters age 50 and older in California's 10th Congressional District between September 6-20, 2018, to assess what would be on their minds when they cast their ballots this fall and which candidates they would be backing.ⁱ

Political divisiveness is a top concern with voters age 50+ (45%). About half disapprove of the job performances of Republicans (55%) and Democrats (50%) in Congress, as well as President Trump (53%).

Candidate Support

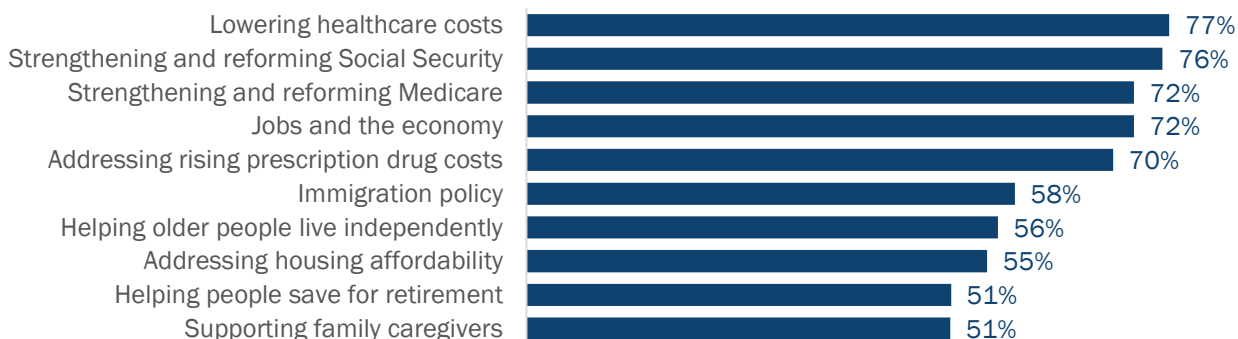
If the election was being held today, which of the following candidates would you vote for?



Party	U.S. Congress
Democrat	Josh Harder
Republican	Jeff Denham

Key Electoral Issues

More than half of voters age 50+ in California CD-10 indicated that candidates' positions on lowering healthcare costs, strengthening and reforming Social Security, strengthening and reforming Medicare, jobs and the economy, addressing rising prescription drug costs, immigration policy, helping older people live independently, and addressing housing affordability were very important to them.



VOTERS AGE 50+ INDICATING VERY IMPORTANT (%)

Economy

78%

Even though many California voters age 50+ in CD-10 (39%) see the U.S. economy getting stronger, eight in ten (**78%**) feel like they are not getting ahead financially.

68% often worry about prices rising faster than their income and **72%** think candidates' positions on jobs and the economy are very important to them.

Health Insurance

90%

90% of voters age 50+ in California CD-10 think Medicare is very important for people's health in retirement, and **84%** agree that Congress should make changes to ensure the program can continue to cover hospital benefits as it does now beyond 2029.

84% think it is unfair to deny coverage or make those with pre-existing conditions pay more for their health care.

79% do not agree with allowing insurance companies to charge older people up to five times more for health insurance.

Housing

77%

77% of voters age 50+ in California CD-10 agree that elected officials should support legislation to increase the availability of affordable housing in California.

67% support building more housing across the state, and the majority of these voters would support building new housing in their communities and neighborhoods.



Retirement Security

83%

83% of voters age 50+ in California CD-10 think that Social Security is very important for financial security in retirement, and **70%** believe the government should do something to strengthen Social Security immediately.

60% of working voters age 50+ are not confident they are saving enough for retirement.

Prescription Drugs

70%

Most California CD-10 voters age 50+ (**70%**) feel that candidates' positions to address rising prescription drug costs are very important to them.

79% think it should be legal to import prescription drugs from Canada and Europe, and **52%** support preventing drug companies from stopping competitors from entering the market with generics.

61% think drug companies have a lot of influence over Members of Congress.

Caregiving

87%

87% of voters age 50+ support providing an income tax credit to family caregivers, regardless of whether they are or have been caregivers.

60% of California CD-10 voters age 50+ currently or have previously provided unpaid care for an adult loved one.



ⁱ Full methodology report and survey instrument at aarp.org/2018StateVoterSurveys

For more information, contact Kate Bridges at kbridges@aarp.org