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 205 Hispanic voters age 50 and older in California’s 48th 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.¹

Political divisiveness is a top concern with Hispanic voters age 50+ (51%). While less than half disapprove of the performance President Trump (48%), more than half disapprove of the job performances of Republicans (59%) and Democrats in Congress (54%).

Candidate Support

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>U.S. Congress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undecided</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key Electoral Issues

More than six in ten Hispanic voters age 50+ in California CD-48 indicated that candidates’ positions on jobs and the economy, lowering healthcare costs, strengthening and reforming Social Security, addressing rising prescription drug costs, and immigration policy were very important to them.
### Economy

**69%**

Seven in ten (69%) Hispanic voters age 50+ in California’s 48th District feel like they are not getting ahead financially. While these voters in CD-48 generally see the U.S. economy as getting stronger (53%), they more often view California’s economy as getting weaker (52%).

69% say they often worry about prices rising faster than their income, and 70% say candidates’ positions on jobs and the economy are very important to them.

### Retirement Security

**79%**

79% of Hispanic voters age 50+ in California CD-48 think that Social Security is very important for financial security in retirement, and 62% believe the government should do something to strengthen Social Security immediately.

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

### Health Insurance

**90%**

90% of Hispanic voters age 50+ in California CD-48 think Medicare is very important for people’s health in retirement, and 82% agree that Congress should make changes to ensure the program can continue to cover hospital benefits as it does now beyond 2029.

66% think it is unfair to deny coverage or make those with pre-existing conditions pay more for their health care.

63% don’t agree with letting insurance companies to charge older people up to five times more for health insurance.

### Prescription Drugs

**63%**

Most California CD-48 Hispanic voters age 50+ (63%) feel that candidates’ positions on addressing rising prescription drug costs are very important to them.

76% think it should be legal to import prescription drugs from Canada and Europe, and 50% support preventing drug companies from stopping competitors from entering the market with generics.

60% believe drug companies have a lot of influence over Members of Congress.

### Housing

**65%**

65% of CD-48 Hispanic voters age 50+ agree that elected officials should support legislation to increase the availability of affordable housing in California.

60% support building more housing across the state, and the majority would support building new housing in their communities and neighborhoods.

### Caregiving

**83%**

83% of California CD-48 voters age 50+ support providing an income tax credit to family caregivers, regardless of whether they are or have been caregivers.

48% of Hispanic voters age 50+ have provided unpaid care for an adult loved one.

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1 Full methodology report and survey instrument at [aarp.org/2018StateVoterSurveys](http://aarp.org/2018StateVoterSurveys) For more information, contact Kate Bridges at kbridges@aarp.org