



## 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 807 voters in Indiana age 50 and older between August 17-28, 2018, to assess what would be on their minds when they cast their ballots this fall and which candidates they would be backing.<sup>i</sup>

Political divisiveness is a top concern with voters age 50+ (48%). Most disapprove of the job performances of both Republicans (53%) and Democrats (65%) in Congress, and 39% disapprove of the job President Trump is doing. While Indiana voters age 50+ generally see the U.S. economy getting stronger (54%), this optimism is not reflected in their own financial security with more than seven in ten feeling like they are not getting ahead.

## Candidate Support

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



Party	U.S. Senate
Democrat	Joe Donnelly
Republican	Mike Braun

## Key Electoral Issues

At least three-quarters of voters age 50+ in Indiana indicated that candidates' positions on strengthening and reforming Social Security, lowering healthcare costs, strengthening and reforming Medicare, and addressing rising prescription drug costs were very important to them.



## Health Insurance

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**93%**

**93%** of voters age 50+ in Indiana think Medicare is very important for people's health in retirement, and **92%** agree that Congress should make changes to ensure the program can continue to cover hospital benefits beyond 2029.

**82%** think it is unfair to deny coverage or make those with pre-existing conditions pay more for their health care, and **83%** do not agree with allowing insurance companies to charge older people up to five times more for health insurance.

**77%** oppose expanding short-term policies that cost less but allow insurance companies to deny coverage to individuals with pre-existing conditions, charge older Americans 5 times more, and limit coverage for prescription drugs and other conditions.

## Caregiving

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**86%**

**86%** of voters age 50+ support providing an income tax credit to family caregivers, regardless of whether they are or have been caregivers.

**80%** support requiring employers to provide some paid leave to all employees that can be used for family caregiving purposes.

**54%** of Indiana voters age 50+ currently or have previously provided unpaid care for an adult loved one.

## Retirement Security

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**87%**

**87%** of voters age 50+ in Indiana think that Social Security is very important for financial security in retirement, and **69%** believe the government should do something to strengthen Social Security immediately.

**57%** of working voters age 50+ are not confident they are saving enough for retirement.

## Prescription Drugs

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**76%**

Most voters age 50+ (**76%**) feel that candidates' positions to address rising prescription drug costs are very important to them, and **64%** think drug companies have a lot of influence over Members of Congress.

**83%** support importation of prescription drugs, and **51%** support preventing drug companies from stopping competitors from entering the market.



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<sup>i</sup> Full methodology report and survey instrument at [aarp.org/2018StateVoterSurveys](https://aarp.org/2018StateVoterSurveys)

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