



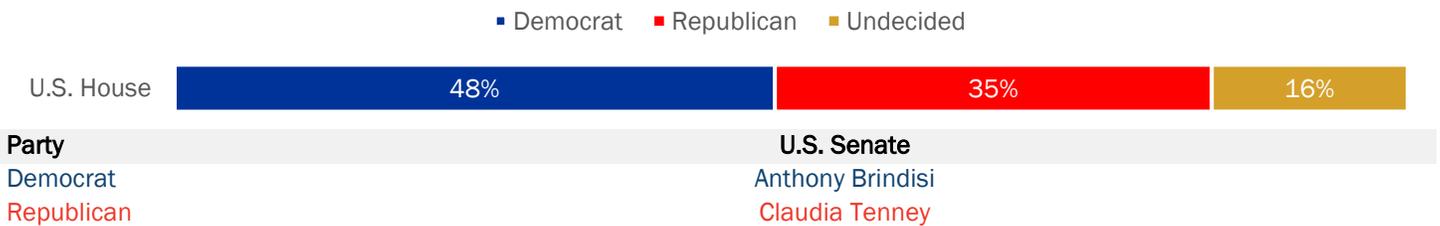
Background

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 610 voters in New York's 22nd Congressional District age 50 and older between September 7-17, 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 New York's CD-22 voters age 50+ (51%). About half disapprove of the job performances of Republicans in Congress (54%), Democrats in Congress (56%), as well as President Trump (49%). While many voters age 50+ (48%) generally see the U.S. economy getting stronger, this optimism is not reflected in their own financial security with three-quarters (77%) feeling like they are not getting ahead.

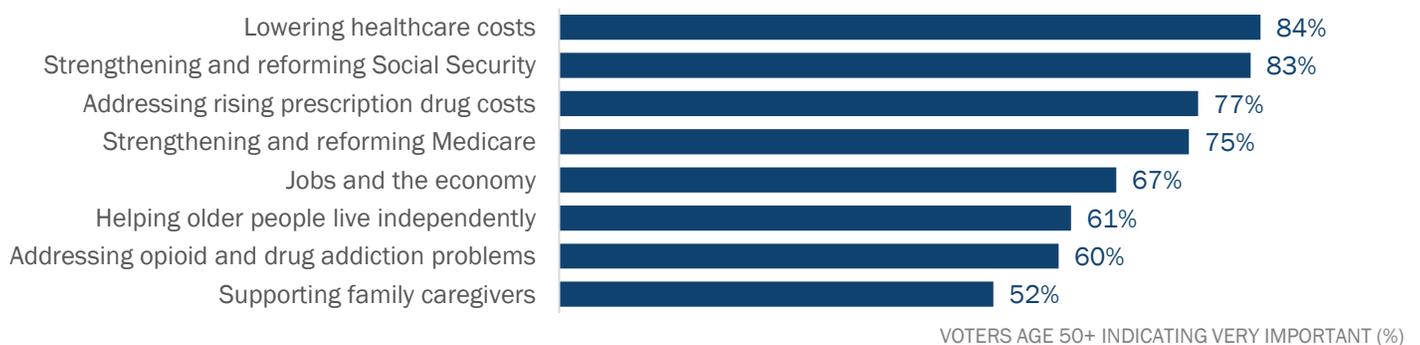
Candidate Support

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



Key Electoral Issues

At least half of voters age 50+ in New York CD-22 indicated that candidates' positions on lowering healthcare costs, strengthening and reforming Social Security, addressing rising prescription drug costs, strengthening and reforming Medicare, jobs and the economy, helping older people live independently, addressing opioid and drug addiction problems, and supporting family caregivers were very important to them.



Health Insurance

93%

93% of voters age 50+ in New York CD-22 think Medicare is very important for people's health in retirement, and **88%** agree that Congress should make changes to ensure the program can continue to cover hospital benefits as it does now beyond 2029.

86% think it is unfair to deny coverage or make those with pre-existing conditions pay more for their health care.

85% do not agree with allowing insurance companies to charge older people up to five times more for health insurance.

Prescription Drugs

77%

Most voters age 50+ (**77%**) feel that candidates' positions to address rising prescription drug costs are very important to them.

78% support importation of prescription drugs, and **58%** support preventing drug companies from stopping competitors from entering the market with generics.

71% are very concerned about heroin and opioid abuse in New York.

67% think drug companies have a lot of influence over Members of Congress.

Retirement Security

88%

88% of voters age 50+ in New York CD-22 think that Social Security is very important for financial security in retirement, and **76%** believe the government should do something to strengthen Social Security immediately.

54% of working voters age 50+ are not confident they are saving enough for retirement, and **86%** say candidates positions' on helping people save for retirement is important to them.

Caregiving

89%

89% of voters age 50+ support providing an income tax credit to family caregivers, regardless of whether they are or have been caregivers.

52% of New York CD-22 voters age 50+ currently or have previously provided unpaid care for an adult loved one.

81% would chose home care over assisted living or nursing home care if an older loved one needed long-term care.



ⁱ Full methodology report and survey instrument at aarp.org/2018StateVoterSurveys
For more information, contact Kate Bridges at kbridges@aarp.org