



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 200 voters age 50 and older in Texas' 7th 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 (54%) with Hispanic voters age 50+ in CD-7. While Hispanic voters age 50+ are equally divided on their approval ratings for Democrats in Congress (42% disapprove/44% approve), they are much more likely to disapprove of the job performances of President Trump (51%) and Republicans in Congress (60%). Although many of these voters see the U.S. economy getting stronger (50%), this optimism is not reflected in their own financial security with about six in ten (62%) 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. Congress |
|------------|-------------------------|
| Democrat | Lizzie Pannill Fletcher |
| Republican | John Culberson |

Key Electoral Issues

At least seven in ten Hispanic voters age 50+ in Texas' CD-7 indicated that candidates' positions on lowering healthcare costs, strengthening and reforming Medicare, strengthening and reforming Social Security, jobs and the economy, and addressing rising prescription drug costs were very important to them.



Health Insurance

85%

85% of voters age 50+ in Texas CD-7 think Medicare is very important for people's health in retirement, and **93%** agree that Congress should make changes to ensure the program can continue to cover hospital benefits as it does now beyond 2029.

75% think it is unfair to deny coverage or make those with pre-existing conditions pay more for their health care.

69% do not agree with allowing insurance companies to charge older people up to five times more for health insurance.

Prescription Drugs

69%

Most voters age 50+ (**69%**) 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 **47%** support preventing drug companies from stopping competitors from entering the market with generics.

65% think drug companies have a lot of influence over Members of Congress.

Retirement Security

75%

75% of Hispanic voters age 50+ in Texas CD-7 think that Social Security is very important for financial security in retirement, and **65%** 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.

Caregiving

87%

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

48% of Texas CD-7 Hispanic voters age 50+ have provided unpaid care for an adult loved one.

83% of Hispanic voters age 50+ would chose home care over assisted living (6%) or nursing home care (5%) if a family member needed long-term care.



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