



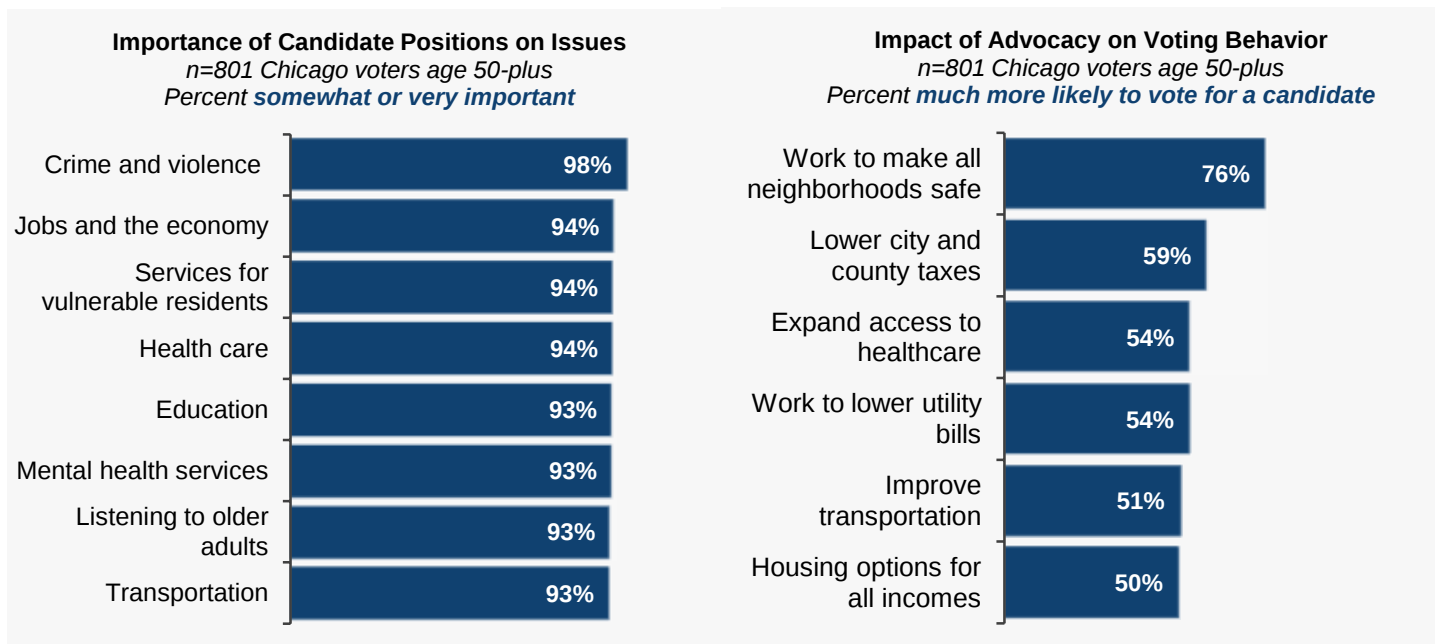
CHICAGO MAYORAL RACE 2023

Insights from Chicago Voters Age 50 and Older

Adults ages 50 and older comprise the largest proportion of the voting population. With this in mind, Chicago's older voters will be coming out in substantial numbers to vote in the 2023 Chicago Mayoral election, with 86% of registered voters 50-plus saying they are 'very likely' to vote. Given the powerful influence of these older voters, AARP Illinois commissioned a survey of 801 registered voters age 50 and older in Chicago to better understand the needs and wants of this group. The survey was designed to assess issues that are critical to Chicago voters as they cast their ballots **and identify the areas that voters want addressed by the city's next leader.**

Addressing crime and violence in the city and the economic pressure many are facing amid inflation are top priorities that Chicago voters age 50-plus want the next mayor to address, with 89% saying addressing crime and violence is 'very important' and 72% saying addressing jobs and the economy is 'very important.' **These are also the issues most likely to influence voting behavior at the ballot.** Three-fourths (74%) of Chicago voters 50-plus think violence in the city of Chicago is increasing, and nearly half (44%) think Chicago's economy is weakening. One-third (35%) say they are struggling to keep up or falling behind financially, and 23% of retirees say they are somewhat or very concerned about having to return to work.

Nearly half (43%) of voters 50-plus considered leaving Chicago in the past year, which is linked to a perceived increase in violence in the city of Chicago and perceptions of a weakening economy.



Chicago voters age 50-plus also want community supports that enable residents to remain in their communities as they age. More than two-thirds of voters 50-plus say it is 'very important' that the next mayor work to bring the community accessible and affordable health and supportive services, accessible and safe parks and public spaces, walkable neighborhoods with better transportation, and affordable housing that supports aging in place.

SURVEY RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

n = 801 registered voters ages 50 and older residing in the city of Chicago

Demographic Variable	Weighted	Unweighted
Age		
50 - 54	18%	15%
55 - 64	34%	34%
65 - 74	26%	26%
75 or older	20%	24%
Gender		
Men	46%	43%
Women	53%	56%
Non-binary	1%	<1%
Race/Ethnicity		
Non-Hispanic white	41%	41%
Non-Hispanic Black or African American	35%	38%
Hispanic	17%	15%
Non-Hispanic Asian/Pacific Islander	2%	1%
Non-Hispanic others	3%	3%
Education		
Less than high school	4%	4%
High school or some college (including Associates degree)	45%	45%
Bachelor's degree	23%	23%
Post graduate work or degree	26%	27%
Employment Status		
Retired and not working	41%	44%
Retired and working at least part-time	6%	7%
Employed full- or part-time	39%	36%
Not employed and looking or not looking for work	13%	13%
Marital Status		
Currently married or living with partner	38%	39%
Currently separated/divorced/widowed/single	61%	60%
Household Income		
\$25,000 or less	21%	21%
\$25,001-\$55,000	22%	22%
\$55,001- \$100,000	22%	21%
\$100,001 or more	19%	19%

METHODOLOGY

In October 2022, AARP engaged ANR Market Research Consultants to conduct a quantitative research study among Chicago, IL registered voters age 50-plus. The telephone survey was conducted using both landline and cell phone sampling, purchased from Aristotle. A total of 34,072 records were utilized to achieve 801 total completed interviews (295 via landline telephone and 506 via cell phone). The list of 634,739 total residents age 50+ was randomly divided into 635 replicates of 1,000 records for telephone dialing. Initially, 20 replicates were released for calling, with additional replicates being opened as necessary. In all, 35 replicates representing a total of 34,072 resident records were dialed to complete this study. All surveys were conducted from November 9, 2022 through November 20, 2022. All data are weighted by AARP membership penetration based on data provided by AARP as well as by age, gender, and race/ethnicity according to 2022 Illinois voter database statistics. The margin of error for this survey is ± 3.5 percent.

For more information on the methodology or the survey, contact Joanne Binette at 202-434-36303 or jbinette@aarp.org. For media inquiries, contact media@aarp.org. You can access this report and other supporting documents at <https://www.aarp.org/chicagovotes>.