VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact
Hawai'i Adults
Age 45 and Older,
October 2021

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INTRODUCTION

There are currently about 117 million Americans who are 50 and older; this number will grow to 157 million by 2050. The 50 and older population is and will continue to be an essential contributor to American society. Understanding the needs and opinions of older Americans is critical to ensuring they live longer and healthier lives.

Vital Voices is a new and exciting program of research undertaken by AARP. Through this research program, we are launching a new initiative that will deliver critical, current, and state-specific data to 53 states on a rolling three-year schedule between 2019 and 2021. We are making this data available to the public to assist with the development of programs, products, and policies for older adults. This data will allow those in leadership positions to:

- Predict the need for a specific program or interest in a particular issue.
- Enhance program and product innovation and development.
- Track issues and attitudes over time to assess shifts in public opinion.
- Take action on critical advocacy issues.

Never before has AARP launched a research program of this size and with this much promise. We give it to you, hoping that it will significantly impact the work you do.

Survey Results for Hawai'i- Health Questions

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Age 45 and Older

ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Hawai'i residents age 45+ think many healthcare issues are important, with staying mentally sharp topping the list.

11. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent 'extremely important' or 'very important') (n=704)

CAREGIVING ISSUES

Nearly one-third (32%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ are currently providing unpaid help to an adult relative or friend.

Percent Providing Unpaid Adult Care

CARE1. Are you currently providing unpaid help to a relative or friend 18 years or older to help them take care of themselves? (n=704)

CARE1_A. Have you ever provided this type of unpaid help in the past? (n=483)

CAREGIVING ISSUES

About four in ten (42%) Hawai'i residents age 45+ who are not currently unpaid caregivers have provided this type of care in the past.

Percent Providing Unpaid Adult Care in The Past

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know

LONG-TERM CARE

Four in ten (40%) Hawai'i residents age 45+ would prefer a combination of family and paid help at home if they needed long-term care.

HBCS1. If you had a chronic illness or disability (in the future/as an older adult) and needed long-term care for help with regular daily activities, or help with medical nursing tasks, which of the following living arrangements would you prefer? (n=704)

Chart does not equal one-hundred percent due to removal of small cells; see annotation for all categories

CVD-11. Have you gotten or do you plan to get the COVID-19 vaccine? (n=704)

COVID-19

As of October 2021, the majority (86%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ had gotten the COVID-19 vaccine (or plan to get it (3%)).

COVID-19 Vaccination Status
(as of October 2021)

■ Yes (already got) ■ Yes (plan to) ■ No ■ Don't know/ refused

CVD-11a. Do you plan to get the booster when available?
(n=608)

COVID-19

As of October 2021, eight in ten (80%) Hawai'i residents age 45+ who had gotten the COVID-19 vaccine also plan to get the booster when it is available.

Getting a COVID-19 Booster When Available

The background image is a scenic view of a tropical coastline. In the foreground, there is a road with a metal guardrail, surrounded by dense, lush green vegetation. The road curves along a steep, forested hillside. In the middle ground, the road leads down to a small bay with turquoise water and white waves crashing against the shore. The background shows more forested hills under a cloudy sky. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic, typical of a tropical island.

Survey Results for Hawai'i- Wealth Questions

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ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Hawai'i residents age 45+ find many economic issues important, particularly those related to financial security and retirement savings.

Important Economic Issues

11. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent 'extremely important' or 'very important') (n=704)

TAX6_HI. Many states in the U.S. are currently facing budget deficits. Some have suggested that Hawai'i could tax pensions to increase the state budget. Do you support or oppose taxing pensions to address the state budget deficit? (n=704)

PENSION TAX

About three-quarters (74%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ strongly or somewhat oppose taxing pensions to address the state budget deficit.

Support for Taxing Pensions to Increase State Budget

- Strongly support/ somewhat support
- Neither support nor oppose
- Strongly oppose/ somewhat oppose
- Don't know/ refused

HOUSING

More than six-in-ten (63%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ currently reside in a single-family house.

COMM10_2. Which of the following types of homes best describes where you currently live? (n=704)
Chart does not equal one-hundred percent due to removal of small cells; see annotation for all categories

LIVCOMM3. Do you own or rent your residence? (n=704)

HOUSING

Nearly three-quarters (72%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ own their residence.

Current Housing Situation

- Own
- Rent
- Do not pay rent or pay less than market value rent
- Homeless/ other

CONDO1. Have you lived in your condo for 20 years or more? (n=66)

HOUSING

More than half (54%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ who reside in a condominium have lived there for 20+ years.

Years Residing in Condominium

HOUSING

Almost half (47%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ who live in a condo reported that their housing maintenance fees have increased at approximately 5% per year.

CONDO2. Have your maintenance fees...? (n=66)

HOUSING

In the past year, 14% of Hawai'i residents age 45+ stopped saving for retirement because they were struggling to pay their rent or mortgage.

Actions Taken as a Result of Struggling to Pay Rent or a Mortgage

HOME-3. Which of the following actions, if any, have you personally had to do in the past year because you were struggling to be able to pay your rent or mortgage? (=704)

Survey Results for Hawai'i- Self Questions

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ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Aging in place is extremely or very important to a majority (83%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+.

Important Independent Living Issues

11. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent 'extremely important' or 'very important') (n=704)

LONG-TERM CARE ISSUES

Nearly two-thirds (65%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ are extremely or very concerned about being able to age in place.

Long-Term Care Concerns

GLTC1. How concerned are you about the following? (Percent 'extremely concerned' or 'very concerned') (n=704)

TECH18. Do you have access to high-speed Internet in your home? (n=704)

BROADBAND

A majority (83%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ have high-speed Internet at home.

High-Speed Internet Access at Home

TECH19. What are the reasons you do not have Internet at home? (n=100)
Small cells have been removed; see annotation for all categories

BROADBAND

There are a variety of reasons Hawai'i residents age 45+ do not have high-speed Internet at home.

Reasons for Not Having Internet at Home

TECH18_1. Do you feel it's affordable? (n=585)

BROADBAND

Among Hawai'i residents age 45+ with high-speed Internet at home, nearly one-third (31%) feel it is not affordable.

High-Speed Internet Affordability

TECH18_3. Do you have somewhere you can go in your community to access high-speed Internet easily, affordably, and privately?
(n=100)

BROADBAND

Half (51%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ who do not have high-speed Internet at home have somewhere they can go in their community to access high-speed Internet easily, affordably, and privately.

Access to High-Speed Internet in the Community

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know/ refused

TECH6. Thinking about all of the places where the Internet is available to you, even if you haven't actually used the Internet at these places— in which of the following places is access to the Internet available to you? (n=51)

TECHNOLOGY

Hawai'i residents who do not have high-speed internet at home age 45+ reported that Internet access is available to them in a variety of places.

Places Where Internet is Available

TECHNOLOGY

Over two-thirds (70%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ use their mobile phone or smartphone to connect to the Internet.

Devices Used to Connect to the Internet

TECH5. Which of the following do you currently use to connect to the Internet for things such as surfing the Internet, using email, using apps, etc.?
(n=704)

TECH5b. Have you ever used a virtual voice assistant like Siri or Amazon Alexa when accessing the internet? (n=704)

TECHNOLOGY

About one-third (32%) of Hawai'i residents age 45+ have used a voice assistant like Siri or Amazon Alexa when accessing the Internet.

Use of Virtual Voice Assistants

TECHNOLOGY

In the past 12 months, Hawai'i residents age 45+ turned to a variety of sources when they needed help using the Internet.

TECH10. In the past 12 months, when you needed help with using the Internet, where or to whom did you turn for answers? (n=704)

METHODOLOGY

In September 2021, AARP engaged ANR Market Research Consultants to conduct a quantitative research study among Hawai'i residents age 45 and older. Topics included healthcare, the economy, financial issues, independent living, long-term care, caregiving, retirement issues, and opinions of AARP.

704 Interviews

Hawai'i Adults Age 45+

Fielded in September-October 2021

ANR completed a total of 704 interviews (346 via landline telephone, 186 via cell phone, and 172 online). Respondents were screened to meet the following criteria:

- Age 45+
- Resident of Hawai'i

Survey length averaged 19.8 minutes by telephone and 17.3 minutes online.

METHODOLOGY

Sampling Procedure

Landline, cell phone, and online sampling were used for this research, with the telephone sample drawn randomly from a list of Hawai'i residents age 45 and older, purchased from Aristotle, and online sample provided by Fulcrum. A total of 40,896 records were utilized. The list of 603,529 Hawai'i residents age 45 and older was randomly divided into 604 replicates of 1,000 records for telephone dialing. Initially, 20 replicates were released for calling, with additional replicates being opened as necessary. In all, 41 replicates representing a total of 40,109 records were dialed to complete the telephone portion of this study.

The sample of 704 respondents yields a maximum statistical error of $\pm 3.7\%$ at the 95% level of confidence. (This means that in 95 out of 100 samples of this size, the results obtained in the sample would be within ± 3.7 percentage points of the results obtained had everyone in the population been interviewed.)

Interview Methodology

The survey was launched on September 16, 2021 and closed on October 5, 2021, offered in English and Tagalog.

Telephone interviewing was active between 5:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., with some additional calling done between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. If necessary, up to 8 call attempts per telephone number were made to reach an eligible respondent. All numbers were called at multiple times of the day as well as days of the week to maximize each resident's opportunity for inclusion in the study.

Percentages of some questions may exceed 100% due to rounding or the use of multiple response question formats.

All data have been weighted by age, gender, and race/ethnicity according to 2019 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey (CPS) statistics.

ABOUT AARP

AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. With nearly 38 million members and offices in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, AARP works to strengthen communities and advocate for what matters most to families with a focus on health security, financial stability and personal fulfillment. AARP also works for individuals in the marketplace by sparking new solutions and allowing carefully chosen, high-quality products and services to carry the AARP name. As a trusted source for news and information, AARP produces the nation's largest circulation publications, AARP The Magazine and AARP Bulletin. To learn more, visit www.aarp.org or follow @AARP and @AARPadvocates on social media.

CONTACT

Aisha Bonner Cozad,
ABonner@aarp.org

For media inquiries, please
contact media@aarp.org.

This research was designed and
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