VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact
South Dakota Adults
Age 45 and Older,
November 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction to Vital Voices Surveys	3
Health Questions	4
Wealth Questions	16
Self Questions	21
Methodology	29
About AARP	31
Contact	32

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 South Dakota- Health Questions

Issues That Impact
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ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

South Dakota residents age 45+ think many healthcare issues are important, with staying mentally sharp topping the list.

I1. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent 'extremely important' or 'very important') (n=702)

CARE1. Are you currently providing unpaid help to a relative or friend 18 years or older to help them take care of themselves? (n=702)

CAREGIVING

Nearly three in ten (29%) South Dakota residents age 45+ are currently providing unpaid help to an adult relative or friend.

Percent Providing Unpaid Adult Care

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know/ refused

CARE1_A. Have you ever provided this type of unpaid help in the past? (n=496)

CAREGIVING

Four in ten (41%) South Dakota 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/ refused

CAREGIVING

More than eight in ten (85%) South Dakota caregivers age 45+ have incurred transportation expenses for their loved one, along with a variety of other costs.

CARE12. As a caregiver (or former caregiver), have you ever incurred any expenses for the following services to help care for your loved one? (Percent 'yes') (n=407)

TEL-4. Have you ever used telehealth services for yourself or a loved one you are caring for? (n=702)

TELEHEALTH

One-third (34%) of South Dakota residents age 45+ have used telehealth services, either for themselves and/or a loved one.

Use of Telehealth Services

HC5. Medicaid is a government program that pays for health and long-term care services for low-income seniors, adults with young children, and people with disabilities. Overall, how important are the services and support provided by Medicaid? (n=702)

HEALTHCARE

Three-quarters (76%) of South Dakota residents age 45+ believe Medicaid services and support are extremely or very important.

Importance of Medicaid Services and Support

■ Extremely important/ very important ■ Somewhat important
■ Not very important/ not at all important ■ Don't know/ refused

HC7. Would you support or oppose legislation to prevent hospitals, drug manufacturers, doctors, and other health care providers from price gouging, or charging patients excessive amounts for products or services when they are in high demand? (n=702)

HEALTHCARE

Two-thirds (68%) of South Dakota residents age 45+ strongly support legislation to prevent healthcare price gouging.

Support for Legislation to Prevent Healthcare Price Gouging

AGING

Six in ten (61%) South Dakota residents age 45+ are extremely or very concerned about having long-term care or home health services when needed.

Concerns Related to Aging

GLTC1. How concerned are you about the following? (Percent 'extremely concerned' or 'very concerned') (n=702)

LTCC2. Which of the following do you think you would rely on to pay for nursing home care if you become sick, disabled, or unable to care for yourself? (n=702)

LONG-TERM CARE COSTS

South Dakota residents age 45+ would rely on a variety of sources to pay for nursing home care if needed, including savings and income (67%), government programs (64%) and/or Medicaid (58%).

Means to Pay for Nursing Home Care

LTC-TX. How strongly would you support or oppose the state reallocating some of its long-term care funds so that more people could be cared for in their homes instead of nursing homes? (n=702)

HEALTHCARE

The vast majority of South Dakota residents age 45+ would strongly (61%) or somewhat (31%) support the state reallocating funds so more people can be cared for at home instead of nursing homes.

Support for State Reallocation of Long-Term Care Funds

■ Strongly support
■ Strongly oppose

■ Somewhat support
■ Don't know/ refused

■ Somewhat oppose

CVD-11. Have you gotten or do you plan to get the COVID-19 vaccine? (n=702)

COVID-19

As of November 2021, over three-quarters (80%) of South Dakota residents age 45+ had gotten the COVID-19 vaccine (or plan to get it).

COVID-19 Vaccination Status
(as of November 2021)

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

Survey Results for South Dakota- Wealth Questions

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ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

South Dakota residents age 45+ find many economic issues important, particularly those related to retirement and Social Security.

11. For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you personally. (Percent 'extremely important' or 'very important') (n=702)

TECH18. Do you have access to high-speed Internet in your home? (n=702)

BROADBAND

Four in five (82%) South Dakota residents age 45+ have high-speed Internet at home.

High-Speed Internet at Home

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't know/ refused

BROADBAND

One-third (37%) of South Dakota residents age 45+ cite cost as a reason why they do not have high-speed Internet at home.

Reasons for Not Having Internet at Home

TECH19. What are the reasons you do not have Internet at home? (n=120)

TECH17. Do you agree or disagree that elected officials in South Dakota should work to ensure that high-speed Internet service is available to underserved populations, such as lower income or remote rural communities in South Dakota? (n=702)

BROADBAND

Half (50%) of South Dakota residents age 45+ strongly agree and nearly one-third (32%) somewhat agree that elected officials should work to ensure high-speed Internet is available to underserved populations in the state.

Agreement that Officials Should Make High-Speed Internet Available to Underserved Populations in South Dakota

■ Strongly agree ■ Somewhat agree ■ Somewhat disagree
■ Strongly disagree ■ Don't know/ refused

Survey Results for South Dakota- Self Questions

Issues That Impact
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ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Getting around independently and aging in place are important to eight in ten (81%) South Dakota 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=702)

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

Over four in ten South Dakota residents age 45+ rate their community as having excellent or very good streets and paths (40%) and enforced speed limits (39%).

REP2. For each of the following, would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor? (Percent 'excellent' or 'very good') (n=702)

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

South Dakota residents age 45+ have a variety of community concerns, including being able to afford groceries or household necessities (51%).

Community Concerns

LIVCOMM1. How concerned are you about the following? (Percent 'extremely concerned' or 'very concerned') (n=702)

POLICY

Four in five (81%) South Dakota residents age 45+ support expanding rural electric cooperatives that offer high-speed Internet service to their customers.

Support for South Dakota Policy Proposals

TECH16. Do you support or oppose the following policies that may be proposed in South Dakota? (Percent 'strongly support' or 'somewhat support') (n=702)

VA2. How often have you
voted in the last 10 years?
(n=666)

VOTER ACCESS

Nearly six in ten (59%) South Dakota registered voters age 45+ reported they always vote when there is an election.

Voting Frequency

VA4. How do you prefer to vote? (n=620)

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

VOTER ACCESS

Nearly six in ten (58%) South Dakota voters who vote in most or all elections age 45+ prefer to vote at their polling place.

VA1. What are some of the reasons that prevent you from registering to vote? (n=32)

VOTER ACCESS

South Dakota residents age 45+ cited a variety of reasons why they are not registered to vote.

Reasons for Not Registering to Vote

METHODOLOGY

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

702 Interviews

South Dakota Adults Age 45+

Fielded in October-November 2021

ANR completed a total of 702 interviews (363 via landline telephone, 175 via cell phone, and 164 online). Respondents were screened to meet the following criteria:

- Age 45+
- Resident of South Dakota

Survey length averaged 20.5 minutes by telephone and 18.9 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 South Dakota residents age 45 and older, purchased from Aristotle, and online sample provided by Fulcrum. A total of 37,478 records were utilized. The list of 360,649 South Dakota residents age 45 and older was randomly divided into 361 replicates of 1,000 records for telephone dialing. Initially, 20 replicates were released for calling, with additional replicates being opened as necessary. In all, 36 replicates representing a total of 35,325 records were dialed to complete the telephone portion of this study.

The study's sample of 702 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 October 22, 2021 and closed on November 8, 2021.

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.

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This research was designed and
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