VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact
Missouri 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 Missouri- Health Questions

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ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Missouri 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=801)

CARE1. Are you currently providing unpaid help to a relative or friend 18 years or older to help them take care of themselves? (n=801)

CAREGIVING

Over one-quarter (30%) of Missouri residents age 45+ are currently providing unpaid help to an adult relative or friend.

Percent Providing Unpaid Adult Care

CARE1_A. Have you ever provided this type of unpaid help in the past? (n=561)

CAREGIVING

More than one-third (43%) of Missouri 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

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Two-thirds (70%) of Missouri residents age 45+ are currently taking two or more prescription medications on a regular basis.

Number of Prescription Medications Taken Regularly

PER2. Approximately how many different prescription medications do you take on a regular basis such as daily, weekly, or monthly? (n=801)
Chart does not equal one-hundred percent due to removal of small cells; see annotation for all categories

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Out-of-pocket spending on prescription drugs varies among Missouri residents age 45+, with one-third (34%) spending \$50 or more monthly.

PER3. In the past 12 months, approximately how much have you spent out of your own pocket for prescription drugs? (n=801)
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=801)

COVID-19

As of October 2021, three-quarters (76%) of Missouri residents age 45+ had gotten the COVID-19 vaccine (or plan to get it).

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=606)

COVID-19

As of October 2021, three-quarters (78%) of Missouri residents age 45+ who have gotten the COVID-19 vaccine (or plan to get it) also plan to get the booster when it is available.

Getting COVID-19 Booster When Available

■ Yes ■ No ■ Not sure/ refused

HEAL5. How interested are you in using tele-health services for yourself or a loved one if needed? (n=801)

TELEHEALTH

Over one-third (39%) of Missouri residents age 45+ are extremely or very interested in telehealth for themselves or a loved one.

Interest in Telehealth Services

- Extremely interested/ very interested
- Somewhat interested
- Not very interested/ not at all interested
- Don't know

Survey Results for Missouri- Wealth Questions

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ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Missouri 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=801)

FRA4. How concerned are you, personally, about becoming the target or victim of a scam or fraud? (n=801)

FRAUD

Missouri residents age 45+ have mixed levels of concern about personally becoming the victim of a scam or fraud.

Concern About Scams and Fraud

■ Extremely concerned ■ Very concerned ■ Somewhat concerned
■ Not very concerned ■ Not at all concerned

FRAUD

Missouri residents age 45+ are concerned about a variety of scams and fraud.

Concern About Fraud and Scams

FRA4_1. How concerned are you, personally, about each of the following? (Percent 'extremely concerned' or 'very concerned') (n=801)

TECH18. Do you have access to high-speed Internet in your home? (n=801)

BROADBAND

Three-quarters (78%) of Missouri residents age 45+ have access to high-speed Internet at home.

High-Speed Internet Access at Home

TECH9_1. Thinking about your Internet connection at home, in the past 12 months, how often has [ITEM] limited your use of the Internet at home? (Percent 'always' or 'often') (n=622)

BROADBAND

Quality of Internet access is always or often an issue for 15% of Missouri residents age 45+ who have high-speed Internet at home.

Factors Limiting Home Internet Use

BROADBAND

Missouri residents age 45+ think that investing in development of high-speed Internet across the state is important for a variety of reasons.

Reasons for Investing in Developing High-Speed Internet Across Missouri

TECH15. The following are reasons why some people believe that high-speed Internet should be available to everyone. For each, please tell me whether you personally feel it's an important reason or not an important reason to invest in developing high-speed Internet across Missouri. (Percent 'important reason') (n=801)

Survey Results for Missouri- Self Questions

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ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE

Getting around independently is extremely or very important to a majority (84%) of Missouri 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=801)

LIFE EVENTS AND TRANSITIONS

Having help navigating health changes is very important, according to two-thirds (66%) of Missouri residents age 45+.

Importance of Having Help Navigating Life Experiences

LET1. For each of the following life experiences, please indicate how important you think it would be to have help navigating each, if you were to experience it. (Percent 'very important') (n=801)

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

One-third (31%) of Missouri residents age 45+ rated their community as excellent or very good for streets and paths that allow people of all ages and ability levels to walk safely.

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=801)

TRA1. How do you usually get around your community for things like shopping, visiting the doctor, running errands, or other things? (n=801)

TRANSPORTATION

Most (82%) Missouri residents age 45+ drive themselves to get around their community.

Primary Means of Getting Around Community

METHODOLOGY

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

801 Interviews

Missouri Adults Age 45+

Fielded in October 2021

ANR completed a total of 801 interviews (392 via landline telephone, 204 via cell phone, and 205 online). Respondents were screened to meet the following criteria:

- Age 45+
- Resident of Missouri

Survey length averaged 20.0 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 Missouri residents age 45 and older, purchased from Aristotle, and online sample provided by Fulcrum. A total of 45,453 records were utilized. The list of 2,602,396 Missouri residents age 45 and older was randomly divided into 2,603 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 40,354 records were dialed to complete the telephone portion of this study.

The sample of 801 respondents yields a maximum statistical error of $\pm 3.5\%$ 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 ± 3.5 percentage points of the results obtained had everyone in the population been interviewed.)

Interview Methodology

The survey was launched on October 18, 2021 and closed on October 27, 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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