VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact Oklahoma Adults
Age 45 and Older, October 2021

Annotated Questionnaire

VITAL VOICES

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For more information on the methodology or the survey, contact Aisha Bonner Cozad at ABonner@aarp.org.

Interviews were conducted with 706 Oklahoma residents age 45 and older between October 6, 2021 and October 20, 2021. All data have been weighted by age, gender, and race/ethnicity according to 2019 U.S. Census Bureau Current Population Survey (CPS) statistics. Survey results have a 3.7% margin of error.

Hello, this is _____ calling from Alan Newman Research, a national opinion research firm. We are not telemarketers and are not trying to sell you anything. We are interested in your thoughts about issues of importance to you and people like you in Oklahoma. Your views are important and we would greatly appreciate your participation. (Web: "We are interested in your thoughts about issues of importance to you and people like you in Oklahoma. Your views are important and we would greatly appreciate your participation.")

Screener

S1. Our study is interested in the opinions of certain age groups. Could you please tell me your age as of your last birthday? (IN YEARS) [RECORD AGE; TERMINATE IF UNDER AGE 45 OR REFUSED] (Web: "Our study is interested in the opinions of certain age groups. What is your age as of your last birthday?")

%	n=706
0	Under 45 [TERMINATE]
13	45-49
15	50-54
14	55-59
15	60-64
13	65-69
15	70-74
6	75-79
7	80-84
5	85+
0	Refused (Web: "Prefer not to say") [TERMINATE]

S2. What is your 5-digit zip code? _____ [ENTER ZIP CODE; VERIFY MATCH – IF NOT A MATCH TO OKLAHOMA OR DON'T KNOW/REFUSED, ASK FOR RESIDENT IN HH; TERMINATE IF NO ONE IN HH IS AGE 45+ RESIDENT OF OKLAHOMA] (Web: TERMINATE IF NOT A MATCH)

S4. Are you registered to vote in Oklahoma?

%	n=706
91	Yes
8	No
1	Don't know
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

S5. Did you vote in the November 2020 election?

%	n=706
83	Yes
15	No
1	Don't know (Web: "Don't recall")
1	Refused (Web: "Prefer not to say")

S3. What is your current employment status? (READ LIST AS NEEDED TO CLARIFY)

%	n=706
8	Self-employed full-time
3	Self-employed part-time
22	Employed full-time
4	Employed part-time
4	Unemployed and looking for work
49	Retired and not working at all
9	Or are you not in the labor force for other reasons
<1	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
<1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

Health

I1. Next, I am going to read a list of issues, and I'd like you to please tell me how important each is to you, personally. Is [ITEM] extremely important, very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not important at all to you? [RANDOMIZE ORDER] (Web: "For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you, personally." [MATRIX LAYOUT])

n=706	Extremely important %	Very important %	Somewhat important %	Not very important %	Not at all important %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Having adequate health insurance coverage	51	40	5	1	2	<1	<1
B. Having Medicare benefits available to you in the future	55	34	7	2	1	1	0
C. Staying mentally sharp	54	40	5	1	1	<1	0
D. Staying physically healthy	48	44	8	<1	1	<1	0
E. Paying for prescription drugs	39	39	13	4	4	1	<1
F. Paying for health care expenses, including premiums and co-pays	42	39	11	3	3	2	<1

Caregiving

CARE1. Are you currently providing unpaid help to a relative or friend 18 years or older to help them take care of themselves? This would include doing things for them such as grocery shopping, providing transportation, managing finances, arranging for healthcare or other services, or preparing meals.

%	n=706
34	Yes
66	No
<1	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

CARE1-2. [IF CARE1=Yes] Is the person you provide care for a veteran?

%	n=241
17	Yes
82	No
1	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

CARE1_A. [IF CARE1≠Yes] Have you ever provided this type of unpaid help in the past?

%	n=466
40	Yes
59	No
1	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

CARE1-3. [IF CARE1_A=Yes] Is the person you provided care for a veteran?

%	n=186
30	Yes
68	No
3	Don't know
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

COVID-19

CVD-11. Have you gotten or do you plan to get the COVID-19 vaccine? (READ LIST AS NEEDED TO CONFIRM)

%	n=706
72	Yes, already got the COVID-19 vaccine (either all shots or 1 shot out of 2)
2	Yes, plan to get the COVID-19 vaccine
20	No, I do not plan to get the COVID-19 vaccine
4	Don't know (VOL)
3	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

Wealth

11. Next, I am going to read a list of issues, and I'd like you to please tell me how important each is to you, personally. Is [ITEM] extremely important, very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not important at all to you? [RANDOMIZE ORDER] (Web: "For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you, personally." [MATRIX LAYOUT])

n=706	Extremely important %	Very important %	Somewhat important %	Not very important %	Not at all important %	Don't know %	Refused %
G. Having adequate Social Security benefits available to you in the future	59	32	6	2	1	1	0
H. Having good employment opportunities in your community	30	38	17	6	9	1	0
I. Protection from age discrimination	34	35	18	7	6	1	<1
J. Maintaining relevant job skills and experience	22	36	21	10	9	2	<1
K. [IF S3≠Retired and not working at all] Having enough income or savings to retire (n=360)	67	23	6	1	2	1	0
L. [IF S3=Employed (full-time, part-time), self-employed (full-time, part-time), or unemployed and looking for work] Being able to stop working for pay at the age you want (n=293)	46	33	12	2	4	2	<1
M. Protecting yourself against consumer fraud	44	40	12	2	1	1	0
N. Protecting yourself against unfair financial practices	43	41	11	2	2	1	<1
O. Having online security	36	33	20	5	5	2	<1
AU. Having a way to save for retirement through the workplace	33	35	15	6	8	3	<1

Fraud

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

%	n=706
23	Extremely concerned
26	Very concerned
31	Somewhat concerned
13	Not very concerned
7	Not concerned at all
<1	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

FRA4_1. [IF FRA4≠Not concerned at all] How concerned are you, personally, about each of the following? (READ LIST) [RANDOMIZE]

n=659	Extremely concerned %	Very concerned %	Somewhat concerned %	Not very concerned %	Not concerned at all %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Becoming the target or victim of a scam or fraud over the phone	30	24	21	19	7	<1	0
B. Becoming the target or victim of a scam or fraud on the Internet	30	24	25	14	7	1	0
C. Having your identity stolen by someone who uses your name and other identifying information to open new credit accounts	41	27	23	7	2	0	<1
D. Having hackers get access to your identifying information from companies that you have done business with	37	33	20	8	2	1	0
E. Losing money due to unfair or fraudulent financial practices	35	25	25	13	3	<1	0

FRA6. In the past 12 months, have you ordered a free copy of your credit report?

%	n=706
23	Yes
76	No
<1	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

FRA19. In the last 12 months, have you been a victim of a scam or fraud?

%	n=706
13	Yes
82	No
5	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

FRA19_A. [IF FRA19=Yes] Did you report it to the police or to appropriate local or state authorities?

%	n=95
50	Yes
50	No
0	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

FRA20. Do you know of a family member or close friend who may have been victims of a scam or fraud?

%	n=706
35	Yes
64	No
1	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

FRA21. In the past year, have you received automated telephone calls, such as a pre-recorded message, claiming that you need to return a call because you owe income taxes, have outstanding credit card debt, or need your computer fixed by Microsoft?

%	n=706
72	Yes
25	No
3	Don't know (Web: "Don't recall")
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

Utilities

GUTIL1. Thinking about your monthly costs for household utilities including heating, cooling, electricity, and natural gas, would an increase in your utility bill be a major problem, minor problem, or not a problem for you?

%	n=705
41	Major problem
38	Minor problem
20	Not a problem
1	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

GUTIL2. Do you believe that your state elected officials are doing enough to keep your utilities affordable?

%	n=706
25	Yes
57	No
18	Don't know
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

GUTIL7. Some utility companies want to increase rates to pay for infrastructure modifications to meet future demands such as more electric cars. Some say that allowing this will lessen the impact of a rate increase in the long run. Others say that allowing this means rates could go up in the future regardless.

Do you support or oppose allowing utility companies to raise your rates to pay for infrastructure modification to meet future demand? (And is that strongly or somewhat?) (Web: Do not include "And is that strongly or somewhat?")

%	n=706
7	Strongly support
20	Somewhat support
9	Neither support nor oppose (VOL)
16	Somewhat oppose
44	Strongly oppose
4	Don't know (VOL)
0	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

EGUTIL10. Oklahoma experienced a winter storm earlier this year in which the electric and gas companies experienced abnormally high expenses and want to pass the cost on to their customers. Lawmakers passed legislation to spread these costs overtime, but regulators still have the ability to limit the amount you will pay. Do you support regulators requiring utility companies to share in the costs of the winter storm?

%	n=706
71	Yes
19	No
10	Don't know
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

EGUTIL6. Renewable energy is electricity generated by fuel sources that restore themselves over a short period of time and do not diminish— such as solar and wind power. Many states are now requiring utility companies to use and sell more renewable energy options. Do you support or oppose Oklahoma requiring utilities to use and sell more renewable energy options? (And is that strongly or somewhat?) (Web: Do not include “And is that strongly or somewhat?”)

%	n=706
33	Strongly support
27	Somewhat support
10	Neither support nor oppose (VOL)
9	Somewhat oppose
15	Strongly oppose
7	Don't know
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

EGUTIL7. Would you support more renewable energy options, even if it meant all customers would pay more every month?

%	n=706
31	Yes
55	No
14	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

Self

Q1. What do you think is the single most important problem or challenge facing mid-life or older adults as they age? [ENTER VERBATIM RESPONSE] (Web: Large text box, open-end) [CODED OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES]

%	n=706
31	Retirement/ Social Security/ finances/ cost-of-living
18	Health generally/ health problems
16	Access to healthcare (finding insurance, providers, etc.)
5	Economy
5	Government
5	Healthcare cost (insurance cost, cost for services)
2	Prescription drug costs
2	Staying involved/ connected/ contributing to society
2	Loneliness/ social isolation
2	Employment
2	Assistance/ care at home
1	COVID-19/ coronavirus/ pandemic
1	Not being respected/ accepted
1	Transportation
1	Housing
<1	Climate change/ environment
<1	Racial justice
<1	Keeping up with technology
0	Nursing home safety
7	Other
7	Don't know/ refused

Independent Living and Long-Term Care

I1. Next, I am going to read a list of issues, and I'd like you to please tell me how important each is to you, personally. Is [ITEM] extremely important, very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not important at all to you? [RANDOMIZE ORDER] (Web: "For the following list of issues, please indicate how important each is to you, personally." [MATRIX LAYOUT])

n=706	Extremely important %	Very important %	Somewhat important %	Not very important %	Not at all important %	Don't know %	Refused %
P. Staying in your own home as you get older	51	38	9	1	1	<1	0
Q. Having high quality long-term care in your community	40	41	13	3	2	1	<1
R. Getting to the places you need to go independently	42	42	12	2	2	<1	0
S. Caring for a loved one	46	39	9	3	3	1	<1
T. Having paid time off to care for yourself or a seriously ill family member	33	33	13	6	10	3	1
X. Having flexibility in your schedule to care for a loved one	34	37	19	5	5	1	<1
Z. Improvements to Oklahoma's long-term care services so residents who need the care stay in the state	36	41	15	3	2	3	0
AJ. Having alternatives to nursing home care	37	38	14	6	3	2	<1

Livable Communities

LIVCOMM1. How concerned are you about the following? (READ LIST) [RANDOMIZE]

n=706	Extremely concerned %	Very concerned %	Somewhat concerned %	Not very concerned %	Not concerned at all %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Being able to afford to remain in your home as you age	39	23	14	13	10	0	<1
B. Being able to get around your community to get the things you need and do the things you want to do as you age	28	28	23	11	9	1	<1
C. Being connected with others in your community and having opportunities to socialize as you age	16	25	28	20	10	<1	<1
D. Being able to afford groceries or household necessities	36	21	19	15	10	0	0
E. Having access to transportation	27	26	20	15	12	<1	0
F. Being able to find affordable housing if you needed to downsize or move to another community	26	22	22	13	16	<1	<1
H. Having streets that are safe and easy for all pedestrians and cyclists to use	27	29	25	11	7	1	<1

LIVCOMM4. How important it is to you personally to have activities specifically geared towards adults with dementia in your community right now?

%	n=706
18	Extremely important
26	Very important
32	Somewhat important
13	Not very important
8	Not at all important
3	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

HOME-1. How much do you think each of the following would impact your ability to remain in your home as you age? (READ LIST) [RANDOMIZE]

n=706	A lot %	A little %	Not at all %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Increasing property taxes	46	27	24	3	<1
Aa. Increasing rent	29	14	54	3	1
B. Increasing maintenance costs	44	34	19	3	0
C. Being able to make the necessary repairs and modifications to your home so you can continue to live there safely	43	33	23	1	0
D. Being close to goods and services	44	30	26	1	0
F. Size of your home	22	29	46	3	<1
G. Size of your property	24	28	45	4	<1
H. Safety in your home	40	28	29	2	<1
I. Safety in your neighborhood	41	28	29	3	0

Demographics

D1. Other than a data plan on your cell phone, do you have high-speed Internet service at home such as cable Internet, DSL, FIOS, or satellite Internet service?

%	n=706
79	Yes
18	No
3	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

D2. Have you or a family member ever served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard? [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES FOR 1-2]

%	n=706
21	Yes, I have
49	Yes, a family member has
34	No
1	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

Thank you for your time so far. I have just a few final questions for classification purposes. All of your responses will be completely confidential. (Web: Do not include)

D3. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed? (CODE BELOW; READ TO CLARIFY IF NEEDED)

%	n=706
4	0 through 12 th grade (no diploma)
20	High school graduate (or equivalent)
7	Post- high school vocational or technical training
34	Some college (no degree), Associate's degree, 2-year college degree
19	College graduate (4-year degree)
2	Post-graduate study
14	Graduate or professional degrees (Master's degree/ PhD/ Law)
0	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

D4. How do you identify your gender? (CODE BELOW; READ TO CLARIFY IF NEEDED)

%	n=706
54	Female
45	Male
<1	Other gender identity [SPECIFY]
0	Don't know (VOL)
1	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

D5. What is your current marital status? (CODE BELOW; READ TO CLARIFY IF NEEDED)

%	n=706
54	Married
4	Living with a partner
14	Widowed
17	Divorced or separated
11	Never married
<1	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

D6. [IF D5=Married or 'Not married, living with a partner'] Are you or your (spouse/partner) currently a member of AARP? [IF D5≠Married or 'Not married, living with a partner'] Are you currently a member of AARP?

%	n=706
29	Yes
68	No
2	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

D8. Which of the following best describes your race? (READ LIST)

%	n=706
77	White
11	American Indian or Alaska Native
6	Black or African American
4	Hispanic/Latino
<1	Asian
<1	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
0	Some other race [SPECIFY]
1	Multi-race [SPECIFY]
0	Don't know (VOL)
2	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

D9. In general, how would you describe your political views? Would you say you are conservative, moderate, liberal, or something else? (Web: "In general, how would you describe your political views?")

%	n=706
41	Conservative
35	Moderate
14	Liberal
<1	Other [SPECIFY]
7	Don't know
4	Refused (Web: "Prefer not to say")

D10. Are you...? (READ LIST) [ROTATE ORDER]

%	n=706
33	Democrat
44	Republican
16	Independent
1	Libertarian
0	Other [SPECIFY] (VOL)
1	Don't know (VOL)
5	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

D11. What income range includes your household's total income from all sources in 2020? (READ LIST)

%	n=706
5	Less than \$10,000
13	\$10,000 to less than \$25,000
28	\$25,000 to less than \$50,000
16	\$50,000 to less than \$75,000
12	\$75,000 to less than \$100,000
8	\$100,000 to less than \$150,000
3	\$150,000 to less than \$200,000
2	\$200,000 or more
12	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

D17. What is your primary source of news? (DO NOT READ, CODE TO LIST) [SINGLE RESPONSE ONLY]

%	n=706
62	TV
17	Websites
7	Print newspaper
7	Social media like Facebook or Twitter
5	Radio
1	Other [SPECIFY] (VOL)
1	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

D18. What is the best way to inform you about events happening in the community? (DO NOT READ, CODE TO LIST) [SINGLE RESPONSE ONLY]

%	n=706
29	TV
20	Social media like Facebook or Twitter
14	Local newspaper
13	Email
7	Mail
7	Phone call
8	Other [SPECIFY] (VOL)
2	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

Thank you very much for participating in this survey.