VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact Georgia Adults
Age 45 and Older, May 2021

Annotated Questionnaire

VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact Georgia Adults Age 45 and Older

Contents

Screener	3
Health	5
Caregiving	6
Healthcare	7
COVID-19	7
Wealth.....	9
Retirement Issues	10
Self.....	11
Livable Communities.....	11
Independent Living and Long-Term Care	12
Technology	13
Demographics.....	13

For more information on the methodology or the survey, contact Cassandra Cantave at CCantave@aarp.org.

Interviews were conducted with 816 Georgia residents age 45 and older between April 30, 2021 and May 12, 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 3.4% 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 Georgia. 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 Georgia. 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=816
0	Under 45 [TERMINATE]
17	45-49
17	50-54
15	55-59
17	60-64
9	65-69
14	70-74
6	75-79
4	80-84
2	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 GEORGIA OR DON'T KNOW/REFUSED, ASK FOR RESIDENT IN HH; TERMINATE IF NO ONE IN HH IS AGE 45+ RESIDENT OF GEORGIA] (Web: TERMINATE IF NOT A MATCH)

S4. Are you registered to vote in Georgia?

%	n=816
93	Yes
7	No
1	Don't know
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

S5. Did you vote in the November 2020 presidential election?

%	n=816
88	Yes
11	No
1	Don't know (Web: "Don't recall")
1	Refused (Web: "Prefer not to say")

S5_GA. Did you vote in the January 2021 run-off election?

%	n=816
82	Yes
16	No
2	Don't know (Web: "Don't recall")
1	Refused (Web: "Prefer not to say")

D7. Are you of Spanish, Hispanic or Latino background?

%	n=816
4	Yes
96	No
<1	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: "Prefer not to say")

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

%	n=816
66	White
28	Black or African American
3	Asian
<1	American Indian or Alaska Native
<1	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
1	Some other race [SPECIFY]
1	Multi-race [SPECIFY]
<1	Don't know (VOL)
1	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

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

%	n=816
7	Self-employed full-time
4	Self-employed part-time
27	Employed full-time
5	Employed part-time
6	Unemployed and looking for work
38	Retired and not working at all
12	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=816	Extremely important %	Very important %	Somewhat important %	Not very important %	Not at all important %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Having adequate health insurance coverage	58	34	7	1	1	<1	0
B. Having Medicare benefits available to you in the future	53	35	8	1	2	1	0
C. Staying mentally sharp	56	39	4	1	<1	<1	0
D. Staying physically healthy	52	39	8	<1	<1	0	0
E. Paying for prescription drugs	44	36	13	4	2	1	<1
F. Paying for health care expenses, including premiums and co-pays	48	37	10	3	2	1	<1
AS. Having health care services in your community	46	40	10	2	1	1	<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=816
36	Yes
64	No
0	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
<1	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=525
43	Yes
57	No
0	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

CARE44. [IF S3=Employed full- or part-time or self-employed full- or part-time] The several states that have enacted paid family and medical leave laws pay for the programs through a small payroll deduction from employees, employers, or both— on average for 2 to 3 dollars a week. If Georgia enacted a paid leave law, how likely would you be to contribute through your paycheck \$2 to \$3 dollars a week for paid time off to care for yourself or your family member, or to have or adopt a child? (READ LIST)

%	n=350
27	Extremely likely
23	Very likely
23	Somewhat likely
12	Not very likely
12	Not likely at all
3	Don't know (VOL)
0	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

Healthcare

NURS1. Some states are considering a proposal that would allow registered nurses with advanced training who often visit older people in their homes to serve as the primary or acute care provider of record for a patient. These nurse practitioners have additional training in specific areas, like elder care. Would you support or oppose this proposal for Georgia? (And is that strongly or somewhat?) (Web: Do not include "And is that strongly or somewhat?")

%	n=816
55	Strongly support
32	Somewhat support
6	Neither support nor oppose (VOL)
2	Somewhat oppose
3	Strongly oppose
2	Don't know (VOL)
<1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

COVID-19

CVD-1. Have you been affected by the coronavirus in any of the following ways? (Web: "Have you been affected by the coronavirus in any of the following ways? Please check all that apply."). [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

n=816	Yes %	No %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Officially diagnosed with coronavirus	12	88	0	0
D. [IF S3#Retired and not working at all] Working from home (n=505)	39	61	0	0
G. Having a difficult time worrying about the coronavirus	35	65	<1	0
L. Met with physical or mental health providers through the internet using telehealth technology	30	69	<1	0
N. Filed for unemployment	13	87	0	<1

CVD-7a. Generally speaking, how safe are vaccines? (READ LIST)

%	n=816
48	Very safe
30	Somewhat safe
5	Not very safe
6	Not at all safe
11	Don't know (VOL)
<1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

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

%	n=816
63	Yes, already got the COVID-19 vaccine (either all shots or 1 shot out of 2)
11	Yes, plan to get the COVID-19 vaccine
22	No, I do not plan to get the COVID-19 vaccine
4	Don't know (VOL)
<1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

CVD-12. [IF CVD-11=No or Don't know] What are some reasons why you [do not plan to/are unsure if you will] get the COVID-19 vaccine? (Web: "Select all that apply.") (READ LIST) [MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED FOR 1-98] [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF 1-12]

%	n=210
66	Worried about side effects
62	Don't think it has been tested enough
52	Do not trust the government
43	The risks of taking a new vaccine outweigh any benefits
42	Don't trust the drug companies that make the vaccine
37	Want to wait and see how it goes for other people who get the vaccine
30	Do not think the vaccination will work to protect from infection
29	Healthy and don't need a COVID-19 vaccine
17	Do not think you will get that sick if you get COVID-19
8	Already had COVID-19, so you can't get it again
6	Keeping away from health care sites to avoid COVID-19
3	Concerned about the cost of the vaccine
0	Other [SPECIFY]
0	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

CVD-13. The following list of people and organizations could make recommendations about whether people should get the COVID-19 vaccine. Please indicate how much you trust each one when it comes to their recommendation about getting the COVID-19 vaccine: a lot, a fair amount, just a little, or not at all. [RANDOMIZE]

n=816	A lot %	A fair amount %	Just a little %	Not at all %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Joe Biden	32	18	10	37	2	<1
B. AARP	21	27	18	24	9	<1
C. Church or faith leaders	23	27	18	26	6	1
D. Your doctor	60	23	9	6	2	<1
E. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC	44	24	15	15	2	<1
G. Georgia public health experts	33	31	19	13	4	1
I. Your pharmacist	42	32	14	9	3	<1
K. Dr. Anthony Fauci	39	19	12	25	5	<1

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=816	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	60	30	8	1	1	<1	0
H. Having good employment opportunities in your community	32	39	17	5	6	1	<1
I. Protection from age discrimination	43	32	17	5	3	1	<1
J. Maintaining relevant job skills and experience	24	32	28	8	6	1	<1
K. [IF S3≠Retired and not working at all] Having enough income or savings to retire (n=505)	63	29	6	<1	1	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=401)	42	33	21	3	1	1	0
M. Protecting yourself against consumer fraud	49	36	12	2	1	<1	0
N. Protecting yourself against unfair financial practices	48	38	11	1	<1	1	<1
O. Having online security	42	35	17	3	3	1	<1
U. Having financial security throughout your life	58	34	6	<1	<1	<1	<1
V. Having affordable utilities	49	40	11	1	<1	0	0
W. Being able to afford groceries or other household necessities	60	31	7	2	1	0	0

Retirement Issues

RET1. How concerned are you about the following? (READ LIST) [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

n=816	Extremely concerned %	Very concerned %	Somewhat concerned %	Not very concerned %	Not concerned at all %	Don't know %	Refused %
B. Ensuring the solvency and security of your retirement plans	41	31	16	5	5	1	<1
C. [IF S3=Retired and not working at all] Having to postpone retirement (n=505)	31	25	21	13	9	2	0
D. Having enough money to take care of your health expenses during retirement such as co-payments and deductibles	46	28	14	7	4	1	<1

RET10. [IF S3=Employed full- or part-time] Does your employer provide a way for you to save for retirement?

%	n=257
84	Yes
17	No
0	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

RET10a. [IF RET10=Yes] Which of the following ways to save for retirement does your current employer provide? (READ LIST) [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES FOR 1-2]

%	n=215
32	A traditional pension plan or a defined benefit plan (PHONE - IF ASKED/WEB - DISPLAY: "A defined benefit plan supplies retirees with a monthly income, typically based on a formula of salary and years of service. It is not a 401(k) plan.")
81	An IRA, 401(k) or 403(b) defined contribution plan (PHONE - IF ASKED/WEB - DISPLAY: "A defined contribution plan allows you to make contributions from your salary to an individual account set up in your name.")
5	Don't know (VOL)
0	Refused (VOL) (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=816
27	Retirement/ Social Security/ finances/ cost-of-living
23	Access to healthcare (finding insurance, providers, etc.)
21	Health generally/ health problems
5	Healthcare cost (insurance cost, cost for services)
4	Government
3	Employment
2	Not being respected/ accepted
2	Prescription drug costs
2	Economy
1	Assistance/ care at home
1	Loneliness/ social isolation
1	Transportation
1	Staying involved/ connected/ contributing to society
1	Keeping up with technology
1	COVID-19/ coronavirus/ pandemic
<1	Housing
<1	Racial justice
<1	Climate change/ environment
0	Nursing home safety
7	Other
6	Don't know/ refused

Livable Communities

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=816	Extremely important %	Very important %	Somewhat important %	Not very important %	Not at all important %	Don't know %	Refused %
AH. Safe streets	46	40	11	2	1	<1	<1
AC. Sidewalks	22	32	25	12	9	1	<1
AD. Outdoor recreation	21	35	32	8	4	<1	0
AE. Public transportation	20	25	24	17	12	1	<1
AG. Affordable housing	42	34	16	4	4	1	<1
AX. Pedestrian safety	31	36	22	6	4	<1	<1

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=816	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	36	10	2	1	<1	0
Q. Having high quality long-term care in your community	40	38	16	3	2	1	<1
R. Getting to the places you need to go independently	44	44	10	1	1	<1	0
S. Caring for a loved one	50	36	9	3	3	1	<1
Z. Improvements to Georgia's long-term care services so residents who need the care stay in the state	41	37	16	2	2	2	<1
AA. Staying in your <u>community</u> as you get older	34	37	20	6	4	<1	0
AJ. Having alternatives to nursing home care	40	37	16	4	2	1	<1

Technology

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 Georgia. (Phone: For first three items assigned, "as a reason to invest in developing high-speed Internet across Georgia" should also be read along with the statement, and re-read as needed for this series of questions.)

(Web: "The following are reasons why some people believe that high-speed Internet should be available to everyone. For each, do you personally feel it's an important reason or not an important reason to invest in developing high-speed Internet across Georgia?") [RANDOMIZE ORDER]

n=816	Important %	Not important %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Because rural communities in Georgia need it in order to thrive economically	84	11	5	<1
B. Because farmers and ranchers in Georgia need it in order to be competitive	79	13	8	<1
C. Because low-income communities across Georgia need it in order to thrive economically	82	12	6	<1
D. To ensure older adults in Georgia, especially those with health challenges, aren't isolated from family and friends	88	9	2	<1
E. To ensure people anywhere in Georgia can access educational resources such as online courses that would enable them to further their education	87	9	3	<1
G. To ensure people in Georgia can access healthcare in a timely manner such as 24/7 online healthcare including video chats with doctors	88	10	2	<1

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=816
84	Yes
14	No
2	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=816
18	Yes, I have
46	Yes, a family member has
39	No
2	Don't know
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

D14. Does any disability or chronic disease keep you from participating fully in work, school, household, or other activities?

%	n=816
33	Yes
67	No
0	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	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=816
5	0 through 12 th grade (no diploma)
19	High school graduate (or equivalent)
6	Post- high school vocational or technical training
31	Some college (no degree), Associate's degree, 2-year college degree
19	College graduate (4-year degree)
2	Post-graduate study
17	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=816
54	Female
46	Male
0	Other gender identity [SPECIFY]
<1	Don't know (VOL)
<1	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

D12. What is your sexual orientation? (READ LIST)

%	n=816
93	Straight or heterosexual
3	Gay or lesbian
2	Bi-sexual
0	Another sexual orientation [SPECIFY]
<1	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
2	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

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

%	n=816
52	Married
4	Living with a partner
14	Widowed
16	Divorced or separated
13	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=816
32	Yes
66	No
2	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

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=816
40	Conservative
32	Moderate
20	Liberal
1	Other [SPECIFY]
4	Don't know
3	Refused (Web: "Prefer not to say")

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

%	n=816
35	Republican
34	Democrat
23	Independent
1	Progressive
1	Other [SPECIFY] (VOL)
2	Don't know (VOL)
4	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

P-E1a. [IF S5=Yes] How did you vote in the November 2020 election?

%	n=716
39	By absentee ballot or mail-in ballot
31	In-person before election day
28	In-person on election day
<1	Don't know (VOL)
1	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=816
6	Less than \$10,000
13	\$10,000 to less than \$25,000
23	\$25,000 to less than \$50,000
17	\$50,000 to less than \$75,000
13	\$75,000 to less than \$100,000
11	\$100,000 to less than \$150,000
4	\$150,000 to less than \$200,000
6	\$200,000 or more
8	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

Thank you very much for participating in this survey.