VITAL VOICES

Issues That Impact Delaware Adults
Age 45 and Older, March 2021

Annotated Questionnaire

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Contents

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

For more information on the methodology or the survey, contact Kate Bridges at KBridges@aarp.org.

Interviews were conducted with 707 Delaware residents age 45 and older between February 25, 2021 and March 9, 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 Delaware. 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 Delaware. 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=707
0	Under 45 [TERMINATE]
9	45-49
20	50-54
13	55-59
18	60-64
12	65-69
10	70-74
8	75-79
5	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 DELAWARE OR DON'T KNOW/REFUSED, ASK FOR RESIDENT IN HH; TERMINATE IF NO ONE IN HH IS AGE 45+ RESIDENT OF DELAWARE] (Web: TERMINATE IF NOT A MATCH)

S4. Are you registered to vote in Delaware?

%	n=707
96	Yes
4	No
<1	Don't know
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

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

%	n=707
4	Yes
95	No
0	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: 'Prefer not to say')

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

%	n=707
76	White
18	Black or African American
1	Asian
1	American Indian or Alaska Native
0	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
1	Some other race [SPECIFY]
1	Multi-race [SPECIFY]
1	Don't know (VOL)
2	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

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

%	n=707
5	Self-employed full-time
4	Self-employed part-time
30	Employed full-time
5	Employed part-time
5	Unemployed and looking for work
44	Retired and not working at all
8	Or are you not in the labor force for other reasons
<1	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

Health

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=707	Extremely important %	Very important %	Somewhat important %	Not very important %	Not at all important %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Having adequate health insurance coverage	57	35	6	1	<1	0	0
B. Having Medicare benefits available to you in the future	55	36	6	2	1	<1	0
C. Staying mentally sharp	54	39	5	1	<1	0	0
D. Staying physically healthy	49	44	6	1	<1	0	<1
E. Paying for prescription drugs	43	38	13	2	3	1	<1
F. Paying for health care expenses, including premiums and co-pays	45	39	11	2	2	<1	<1
AI. Developing or maintaining healthy behaviors	37	45	15	2	1	<1	<1
AO. Having access to high-quality hospital care	52	40	7	1	1	0	0
AS. Having health care services in your community	43	43	11	2	1	0	0
AR. Being able to access health care providers remotely by computer or phone	24	34	28	8	5	1	0

COVID-19

CVD-6. How worried are you about getting coronavirus in the next year? (READ LIST)

%	n=707
14	Extremely worried
16	Very worried
33	Somewhat worried
21	Not very worried
15	Not at all worried
1	Don't know
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

Health

VIH-1. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan?

%	n=707
96	Yes
4	No
0	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

VIH-2-1. [IF VIH-1=Yes] Which of the following is your primary source of health insurance coverage? (READ LIST AS NEEDED, SELECT ONLY ONE RESPONSE UNLESS 'MEDICARE' AND 'MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT') [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES FOR 4 AND 8]

%	n=681
35	Medicare
32	A plan through your employer
12	A plan through your spouse's employer
11	A Medicare Supplement plan
7	A plan you purchased yourself through the Health Insurance Marketplace
7	Medicaid
4	Veteran's Administration
0	Something else [SPECIFY]
1	Don't know (VOL)
1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

HEAL8. Have you used tele-health, such as connecting to a health care provider by phone or computer, in the past year?

%	n=707
60	Yes
40	No
<1	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

HEAL9. [IF HEAL8=Yes] How comfortable were you using it? (READ LIST)

%	n=422
30	Extremely comfortable
38	Very comfortable
23	Somewhat comfortable
7	Not very comfortable
3	Not at all comfortable
0	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

HEAL12. How likely do you think it is that you will use tele-health services in the next year? (READ LIST)

%	n=707
23	Extremely likely
23	Very likely
23	Somewhat likely
16	Not very likely
15	Not at all likely
1	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
<1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

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=707
28	Yes
72	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=511
40	Yes
59	No
1	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

CARE8. [IF CARE1 OR CARE1_A=Yes] Have you ever been employed either full- or part-time while providing care to your adult loved one?

%	n=399
66	Yes
34	No
0	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

CARE9. [IF CARE8=Yes] As a working caregiver, did you ever have to [ITEM]? [RANDOMIZE]

n=265	Yes %	No %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Go into work early or late, or take time off to provide care for a loved one	69	31	0	<1
B. Take a leave of absence from your job to provide care for a loved one	25	75	0	0
C. Go from working full-time to part-time to provide care for a loved one	19	81	0	0
D. Give up working entirely to provide care for a loved one	14	86	0	0

CARE29. [IF CARE1=Yes (Current caregiver)] In your opinion, as a current caregiver, how helpful would the following types of caregiving support be to you? (READ LIST)

[IF CARE1_A=Yes (Former caregiver)] In your opinion, as a former caregiver, how helpful would the following types of caregiving support be to you? (READ LIST)

[IF CARE1 and CARE1_A≠Yes (Not a current or former caregiver)] In your opinion, as someone who may provide care in the future, how helpful would the following types of caregiving support be to you? (READ LIST)
[RANDOMIZE]

n=707	Extremely helpful %	Very helpful %	Somewhat helpful %	Not very helpful %	Not helpful at all %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Assistance with providing transportation in general	22	31	27	8	11	1	<1
B. Assistance with providing transportation to medical appointments	23	34	23	9	9	1	<1
C. Assistance with understanding how to manage medications	21	31	26	10	11	2	0
D. Connecting with other caregivers in similar situations	12	29	34	12	11	3	0
E. Information about available resources for caregivers in your community	24	37	26	5	7	1	<1
F. Respite care or breaks from caregiving responsibilities	21	33	23	10	10	3	1
G. Assistance with providing meals	18	31	29	10	11	1	<1
H. Assistance with managing household chores	19	34	27	10	9	2	0
I. Information about how to use telehealth services	14	27	31	13	13	3	<1
J. Having paid time off from work to provide care	31	27	14	7	17	3	1
K. Getting a credit on your income tax for expenses related to caregiving	32	31	19	7	9	3	<1

CARE36. Do you support or oppose providing a state income tax credit to family caregivers who incur expenses for the care and support of a family member living in Delaware? (And is that strongly or somewhat?) (Web: Do not include "And is that strongly or somewhat?")

%	n=707
61	Strongly support
27	Somewhat support
4	Neither support nor oppose (VOL)
3	Somewhat oppose
3	Strongly oppose
2	Don't know
0	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

CARE48. Do you support or oppose requiring employers to provide paid family leave for employees who have to take time off to care for a family member? (And is that strongly or somewhat?) (Web: Do not include "And is that strongly or somewhat?")

%	n=707
56	Strongly support
28	Somewhat support
4	Neither support nor oppose (VOL)
5	Somewhat oppose
5	Strongly oppose
1	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

Wealth

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=707	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	57	34	7	1	1	<1	0
H. Having good employment opportunities in your community	28	35	18	8	10	<1	0
I. Protection from age discrimination	33	38	20	5	3	<1	<1
J. Maintaining relevant job skills and experience	19	34	26	11	9	<1	<1
K. [IF S3≠Retired and not working at all] Having enough income or savings to retire (n=400)	59	33	7	1	1	0	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=341)	39	38	17	3	2	1	0
M. Protecting yourself against consumer fraud	42	39	15	2	2	<1	0
N. Protecting yourself against unfair financial practices	44	42	11	2	1	<1	<1
O. Having online security	34	39	17	5	4	1	0
W. Being able to afford groceries or other household necessities	57	35	7	1	1	0	0
AB. Having access to high-speed Internet	27	39	21	7	6	1	0
AU. Having a way to save for retirement through the workplace	32	36	15	7	8	1	<1

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=707
23	Retirement/ Social Security/ finances/ cost-of-living
22	Health generally/ health problems
21	Access to healthcare (finding insurance, providers, etc.)
6	Healthcare cost (insurance cost, cost for services)
4	Government
4	COVID-19/ coronavirus/ pandemic
3	Employment
2	Economy
2	Prescription drug costs
2	Staying involved/ connected/ contributing to society
2	Loneliness/ social isolation
2	Not being respected/ accepted
1	Keeping up with technology
1	Climate change/ environment
<1	Assistance/ care at home
<1	Racial justice
<1	Housing
<1	Transportation
<1	Nursing home safety
6	Other
4	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=707	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	45	40	12	2	1	<1	<1
Q. Having high quality long-term care in your community	34	44	16	3	2	<1	0
R. Getting to the places you need to go independently	39	44	13	2	2	<1	0
S. Caring for a loved one	46	40	9	2	3	<1	<1
Z. Improvements to Delaware's long-term care services	34	40	17	4	2	3	0
AJ. Having alternatives to nursing home care	34	40	19	3	3	1	<1
AT. Having ways to be connected to your community and socialize as you age	21	41	27	8	3	<1	<1

Livable Communities

TRA1a. How do you usually get around your community for things like shopping, visiting the doctor, running errands, or other things? [RANDOMIZE 1-8] [READ LIST; MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED FOR 1-9]

%	n=707
89	Drive yourself
17	Have others drive you
13	Walk
6	Use public transportation
6	Ride a bike
4	Use a special transportation service, such as one for seniors or persons with disabilities
4	Use a ride source company such as Uber or Lyft
1	Take a taxi
<1	Some other way [SPECIFY]
0	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
0	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

TRA1b. [IF TRA1a ≠ Use public transportation] What are the reasons you do not use public transportation?
(READ LIST) [RANDOMIZE 1-6] [ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES FOR 1-6]

%	n=663
45	It isn't convenient
26	Not available in my community
18	It doesn't go where I need to go
13	It is difficult to use
7	It doesn't feel safe
5	Don't know how to use it
26	Other [SPECIFY]
1	Don't know (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)
<1	Refused (VOL) (Web: Do not include this response option)

TRA2. Would you rate your community as excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor on the following? (Web: "How would you rate your community on the following?" [MATRIX LAYOUT]) [RANDOMIZE]

n=707	Excellent %	Very good %	Good %	Fair %	Poor %	Don't know %	Refused %
A. Accessible and convenient public transportation	7	10	24	24	29	5	<1
F. Special transportation services for people with disabilities and older adults	11	18	29	17	12	14	0
H. Affordable housing	5	12	25	28	21	8	0
I. A variety of housing options for older adults	6	14	27	25	19	9	<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=707
87	Yes
12	No
1	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=707
14	Yes, I have
39	Yes, a family member has
50	No
0	Don't know
<1	Refused (Web: Do not include this response option)

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

%	n=707
22	Yes
78	No
<1	Don't know (Web: Do not include this response option)
<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=707
3	0 through 12 th grade (no diploma)
19	High school graduate (or equivalent)
3	Post- high school vocational or technical training
27	Some college (no degree), Associate's degree, 2-year college degree
24	College graduate (4-year degree)
4	Post-graduate study
19	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=707
55	Female
44	Male
0	Other gender identity [SPECIFY]
<1	Don't know (VOL)
1	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

D4a. Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer?

%	n=707
4	Yes
95	No
0	Not sure
2	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

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

%	n=707
59	Married
4	Living with a partner
11	Widowed
14	Divorced or separated
12	Never married
0	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=707
50	Yes
48	No
1	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=707
35	Moderate
31	Conservative
26	Liberal
1	Other [SPECIFY]
4	Don't know
3	Refused (Web: "Prefer not to say")

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

%	n=707
53	Democrat
22	Independent
20	Republican
0	Other [SPECIFY] (VOL)
2	Don't know (VOL)
4	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=707
2	Less than \$10,000
11	\$10,000 to less than \$25,000
20	\$25,000 to less than \$50,000
19	\$50,000 to less than \$75,000
15	\$75,000 to less than \$100,000
8	\$100,000 to less than \$125,000
7	\$125,000 to less than \$150,000
5	\$150,000 to less than \$200,000
4	\$200,000 or more
11	Refused (VOL) (Web: "Prefer not to say")

Thank you very much for participating in this survey.