

# On Their Minds: Older Adults’ Top Health-Related Concerns



**May/June 2024**

[www.healthyagingpoll.org](http://www.healthyagingpoll.org)

**Q1. How concerned are you about the following for older adults in your community?**

[Order of items were randomized for each respondent.]

	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not Concerned
a. Access to affordable healthy foods			
b. Access to quality home care, assisted living, or nursing home care			
c. Access to quality mental health care			
d. Ageism or age discrimination			
e. Alcohol use			
f. Being able to age in place			
g. Cost of dental care			
h. Cost of medical care			
i. Cost of health insurance or Medicare			
j. Cost of home care, assisted living, or nursing home care			
k. Cost of prescription medications			
l. Health risks from polluted water and air			
m. Health care quality			
n. Inaccurate or misleading health information			
o. Access to social and recreational activities			

	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not Concerned
p. Marijuana or cannabis use			
q. Neighborhood safety			
r. Obesity			
s. Opioid or fentanyl use			
t. Poverty			
u. Racial and ethnic discrimination			
v. Financial scams or fraud			
w. Social isolation or loneliness			
x. Stress or anxiety			
y. Unequal access to health care			
z. Vaccine hesitancy			

## Data Source and Methods

This National Poll on Healthy Aging report presents findings from a national household survey conducted exclusively by NORC at the University of Chicago for the University of Michigan’s Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation. This survey module was administered online and by phone from February 22nd–March 12th, 2024, to a randomly selected, stratified group of U.S. adults age 50–101 (n=3,379), with an oversample of non-Hispanic Black and Hispanic populations. The survey completion rate was 44% among probability-panel members invited to participate. The margin of error is +/-1 to 4 percentage points for questions asked of the full sample and higher among subgroups.

The sample for the Michigan Poll on Healthy Aging included Michigan respondents ages 50-94 (n=1,079); 367 from the AmeriSpeak probability-based panel, and 712 from non-probability panels. The survey completion rate was 40% among probability-based panel members in Michigan that were invited to participate. The margin of error is +/-3 to 10 percentage points for questions asked of the full Michigan sample and higher among subgroups.

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