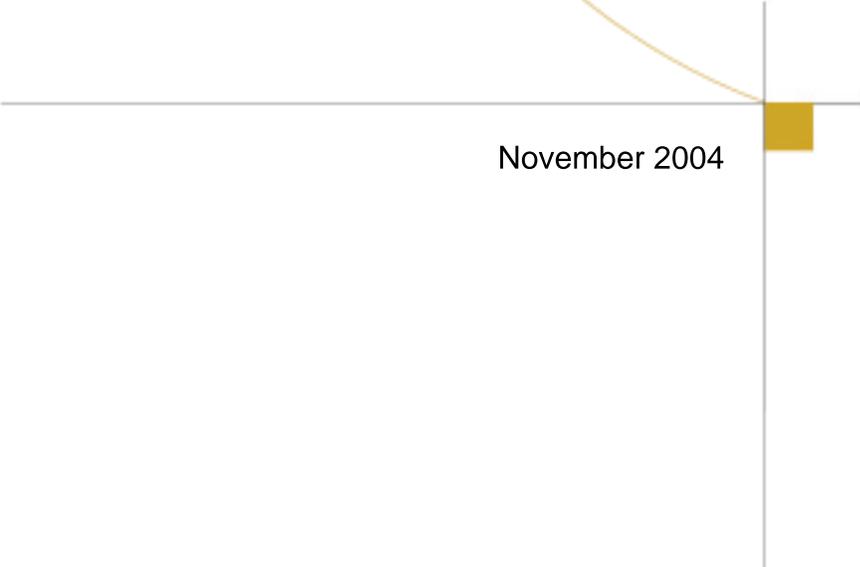




Images of Aging in America 2004

A Summary of Selected Findings



November 2004

Images of Aging in America 2004

A Summary of Selected Findings

**Report Prepared by
Alexis Abramson
University of Southern California
and
Dr. Merrill Silverstein
University of Southern California**

**Survey fielded by
FGI Integrated Marketing, Inc.**

**Study co-sponsored by
AARP, AARP Services, Inc., and the University of Southern California**

Copyright © 2004, AARP and the University of Southern California

**Reprinting with permission only
601 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20049
www.aarp.org**

November 2004

AARP

AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization for people age 50 and over. AARP is dedicated to enhancing quality of life for all as we age. We lead positive social change and deliver value to members through information, advocacy and service. AARP also provides a wide range of unique benefits, special products, and services for our members. These benefits include AARP Web site at www.aarp.org, *AARP The Magazine*, the monthly *AARP Bulletin*, and a Spanish-language newspaper, *Segunda Juventud*. Active in every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, AARP celebrates the attitude that age is just a number and life is what you make it.

AARP Services, Inc.

AARP Services, Inc. is a leader in providing high value products and services to enhance quality of life. We support positive social change through market innovation and leadership benefiting people 50+ and society. AARP Services, Incorporated (ASI), founded in 1999, is a wholly owned subsidiary of AARP, a nonprofit membership organization for people 50 and over. We manage the wide range of products and services that are offered as benefits to AARP's 35+ million members. Our goals are to:

- ❖ increase the value of AARP membership,
- ❖ optimize revenue potential to support AARP's social mission, and
- ❖ create a positive social impact.

University of Southern California Andrus Gerontology Center

The quality of life available to older persons and their evolving role in society are critical concerns. Through the efforts of the faculty, staff, and Board of Councilors, the Andrus Gerontology Center is committed to promoting successful aging and an older population that is healthy, active and involved in the life of the community and nation. Erected as a tribute to Ethel Percy Andrus, the Andrus Gerontology Center is committed to understanding aging and preparing professionals to work in an aging society. <http://www.usc.edu/dept/gero>

For additional information contact the sponsors:

AARP:

Dr. Albert R. Hollenbeck, ahollenbeck@aarp.org, at (202) 434-6280 or
Dr. Xenia P. Montenegro, xmontenegro@aarp.org, at (202) 434-3538.

AARP Services, Inc.:

Denise R. McKissock, dmckissock@aarp.org, at (202) 434-3536.

The University of Southern California:

Alexis Abramson, University of Southern California, alexis@abramson.com, at (213) 740-8242 or
Dr. Merrill Silverstein, University of Southern California, merrils@usc.com, at (213) 740-8242

IMAGES OF AGING IN AMERICA 2004

BACKGROUND AND METHOD

This report summarizes findings from a telephone survey conducted in 2004 on behalf of AARP and the University of Southern California (USC) to better understand Americans' knowledge, perceptions, and attitudes about aging and older people. Comparisons are also made to findings from a similar AARP study (using an almost identical questionnaire) conducted in 1994. This study was conducted by telephone among randomly selected adults nationwide; three different types of samples were used.

First, random digit dialing techniques were used to complete a total of 1,202 interviews. This "regular RDD sample" is comparable to the 1994 total sample. Second, a "targeted sample" was used to increase the number of interviews with African Americans. Some interviews were completed with African Americans as part of the regular RDD sample, but more interviews were conducted to allow more analysis of the knowledge of and attitudes toward aging among African Americans. In total, 314 interviews were conducted with African Americans, with 222 of these coming from targeted sample, and 92 coming from the regular RDD sample. Third, a "targeted sample" was also used to increase the number of interviews with people of Hispanic origin. In total, 318 interviews were conducted with people of Hispanic origin, with 170 coming from targeted sample, and 148 coming from the regular RDD sample. Results shown for Hispanics in the report are based on the "total Hispanic sample" of 318.

A comprehensive report on the findings from this survey will be issued in January, 2005. This summary contains selected findings and an annotated questionnaire of overall results.

A SUMMARY OF SELECTED FINDINGS

Americans are fairly knowledgeable about aging. The typical respondent answered approximately half (%) of the items on 25 point knowledge of aging scale¹ correctly, but this knowledge level has remained relatively stable over the last 10 years.

The majority of Americans understand that despite some declines in physical and mental capabilities, older people are healthy enough to enjoy a variety of activities, including sexual relations, meaningful work, and learning.

Most Americans understand that older persons can learn (89%), are either working or want work to do (88%) and feel healthy (79%).

Many Americans still have misconceptions about aging and older people. Despite having knowledge about many aspects of aging, many Americans are still under the misconceptions that the majority of older people live below the poverty line (64%); that older people say they are often angry or irritated (69%), bored (64%), or lonely (73%); that at least one in ten elderly people are institutionalized(85%) ; and that the health and economic status of the elderly in the next couple of decades will probably be the same or worse than it is now(77%).

Many stereotypes are still common. Almost half (47%) feel that the majority of older people cannot adapt to change, almost two fifths (39%) feel that older workers aren't as effective as younger workers, and almost one third (32%) feel that older persons have no capacity for sex (See Table 1, page 3).

¹ Palmore, Erdman B. (1988). Facts on Aging Quiz. Volume 21 in the Springer Series on Adulthood and Aging.

Table 1
KNOWLEDGE ABOUT AGING AND THE ELDERLY
Percentage Giving Correct Response

	Total 1994	Total 2004	
N =	1,200	1,202	
<i>Most Respondents Correct:</i>	%	%	
Physical strength declines with age. (T)	94	94	
It's almost impossible for older people to learn. (F)	91	89	
The majority of older people are working / want work to do. (T)	91	88	▼
All five senses decline with age. (T)	75	81	▲
Older people react more slowly than younger people. (T)	81	79	
Over three-fourths of older people say they are healthy. (T)	78	79	
<i>More Than Two-thirds:</i>			
The majority of older people are senile. (F)	80	72	▼
The majority of older people say they are miserable. (F)	67	69	
Older people tend to be pretty much alike. (F)	65	69	▲
The majority of older people have no capacity for sex. (F)	71	68	
Lung capacity declines with age. (T)	68	68	
<i>Half Or More:</i>			
Older workers aren't as effective as younger workers. (F)	62	61	
Older people take longer to learn something new. (T)	50	57	▲
The majority of older people cannot adapt to change. (F)	49	53	▲
<i>Less Than Half:</i>			
Older workers have fewer accidents than younger workers. (T)	49	46	
The majority of older people are below the poverty line. (F)	35	36	
The majority of older people say they are seldom bored. (T)	32	36	▲
Drivers 65+ have fewer accidents vs. those under 65. (T)	42	35	▼
Medical personnel give lower priority to older people. (T)	37	33	▼
<i>Less Than One-third:</i>			
The majority of older people are seldom angry or irritated. (T)	32	31	
The majority of older people say they are lonely. (F)	24	27	
Health/economic status of older people will not get better. (F)	20	23	
Older people become more religious as they age. (F)	24	18	▼
At least one-tenth of older people live in institutions. (F)	15	15	
Over 20% of the population is age 65 or older. (F)	12	15	▲

▲ ▼ Statistically significant difference between 1994 and 2004

Source: Images of Aging in America 2004

Results in 2004 were very similar to results in 1994. The average respondent answered 13 of the 25 items correctly, just as they did ten years ago. A moderate knowledge level is pervasive. While fewer than 10 percent of respondents got less than 10 items correct, less than 10 percent of the respondents got 18 or more items correct either in 1994 or 2004 (See Table 2).

Table 2
KNOWLEDGE INDEX

	Total 1994	Total 2004
N =	1,200	1,202
	%	%
<u>13 or less correct:</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
0 to 9	9	8
10	7	7
11	9	11
12	13	11
13	13	14
<u>14 or more correct:</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
14	13	15
15	14	12
16	10	10
17	6	6
18 or more	7	7
Mean number items correct	13.4	13.4
Median correct	14	13
Standard deviation	2.9	2.9

Source: Images of Aging in America 2004

Some demographic subgroups differ in knowledge about aging and older people.

Race and Ethnic Differences: Hispanics (73%) and African-Americans (64%), whose education distribution and income tended to skew toward the lower end, were disproportionately below the median number of items answered correctly. Overall, respondents from both groups demonstrated a *lower* knowledge of aging (answering 13 or less items correct) than White Non-Hispanics (45%).

Differences by Age: Misconceptions about aging and older people were more common among those who have not quite reached middle age. The median age for those individuals with *low* knowledge of aging was 40 years of age.

Education and Income Differences: Those in the *low* knowledge group were less likely to be college graduates (17%) and more likely to have no exposure to college (59%). Those in the *low* knowledge group also tended to have lower incomes (median income \$30,700). In fact respondent's income emerged as the most significant predictor of their level of knowledge about aging and older people.

Personal anxiety about aging is limited and stable over time. Americans did not express a high level of personal anxiety about aging when points were scored for *strength of anxiety* (2 points for strong opinions, 1 point for opinions at the somewhat level). In both 2004 and 1994, respondents recorded an average score of 8 on a 26 point aging anxiety scale² where 0 represented no anxiety and 26 represented high anxiety. Common anxieties about aging involve health, money matters, independence in older age, and general concern about the future (See Table 3, page 6).

² Kafer, R. A., Rakowski, W., Lachman, M., & Hickey, T. (1980). Aging Opinion Survey: A report on instrument development. International Journal of Aging & Human Development, 11, 319-333.

Table 3
ATTITUDES / ANXIETIES ABOUT AGING
Percentage Agreeing With Statement

	Total 1994	Total 2004	
N =	1,200	1,202	
<i>Positive Attitudes About Aging:</i>			
I enjoy talking with older people.	95	96	
I have become more content over the years.	77	80	
Thinking about dying doesn't bother me.	69	70	
I know I'll enjoy sex no matter how old I am.	76	69	▼
I'll always have plenty of friends to talk to.	75	69	▼
<i>Anxieties About Aging:</i>			
The older I get, the more I worry about my health.	65	69	▲
The older I get, the more I worry about money matters.	62	63	
I worry about not being able to get around on my own.	64	59	▼
It's best to forget we are getting older every day.	60	59	
I worry others will make my decisions when I'm older.	54	57	
The older I get, the more anxious I am about the future.	50	52	
Financial dependence on my children is a greatest fear.	48	48	
I always worried about finding grey hairs.	22	27	▲

▲▼ Statistically significant difference 1994 vs. 2004

Source: *Images of Aging in America 2004*

While about half the respondents agreed that they get more anxious about the future as they get older (52%), that financial dependence on their children is their greatest fear (48%), and others will make their decisions when they are older (57%), strong majorities feel that they will always enjoy sex (69%) and have plenty of friends to talk to (69%), and 80% report that they have become more content over the years.

Less knowledge about aging is associated with greater anxiety about the aging process. To a moderate degree, Americans with a lower overall level of knowledge about aging and older people are more likely to feel anxiety about the aging process. Americans who are younger, have lower income, are less educated, African American, and/or Hispanic are more likely to feel anxiety about the aging process.

Interestingly, knowledge about aging is related to anxiety even after controlling for many other variables that are also related to anxiety about aging. For example, overestimating the prevalence of loneliness among older people is associated with higher anxiety about the aging process (even after controlling for the effects of many other variables previously identified as being associated with anxiety).

Perceptions differ on when a person becomes “old.” The average age at which a man or a woman is perceived to become old is 63, the same as it was in 1994. This average hides considerable variation, however, since over one third of the respondents cited an age of 70 or over while another fourth named an age under 60.

The loss of the ability to work/contribute, deteriorating health, and declining capabilities were the explanations most typically cited for determining when an individual becomes old.

Problems experienced by individuals by age. Younger people (18-34) were most likely to classify themselves as dealing with serious personal problems, averaging three such problems out of the 15 problems listed. Those most typically mentioned included lack of job opportunities and not enough money to live on (35%), not enough medical care (30%), and poor health (30%).

By contrast, those 65+ reported an average of 1.5 serious problems. Those most typically mentioned included not enough money to live on (21%), fear of crime (19%), not enough medical care (16%) and poor health (15%).

Over half (57%) of those 65+ said none of the 15 possible personal problems were “serious,” compared to 38% of those 18-34 and 51% of those 35-64.

Problems experienced in life are associated with anxiety about aging. The more problems a person experiences in life (e.g., not having enough money to live on, not enough job opportunities, not enough medical care, not enough education, etc.), the more likely he or she is to express a high level of anxiety about aging.

The relationship between problems experienced and anxiety is stronger than the relationship between knowledge and anxiety and helps to explain many of the differences by demographic subgroups. This is because the subgroups with a relatively high average level of anxiety (e.g., those who are younger, have lower income, are less educated, African American, and/or Hispanic) also report more problems, on average, within their demographic sub-group.

Not surprisingly, men and women express anxiety about different issues. Women were more likely than men to express anxiety about, “not being able to get around later in life” (64% vs. 54%), “others making decisions for them” (60% vs. 54%), and “financial

dependence on children” (52% vs. 43%). Women were also less likely to agree that they will “enjoy sex no matter how old I am” (63% vs. 76%) and that “thinking about dying doesn’t bother me much” (68% vs. 73%).

The average number of perceived problems has increased slightly from 1994. The total sample considered an average of 1.8 problems to be serious in 1994, compared to 2.1 problems considered serious in 2004 (See Table 4).

Table 4 PROBLEMS PERCEIVED "FOR MOST PEOPLE OVER 65"	Serious Problem		Serious / Somewhat	
	1994	2004	1994	2004
N =	1,200	1,202	1,200	1,202
	%	%	%	%
Not enough medical care	58	61	87	87
Not enough money to live on	63	<u>59</u>	94	<u>91</u>
Poor health	57	54	95	<u>92</u>
Loneliness	58	<u>49</u>	94	<u>91</u>
Fear of crime	70	<u>46</u>	95	<u>86</u>
Not having family members nearby	47	<u>43</u>	90	<u>87</u>
Not feeling needed	54	<u>41</u>	92	<u>87</u>
Not enough job opportunities	43	<u>39</u>	76	78
Transportation to stores, doctors, etc.	42	<u>37</u>	86	85
No control over every day life decisions	34	37	81	83
Poor housing	37	35	82	82
Not enough to do to keep busy	30	<u>26</u>	80	78
Not enough education	20	20	64	66
None of the above	<u>7</u>	14	1	1
Mean number of problems:	6.1	<u>5.5</u>	11.1	10.9

Lowest result underlined when statistically significant difference 1994 vs. 2004
Source: Images of Aging in America 2004

Americans project many more problems onto older people than older people themselves feel that they actually experience. Out of 13 possible problems covered in the survey, the average number thought to be serious problems for “most people over 65 these days” was 5.5. In contrast, among survey respondents age 65 or older, the average number of serious problems reported as experienced was only 1.5.

Although there is a large gap between reported experiences and perceptions about the lives of older people, it is still the case that personal experiences with problems are more predictive than demographic characteristics of the problems perceived for older people.

Thus, reporting that you have experienced a serious problem increases your perception that older persons will have serious problems.

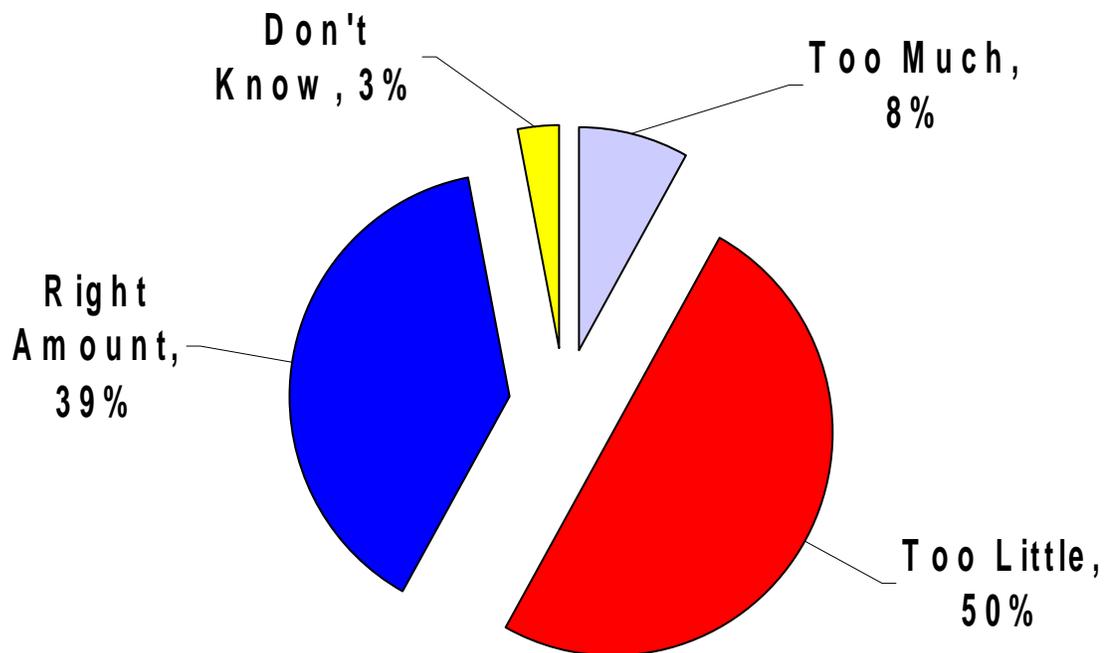
One problem that is less prevalent today is “fear of crime.” Most findings in 2004 concerning older persons’ problems were similar to findings from the 1994 study. However there was a noticeable drop in the proportion reporting experiencing “fear of crime” as a serious problem in their lives (from 29% to 18%) and in the proportion of responders expecting older people to experience this problem (from 70% to 40%).

Americans are aware of changes for the better in the health and economic status of older people in recent decades. Despite some misconceptions about older people and the tendency to overestimate the extent of serious problems experienced by older persons, Americans continue to see older people as increasingly better educated, healthier, living longer, and at least as well off financially as older people were “10 to 20 years ago.”

However, among African Americans and Hispanics, there is more skepticism about these trends. These groups are less likely than White Non-Hispanics to feel that older people are better educated, at least as well off financially, healthier, and living longer today compared to older people 10 to 20 years ago. There also appears to be some uncertainty in general about the future of older people in America. As already mentioned, Americans tend to view the following statement as true: “The health and economic status of older people in the year 2020 will probably be the same or worse than it is now.”

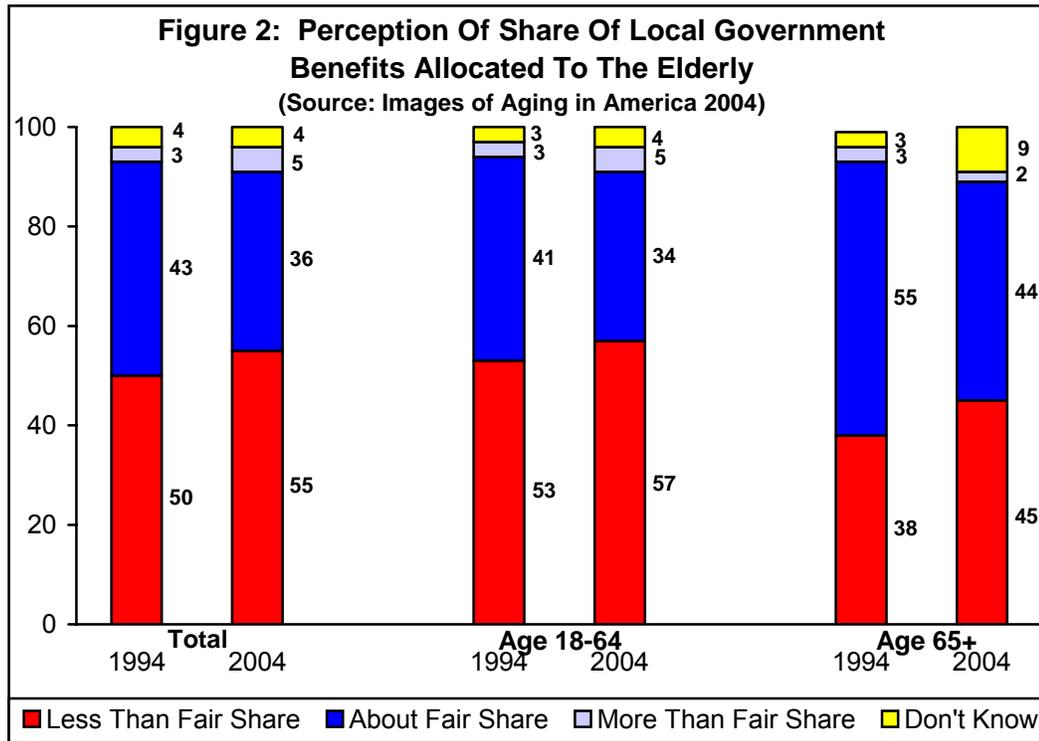
Americans generally feel that “retired older Americans” have too little influence “in this country today.” Specifically, half (50%) of responders feel that retired older Americans have “too little” influence. However, slightly more than one-third (39%) feel that retired older Americans have the “right amount” of influence and only eight percent feel that they have too much influence (See Figure 1, page 10).

Figure 1: Influence of Retired Older Americans Today?



Source: Images of Aging in America 2004

Americans generally feel that older people receive less than their fair share of local government benefits. Just over half (55%) of responders feel that older Americans get “less than their fair share” of local government benefits. However, more than one-third (36%) feel that older Americans get “about their fair share” and only five percent feel that they get more than their fair share. Interestingly, Americans under the age of 65 (57%) were slightly **more** likely than older Americans (45%) to feel that seniors get **less** than their fair share (See Figure 2, page 11).



Source: Images of Aging in America 2004

At the same time, most Americans agreed (85%) that “older residents generally help to improve the quality of life in my community.” About half (49%) agreed that “the *economic benefits* older residents bring to my community make up for the amount local government spends on them.”

Intergenerational conflict is not prevalent in America today. Using opinions about the influence, share of government benefits, and impact on the community of older people (along with other related issues), in 1994 an index was created to provide one overall measure of “intergenerational conflict.” Using that same index in 2004, the results show little conflict between the old and young.

The average index value was almost the same in 1994 as in 2004. Thus, the following conclusion from the 1994 report still applies in 2004: “This study showed strikingly little evidence of prevalent intergenerational conflict (Images of Aging in America, 1995).”

“Respect for elders,” is a common belief in American society. Nearly nine in ten (85%) responders report that “older people deserve a special amount of respect because of their age.” This finding is identical to that reported in 1994. African American (90%) and Hispanics (93%) were more likely than White and Non-Hispanics (84%) to agree that older people deserve special respect because of their age.

Americans tend to be satisfied with their lives. Anxieties and misconceptions about aging aside, nearly nine-in-ten (88%) Americans are satisfied with their lives “as a whole these days.” Almost half (49%) are “very satisfied,” and almost four in ten (39%) are “somewhat satisfied. Older Americans (85%) are slightly less likely than younger Americans (88%) to feel this way. Results were similar in 2004 (88%) and 1994 (84%).

African Americans (86%) and Hispanics (83%) were nearly as likely as Whites and Non-Hispanics (88%) to be at least satisfied with their lives. However, African Americans (34%) were less likely than Whites and Non-Hispanics (52%) to be “very satisfied.”

Relationships among Intergenerational Conflict, Experienced Problems, Perceived Problems, Anxiety, and Knowledge of Aging. As might be expected, the more problems an individual experiences the higher levels of anxiety they report ($r = .44$). High levels of knowledge of aging, however, are associated with lower levels of anxiety ($r = -.24$). In contrast, the fewer problems an individual experiences themselves the more problems they perceive for older individuals ($r = -.43$). Knowledge of aging has little effect on perceived problems ($r = .09$). Finally, intergenerational conflict as measured by our index, which is generally low, has no association with knowledge of aging and very small relationships to anxiety, and either experienced or perceived problems of aging.

Implications

- Some continuing misconceptions and anxieties about aging offer a challenge to those attempting to present a more accurate and favorable image of aging and older people.
- There are opportunities for government officials, politicians, journalists, educators, medical researchers, and others to help Americans to learn more about and reduce anxiety about aging.
- Americans with lower socio-economic status and/or experiencing serious problems express the most anxiety about aging, which may indicate the negative impact that the lack of economic security may have on quality of life and overall life development as people age.
- The relationships between knowledge of aging, problems experienced in life, and anxiety about the aging process underscore the need for careful, sensitive treatment of news, medical research findings, and policies dealing with older people.
- AARP and educational institutions, such as USC, clearly have important roles as key resources for providing the kinds of information, education, and advocacy for knowledge that will enhance the control Americans of all generations can take over their health, financial security, and political empowerment, thus enhancing the quality of life into the future as Americans age.
- As in 1994, the present study showed little evidence of “intergenerational conflict.”
- Despite significant demographic shifts in America (e.g., aging of boomers and Hispanic population increases) and extensive media coverage of issues of aging (e.g., funding of Social Security and prescription drug coverage), the measures used in this study are remarkably stable from 1994 to 2004.

Images of Aging in America 2004 Annotated Questionnaire

RLP. [INTERVIEWER DOES THE RESPONDENT SPEAK ENGLISH OR SPANISH]

English

Spanish

Intro1. Hello, this is [Interviewer Name] calling on behalf of the University of Southern California and AARP. We are conducting a nationwide survey about various issues facing society today. I need to speak with the person in this household who is 18 years of age or older with the most recent birthday. [IF APPROPRIATE:] Would that be you?

Intro2. You are being asked to participate in a research study conducted by the University of Southern California and sponsored in part by the AARP. The goal of this study is to better understand how Americans feel about growing older. Any information that is obtained in connection with this study will remain confidential and your identity will not be connected to the data. Your phone number was selected at random. Your participation is voluntary.

CONTINUE

Intro3. You can choose whether to be in this study or not. You may also refuse to answer any questions you don't want to answer and still remain in the study.

It should take about 15 minutes. There are no questions that are likely to make you uncomfortable. The knowledge gained from this study will be used to help improve the lives of mature adults. We think that you will find this survey to be an interesting experience.

CONTINUE

Intro4. We do want you to know that there is no payment for participating in this research study. If you have any questions or concerns about the research or your rights as a research subject, I can provide you with the name and address of someone to contact.

Yes, provide contact information

No, contact information not needed [SKIP TO S1]

S1. ENTER RESPONDENTS SEX: [DO NOT READ]

Male 48%

Female 52%

[ONLY USE THIS FOR OVERSAMPLE QUOTA]

D7a. For the purpose of this survey, may I ask, what race do you consider yourself? Is it...

	%
White	75
Black	12
American Indian	1
Eskimo	0

Aleut	0
Asian or Pacific Islander	0
Other	9
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ]	1

D8a. Are you of Spanish or Hispanic origin?

	%
No (Not Spanish/Hispanic)	87
Yes	12
Don't know/No answer [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ]	1

[IF D7A NOT EQUAL TO 2 AND D8A NOT EQUAL TO 2 CODE AS DQ]

Q1. I'd like your opinions about different priorities for government spending. Tell me if you consider each of the following areas a top priority for government spending, important, but not a top priority, or not too important?

In your opinion, are [READ AND ROTATE] a top priority for government spending, important, but not a top priority, or not too important.

Programs and services for older people

Top priority.....	45%
Important, but not a top priority.....	46
Not too important.....	8
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

Programs and services for infants and young children

Top priority.....	50%
Important, but not a top priority.....	41
Not too important.....	7
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	2
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

Programs and services for poor people

Top priority.....	39%
Important, but not a top priority.....	50
Not too important.....	10
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	2
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

Programs and services for teens

Top priority.....	30%
Important, but not a top priority.....	51
Not too important.....	15
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	3
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

Economic opportunities for working people	
Top priority.....	46%
Important, but not a top priority.....	43
Not too important.....	9
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	3
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

NCOA/Harris
[ROTATE NH1 AND NH2]

NH 1. At what age do you think the average man becomes old? Just think about men not women. [RANGE=1-150][996=IT DEPENDS][997=NEVER]
[998=DON'T KNOW][999=REFUSED]

[IF NH1=1-150, SKIP TO NH1B][IF NH1=997, 998, or 999, SKIP TO NH2]

Under 40 years.....	3%
40-49 years.....	4
50-59 years.....	16
60-69 years.....	35
70-74 years.....	18
75-79 years.....	8
80 years and older.....	8
Depends.....	5
Never.....	0
Don't know.....	0
Refused.....	1
No Answer.....	2

NH1A. On what does it depend? [OPEN ENDED]

[SKIP TO NH2]

NH1B. Why do you think a man becomes old at [AGE]? [OPEN ENDED]

NH2. At what age do you think the average woman becomes old? Just think about women, not men.[RANGE=1-150][996=IT DEPENDS][997=NEVER]
[998= DON'T KNOW][999=REFUSED]

[IF NH2=1-150, SKIP TO NH2B][IF NH2=997, 998, or 999, SKIP TO LS1]

Under 40 years.....	3%
40-49 years.....	7
50-59 years.....	15
60-69 years.....	28
70-74 years.....	18
75-79 years.....	9
80 years and older.....	10
Depends.....	5
Never.....	1
Don't know.....	4
Refused.....	1

NH2a. On what does it depend? [OPEN ENDED]

[SKIP TO LS1]

NH2b. Why do you think a woman becomes old at [AGE]?

LS1. All in all, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days? Are you ... [READ ITEMS 1-5]

Very satisfied.....	49%
Somewhat satisfied.....	39
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied.....	3
Somewhat dissatisfied.....	5
Very dissatisfied	3
Don't know [DO NOT READ]...	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

LS2. How would you rate your health at the present time - excellent, good, fair, or poor?

Excellent.....	36%
Good.....	42
Fair.....	16
Poor.....	5
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

LS3. As you grow older, do you find that things are better than you thought they would be, worse, or about what you thought they would be?

Better.....	29%
Worse.....	25
As expected.....	43
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	4
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

NH2C. Do you agree or disagree that older people deserve a special amount of respect because of their age? [IF AGREE/DISAGREE] Do you (agree/disagree) strongly or somewhat?

Agree strongly.....	70%
Agree somewhat.....	15
Disagree somewhat.....	9
Disagree strongly.....	4
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	2
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

NH3. Let me read you some statements about people over 65 today, compared with ten or twenty years ago. For each statement, please tell me if you tend to agree or disagree. [ROTATE]

a. Older people make up a smaller part of the population today than they did then

Agree.....	21%
Disagree.....	75
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	4
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

b. People live longer today than they did then

Agree.....	83%
Disagree.....	15
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	3
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

c. Older people today are generally better educated than older people were then

Agree.....	86%
Disagree.....	11
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	3
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

d. Older people today are worse off financially than older people were then

Agree.....	40%
Disagree.....	51
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	9
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

e. Older people today are healthier than older people were then

Agree.....	71%
Disagree.....	24
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	5
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

There are more older people living alone today than there were then

Agree.....	79%
Disagree.....	12
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	9
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

H6. Now I'm going to read you some problems that other people have mentioned to us. For each, would you tell me if it is a serious problem, somewhat of a problem, or not a problem for you personally.

How much of a problem is [READ AND ROTATE] for you personally?

Not having enough money to live on

A Serious Problem.....	27%
Somewhat of a problem.....	30
Not a problem.....	43
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

Poor health

A Serious Problem.....	21%
Somewhat of a problem.....	19
Not a problem.....	60
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]...	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ]...	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

Loneliness

A Serious Problem.....	13%
Somewhat of a problem.....	17
Not a problem.....	70
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

Poor housing	
A Serious Problem.....	13%
Somewhat of a problem.....	11
Not a problem.....	75
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]...	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Not enough to do to keep busy	
A Serious Problem.....	8%
Somewhat of a problem.....	14
Not a problem.....	78
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]....	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Fear of crime	
A Serious Problem.....	18%
Somewhat of a problem.....	29
Not a problem.....	54
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]....	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	0
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0
Getting transportation to stores, doctors, and places of recreation	
A Serious Problem.....	8%
Somewhat of a problem.....	12
Not a problem.....	80
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]....	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0
Not feeling needed	
A Serious Problem.....	9%
Somewhat of a problem.....	13
Not a problem.....	77
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Not enough education	
A Serious Problem.....	13%
Somewhat of a problem.....	24
Not a problem.....	62
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]....	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Not enough job opportunities	
A Serious Problem.....	24%
Somewhat of a problem.....	24
Not a problem.....	48
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	3
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

Not enough medical care	
A Serious Problem.....	25%
Somewhat of a problem.....	18
Not a problem.....	56
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0
Not having family members nearby	
A Serious Problem.....	14%
Somewhat of a problem.....	21
Not a problem.....	64
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Not having control over everyday life decisions	
A Serious Problem.....	13%
Somewhat of a problem.....	19
Not a problem.....	68
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	1
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	1
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

NH7. And now, I'm going to read the list once more. This time, would you tell me how serious a problem you think these things are for most people over 65 these days - a serious problem, somewhat of a problem or not a problem for most people over 65?

How much of a problem do you think [READ AND ROTATE] is for most people over 65?

Not having enough money to live on	
A Serious Problem.....	59%
Somewhat of a problem.....	32
Not a problem.....	8
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
b. Poor health	
A Serious Problem.....	54%
Somewhat of a problem.....	38
Not a problem.....	6
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	2
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
c. Loneliness	
A Serious Problem.....	49%
Somewhat of a problem.....	42
Not a problem.....	7
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ]....	2
Refused [DO NOT READ]....	0

d.	Poor housing	
	A Serious Problem.....	35%
	Somewhat of a problem.....	47
	Not a problem.....	15
	N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
	Don't know [DO NOT READ]	3
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
e.	Not enough to do to keep busy	
	A Serious Problem.....	26%
	Somewhat of a problem.....	52
	Not a problem.....	19
	N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
	Don't know [DO NOT READ]....	3
	Refused [DO NOT READ]....	0
f.	Fear of crime	
	A Serious Problem.....	46%
	Somewhat of a problem.....	40
	Not a problem.....	11
	N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
	Don't know [DO NOT READ]	2
	Refused [DO NOT READ]	0
g.	Getting transportation to stores, doctors, and places of recreation	
	A Serious Problem.....	37%
	Somewhat of a problem.....	47
	Not a problem.....	14
	N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0
	Don't know [DO NOT READ]....	1
	Refused [DO NOT READ]....	0
h.	Not feeling needed	
	A Serious Problem.....	41%
	Somewhat of a problem.....	46
	Not a problem.....	10
	N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ].....	0
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	3
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
i.	Not enough education	
	A Serious Problem.....	20%
	Somewhat of a problem.....	46
	Not a problem.....	31
	N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ].....	0
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	3
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
j.	Not enough job opportunities	
	Serious Problem.....	39%
	Somewhat of a problem.....	39
	Not a problem.....	20
	N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ].....	1
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	2
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

k.	Not enough medical care	
	A Serious Problem.....	61%
	Somewhat of a problem	26
	Not a problem	11
	N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ].....	0
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	2
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
l.	Not having family members nearby	
	A Serious Problem.....	43%
	Somewhat of a problem	44
	Not a problem.....	10
	N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ].....	0
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	3
	Refused [DO NOT READ]	0
m.	Not having control over everyday life decisions	
	A Serious Problem.....	37%
	Somewhat of a problem.....	45
	Not a problem.....	14
	N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ].....	0
	Don't know [DO NOT READ]	3
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	1

[SKIP NH8]

[ROTATE NH9 AND NH10]

NH9. Do you feel that people over 65 get too much, too little, or about the right amount of respect from younger people these days?

Too much.....	2%
Too little.....	80
Right Amount.....	17
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	2
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

NH10. Do you feel that younger people get too much, too little, or about the right amount of respect from people over 65 these days?

Too much	10%
Too little.....	35
Right amount.....	48
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	6
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

NH11. How much influence do you think retired older Americans have in this country today- too much, about the right amount, or too little influence?

Too much	8%
Too little.....	50
Right amount.....	39
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	3
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

Palmore's FAQ

FAQ. I'm going to read you a series of statements referring to the majority of older people, meaning more than half of people age 65 or older. Please tell me if you think the statement is True or False. Feel free to tell me if you are unsure about any of the items.

[READ AND ROTATE STATEMENTS]

In your opinion, is this statement True or False?

[IF NECESSARY: By "majority", I mean more than half. By "older people", I mean people 65 or older]

[FAQ1.] a. The majority of older people are senile, have a defective memory, or are disoriented.

True.....	23%
False.....	72
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	5
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

[FAQ2.] b. All five senses (sight, smell, hearing, taste and touch) tend to decline in old age.

True.....	81%
False.....	15
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	3
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

[FAQ3.] c. The majority of older people have no capacity for sexual relations.

True.....	19%
False.....	68
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	12
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

[FAQ4.] d. Lung capacity tends to decline in old age.

True.....	68%
False.....	20
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	12
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

[FAQ5.] e. The majority of older people say they are miserable most of the time.

True.....	25%
False.....	69
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	6
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

[FAQ6.] f. Physical strength tends to decline in old age.

True.....	94%
False.....	5
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

[FAQ7.] g. At least one tenth of older persons are living in institutions, such as nursing homes, mental hospitals, homes for the aged.

True.....	73%
False.....	15
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	12
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

- [FAQ8.] h. Drivers 65 and older have fewer accidents per person than drivers under 65.
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| True..... | 35% |
| False..... | 53 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ] | 12 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
- [FAQ9.] i. Older workers usually cannot work as effectively as younger workers.
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| True..... | 33% |
| False..... | 61 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ] | 6 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
- [FAQ10.] j. Over three-fourths of older people say they are healthy enough to carry out normal activities.
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| True..... | 79% |
| False..... | 15 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ] | 6 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
- [FAQ11.] k. The majority of older people are unable to adapt to change.
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| True..... | 44% |
| False..... | 53 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ]..... | 4 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
- [FAQ12.] l. Older people tend to take longer to learn something new.
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| True..... | 57% |
| False | 37 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ] | 6 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ] | 0 |
- [FAQ13.] m. It is almost impossible for older people to learn something new.
- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| True..... | 10% |
| False..... | 89 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ] | 2 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
- [FAQ14.] n. Older people tend to react more slowly than younger people.
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| True..... | 79% |
| False..... | 16 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ]..... | 5 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ] | 0 |
- [FAQ15.] o. In general, older people tend to be pretty much alike.
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| True..... | 29% |
| False..... | 69 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ]..... | 2 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ] | 0 |
- [FAQ16.] p. The majority of older people say they are seldom bored.
- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| True..... | 36% |
| False..... | 54 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ]..... | 10 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |

[FAQ17.] q.	The majority of older people say they are lonely.	
	True.....	65%
	False.....	27
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	8
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
[FAQ18.] r.	Older workers have fewer accidents than younger workers.	
	True.....	46%
	False.....	39
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	15
	Refused [DO NOT READ]	0
[FAQ19.] s.	Over 20 percent of the US population are now 65 or older.	
	True.....	68%
	False.....	15
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	17
	Refused [DO NOT READ]	0
[FAQ20.] t.	The majority of medical practitioners such as doctors or nurses give low priority to older people.	
	True.....	33%
	False.....	54
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	13
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
[FAQ21.] u.	The majority of older people have incomes below the poverty level, that is, less than \$8825 per year for an individual or less than \$11,122 per year for a couple.	
	True.....	47%
	False.....	36
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	17
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
[FAQ22.] v.	The majority of older people are working, or say they would like to have some kind of work to do, including work around the house and volunteer work.	
	True.....	88%
	False.....	8
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	3
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
[FAQ23.] w.	Older people tend to become more religious as they age.	
	True.....	72%
	False.....	18
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	10
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
[FAQ24.] x.	The majority of older people say they are seldom irritated or angry.	
	True.....	31%
	False.....	58
	Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	11
	Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

[FAQ25.] y. The health and economic status of older people in the year 2020 will probably be the same or worse than it is now.

True.....	69%
False.....	23
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	8
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

Rosenbaum and Button - Political/Community

RB. Now I'm going to read a short list of statements referring to elderly people. For each, please tell me whether you agree or disagree.

The [FIRST/NEXT] one is [READ AND ROTATE]

Do you agree or disagree? [IF AGREE/DISAGREE] Do you (agree/disagree) strongly or somewhat?

[RB1.] a. The economic benefits older residents bring to my community make up for the amount local government spends on them.

Agree strongly.....	20%
Agree somewhat.....	29
Disagree somewhat.....	25
Disagree strongly.....	13
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	13
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	1

[RB2.] b. Older residents generally help to improve the quality of life in my community.

Agree strongly.....	52%
Agree somewhat.....	33
Disagree somewhat.....	8
Disagree strongly.....	3
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	3
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

[RB3.] c. Older persons in my community tend to oppose paying for local public services which do not directly benefit them.

Agree strongly.....	26%
Agree somewhat.....	28
Disagree somewhat.....	25
Disagree strongly.....	14
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	8
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

[RB4.] d. When older persons support policies that benefit themselves, this creates conflict with younger residents.

Agree strongly.....	17%
Agree somewhat.....	31
Disagree somewhat.....	28
Disagree strongly.....	18
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	7
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	1

[RB5.] Right now, do you think the elderly are getting more than their fair share, less than their fair share, or about their fair share of local government benefits?

More than fair share.....	5%
Less than fair share.....	55
About fair share.....	36
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	4
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	1

Kafer Personal Anxiety

KPA. My next questions have to do with getting older. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

The [FIRST/NEXT] one is [READ AND ROTATE]

Do you agree or disagree? [IF AGREE/DISAGREE] Do you (agree/disagree) strongly or somewhat?

[K1.] a. I always worried about the day I would look into the mirror and see gray hairs.

Agree strongly.....	16%
Agree somewhat.....	11
Disagree somewhat.....	21
Disagree strongly.....	48
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ].....	3

[K2.] b. The older I become, the more I worry about my health.

Agree strongly.....	39%
Agree somewhat.....	30
Disagree somewhat.....	14
Disagree strongly.....	16
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ].....	0

[K3.] c. The older I become, the more anxious I am about the future

Agree strongly.....	30%
Agree somewhat.....	22
Disagree somewhat.....	23
Disagree strongly.....	23
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ].....	0

[K4.] d. It's best to forget we are getting older everyday.

Agree strongly.....	38%
Agree somewhat.....	21
Disagree somewhat.....	19
Disagree strongly.....	20
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	2
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ].....	0

- [K5.] e. The older I get, the more I worry about money matters
- | | |
|--|-----|
| Agree strongly..... | 41% |
| Agree somewhat..... | 23 |
| Disagree somewhat..... | 20 |
| Disagree strongly..... | 17 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ] | 0 |
| N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
- [K6.] f. I have become more content with the years.
- | | |
|--|-----|
| Agree strongly..... | 47% |
| Agree somewhat..... | 33 |
| Disagree somewhat..... | 12 |
| Disagree strongly..... | 6 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ]..... | 2 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ]..... | 1 |
| N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
- [K7.] g. I worry about not being able to get around on my own when I'm older
- | | |
|--|-----|
| Agree strongly..... | 34% |
| Agree somewhat..... | 25 |
| Disagree somewhat..... | 21 |
| Disagree strongly..... | 19 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ]..... | 1 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
| N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
- [K8.] h. I am sure that I will always have plenty of friends to talk to
- | | |
|---|-----|
| Agree strongly..... | 42% |
| Agree somewhat..... | 27 |
| Disagree somewhat..... | 18 |
| Disagree strongly..... | 10 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ] | 3 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ] | 0 |
| N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ] | 0 |
- [K9.] i. Thinking about dying doesn't bother me much.
- | | |
|--|-----|
| Agree strongly..... | 44% |
| Agree somewhat..... | 26 |
| Disagree somewhat..... | 13 |
| Disagree strongly..... | 16 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ] | 1 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ] | 0 |
| N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]..... | 0 |
- [K10.] j. Financial dependence on my children in old age is one of my greatest fears
- | | |
|---|-----|
| Agree strongly..... | 33% |
| Agree somewhat..... | 15 |
| Disagree somewhat..... | 17 |
| Disagree strongly..... | 30 |
| Don't know [DO NOT READ]..... | 1 |
| Refused [DO NOT READ]..... | 1 |
| N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ] | 4 |

[K11.] k. I know I'll enjoy sex no matter how old I am

Agree strongly.....	45%
Agree somewhat.....	24
Disagree somewhat.....	12
Disagree strongly.....	11
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	7
Refused [DO NOT READ]	1
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	1

[K12.] l. I worry that other people will have to make decisions for me when I'm older.

Agree strongly.....	30%
Agree somewhat.....	27
Disagree somewhat.....	19
Disagree strongly.....	23
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0

[K13.] m. I enjoy talking to older people.

Agree strongly.....	74%
Agree somewhat.....	22
Disagree somewhat.....	2
Disagree strongly.....	2
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
N/A to my situation [DO NOT READ]	0

Contact with Older persons

C1. How often do you talk to or get together with anyone age 65 or older, (other than your spouse, if he/she is 65 or older)? (READ ITEMS 1-7)

Daily.....	30%
A few times a week.....	30
Once a week.....	13
A few times a month.....	12
Once a month.....	6
Less often than once a month.....	7
Never [SKIP TO D1].....	3
Don't know [DO NOT READ] [SKIP TO D1].....	0
Refused/NO MORE APPLY [DO NOT READ]... ..	0 [SKIP TO D1]

C2. Are the older people you see relatives, friends, neighbors, co-workers, people you are helping out, or someone else? (ENTER ALL THAT APPLY)

Relatives.....	59%
Friends.....	55
Neighbors	37
Co-workers.....	28
People helped out.....	20
Customers/clients.....	13
People in public places.....	11
At church.....	14
Don't know.....	0
Refused/ NO MORE APPLY [DO NOT READ].....	0

C3. What is the nature of the contact you have with people 65 and older, that is, what do you do when you are with them? (DO NOT READ LIST. ALL THAT APPLY.)

Socializing.....	82%
Family obligations.....	11
Caretaking.....	7
Volunteer work.....	7
In workplace.....	17
Educational setting.....	1
Other [Church Activities].....	4
Other [Running errands/helping out/odd jobs].....	1
Other [Sports/hobbies/recreation]	1
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	0
[Refused/ NO MORE APPLY [DO NOT READ]	0

D1TEXT My last questions will help us classify our results.

D1. How old are you? (RECORD AGE IN YEARS) [RANGE=18-97] [98 IF NO ANSWER] [99 IF REFUSED]

[IF D1 = 98 OR 99 READ D1A; ELSE SKIP TO D2]

D1a. If I read some age ranges, would you stop me when I read the one containing your age?

18-24.....	13%
25-34.....	18
35-49.....	32
50-64.....	21
65-74.....	11
75 and over.....	6
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

D2. What is your Current employment status? Are you...

Employed full-time.....	50%
Employed part-time.....	12
Retired (not working).....	15
Homemaker.....	9
Unemployed (looking for work).....	6
Disabled.....	5
Student.....	2
Self Employed.....	1
Something else [SPECIFY].....	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ]	0

[SKIP TO QD4 IF AGE 50-64]

[SKIP TO QD5 IF AGE UNDER 50 OR DK/REF AGE]

D3. [IF D1 > 64 OR D1A = 5 OR 6 ASK] Thinking about the following groups of people, please tell me if you feel they treat you differently than they did when you were younger.

[ROTATE] treat you differently than when you were younger?

Do doctors, nurses or other health care professionals	
Yes.....	29%
No.....	69
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	2
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Does your employer [ASK ONLY IF D2 =1 OR 2]	
Yes.....	15%
No.....	64
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	22
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Do co-workers	
Yes.....	25%
No.....	69
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	6
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Do any family members	
Yes.....	31%
No.....	67
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	2
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Do friends	
Yes.....	14%
No.....	85
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Do people you don't know, such as people in stores, on buses or in other public areas	
Yes.....	37%
No.....	55
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	9
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

D4. [IF D1 > 49 OR D1A = 4,5, OR 6 ASK] Do you belong to A-A-R-P or "AARP" - the American Association of Retired Persons OR NRTA - The National Retired Teachers Association?

Yes.....	46%
No.....	54
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

D5. What is the highest grade of school you completed, is it...

Grade school or less.....	3%
Some high school.....	13
High school graduate.....	27
Technical or vocational school.....	5
Some college or Associate Degree.....	27
College graduate (4 years)	15
Post-graduate studies.....	10
Don't know [DO NOT READ]	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

D6. What is your marital status? Are you...

Now married.....	53%
Widowed.....	7
Divorced.....	12
Separated.....	3
Never married.....	25
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	1

[OVERQUOTA SKIP D7 AND D8]

D7. What race do you consider yourself? Is it...

White.....	75%
Black.....	12
American Indian.....	1
Eskimo.....	0
Aleut.....	0
Asian or Pacific Islander.....	2
Other.....	9
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	0
Refused [DO NOT READ]	1

D8. Are you of Spanish or Hispanic origin?

No (Not Spanish/Hispanic).....	87%
Yes.....	12
Don't know/No answer [DO NOT READ].....	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	1

D9. Which of the following best describes your living situation? Do you . . .

Live alone.....	19%
Live alone with dependent children.....	6
Live with your spouse/partner.....	25
Live with your spouse/partner and dependent children.....	31
Live with adult children or other family members.....	13
Live with non-related person or persons.....	5
Live with parent (s).....	1
All other mentions.....	1
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

D9a. Is your mother still alive? [IF RESPONDENT HAS DIFFICULTY IDENTIFYING MOTHER]
Please answer this question thinking about the adult female you felt closest to as a child.

Yes.....	65%
No [SKIP TO D9C]	35
NO ADULT FEMALE IN FAMILY [DO NOT READ][SKIP TO D9C]	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ] [SKIP TO D9C].....	0
Refused [DO NOT READ] [SKIP TO D9C].....	0

D9b How would you rate her health these days?

Excellent	12%
Good.....	27
Fair.....	41
Poor.....	18
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0

D9b2. Do you see or talk to your mother at least once a week?

Yes.....	83%
No.....	16
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	0
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	0
Not asked.....	1

D9c Is your father still alive?? [IF RESPONDENT HAS DIFFICULTY IDENTIFYING FATHER]
Please answer this question thinking about the adult male you felt closest to as a child.

Yes.....	50%
No [SKIP TO D10].....	50
NO ADULT MALE IN FAMILY [DO NOT READ] [SKIP TO D10]....	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ] [SKIP TO D10].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ] [SKIP TO D10].....	0

D9d How would you rate his health these days?

Excellent.....	16%
Good.....	41
Fair.....	26
Poor.....	13
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	4
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	1

D9d2. Do you see or talk to your father at least once a week?

Yes.....	66%
No.....	32
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	1

D10. Just for statistical purposes, stop me when I get to the category that includes your household's total income in 2003, before taxes. This includes wages, Social Security, pensions, and interest or dividends on savings and investments. Was it...

Less than \$10,000.....	8%
\$10,000 to less than \$25,000	19
\$25,000 to less than \$35,000	12
\$35,000 to less than \$50,000	14
\$50,000 to less than \$75,000.....	14
\$75,000 to less than \$100,000.....	10
\$100,000 to less than \$150,000.....	7
More than \$150,000.....	4
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	4
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	9

D11. Do you own or rent your home?

Own.....	67%
Rent.....	31
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	1

D12. Do you live in an urban, suburban or rural area?

Urban.....	27%
Suburban.....	38
Rural area.....	30
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	5
Refused [DO NOT READ].....	1

D13. I have one last question. I am going to read some age ranges, would you please tell me how old you think I am?

18-24.....	14%
25-34.....	50
35-49.....	28
50-64.....	6
64-74.....	0
75 and over.....	0
Don't know [DO NOT READ].....	1
Refused [DO NOT READ]	1
Not asked.....	1

Thank you so much for your time. Those are all my questions.

MDI from sample: State MSA

AARP
Knowledge Management
For more information, contact Dr. Albert R. Hollenbeck
at 202-434-6280