



Legislative Issues in North Carolina: A Survey of Residents 50 Plus



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**Data collected by Woelfel Research
Report Prepared by Erica L. Dinger, J.D.**

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Acknowledgements

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Background

This survey was commissioned by AARP North Carolina to explore how residents age 50 and older feel about legislative issues in the state. Respondents were asked their views on housing issues, home and community based services, health care, and Social Security.

The issues covered in this survey affect all North Carolina residents, regardless of AARP membership status or age. AARP North Carolina is committed to advocating on issues of housing, home and community based services, health care, and Social Security to insure that residents receive the care and resources they need to age with dignity.

The present report is based on data from a telephone survey of 801 North Carolina residents age 50 plus. It was conducted by Woelfel Research for AARP from April through May, 2006. The survey has a sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percent, and the sample was weighted by age and gender to represent the population of North Carolina residents age 50 plus. The full annotated questionnaire is contained in the appendix of this report. Percents may not add to 100 percent due to rounding.

Highlights

Most Important Issues

- In an open-ended question, residents report that health care (57%) and prescription drugs (24%) are the most important issues facing people age 50 and older in North Carolina. Overall, health care and economic security dominated the issues rated as most important.

Health and Supportive Services Issues

- Three-fourths (76%) say they support North Carolina providing additional funding for home- and community-based services, even if it means an increase in their taxes.
- More than eight in ten (85%) respondents support North Carolina assisting with prescription drug costs for low-income older and disabled residents who do not qualify for extra help from the Medicare Part D program.
- Nearly six in ten (59%) support a state tax credit for those who purchase long-term care insurance, even if it means other taxes would increase or services would be cut.
- Six in ten (60%) oppose limiting Medicaid eligibility and services for low-income older adults and persons with disabilities, and nearly half (49%) would be less likely to vote for a candidate for state office who supported limiting Medicaid.
- More than seven in ten (72%) support the federal government making it easier to buy prescription drugs from Canada.

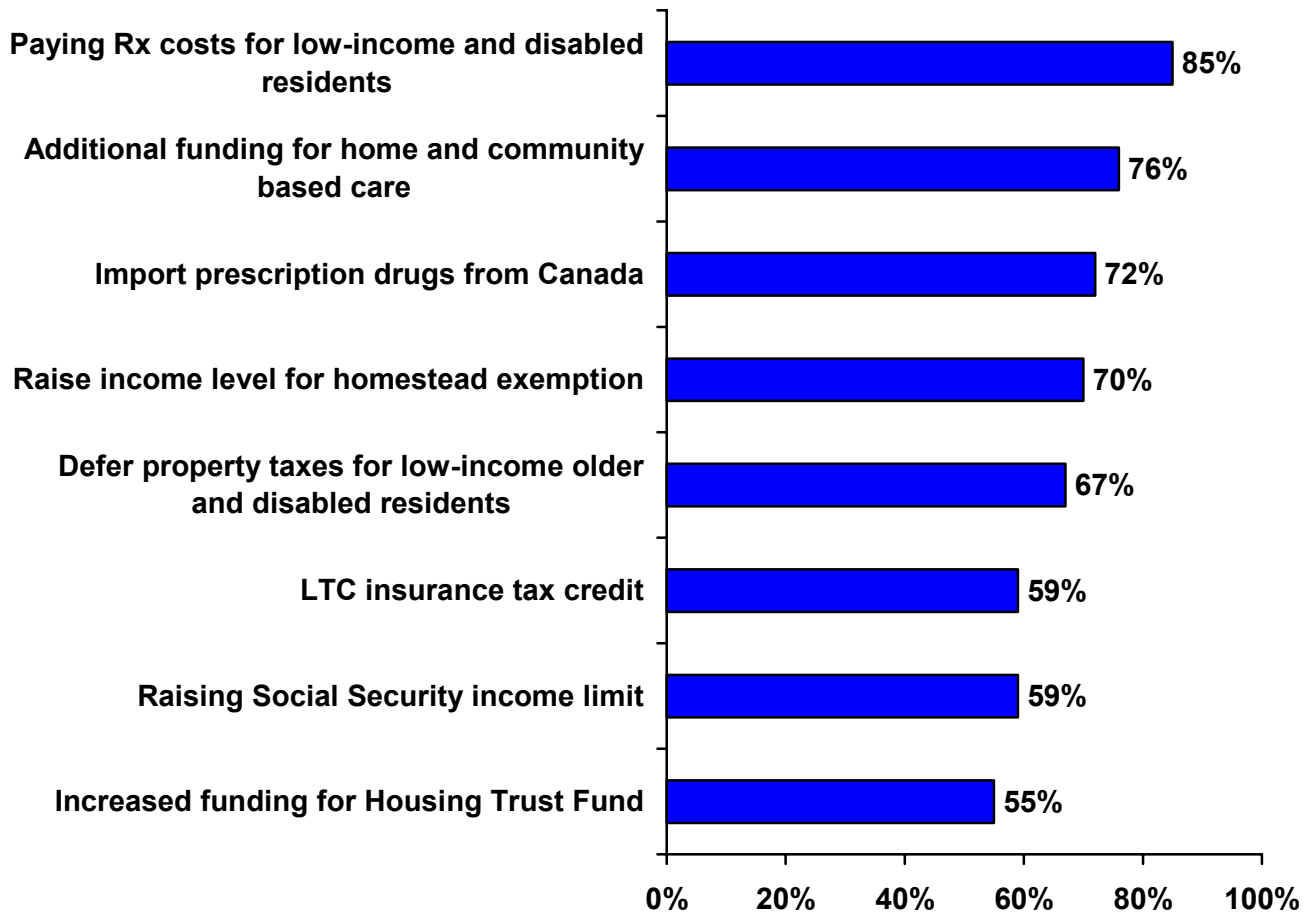
Economic Security Issues

- Two in three (66%) respondents support legislation that would allow low-income elderly and disabled residents to delay paying property taxes.
- More than half (56%) of respondents support raising money for the Housing Trust Fund through adding \$1 for every \$1000 of a property's value when that property is sold.
- Almost six in ten (59%) support raising the Social Security income limit to \$140,000.

Support for Critical Health and Economic Issues

- North Carolina residents age 50 plus report strong support for a variety of health and economic issues.

Strong/Somewhat Support for Health and Economic Issues (N=801)



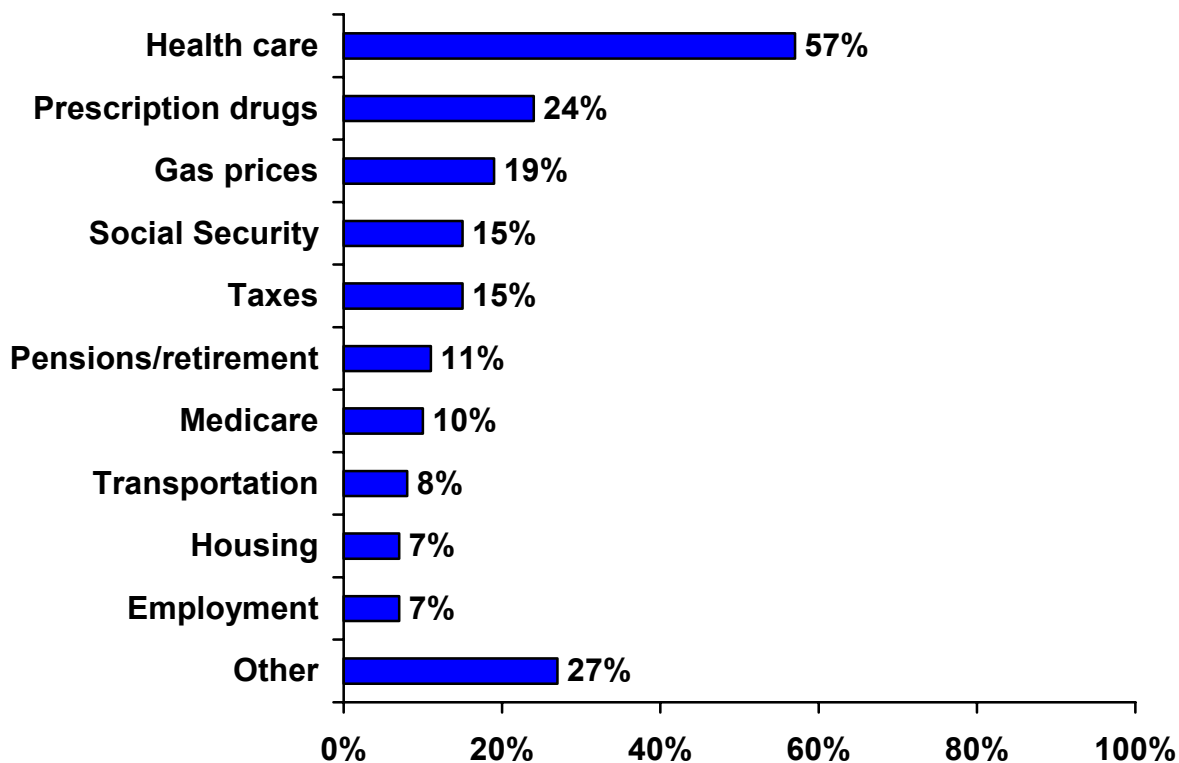
Findings

Issues Facing North Carolina

Almost six in ten Tar Heels name health care as one of the three most important issues facing North Carolinians age 50 plus.

When asked to name the three most important issues facing people age 50 and over in North Carolina, 57 percent listed health care as a top issue.¹ A quarter of respondents listed prescription drugs (24%) as a top issue, while 19 percent said gas prices were a concern. Other top responses include Social Security, taxes, pensions and retirement, and Medicare. For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A.

**Most Important Issues Facing North Carolinians Age 50 Plus
(N = 801)**



Over half (56%) of North Carolinians age 50 plus said that the state is on neither the wrong track nor the right track, but in the middle. Twenty-three percent said North Carolina is on the wrong track, while only twelve percent said North Carolina is on the right track.

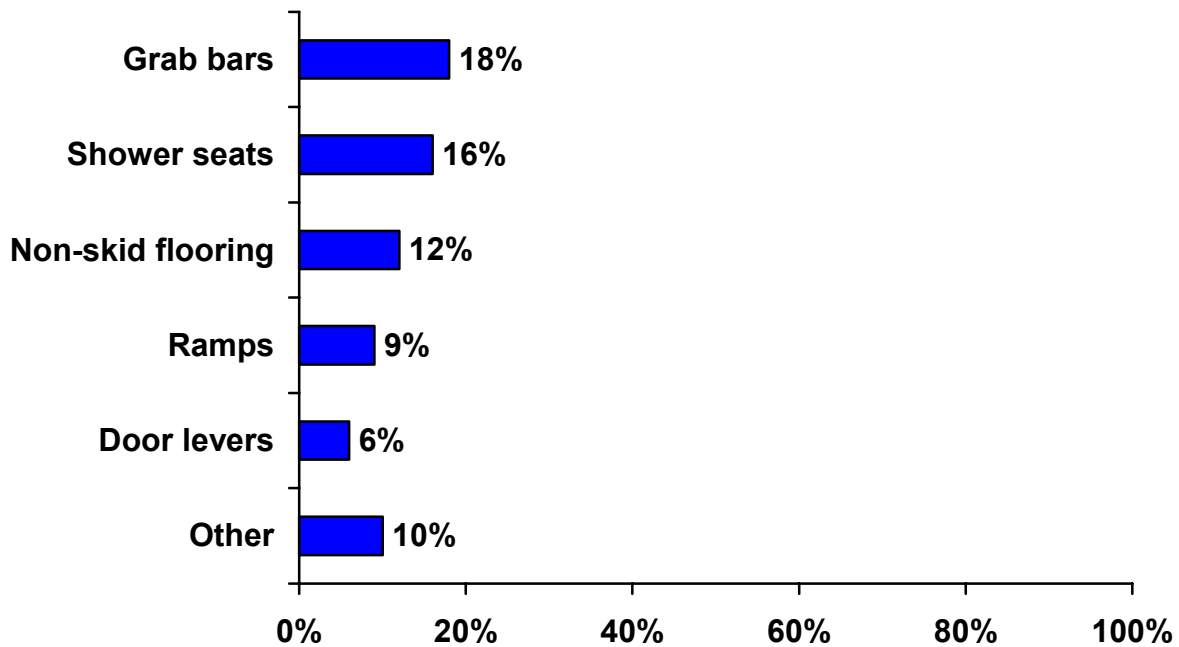
¹ The responses for this question were unaided.

Housing Issues

Grab bars and shower seats are the most common home modifications made by North Carolinians age 50 plus.

Almost one in ten (9%) respondents said they had moved to a different type of living arrangement in the last six years due to health reasons. Whether they had moved or not, about one in six said they had changed a feature in their home to make it easier for them to live there as they aged. The most common home modifications were adding grab bars and shower seats.

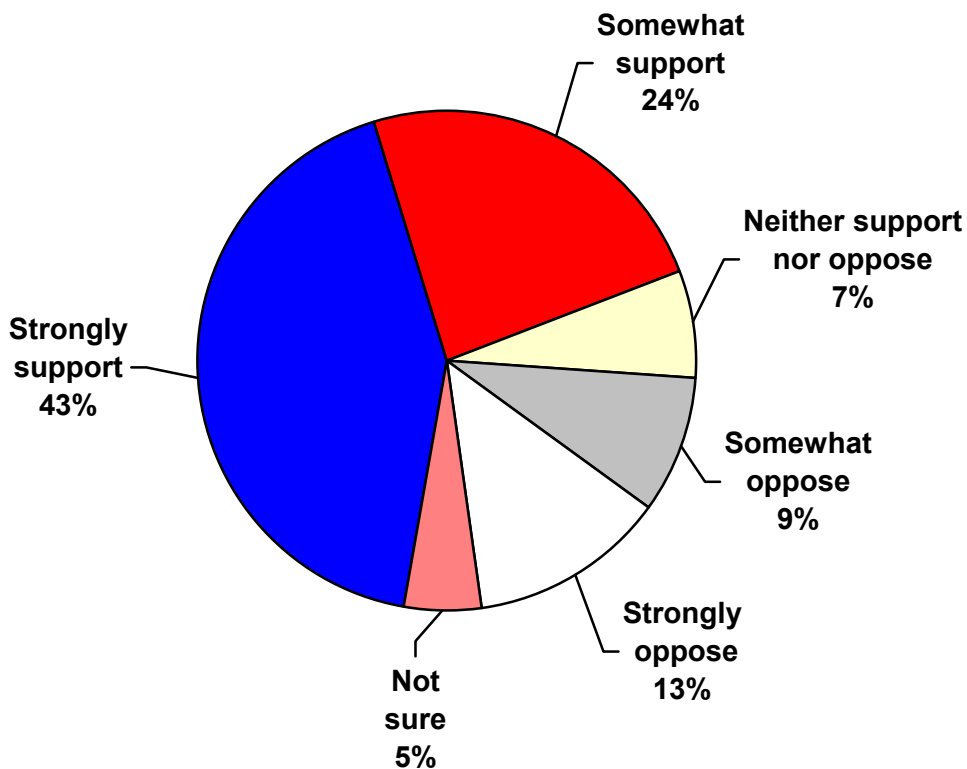
**Home Modifications Made Since 2000 among North Carolinians Age 50 Plus
(N =801)**



Two in three North Carolinians age 50 plus support allowing low-income elderly and disabled adults to delay paying property taxes.

Two in three (66%) North Carolinians age 50 plus say they somewhat or strongly support allowing elderly and disabled adults with limited incomes to delay paying property taxes on their home until the home was either sold or transferred to an heir, even if they were not eligible for the program. Two in ten strongly or somewhat oppose such a deferment, while seven percent neither support nor oppose.

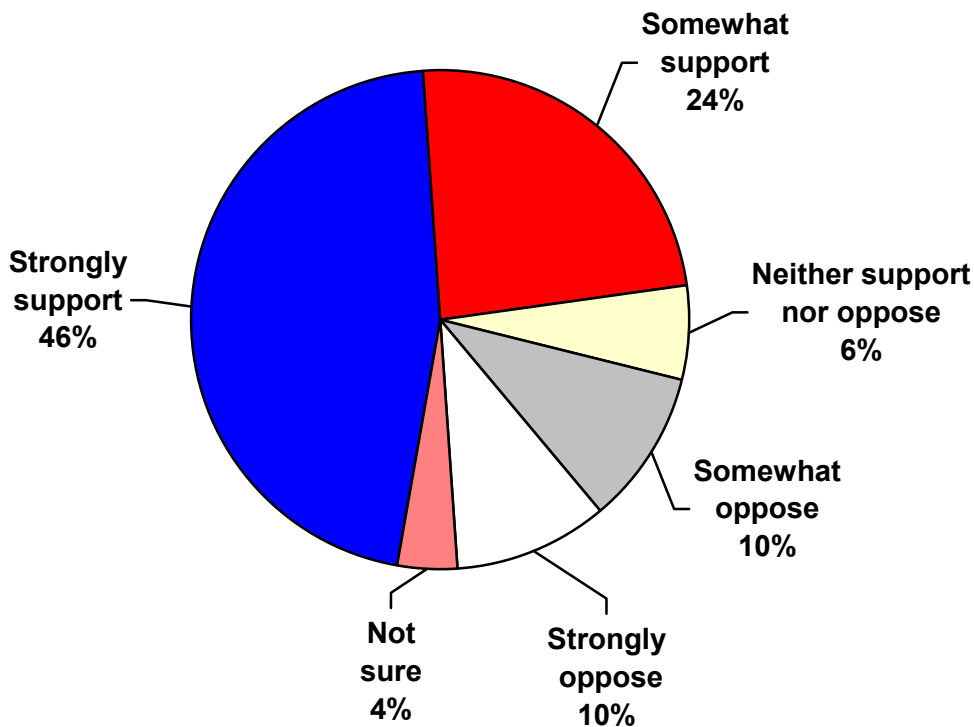
Support for Allowing Low-Income Elderly and Disabled Residents to Delay Paying Property Tax (N = 801)



Seven in ten North Carolina residents age 50 and over support increasing income eligibility to allow more low-income older adults and disabled homeowners to qualify for the homestead exemption.

Currently, North Carolina allows some low-income older adults and disabled homeowners to exclude \$20,000 or one-half of their home’s appraised value from their property taxes. This exclusion is often referred to as the “homestead exemption.” In order to qualify based on income, your income must be \$19,700 a year or less. Seven in ten North Carolinians age 50 plus support increasing the income level from \$19,700 to \$25,000, even if they themselves were not eligible for the program. Raising the income limit would allow more low-income and disabled adults to use this program.

Support for Increasing the Income Eligibility from \$19,700 to \$25,000 to Exclude \$20,000 or One-Half of a Home’s Appraised Value from Property Taxes (N = 801)

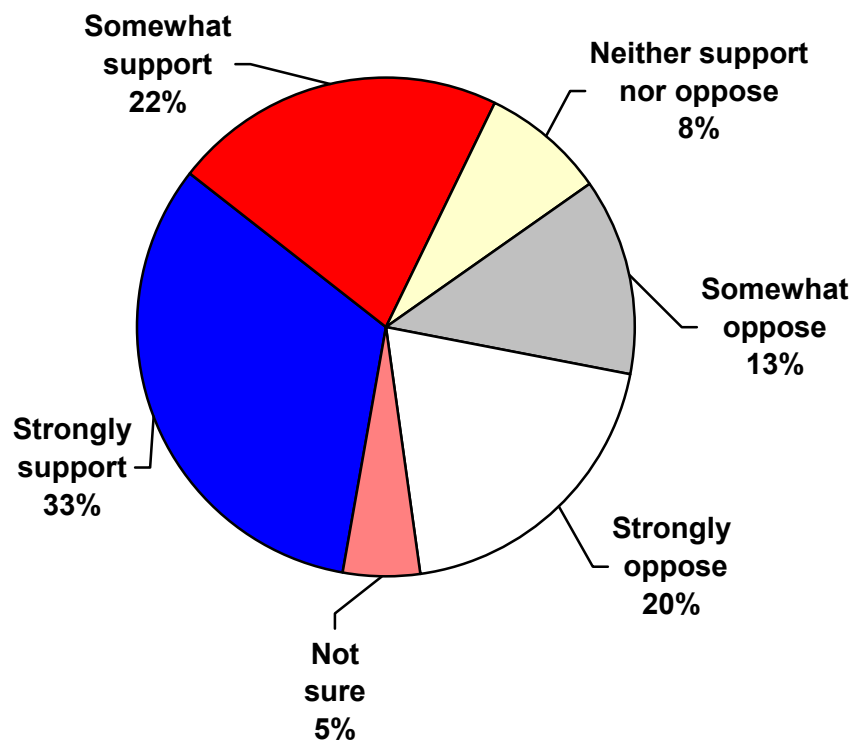


More than half of North Carolinians 50 and over support raising money for the Housing Trust Fund through adding \$1 to every \$1000 of a property’s value when the property is sold.

The North Carolina Housing Trust Fund provides financing for affordable housing throughout the state. The Fund helps elderly and disabled adults with limited incomes fund a range of housing needs, including home ownership, independent living arrangements, and home repairs and modifications. One proposal to raise money for the Housing Trust Fund is to add \$1 to every \$1000 of a property’s value when that property is sold. For instance, someone buying a \$100,000 home would pay an additional \$100 to the Fund.

More than half (56%) of residents say they would support such a proposal to fund the Housing Trust Fund. A third (33%) say they would oppose this proposal, while eight percent neither support nor oppose it.

Support for Adding \$1 to Every \$1000 of a Property’s Appraised Value to Fund the Housing Trust Fund (N =801)



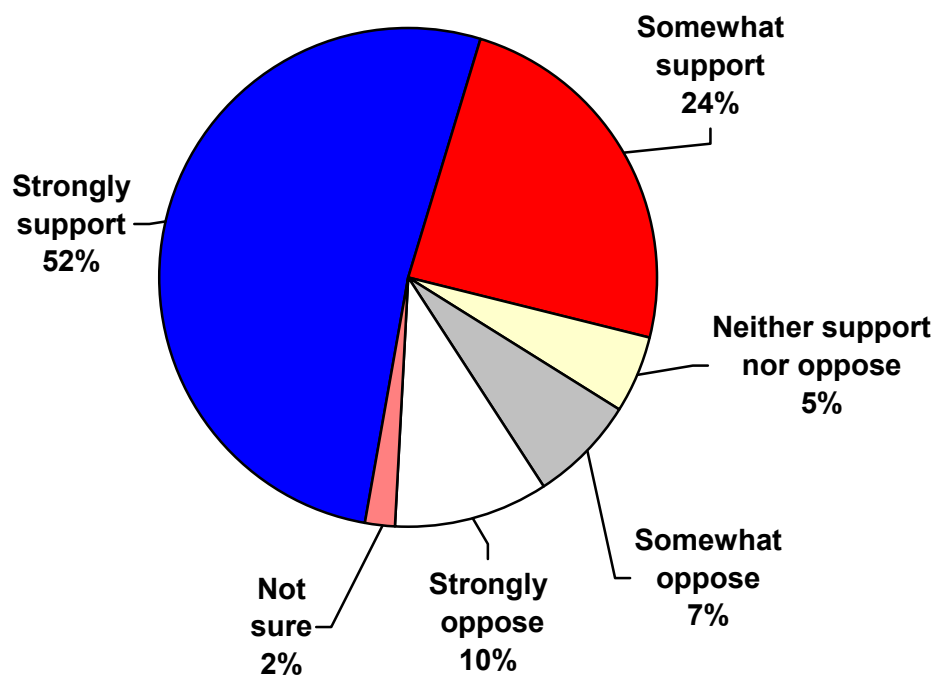
A third (33%) of residents age 50 and over say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate for state office who supported increasing funding for the Housing Trust Fund. Eighteen percent said they would be less likely to vote for such a candidate, while for 43 percent the candidate’s position on funding the Housing Trust Fund would not make a difference in their voting behavior.

Home- and Community-Based Services

Three-fourths of North Carolinians age 50 plus support additional funding for home- and community-based services, even if it means an increase in taxes.

Home- and community-based services allow people to remain in their own homes longer by providing services such as home delivered meals and in-home health care. Three-fourths (76%) of North Carolinians age 50 plus support the state providing additional funding for home- and community-based services, even if such funding meant taxes would increase.

Support for Increased Funding for Home- and Community-Based Services Even with Tax Increase (N =801)

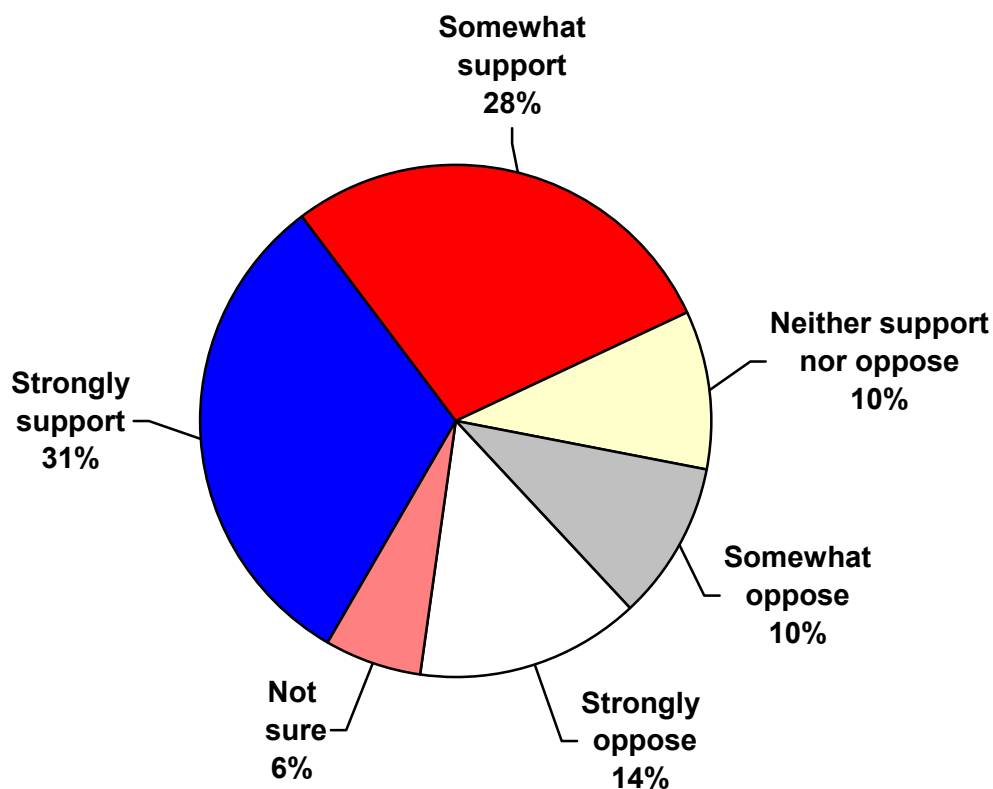


Health Care Issues

Nearly six in ten Tar Heels age 50 and over support providing a state tax credit for those who purchase long-term care insurance.

In 1998, the North Carolina legislature passed a tax credit for residents who purchased insurance to help pay for their long-term care. The tax credit was 15 percent of the cost of the insurance premium, but could not exceed \$350. In 2004, the tax credit expired and is no longer available. Nearly six in ten (59%) residents age 50 and older support providing a tax credit for those who purchase long-term care insurance. They support such a tax credit even if it means that other taxes would have to increase or services would have to be cut.

Support for Providing a Tax Credit for Those Purchasing Long-Term Care Insurance, Even if Taxes Increase or Services Would be Cut (N =801)

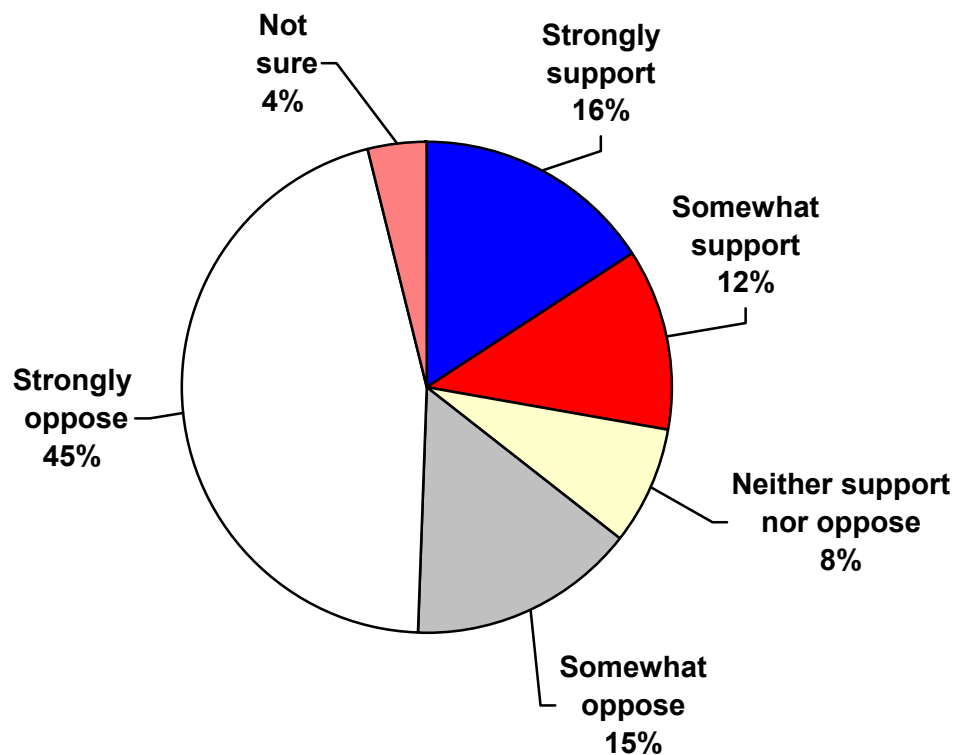


Almost four in ten (38%) North Carolinians 50 and over say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate for state office who supported reinstating the tax credit for those who purchased long-term care insurance. Eleven percent would be less likely to vote for such a candidate, while 46 percent say the candidate's stance on this issue would not make a difference to their voting behavior.

Six in ten North Carolinians age 50 plus oppose limiting Medicaid eligibility and services for low-income older adults and persons with disabilities.

Medicaid is the program for low-income residents that funds most long-term care costs in North Carolina. Six in ten (60%) respondents say they strongly or somewhat oppose limiting Medicaid eligibility or services for North Carolina residents who are aged or disabled.

**Support for Limiting Medicaid Eligibility and Services
(N =801)**



North Carolinians age 50 and older would be less likely to vote for candidates who support reducing government spending for Medicare and Medicaid.

Almost half (49%) of respondents say they would be less likely to vote for a candidate for state office who supported reducing government spending on Medicaid benefits which fund most long-term care benefits in North Carolina. Fifteen percent say they would be more likely to vote for such a candidate, while nearly a third (32%) say it would make no difference in their voting behavior.

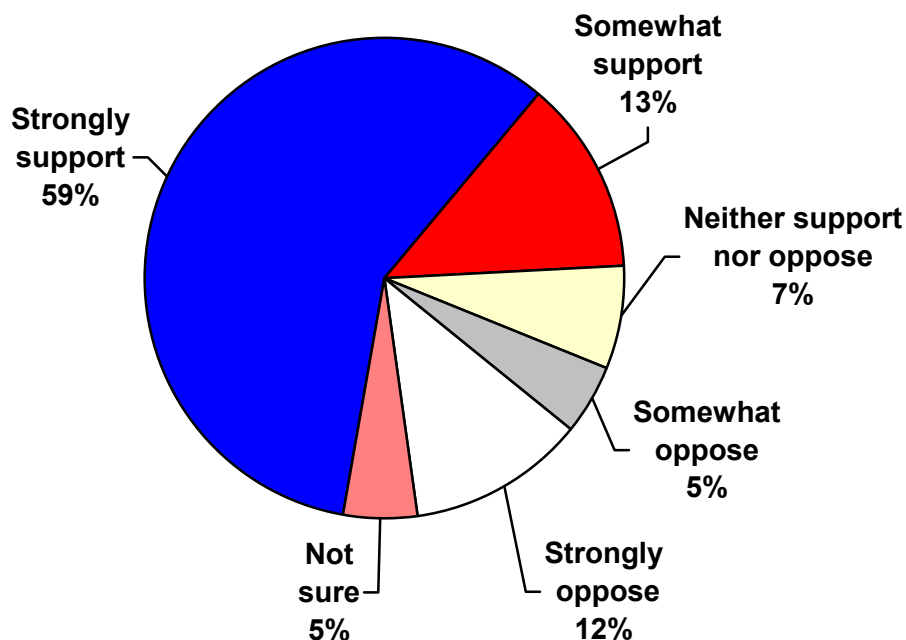
Medicare is the healthcare program that provides care to older adults. Almost eight in ten (77%) respondents say they would be less likely to vote for a candidate for U.S. Congress who supported reducing federal spending on Medicare. Seven percent would be more likely to vote for such a candidate, and 14 percent say it would not make a difference to them.

Prescription Drug Issues

More than seven in ten Tar Heels age 50 plus support the federal government making it easier to buy prescription drugs from Canada.

The rising cost of health care is due in large part to the rapidly growing costs of prescription drugs. Prescription drugs are a relatively small part of overall health spending (11%), but they are a key driver of spending trends. In recent years, the cost of prescription drugs has grown almost twice as much as all other health care spending.² Just over seven in ten (72%) North Carolinians support the federal government making it easier for individuals to buy prescription drugs from Canada.

**Support for Making it Easier to Buy Prescription Drugs from Canada
(N =801)**



Almost six in ten North Carolinians age 50 plus would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supported drug manufacturer disclosure.

Almost six in ten (59%) North Carolinians age 50 plus say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who supported requiring drug manufacturers to disclose their advertising costs. Eight percent say they would be less likely to vote for such a candidate, while 31 percent said it would not make a difference in their voting behavior.

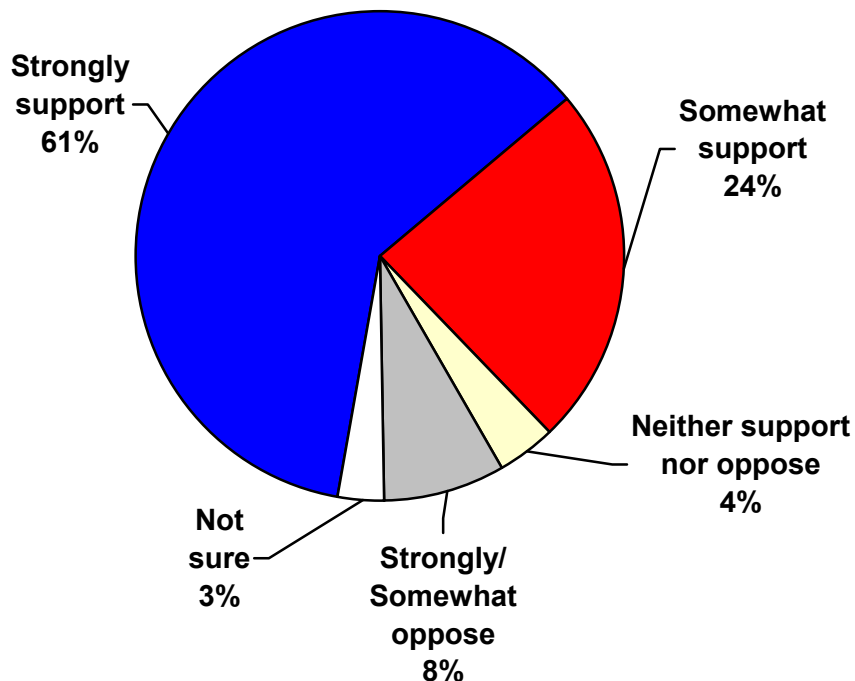
² The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, <http://www.kff.org/rxdrugs/index.cfm> (downloaded May 12, 2006).

More than eight in ten North Carolinians age 50 and over support a state program to assist low-income older and disabled residents and people with disabilities with the cost of prescription drugs.

Medicare Part D, the new Medicare prescription drug benefit, is designed to help older adults pay for the cost of prescription drugs. Extra help to pay for premiums, deductibles, and co-pays is available through the federal government for people with incomes less than \$14,355 and assets less than \$10,000. For couples, help is available if they have an income less than \$19,245 and assets less than \$20,000.

Many states have started programs to help pay at least some of these prescription-related costs for those who do not qualify for help through the federal government’s Medicare Part D program. More than eight in ten (85%) respondents say they strongly or somewhat support the state of North Carolina paying for some prescription-related costs for low-income residents who do not qualify for additional federal help.

**Support for a State Based Prescription Drug Program for Low-Income Residents
(N =801)**



Social Security Issues

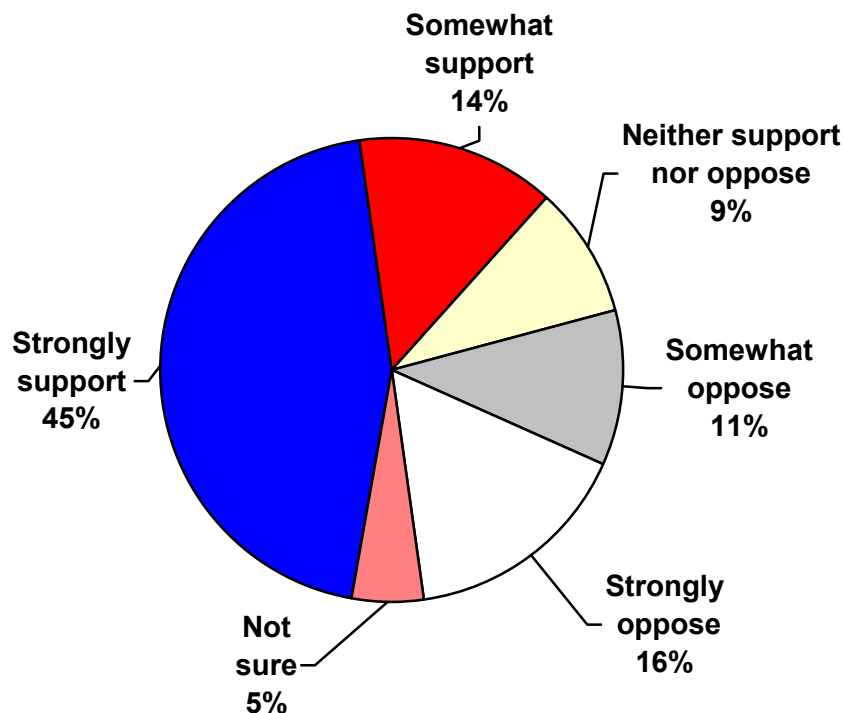
Seven in ten North Carolinians age 50 plus have a favorable view of the current Social Security system.

Seven in ten (71%) North Carolinians age 50 plus say that, based on what they have heard, read, or experienced, they have a favorable view of the current Social Security system. Eight percent have an extremely favorable view, while 18 percent have a very favorable view and 45 percent say they have a somewhat favorable view. A quarter say they are not very favorable (16%) or not at all favorable (9%) toward the current system.

Almost six in ten North Carolinians age 50 and over support raising the Social Security limit to \$140,000.

Currently, people stop paying into the Social Security system when they reach \$94,200 in wage and salary income. Nearly six in ten (59%) respondents support raising this limit to \$140,000.

**Support for Raising the Social Security Income Limit to \$140,000
(N =801)**



Tar Heels 50 and over are divided on their opinions about the Social Security system.

About four in ten (38%) Tar Heels 50 and over say that the Social Security system has minor problems that can be fixed by making slight changes to the current system. A similar percentage (39%) feel that the Social Security's problems are serious and can be fixed only through substantial changes to the current system. Fewer respondents say that Social Security has no serious problems (7%) or that the current system is so bad it should be replaced (11%).

Voting Profile of Respondents

Six in ten (60%) respondents say they always vote in elections for North Carolina Governor and Legislators. A quarter (26%) consider themselves Republican, while 41 percent say they are Democrat and 20 percent say they consider themselves Independent. Almost half (45%) say they are conservative, while three in ten (31%) consider themselves moderates and 10 percent say they are liberal. In addition, 55 percent of those polled said they were members of AARP.

Conclusion

North Carolina residents age 50 plus are concerned about crucial health care and economic security issues, including Social Security. Housing issues, home and community based services, health care and prescription drugs, and Social Security are all of paramount importance. When asked for their top concerns, all of these issues fell into the top ten.

In general, respondents support legislative changes that will allow low-income residents to access tax deferments and credits on their property taxes, even if they themselves would not be eligible for such tax breaks. Respondents also support additional funding for the Housing Trust Fund, which provides housing options for low-income residents.

Continued funding for programs that support health and prescription drug issues is very important to Tar Heels age 50 and over. Respondents support additional funding for home and community based services that would allow them to remain in their own homes longer. They are less likely to vote for candidates who support reducing spending on Medicaid and Medicare for older and disabled adults.

The rising cost of prescription drugs has affected North Carolinians as well. Respondents support the federal government making it easier to buy drugs from Canada, a state-based program for low-income and disabled residents to help pay for prescription drug costs, and more disclosure from drug manufacturers.

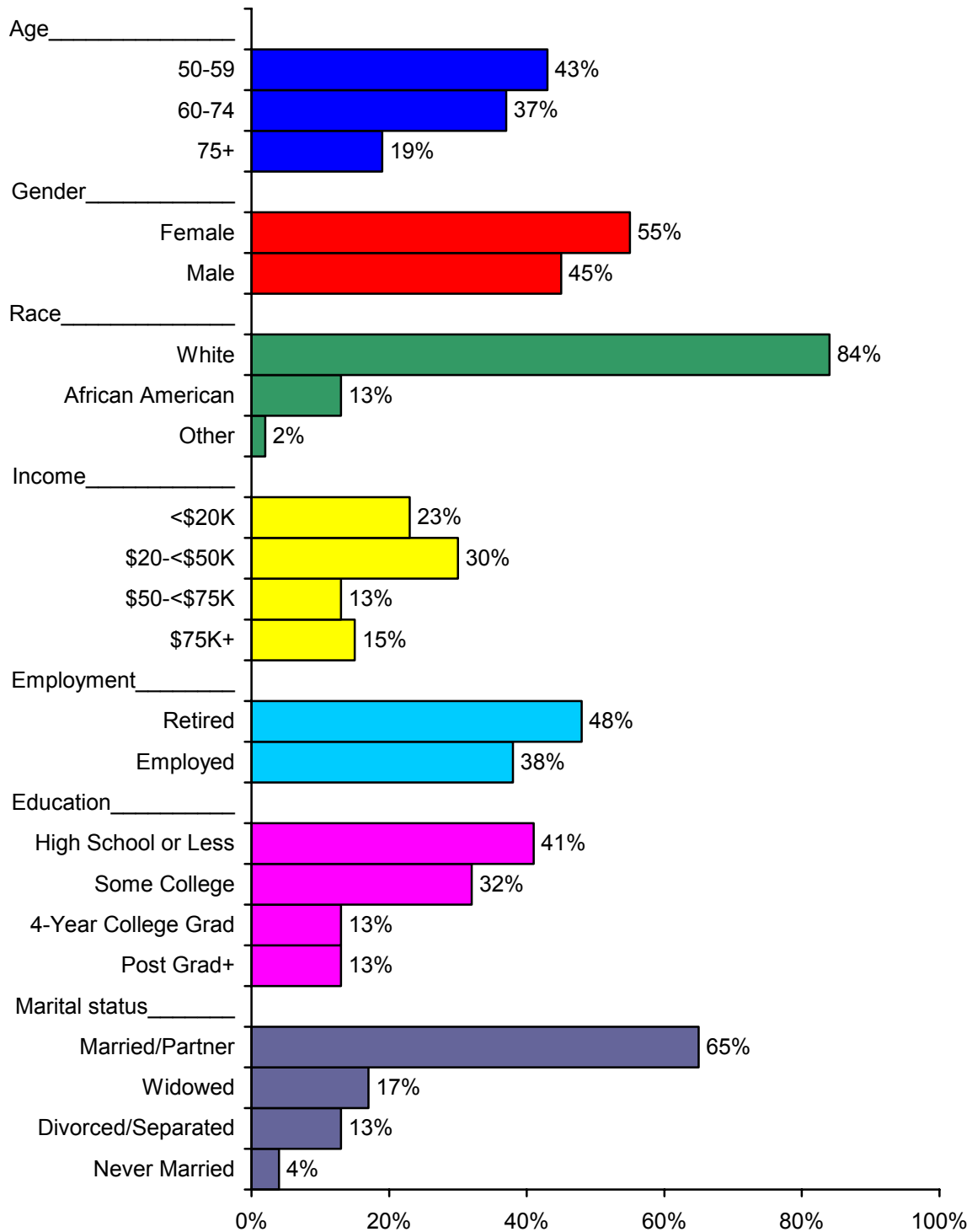
Although respondents view the present Social Security system favorably, most feel that the current system requires at least some changes. They are supportive of raising the income cap on Social Security from \$94,200 to \$140,000.

Overall, North Carolinians age 50 plus are aware of the challenges facing the state with regard to these issues. They are willing to bear higher taxes, if necessary, in order to preserve crucial social programs. In addition, they would be likely to vote for or against candidates for state office based on the candidate's proposals on these key issues.

Methodology

This phone survey explores the opinions and experiences of North Carolina residents age 50 plus on key legislative issues. Woelfel Research on behalf of AARP conducted this survey between April and May 2006. Researchers used random digit dialing to reach North Carolina residents age 50 plus. The data was weighted by age. The sampling error for this survey is plus or minus 3.5 percent.

Demographic Profile of Respondents (N=801)



APPENDIX A
Annotated Questionnaire

NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATIVE ISSUES SURVEY

N=801; Sampling Error +/- 3.5 %

Introduction

Hello, this is _____ calling from Woelfel Research, Inc., a national opinion research firm calling on behalf of AARP. We are not telemarketers and are not trying to sell you anything. We would like to find out your opinions on legislative issues in North Carolina. Your views are important and we would greatly appreciate your participation. All of your responses are kept entirely confidential. The survey should take less than 20 minutes of your time.

II. RECORD GENDER OF PERSON WHO ANSWERED PHONE:

- 1) Male
- 2) Female

INTERVIEWER: scanner for correct percentages of males and females

S2. Are you at least 50 years old or older?

1. What do you feel are the three most important issues facing people age 50 and over in North Carolina? [DO NOT READ..USE AS CODES]

<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
15	Social Security	10	Medicare
7	Housing	2	Medicaid
8	Transportation	6	Long-Term Care
6	Immigration	3	Taking care of family
2	Education	2	Personal safety
3	Environment	3	Crime
11	Pensions/retirement	5	War/Terrorism
24	Prescription drugs	15	Taxes
19	Gas prices	5	Insurance
57	Health care	3	Medical bills
7	Employment	27	Other: _____
5	Cost of living	6	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

2. In general, do you think the State of North Carolina is on the right track, on the wrong track, or in the middle?

%
 12 Right track
 23 Wrong track
 56 In the middle
 9 Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

Now, I would like to ask you a few questions about housing.

3. Since 2000, has your health or that of anyone in your home caused you to move to a different type of living arrangement? For instance, you may have moved from a single family home to an apartment, or moved in with a family member.

%
 9 Yes
 91 No
 0 Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

4. Some people add or change features in their home to make it easier for them to live there as they age. Since 2000, have you added any of these features to your home? [READ LIST]

	Yes ▼ <u>%</u>	No ▼ <u>%</u>
a. Ramps	9	90
b. Door levers	6	94
c. Grab bars	18	81
d. Shower seats	16	82
e. Non-skid flooring	12	91
f. Something else?	10	90
g. Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]	0	0

5. Legislation has been introduced in North Carolina that would allow elderly and disabled adults with limited income to delay paying property taxes on their home until the home was either sold or transferred to an heir. How strongly would you support or oppose this legislation, even if you were not eligible for the program?

<u>%</u>	
43	Strongly support
24	Somewhat support
7	Neither support nor oppose
9	Somewhat oppose
13	Strongly oppose
5	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

6. North Carolina currently allows low-income and disabled homeowners to exclude \$20,000 or one-half of their home's appraised value from their property taxes. To qualify based on income, your income must be \$19,700 a year or less. Increasing the income level would allow more people to qualify for this tax relief but it would cost money that would have to be made up elsewhere in the budget. How strongly would you support or oppose increasing the income level to \$25,000, even if you yourself were not eligible?

<u>%</u>	
46	Strongly support
24	Somewhat support
6	Neither support nor oppose
10	Somewhat oppose
10	Strongly oppose
4	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

7. The North Carolina Housing Trust Fund provides financing for affordable housing throughout the state. The Fund helps elderly and disabled adults with limited incomes with a range of housing needs, including home ownership, independent living apartments, and home repairs and modifications. One proposal to raise money for the Housing Trust Fund is to add \$1 for every \$1000 of a property's value when a property is sold. For instance, someone buying a \$100,000 home would pay an additional \$100 to the fund.

How strongly would you support or oppose such a proposal to fund the Housing Trust Fund?

<u>%</u>	
33	Strongly support
22	Somewhat support
8	Neither support nor oppose
13	Somewhat oppose
20	Strongly oppose
5	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

8. If a candidate for state office supported increasing funding for the Housing Trust Fund would you be more likely to vote for that candidate, less likely to vote for them, or would it not make a difference?

<u>%</u>	
33	More likely
18	Less likely
43	Would not make a difference
6	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

9. Home and community based care services allow people to remain in their own homes longer by providing services such as home delivered meals and in-home aide services. How strongly would you support or oppose the state of North Carolina providing additional funding for home and community based services, even if it meant an increase in taxes?

<u>%</u>	
52	Strongly support
24	Somewhat support
5	Neither support nor oppose
7	Somewhat oppose
10	Strongly oppose
2	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

Now, I would like to ask you a few questions about health care.

- 10. In 1998, the North Carolina legislature passed a tax credit for citizens who purchased insurance to help pay for their long-term care. The tax credit was 15% of the cost of the insurance premium but could not exceed \$350. The tax credit ended in 2004 and is no longer available. How strongly would you support or oppose legislation to provide a state tax credit for those who purchase insurance to help pay for their long-term care even if it meant other taxes would have to increase or some services would be cut?**

<u>%</u>	
31	Strongly support
28	Somewhat support
10	Neither support nor oppose
10	Somewhat oppose
14	Strongly oppose
6	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

- 11. If a candidate for state office supported reinstating the state tax credit for those who purchased long-term care insurance, would you be more likely to vote for that candidate, less likely to vote for them, or would it not make any difference?**

<u>%</u>	
38	More likely
11	Less likely
46	Would not make a difference
5	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

- 12. Medicaid is a state program that provides necessary health care for low-income North Carolina residents who are aged or disabled. Last year, legislators proposed limiting Medicaid eligibility and services for over 57,000 low-income aged, blind, and disabled adults to save the state money. How strongly do you support or oppose limiting Medicaid eligibility and services?**

<u>%</u>	
16	Strongly support
12	Somewhat support
8	Neither support nor oppose
15	Somewhat oppose
46	Strongly oppose
4	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

- 13. If a candidate for state office supported reducing government spending on Medicaid benefits, the program for low-income residents that funds most long-term care costs in North Carolina, would you be more likely to vote for that candidate, less likely to vote for them, or would it not make any difference?**

<u>%</u>	
15	More likely
49	Less likely
32	Not make a difference
4	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

- 14. Medicare is the health care program that provides health care to older adults. If a candidate for U.S. Congress supported reducing government spending on Medicare, would you be more likely to vote for that candidate, less likely to vote for them, or would it not make any difference?**

<u>%</u>	
7	More likely
77	Less likely
14	Not make a difference
2	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

- 15. The rising cost of health care is due largely to the high cost of prescription drugs. How strongly would you support or oppose the federal government making it easier for individuals to buy prescription drugs from Canada?**

<u>%</u>	
59	Strongly support
13	Somewhat support
7	Neither support nor oppose
5	Somewhat oppose
12	Strongly oppose
5	Not sure [Volunteered]

- 16. A new Medicare Prescription Drug benefit, called Part D, started this year to help older adults pay for prescription drugs. Extra help to pay for premiums, deductibles and co-payments is available through the federal government for people with an income less than \$14,355 and assets less than \$10,000. Couples with an income less than \$19,245 and assets less than \$20,000 can also qualify for extra help.**

Many states have started programs to help pay at least some of these prescription-related costs for people who do not qualify for federal help. How strongly would you support or oppose the state of North Carolina paying the prescription-related costs for some older adults who are low-income but who do not qualify for extra help from the federal program, even if you yourself would not qualify for this program?

<u>%</u>	
61	Strongly support
24	Somewhat support
4	Neither support nor oppose
4	Somewhat oppose
4	Strongly oppose
3	Not sure [Volunteered]

- 17. Drug manufacturers market expensive new drugs to the general public through television, radio, and magazine advertising. Some people believe that advertising educates the public about their prescription drug choices. Others believe that advertising drives up the cost of these drugs and may persuade doctors to give patients a name-brand drug because the patient requests it.**

If a candidate for office supported requiring drug manufacturers to disclose their advertising costs, would you be more likely to vote for that candidate, less likely to vote for them, or would it not make any difference?

<u>%</u>	
59	More likely
8	Less likely
31	Not make a difference
2	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

I would now like to ask you just a few more questions. They are about Social Security.

18. Based on what you have heard, read, or experienced with Social Security, what is your overall view of the present system?

<u>%</u>	
8	Extremely favorable
18	Very favorable
45	Somewhat favorable
16	Not very favorable
9	Not at all favorable
4	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

19. Under current law, people only pay Social Security for the first \$94,200 in wage and salary income. How strongly would you support or oppose raising the limit to \$140,000?

<u>%</u>	
45	Strongly support
14	Somewhat support
9	Neither support nor oppose
11	Somewhat oppose
16	Strongly oppose
5	Not sure [VOLUNTEERED]

20. Which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion about the Social Security program? (READ ALL CATEGORIES)

<u>%</u>	
7	Social Security has no serious problems that require changing the current system
38	Social Security has minor problems that can be fixed by making slight changes to the current system
39	Social Security's problems are serious and can be fixed only with substantial changes to the current system
11	Social Security's problems are so bad that the current system should be replaced
6	Not sure

The following questions are for classification purposes only and will be kept entirely confidential.

D1.) Record Gender [If not known]

<u>%</u>	
45	Male
55	Female

D2.) What is your age as of your last birthday _____ (in years)?

<u>%</u>	
43	50-59
37	60-74
19	75+
1	Refused

D3.) What is your current marital status?

<u>%</u>	
64	Married
1	Not married, living with partner
17	Widowed
13	Divorced
1	Separated
4	Never married
<.5	Refused

D4.) Are you [or your spouse IF MARRIED ON D3] a member of A-A-R-P?

<u>%</u>	
55	Yes
45	No
<.5	Don't Know
<.5	Refused

D5.) Thinking about your state elections for North Carolina Governor and Legislators in the last ten years, which of the following best describes your voting behavior?

<u>%</u>	
60	Always vote
19	Vote most of the time
9	Sometimes miss one
4	Rarely vote
7	Never vote
1	Not sure
<.5	Refused

D6.) Do you consider yourself to be a Democrat, Independent, Republican, or something else?

<u>%</u>	
26	Republican
41	Democrat
20	Independent
7	Something else
2	Don't Know
3	Refused

D7.) Do you consider yourself to be a conservative, liberal, moderate, or something else?

<u>%</u>	
45	Conservative
10	Liberal
31	Moderate
7	Something else
5	Don't Know
1	Refused

D8.) What is the highest level of education that you completed?

<u>%</u>	
14	0-12 th grade (no diploma)
27	High school graduate (or equivalent)
16	Post-high school education (no degree)
17	2-year college degree
13	4-year college degree
5	Post-graduate study (no degree)
9	Graduate or professional degree (s)
<.5	Refused

D9.) Which of the following best describes your employment status?

<u>%</u>	
2	Self employed part-time
4	Self employed full-time
7	Employed part-time
25	Employed full-time
48	Retired, not working at all
10	Not in labor force for other reasons
2	Unemployed but looking for work
1	Refused

D10.) Are you of Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino origin or descent??

<u>%</u>	
1	Yes
99	No
1	Not sure

D11.) What is your race?

<u>%</u>	
84	White or Caucasian
13	Black or African American
1	American Indian or Alaskan Native
<.5	Asian
<.5	Other
2	Refused

D12.) For statistical purposes only, please stop me when I get to your household income level, before taxes, for 2005:

<u>%</u>	
7	Less than \$10,000
15	\$10,000 to less than \$20,000
16	\$20,000 to less than \$35,000
13	\$35,000 to less than \$50,000
7	\$50,000 to less than \$60,000
6	\$60,000 to less than \$75,000
5	\$75,000 to less than \$90,000
10	\$90,000 or more
4	Don't Know
16	Refused

D13.) Please tell me your 5-digit zip code: _____

AARP
Knowledge Management
For more information contact Erica Dinger at (202) 434-6176.