A decorative graphic is present on the page. It features a large, thin, light-brown arc that starts near the top right and curves down towards the bottom right. A horizontal line and a vertical line intersect at the end of this arc in the bottom right quadrant. A small yellow square is placed at the intersection of these lines. In the top left corner, there is a solid green rectangle. A thin grey line extends from the bottom right corner of this green rectangle towards the center of the page, ending near the start of the arc. Another thin grey line extends from the intersection of the horizontal and vertical lines in the bottom right towards the center of the page, ending near the end of the arc.

# **Long-Term Care in Michigan: A Survey of Voters Age 45+**

June 2005



# **Long-Term Care in Michigan: A Survey of Voters Age 45+**

**Report Prepared by Anita Stowell-Ritter and Susan Silberman**

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## **Acknowledgements**

Special thanks go to Carol Regan and Hollis Turnham from the Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute who provided invaluable guidance and support in all phases of the project. AARP staff from the Michigan State Office, State Affairs, General Counsel, and Knowledge Management contributed to the design and implementation of this study. Special thanks go to AARP staff including Steve Gools from the AARP Michigan State Office who initiated the project and provided guidance in all phases of the project; Ed Dale, State Affairs, who also provided support in development of the survey instrument; Gretchen Straw, Susan Silberman, Anita Stowell-Ritter, Darlene Matthews, Sandra Johnson, Erica Dinger, and Cheryl Barnes from AARP Knowledge Management, who assisted with survey design and report preparation; and Michael Schuster, Legal Counsel, who provided the final legal review for the report. John Woelfel and Leslie Schoeberlein of Woelfel Research, Inc. managed the telephone interviews, the data entry, and tabulation of the survey results. Susan Silberman, AARP Knowledge Management, managed all aspects of the project, and Anita Stowell-Ritter wrote this report. For more information, contact Susan Silberman at (202) 434-6339.

## Background

In April 2005, the Michigan Medicaid Long-Term Care Task Force released a draft report entitled *Modernizing Michigan Medicaid Long-Term Care toward an Integrated System of Services and Support*. This report and the supporting documents produced by seven workgroups not only summarized the problems currently affecting the delivery of long-term care services in the state, but it also set forth a series of recommendations for addressing unmet needs and for better utilization of state long-term care resources.

The purpose of this survey was to examine the values, experiences, and preferences of Michigan voters age 45 and older relative to long-term care services. Specifically, the survey asked voters to reflect on:

- Their preferences for the delivery of long-term care services.
- Their confidence in the future affordability of long-term care services.
- Difficulties they have experienced in affording quality long-term care services and difficulty in obtaining needed information to judge the quality of care and to access government long-term care programs and funding.
- The importance of health care insurance for health care workers in reducing turnover and improving the quality of care.
- Support for maintaining public long-term care funding and increased funding for home- and-community-based care services.

The findings of the survey will be examined in the context of the draft report and its recommendations to determine how the proposed recommendations align with voter preferences and needs.

This telephone survey included a state-wide sample of 800 Michigan voters age 45 and older and oversamples of 200 Michigan residents in each of two areas: Kent County/Grand Rapids and Western Wayne/Oakland County.

## Report Organization

The highlights section provides a brief overview of the major survey results. The findings section presents the survey data. The results are reported as percentages.<sup>1</sup> The conclusion and implications sections is followed by the methodology section which discusses the response rate, sampling error, and weighting the data. An annotated questionnaire, appended to the report, discloses all survey responses for the main sample and the two geographic oversamples. Findings for the two oversamples are reviewed in appendices II and III.

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<sup>1</sup> Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

## Survey Highlights

### ***Long-Term Care Preferences***

- Almost universally respondents report it is very (83%) or somewhat (12%) important to have long-term care services that would enable them and family members to remain in their own homes as long as possible if they needed long-term care services.
- Of the one in five (21%) respondents who report they have a friend or relative in a nursing home, nearly two in five (37%) indicate that the person would return to his or her home or community if home care and support services were both available and affordable.
- Three in four respondents report that it should be a top (32%) or high (43%) priority for Michigan to have affordable long-term care choices.

### ***Long-Term Care Quality***

- Three in five registered voters who have had experience with the long-term care system in the past five years report that it is very (30%) or fairly (30%) difficult to find quality nursing home care.
- More than half of respondents with long-term care experience say that it is very (26%) or fairly (28%) difficult to find quality agencies and caregivers who will come into their homes.
- More than half of respondents with long-term care experience also report that it is very (23%) or fairly (30%) difficult to find information about how to judge a quality residential care facility or home care agency.
- Nearly all Michigan voters age 45 and older believe that appropriate amounts of face-to-face or hands-on-care are very (80%) or somewhat (15%) important to the quality of long-term care services.
- Nearly all respondents report that it is very (90%) or somewhat (7%) important that relatives and friends are being treated by qualified health care workers.
- Nearly all voters age 45 and over strongly (73%) or somewhat (19%) support Michigan legislation to strengthen enforcement of state and federal standards to protect the health and safety of nursing home residents.

### ***Health Care Benefits for Nursing Home and Home Health Care Workers***

- Nearly all Michigan voters age 45 and over believe that it is very (74%) or somewhat (19%) important for health care workers to receive health insurance.
- Nearly all respondents say that having health care insurance is very (73%) or somewhat (21%) important to keeping health care workers in their positions.

### ***Long-Term Care Affordability***

- Nearly six in ten respondents report that they are not very (19%) or not at all (38%) confident they could afford the cost of long term care for five years.
- More than half of respondents with long-term care experience indicate that it is very (29%) or fairly (25%) difficult to find information about government services that provide or help fund long-term care.

### ***Health and Long-Term Care Funding***

- When informed about proposed across the board cuts to balance the state budget, more than nine in ten Michigan voters age 45 and older say it is very (74%) or somewhat (21%) important for the state of Michigan to maintain current funding levels for health and long-term care services.
- Even if it meant an increase in taxes, nearly eight in ten voters strongly (45%) or somewhat (33%) support the state increasing funding for home and community-based care services.
- More than two in three Michigan voters strongly (35%) or somewhat (30%) support the use of estate taxes to help raise money for long-term care services.

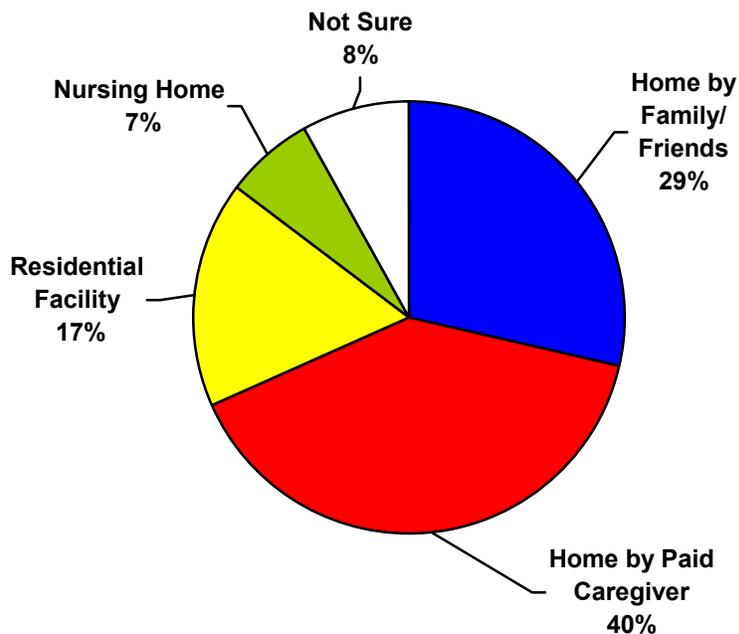
# Findings

## Long-Term Care Preferences

**Nearly seven in ten registered voters say they would prefer to have in-home long-term care services provided by family or a paid nurse or personal assistant.**

Respondents were asked where they would prefer to receive long-term care services for themselves or a family member if services were needed. Nearly seven in ten reports that they would prefer to have services in their homes provided by family and friends or by a paid nurse or personal care aide. Slightly less than one in five would prefer a residential facility such as a home for the aged or assisted living. Fewer than one in ten would choose a nursing home.

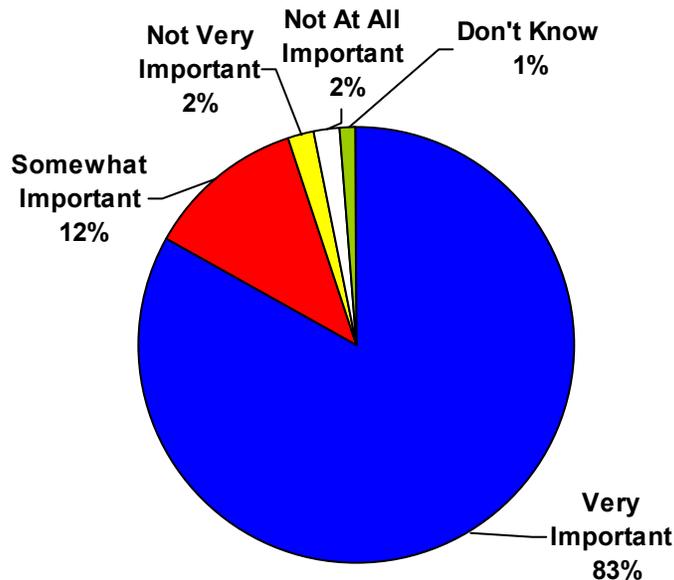
**Preference for Type of Long-Term Care Services  
(N=800)**



**More than nine in ten respondents report it is important to have long-term care services that would enable them and family members to remain in their own homes as long as possible.**

Voters age 45 and over were asked how important it would be to them to have services that would enable them or a family member to stay at home as long as possible if they needed long-term care services. Over eight in ten report that it would be very important to them and another one in eight say that it would be somewhat important. Very few report that it would be unimportant to them.

**Importance of Home and Community-Based Long-Term Care Services (N=800)**



**Nearly two in five voters who report having a relative or friend in a nursing home indicate the resident would return to their home or community if affordable home care and support services were available.**

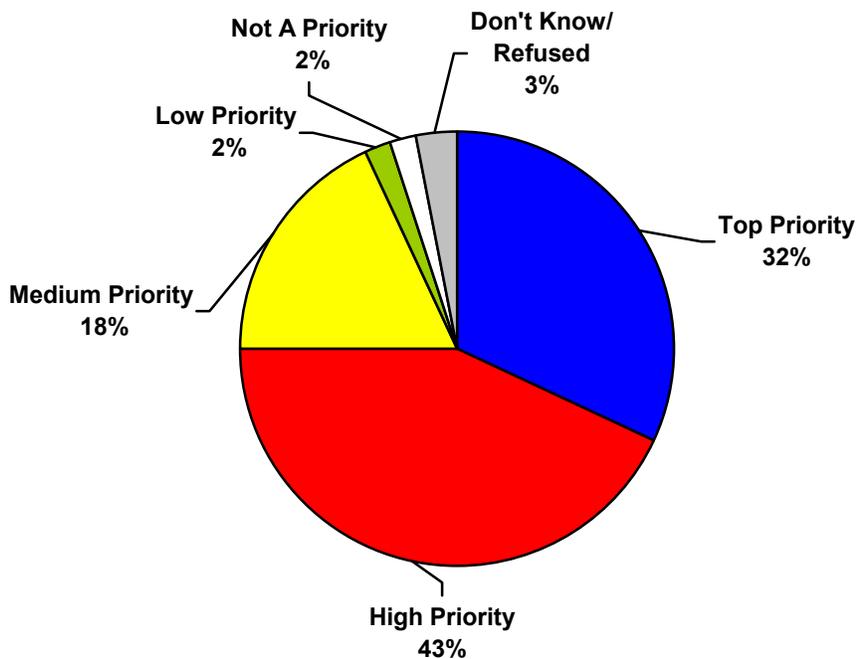
One in five voters (21%) report that they do have a family member or friend who currently resides in a nursing home.

Of this group, nearly two in five (37%) indicate that the friend or relative would return to their homes if affordable home care and support services were available. More than half (56%) say they would not. Seven percent indicate that they don't know.

**Three in four voters report that it should be a top or high priority for Michigan to have affordable long-term care options.**

Respondents were asked how much of a priority it should be for Michigan to ensure that older persons and persons with disabilities have affordable long-term care choices in nursing homes, in the community, and in their own homes. One in three indicates that it should be a top priority, and more than two in five say it should be a high priority. Two percent say it is not a priority.

**Priority of Michigan Offering Affordable Long-Term Care Choices (N=800)**



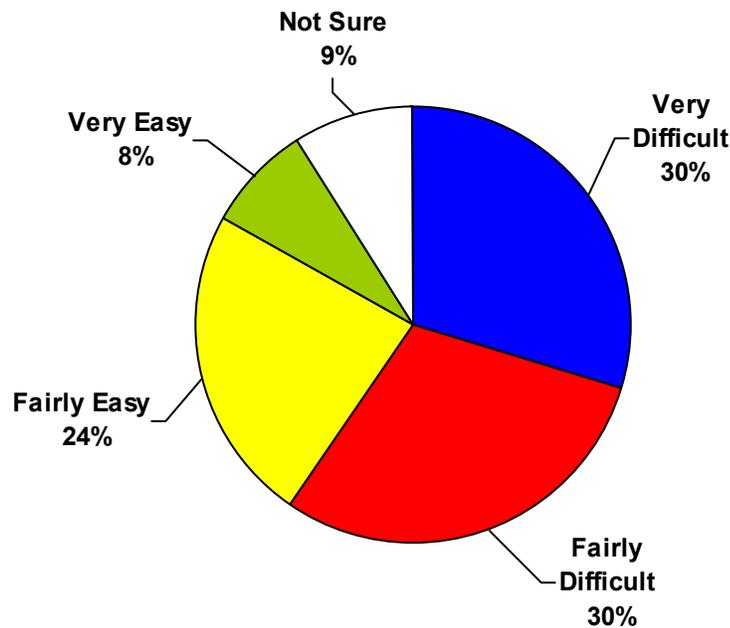
## Long-Term Care Quality

**Three in five registered voters who have had experience with the long-term care system in the past five years report that it is difficult to find quality nursing home care.**

Respondents were asked whether they or a relative had used long-term care services within the last five years. More than one in three respondents (34%) report that they have had experience with long-term care in the last five years. Those who have experience were asked a series of questions about people's difficulty of finding and judging the quality care in several settings.

Six in ten respondents report that it is very or fairly difficult to find quality nursing home care. About one in three indicate that it is very or fairly easy to find quality nursing home care.

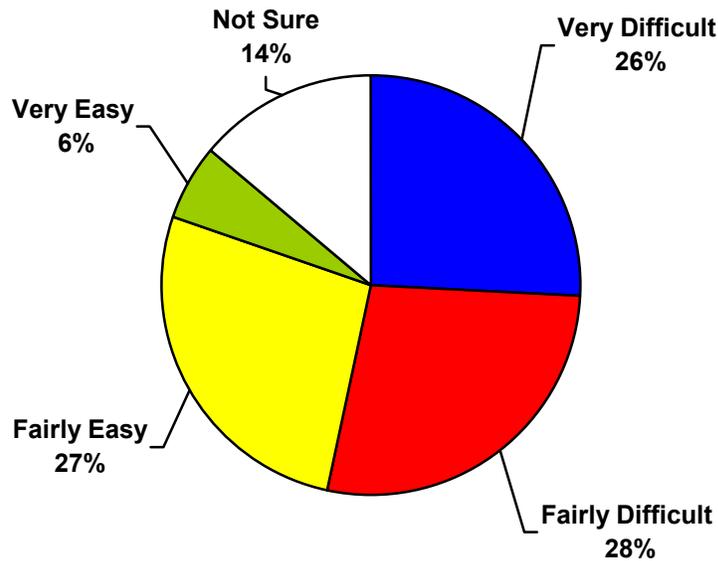
**Difficulty of Finding Quality Nursing Home Care  
(n=270)**



More than half of respondents who have experience with long-term care also report that it is very or fairly difficult to find quality agencies and caregivers who will come into their home.

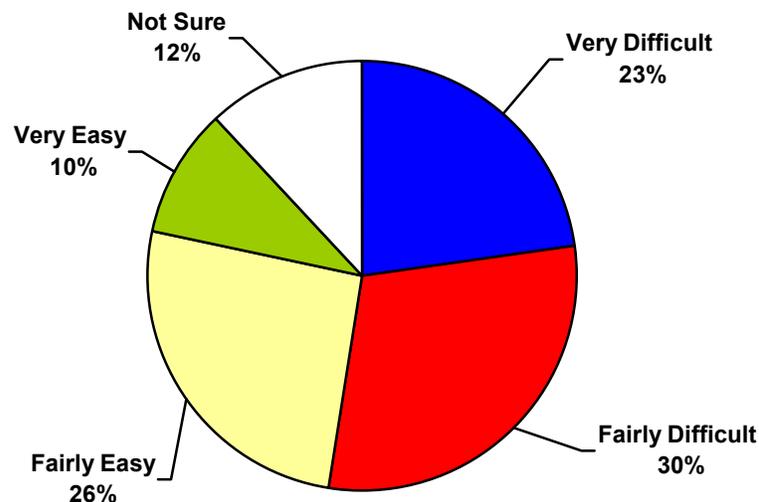
As with nursing homes, slightly less than one in three reports it is very or fairly easy to find quality agencies and caregivers who will come in to their homes.

**Difficulty of Finding Quality Home Care Workers  
(n=270)**



Respondents with long-term care experience were also asked to describe how difficult it is to find information about how to judge a quality residential care facility or home care agency. More than half report that it is very or fairly difficult. Slightly more than one in three says it is very or fairly easy to find information to evaluate the quality of care.

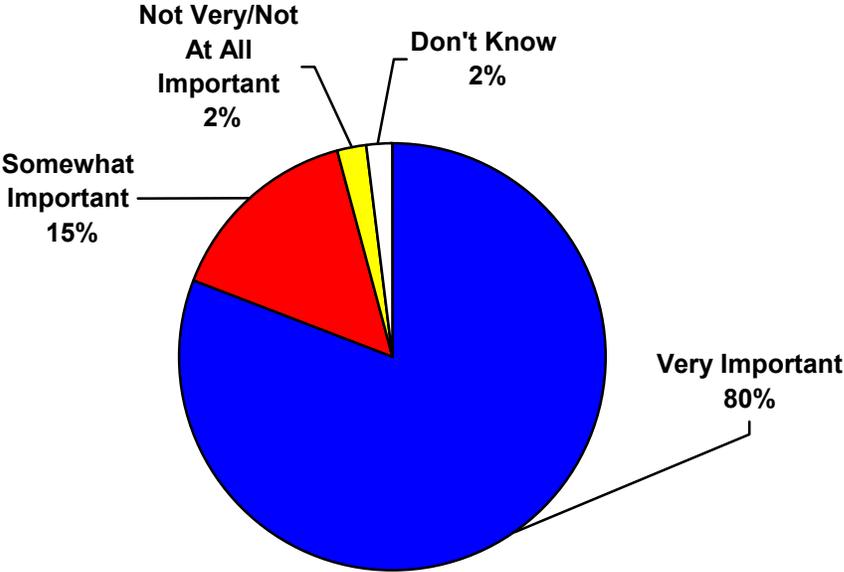
**Difficulty of Finding Information  
To Help Evaluate the Quality of Care of  
Nursing Homes and Home Care Agencies  
(n=270)**



**Nearly all voters age 45 and over believe that appropriate amounts of face-to-face or hands-on-care are important to quality long-term care services.**

When asked to define how important appropriate amounts of face-to-face or hands-on-care are to the quality of long-term care services received in a residential facility or services received in their homes, nearly all respondents indicate that high levels of personal care is important to the quality of care in all settings.

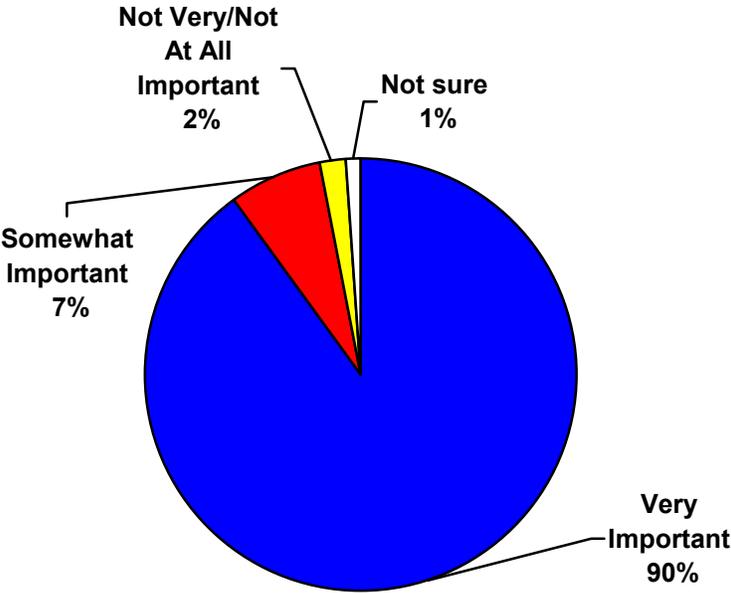
**Importance of Face-to-Face or Hands-on-Care  
in the Quality of Long-Term Care Services  
(N=800)**



**Nearly all respondents report that it is important to know that their family and friends are being treated by qualified health care workers.**

Nine in ten respondents report that it is very important, and about one in ten say it is somewhat important to them to know that their family and friends are being treated by qualified health care workers. Only two percent say it is not very or not at all important.

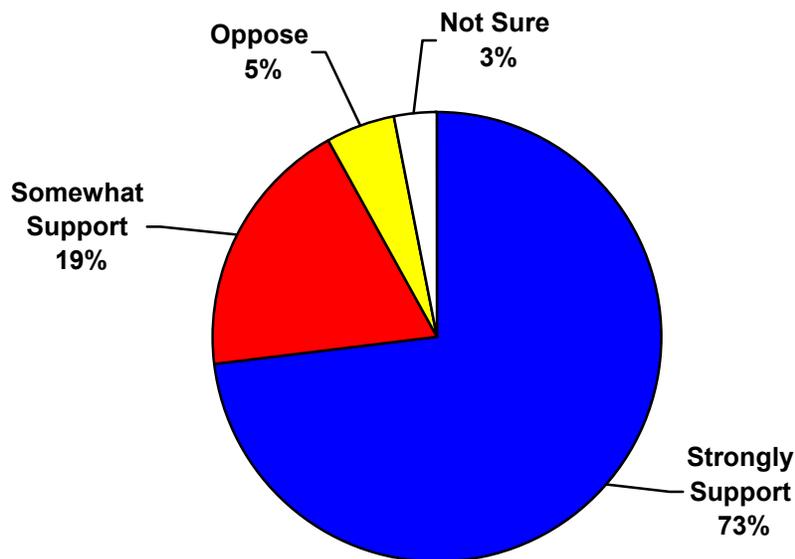
**Importance of Knowing That Relatives/Friends Are Being Treated By Qualified Health Care Workers (N=800)**



**Nearly all voters age 45 and over support Michigan legislation to strengthen enforcement of state and federal standards to protect the health and safety of nursing home residents.**

Almost three-quarters of registered voters age 45 and over would strongly support legislation in Michigan to strengthen enforcement of state and federal standards to protect the health and safety of nursing home residents. Another one in five would somewhat support such legislation.

**Support for Michigan Legislation to Strengthen Enforcement of Nursing Home Health and Safety Standards (N=800)**



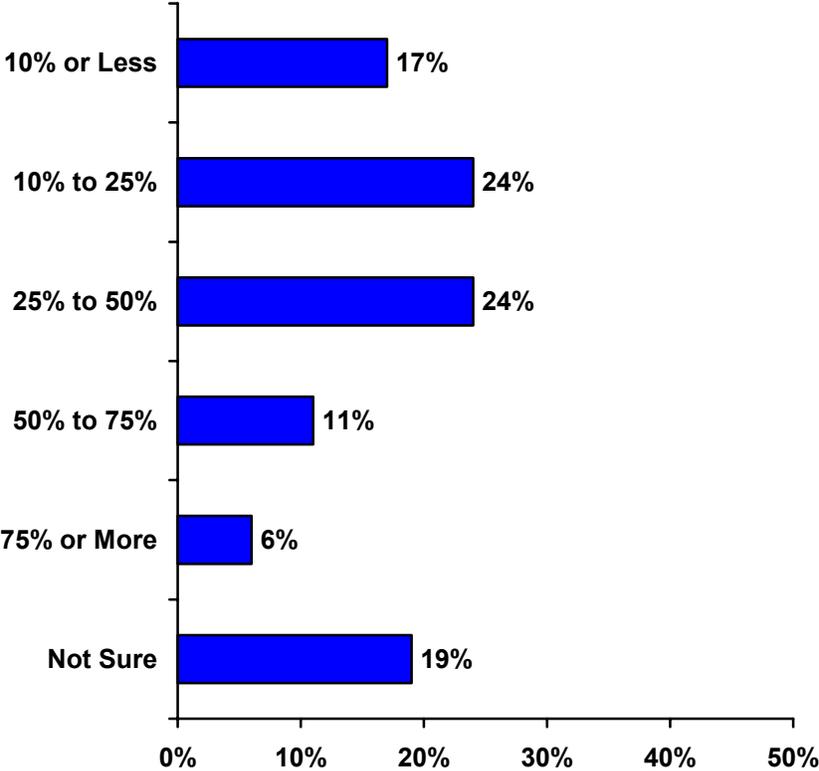
**Health Care Benefits for Nursing Home and Home Health Care Workers**

**Nearly all respondents believe it is important for nursing home and home health care workers to have health care insurance.**

When asked to estimate what percentages of health care workers in Michigan have health benefits, two in three estimate that half or less of health care workers in Michigan have health insurance coverage. Notably, nearly one in five state they are unsure.

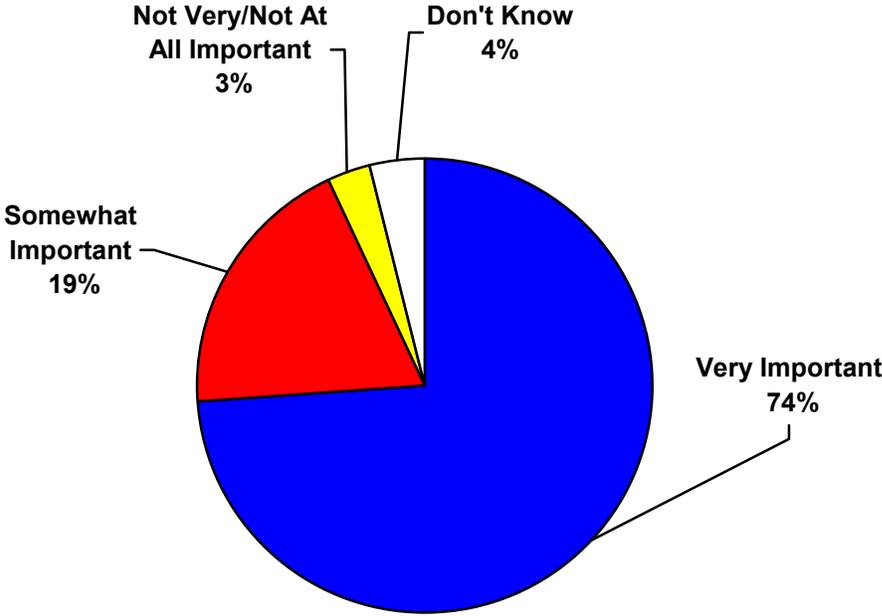
Respondents were then informed that in Michigan 25 percent of nurse’s aides and 50 percent of home health care workers **DO NOT** have health insurance. Respondents’ estimate of the coverage and the actual rate of coverage are fairly consistent.

**Estimate of Nursing Home/Home Health Care Workers  
Who Have Health Benefits  
(N=800)**



Respondents were then asked how important it is to them that those providing care to older persons, persons with disabilities, and others receiving in-home help receive health insurance themselves. Nearly all voters age 45 and over believe that it is important for those delivering long-term health care services to have health insurance for themselves.

**Importance of Health Care Workers Having Health Insurance  
(N=800)**

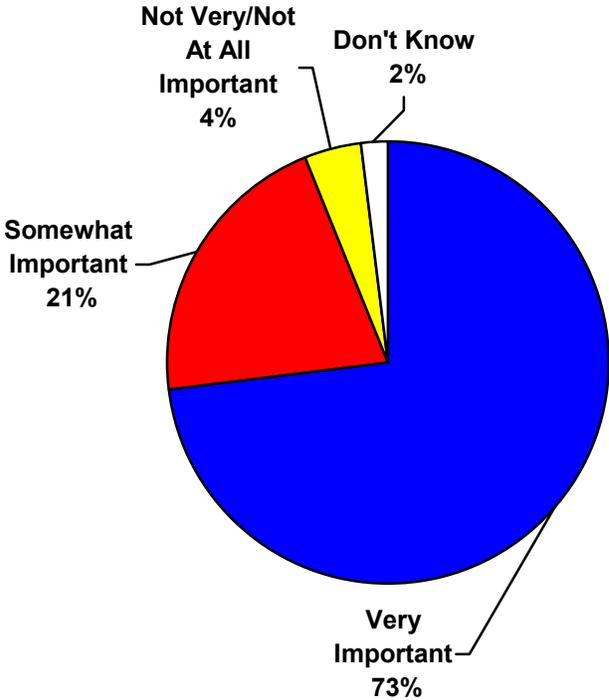


**Nearly all respondents say that the having health care insurance is important to keeping health care workers in their positions.**

Respondents were told that there are high turnover rates in Michigan’s long-term care sector among the direct-care workforce. This is due to working conditions, wages, and lack of health insurance. They were then asked how important they think having health insurance is to keeping health care workers in their positions.

Nearly all report that they view health insurance as important to keeping health care workers in their positions.

**Importance of Health Insurance in Keeping Health Care Workers in Their Positions (N=800)**

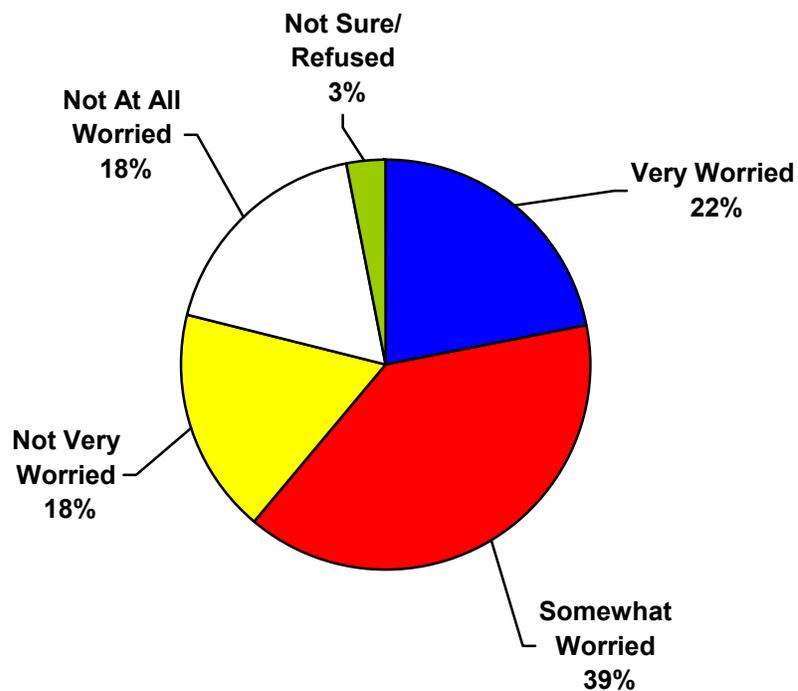


## Long-Term Care Affordability

**Three in five respondents report they are worried about their ability to afford long-term care services for themselves and their families.**

Respondents were informed that some persons express worry about their ability to afford long-term care services for themselves and their families. They were asked to indicate how worried they are personally. About three in five respondents say they are worried.

**Worry About Ability to Afford Long-Term Care Services  
(N=800)**

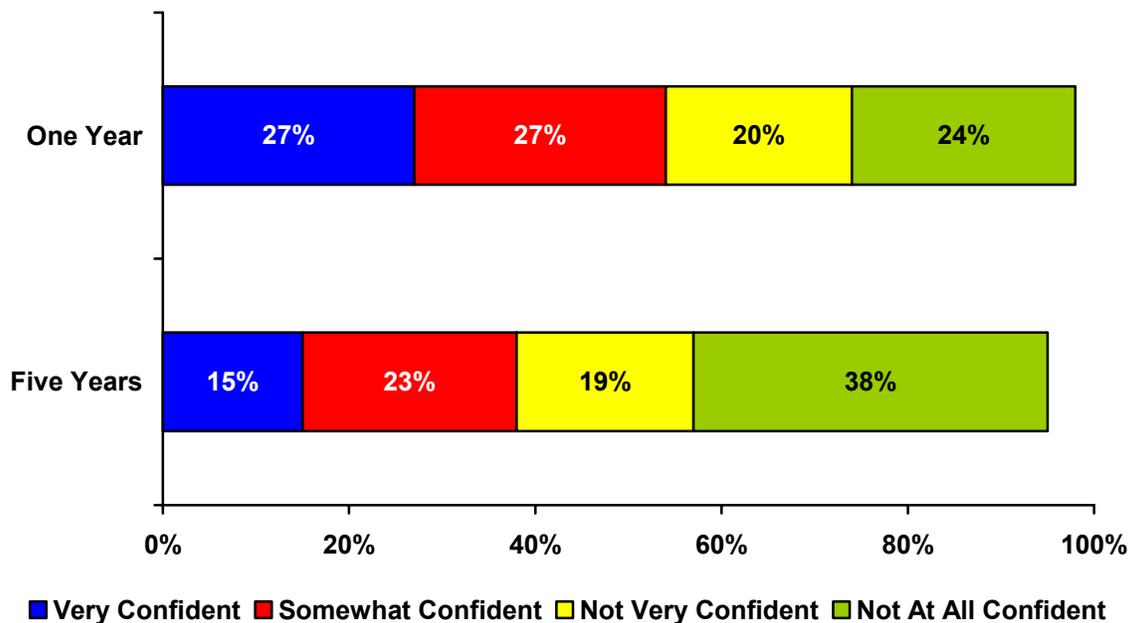


**While a majority of voters age 45 and over are confident that they could afford the cost of long-term care for one year, fewer are confident they could afford the cost for five years.**

Respondents were told that the cost of long-term care varies depending on the type of services a person receives, with nursing homes in Michigan costing approximately \$54,000 annually and assisted living facility cost averaging \$24,000 per year. Home and community-based care costs average about \$15,000 per year in Michigan.

Given these costs, respondents were asked how confident they were that they could afford the cost of long-term care for one and five years. More than half are confident they could afford the cost for one year; however, fewer than two in five are confident they could afford the cost for five years, and nearly two in five say they are not at all confident.

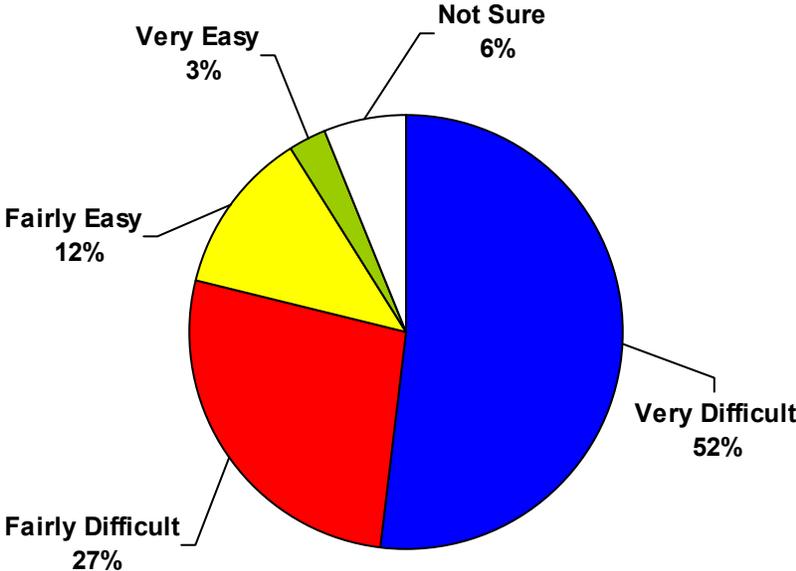
**Confidence in Ability to Afford the Costs of Long-Term Care  
for One and Five Years  
(N=800)**



**Among those who report experience with the long-term care system in the past five years, about four in five say it is difficult to afford the cost of long-term care.**

When those with experience with long-term care in the past five years assess the difficulty of paying for long-term care, almost eight in ten say it is difficult. This figure is far higher than the percent of all registered voters age 45+ who say they are not confident about their ability to afford care. This suggests that those without the experience may underestimate the challenge of paying for long-term care

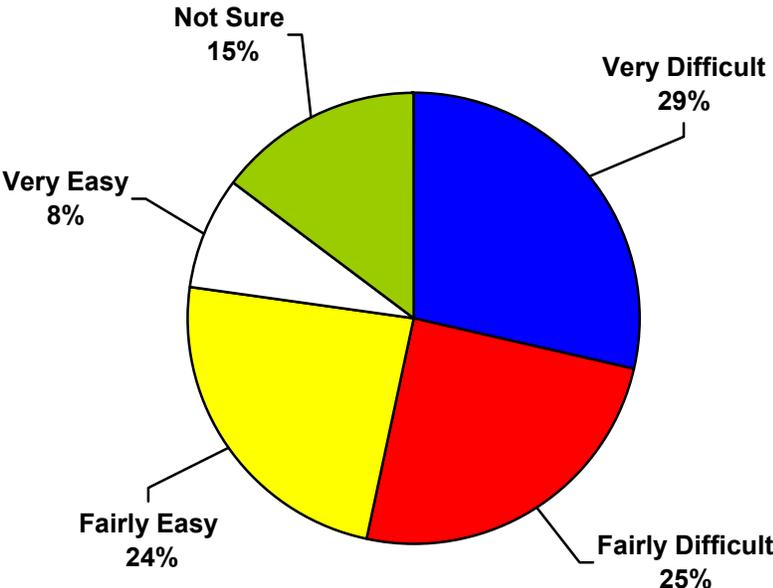
**Difficulty in Affording Long-Term Care  
(n=270)**



**More than half of respondents with long-term care experience indicate that it is difficult to find information about government services that provide or help fund long-term care.**

Those respondents who indicated that they or a family member had used long-term care services in the past five years were asked how difficult it is to find information about government services that provide or help fund long-term care. More than half report it is difficult, and about one in three say it is very or fairly easy.

**Difficulty in Finding Information about Government Long-Term Care Programs and Services (n=270)**



## Health and Long-Term Care Funding

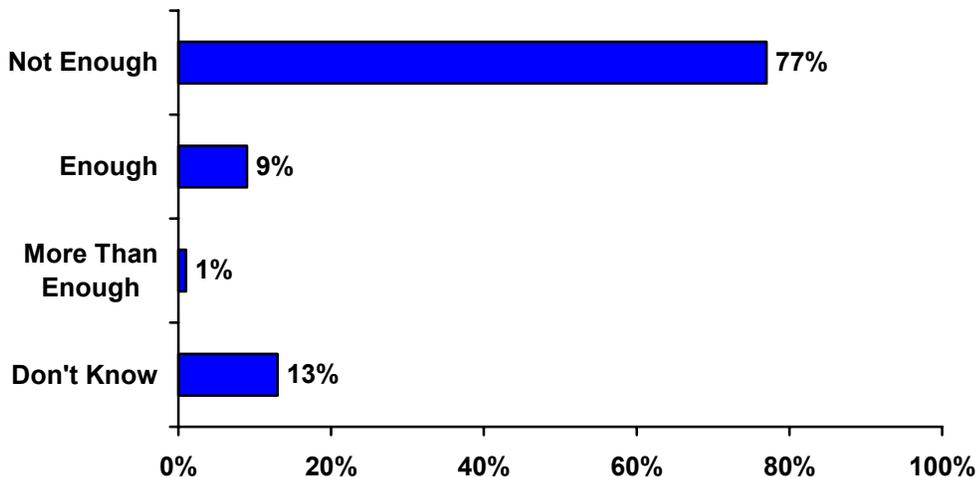
**More than three in four Michigan voters age 45 and older do not believe there is enough health and long-term care funding to meet the need for services and ensure the quality of care.**

Respondents were presented with three statements about the adequacy of health and long-term care funding and asked to select the one that best described health and long-term care funding in Michigan:

- There is more than enough funding to meet the need for services and ensure quality health and long-term care services.
- There is enough funding to meet the need for services and ensure quality health and long-term care services.
- There is not enough funding to meet the need for services and ensure the quality of health and long-term care services.

More than three in four believe that there is not enough funding to meet the need for services and ensure the quality of health and long-term care services. Fewer than one in ten says there is enough. Only one percent reports there is more than enough.

### **Adequacy of Health and Long-Term Care Funding to Meet the Need for Service and Ensure the Quality of Health and Long-Term Care in Michigan (N=800)**

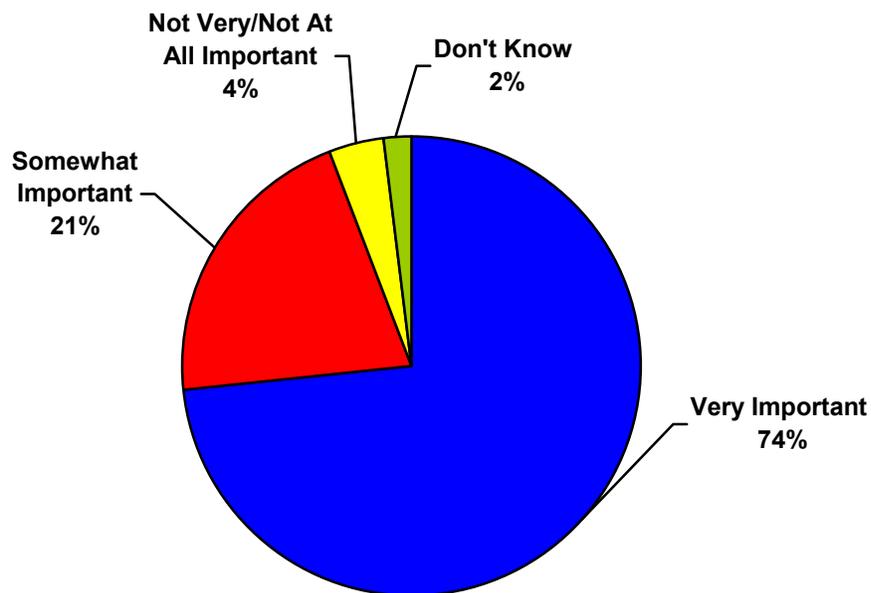


**More than nine in ten Michigan voters age 45 and older think that it is important that the state of Michigan maintain current funding levels for health and long-term care services in spite of the budget short fall.**

Respondents were informed that Michigan is currently facing a \$920 million shortfall in the budget this year. To help balance the state budget, some legislators are recommending “across the board” budget cuts in spending on programs and services that include health care for children and long-term care services for older persons and people with disabilities.

When asked how important it is to them that Michigan maintains current levels of funding for health and long-term care services, nearly all respondents indicate that it is important.

**Importance of Maintaining Current Funding Levels For Michigan Health and Long-Term Care Services (N=800)**

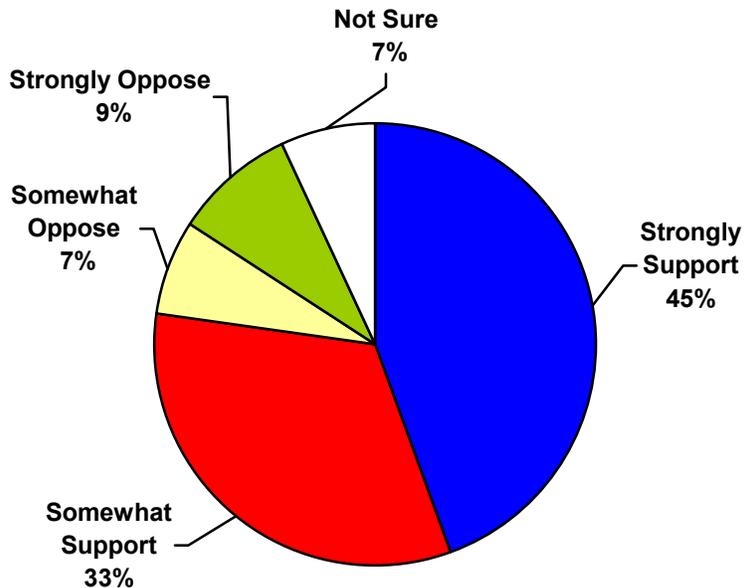


**Even with a tax increase, nearly eight in ten Michigan voters age 45 and older support the state of Michigan increasing funding for home and community-based care services.**

Respondents were asked whether they would support or oppose the state of Michigan increasing funding for home and community-based care services (such as in-home care or adult day care) that allow people to remain in their own homes as the age, instead of going to a nursing home, even if it meant an increase in their taxes.

Nearly eight in ten would support increasing funding for home and community-based care, while fewer than one in five would oppose increased funding.

**Support for Increased Funding in Michigan  
For Home and Community-Based Care Services  
(N=800)**

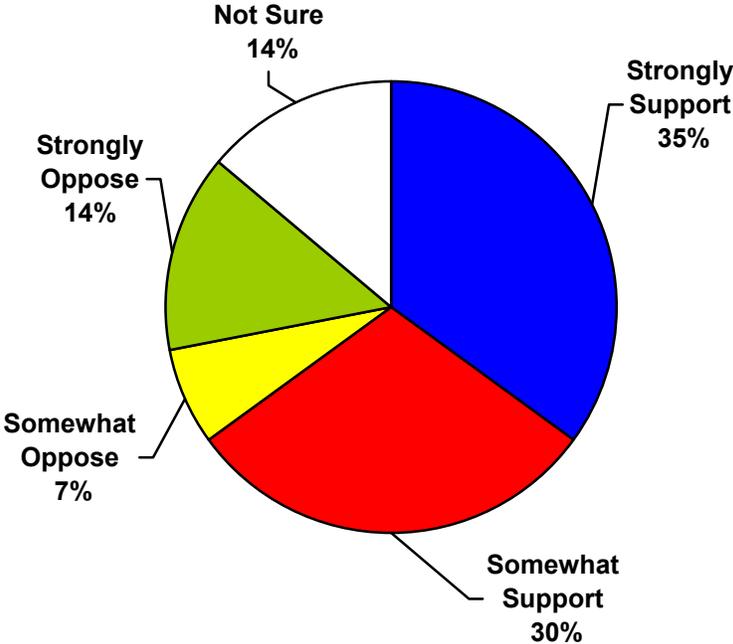


**About two in three Michigan voters age 45 and over support the use of estate taxes to help raise money for long-term care services.**

Respondents were told that the Governor’s Medicaid and Long-Term Care Taskforce recently recommended using money raised from Michigan’s estate tax as a way to raise money for long-term care for older persons and people with disabilities. According to the Michigan Fiscal Agency, in 2004, Michigan received \$140 million in estate taxes.

About two in three respondents would support the use of the estate tax to help fund long-term care services, while one in five would oppose it. Fourteen percent are unsure.

**Support for Use of the Estate Tax to Help Fund Long-Term Care Services (N=800)**



## A Profile of Michigan Respondents

Respondents are almost evenly divided between females (54%) and males (46%). About three in five respondents (59%) are married. Three in ten Michigan respondents (31%) are widowed, divorced, or separated. More than one-third of respondents have some college or technical training beyond high school (34%), and 31 percent are college graduates. The majority of state respondents are white (87%). Two in five respondents (40%) are employed either full-or part-time. More than one in three (36%) Michigan respondents have an annual household income below \$35,000, while 33 percent have incomes of \$50,000 or more.

The vast majority (91%) of surveyed Michigan voters age 45 and over report they have health care insurance coverage. Of those respondents with coverage, three in ten (31%) indicate they are worried about losing their health insurance. Most of those with insurance are covered through a current or former employer (current employer, 28%; spouse's employer, 13%; former employer, 21%; or spouse's former employer, 8%). Seventeen percent say they have Medicare, and another three percent say they are covered by Michigan Medicaid. Eleven percent purchases their own insurance coverage through an individual policy.

Only eight percent of these respondents indicate they have no health care coverage. Of these, two in three (68%) say that the cost of coverage is the main reason they don't have health care insurance. Seven percent report that the coverage is not available through their employer, and ten percent say they are unemployed. Three percent say they do not require health insurance coverage.

Survey respondents were asked what group of people first comes to mind when they think about the issue of long-term care. More than eight in ten (83%) registered voters age 45 and over first think of senior citizens age 65 and older. Less than one in ten first thinks of adults with disabilities under the age of 65 (7%) or children under age 18 with disabilities (6%).

A total of 800 Michigan residents aged 45 and older participated in the survey. A solid majority (82%) of respondents are regular voters. Two-thirds (68%) of those surveyed report they have voted in *nearly all* elections while another 14 percent say they have voted in *most* elections.

## Conclusion

When the need for long-term care services arises, a majority of Michigan voters age 45 and older want to remain in their homes. They want personalized care delivered in their own homes by friends and family and by paid caregivers.

Nearly all respondents believe that it is important for Michigan to have a range of long-term care services that would enable them and their families to remain at home when long-term care is needed. The findings also suggest that there are a large percentage of residents in nursing homes who would return to their homes and communities if affordable home and community-based care services were available to them.

Those who have experience with Michigan's long-term care system in the past five years paint a flawed picture of the availability of quality long-term care. More than half also say that it is difficult to find information that could help them judge the quality of care provided in residential care facilities or home care agencies. Three in five report that it is difficult to actually find quality nursing home care, and more than half indicate it is difficult to find quality home care agencies and home care workers.

Quality of long-term care is a concern of Michigan voters age 45 and over, and they believe that there should be both standards and practices in place that assure that their friends and family members receive quality care. Appropriate hands-on-care and face-to-face care are viewed as important elements of quality care. They also want assurance that those who provide the care are qualified to provide services. Nearly all Michigan voters age 45 and older support Michigan legislation to strengthen the enforcement of state and federal standards to protect the health and safety of nursing home residents.

According to *The Cost of Frontline Turnover in Long-Term Care, Better Jobs Better Care*<sup>2</sup>, a factor that negatively influences the quality of care is the high turnover rate among health care workers. Lack of health care coverage has been identified as a key contributor to this high turnover rate. Nearly all respondents believe that having health care insurance is important to keeping health care workers in their positions. Nearly all respondents believe that it is important that these workers have health insurance.

Like quality, affordability of long-term care is a key concern for Michigan voters age 45 and over. A majority of respondents report they are worried about their ability to afford long-term care services for themselves and their families. Nearly three in five say they are not confident they could afford to cover long-term care expenses for five years. Four in five of those who have experience with the Michigan long-term care system report that it is difficult to afford the costs.

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<sup>2</sup> Seavey, D. *The Cost of Frontline Turnover in Long-Term Care, Better Jobs Better Care*. 2004.

Notably, there is a major discrepancy between the percentage of persons with long-term care experience who reported that it is difficult to find affordable care and those who say they are worried about the affordability of care. This may mean that the number of people who may experience difficulty with affording long-term may be greater than anticipated.

While a majority of respondents are confident that they could afford the cost of long-term care for one year, this confidence sharply wanes when the aspect of paying for long term care for five years is considered. Further complicating the problem is the difficulty people having in finding information about government long-term care programs.

Most voters age 45 and older do not believe that there is not enough funding in the state budget for health and long-term care services. When faced with proposals to remedy the budget shortfall with across the board cuts to services, almost all respondents say it is important to maintain the current level of funding for health and long-term care services to meet the need for services and maintain the quality of care.

A majority of voters are supportive of increasing funding for home and community-based care services specifically, even if it meant an increase in taxes. When asked about the possible use of the state estate tax as a strategy to help raise money for long-term care services generally, two-thirds of respondents would support use of the estate tax for this purpose.

## Implications

In April 2005, the Michigan Medicaid Long-Term Care Task Force released a draft report entitled *Modernizing Michigan Medicaid Long-Term Care: Toward an Integrated System of Services and Supports*.

In this report, the Introduction contained the following description of the current status of the Michigan system:

*Michigan's publicly-funded Long Term Care (LTC) system faces a number of challenges, including fragmentation across programs, confusion among consumers and their families seeking access to LTC information and services, an over-reliance on relatively expensive institutional (nursing facility) care, and insufficient mechanisms to allow consumers to receive care in settings of their choice as their preferences and needs change. The state spends a relatively large proportion of its Medicaid long-term care budget on nursing facility services and significantly less on home and-community-based services (such as the MiChoice program)<sup>3</sup>.*

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<sup>3</sup> *Modernizing Michigan Medicaid Long-Term Care: Toward an Integrated System of Services and Supports*

Findings from this survey substantiate the problems summarized in the draft report. Further, a number of proposed strategies outlined in the draft report would be highly responsive to the needs and opinions of Michigan voters age 45 and over:

Report Recommendation: Require and implement person-centered planning services throughout the long-term care continuum and honor the individual’s preferences, choices, and abilities<sup>4</sup>.

Survey Findings:

- Most respondents say it is important to have long-term care services that would enable them and members of their family to remain in their own homes as long as possible.
- Even if it meant an increase in taxes, nearly eight in ten voters support the state increasing funding for home and community-based care services.
- Of the one in five respondents who report they have a friend or relative in a nursing home, nearly two in five indicate that the person would return to his or her home or community if home care and support services were both available and affordable.

Report Recommendation: Designate locally or regionally-based “Single Point of Entry” (SPE) agencies for consumers of long-term care and mandate that applicants for Medicaid funded long-term care go through the SPE to apply for services<sup>5</sup>.

Survey Findings:

- A majority of respondents with long-term care experience report that it is very or somewhat difficult to:
  - Find quality nursing home care
  - Find quality agencies and caregivers who will come into their homes
  - Find information about how to judge a quality residential care facility or home care agency
  - Find information about government services that provide or help fund long-term care

Report Recommendation: Strengthen the array of long-term care services and supports by removing limits on the settings served by MiChoice waiver services and expanding the list of funded services<sup>6</sup>.

Survey Findings:

- Three in four respondents also say it is a top or high priority for Michigan to ensure that older persons and persons with disabilities to have affordable choices in nursing homes, in the community, and in their own homes.

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<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

- More than three in four Michigan voters age 45 and older do not believe there is enough health and long-term care funding to meet the need for services and ensure the quality of care.
- More than nine in ten Michigan voters age 45 and older think that it is important that the state of Michigan maintain current funding levels for health and long-term care services in spite of the budget short fall.

Report Recommendation: Establish a new Quality Management System for all long-term care programs that includes a consumer advocate and a Long-Term Care Administration that would be responsible for the coordination of policy and practice of long-term care.<sup>7</sup>

Survey Findings:

- Nearly all respondents report that it is very important that relatives and friends are being treated by qualified health care workers.
- Nearly all voters age 45 and over support Michigan legislation to strengthen enforcement of state and federal standards to protect the health and safety of nursing home residents.

Report Recommendation: Build and sustain culturally competent, highly valued, competitively compensated, and knowledgeable long-term care workforce teams that provide high quality care within a supportive environment and are responsive to consumers' needs and choices<sup>8</sup>.

Survey Findings:

- Nearly all voters age 45 and over believe that appropriate amounts of face-to-face or hands-on-care are important to quality long-term care services.
- Nearly all respondents report that it is important to know that their family and friends are being treated by qualified health care workers.
- Nearly all Michigan voters age 45 and over believe that it is important for health care workers to receive health insurance and say that having health care insurance is important to keeping health care workers in their positions.

Report Recommendation: Adapt funding structures that maximize resources, promote consumer incentives, and decrease fraud<sup>9</sup>.

Survey Findings:

- Of the one in five respondents who report they have a friend or relative in a nursing home, nearly two in five indicate that the person would return to his or her home or community if home care and support services were both available and affordable.

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<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

These strategies, if implemented, would actualize the desires of Michigan's citizens to avoid higher cost institutional care and to remain in their own homes and neighborhoods.

While the state of Michigan must address growing budget problems, respondents do not want to balance the state budget through reducing funding for health and long-term care services. In fact, a majority would consider a tax increase to promote greater availability of home and community-based care services. The demand for quality long-term care will continue to grow as the population of the state ages. It is not only timely, but it is critical that the state examine and implement strategies that create an array of quality long-term care services that improve efficiencies in the system without jeopardizing either the quality or access to services. Simply making across the board cuts in the budget will neither address the current needs nor those needs that will emerge as the state's population ages. As was so eloquently described in *The Price of Government* by David Osborne and Peter Hutchinson the goal is to better utilize the resources we have available:

*The goal is not just to save money, but to foster strategic thinking and big reforms that will help government produce better outcomes for less money. And that is precisely what the American people want.*

This thought aptly summarizes the views of Michigan voters as expressed in this survey.

## Methodology

AARP commissioned Woelfel Research to conduct a telephone survey of registered voters age 45 or older in Michigan. A total of 800 interviews were completed. The survey was conducted between May 4-15, 2005. The survey has a sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percent. Survey responses were weighted to reflect the distribution of age and gender of registered voters age 45 or older in Michigan as estimated in the 2000 Current Population Survey Voter Supplement. Weighted responses to all survey questions are in the attached annotated questionnaire.

In addition to the main sample of 800 voters, two areas in Michigan, Kent County/Grand Rapids and Western Wayne/Oakland County, were oversampled. Samples of registered voters age 45 and over were interviewed in each of these locations. A total of 200 interviews<sup>10</sup> were conducted in the Kent County/Grand Rapids area, and 203<sup>11</sup> registered voters were interviewed in the Western Wayne/Oakland County area. These oversamples have a sampling error of plus or minus 7.1 percent. Due to lack of population data, responses by these respondents were not weighted. All responses for each of these samples are similarly included in the attached annotated questionnaire.

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<sup>10</sup> The response rate was 14 percent and the cooperation rate was 88 percent for Kent County/Grand Rapids oversample.

<sup>11</sup> The response rate was 11 percent and the cooperation rate was 88 percent for the Western Wayne/Oakland County oversample.

**Appendix I**  
**Annotated Questionnaire**

## 2005 AARP Michigan Health Care Survey

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
Registered voters age 45+ = 800 Response Rate = 14% Cooperation Rate = 88% Margin of error = 3.54	Registered voters age 45+ = 200 Response Rate = 14% Cooperation Rate = 88% Margin of error = 7.09	Registered voters age 45+ = 203 Response Rate = 11% Cooperation Rate = 88% Margin of error = 7.09

**Long-term care** refers to care provided over an extended period of time in a nursing home, at home, or in a community setting. People of all ages who are frail, ill or disabled who need assistance with regular daily activities, such as getting dressed, bathing, preparing meals or eating may receive long-term care services. This care can be provided in a nursing home, in a person's home by nurses' aides or family, or in an assisted-living facility. **Home and community-based services** refers to long-term services and supports provided in individuals' homes or home-like environments such as supportive housing.

**1. When you think about the issue of long-term care, which of the following types of people FIRST come to mind? (if all, ask FIRST) [ROTATE list]**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
83 Senior citizens, 65 and older	83 Senior citizens, 65 and older	84 Senior citizens, 65 and older
7 Adults under 65 with disabilities	9 Adults under 65 with disabilities	9 Adults under 65 with disabilities
6 Children under 18 with disabilities	4 Children under 18 with disabilities	3 Children under 18 with disabilities
5 Don't Know	5 Don't Know	4 Don't Know

**2. To the best of your knowledge, which of the following best describes the current state of funding for health and long-term care services in Michigan?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
1 There is MORE THAN ENOUGH funding to meet the need for services and ensure quality health and long-term care services.	1 There is MORE THAN ENOUGH funding to meet the need for services and ensure quality health and long-term care services.	3 There is MORE THAN ENOUGH funding to meet the need for services and ensure quality health and long-term care services.
9 There is ENOUGH funding to meet the need services and ensure quality health and long-term care services.	9 There is ENOUGH funding to meet the need services and ensure quality health and long-term care services.	5 There is ENOUGH funding to meet the need services and ensure quality health and long-term care services.
77 There is NOT ENOUGH funding to meet the need for services and ensure the quality health and long-term care services.	75 There is NOT ENOUGH funding to meet the need for services and ensure the quality health and long-term care services.	81 There is NOT ENOUGH funding to meet the need for services and ensure the quality health and long-term care services.
13 Don't Know	16 Don't Know	11 Don't Know

**3. There are several long-term care options available for people who are disabled, ill, or elderly. If you or a family member needed long-term care services, how would you prefer to receive that service? Would you prefer to....**

<b>Main Sample</b>		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b>		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b>	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
29	Have family and friends provide all the care at home	27	Have family and friends provide all the care at home	25	Have family and friends provide all the care at home
40	Be able to pay a nurse or a personal care aide to provide care at home	45	Be able to pay a nurse or a personal care aide to provide care at home	48	Be able to pay a nurse or a personal care aide to provide care at home
17	Have care provided in a residential facility, such as a home for the aged or an assisted living facility where housing, food, and personal care such as help with bathing and dressing are provided for those who live there	20	Have care provided in a residential facility, such as a home for the aged or an assisted living facility where housing, food, and personal care such as help with bathing and dressing are provided for those who live there	16	Have care provided in a residential facility, such as a home for the aged or an assisted living facility where housing, food, and personal care such as help with bathing and dressing are provided for those who live there
7	Have care provided in a nursing home	5	Have care provided in a nursing home	4	Have care provided in a nursing home
8	Not sure	4	Not sure	7	Not sure

**4. How much of a priority should it be for Michigan to ensure that older persons and persons with disabilities have affordable long-term care choices in nursing homes, in the community and in their own homes? Should it be a...?**

<b>Main Sample</b>		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b>		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b>	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
32	Top priority	35	Top priority	33	Top priority
43	High priority	43	High priority	43	High priority
18	Medium priority	15	Medium priority	18	Medium priority
2	Low priority	2	Low priority	2	Low priority
2	Not a priority	2	Not a priority	3	Not a priority
3	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	3	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	2	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>
*	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	1	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	0	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>

**5. If you or any member of your family needed long-term care services, how important would it be to you to have services that would enable you or your family member to stay at home as long as possible?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
83 Very important	88 Very important	81 Very important
12 Somewhat important	8 Somewhat important	14 Somewhat important
2 Not very important	2 Not very important	2 Not very important
2 Not at all important	2 Not at all important	2 Not at all important
1 Don't Know	2 Don't Know	1 Don't Know
0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]

**6. How strongly would you support or oppose the state of Michigan increasing funding for home and community-based care services (such as in-home health care or adult day care) that allow people to remain in their own home as they age instead of going to a nursing home, even if it meant an increase in your taxes?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
45 Strongly support	55 Strongly support	53 Strongly support
33 Somewhat support	26 Somewhat support	31 Somewhat support
7 Somewhat oppose	7 Somewhat oppose	3 Somewhat oppose
9 Strongly oppose	9 Strongly oppose	9 Strongly oppose
7 Not sure	4 Not sure	3 Not sure
0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]

**7. Some people 50 and older express worry about being able to afford long term care services for themselves and their family. How worried are you about it?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
22 Very worried	24 Very worried	27 Very worried
39 Somewhat worried	43 Somewhat worried	36 Somewhat worried
18 Not very worried	19 Not very worried	22 Not very worried
18 Not at all worried	14 Not at all worried	14 Not at all worried
2 Not sure [Do Not Read]	1 Not sure [Do Not Read]	2 Not sure [Do Not Read]
1 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]	1 Refused [Do Not Read]

**8. The cost of long-term care varies depending on the type of services a person receives. In Michigan, nursing homes cost approximately \$54,000 (Fifty-four thousand dollars) ANNUALLY. Michigan assisted living facilities cost approximately \$24,000 (Twenty-four thousand dollars) ANNUALLY. Home and community-based care in Michigan costs approximately \$15,000 (Fifteen thousand dollars) ANNUALLY. The persons receiving the services or their family pay many of these costs out-of-pocket.**

a. Knowing that, how confident are you that you could afford the cost of long-term care for one year? Are you...?

Main Sample		Kent County/Grand Rapids		Western Wayne/Oakland County	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
27	Very confident	20	Very confident	32	Very confident
27	Somewhat confident	24	Somewhat confident	22	Somewhat confident
20	Not very confident	25	Not very confident	24	Not very confident
24	Not at all confident	30	Not at all confident	21	Not at all confident
2	Not sure [Do Not Read]	1	Not sure [Do Not Read]	2	Not sure [Do Not Read]
1	Refused [Do Not Read]	1	Refused [Do Not Read]	1	Refused [Do Not Read]

b. How confident are you that you could afford the cost of long-term care for five years?

Main Sample		Kent County/Grand Rapids		Western Wayne/Oakland County	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
15	Very confident	11	Very confident	16	Very confident
23	Somewhat confident	18	Somewhat confident	20	Somewhat confident
19	Not very confident	24	Not very confident	28	Not very confident
38	Not at all confident	44	Not at all confident	33	Not at all confident
4	Not sure [Do Not Read]	4	Not sure [Do Not Read]	3	Not sure [Do Not Read]
1	Refused [Do Not Read]	1	Refused [Do Not Read]	1	Refused [Do Not Read]

**9. Do you have a family member or a friend who currently lives in a nursing home?**

Main Sample		Kent County/Grand Rapids		Western Wayne/Oakland County	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
21	Yes [Go to Q9a]	25	Yes [Go to Q9a]	13	Yes [Go to Q9a]
79	No [Go to Q10]	75	No [Go to Q10]	87	No [Go to Q10]
*	Not sure [Go to Q10]	0	Not sure [Go to Q10]	0	Not sure [Go to Q10]

**9a. If Q9 = Yes, would the family member or friend return to his or her home/ community, if home care and support services were available and affordable?**

<b>Main Sample</b> N=166		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b> N=50		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b> N=27	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
37	<b>Yes</b> , I have a family member or friend who would return home if home care and support services were available and affordable in his or her home/community.	34	<b>Yes</b> , I have a family member or friend who would return home if home care and support services were available and affordable in his or her home/community.	44	<b>Yes</b> , I have a family member or friend who would return home if home care and support services were available and affordable in his or her home/community.
56	<b>No</b> , even if with home care and support services in his or her home/community, my family member or friend would not return home.	62	<b>No</b> , even if with home care and support services in his or her home/community, my family member or friend would not return home.	48	<b>No</b> , even if with home care and support services in his or her home/community, my family member or friend would not return home.
7	Don't know	4	Don't know [Go to Q12]	7	Don't know [Go to Q12]

**10. Have you or any member of your family — such as grandparents, parents, children, or a sister or brother – used long-term care services within the last five years?**

<b>Main Sample</b>		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b>		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b>	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
34	Yes [Go to Q11]	33	Yes [Go to 11]	36	Yes [Go to 11]
66	No [Go to Q12]	67	No [Go to Q12]	64	No [Go to Q12]
*	Don't know [Go to Q12]	0	Don't know [Go to Q12]	1	Don't know [Go to Q12]

**11. Based on what you know, is it very difficult, fairly difficult, fairly easy, or very easy for people who need long-term care to .....**

a. afford the costs of long-term care

<b>Main Sample</b> N=270		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b> N=66		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b> N=72	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
52	Very difficult	53	Very difficult	60	Very difficult
27	Fairly difficult	27	Fairly difficult	28	Fairly difficult
12	Fairly easy	12	Fairly easy	11	Fairly easy
3	Very easy	3	Very easy	1	Very easy
6	Not sure [Do Not Read]	5	Not sure [Do Not Read]	0	Not sure [Do Not Read]
0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]

b. Find quality nursing home care

<b>Main Sample</b> N=270		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b> N=66		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b> N=72	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
30	Very difficult	30	Very difficult	43	Very difficult
30	Fairly difficult	39	Fairly difficult	29	Fairly difficult
24	Fairly easy	15	Fairly easy	19	Fairly easy
8	Very easy	3	Very easy	1	Very easy
9	Not sure [Do Not Read]	12	Not sure [Do Not Read]	7	Not sure [Do Not Read]
0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]

c. Find quality agencies and caregivers who will come into their home

<b>Main Sample</b> N=270		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b> N=66		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b> N=72	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
26	Very difficult	23	Very difficult	42	Very difficult
28	Fairly difficult	32	Fairly difficult	28	Fairly difficult
27	Fairly easy	24	Fairly easy	15	Fairly easy
6	Very easy	5	Very easy	6	Very easy
14	Not sure [Do Not Read]	17	Not sure [Do Not Read]	10	Not sure [Do Not Read]
0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]

d. Find information about how to judge a quality residential care facility or home care agency

<b>Main Sample</b> N=270		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b> N=66		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b> N=72	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
23	Very difficult	20	Very difficult	33	Very difficult
30	Fairly difficult	39	Fairly difficult	35	Fairly difficult
26	Fairly easy	26	Fairly easy	21	Fairly easy
10	Very easy	8	Very easy	8	Very easy
12	Not sure [Do Not Read]	8	Not sure [Do Not Read]	3	Not sure [Do Not Read]
0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]

e. Find information about government services that provide or help fund long-term care

<b>Main Sample</b> N=270		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b> N=66		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b> N=72	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
29	Very difficult	32	Very difficult	39	Very difficult
25	Fairly difficult	24	Fairly difficult	38	Fairly difficult
24	Fairly easy	30	Fairly easy	10	Fairly easy
8	Very easy	3	Very easy	1	Very easy
15	Not sure [Do Not Read]	11	Not sure [Do Not Read]	13	Not sure [Do Not Read]
0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]

**12. How important is it to you to know your family and friends are being treated by qualified health care workers?**

Main Sample		Kent County/Grand Rapids		Western Wayne/Oakland County	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
90	Very important	91	Very important	94	Very important
7	Somewhat important	7	Somewhat important	4	Somewhat important
1	Not very important	1	Not very important	0	Not very important
1	Not at all important	0	Not at all important	1	Not at all important
1	Not sure [Do Not Read]	1	Not sure [Do Not Read]	2	Not sure [Do Not Read]
0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]

**13. How important do you think appropriate amounts of face-to-face or hands-on care are to the quality of long-term care services received in a residential facility or services received in your home?**

Main Sample		Kent County/Grand Rapids		Western Wayne/Oakland County	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
80	Very important	83	Very important	86	Very important
15	Somewhat important	13	Somewhat important	10	Somewhat important
1	Not very important	1	Not very important	0	Not very important
1	Not at all important	0	Not at all important	1	Not at all important
2	Don't Know [Do Not Read]	4	Don't Know [Do Not Read]	3	Don't Know [Do Not Read]
0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]

**14. Would you support or oppose legislation in Michigan to strengthen enforcement of state and federal standards to protect the health and safety of nursing home residents?**

Main Sample		Kent County/Grand Rapids		Western Wayne/Oakland County	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
73	Strongly support	82	Strongly support	83	Strongly support
19	Somewhat support	13	Somewhat support	11	Somewhat support
3	Somewhat oppose	2	Somewhat oppose	3	Somewhat oppose
2	Strongly oppose	1	Strongly oppose	2	Strongly oppose
3	Not sure [Do Not Read]	3	Not sure [Do Not Read]	1	Not sure [Do Not Read]
0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]

**15. Some health care workers who work in nursing homes and home care have health insurance, while others do not. About what percentage of health care workers in Michigan do you think have health benefits?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
17 10% or less	16 10% or less	15 10% or less
24 10% to 25%	21 10% to 25%	22 10% to 25%
24 25% to 50%	23 25% to 50%	28 25% to 50%
11 50% to 75%	13 50% to 75%	13 50% to 75%
6 75% or more	6 75% or more	5 75% or more
19 Not sure	22 Not sure	17 Not sure
0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]

**16. Actually in Michigan, 25% of nurse aides and 50% of home health care workers DO NOT have health insurance. How important do you think it is that those providing care to older persons, persons with disabilities, and others receiving in-home help receive health insurance themselves?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
74 Very important	74 Very important	74 Very important
19 Somewhat important	18 Somewhat important	17 Somewhat important
2 Not very important	2 Not very important	4 Not very important
1 Not at all important	0 Not at all important	0 Not at all important
4 Don't Know [Do Not Read]	8 Don't Know [Do Not Read]	4 Don't Know [Do Not Read]
0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]

**17. There are high turnover rates in Michigan's long-term care sector among the direct-care workforce. This is due to working conditions, wages, and a lack of health insurance. How important do you think having health insurance is to keeping health care workers in their positions? [If asked: the direct-care workforce includes certified nursing aides, home health workers, and personal care assistants]**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
73 Very important	73 Very important	78 Very important
21 Somewhat important	24 Somewhat important	17 Somewhat important
3 Not very important	1 Not very important	3 Not very important
1 Not at all important	1 Not at all important	1 Not at all important
2 Don't Know [Do Not Read]	3 Don't Know [Do Not Read]	2 Don't Know [Do Not Read]
0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]

**18. Recently the Governor’s Medicaid and Long-term Care taskforce recommended using money raised from Michigan’s estate tax as a way to help raise money for long-term care for older persons and people with disabilities. In 2004, Michigan received \$140 million in estate taxes. Do you support or oppose using estate taxes as a way to help raise money for long –term care for older persons and people with disabilities in Michigan?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
35 Strongly support	38 Strongly support	39 Strongly support
30 Somewhat support	31 Somewhat support	31 Somewhat support
7 Somewhat oppose	7 Somewhat oppose	10 Somewhat oppose
14 Strongly oppose	10 Strongly oppose	12 Strongly oppose
14 Not sure	16 Not sure	8 Not sure
0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]

**19. Michigan is currently facing a \$920 million shortfall in the budget *this* year. To help balance the state budget, some legislators are recommending “across the board” budget cuts in spending on programs and services that include health care for children and long-term care services for older persons and people with disabilities.**

**How important is it to you that the state of Michigan maintains current levels of funding for health and long-term care services? Would you say it is very important, somewhat important, not very important, or would you say it is not at all important for Michigan to maintain current levels of funding for health and long-term care services?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
74 Very important	77 Very important	75 Very important
21 Somewhat important	20 Somewhat important	18 Somewhat important
2 Not very important	2 Not very important	3 Not very important
2 Not at all important	0 Not at all important	1 Not at all important
2 Don’t Know [Do Not Read]	3 Don’t Know [Do Not Read]	3 Don’t Know [Do Not Read]
0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]	0 Refused [Do Not Read]

**Thank you, now I just need some statistical information.**

**901) Are you or your spouse a member of AARP (pronounce A-A-R-P), formerly the American Association of Retired Persons?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
51 Yes	48 Yes	45 Yes
48 No	51 No	55 No
2 Don’t Know [Do Not Read]	2 Don’t Know [Do Not Read]	0 Don’t Know [Do Not Read]

902) How old were you on your last birthday? \_\_\_\_\_

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
62 45-64	69 45-64	70 45-64
18 65-74	15 65-74	17 65-74
17 75 or older	15 75 or older	10 75 or older
3 Refused [Do Not Read]	2 Refused [Do Not Read]	3 Refused [Do Not Read]

903) Which of the following best describes your highest level of education?

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
6 Less than high school graduate	6 Less than high school graduate	1 Less than high school graduate
29 High school graduate	30 High school graduate	25 High school graduate
34 Some college or technical school	31 Some college or technical school	33 Some college or technical school
31 College graduate or more	33 College graduate or more	40 College graduate or more
1 Refused [Do Not Read]	1 Refused [Do Not Read]	1 Refused [Do Not Read]

904) Which of the following best describes your marital status?

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
59 Married	61 Married	65 Married
8 Single, never married	9 Single, never married	7 Single, never married
31 Divorced/widowed/separated	27 Divorced/widowed/separated	27 Divorced/widowed/separated
1 Not married, living together	3 Not married, living together	1 Not married, living together
1 Refused [Do Not Read]	1 Refused [Do Not Read]	1 Refused [Do Not Read]

**905) Which of the following best represents your household income in 2004?**

<b>Main Sample</b>		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b>		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b>	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
11	Less than \$15,000	13	Less than \$15,000	6	Less than \$15,000
12	\$15,000 – but less than \$25,000	15	\$15,000 – but less than \$25,000	7	\$15,000 – but less than \$25,000
13	25,000 — but less than \$35,000	13	25,000 — but less than \$35,000	10	25,000 — but less than \$35,000
15	\$35,000 — but less than \$50,000	14	\$35,000 — but less than \$50,000	11	\$35,000 — but less than \$50,000
16	\$50,000 — but less than \$75,000	18	\$50,000 — but less than \$75,000	24	\$50,000 — but less than \$75,000
17	\$75,000 or more	18	\$75,000 or more	29	\$75,000 or more
4	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	3	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	2	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>
13	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	8	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	12	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>

**906) Gender (Do not ask, simply record.)**

<b>Main Sample</b>		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b>		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b>	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
46	Male	29	Male	35	Male
54	Female	72	Female	66	Female

**907) Are you currently... (Read List. Record One RESPONSE)**

<b>Main Sample</b>		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b>		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b>	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
30	Employed full time	41	Employed full time	39	Employed full time
10	Employed part-time	10	Employed part-time	13	Employed part-time
46	Retired, not working	33	Retired, not working	35	Retired, not working
4	Homemaker	5	Homemaker	4	Homemaker
3	Unemployed and looking for work	4	Unemployed and looking for work	3	Unemployed and looking for work
6	Something else	7	Something else	5	Something else
*	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	0	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	0	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>
2	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	2	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	1	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>

**908) Which of the following best describes your voting behavior in state elections, that is elections for Michigan Governor and State Legislators, held in the past ten years? Would you say you have voted in Nearly all, Most, Some or A few of the state elections?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
68 Nearly all	69 Nearly all	65 Nearly all
14 Most	15 Most	20 Most
9 Some	9 Some	8 Some
4 A few	4 A few	4 A few
4 None	3 None	2 None
* Don't know [Do Not Read]	1 Don't know [Do Not Read]	0 Don't know [Do Not Read]
1 Refused [Do Not Read]	1 Refused [Do Not Read]	1 Refused [Do Not Read]

**909) Do you consider yourself to be a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
30 Democrat	27 Democrat	30 Democrat
24 Republican	35 Republican	29 Republican
27 Independent	22 Independent	25 Independent
10 Other [Do Not Read]	7 Other [Do Not Read]	9 Other [Do Not Read]
9 Not sure [Do Not Read]	10 Not sure [Do Not Read]	7 Not sure [Do Not Read]

**910) What is your race?**

Main Sample	Kent County/Grand Rapids	Western Wayne/Oakland County
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>
87 White/Caucasian	91 White/Caucasian	88 White/Caucasian
8 Black/African American	6 Black/African American	5 Black/African American
* Asian	1 Asian	2 Asian
1 Native American or Alaskan Native	1 Native American or Alaskan Native	1 Native American or Alaskan Native
1 Other	2 Other	2 Other
* Don't Know [Do Not Read]	0 Don't Know [Do Not Read]	0 Don't Know [Do Not Read]
4 Refused [Do Not Read]	2 Refused [Do Not Read]	3 Refused [Do Not Read]

**911) Are you Hispanic, Spanish, or Latino?**

Main Sample		Kent County/Grand Rapids		Western Wayne/Oakland County	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
1	Yes	1	Yes	2	Yes
96	No	98	No	96	No
*	Don't know [Do Not Read]	0	Don't know [Do Not Read]	0	Don't know [Do Not Read]
3	Refused [Do Not Read]	1	Refused [Do Not Read]	3	Refused [Do Not Read]

**912) What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_**

**913) Do you currently have health insurance?**

Main Sample		Kent County/Grand Rapids		Western Wayne/Oakland County	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
91	Yes	93	Yes (GO TO 913b.)	96	Yes (GO TO 913b.)
8	No	6	No (GO TO 913a.)	3	No (GO TO 913a.)
*	Don't know	0	Don't know	0	Don't know
1	Refused [Do Not Read]	1	Refused [Do Not Read]	1	Refused [Do Not Read]

**913a. IF Q913 = NO:**

**What is the main reason you do not have health insurance? (DO NOT READ—USE AS PRE-CODED LIST)**

Main Sample N=60		Kent County/Grand Rapids N=12		Western Wayne/Oakland County N=7	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
68	Cost	58	Cost	57	Cost
7	Not available through your employer	17	Not available through your employer	0	Not available through your employer
3	Not necessary	0	Not necessary	14	Not necessary
1	Due to a health condition that makes it difficult to get health insurance	0	Due to a health condition that makes it difficult to get health insurance	0	Due to a health condition that makes it difficult to get health insurance
10	Unemployed	17	Unemployed	29	Unemployed
4	Veteran	0	Veteran	0	Veteran
0	Self-employed	8	Self-employed	0	Self-employed
4	Other _____	0	Other _____	0	Other _____
*	Don't Know [Do Not Read]	0	Don't Know [Do Not Read]	0	Don't Know [Do Not Read]
4	Refused [Do Not Read]	*	Refused [Do Not Read]	0	Refused [Do Not Read]

**913b. IF Q913 = YES: Are you worried about losing your health insurance?**

<b>Main Sample</b> N=731		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b> N=186		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b> N=194	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
31	Yes	22	Yes	29	Yes
67	No	77	No	70	No
2	Don't know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	1	Don't know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	1	Don't know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>
0	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	0	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	0	Refused <b>[Do Not Read]</b>

**914. How are you insured? (ROTATE 1-7)**

<b>Main Sample</b> N=731		<b>Kent County/Grand Rapids</b> N=186		<b>Western Wayne/Oakland County</b> N=194	
<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>%</u>	
28	Through your current employer	38	Through your current employer	34	Through your current employer
13	Through your spouses' employer	17	Through your spouses' employer	21	Through your spouses' employer
21	Through a previous employer, as a retiree benefit	10	Through a previous employer, as a retiree benefit	17	Through a previous employer, as a retiree benefit
8	Through a spouses' previous employer, as a retiree benefit	4	Through a spouses' previous employer, as a retiree benefit	7	Through a spouses' previous employer, as a retiree benefit
11	On you own, through an individual insurance policy	11	On you own, through an individual insurance policy	10	On you own, through an individual insurance policy
17	Medicare	16	Medicare	9	Medicare
3	Michigan Medicaid, or	3	Michigan Medicaid, or	2	Michigan Medicaid, or
1	Some other way (SPECIFY: _____)	3	Some other way (SPECIFY: _____)	2	Some other way (SPECIFY: _____)
3	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	2	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>	1	Don't Know <b>[Do Not Read]</b>

**Thank you for your time and responses to this survey.**

**Appendix II**  
**Western Wayne-Oakland County Report**

## Highlights

### Western Wayne-Oakland County Report

*Note: Because the Western Wayne-Oakland County analysis is based on 200 interviews and has a sampling error of  $\pm 7.1$  percent, the results should be interpreted with some caution.*

#### **Long-Term Care Preferences**

- Nearly all Western Wayne-Oakland County voters age 45+ report it is very (81%) or somewhat (14%) important to have long-term care services that would enable them and family members to remain in their own homes as long as possible if they needed long-term care services.
- More than three in four respondents report that it should be a top (33%) or high (43%) priority for Michigan to have affordable long-term care choices.

#### **Long-Term Care Quality**

- Among the 72 respondents who have had experience with the long-term care system in the past five years, more than seven in ten say it is difficult to find quality nursing home care and it is difficult to find quality agencies and caregivers who will come into their homes. More than two in three respondents say it is difficult to find information about how to judge a quality residential care facility or home care agency.
- Nearly all Western Wayne-Oakland County voters age 45 and older believe that appropriate amounts of face-to-face or hands-on-care are very (86%) or somewhat (10%) important to the quality of long-term care services.
- Nearly all respondents report that it is very (94%) or somewhat (4%) important that relatives and friends are being treated by qualified health care workers.
- Nearly all voters age 45 and over strongly (83%) or somewhat (11%) support Michigan legislation to strengthen enforcement of state and federal standards to protect the health and safety of nursing home residents.

### ***Health Care Benefits for Nursing Home and Home Health Care Workers***

- Nearly all Western Wayne-Oakland County voters age 45 and over believe that it is very (74%) or somewhat (17%) important for health care workers to have health insurance.
- Nearly all respondents say that having health care insurance is very (78%) or somewhat (17%) important to keeping health care workers in their positions.

### ***Long-Term Care Affordability***

- More than three in five (61%) respondents say they are not at all or not very confident they could afford the cost of long-term care for five years.
- Of the 72 respondents with long-term care experience, almost nine in ten say it is difficult to afford the costs of long-term care and about three in four say it is difficult to find information about government services that provide or help fund long-term care.

### ***Health and Long-Term Care Funding***

- When informed about proposed across the board cuts to balance the state budget, more than nine in ten Western Wayne-Oakland County voters age 45 and older say it is very (75%) or somewhat (18%) important for the state of Michigan to maintain current funding levels for health and long-term care services.
- Even if it meant an increase in taxes, more than eight in ten voters strongly (53%) or somewhat (31%) support the state increasing funding for home and community-based care services.
- Seven in ten voters strongly (39%) or somewhat (31%) support the use of estate taxes to help raise money for long-term care services.

**Appendix III**  
**Kent County-Grand Rapids Report**

## **Highlights**

### **Kent County-Grand Rapids Report**

*Note: Because the Kent County-Grand Rapids analysis is based on 203 interviews and has a sampling error of  $\pm 7.1$  percent, the results should be interpreted with some caution.*

#### ***Long-Term Care Preferences***

- Nearly all Kent County-Grand Rapids voters age 45+ report it is very (88%) or somewhat (8%) important to have long-term care services that would enable them and family members to remain in their own homes as long as possible if they needed long-term care services.
- More than three in four respondents report that it should be a top (35%) or high (43%) priority for Michigan to have affordable long-term care choices.

#### ***Long-Term Care Quality***

- Among the 66 respondents who have had experience with the long-term care system in the past five years, nearly seven in ten report that it is difficult to find quality nursing home care and more than half say it is difficult to find quality agencies and caregivers who will come into their homes. About three in five also indicate that it is difficult to find information about how to judge a quality residential care facility or home care agency.
- Nearly all Kent County-Grand Rapids voters age 45 and older believe that appropriate amounts of face-to-face or hands-on-care are very (83%) or somewhat (13%) important to the quality of long-term care services.
- Nearly all respondents report that it is very (91%) or somewhat (7%) important that relatives and friends are being treated by qualified health care workers.
- Nearly all Kent County-Grand Rapids voters age 45 and over strongly (82%) or somewhat (13%) support Michigan legislation to strengthen enforcement of state and federal standards to protect the health and safety of nursing home residents.

### ***Health Care Benefits for Nursing Home and Home Health Care Workers***

- Nearly all Kent County-Grand Rapids voters age 45 and over believe that it is very (74%) or somewhat (18%) important for health care workers to have health insurance.
- Nearly all respondents say that having health care insurance is very (73%) or somewhat (24%) important to keeping health care workers in their positions.

### ***Long-Term Care Affordability***

- More than two in three (68%) Kent County-Grand Rapids voters say they are not at all or not very confident they could afford the cost of long-term care for five years.
- More than half of respondents with long-term care experience (n=66) indicate that it is very or fairly difficult to find information about government services that provide or help fund long-term care.

### ***Health and Long-Term Care Funding***

- When informed about proposed across the board cuts to balance the state budget, more than nine in ten Kent County-Grand Rapids voters age 45 and older say it is very (77%) or somewhat (20%) important for the state of Michigan to maintain current funding levels for health and long-term care services.
- Even if it meant an increase in taxes, more than eight in ten voters strongly (55%) or somewhat (26%) support the state increasing funding for home and community-based care services.
- Nearly seven in ten Kent County-Grand Rapids voters strongly (38%) or somewhat (31%) support the use of estate taxes to help raise money for long-term care services.

**AARP**  
**Knowledge Management**  
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