




AARP South Dakota Members Age 75+ Survey: Needs and Service Use



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AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that helps people 50+ have independence, choice and control in ways that are beneficial and affordable to them and society as a whole. We produce *AARP The Magazine*, published bimonthly; *AARP Bulletin*, our monthly newspaper; *AARP Segunda Juventud*, our bimonthly magazine in Spanish and English; *NRTA Live & Learn*, our quarterly newsletter for 50+ educators; and our website, www.aarp.org. AARP Foundation is our affiliated charity that provides security, protection, and empowerment to older persons in need with support from thousands of volunteers, donors, and sponsors. We have staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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Background

In 2000, 108,132 residents or fourteen percent of the population in South Dakota was age 65 and older. Of these residents half (51%) were age 75 and older.¹ More than half (55%)² of residents age 60 and older reside in rural areas where access to services is limited. Currently, little is known about the needs and services used by this older population in South Dakota. Having this information is critical to planning for and deploying health, nutrition, and transportation services.

The AARP South Dakota State Office and the South Dakota Office of Adult Services and Aging have jointly undertaken a series of efforts to gather pertinent information about the needs of older South Dakotans. This survey is one strategy being used to gain a better understanding of the needs of those age 75 and older. This survey examines four topics in depth: health and well-being, nutrition, prescription drug use, and transportation. Data from this survey will be helpful in understanding the following:

- The relationship between health and disability status
- The rate of health care insurance coverage among older AARP South Dakota members
- How frequently older AARP South Dakota members engage in healthy behaviors such as regularly eating three meals a day and fitness activities such as walking
- The usage of paid services in managing health and household chores
- The degree of financial stress AARP South Dakota members experience in paying the costs of their prescription drugs
- The usage of nutrition and transportation services among those age 75 and older
- The number of eligible low-income AARP South Dakota members using the South Dakota Sales Tax on Food Refund Program
- The degree of isolation among those age 85 and older

Based on the information collected in the research, the AARP South Dakota Office and the South Dakota Office of Adult Services and Aging plan to investigate strategies to assure that those most in need of services receive them through a coordinated network of services.

¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Census 2000 Data on Aging, Summary Table of Age Characteristics of the Older Population for the United States and for States: 2000 at <http://www.aoa.gov/prof/Statistics/Census/stateprofiles/ageprofile-states.asp>.

² National Aging Information Center, Rural Residence of persons 60+, by Planning and Service Areas: 1990, South Dakota, Civilian Noninstitutional Persons.

Methodology

AARP conducted the *AARP South Dakota Member Survey* from April 19, 2005 through May 17, 2005. A random sample of 2,000 AARP South Dakota members age 75 and older was selected from AARP's membership database. Each sampled member was contacted about the survey in four ways: a pre-notification postcard, the survey itself, a reminder postcard, and a second survey. Seventy-nine percent of the sampled South Dakota AARP members returned surveys by the cut-off date, providing 1,589 surveys for analysis. Thus, the survey has a sampling error of plus or minus 2.5 percent.³ As of May 31, 2005, the number of AARP members in South Dakota was 90,377.

An annotated questionnaire for the survey is included in Appendix I of this report.

³ This means that in 95 out of 100 samples of this size, the results obtained in the sample would fall in a range of 2.5 percentage points of what would have been obtained if every AARP member in South Dakota age 50 or older had been surveyed.

Highlights

Health and Well-Being

- When asked to compare their health to others their age, a majority of AARP South Dakota members age 75 and older report that their health is excellent (16%) or good (51%). Although the percentages are small, three times as many of those 85+ as those ages 75-79 say their health is poor (6% vs. 2%).
- Nearly three in ten (28%) AARP South Dakota members report they have three or more health limitations. The most common limitations include: walking a quarter mile (38%), climbing stairs without resting (30%), hearing normal conversation even if wearing a hearing aid (28%), or lifting or carrying 10 pounds (25%).
- A majority of AARP South Dakota members (82%) report that they have not used paid assistance such as a nurse, aide, or housekeeper. As members age, however, they tend to use more services. Three in ten (30%) AARP South Dakota members ages 85+ have used one or more of these services.
- All (100%) AARP South Dakota members report that they have some form of health insurance coverage. More than nine in ten (93%) have Medicare coverage. More than eight in ten (83%) report that they have one or more additional insurance plans. The most common type of coverage is Medicare Supplemental (42%).
- Only about three in ten (30%) AARP South Dakota members report they have a private insurance policy that covers long-term care. Only one in five (21%) of those 85 and older have private long-term care insurance compared to more than one in three (35%) of those 75-79 and three in ten (30%) of those 80-84.

Nutrition

- More than four in five (82%) AARP South Dakota members report that they eat three meals a day, and about two in three (64%) also snack between meals.
- More than one in four (27%) AARP South Dakota members do not regularly prepare their own meals.
- When provided with a list of six programs in South Dakota that provide food-related services (such as senior nutrition and home-delivered meals), about eight in ten (78%) AARP South Dakota members report that they use none of the services. As age increases so does participation in these programs.
- Only six percent of those with annual incomes of less than \$30,000 participate in the South Dakota Sales Tax on Food Refund Program.

Prescription Drugs

- Of the 92 percent of AARP South Dakota members who have taken medication in the past twelve months, about two in three say that paying for these medications has been a major (23%) or minor (41%) financial problem.
- Two in three AARP South Dakota members are likewise very (31%) or somewhat (35%) concerned about their ability to afford their prescription drugs in the next two years.
- About half (49%) of AARP South Dakota members report that their health insurance covers none of the costs for their medications.
- Slightly less than one in four (24%) AARP South Dakota members have taken one or more actions to control the cost of their medication. The most common practice is ordering the prescription by mail or over the Internet (14%).

Transportation

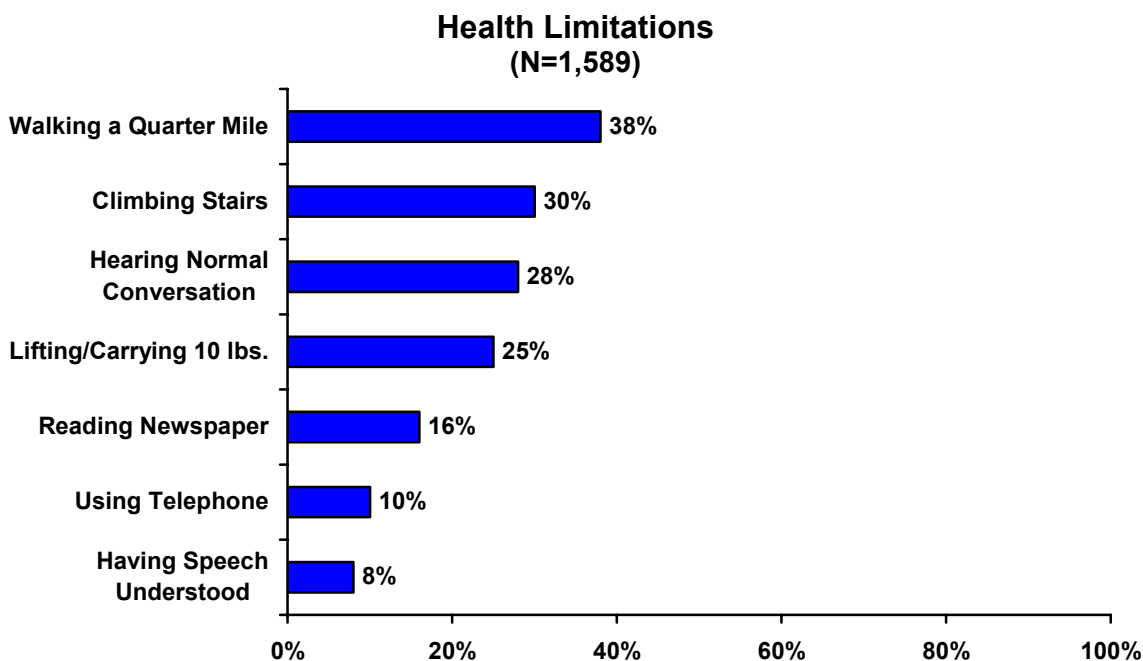
- Most AARP South Dakota members are licensed drivers (90%) and have driven a car, van, or truck in the past 30 days (85%). However, about one in eight (13%) are non-drivers.
- Most AARP South Dakota members either drive (76%) or ride-share (53%).
- Only five percent of AARP South Dakota members report that they use public or senior transportation systems to go shopping, to the doctor, to the senior center, or to visit family and friends.
- A majority of AARP South Dakota members report weekly outings to the grocery store or drug store (82%), to their place of worship (69%), to visit family and friends (68%), or to walk or exercise for pleasure (65%). However, four percent of AARP South Dakota members report that they have few weekly outings. Limited outings are highly related to age and driving status. More AARP South Dakota members age 85+ and non-drivers report that they go on a limited number of outings.

Health and Well-Being

A majority of South Dakota respondents reports that they are in excellent or good health; however, many say they have multiple health limitations.

When asked to describe their health when compared to others their age, two in three AARP South Dakota members say their health is excellent (16%) or good (51%). About one in four (23%) indicate that their health is fair, while only four percent say they are in poor health. Even though the percentages are small, three times as many of those age 85+ as those ages 75-79 say they are in poor health (6% vs. 2%).

Members were also asked about limitations they experience, such as walking a quarter of a mile or climbing stairs without resting. While nearly two in five (39%) AARP South Dakota members report that they experience none of these limitations, nearly three in ten (28%) report they have difficulty with three or more of these activities. The most commonly reported limitations are walking a quarter mile, climbing a flight of stairs without resting, hearing what is said in a normal conversation even when using a hearing aid if one is used, and lifting or carrying something as heavy as 10 pounds, like a bag full of groceries.



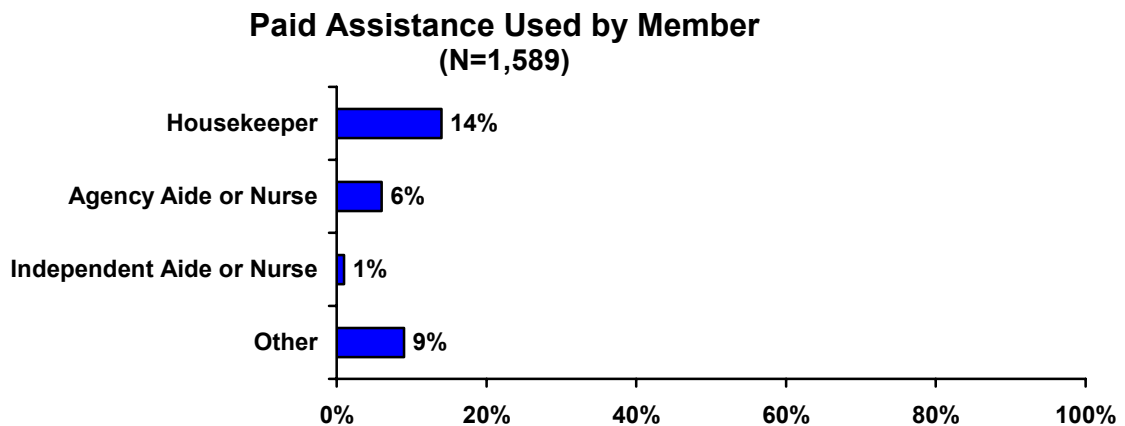
As age increases, the percentages of AARP South Dakota members reporting three or more limitations similarly increases (75-79, 20%; 80-84, 30%; and 85+, 44%).

A majority of AARP South Dakota members report that they have seen a doctor (90%), had their vision checked (71%), and seen a dentist (54%) in the past 12 months. Only about one in four (26%), however, say they have had their hearing checked. Income is a factor in the percent of AARP South Dakota members reporting they have seen a dentist and had their vision tested. Those AARP South Dakota members with annual incomes of less than \$30,000 are less likely to see a dentist (48% vs. 69%) or have their vision checked (70% vs. 77%) than those with higher incomes.

Age is a factor in whether AARP South Dakota members report seeing a dentist and having their hearing tested. More AARP South Dakota members ages 75-79 report seeing a dentist than those 85+ (60% vs. 48%). The reverse is true for having their hearing tested. More of those 85+ report that they have had their hearing tested in the past 12 months than those ages 75-79 (31% vs. 23%).

Few older AARP South Dakota members report they have used paid assistance to help with managing their health or housekeeping activities.

Members were provided with a list of three paid services and asked whether they had used any of the services during the past 12 months. Few AARP South Dakota members used any services. More than eight in ten (82%) AARP South Dakota members report that they have used *none* of the services. About one in seven say they have employed a housekeeper to clean or cook, but fewer than one in ten indicate they have hired an aide or nurse either through an agency or independently.



Use of paid services increases with age. Three in ten (30%) AARP South Dakota members age 85 and older report that they have used one or more of these services in the past year; only 12 percent of those 75 to 79 report using one or more services.

Further, as the number of physical limitations increases so does service usage. While 92 percent of AARP South Dakota members with no physical limitations say they used none of the services, 67 percent of those with three or more limitations report they used none of the services. Among those AARP South Dakota members with three or more health limitations, twenty-eight percent use one of the services, and six percent use two or three services.

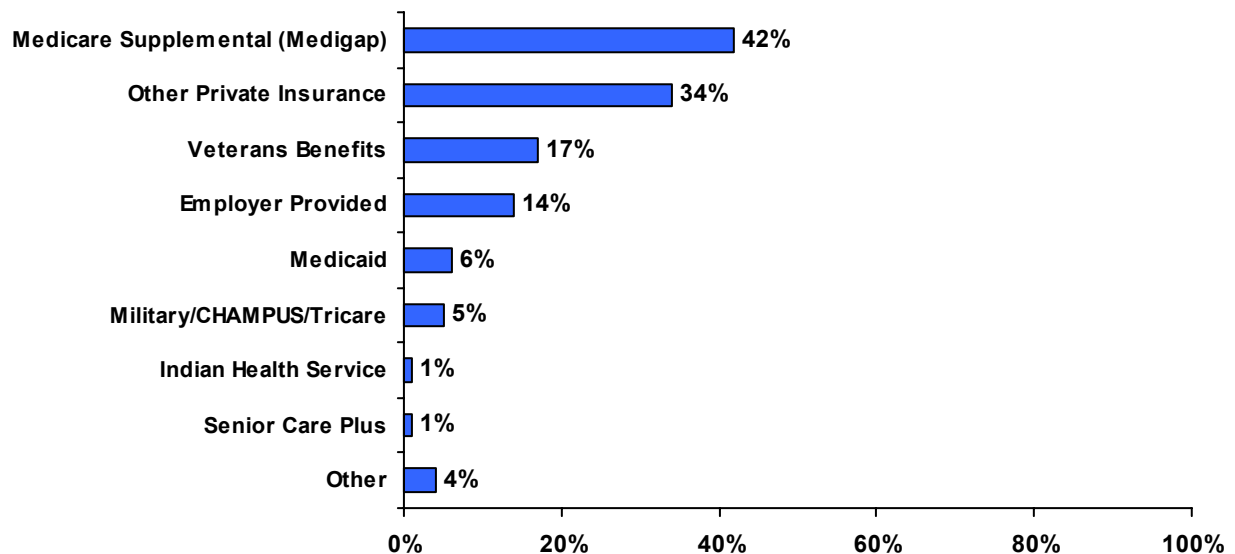
Insurance Coverage

All AARP South Dakota members have some form of insurance coverage.

All (100%) AARP South Dakota members report that they have some form of insurance. More than nine in ten (93%) AARP South Dakota members age 75 and older say they currently have Medicare coverage. Of those with coverage, a majority (69%) indicate that they have Medicare Parts A and B, which means they have hospitalization coverage plus optional out-patient health care coverage available at an additional cost. Fewer than ten percent (6%) report that they only have Part A (hospitalization only). Only two percent indicate they participate in a Medicare HMO. Notably about one in four (23%) did not indicate what type of Medicare coverage that they have.

Members were presented with a list of eight other types of insurance coverage and asked to indicate which forms of coverage they have. The most common form of coverage is Medicare Supplemental typically referred to as Medigap Insurance.

**Health Care Insurance Coverage
(N=1,589)**



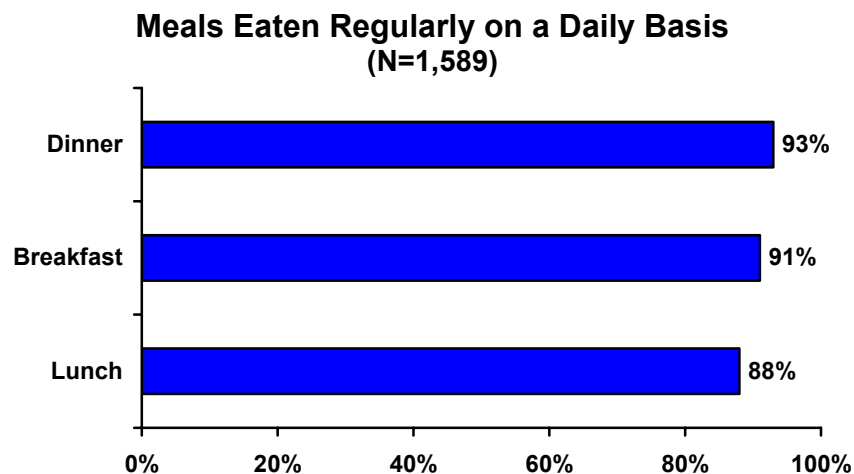
About one in five (19%) South Dakota respondents report that they have none of these forms of insurance. More than half (51%) say that they have one other form of insurance. About one in four (23%) indicate they have two of these types of insurance. Eight percent have three or more of these types of insurance. Older South Dakota respondents are more likely than those ages 84 and younger to say they have none of these additional forms of insurance (85+, 25% vs. 80-84, 16% and 75-79, 14%).

Only three in ten (30%) AARP South Dakota members report that they have a private insurance policy that would pay for long-term care, such as care provided over an extended period of time in a nursing home or at home. Private long-term care insurance coverage declines with age. Only one in five (21%) of those 85 and older have private long-term care insurance compared to more than one in three (35%) of those 75-79 and three in ten (30%) of those 80-84. These numbers are consistent with members in other states; however, according to statistics reported by the Health Insurance Association of America only 6 percent of Americans purchased a long-term care policy at some time before 1998. Consequently, the self-reported long-term care insurance coverage may be an over statement of coverage.

Nutrition

More than four in five AARP South Dakota members report that they eat three meals a day, and about two in three also snack between meals.

Members were asked, “Thinking about your daily eating habits, do you regularly eat: Breakfast; Lunch; Dinner?” More than eight in ten (82%) AARP South Dakota members report that they eat all three meals. One in eight members (12%) reports that they eat at least two of these meals. Age is not a factor in the number of meals eaten regularly.



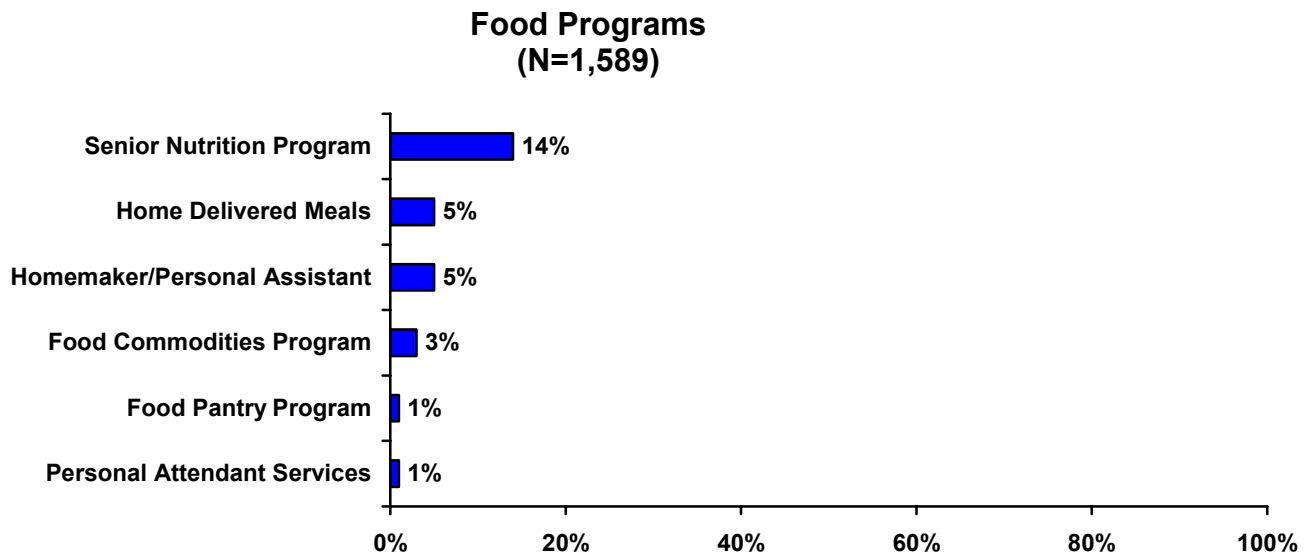
Nearly two in three (64%) AARP South Dakota members report that they eat snacks between regular meals. Nearly nine in ten (89%) of those members who snack say they have an average of one to three snacks per day. Two percent indicate that they eat four to six snacks per day.

Seven in ten AARP South Dakota members report that they regularly prepare their own meals, and about one in five indicate they participate in other food programs.

About seven in ten (69%) AARP South Dakota members say they regularly prepare their own meals, however, more than one in four (27%) say they do not. As age increase, the percentage of AARP South Dakota members who report they regularly prepare their own meals declines (75-79, 73%; 80-84, 69%; and 85+, 56%).

Members were presented with a list of six food-related services. They were asked whether they used any of these services at least once per month. About eight in ten (78%) AARP South Dakota members report that they use none of the six services, and slightly more than one in five members (22%) participates in at least one of the programs. Members who do not prepare their own meals are twice as likely as those who do to participate in at least one of these programs (34% vs. 17%). Those AARP South Dakota members age 85 and older are twice as likely to participate in one or more of these programs as those ages 75-79 (31% vs. 16%).

About one in seven participate in the Senior Nutrition Program; however, five percent or fewer use the other types of services.



Less than five percent of AARP South Dakota members age 75 and older reports that they participate in the South Dakota Sales Tax on Food Refund Program.

Members were told that South Dakota has a Sales Tax on Food Refund Program which provides refunds on sales tax payments on food to low-income South Dakota residents. Only four percent acknowledge that they participate in the program. Of those members reporting an annual income of less than \$30,000, only six percent say they used the Tax Refund Program.

Prescription Drugs

Of those taking prescription medications, most AARP South Dakota members report that paying for their medications is a major or minor financial problem and are concerned about the future affordability of their medications.

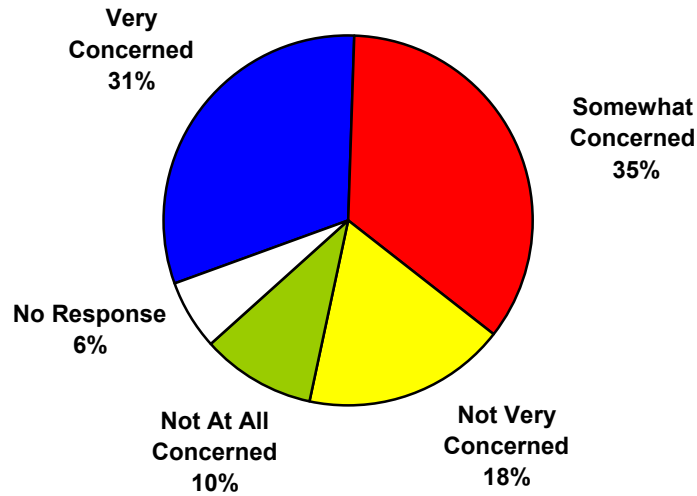
The vast majority (92%) of AARP South Dakota members indicate that they have taken a prescription medication in the past twelve month. Of those who report taking medications, more than two in five (43%) take between one and three medications on a daily basis, and one in three (33%) take between four and six drugs. About one in five (18%) take seven or more drugs on a daily basis. Age is not a factor in prescription drug usage.

About two in three AARP South Dakota members report that paying for these prescription medications is a major (23%) or minor (41%) financial problem for them. However, three in ten (30%) indicate it is not a financial problem for them. More than seven in ten (72%) members with an annual family income of less than \$30,000 report that paying for medications has been a problem for them.

Members who report taking medications also were asked how concerned they are about being able to afford the cost of their prescription drugs over the next two years. Two in three members report that they are very (31%) or somewhat concerned (35%) about their ability to afford their medications. More than one in four (28%) report that they are not very or not at all concerned.

Nearly three in four (73%) of those with annual incomes of less than \$30,000 report they are very or somewhat concerned about affording prescription medications compared to only half (50%) of those with higher incomes.

**Concern about Affordability of Prescription Medications
(N=1,503)**

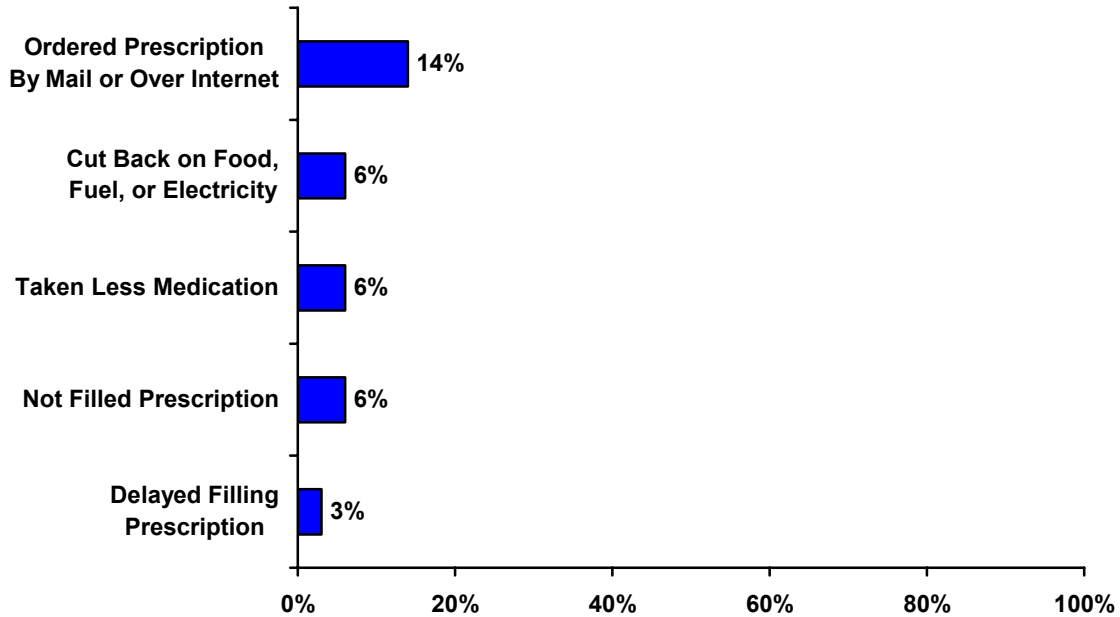


Slightly less than one in four AARP South Dakota members has taken actions to control the cost of their prescription medications.

Members were presented with a list of four actions that some people have taken to control the cost of their prescription drugs. More than three in four (77%) AARP South Dakota members have taken *none* of the steps to control the cost of their prescription medications. Slightly less than one in five (18%) has attempted to control the cost of their medication by undertaking one of these actions. Six percent have taken two or more of these actions in an attempt to control costs.

The most common action that AARP South Dakota members have employed to control drug costs is to order prescriptions by mail or over the Internet.

**Actions Taken to Control the Cost of Prescription Drugs
(N=1,503)**



More (27%) AARP South Dakota members with annual incomes of less than \$30,000 have taken one or more of these actions than those with higher incomes (19%).

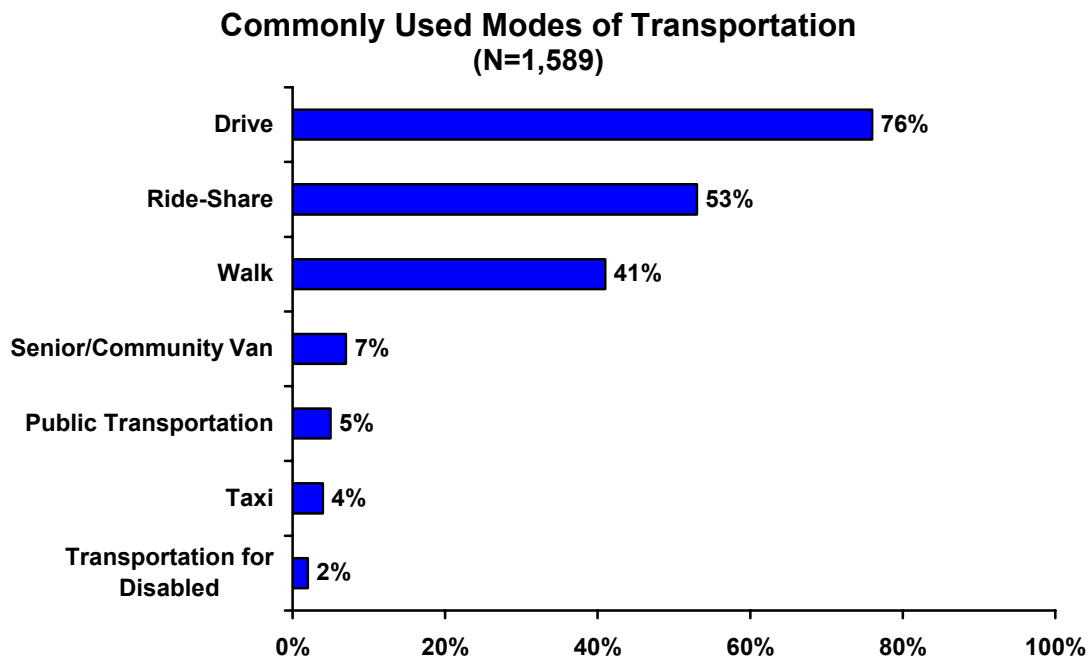
Members also were asked if their health insurance covers all, some, or none of the cost of their prescription medication. About half (49%) say that it covers none of the costs, and about two in five (39%) reports that it only covers some of the costs. Only six percent indicate that it covers all of the cost of their drugs. More AARP South Dakota members with incomes less than \$30,000 per year report that their insurance covers none of the cost of prescription medications than those with higher incomes (52% vs. 43%).

Personal Mobility and Transportation

Most older AARP South Dakota members are licensed drivers and generally use a private car when they have needed to get somewhere.

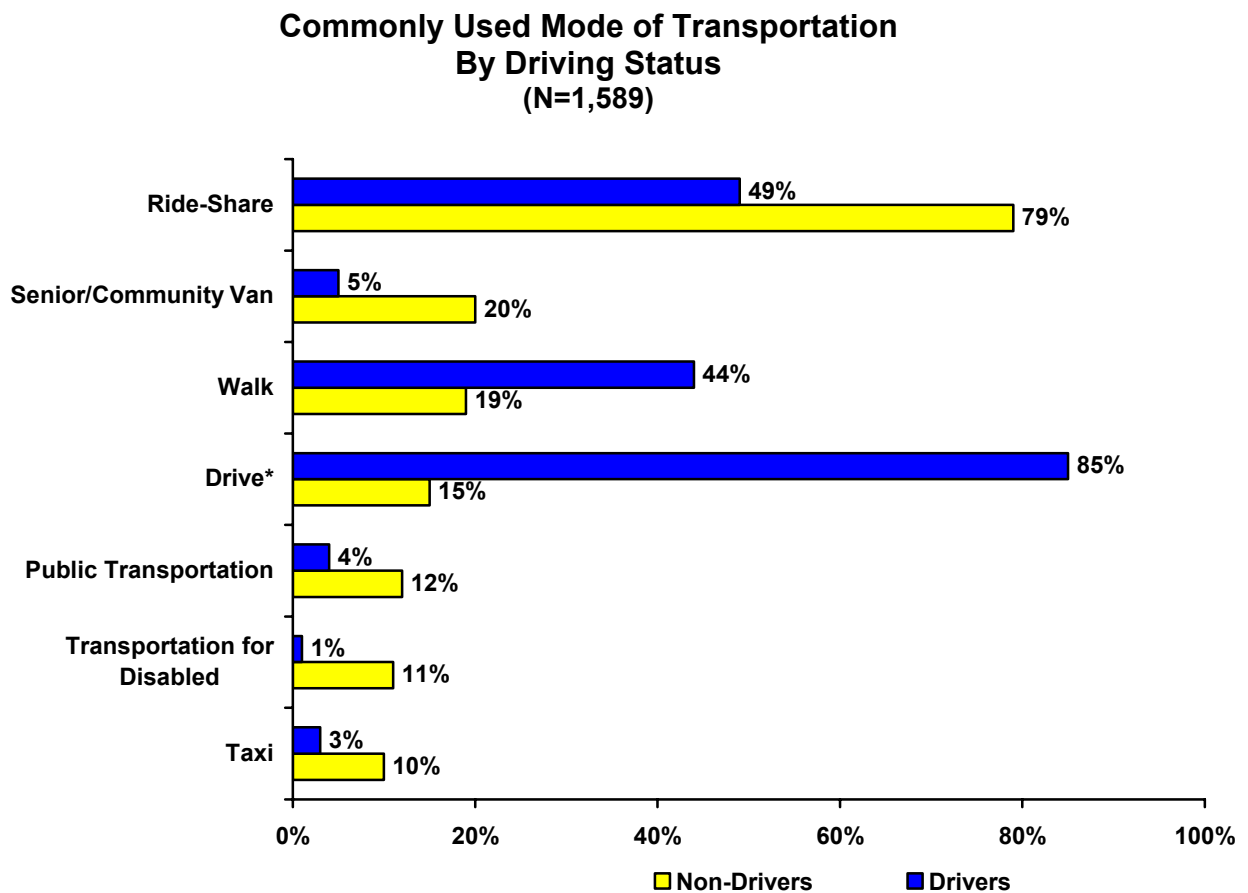
Most AARP South Dakota members have a current driver's license (90%) and have driven a car, van, or truck in the past 30 days (85%). About one in eight (13%) older AARP South Dakota members is a non-driver, defined as those without a license or those who have not driven in the past month. The older the member the more likely he or she is to be a non-driver (75-79, 22%; 80-84, 33%; 85+, 44%). More non-drivers are female than male (71% vs. 28%).

When provided with a list of modes of transportation, AARP South Dakota members are most likely to report that they have driven or ridden with family and friends when they need to get somewhere.



Far fewer AARP South Dakota members report they have used an alternative mode of transportation such as public transportation, taxis, or taken transportation provided to people with disabilities that cannot use or get to public transportation.

With the exception of walking, non-drivers are more likely to use alternative modes of transportation than drivers. The most frequently used form of transportation for non-drivers is ride-sharing.



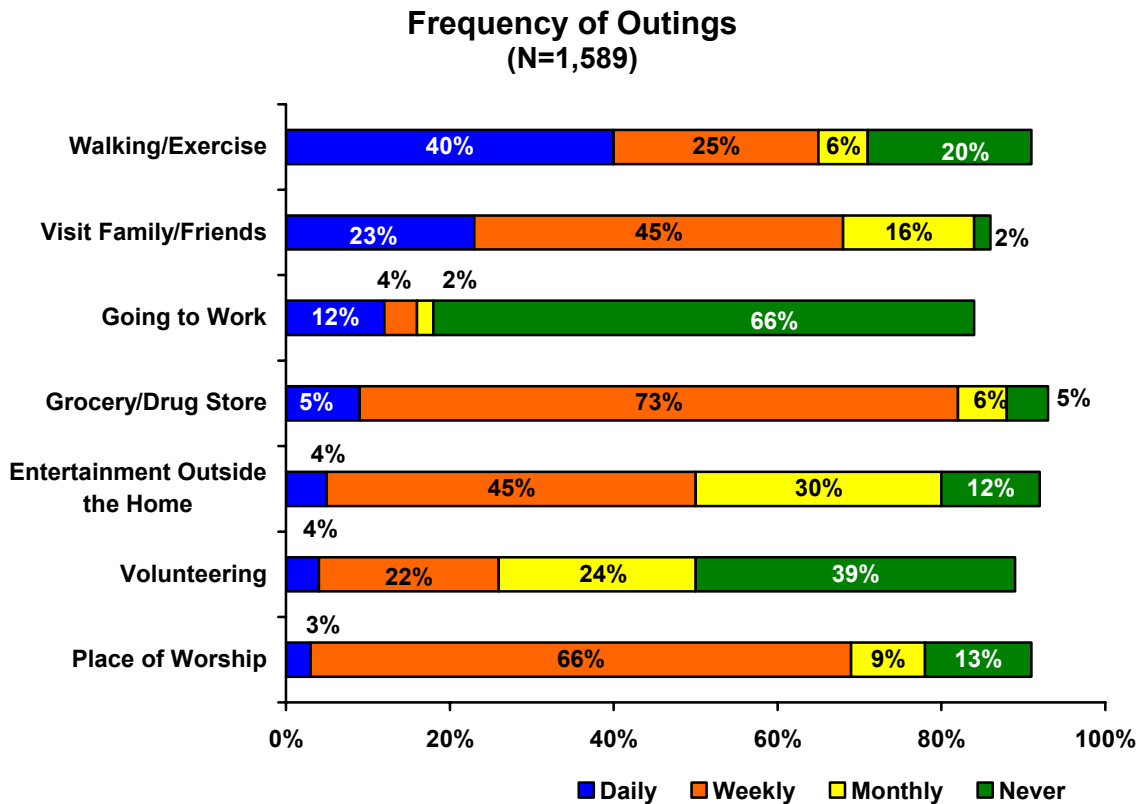
**Even though non-drivers have been defined as those who have no driver's license or have not driven in the past month, 15 percent report that they drive to where they want to go.*

Notably, when AARP South Dakota members were asked if they use public or senior transportation systems to go shopping, to the doctor, to the senior center, or to visit family and friends, only five percent say they do. Several times as many non-drivers as drivers report that they use public or senior transportation to go on these outings (20% vs. 3%). Similarly those AARP South Dakota members age 80 and older are more likely to use these forms of transportation than younger members (85+, 8% and 80-84, 7% vs. 75-79, 3%).

Of those who report that they use these forms of transportation, only about one in six (15%) indicate they use them at least weekly. The same percentage says they use them two or more times per month (7%) or every other month (8%). About three in ten AARP South Dakota members (29%) report that they rarely use them. More than two in five (42%) did not answer the question. Non-drivers are more likely than drivers to use these forms of transportation regularly (one or twice a week, 32% vs. 5% and two or more times per month, 14% vs. 3%).

A majority of South Dakota respondents report weekly outings.

Members were asked how often they go on seven types of outings. Most AARP South Dakota members age 75 and older report daily or weekly outings to the grocery store or drug store (82%), to their place of worship (69%), to visit family and friends (68%), or to walk or exercise for pleasure (65%). Half (50%) also got out at least weekly for entertainment, such as movies, sports, or eating out.



The percentages of AARP South Dakota members who say they never go out to five or more of these outings increases with age and with multiple physical limitations. Members age 85 and older are more likely to say they never go out to five or more of these outings than those ages 75-84 (85+, 10% vs. 75-79, 3% and 80-84, 4%).

Those AARP South Dakota members with three or more health limitations are most likely to never go to most of these outings. Slightly more than one in eight (13%) of these AARP South Dakota members report that they never go to five or more of these outings as compared to none of those with no physical limitations.

Non-drivers (22%) are ten times as likely as drivers (2%) to report that they never go on five or more of these types of outings.

Conclusion

A majority of AARP South Dakota members are in excellent or good health compared to others their age, but about three in ten have three or more physical limitations such as walking a quarter mile, climbing stairs without resting, hearing normal conversation even with a hearing aid, or carrying 10 pounds. As AARP South Dakota members age, however, the number with three or more limitations also increases.

All AARP South Dakota members have some form of health care insurance. Nearly all have Medicare coverage, and all but about one in five have an additional form of health care coverage. Only about three in ten AARP South Dakota members have a private long-term care insurance policy, and as AARP South Dakota members age, the likelihood of having this insurance declines.

A majority of AARP South Dakota members eat regularly; more than four in five eat three meals a day, and about two in three eat snacks between meals. While most AARP South Dakota members regularly prepare their own meals, the percentages of those who prepare meals declines with age. A majority of AARP South Dakota members do not utilize available food-related programs such as a senior nutrition and home-delivered meals. However as age and infirmity increases, the percentage using these services similarly expands. Few AARP South Dakota members eligible for the South Dakota Sales Tax on Food Refund Program have applied for the refund.

Most AARP South Dakota members age 75 and older use prescription medications. Only about half of AARP South Dakota members have insurance that helps to pay the cost of their drugs. As such, paying for these medications has been a financial strain for a majority of AARP South Dakota members, and a high percentage of members are concerned about their ability to afford their medications in the next two years.

Most AARP South Dakota members are licensed and drive. However, 13 percent of AARP South Dakota members are non-drivers. The percentage of non-drivers increases with age. While most AARP South Dakota members enjoy weekly outings to the grocery or drug store, to the doctor, to the senior center, and to family and friends, the oldest age group and those who are non-drivers experience more restrictions in their outings.

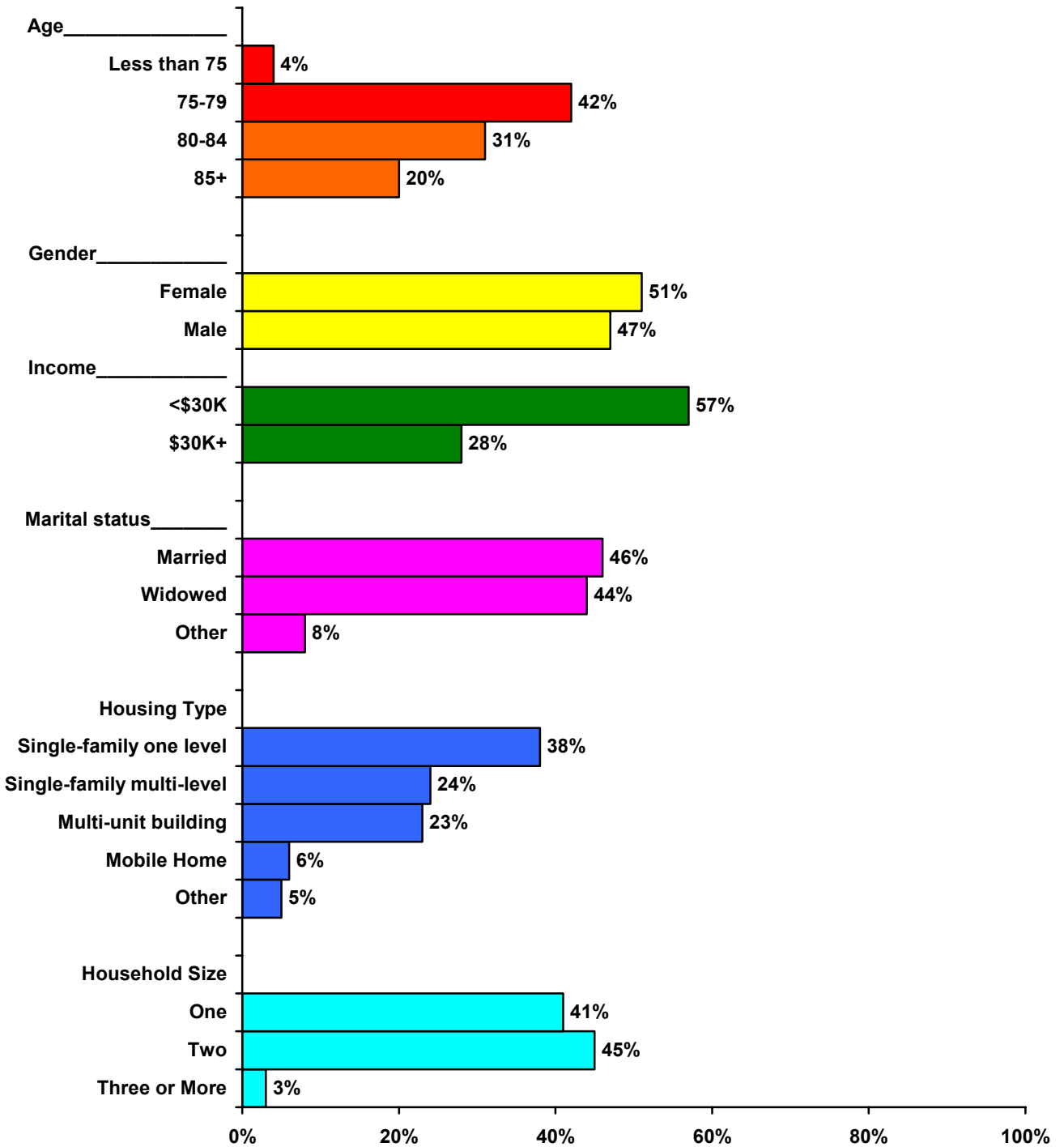
Findings from this research suggest that those age 85 and over are substantially more isolated than those ages 75 to 79. Even among those who are advanced in age, few fully utilize the resources available to them, such as public and senior transportation, food programs, and tax refunds. Few also use the services of an aid, nurse, or housekeeper.

Further, the oldest AARP South Dakota members are least likely to have personal resources available to afford the cost of long-term care. As their infirmities increase, they may have to rely more heavily on public resources to pay for the care and services they need.

South Dakota has a comparatively large population of persons age 65 and older. It ranks sixth among the 50 states. The state's population is continuing to increase in age. Improved usage of available services will be critical in maintaining those ages 85 and older in their own homes as long as physically possible.

It is unclear from this research why more AARP South Dakota members are not using the available services. It may result from a lack of awareness, the limited availability of services in their immediate community, or simply a resistance to being seen as frail and dependent. Therefore, to fully understand why South Dakota members are not utilizing available services further in-depth research may be required.

Demographic Characteristics (N =1,589)



Appendix I

Annotated Questionnaire

2005 AARP South Dakota Member Survey

Sample = 1,589; Response Rate = 79%; Sampling Error = ±2.5%

(Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding or multiple responses. A “*” means less than 1%)

Health and Well-Being

1. Compared to others your age, would you say that your health is excellent, good, fair, or poor?

<u>%</u>	
16	Excellent
51	Good
23	Fair
4	Poor
6	No Response

2. Do you have a problem with any of the following?

Yes	No	No	
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Response</u>
16	74	10	Seeing the words and letters in an ordinary newspaper even when wearing glasses
28	62	10	Hearing what is said in a normal conversation even when using a hearing aid if one is used
25	68	7	Lifting or carrying something as heavy as 10 pounds, like a bag full of groceries
30	62	8	Climbing a flight of stairs without resting
38	55	8	Walking a quarter mile (about three city blocks)
8	83	9	Having speech understood by others
10	82	8	Using a telephone

3. In the past 12 months, have you used the following types of paid assistance?

Yes	No	No	
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Response</u>
6	86	9	An aide or nurse hired through an agency or service
1	89	10	An aide or nurse hired independently – not through a service
14	77	9	A housekeeper hired to clean or cook
9	42	49	Other Please Specify: _____

4. How often do you participate in any of the following activities?

	Monthly	Weekly	Daily	Never	No Response
	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	
a. Visiting family and friends	16	45	23	2	13
b. Going to your place of worship	9	66	3	13	10
c. Going to the grocery or drug store	6	73	9	5	7
d. Entertainment outside the home (Movies, sports, eating out)	30	45	5	12	9
e. Participating in volunteer activities	24	22	4	39	11
f. Going to work	2	4	12	66	16
g. Walking or exercising for pleasure	6	25	40	20	9

5. In the past 12 months have you?

Yes	No	No Response	
<u>▼</u>	<u>▼</u>		
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	
90	5	5	Seen a doctor
54	38	8	Seen a dentist
71	23	6	Had your vision checked
26	66	8	Had your hearing checked

Insurance Coverage

6. Do you currently have Medicare coverage?

<u>%</u>	
93	Yes
2	No ► Skip to Question 8
5	No Response

7. What type of Medicare coverage do you have? (n=1,561)

<u>%</u>	
2	Medicare HMO
6	Medicare Part A only (Hospitalization only)
69	Medicare Parts A and B. (Hospitalization plus optional out-patient health care coverage, available at an additional cost)
23	No Response

8. Do you have any of the following types of health insurance coverage?

Yes	No	No	
▼	▼	Response	
%	%	%	
14	56	30	Employer Provided (yours or your spouse's)
42	31	27	Medicare Supplemental (Medigap)
34	38	28	Other Private Insurance
6	54	39	Medicaid
5	57	38	Military, CHAMPUS, Tricare
17	49	34	Veterans Benefits
1	60	39	Indian Health Service
1	60	39	Senior Care Plus
4	46	50	Other

9. Does your insurance cover all, some, or none of the cost of your prescription medications?

%	
6	All
39	Some
49	None
6	No Response

10. Do you currently have a private insurance policy that would pay for long-term care, such as care provided over an extended period of time in a nursing home or at home? (This would NOT be Medicare or a Medigap policy, which is a supplement to Medicare.)

%	
30	Yes
61	No
4	Not Sure
6	No Response

Nutrition

11. Thinking about your daily eating habits, do you regularly eat..?

Yes	No	No Response	
▼	▼		
%	%	%	
91	6	3	Breakfast
88	6	6	Lunch
93	4	3	Dinner

12. Do you eat snacks between regular meals?

<u>%</u>		
64	Yes	
30	No	▶ Skip to Question 14
6	No Response	

13. In an average day, how many snacks do you eat between meals? (n=1,109)

<u>%</u>	
89	1 to 3
2	4 to 6
*	More than 6
9	No Response

14. Do you regularly prepare your own meals?

<u>%</u>	
69	Yes
27	No
4	No Response

15. Do you use in any of the following services at least once per month?

Yes	No	No	
▼	▼	Response	
<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>	
5	88	8	Home delivered meals
14	79	7	Senior nutrition program
5	87	9	Homemaker or personal assistant
3	89	9	Food Commodities Program (Participants receive a free box of commodities up to once a month.)
1	90	9	Food Pantry Program (Eligible participants can shop for free at local or mobile pantries.)
1	90	9	Personal Attendant Services

The South Dakota Sales Tax on Food Refund Program provides refunds on sales tax payments on food to low income South Dakota residents.

16. Do you participate in the South Dakota Sales Tax on Food Refund Program?

<u>%</u>	
4	Yes
90	No
4	Not sure
3	No Response

Prescription Drugs

17. In the past 12 months, have you taken any prescription drugs?

<u>%</u>	
92	Yes
5	No ▶ Skip to Question 22
3	No Response

18. On average, how many different prescription medications do you take on a daily basis? (n=1,503)

<u>%</u>	
43	1 to 3
33	4 to 6
14	7 to 10
4	More than 10
6	No Response

19. Would you say that paying for these prescription medications is a major financial problem, a minor financial problem, or not a financial problem for you? (n=1,503)

<u>%</u>	
23	Major financial problem
41	Minor financial problem
30	Not a financial problem
6	No Response

20. How concerned are you about being able to afford the cost of your prescription drugs over the next two years? (n=1,503)

<u>%</u>	
31	Very Concerned
35	Somewhat Concerned
18	Not Very Concerned
10	Not At All Concerned
6	No Response

21. In the past 12 months, have you done any of the following? (n=1,503)

Yes	No	No	
▼	▼	Response	
%	%	%	
3	89	8	Delayed getting a prescription filled because you didn't have enough money to pay for it
6	85	9	Taken less medicine than your doctor prescribed to make it last longer
6	85	10	Cut back on items such as food, fuel, or electricity to be able to afford the prescription drug
14	77	9	Ordered your prescription drugs by mail or Internet from a U.S. based company because they cost less
6	85	9	Decided not to fill a prescription because of the cost of the drug

Transportation

22. Do you have a current driver's license?

%	
90	Yes
7	No
3	No Response

23. Have you driven a car, van, or truck in the past 30 days?

%	
85	Yes
13	No
3	No Response

24. In the past year, when you needed to get somewhere have you ever used any of the following forms of transportation?

Yes	No	No	
▼	▼	Response	
%	%	%	
41	43	16	Walked
76	14	9	Driven
53	37	10	Gotten a ride with family or friends
4	78	18	Taken a taxi
5	77	17	Taken public transportation
7	77	17	Taken a Senior or Community Van
2	80	18	Taken transportation provided to people with disabilities who cannot use or get to public transportation

25. Do you use public or senior transportation systems to go shopping, to the doctor, to the senior center, or to visit family and friends?

<u>%</u>	
5	Yes
90	No ▶ Skip to Question 27
5	No Response

26. How frequently do you use public or senior transportation systems? (n=154)

<u>%</u>	
1	Daily
14	One or twice a week
7	Two or more times per month
8	Every other month
29	Very rarely
42	No Response

Demographics

The following questions are for classification purposes only.

27. What is your age as of your last birthday? _____

<u>%</u>	
*	50-59
4	60-74
92	75+
4	No Response

28. What is your zip code? _____

29. Are you male or female?

<u>%</u>	
47	Male
51	Female
3	No Response

30. What is your current marital status?

<u>%</u>	
46	Married
1	Living with a partner
44	Widowed
4	Divorced
*	Separated
3	Never married
3	No Response

31. Including yourself, how many people currently live in your household? _____

<u>%</u>	
41	1 Person
45	2 People
2	3 People
1	4 People
*	5+ People
11	No Response

32. Which of the following home types do you living in?

<u>%</u>	
38	A one level single-family detached home
24	A multi-level single-family detached home
5	A semi-detached home, like a townhouse, row-house, or duplex
18	A multi-unit building (Includes all apartments, either high-rise or low rise
6	A mobile home
5	Other
4	No Response

33. What was your annual household income before taxes in 2004?

<u>%</u>	
10	Less than \$10,000
28	\$10,000 to \$19,999
19	\$20,000 to \$29,999
12	\$30,000 to \$39,999
6	\$40,000 to \$49,000
7	\$50,000 to \$74,999
3	\$75,000 or more
7	Not sure
9	No Response

Thank you for completing this survey.
Please use the postage-paid envelope and return it to State Member Research, AARP, 601 E
Street, NW, Washington, DC 20049, by **May 17, 2005**.

AARP
Knowledge Management
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