

AARP-NORC Foresight 50+ Omnibus Survey: Public Health Emergencies

*Interview Dates:
September 16–20, 2021*

Nationally representative sample of 1,057 English-speaking adults age 50 and over, conducted using the Foresight 50+ Panel, the probability-based panel of NORC at the University of Chicago. Of the 1,057 respondents, 53 completed the survey by phone and 1,004 via web.

The self-funded poll was conducted during a monthly Omnibus survey. It included 1,057 interviews with a nationally representative sample (margin of error is +/-4.24 percent) of adult Americans age 50+ using the Foresight50+ Omnibus Panel. Funded and operated by NORC, Foresight 50+ is a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population age 50 or older. During the initial recruitment phase of the panel, randomly selected U.S. households were sampled with a known, non-zero probability of selection from the NORC National Sample Frame or a secondary national address frame, both with over 97% coverage of all U.S. addresses, and then contacted by U.S. mail, email, telephone, or field interviewers (face to face). Households were screened for having at least one adult age 50 and older. The panel provides sample coverage of approximately 97% of the U.S. household population. Those excluded from the sample include people with P.O. Box-only addresses, some addresses not listed in the USPS Delivery Sequence File, and some newly constructed dwellings population. The panel also excludes people who live in some institutional types of settings, such as nursing facilities or nursing homes, depending on how addresses are listed for the facility. For more information, email foresight50-bd@norc.org.

NOTE: All results show percentages among respondents, unless otherwise labeled.

How concerned are you about each of the following?

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021– 9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	Extremely concerned	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not Too concerned	Not At All concerned	DK	SKP/ REF
Natural disasters or severe weather events such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, or wildfires	13	21	32	24	9	-	1

Are you more or less concerned about each of the following than you were 5 years ago, or do you have the same level of concern?

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021– 9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	Much More Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	About the Same	Somewhat Less Concerned	Much Less Concerned	DK	SKP/ REF
Natural disasters or severe weather events such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, or wildfires	19	21	51	5	4	-	1

How likely do you think you are to be personally impacted by each of the following in the next 5 years?

Foresight 50+	Extremely Likely	Very Likely	Somewhat Likely	Not Too Likely	Not At All Likely	DK	SKP/ REF

9/16/2021– 9/20/2021 (N=1,057)							
Natural disasters or severe weather events such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, or wildfires	9	15	34	31	9	1	1

Which of the following emergency measures do you have in place?

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
Any	69
Important documents in one spot to grab	49
Nonperishable food stock	45
Stockpile of water	30
Extra medications	29
An evacuation plan	25
Disaster insurance	14
I do not have any emergency measures in place	30
DK	-
SKP/REF	1

How confident are you that you could do each of the following during a natural disaster or severe weather event?

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021– 9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	Extremely Confident	Very Confident	Somewhat Confident	Not Too Confident	Not At All Confident	DK	SKP/ REF
Receive an emergency alert on a mobile device such as a weather app	38	38	16	3	4	-	1
Safely shelter in place	23	35	31	8	2	-	1
Evacuate from my home	24	35	29	8	3	-	1
Live without electricity and natural gas for 1 to 3 days	28	32	27	10	3	-	1

Do you live in an area that is at high risk for natural disasters or severe weather events?

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
Yes	28
No	59
I am not sure	13
DK	-
SKP/REF	1

How confident are you that the following elected officials have taken the necessary steps to prepare your community for a public health emergency? If you're not sure, you can indicate that.

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021– 9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	Extremely Confident	Very Confident	Somewhat Confident	Not Too Confident	Not At All Confident	I am not sure	SKP/ REF
Local government	4	14	38	20	12	13	1
State government	4	14	38	18	14	11	1
National government	2	10	33	23	21	9	1

DEMOGRAPHICS

RESPONDENT GENDER

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
Male	46
Female	54

AGE

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
50-64	53
65+	47

COMBINED RACE/ETHNICITY

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
White, non-Hispanic	70
Black, non-Hispanic	11
Other, non-Hispanic	1
Hispanic	12
2+, non-Hispanic	4
Asian, non-Hispanic	2

EDUCATION

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
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No HS diploma	7
HS graduate or equivalent	32
Vocational/tech school/some college/associate	26
Bachelor's degree	20
Postgrad study/professional degree	16

MARITAL STATUS

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
Married	56
Widowed	16
Divorced	10
Separated	7
Never married	9
Living with partner	3

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
Working – as a paid employee	36
Working – self-employed	9
Not working – on a temporary layoff from a job	1
Not working – looking for work	2
Not working – retired	38
Not working – disabled	11
Not working – other	4

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Foresight 50+	
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9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
Less than \$30,000	22
\$30,000 to less than \$60,000	26
\$60,000 to less than \$100,000	25
\$100,000 and more	27

REGION

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
Northeast	17
Midwest	22
South	38
West	23

SURVEY MODE

Foresight 50+ 9/16/2021–9/20/2021 (N=1,057)	
Phone interview	5
Web interview	95