

More than Half of Older Adults Already Experiencing Disruptions in Care as a Result of Coronavirus

*Interview Dates:
April 10-15, 2020*

This survey was conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago. Data were collected using the AmeriSpeak panel, NORC's probability based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. household population. Panel members were randomly drawn from AmeriSpeak.

The final stage completion rate is 33.9%. The overall margin of sampling error is +/-4.28 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence level, including the design effect. The margin of sampling error may be higher for subgroups.

Once the sample has been selected and fielded, and all the study data have been collected and made final, a post-stratification process is used to adjust for any survey nonresponse as well as any non-coverage or under and oversampling resulting from the study specific sample design. Post-stratification variables included age, gender, census division, race/ethnicity, and education. Weighting variables were obtained from the 2018 Current Population Survey. The weighted data reflects the U.S. population of adults age 70 and over.

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

Q1. Thinking about the primary place you live, who normally lives with you (even if only part-time)? (Select all that apply)

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Your spouse/partner	52
Nobody, you live alone [SP]	37
Daughter(s) or son(s)	11
Grandchild(ren)	5
Caregiver	1
Someone else	4
Other*	*

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q2. Do you normally get help in your home with daily activities such as preparing food, managing medications, or shopping?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Yes	14
No	86
Other*	*

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

(If yes to Q2)

Q3. Who provides this help? (Select all that apply)

AmeriSpeak (N=145)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
An unpaid family member, friend, neighbor, or other volunteer	90
A paid non-professional caregiver	9
A paid professional caregiver	6
Other*	*

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q4. Thinking about either paid or unpaid caregivers, have you experienced an interruption to services like grocery delivery, help with laundry, or other daily tasks because of the coronavirus pandemic (which began in late January 2020)?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Yes	19
No	81
Other*	*

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q5. Thinking about either paid or unpaid caregivers, have you experienced an interruption to in-home health related services like managing your medications because of the coronavirus pandemic (which began in late January 2020)?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Yes	3
No	94
Other*	3

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q6. You previously told us about the place you primarily live. Are you currently living somewhere else due to the coronavirus pandemic? Such as staying at a relative's house for the time being.

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Yes	1
No	98
Other*	1

Q7. How worried are you that the coronavirus pandemic will make it difficult to get the assistance you need to manage daily living (such as grocery delivery, help with laundry, or other daily tasks)?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Very Worried	3
Worried	4
Somewhat Worried	37
Not at all Worried	55
Other*	1

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q8. How worried are you that the coronavirus pandemic will make it difficult to get the assistance you need to manage medical conditions?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Very Worried	5
Worried	6
Somewhat Worried	39
Not at all Worried	49
Other*	2

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q9. How worried are you that that the coronavirus pandemic will make it difficult to remain physically active?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Very Worried	4
Worried	7
Somewhat Worried	37
Not at all Worried	51
Other*	*

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q10. How worried are you that that the coronavirus pandemic will make it difficult to remain mentally stimulated?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Very Worried	2
Worried	4
Somewhat Worried	23

Not at all Worried	68
Other*	2

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q11. Have you had any of the following changes to your medical care as a result of the coronavirus pandemic?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039) 04/10/20-04/15/20	Yes	No	Not Applicable	Other*
Delayed or cancelled an essential medical treatment that you needed to have	15	72	11	1
Delayed or cancelled a non-essential medical treatment that you wanted to have	39	52	8	1
Delayed or cancelled preventative/primary medical treatment	32	59	7	1
Yes to any of the above	55	-	-	-

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q12. Have you had a medical condition worsen because you were unable to see a doctor or other health care professional as a result of the coronavirus pandemic?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Yes	6
No	88
Other*	6

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q13. Have you had a medical appointment over-the-phone or by video chat, that would have normally been in-person, as a result of the coronavirus pandemic?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Yes	21
No	78
Other*	*

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

(If yes to Q13)

Q14. In your opinion, how did the experience of the medical appointment over-the-phone or by video chat compare to an in-person visit with your healthcare professional?

AmeriSpeak (N=223)	04/10/20-04/15/20
Much better over the phone/video chat	5
Somewhat better over the phone/video chat	5
About the same over the phone/video chat and in-person	49
Somewhat worse over the phone/video chat	37
Much worse over the phone/video chat	4

Q15. Have any of your health care providers or their staff reached out to you since the start of coronavirus pandemic to check on your well-being, outside of a regularly scheduled appointment?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Yes	23
No	77
Other*	0

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q16. Prior to the coronavirus pandemic, how much had you thought about your wishes for end-of-life care?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20-04/15/20
A great deal	16
Some	34
A bit	17
Not at all	30
Other*	3

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q17. Prior to the coronavirus pandemic, how much had you spoken with family or loved ones about your wishes for end-of-life care?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20-04/15/20
A great deal	15
Some	31
A bit	18
Not at all	35
Other*	1

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q18. Since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, how much have you thought about your wishes for end-of-life care?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20-04/15/20
A great deal	8
Some	26
A bit	24
Not at all	40
Other*	2

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q19. Since the start of the coronavirus pandemic, how much have you spoken with family or loved ones about your wishes for end-of-life care?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20-04/15/20
A great deal	4
Some	17
A bit	16
Not at all	61
Other*	1

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q20. Thinking about sources of information on the coronavirus pandemic, how much do you rely on each of the following sources?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039) 04/10/20-04/15/20	Completely	A lot	Somewhat	A bit	Not at all	Other*
News Sources	11	43	26	12	6	1
Your Healthcare Professionals	5	20	28	16	27	3
Elected federal officials (such as the President, Senators, Congressional Representatives)	6	18	26	20	30	1
Elected state officials (such as Governor, State Senators, State Legislators)	9	28	29	18	14	2
Elected local officials (such as Mayors, City Councilmembers, Town Council)	5	14	28	24	28	2

Nonelected public health officials (such as Experts from the CDC, NIH)	9	40	25	13	12	*
Your church	3	9	16	16	54	2
Friends and family	3	18	32	28	18	*
Local community organizations	1	5	20	26	47	2

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q21. Thinking about sources of information on the coronavirus pandemic, how much do you trust each of the following sources?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039) 04/10/20-04/15/20	Completely	A lot	Somewhat	A bit	Not at all	Other*
News Sources	4	28	40	16	12	1
Your Healthcare Professionals	15	47	26	6	4	4
Elected federal officials (such as the President, Senators, Congressional Representatives)	4	16	29	20	28	4
Elected state officials (such as Governor, State Senators, State Legislators)	7	26	32	20	13	2
Elected local officials (such as Mayors, City Councilmembers, Town Council)	3	16	34	25	21	1
Nonelected public health officials (such as Experts from the CDC, NIH)	12	42	24	13	7	2
Your church	7	13	18	15	45	3
Friends and family	7	20	35	26	11	2
Local community organizations	1	5	29	28	32	4

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q22. During the coronavirus pandemic how do you like to receive information about things you can do to stay safe? (Select all that apply)

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20-04/15/20
Television	80
News websites	46
Email	41
Social media	23
Radio	22
Direct mail	17
Automated texts to your cell phone	13
Informational recording delivered by phone	8
Podcasts	3
None of the above	3
Other	*

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q23. What kinds of information do you think are most helpful to you during the coronavirus pandemic? (Select all that apply)

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20-04/15/20
Steps you can take to reduce the chances of contracting coronavirus	86
Steps the government is taking to slow the spread of coronavirus	71
Symptoms of coronavirus	69
The number of coronavirus cases and deaths in your area	62
The economic impact of coronavirus	53
Ways to stay physically active during social isolation	45
Things to do to keep in touch with friends and family during coronavirus	41

How to manage your health conditions	41
Ways to stay mentally engaged during social isolation	40
Information about local organizations supporting older adults such as support getting food and other necessities during coronavirus	38
How to manage your in-home care	21
None of the above	3
Other*	1

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q24. Which statement best reflects your opinion of how the society overall is reacting to the needs of older adults during the coronavirus pandemic?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20-04/15/20
People are now more sensitive to the needs of older adults	68
People are now less sensitive to the needs of older adults	3
No change in how sensitive people are to the needs of older adults	27
Other*	2

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q25. How concerned are you that misconceptions or stereotypes about older adults are spreading in the overall society as a result of the coronavirus pandemic?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Very Concerned	11
Concerned	16
Somewhat Concerned	34
Not at all Concerned	27
Other*	12

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q26. In general, do you feel valued by society during the coronavirus pandemic?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Yes	49
No	22
I don't Know	29
Other*	1

*Other accounts for those who skipped or refused the question

Q27. If the coronavirus pandemic requires several months of self-isolation (including not seeing family members or friends from outside your household), will you self-isolate to remain healthy/safe?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Yes	83
No	5
I don't know	12
Other*	*

*Other accounts for those who skipped or refused the question

Q28. Have you experienced more feelings of loneliness since the coronavirus pandemic began impacting the United States?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Yes, I'm a great deal lonelier now	2
Yes, I'm lonelier now	3
Yes, I'm somewhat lonelier now	28
No, I'm not lonelier now	67
I don't know	0

Other*	*
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*Other accounts for those who skipped or refused the question

Q29. What steps are you taking to combat isolation during the coronavirus pandemic?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039)	04/10/20- 04/15/20
Spending more time on hobbies and activities	72
Watching more television	61
More phone or video calls with family & friends	60
Being physically active, like taking a walk	56
More text messages with family & friends	43
None of the above	4
Other*	*

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Q30. How confident are you that the following groups are taking the necessary steps to keep people like you safe during the coronavirus pandemic?

AmeriSpeak (N=1,039) 04/10/20-04/15/20	Very Confident	Pretty Confident	Somewhat Confident	A bit Confident	Not at all Confident	Other*
Federal government	11	22	25	16	24	2
State government	17	33	29	12	8	1
Local government	10	27	35	17	10	1
Local community organizations	7	19	33	23	14	5
Health care professionals	27	37	21	9	4	3

*Other accounts for those who selected don't know, and those who skipped or refused the question

Demographics

GENDER

AmeriSpeak	April 2020 (N=1,039)
Male	44
Female	56

AGE

AmeriSpeak	April 2020 (N=1,039)
70-74	39
75+	61

RACE / ETHNICITY

AmeriSpeak	April 2020 (N=1,039)
White, non-Hispanic	77
Black, non-Hispanic	9
Other, non-Hispanic	1
Hispanic	8
2+, non-Hispanic	4
Asian, non-Hispanic	1

EDUCATION

AmeriSpeak	April 2020 (N=1,039)
No HS diploma	13
HS graduate or equivalent	32
Post high school vocational or tech training/some college, no degree AA degree	24

BA or above	13
Post-graduate Degree	19

MARITAL STATUS

AmeriSpeak	April 2020 (N=1,039)
Married	49
Divorced	16
Widowed	27
Separated	1
Never married	5
Living with partner	2

REGION

AmeriSpeak	April 2020 (N=1,039)
Northeast	19
Midwest	21
South	37
West	23

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

AmeriSpeak	April 2020 (N=1,039))
Working – as a paid employee	6
Working – self-employed	4
Not working – on a temporary layoff from a job	1
Not working – looking for work	1
Not working – retired	85
Not working – disabled	3
Not working – other	1

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

AmeriSpeak	April 2020 (N=1,039)
Less than \$30,000	29
\$30,000 to less than \$60,000	33
\$60,000 to less than \$100,000	22
\$100,000 and more	16

SURVEY MODE

AmeriSpeak	April 2020 (N=1,039)
Phone Interview	20
Web Interview	80