

**Statewide Survey of Registered Voters Ages 40+ in California
On Long Term Care Issues**

Conducted For
The SCAN Foundation/ UCLA Center for Health Policy
July 1, 2011

Survey of n=1,490 registered voters 40 and older statewide, including n=499 ages 65+
Margin of error: ± 2.8 percentage points
Fielded June 16- 27, 2011

Screen

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

This survey is about long-term care issues facing Californians. The study is sponsored by a non-profit foundation that works on health and long-term care issues for older Americans. Your responses are completely confidential. Thank you for participating.

Caregiving

Some people provide help to a family member or friend who has a long-term illness or disability. This may include help with things they can no longer do for themselves, such as help with bathing, taking medicines, household chores, paying bills, driving to doctor’s visits or the grocery store, or just checking in to see how they are doing.

1. During the past 12 months, did you provide any such help to a family member or friend?

Yes 38
No 61
Refused..... 0

2. IF YES TO Q1: How old is the person you helped? (*Base n=508*)

Under age 50..... 13
50 to 64 17
65-84 42
85 or older..... 28
Refused..... 0

3. IF YES TO Q1: What is this person’s relationship to you? ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSE
(Base n=508)

My spouse/partner	13
My boyfriend/girlfriend	1
My parent.....	31
My child.....	6
My sibling	6
Another family member.....	23
A friend or neighbor.....	25

4. IF YES TO Q1: In the past 12 months, have you had any out-of-pocket expenses related to the help that you have provided to a family member or friend? (Base n=508)

Yes	65
No.....	35
Refused.....	0

5. IF YES TO Q4: How much of a financial hardship would you say caring for your friend or family is? (Base n=324)

		% of all caregivers (Base n=508)
A great deal of hardship.....	12	8
Some hardship	33	21
A little hardship.....	26	17
Not at all a financial hardship	29	19
Refused.....	0	0
A great deal/some hardship.....	45	29
A little/not at all a financial hardship.....	55	26

6. IF YES TO Q1: How emotionally stressful would you say caring for your friend or family member is? (Base n=508)

Very stressful.....	22
Somewhat stressful.....	41
Not too stressful.....	24
Not at all stressful	13
Refused.....	0
Very/somewhat stressful	63
Not too/not at all stressful.....	37

IF Q1=NO/DK/REF: The next question is about social and emotional support.

7. Thinking about the stresses you face in your daily life, how often would you say you get the social and emotional support you need?

Always	16
Usually.....	36
Sometimes.....	29
Rarely	14
Never	5
Refused.....	0
Always/usually	52
Sometimes/rarely/never	48

Important Issues

8. Thinking about growing older, how worried are you about each of the following issues:
RANDOMIZE

- a. Losing your independence and having to rely on others

Very worried	32
Somewhat worried	42
Not too worried	19
Not at all worried.....	7
Refused	0
Very/somewhat worried	73
Not too/not at all worried	26

- b. Not being able to afford health care

Very worried	31
Somewhat worried	32
Not too worried	25
Not at all worried.....	11
Refused	1
Very/somewhat worried	63
Not too/not at all worried	36

c. Not being able to afford long-term care services

Very worried	28
Somewhat worried	38
Not too worried	24
Not at all worried	9
Refused	1
Very/somewhat worried	66
Not too/not at all worried	33

d. Not leaving any debt to your family

Very worried	17
Somewhat worried	23
Not too worried	34
Not at all worried	26
Refused	1
Very/somewhat worried	40
Not too/not at all worried	59

e. Your health worsening

Very worried	25
Somewhat worried	45
Not too worried	23
Not at all worried	6
Refused	1
Very/somewhat worried	70
Not too/not at all worried	29

f. Having to move into a nursing home or other care facility

Very worried	22
Somewhat worried	37
Not too worried	29
Not at all worried	12
Refused	1
Very/somewhat worried	59
Not too/not at all worried	41

g. Spending your life savings or assets to pay for long-term care

Very worried	25
Somewhat worried	38
Not too worried	25
Not at all worried.....	11
Refused	1
Very/somewhat worried	63
Not too/not at all worried	36

h. Losing your memory or other mental abilities

Very worried	31
Somewhat worried	40
Not too worried	22
Not at all worried.....	7
Refused	0
Very/somewhat worried	70
Not too/not at all worried	29

Long-Term Care Preparedness

The next questions are about the help people need when they can no longer care for themselves independently. These services include providing help with daily activities such as bathing and taking medications. They can be provided in people’s homes or communities, as well as in nursing homes.

9. How worried are you about being able to pay for long-term care that you or a family member may need in the future?

Very worried	25
Somewhat worried	43
Not too worried	23
Not at all worried.....	8
Refused	1
Very/somewhat worried	68
Not too/not at all worried	31

10. Right now, nursing home care costs about \$6,500 a month in California. Medicare and regular health insurance plans do not pay for these costs. How many months could you afford nursing home care if you had to pay for all of it yourself?

0 months.....	42
1 month	8
2 months.....	5
3 months.....	11
More than 3 months.....	34
Refused	1

11. Right now in California, it costs about \$2,000 a month to have a licensed personal care aide come into the home part-time to help an older person with a chronic illness, such as a stroke, with daily activities. Medicare and regular health insurance plans do not pay for these costs. How many months could you afford this care if you had to pay for all of it yourself?

0 months.....	32
1 month	5
2 months.....	6
3 months.....	10
More than 3 months.....	46
Refused	1

12. What percent of Americans age 65 and older do you think will need help at some point with daily activities and personal care because they can no longer take care of themselves independently? (Just your guess is fine).

0%	0
10%	4
20%	8
30%	15
40%	10
50%	13
60%	13
70%	16
80%	12
90%	6
100%	3
Refused	0
Under 70%	63

13. How high of a priority do you think each of the following should be for elected officials in California: RANDOMIZE

- a. Making support available to people who are providing care for their family and friends, including things like support groups

High priority	46
Moderate priority	37
Low priority.....	12
Not a priority	5
Refused	1
 High/moderate priority	 83
Low/not a priority.....	16

- b. Having enough affordable options available so that older people can get help in their homes and communities instead of going into nursing homes, regardless of their incomes

High priority	63
Moderate priority	26
Low priority.....	8
Not a priority	3
Refused	1
 High/moderate priority	 89
Low/not a priority.....	11

- c. Making sure people can have a choice in the type of care they get as they get older and need more help

High priority	56
Moderate priority	31
Low priority.....	9
Not a priority	3
Refused	0
 High/moderate priority	 87
Low/not a priority.....	13

d. Making sure the care people get in their home or community is high quality and focuses on quality of life

High priority	59
Moderate priority	30
Low priority.....	6
Not a priority	4
Refused	1
High/moderate priority	90
Low/not a priority.....	10

e. Better coordinating medical care with in-home or community support services to make it easier for seniors with health problems to live independently

High priority	58
Moderate priority	31
Low priority.....	7
Not a priority	4
Refused	0
High/moderate priority	89
Low/not a priority.....	10

f. Making sure there is enough information about how to get help for people who cannot take care of themselves independently

High priority	59
Moderate priority	30
Low priority.....	7
Not a priority	3
Refused	1
High/moderate priority	89
Low/not a priority.....	10

g. Making long-term care insurance more affordable

High priority	64
Moderate priority	25
Low priority.....	7
Not a priority	3
Refused	0
High/moderate priority	89
Low/not a priority.....	11

14. On a different topic, have you experienced any of the following in the last 12 months?

RANDOMIZE

a. IF HOMEOWNER: The value of your home has been less than what you owe on your mortgage (*Base n=1,187*)

Yes.....	24
No	75
Refused	0

b. You had to take money out of savings to help meet your family's expenses and bills

Yes.....	50
No	50
Refused	0

c. You had to cut back on saving for retirement

Yes.....	45
No	55
Refused	1

d. You had to cut down on the amount you spend on food

Yes.....	41
No	58
Refused	1

e. You had to cut back on entertainment or other extras

Yes..... 60
No 39
Refused 1

f. You received or borrowed money from someone because you were struggling to get by

Yes..... 24
No 76
Refused 0

g. Your household income declined

Yes..... 48
No 51
Refused 0

15. How worried are you these days that your total family income will not be enough to meet your family's living expenses and bills?

Very worried 26
Somewhat worried 34
Not too worried 28
Not at all worried 12
Refused 0

Very/somewhat worried 60
Not too/not at all worried 40

Demos

16. Do you have health insurance right now?

Yes.....	86
No	14
Refused	0

17. IF YES AND 40-64: Which of the following best describes your health insurance coverage?
(Base n=872)

I'm covered under my work insurance	50
I'm covered under my spouse's plan where they work	22
I buy my own insurance	10
I have Medicare only	2
I have Medi-Cal only.....	5
I have Medicare and Medi-Cal	5
Other SPECIFY.....	6
I'm not sure	0
Refused.....	0

18. IF 65+: Which of the following best describes your health insurance coverage:
(Base n=489)

I have Medicare and a Medigap plan	20
I am enrolled in a Medicare Advantage Plan	32
I have Medicare only	8
I have Medi-Cal only.....	0
I have Medicare and Medi-Cal	6
I have insurance through my employer in addition to Medicare	24
Other (Specify)	9
I'm not sure	1
Refused.....	0

19. Have you purchased extra insurance that covers long-term care expenses either through your work, through a private policy, or by some other means?

Yes, have long-term care insurance	14
No, do not have long-term care insurance	79
I'm not sure	6
Refused.....	1

21. Have you heard about the federal Community Living Assistance Services and Supports Plan, or the CLASS Plan?

Yes	2
No	90
I'm not sure	7
Refused.....	0

The CLASS Plan is new consumer-funded long-term care insurance option that workers can purchase to help pay for future care and supportive services in the home. Currently Medicare does not cover any of these types of help. In this voluntary, federally administered program, no one can be denied coverage due to pre-existing conditions. When participants need help down the road, they would get a daily cash amount to spend on the services of their choice to help them stay independent. The CLASS Plan is funded through premiums, not by taxpayer dollars.

22. Now that you've read more, do you favor or oppose the CLASS Plan?

Strongly favor	28
Somewhat favor	60
Somewhat oppose	9
Strongly oppose	2
Refused.....	1
Favor.....	88
Oppose	11

23. Overall, how would you describe your health:

Excellent	11
Very good	36
Good.....	36
Fair.....	13
Poor	3
Refused.....	1
Excellent/very good/good.....	83
Fair/poor	16

24. Not everyone gets a chance to vote in every election. Did you happen to vote in the election last November (2010) for governor, U.S. Congress and other elected offices?

Yes	90
No	7
Not sure.....	3
Refused.....	1

Gender

Men	47
Women.....	53

Age

40 – 54.....	41
55 – 64.....	28
65 & over.....	31
Under 65.....	69

Race

White.....	60
Black	7
Latino.....	18
Asian.....	11
2+ races	1
Other	4

Education

1-11th grade.....	9
High School Graduate	21
Some college, no degree.....	21
Associate’s degree	10
College graduate	22
Post-graduate school	17

Income

\$5,000 to \$19,999	15
\$20,000 to \$39,999	19
\$40,000 to \$59,999	17
\$60,000 to \$74,999	12
\$75,000 or more.....	36
\$5,000 to \$49,999	43
\$50,000 to or more	57

Marital status

Married.....	55
Widowed	7
Divorced	16
Separated	2
Never married	13
Living with partner	6

Region

LA County	19
Orange.....	8
Inland Empire	13
San Diego.....	8
Central Coast	4
Fresno.....	7
Sacramento	11
Bay Area	27
North	4