



PARAGON INSIGHTS  
ALASKA SENIORS POLL:  
MARCH 2014

TOPLINE RESULTS

Methodology:

THIS POLL WAS CONDUCTED FROM MARCH 3-6, 2014, AMONG A SAMPLE OF 455 LIKELY VOTERS 65 YEARS AND OLDER ON TRADITIONAL MEDICARE OR A MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN IN THE STATE OF ALASKA. THE INTERVIEWS WERE CONDUCTED VIA INTERACTIVE VOICE RESPONSE (IVR) AND THE DATA WERE WEIGHTED TO APPROXIMATE A TARGET SAMPLE OF SENIOR LIKELY VOTERS BASED ON AGE, RACE/ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT. RESULTS FROM THE FULL SURVEY HAVE A MARGIN OF ERROR OF PLUS OR MINUS 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS.

1: If the election for Congress for your district were being held today, would you vote for?

	Democrat	Republican	Undecided	N
Likely Voters	27	44	30	455
Males	28	47	24	215
Females	25	40	35	239
Age: 65-69	27	47	25	135
Age: 70-74	26	45	30	95
Age 75-84	25	40	35	224
Age: 85+	33	36	31	139
Republicans	14	73	13	153
Democrats	59	25	16	126
Income: Under 50k	28	42	30	212
Income: 50k or over	25	45	30	243
High School or Less	28	43	29	236
Some College	22	52	26	117
College Graduate+	29	36	36	101
ACA: Approve	50	27	23	195
ACA: Disapprove	6	62	32	228
2012 Vote: Romney	9	68	22	209
2012 Vote: Obama	52	18	31	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	100	0	0	121
2014 Vote: Republican	0	100	0	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	0	0	100	135

2: Thinking about how you receive your healthcare coverage, do you get that coverage from Government Run Medicare, from Medicare Advantage, or from some other source?

	Government Run Medicare	A Medicare plan from a private insurer, commonly referred to as Medicare Advantage	N
Likely Voters	62	38	455
Males	68	32	215
Females	56	44	239
Age: 65-69	60	40	135
Age: 70-74	59	41	95
Age 75-84	67	33	224
Age: 85+	63	37	139
Republicans	65	35	153
Democrats	57	43	126
Income: Under 50k	69	31	212
Income: 50k or over	56	44	243
High School or Less	55	45	236
Some College	68	32	117
College Graduate+	72	28	101
ACA: Approve	56	44	195
ACA: Disapprove	64	36	228
2012 Vote: Romney	68	32	209
2012 Vote: Obama	63	37	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	66	34	121
2014 Vote: Republican	58	42	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	64	36	135

3: Overall, how would you describe your level of satisfaction with a traditional Medicare plan run by the government?  
 (Among respondents with traditional Medicare)

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N
Likely Voters	32	50	11	7	281
Males	30	54	10	6	147
Females	34	47	11	7	134
Age: 65-69	32	55	8	5	88
Age 75-84	31	52	12	5	139
Age: 85+	58	27	9	6	84
Republicans	30	52	9	9	91
Democrats	43	47	8	2	84
Income: Under 50k	29	54	10	7	146
Income: 50k or over	36	46	11	7	136
High School or Less	29	61	7	4	129
Some College	28	44	19	9	80
ACA: Approve	45	50	3	1	110
ACA: Disapprove	23	49	16	12	146
2012 Vote: Romney	25	51	14	10	142
2012 Vote: Obama	42	54	2	2	105
2014 Vote: Democrat	40	52	6	2	80
2014 Vote: Republican	26	49	12	13	115
2014 Vote: Undecided	34	51	13	3	86

4: In the next year, how do you think the 2010 healthcare law, commonly referred to as ObamaCare, will affect your access to medical providers such as your preferred doctors or hospitals in traditional Medicare? (Among respondents with traditional Medicare)

	Increase my Access to Providers	Decrease my Access to Providers	No Impact on my Access to Providers	N
Likely Voters	16	39	44	281
Males	17	41	42	147
Females	15	38	47	134
Age: 65-69	14	41	45	88
Age 75-84	18	39	43	139
Age: 85+	22	35	43	84
Republicans	21	53	26	91
Democrats	31	19	50	84
Income: Under 50k	17	42	41	146
Income: 50k or over	16	36	48	136
High School or Less	26	31	43	129
Some College	8	49	43	80
ACA: Approve	28	15	56	110
ACA: Disapprove	9	62	29	146
2012 Vote: Romney	14	59	27	142
2012 Vote: Obama	21	15	64	105
2014 Vote: Democrat	28	17	56	80
2014 Vote: Republican	10	63	26	115
2014 Vote: Undecided	14	28	58	86

5: Overall, how would you describe your level of satisfaction with a private Medicare Advantage plan run by a health insurance company? (Among respondents with Medicare Advantage plans)

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N
Likely Voters	29	38	19	14	173
Females	25	40	20	14	105
Age 75-84	22	46	16	16	85
Income: 50k or over	24	40	20	16	107
High School or Less	31	40	19	11	107
ACA: Approve	35	39	16	10	85
ACA: Disapprove	23	38	22	17	81
2014 Vote: Republican	25	41	20	14	83

6: In the next year, how do you think the 2010 healthcare law, commonly referred to as ObamaCare, will affect your access to medical providers such as your preferred doctors or hospitals in Medicare Advantage? (Among respondents with Medicare Advantage plans)

	Increase my Access to Providers	Decrease my Access to Providers	No Impact on my Access to Providers	N
Likely Voters	14	42	44	173
Females	11	45	44	105
Age 75-84	9	42	49	85
Income: 50k or over	16	44	41	107
High School or Less	16	43	41	107
ACA: Approve	21	36	44	85
ACA: Disapprove	9	50	41	81
2014 Vote: Republican	10	54	36	83

7: Thinking about the 2010 healthcare law, commonly referred to as ObamaCare, do you approve or disapprove of this health care legislation passed by Barack Obama and Congress in 2010?

	Strongly Approve	Somewhat Approve	Somewhat Disapprove	Strongly Disapprove	Neither Approve nor Disapprove	N
Likely Voters	23	20	12	38	7	455
Males	26	19	8	39	8	215
Females	20	21	16	36	6	239
Age: 65-69	24	22	17	33	4	135
Age: 70-74	21	20	13	37	9	95
Age 75-84	24	19	7	44	7	224
Age: 85+	18	20	13	36	14	139
Republicans	18	13	9	57	2	153
Democrats	36	38	15	5	5	126
Income: Under 50k	24	17	9	45	5	212
Income: 50k or over	22	23	15	31	9	243
High School or Less	25	24	15	31	5	236
Some College	15	15	11	50	9	117
College Graduate+	27	16	9	39	9	101
ACA: Approve	53	47	0	0	0	195
ACA: Disapprove	0	0	25	75	0	228
2012 Vote: Romney	10	11	12	63	4	209
2012 Vote: Obama	41	32	10	6	10	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	50	31	4	7	9	121
2014 Vote: Republican	10	17	16	55	2	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	17	15	15	40	13	135

8: In the long run, do you think the 2010 healthcare law, commonly referred to as ObamaCare, will make the Medicare program better, worse, or will it have no impact?

	Much Better	Somewhat Better	Somewhat Worse	Much Worse	No Impact	N
Likely Voters	13	15	17	34	22	455
Males	16	15	12	37	20	215
Females	9	14	22	30	24	239
Age: 65-69	11	16	19	33	21	135
Age: 70-74	12	15	16	35	22	95
Age 75-84	14	14	14	32	25	224
Age: 85+	15	12	23	32	18	139
Republicans	10	10	16	48	15	153
Democrats	31	25	24	5	15	126
Income: Under 50k	13	13	18	36	21	212
Income: 50k or over	12	16	16	31	24	243
High School or Less	16	18	22	26	17	236
Some College	7	12	15	45	21	117
College Graduate+	10	10	7	37	36	101
ACA: Approve	25	27	17	6	25	195
ACA: Disapprove	3	5	18	61	13	228
2012 Vote: Romney	6	10	14	57	13	209
2012 Vote: Obama	22	20	16	8	34	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	32	20	14	3	31	121
2014 Vote: Republican	4	12	20	52	11	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	7	13	15	34	31	135

9: Do you have a Medicare Part D plan for prescription drug coverage?

	Yes	No	Unsure	N
Likely Voters	42	47	11	455
Males	44	46	9	215
Females	40	47	12	239
Age: 65-69	35	55	10	135
Age: 70-74	41	47	12	95
Age 75-84	49	40	10	224
Age: 85+	49	39	13	139
Republicans	52	40	8	153
Democrats	36	48	16	126
Income: Under 50k	58	35	7	212
Income: 50k or over	29	57	14	243
High School or Less	46	39	16	236
Some College	40	51	9	117
College Graduate+	37	61	2	101
ACA: Approve	45	44	11	195
ACA: Disapprove	43	47	10	228
2012 Vote: Romney	52	42	6	209
2012 Vote: Obama	40	47	13	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	45	47	8	121
2014 Vote: Republican	40	47	13	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	42	47	10	135

10: Overall, how would you describe your level of satisfaction with your Medicare Part D plan? (Among respondents with Medicare Part D)

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	N
Likely Voters	43	45	9	3	192
Males	44	46	7	3	96
Females	41	44	12	2	96
Age 75-84	47	42	8	3	88
Income: Under 50k	45	45	10	0	122
High School or Less	43	50	6	1	108
ACA: Approve	41	52	4	2	88
ACA: Disapprove	41	42	15	3	97
2012 Vote: Romney	41	45	11	3	108
2014 Vote: Republican	39	48	10	3	80

11: As you may know, the federal government has proposed changes to the Medicare Part D program. Do you think Medicare Part D requires major changes, minor changes, or does Medicare Part D not require any changes at this time?

	Major Changes	Minor Changes	No Changes	N
Likely Voters	17	25	58	455
Males	19	25	56	215
Females	16	25	60	239
Age: 65-69	23	23	54	135
Age: 70-74	17	20	63	95
Age 75-84	12	33	55	224
Age: 85+	14	23	63	139
Republicans	20	23	57	153
Democrats	28	27	45	126
Income: Under 50k	16	25	60	212
Income: 50k or over	19	25	56	243
High School or Less	24	27	49	236
Some College	9	24	66	117
College Graduate+	11	21	68	101
ACA: Approve	27	30	43	195
ACA: Disapprove	10	22	68	228
2012 Vote: Romney	16	24	61	209
2012 Vote: Obama	22	26	53	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	29	26	45	121
2014 Vote: Republican	16	26	58	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	9	22	69	135

12: When it comes to Medicare, which political party do you trust more?

	The Republican Party	The Democratic Party	Undecided	N
Likely Voters	36	32	32	455
Males	41	29	31	215
Females	32	34	34	239
Age: 65-69	32	41	27	135
Age: 70-74	36	26	39	95
Age 75-84	38	29	33	224
Age: 85+	46	30	24	139
Republicans	76	10	13	153
Democrats	14	64	22	126
Income: Under 50k	39	28	33	212
Income: 50k or over	34	34	32	243
High School or Less	34	32	34	236
Some College	44	27	29	117
College Graduate+	32	35	33	101
ACA: Approve	21	58	20	195
ACA: Disapprove	52	10	39	228
2012 Vote: Romney	64	8	28	209
2012 Vote: Obama	8	66	26	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	17	64	19	121
2014 Vote: Republican	61	14	26	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	17	29	54	135

13: As you may know, as part of ObamaCare, the Obama administration recently announced a rate adjustment in which Medicare Advantage spending would be reduced by 3.55 percent, the equivalent of about 200 billion dollars...How concerned are you that this Medicare Advantage rate reduction will increase the costs that seniors have to pay for Medicare Advantage plans?

	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not Very Concerned	Not At All Concerned	N
Likely Voters	38	28	16	19	455
Males	38	28	15	18	215
Females	38	27	16	19	239
Age: 65-69	37	25	18	20	135
Age: 70-74	41	30	12	17	95
Age 75-84	38	28	16	18	224
Age: 85+	31	26	22	21	139
Republicans	52	27	10	11	153
Democrats	22	41	21	17	126
Income: Under 50k	44	26	12	17	212
Income: 50k or over	33	29	19	20	243
High School or Less	38	32	18	13	236
Some College	41	26	15	18	117
College Graduate+	36	20	11	33	101
ACA: Approve	25	37	17	22	195
ACA: Disapprove	53	21	13	12	228
2012 Vote: Romney	57	23	9	11	209
2012 Vote: Obama	17	35	20	29	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	27	36	12	25	121
2014 Vote: Republican	48	25	16	10	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	33	24	18	24	135

14: As you may know, as part of ObamaCare, the Obama administration recently announced a rate adjustment in which Medicare Advantage spending would be reduced by 3.55 percent, the equivalent of about 200 billion dollars...How concerned are you that this Medicare Advantage rate reduction will reduce the availability of Medicare Advantage plan options?

	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not Very Concerned	Not At All Concerned	N
Likely Voters	34	28	16	22	455
Males	34	25	16	25	215
Females	33	31	16	20	239
Age: 65-69	28	35	12	24	135
Age: 70-74	37	26	18	18	95
Age 75-84	35	25	17	23	224
Age: 85+	38	19	18	25	139
Republicans	50	27	11	12	153
Democrats	18	34	27	21	126
Income: Under 50k	40	27	12	21	212
Income: 50k or over	28	29	19	23	243
High School or Less	32	33	16	19	236
Some College	40	23	15	22	117
College Graduate+	31	22	16	30	101
ACA: Approve	23	33	22	23	195
ACA: Disapprove	46	26	10	18	228
2012 Vote: Romney	53	24	9	15	209
2012 Vote: Obama	13	32	21	35	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	23	29	21	27	121
2014 Vote: Republican	41	33	12	14	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	33	21	17	29	135

15: As you may know, as part of ObamaCare, the Obama administration recently announced a rate adjustment in which Medicare Advantage spending would be reduced by 3.55 percent, the equivalent of about 200 billion dollars. How concerned are you that this Medicare Advantage rate reduction will reduce access to preferred medical providers through Medicare Advantage?

	Very Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Not Very Concerned	Not At All Concerned	N
Likely Voters	36	26	16	22	455
Males	37	24	15	23	215
Females	34	28	17	20	239
Age: 65-69	34	29	17	20	135
Age: 70-74	36	24	17	22	95
Age: 75-84	36	30	13	22	224
Age: 85+	42	13	20	25	139
Republicans	52	25	12	11	153
Democrats	14	45	20	21	126
Income: Under 50k	43	24	13	20	212
Income: 50k or over	29	28	19	23	243
High School or Less	32	31	19	18	236
Some College	41	24	12	23	117
College Graduate+	37	18	16	30	101
ACA: Approve	23	30	21	26	195
ACA: Disapprove	50	24	12	14	228
2012 Vote: Romney	54	24	9	13	209
2012 Vote: Obama	14	31	21	33	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	21	31	21	27	121
2014 Vote: Republican	47	28	11	15	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	33	20	20	27	135

16: If the cost of Medicare Advantage plans increases, who or what do you think deserves the most blame? Please listen to all the options before responding

	Democrats in Congress	Republicans in Congress	ObamaCare	Health Insurance Companies	None of the Above	N
Likely Voters	17	17	35	11	21	455
Males	26	15	30	10	19	215
Females	10	18	39	12	22	239
Age: 65-69	18	20	31	14	17	135
Age: 70-74	19	14	40	8	19	95
Age 75-84	15	14	32	12	27	224
Age: 85+	17	23	32	5	23	139
Republicans	25	14	42	5	15	153
Democrats	12	35	25	8	21	126
Income: Under 50k	16	12	39	12	21	212
Income: 50k or over	18	21	31	10	20	243
High School or Less	22	19	34	9	16	236
Some College	11	13	42	11	23	117
College Graduate+	13	15	27	15	29	101
ACA: Approve	15	27	23	13	22	195
ACA: Disapprove	19	9	48	7	16	228
2012 Vote: Romney	28	7	47	5	12	209
2012 Vote: Obama	7	29	16	18	30	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	17	28	14	15	26	121
2014 Vote: Republican	23	12	51	5	9	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	10	13	29	15	33	135

17: And, thinking about your vote for the U.S. Senate and House in November, if the cost of Medicare Advantage plans began to rise for seniors, how important of an issue would that be to your vote?

	Single Most Important Issue	One of the Most Important Issues	Not Too Important of an Issue	Not an Issue	N
Likely Voters	18	43	22	17	455
Males	21	41	21	17	215
Females	15	46	23	17	239
Age: 65-69	13	46	29	12	135
Age: 70-74	24	38	21	17	95
Age 75-84	15	47	16	22	224
Age: 85+	20	44	21	16	139
Republicans	29	47	14	10	153
Democrats	8	44	33	15	126
Income: Under 50k	23	49	14	15	212
Income: 50k or over	14	39	29	19	243
High School or Less	20	45	25	11	236
Some College	14	48	19	19	117
College Graduate+	17	36	19	28	101
ACA: Approve	16	37	27	20	195
ACA: Disapprove	20	50	18	11	228
2012 Vote: Romney	28	46	16	9	209
2012 Vote: Obama	7	40	26	26	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	16	33	25	25	121
2014 Vote: Republican	20	48	22	9	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	15	46	19	20	135

18: Would you prefer a lower cost plan with a limited network of providers or more access to providers of your choice with a higher plan cost?

	Lower Cost plan with limited network	Higher Cost plan with more access	Unsure	N
Likely Voters	29	25	46	455
Males	31	27	42	215
Females	27	24	50	239
Age: 65-69	38	23	39	135
Age: 70-74	24	26	50	95
Age 75-84	27	24	49	224
Age: 85+	20	30	50	139
Republicans	36	31	33	153
Democrats	31	34	36	126
Income: Under 50k	38	20	42	212
Income: 50k or over	21	29	50	243
High School or Less	34	25	41	236
Some College	22	26	52	117
College Graduate+	24	24	52	101
ACA: Approve	38	25	37	195
ACA: Disapprove	22	26	52	228
2012 Vote: Romney	31	26	43	209
2012 Vote: Obama	32	24	44	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	39	27	35	121
2014 Vote: Republican	26	30	44	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	25	16	60	135

19: If the cost of Medicare Part D plans increases, who or what do you think deserves the most blame? Please listen to all the options before responding

	Democrats in Congress	Republicans in Congress	ObamaCare	Health Insurance Companies	None of the Above	N
Likely Voters	17	17	35	9	22	455
Males	21	15	36	7	21	215
Females	13	19	33	11	23	239
Age: 65-69	21	22	31	9	17	135
Age: 70-74	18	15	38	11	19	95
Age 75-84	13	15	33	7	32	224
Age: 85+	10	14	37	13	25	139
Republicans	27	12	40	3	17	153
Democrats	16	30	27	12	15	126
Income: Under 50k	16	10	40	13	22	212
Income: 50k or over	17	23	30	6	23	243
High School or Less	20	20	36	5	18	236
Some College	15	12	39	12	23	117
College Graduate+	12	15	25	16	32	101
ACA: Approve	16	28	19	16	19	195
ACA: Disapprove	19	9	51	4	18	228
2012 Vote: Romney	25	9	46	5	15	209
2012 Vote: Obama	10	26	19	15	31	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	19	23	17	16	25	121
2014 Vote: Republican	20	18	46	4	12	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	11	10	33	11	35	135

20: And, thinking about your vote for the U.S. Senate and House in November, if the cost of Medicare Part D plans began to rise for seniors, how important of an issue would that be to your vote?

	Single Most Important Issue	One of the Most Important Issues	Not Too Important of an Issue	Not an Issue	N
Likely Voters	18	40	21	21	455
Males	23	37	19	22	215
Females	15	44	22	20	239
Age: 65-69	14	39	27	20	135
Age: 70-74	25	35	19	20	95
Age 75-84	14	47	16	23	224
Age: 85+	22	40	18	20	139
Republicans	28	44	17	12	153
Democrats	14	38	26	22	126
Income: Under 50k	21	46	14	18	212
Income: 50k or over	16	35	26	23	243
High School or Less	22	42	20	17	236
Some College	15	43	21	21	117
College Graduate+	15	33	23	30	101
ACA: Approve	18	36	20	26	195
ACA: Disapprove	20	45	20	16	228
2012 Vote: Romney	28	43	16	12	209
2012 Vote: Obama	10	38	21	31	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	20	32	19	29	121
2014 Vote: Republican	20	45	23	12	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	14	40	19	27	135

21: When it comes to Medicare, which political party do you trust more?

	Republican Party	Democratic Party	Undecided	N
Likely Voters	38	33	29	455
Males	43	34	23	215
Females	33	33	34	239
Age: 65-69	38	35	27	135
Age: 70-74	35	33	32	95
Age 75-84	41	34	25	224
Age: 85+	41	25	34	139
Republicans	79	13	8	153
Democrats	9	69	22	126
Income: Under 50k	45	26	29	212
Income: 50k or over	32	40	28	243
High School or Less	37	34	29	236
Some College	45	27	28	117
College Graduate+	32	39	29	101
ACA: Approve	21	56	23	195
ACA: Disapprove	56	13	31	228
2012 Vote: Romney	70	9	21	209
2012 Vote: Obama	5	66	28	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	20	62	18	121
2014 Vote: Republican	61	18	22	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	20	31	49	135

22: In politics today, do you consider yourself to be a

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Something Else	N
Likely Voters	30	21	41	8	455
Males	33	21	38	8	215
Females	27	21	44	8	239
Age: 65-69	26	25	41	8	135
Age: 70-74	26	19	47	7	95
Age 75-84	35	18	37	10	224
Age: 85+	39	23	33	5	139
Republicans	100	0	0	0	153
Democrats	0	100	0	0	126
Income: Under 50k	37	15	37	11	212
Income: 50k or over	24	26	45	6	243
High School or Less	29	25	39	7	236
Some College	33	19	41	7	117
College Graduate+	28	12	47	12	101
ACA: Approve	21	36	34	8	195
ACA: Disapprove	40	8	45	7	228
2012 Vote: Romney	54	3	38	5	209
2012 Vote: Obama	7	45	38	11	165
2014 Vote: Democrat	16	47	28	10	121
2014 Vote: Republican	50	12	34	5	198
2014 Vote: Undecided	13	11	64	12	135