



PARAGON INSIGHTS  
SENIORS POLL:  
MARCH 2014

TOPLINE RESULTS

Methodology:

THIS POLL WAS CONDUCTED FROM MARCH 3-6, 2014, AMONG A SAMPLE OF 4455 LIKELY VOTERS 65 YEARS AND OLDER ON TRADITIONAL MEDICARE OR A MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN IN ALASKA, ARKANSAS, COLORADO, IOWA, LOUISIANA, MICHIGAN, MONTANA, AND NORTH CAROLINA. THE INTERVIEWS WERE CONDUCTED VIA INTERACTIVE VOICE RESPONSE (IVR) IN COLORADO, IOWA, MICHIGAN, AND NORTH CAROLINA, AND THE INTERVIEWS WERE CONDUCTED VIA LIVE DIALS IN ALASKA, ARKANSAS, LOUISIANA, AND MONTANA. THE DATA WERE WEIGHTED TO APPROXIMATE A TARGET SAMPLE OF SENIOR LIKELY VOTERS IN EACH STATE BASED ON AGE, RACE/ETHNICITY, GENDER, AND EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT. RESULTS FROM THE FULL SURVEY HAVE A MARGIN OF ERROR OF PLUS OR MINUS TWO PERCENTAGE POINTS, RESULTS FROM THE ALASKA AND ARKANSAS POLLS HAVE A MARGIN OF ERROR OF 5 PERCENTAGE POINTS, AND RESULTS FROM THE COLORADO, IOWA, LOUISIANA, MICHIGAN, MONTANA, AND NORTH CAROLINA POLLS HAVE A MARGIN OF ERROR OF 4 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	36	42	22	4454
Alaska	27	44	30	455
Arkansas	28	36	36	461
Colorado	34	51	16	601
Iowa	45	40	15	681
Louisiana	38	40	22	504
Michigan	42	38	20	657
Montana	30	42	28	479
North Carolina	40	45	15	616

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	68	32	4454
Alaska	62	38	455
Arkansas	69	31	461
Colorado	64	36	601
Iowa	75	25	681
Louisiana	66	34	504
Michigan	67	33	657
Montana	67	33	479
North Carolina	68	32	616

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	44	41	10	4	3010
Alaska	32	50	11	7	281
Arkansas	34	42	15	9	317
Colorado	44	42	11	3	386
Iowa	56	36	6	2	512
Louisiana	27	57	11	5	333
Michigan	52	33	11	4	442
Montana	44	43	7	6	320
North Carolina	50	35	11	3	419

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	14	42	44	3010
Alaska	16	39	44	281
Arkansas	15	44	40	317
Colorado	10	47	43	386
Iowa	13	35	52	512
Louisiana	16	47	37	333
Michigan	14	40	46	442
Montana	12	37	51	320
North Carolina	16	46	38	419

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	46	34	13	6	1445
Alaska	29	38	19	14	173
Arkansas	39	32	20	10	144
Colorado	65	30	5	1	215
Iowa	49	35	13	3	169
Louisiana	37	43	14	6	171
Michigan	49	34	12	5	216
Montana	35	33	19	14	159
North Carolina	58	29	10	3	197

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	43	43	1445
Alaska	14	42	44	173
Arkansas	13	42	45	144
Colorado	17	48	36	215
Iowa	15	38	47	169
Louisiana	12	44	44	171
Michigan	12	42	45	216
Montana	12	36	51	159
North Carolina	15	52	33	197

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	20	16	13	44	7	4454
Alaska	23	20	12	38	7	455
Arkansas	14	10	9	55	13	461
Colorado	19	16	14	48	4	601
Iowa	23	23	13	36	5	681
Louisiana	20	8	15	45	11	504
Michigan	21	21	11	44	4	657
Montana	20	10	10	47	12	479
North Carolina	20	17	16	41	6	616

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	11	17	21	34	17	4454
Alaska	13	15	17	34	22	455
Arkansas	7	8	16	46	24	461
Colorado	9	18	23	37	13	601
Iowa	13	23	26	22	16	681
Louisiana	11	13	19	38	20	504
Michigan	13	20	25	29	13	657
Montana	9	10	14	39	27	479
North Carolina	12	23	23	32	9	616

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

	Yes	No	Unsure	N
Likely Voters	64	29	7	4454
Alaska	42	47	11	455
Arkansas	60	35	4	461
Colorado	68	25	6	601
Iowa	75	18	6	681
Louisiana	67	26	7	504
Michigan	61	31	8	657
Montana	61	33	6	479
North Carolina	70	23	7	616

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	49	39	9	3	2855
Alaska	43	45	9	3	192
Arkansas	47	36	10	6	279
Colorado	48	40	8	4	411
Iowa	52	38	7	3	514
Louisiana	41	47	9	3	339
Michigan	49	36	13	2	398
Montana	53	37	8	2	294
North Carolina	52	35	8	4	429

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	13	39	48	4454
Alaska	17	25	58	455
Arkansas	14	23	62	461
Colorado	14	44	41	601
Iowa	10	51	39	681
Louisiana	14	29	57	504
Michigan	12	47	41	657
Montana	10	29	61	479
North Carolina	17	48	36	616

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

	The Republican Party	The Democratic Party	Undecided	N
Likely Voters	42	34	24	4454
Alaska	36	32	32	455
Arkansas	40	25	35	461
Colorado	49	29	22	601
Iowa	41	38	21	681
Louisiana	41	36	23	504
Michigan	44	36	19	657
Montana	39	34	26	479
North Carolina	45	37	18	616

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	54	24	13	10	4454
Alaska	38	28	16	19	455
Arkansas	57	20	8	14	461
Colorado	62	19	13	5	601
Iowa	47	27	19	7	681
Louisiana	54	26	9	12	504
Michigan	60	23	12	5	657
Montana	49	23	12	16	479
North Carolina	59	24	13	4	616

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	47	26	15	12	4454
Alaska	34	28	16	22	455
Arkansas	50	21	13	16	461
Colorado	55	24	15	7	601
Iowa	39	31	20	10	681
Louisiana	46	29	12	14	504
Michigan	53	25	16	7	657
Montana	44	22	13	22	479
North Carolina	52	29	14	5	616

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	47	26	15	12	4454
Alaska	36	26	16	22	455
Arkansas	51	21	11	17	461
Colorado	56	24	15	6	601
Iowa	38	30	22	10	681
Louisiana	46	30	11	13	504
Michigan	50	27	16	7	657
Montana	45	22	13	20	479
North Carolina	53	29	12	6	616

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	15	17	35	17	17	4454
Alaska	17	17	35	11	21	455
Arkansas	16	13	40	7	24	461
Colorado	16	15	33	19	16	601
Iowa	12	20	30	24	15	681
Louisiana	17	17	38	9	19	504
Michigan	12	17	35	22	15	657
Montana	16	15	35	15	19	479
North Carolina	16	17	33	20	14	616

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	22	52	14	12	4454
Alaska	18	43	22	17	455
Arkansas	32	40	11	18	461
Colorado	26	53	13	8	601
Iowa	17	57	15	11	681
Louisiana	21	56	12	12	504
Michigan	23	57	12	7	657
Montana	17	51	16	16	479
North Carolina	25	52	16	8	616

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	41	19	40	4454
Alaska	29	25	46	455
Arkansas	34	16	49	461
Colorado	47	21	32	601
Iowa	44	16	40	681
Louisiana	41	20	39	504
Michigan	42	17	41	657
Montana	32	25	43	479
North Carolina	50	16	35	616

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	14	18	37	16	15	4454
Alaska	17	17	35	9	22	455
Arkansas	17	15	34	8	26	461
Colorado	17	20	37	17	9	601
Iowa	8	18	34	26	13	681
Louisiana	18	16	40	9	17	504
Michigan	11	20	39	20	10	657
Montana	15	13	34	17	20	479
North Carolina	14	20	44	14	9	616

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	21	51	15	13	4454
Alaska	18	40	21	21	455
Arkansas	31	38	10	20	461
Colorado	24	50	16	11	601
Iowa	14	58	17	11	681
Louisiana	23	55	11	10	504
Michigan	19	60	14	7	657
Montana	16	49	15	19	479
North Carolina	25	53	15	7	616

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

	Republican Party	Democratic Party	Undecided	N
Likely Voters	39	37	23	4454
Alaska	38	33	29	455
Arkansas	41	26	32	461
Colorado	33	46	22	601
Iowa	43	34	23	681
Louisiana	39	38	23	504
Michigan	40	40	20	657
Montana	43	33	25	479
North Carolina	39	44	17	616

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

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Something Else	N
Likely Voters	32	33	29	5	4454
Alaska	30	21	41	8	455
Arkansas	26	28	34	12	461
Colorado	38	26	32	4	601
Iowa	32	38	28	2	681
Louisiana	36	44	15	4	504
Michigan	29	35	32	3	657
Montana	33	27	31	9	479
North Carolina	33	39	24	4	616