



PARAGON INSIGHTS  
NORTH CAROLINA SENIORS POLL:  
MARCH 2014

TOPLINE RESULTS

Methodology:

THIS POLL WAS CONDUCTED FROM MARCH 3-6, 2014, AMONG A SAMPLE OF 616 LIKELY VOTERS 65 YEARS AND OLDER ON TRADITIONAL MEDICARE OR A MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN IN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA. 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 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	40	45	15	616
Males	38	50	12	255
Females	41	42	17	361
Age: 65-69	39	50	11	206
Age: 70-74	38	49	12	239
Age 75-84	39	42	19	171
Age: 85+	49	32	19	129
Republicans	6	83	10	221
Democrats	84	8	8	195
Income: Under 50k	40	44	16	445
Income: 50k or over	40	49	11	171
High School or Less	41	43	15	381
Some College	36	49	15	124
College Graduate+	40	46	14	111
ACA: Approve	85	8	7	225
ACA: Disapprove	11	72	17	353
2012 Vote: Romney	7	82	12	318
2012 Vote: Obama	82	4	14	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	100	0	0	246
2014 Vote: Republican	0	100	0	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	0	0	100	92

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	616
Males	75	25	255
Females	63	37	361
Age: 65-69	66	34	206
Age: 70-74	74	26	239
Age 75-84	66	34	171
Age: 85+	59	41	129
Republicans	67	33	221
Democrats	69	31	195
Income: Under 50k	68	32	445
Income: 50k or over	68	32	171
High School or Less	68	32	381
Some College	67	33	124
College Graduate+	69	31	111
ACA: Approve	72	28	225
ACA: Disapprove	63	37	353
2012 Vote: Romney	64	36	318
2012 Vote: Obama	71	29	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	71	29	246
2014 Vote: Republican	66	34	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	66	34	92

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	50	35	11	3	419
Males	49	38	9	4	192
Females	52	33	12	3	227
Age: 65-69	35	46	16	3	139
Age: 70-74	50	36	10	5	166
Age 75-84	58	30	10	2	115
Age: 85+	61	25	10	4	85
Republicans	38	45	14	3	164
Democrats	60	31	6	3	128
Income: Under 50k	47	38	12	3	303
Income: 50k or over	60	28	8	5	116
High School or Less	50	36	11	3	259
Some College	45	41	10	4	84
College Graduate+	59	25	12	4	76
ACA: Approve	66	28	6	0	162
ACA: Disapprove	37	41	16	6	223
2012 Vote: Romney	35	45	17	4	202
2012 Vote: Obama	69	24	5	3	187
2014 Vote: Democrat	67	26	5	3	175
2014 Vote: Republican	33	46	16	4	184

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	46	38	419
Males	16	48	36	192
Females	16	44	40	227
Age: 65-69	16	53	30	139
Age: 70-74	14	53	33	166
Age 75-84	15	37	48	115
Age: 85+	27	30	43	85
Republicans	8	70	23	164
Democrats	28	24	49	128
Income: Under 50k	17	49	34	303
Income: 50k or over	13	38	50	116
High School or Less	19	48	33	259
Some College	14	46	41	84
College Graduate+	10	38	52	76
ACA: Approve	37	15	48	162
ACA: Disapprove	2	72	25	223
2012 Vote: Romney	3	73	23	202
2012 Vote: Obama	31	13	56	187
2014 Vote: Democrat	31	17	52	175
2014 Vote: Republican	4	78	18	184

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	58	29	10	3	197
Females	58	31	9	1	134
Income: Under 50k	57	29	11	3	142
High School or Less	58	27	12	3	122
ACA: Disapprove	64	23	12	1	130
2012 Vote: Romney	68	21	10	1	116
2014 Vote: Republican	72	21	5	2	95

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	15	52	33	197
Females	17	45	37	134
Income: Under 50k	16	52	32	142
High School or Less	14	55	31	122
ACA: Disapprove	11	66	23	130
2012 Vote: Romney	11	66	23	116
2014 Vote: Republican	7	72	21	95

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	17	16	41	6	616
Males	22	15	12	44	6	255
Females	18	18	18	39	6	361
Age: 65-69	22	19	13	42	3	206
Age: 70-74	19	17	15	44	5	239
Age 75-84	18	15	19	41	7	171
Age: 85+	22	18	14	34	11	129
Republicans	1	9	17	71	2	221
Democrats	40	30	12	11	7	195
Income: Under 50k	16	19	16	40	8	445
Income: 50k or over	29	10	15	44	2	171
High School or Less	16	19	18	40	8	381
Some College	21	14	15	44	7	124
College Graduate+	31	14	10	44	1	111
ACA: Approve	54	46	0	0	0	225
ACA: Disapprove	0	0	28	72	0	353
2012 Vote: Romney	1	4	20	74	2	318
2012 Vote: Obama	46	32	9	4	9	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	48	30	10	7	6	246
2014 Vote: Republican	0	7	17	74	2	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	5	12	30	35	18	92

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	12	23	23	32	9	616
Males	15	20	25	34	7	255
Females	11	26	22	31	10	361
Age: 65-69	11	26	20	38	5	206
Age: 70-74	11	23	24	34	8	239
Age 75-84	14	21	23	32	10	171
Age: 85+	14	28	22	18	18	129
Republicans	1	15	27	55	2	221
Democrats	24	37	19	9	11	195
Income: Under 50k	13	26	22	31	9	445
Income: 50k or over	11	18	26	36	9	171
High School or Less	11	26	24	32	7	381
Some College	13	21	22	33	11	124
College Graduate+	14	17	22	33	13	111
ACA: Approve	32	45	11	0	12	225
ACA: Disapprove	0	10	31	55	3	353
2012 Vote: Romney	0	10	29	58	2	318
2012 Vote: Obama	29	39	12	3	17	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	29	39	15	4	14	246
2014 Vote: Republican	0	12	28	58	2	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	4	18	29	31	17	92

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

	Yes	No	Unsure	N
Likely Voters	70	23	7	616
Males	68	25	7	255
Females	71	22	7	361
Age: 65-69	67	27	6	206
Age: 70-74	69	25	6	239
Age 75-84	72	19	9	171
Age: 85+	69	21	10	129
Republicans	68	23	9	221
Democrats	72	19	9	195
Income: Under 50k	71	21	8	445
Income: 50k or over	66	29	5	171
High School or Less	71	20	9	381
Some College	69	27	4	124
College Graduate+	66	30	4	111
ACA: Approve	65	25	10	225
ACA: Disapprove	72	23	5	353
2012 Vote: Romney	70	24	6	318
2012 Vote: Obama	69	21	9	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	67	24	10	246
2014 Vote: Republican	69	25	6	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	81	16	4	92

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	52	35	8	4	429
Males	48	38	8	7	173
Females	55	34	9	2	256
Age: 65-69	52	36	11	2	140
Age: 70-74	42	40	9	10	172
Age 75-84	58	33	8	1	117
Age: 85+	69	28	3	0	87
Republicans	40	45	10	5	152
Democrats	66	28	3	3	140
Income: Under 50k	51	36	9	5	316
Income: 50k or over	55	35	7	3	113
High School or Less	56	33	9	2	270
Some College	45	39	8	8	86
ACA: Approve	75	22	2	1	148
ACA: Disapprove	39	43	12	6	253
2012 Vote: Romney	43	42	10	5	221
2012 Vote: Obama	65	26	6	4	182
2014 Vote: Democrat	68	26	3	3	164
2014 Vote: Republican	42	43	9	5	191

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	48	36	616
Males	21	46	33	255
Females	13	49	38	361
Age: 65-69	23	51	26	206
Age: 70-74	18	52	29	239
Age 75-84	11	45	44	171
Age: 85+	15	36	49	129
Republicans	15	46	38	221
Democrats	16	49	35	195
Income: Under 50k	17	48	35	445
Income: 50k or over	15	47	38	171
High School or Less	15	49	36	381
Some College	23	42	35	124
College Graduate+	16	50	35	111
ACA: Approve	15	57	28	225
ACA: Disapprove	19	41	40	353
2012 Vote: Romney	19	41	40	318
2012 Vote: Obama	13	55	31	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	16	51	33	246
2014 Vote: Republican	19	42	39	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	11	55	34	92

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

	The Republican Party	The Democratic Party	Undecided	N
Likely Voters	45	37	18	616
Males	48	37	15	255
Females	43	37	19	361
Age: 65-69	51	35	14	206
Age: 70-74	45	37	18	239
Age 75-84	42	38	19	171
Age: 85+	45	38	17	129
Republicans	81	7	12	221
Democrats	13	75	12	195
Income: Under 50k	43	36	21	445
Income: 50k or over	51	39	10	171
High School or Less	46	34	20	381
Some College	42	42	16	124
College Graduate+	48	41	11	111
ACA: Approve	14	78	8	225
ACA: Disapprove	68	10	21	353
2012 Vote: Romney	78	7	15	318
2012 Vote: Obama	8	76	16	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	11	81	8	246
2014 Vote: Republican	84	6	10	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	21	13	65	92

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	59	24	13	4	616
Males	59	21	15	5	255
Females	60	25	12	3	361
Age: 65-69	66	23	9	2	206
Age: 70-74	61	25	11	3	239
Age 75-84	60	19	17	4	171
Age: 85+	42	34	14	10	129
Republicans	82	13	4	1	221
Democrats	40	35	22	4	195
Income: Under 50k	63	23	11	3	445
Income: 50k or over	51	25	18	6	171
High School or Less	63	25	9	3	381
Some College	57	23	16	3	124
College Graduate+	51	20	21	8	111
ACA: Approve	30	36	29	5	225
ACA: Disapprove	81	16	2	1	353
2012 Vote: Romney	82	14	3	1	318
2012 Vote: Obama	30	36	26	7	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	33	35	26	6	246
2014 Vote: Republican	82	15	2	1	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	63	19	13	6	92

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	52	29	14	5	616
Males	57	25	14	5	255
Females	49	32	15	5	361
Age: 65-69	53	32	11	5	206
Age: 70-74	60	23	13	4	239
Age 75-84	50	28	16	6	171
Age: 85+	35	44	18	3	129
Republicans	80	17	3	0	221
Democrats	25	44	24	6	195
Income: Under 50k	54	32	12	3	445
Income: 50k or over	49	22	21	8	171
High School or Less	53	35	10	2	381
Some College	53	22	16	9	124
College Graduate+	49	17	24	10	111
ACA: Approve	17	45	28	10	225
ACA: Disapprove	78	19	3	1	353
2012 Vote: Romney	81	16	2	1	318
2012 Vote: Obama	17	46	27	10	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	20	43	26	10	246
2014 Vote: Republican	83	15	2	1	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	45	34	19	3	92

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	53	29	12	6	616
Males	55	25	15	6	255
Females	52	31	11	6	361
Age: 65-69	53	29	12	6	206
Age: 70-74	57	27	12	4	239
Age 75-84	52	29	12	7	171
Age: 85+	45	34	15	6	129
Republicans	76	22	2	0	221
Democrats	30	41	21	8	195
Income: Under 50k	56	30	11	4	445
Income: 50k or over	45	26	17	11	171
High School or Less	55	34	10	2	381
Some College	54	23	14	9	124
College Graduate+	46	19	21	14	111
ACA: Approve	18	42	28	12	225
ACA: Disapprove	78	19	2	1	353
2012 Vote: Romney	79	18	2	1	318
2012 Vote: Obama	21	42	26	12	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	24	40	25	11	246
2014 Vote: Republican	80	18	1	1	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	50	30	15	4	92

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	16	17	33	20	14	616
Males	22	18	27	22	11	255
Females	11	17	37	18	17	361
Age: 65-69	19	16	38	13	14	206
Age: 70-74	18	14	31	25	11	239
Age 75-84	9	21	33	21	17	171
Age: 85+	20	20	30	13	17	129
Republicans	20	9	50	12	10	221
Democrats	15	29	15	23	19	195
Income: Under 50k	12	18	35	19	16	445
Income: 50k or over	24	16	28	22	10	171
High School or Less	18	17	32	16	16	381
Some College	10	17	38	23	12	124
College Graduate+	13	18	30	26	12	111
ACA: Approve	14	34	9	26	17	225
ACA: Disapprove	17	8	51	14	10	353
2012 Vote: Romney	18	7	54	13	8	318
2012 Vote: Obama	14	31	9	27	19	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	15	31	10	25	20	246
2014 Vote: Republican	19	7	54	11	9	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	7	13	33	32	16	92

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	25	52	16	8	616
Males	18	53	20	8	255
Females	29	51	13	7	361
Age: 65-69	21	57	18	5	206
Age: 70-74	30	50	17	4	239
Age 75-84	25	51	12	12	171
Age: 85+	17	52	18	13	129
Republicans	27	61	9	3	221
Democrats	24	41	24	12	195
Income: Under 50k	28	51	14	6	445
Income: 50k or over	16	53	19	11	171
High School or Less	29	51	15	6	381
Some College	25	54	14	7	124
College Graduate+	11	54	20	16	111
ACA: Approve	19	39	28	15	225
ACA: Disapprove	28	61	8	2	353
2012 Vote: Romney	28	62	8	2	318
2012 Vote: Obama	19	41	26	14	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	24	37	26	13	246
2014 Vote: Republican	26	63	8	2	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	25	57	9	9	92

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	50	16	35	616
Males	51	18	31	255
Females	49	14	37	361
Age: 65-69	46	24	30	206
Age: 70-74	56	13	32	239
Age 75-84	49	14	38	171
Age: 85+	42	14	44	129
Republicans	42	17	40	221
Democrats	55	13	33	195
Income: Under 50k	53	13	34	445
Income: 50k or over	42	23	35	171
High School or Less	52	12	36	381
Some College	44	18	38	124
College Graduate+	47	25	28	111
ACA: Approve	56	12	32	225
ACA: Disapprove	45	19	36	353
2012 Vote: Romney	44	21	34	318
2012 Vote: Obama	56	9	35	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	58	8	34	246
2014 Vote: Republican	42	24	34	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	51	9	39	92

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	20	44	14	9	616
Males	19	20	40	15	6	255
Females	10	20	46	13	11	361
Age: 65-69	17	21	41	15	7	206
Age: 70-74	17	17	47	14	5	239
Age 75-84	9	21	42	14	14	171
Age: 85+	10	24	43	11	12	129
Republicans	14	9	65	7	5	221
Democrats	14	33	22	20	11	195
Income: Under 50k	10	18	46	15	10	445
Income: 50k or over	22	23	36	12	6	171
High School or Less	14	20	47	10	10	381
Some College	13	19	40	22	7	124
College Graduate+	14	21	38	19	8	111
ACA: Approve	9	41	14	24	11	225
ACA: Disapprove	17	6	64	7	5	353
2012 Vote: Romney	16	7	66	8	3	318
2012 Vote: Obama	11	36	17	21	14	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	11	38	18	20	13	246
2014 Vote: Republican	17	7	65	7	4	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	11	9	47	17	15	92

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	25	53	15	7	616
Males	25	50	18	7	255
Females	25	55	12	7	361
Age: 65-69	23	52	17	8	206
Age: 70-74	30	54	13	3	239
Age 75-84	24	53	11	12	171
Age: 85+	21	51	24	5	129
Republicans	27	60	10	2	221
Democrats	22	47	19	11	195
Income: Under 50k	27	54	15	5	445
Income: 50k or over	21	50	14	14	171
High School or Less	28	52	15	5	381
Some College	26	56	12	6	124
College Graduate+	14	50	18	17	111
ACA: Approve	13	50	23	14	225
ACA: Disapprove	33	55	9	3	353
2012 Vote: Romney	31	58	9	2	318
2012 Vote: Obama	18	48	21	13	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	20	45	22	14	246
2014 Vote: Republican	30	58	9	3	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	26	59	11	4	92

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

	Republican Party	Democratic Party	Undecided	N
Likely Voters	39	44	17	616
Males	40	48	12	255
Females	38	42	21	361
Age: 65-69	37	51	12	206
Age: 70-74	39	46	15	239
Age 75-84	37	43	20	171
Age: 85+	45	32	23	129
Republicans	6	85	9	221
Democrats	76	10	14	195
Income: Under 50k	37	43	20	445
Income: 50k or over	43	47	10	171
High School or Less	38	44	19	381
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ACA: Approve	84	7	9	225
ACA: Disapprove	10	71	19	353
2012 Vote: Romney	6	80	14	318
2012 Vote: Obama	80	4	16	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	85	4	11	246
2014 Vote: Republican	3	87	10	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	20	24	56	92

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

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Something Else	N
Likely Voters	33	39	24	4	616
Males	33	36	27	4	255
Females	34	41	21	4	361
Age: 65-69	35	42	21	2	206
Age: 70-74	31	38	26	5	239
Age 75-84	36	37	21	6	171
Age: 85+	30	41	29	0	129
Republicans	100	0	0	0	221
Democrats	0	100	0	0	195
Income: Under 50k	35	38	22	5	445
Income: 50k or over	29	41	28	2	171
High School or Less	36	42	19	3	381
Some College	29	34	32	5	124
College Graduate+	30	34	32	5	111
ACA: Approve	9	74	15	2	225
ACA: Disapprove	51	16	29	4	353
2012 Vote: Romney	57	10	30	3	318
2012 Vote: Obama	7	74	15	4	262
2014 Vote: Democrat	5	82	11	2	246
2014 Vote: Republican	62	7	29	2	278
2014 Vote: Undecided	23	20	43	14	92