

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Jeff Horwitt, Hart Research Associates
DATE: November 7, 2019
RE: Key Poll Findings

From October 21 to 26, 2019, Hart Research Associates conducted an online survey of 1,000 adults nationwide. Oversamples of African-American men and women, and Hispanic men and women were conducted to reach 200 interviews among each group, for a total of 1,510 interviews. The following memorandum highlights the key findings from the survey conducted on behalf of the Women's Alzheimer's Movement and Caring Across Generations.

Most Americans do not believe there are enough caregivers in the country right now and see this as a problem that will become worse in the future.

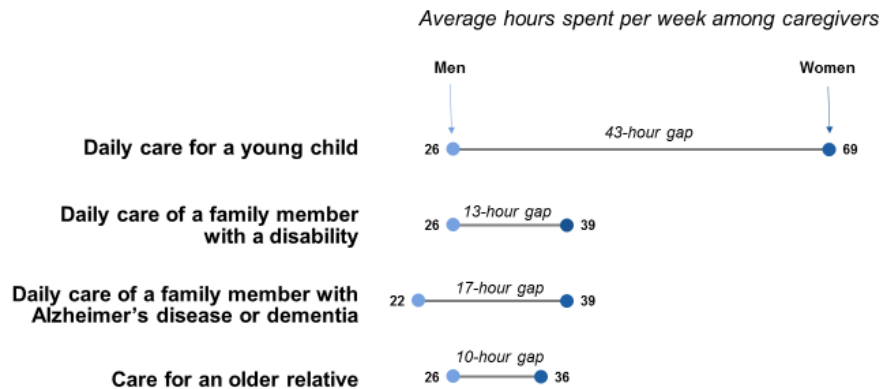
- Fully 73% of Americans believe that there are not enough caregiving professionals to take care of those in need now or in the future, including a majority (56%) who believe there are not enough caregivers right now. Women, who are much more likely than men to devote more time to being caregivers, are also much more likely to believe that there is a caregiving crisis right now (65% to 48%).

Two in three Americans are part of a nation of Caregivers, which spans across partisan lines. For most, their caregiving equates to a part- or full-time job in terms of the hours they devote to it. Women who have been caregivers devote many more hours on average to caregiving than men, including as Alzheimer's/dementia caregivers, which for women is a full-time job.

- Two in three Americans (66%) say they have provided care for an older relative, stay-at-home care for a preschool child, daily care for a disabled family member, or daily care for a family member with Alzheimer's or dementia. The caregiving experience is a common bond across the country, with large majorities of Democrats (62%), independents (66%), and Republicans (70%) standing together united as a nation of Caregivers.
- On average, caregivers estimate that they spend nearly 36 hours per week providing care. And for many this is on top of their job since 69% of caregivers are employed, including 55% who are employed full-time.

- Among caregivers, women devote many more hours to caregiving than men, including Alzheimer's/dementia caregivers, among whom women devote on average 39 hours per week on care compared to 22 hours for men. Outside of daily care for a young child, the gender gap between the hours devoted to caregiving is widest for Alzheimer's/dementia caregivers, with women on average devoting 17 more hours per week than men.

Women spend many more hours per week on caregiving responsibilities than men do.



While America's caregivers are most likely to say they feel loved and appreciated for their caregiving, many, particularly women, also say they are stressed and overwhelmed.

- Men and women have different views on their caregiving responsibilities, with men most likely to say they feel loved (48%) and appreciated (41%), but women are most likely to say they feel stressed (44%) and overwhelmed (42%).

Significant proportions of caregivers say that their caregiving responsibilities negatively impact their ability to be an active and engaged citizen.

- Caregivers report that their responsibilities negatively impact their ability to participate fully as citizens, including having a hard time keeping up with news and current events (36%), not feeling informed enough to vote in elections (33%), and 20% have not voted in an election because their caregiving responsibilities made it too difficult.

Hart Research Associates

Americans are much more likely to support a candidate who prioritizes caregiving, including funding for Alzheimer’s and dementia research, as well as support for caregivers, access to quality childcare, and universal paid family leave.

- Majorities of Americans say they would be more likely to support a candidate who prioritizes improving the quality of care provided to people as they get older and support for their caregivers (85%), funding for Alzheimer’s and dementia research (74%), access to quality childcare (68%), and universal paid family leave (67%).

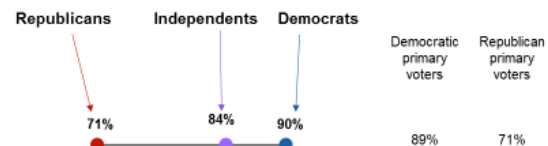
An overwhelming majority support the creation of a federal program that would address caregiving needs, which all Americans would pay into and could access. And many Americans say they would participate in this program.

- Specifically, a majority of Americans support a federal program that everyone pays into and everyone could access for support including child care, paid family leave, long term care for a disability, and care for a family member as they get older (82% support overall). Not only do 4 in 5 Americans support this program, but it enjoys majority broad-based support across partisan lines.

Majority of Americans across party lines support a federal program that all would pay into and could access for caregiving needs.

Proportion Who Support Proposal:

Providing families with greater support for their care-giving needs through a **federal program that everyone pays into and everyone could access** as needed. This would include support for child care, paid family leave, long-term care for a disability, and care for a family member as they get older.



- Most Americans (78%) say they would participate in a federal government program to support caregiving that everyone pays into and everyone could access, including 38% who say they are very likely to do so.

Hart Research Associates

On the personal side, most Americans do not have a long-term care plan in place for them, say they have not set aside any money for long-term care, and when they learn that the average American will incur \$138,000 in long-term care costs, they feel unprepared. Women report that they are even less prepared.

- Only 34% of Americans say they have a long-term care plan in place for them, and just 29% of women say this is the case.
- Two in three (66%) Americans have not started saving any money for long-term care and that jumps to 74% among women. Older Americans are not significantly more likely to have started saving for long-term care—65% of seniors and 72% of 50- to 64-year-olds report that they have not started saving for long-term care.
- When informed about the average cost of long-term care, 65% of Americans say they are unprepared to afford long-term care. This includes 62% of seniors and 74% of 50- to 64-year-olds. And fully 73% of women say they are unprepared to afford long-term care.

Most Americans do not know that Alzheimer’s Disease affects women more than men, and the vast majority of Americans do not discuss brain or cognitive health with their doctors.

- Just 17% of Americans believe that women are more likely than men to get Alzheimer’s Disease.
- While a majority of Americans say they discuss physical fitness (67%), heart health (62%), and mental health (51%) with their doctors when they go for their annual visit, just 34% say they discuss brain or cognitive health with their doctor. And for those who do discuss brain or cognitive health, 58% say they bring it up with their doctor first, rather than their doctor raising it with them.