

# The Road Ahead: Driving Behaviors, Confidence, and Planning Among Adults Age 65+



November / December 2025

[www.healthyagingpoll.org](http://www.healthyagingpoll.org)



## Q1. In the past 6 months, how often have you driven a vehicle?

1. Most days
2. At least once a week
3. Less than once a week
4. Never

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If Q1 = 4

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## Q2. What are the reasons you have not driven in the past 6 months?

Select all that apply.

1. No longer safe for me to drive
2. Don't have a vehicle
3. No reason to drive
4. I don't know how to drive/have never driven
5. Don't have a driver's license
6. Spouse, friend, or family member took away my license or keys
7. Health issue
8. Another reason

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If Q1 = 1, 2, or 3

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## Q3. Do you avoid driving during any of the following times or conditions?

Select all that apply.

1. At night
2. In bad weather (rain, snow, fog, etc.)
3. In heavy traffic
4. On freeways / interstates
5. In new / unfamiliar places
6. None of the above



If Q1 = 1, 2, or 3

**Q4. There may come a time when you are no longer able to drive.**

**How much have you thought about what you will do for transportation if you are no longer able to drive safely?**

1. A lot
2. Some
3. Very little
4. Not at all

If Q1 = 1, 2, or 3

**Q5. Do any of the following currently impact your ability to drive?**

**Select all that apply.**

1. Physical / mobility limitations
2. Vision issues
3. Hearing issues
4. Issues with thinking, processing, or decision-making
5. Temporary health issue (e.g., surgery, injury)
6. None of the above

If Q1 = 1, 2, or 3

**Q6. How confident are you in your current ability to drive safely?**

1. Very confident
2. Somewhat confident
3. Not very confident

**Q10. In the past year, have you used any of the following?**

	Yes	No	NA – Not available where I live
Public transportation			
Rideshare services (such as Uber, Lyft or taxi)			

If Q1 = 1, 2, or 3

**Q7. How confident are you in your ability to drive safely in the next five years?**

1. Very confident
2. Somewhat confident
3. Not very confident

If Q1 = 1, 2, or 3

**Q8. Have you ever talked with a health care provider about your driving?**

1. Yes
2. No

If Q1 = 1, 2, or 3

**Q9. Do you have a plan in place if you were no longer able to drive (e.g., have family / friends drive you, use ridesharing services)?**

1. Yes
2. No



**Q11. In the past year, have you received rides from family and friends to places you needed to go?**

1. Yes
2. No

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If Q1 = 2, 3, or 4

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**Q12. In the past year, did you have any transportation-related challenges getting to your health care appointments?**

1. Yes
2. No

**Q13. How familiar are you with the concept of an advance driving directive?**

1. Very familiar
2. Somewhat familiar
3. Not familiar

**Q14. An advance driving directive (ADD) is a written plan outlining your driving preferences in case of future health issues or impairments, it allows a driver to identify a person(s) to help them decide about when to stop driving. An ADD would not be legally binding; rather, its intent is to facilitate discussions and decisions about driving in the future.**

**How important do you think it is to have an advance driving directive?**

1. Very important
2. Somewhat important
3. Not important

## Data Source and Methods

This National Poll on Healthy Aging report presents findings from a national household survey conducted exclusively by NORC at the University of Chicago for the University of Michigan's Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation. This survey module was administered online and by phone from February 4th–28th, 2025, to a randomly selected, stratified group of U.S. adults age 50–97 (n=2,883), with an oversample of non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic, and Asian and Pacific Islander populations. The survey completion rate was 32% among panel members invited to participate. The margin of error is +/- 1 to 3 percentage points for questions asked of the full sample and higher among subgroups.

The sample for the Michigan Poll on Healthy Aging included Michigan respondents ages 50–95 (n=351) from the AmeriSpeak probability-based panel, and 1,002 from non-probability panels. The survey completion rate was 34% among probability-based panel members in Michigan that were invited to participate. The margin of error is +/- 1 to 4 percentage points for questions asked of the full Michigan sample and higher among subgroups.

Read [past National Poll on Healthy Aging reports](#) and [about the poll methodology](#).

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