



*Toplines*

***Update on the Public's Views of Nursing Homes  
and Long-Term Care Services***

**December 2007**

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### **Methodology**

The *Update on the Public's Views of Nursing Homes and Long-Term Care Services* was designed and analyzed by researchers at the Kaiser Family Foundation. The survey was conducted from October 1-10, 2007, among a nationally representative random sample of 1,032 adults ages 18 and older, including 675 adults ages 18-64 and 326 adults ages 65 and older. Telephone interviews were carried out in English and Spanish by Princeton Survey Research Associates.

The margin of sampling error for the full survey is plus or minus 4 percentage points; for results based on subgroups, the margin of sampling error is higher. Note that sampling error is only one of many potential sources of error in this or any other public opinion poll.

Values less than 0.5% are indicated by an asterisk (\*).

“VOL” indicates that a response was volunteered by respondent, not an explicitly offered choice.

Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100.

Note: Question 1 was previously released

**READ TO ALL:** I'd like to ask you some questions about services for seniors and others who are ill or disabled, who need help taking care of themselves for an extended period of time.

2. During the past five years, do you think that the quality of nursing homes in this country has gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?

<u>Total</u>	<u>18-64</u>	<u>65+</u>	
14	13	16	Gotten better
31	32	27	Gotten worse
32	31	36	Stayed about the same
24	24	22	Don't know/Refused

**Q3 and Q4 were rotated.**

3. How concerned are you, if at all, about the quality of nursing home care available in this country today? Are you **(READ)**

<u>Total</u>	<u>18-64</u>	<u>65+</u>	
51	50	56	Very concerned
35	37	26	Somewhat concerned
8	8	8	Not too concerned
4	4	7	Not at all concerned
2	2	3	Don't know/Refused

4. How concerned are you, if at all, about the quality of care provided to seniors and people with disabilities living at home who need help taking care of themselves? Are you **(READ)**

<u>Total</u>	<u>18-64</u>	<u>65+</u>	
59	58	63	Very concerned
33	34	24	Somewhat concerned
5	5	5	Not too concerned
2	2	6	Not at all concerned
2	2	2	Don't know/Refused

5. When you get older, if you become unable to care for yourself for an extended period of time, which of the following would you prefer... **(READ)**

<u>Total</u>	<u>18-64</u>	<u>65+</u>	
53	51	64	To receive care in your home
21	24	10	To move in with family
4	4	4	To move into a nursing home
17	17	17	To move into an assisted living facility
2	2	4	None of the above/Other <b>(VOL.)</b>
2	2	1	Don't know/Refused

6. I'm going to read you some statements people have made about nursing homes. For each one, please tell me if you agree or disagree with the statement. (First/Next,) **(READ AND RANDOMIZE)**. **(IF AGREE/DISAGREE: Is that strongly agree/disagree or somewhat agree/disagree?)**

		<u>Strongly agree</u>	<u>Somewhat agree</u>	<u>Somewhat disagree</u>	<u>Strongly disagree</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a. They provide high-quality services for people who need them	<b>Total:</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>
	18-64:	12	39	22	18	8
	65+:	14	31	16	23	16
b. They provide an affordable way for people who need round-the-clock care to be able to get it	<b>Total:</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>9</b>
	18-64:	21	35	15	22	8
	65+:	23	28	14	24	10
c. The staff at nursing homes are often poorly trained	<b>Total:</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>
	18-64:	34	29	17	8	12
	65+:	43	24	11	6	16
d. They have staff who are concerned about the well-being of their patients	<b>Total:</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>
	18-64:	18	50	13	12	8
	65+:	20	41	12	14	13
e. There is not enough government regulation of the quality of nursing homes	<b>Total:</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>
	18-64:	44	23	10	9	14
	65+:	40	15	11	11	22
f. Nursing homes don't have enough staff	<b>Total:</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>
	18-64:	53	22	9	3	12
	65+:	56	19	6	5	14
g. Nursing homes are a decent place to stay	<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>10</b>
	18-64:	7	38	22	24	9
	65+:	12	39	14	23	13

7. At any time during the past three years, was a member of your immediate family or someone you know well a resident in a nursing home?

<u>Total</u>	<u>18-64</u>	<u>65+</u>	
50	50	53	Yes
50	50	47	No
*	*	*	Don't know/Refused

8. And at any time during the past three years, was a member of your immediate family or someone you know well receiving care either at home or in another type of facility, such as assisted living, because they needed help taking care of themselves for an extended period of time?

**(INTERVIEWER NOTE:** If respondent says they know someone who received help from a family member at home, say, “We’re interested in care provided by someone other than a family member, such as a professional home health aide or nurse.”)

<u>Total</u>	<u>18-64</u>	<u>65+</u>	
53	54	50	Yes
46	45	49	No
1	1	1	Don't know/Refused

Q7/8 Summary

<u>Total</u>	<u>18-64</u>	<u>65+</u>	
68	68	69	Friend/family either in nursing home or long-term care
31	31	30	Friend/family neither in nursing home nor long-term care
1	1	1	Don't know/Refused

**DEMOGRAPHICS (ASK ALL):**

**(READ)** Finally, I have just a few questions we will use to describe the people who took part in our survey...

**D1. RESPONDENT'S SEX**

- 48 Male
- 52 Female

**D2. What is your age? (RECORD EXACT AGE AS TWO-DIGIT CODE.)**

\_\_\_\_\_ years

- 21 18-29
- 34 30-49
- 25 50-64
- 16 65 and older
- 3 Undesignated
  
- 56 Total Under 50
- 41 Total 50 and older

**D3. In politics today, do you consider yourself a [ROTATE: Republican, Democrat/Democrat, Republican], an Independent, or what?**

- 24 Republican
- 35 Democrat
- 30 Independent
- 5 Other/None
- 4 Don't know
- 3 Refused

**D3. In politics today, do you consider yourself a [ROTATE: Republican, Democrat/Democrat, Republican], an Independent, or what?**

**D3b. Do you lean more towards the [ROTATE: Republican Party or the Democratic Party/Democratic Party or the Republican Party]?**

Party ID including Leaners

- 34 Republican/Lean Republican
- 47 Democrat/Lean Democrat
- 19 Refused to Lean

D4. Some people are registered to vote and others are not. Are you currently registered to vote at your present address?

- 80 Yes
- 19 No
- 1 Don't know/Refused

D5. Would you say your views in most political matters are liberal, moderate or conservative?

- 22 Liberal
- 36 Moderate
- 32 Conservative
- 7 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 2 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

D6. What is the LAST grade or class that you COMPLETED in school? **(DO NOT READ)**

- 3 None, or grade 1-8
- 11 High school incomplete (grades 9-11)
- 32 High school graduate (grade 12 or GED certificate)
- 3 Technical, trade or vocational school AFTER high school
- 23 Some college, no four-year degree (includes associate degree)
- 15 College graduate (B.S., B.A., or other four-year degree)
- 11 Post-graduate or professional schooling after college (e.g., toward a Master's degree or Ph.D; law or medical school)
- 1 Refused

D7. Are you currently married, living with a partner, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

- 54 Married
- 6 Living with a partner
- 9 Divorced
- 3 Separated
- 7 Widowed
- 20 Never been married
- 2 Undesignated

D8. Are you, yourself, of Hispanic or Latino background, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

D9. What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian or some other race? **(IF RESPONDENT SAYS HISPANIC ASK: Do you consider yourself a white Hispanic or a black Hispanic?)**

- 70 White, Non Hispanic
- 28 Total Non-White
  - 11 Black or African-American
  - 12 Hispanic
    - 3 Asian
    - 3 Other or mixed race
  - 2 Undesignated

D10. Last year -- that is, in 2006 -- what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes? Just stop me when I get to the right category. **(READ)**

- 16 Less than \$20,000
- 11 \$20,000 to less than \$30,000
- 16 \$30,000 to less than \$50,000
- 14 \$50,000 to less than \$75,000
- 9 \$75,000 to less than \$100,000
- 13 \$100,000 or more
- 7 **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 13 **(DO NOT READ)** Refused





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