

# Beyond the Forecast: Experiences with Extreme Weather and Concerns About Climate and Health



March / April 2025

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



**Q1. In the past two years, which of the following have you personally experienced? Select all that apply.**

1. Poor air quality due to wildfire smoke
2. Extreme heat
3. Severe storms (such as a tornado, flooding, blizzard, hurricane)
4. Long power outages (more than 1 day)
5. None of the above

**Q2. How concerned are you about the impact of climate change on your health?**

1. Very concerned
2. Somewhat concerned
3. Not very concerned
4. Not at all concerned

**Q3. How concerned are you about the effects of extreme heat on your health?**

1. Very concerned
2. Somewhat concerned
3. Not very concerned
4. Not at all concerned

**Q4. Do you feel that you have enough reliable information about the potential impacts of climate change on your health?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. Unsure



**Q5. How concerned are you about the following potential effects of climate change?**

	Very concerned	Somewhat concerned	Not very concerned	Not at all concerned
Loss of basic infrastructure (such as the electric power grid, water services, transportation, and telecommunications)				
More frequent severe storms (such as tornadoes, flooding, blizzards, hurricanes)				
More extreme heat events				
Air pollution and poor air quality				
Changes in infectious diseases (such as Lyme disease, West Nile virus, COVID-19)				

**Q6. How concerned are you about the effect of climate change on the health of future generations?**

1. Very concerned
2. Somewhat concerned
3. Not very concerned
4. Not at all concerned

**Q7. Have any of your health care providers talked with you about how to prepare for climate-related health emergencies (such as extreme heat or storms)?**

1. Yes
2. No



If Q7 = 1

**Q8. As a result of talking with your health care provider, did you take any action to prepare for climate-related health emergencies (such as extreme heat or storms)?**

1. Yes
2. No

**Q9. Where do you get information about the health impacts of climate change? Select all that apply.**

1. Newspaper / magazines / journals (print or online)
2. Health care provider
3. Family or friends
4. Social media (such as Facebook, Instagram)
5. TV / radio
6. Other sources
7. I do not get information about the health impacts of climate change

**Q10. How much anxiety or stress do you feel related to climate change?**

1. A lot
2. Some
3. Very little
4. None

## 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 August 5th–27th, 2024, to a randomly selected, stratified group of U.S. adults age 50–94 (n=3,486), with an oversample of non-Hispanic Black, Hispanic and Asian American and Pacific Islander populations. The survey completion rate was 36% among panel members invited to participate. The margin of error is +/- 1 to 4 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 50–94 (n=1,175); 349 from the AmeriSpeak probability-based panel, and 826 from non-probability panels. The survey completion rate was 39% 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.

## National Poll on Healthy Aging Team

**Jeffrey Kullgren, MD, MS, MPH**  
Director

**Erica Solway, PhD, MPH, MSW**  
Deputy Director

**Scott Roberts, PhD**  
Associate Director

**Sue Anne Bell, PhD, FNP-BC**  
Faculty Collaborator

**Dianne Singer, MPH**  
Poll Manager

**Matthias Kirch, MS**  
Data Lead

**Nicholas Box, MPA**  
Data Analyst

**Sydney Strunk, MPH**  
Research Specialist

**Emily Smith, MA**  
Multimedia Designer

### The Regents of the University of Michigan

Jordan B. Acker (Huntington Woods), Michael J. Behm (Grand Blanc), Mark J. Bernstein (Ann Arbor), Paul W. Brown (Ann Arbor), Sarah Hubbard (Okemos), Denise Iltch (Birmingham), Carl J. Meyers (Dearborn), Katherine E. White (Ann Arbor), Santa J. Ono (*ex officio*)

The University of Michigan is a Non-discriminatory, Affirmative Action Employer.  
© 2025 Regents of the University of Michigan