



AGING *Well*

*What we've learned about the
unique needs of aging adults*



This handout includes highlights of what we gleaned from a research project called *Aging Well* that we conducted in partnership with Barna Group.

This was a survey of 2,001 U.S. adults conducted from July 1–19, 2022. The margin of error for the sample is +/- 2.0 percent at the 95 percent confidence level. Included within the sample is an oversample of U.S. adults over the age of 55 years (ensuring a total n=1,000).





By 2030, 1 in 5 Americans is projected to be around retirement age.

Over the next two decades, the number of people 65 and over in the United States is expected to grow from 57.8 million in 2022 to 80.9 million in 2040.

62% of seniors are unchurched, meaning they haven't been to church in at least the past six months.

pp. 10-11

1

U.S. seniors desire continued spiritual growth in their lives.

87% of seniors agreed with the statement, "It is important for me to see continual progress in my own spiritual life."

pp. 50-51

Adults over the age of 60 are disproportionately affected by chronic conditions like diabetes, arthritis, and heart disease.

Nearly 95% of seniors have at least one chronic condition and nearly 80 percent have two or more.

2

Seniors don't feel that the church is effective at providing for their physical and mental needs, but they also don't see this as the role of the church.

pp. 49-50

3

Just 41% of seniors would say that, "Grandparents have a responsibility to pass along their faith to their grandchildren."

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This is a great opportunity for churches and ministries to educate and equip older adults on the importance of sharing their faith and wisdom with the next generation.



4

Dependent vs. Independent

The ability to live independently is associated with a far greater sense of freedom mentally, physically, socially, and financially.

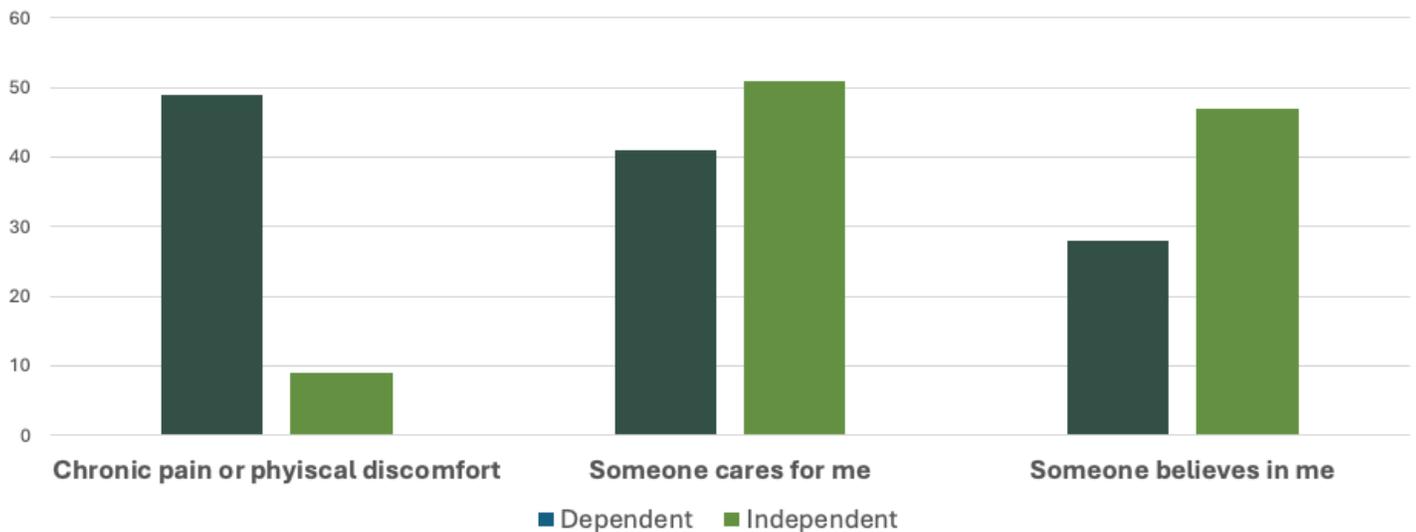


36% of dependent seniors strongly disagree with the statement, “I am financially secure” versus 12% of independent seniors.

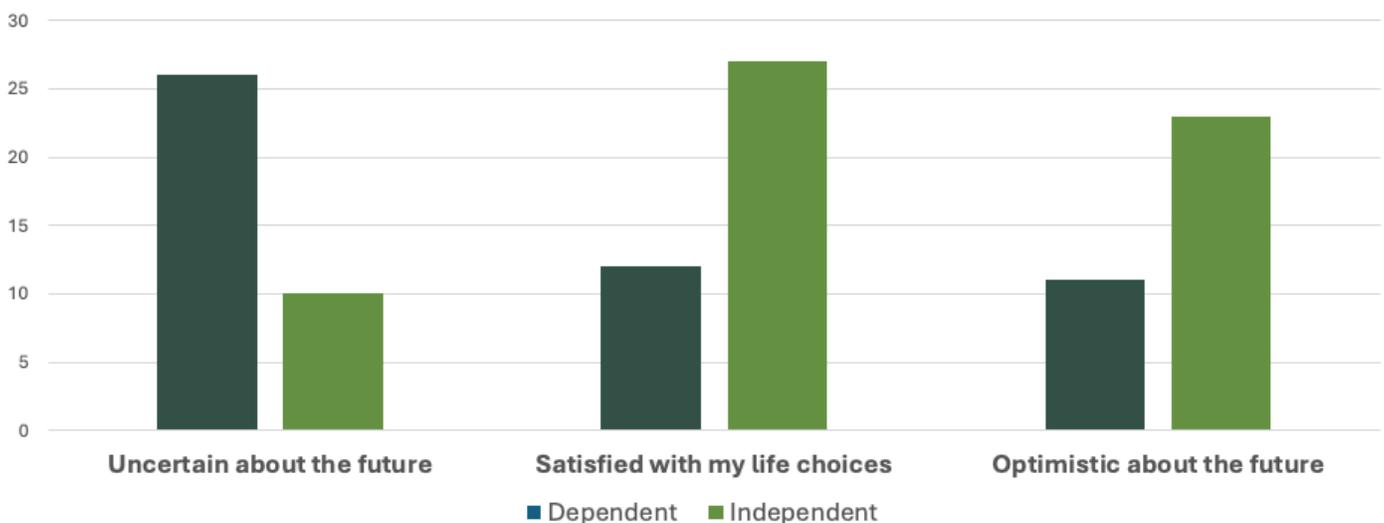
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How often do you feel each of the following?

Always



Always



See pages 22-26 to learn more about the struggles of dependent aging adults.

Next Steps

For further explanation on possible next steps, see pages 63-65.

- 1** Set short-term goals to help seniors grow spiritually and engage or re-engage those without a church home.
- 2** Identify gaps in staff or expertise for ministering to seniors, then find partners to assist.
- 3** Explore ways to make intergenerational connections central to your mission.
- 4** Pray for and support those facing deep suffering and disconnection because of the challenges of aging.
- 5** Equip older adults to leave a godly legacy.



Worship Anew engages and equips aging adults with resources to live a full and abundant life in Jesus Christ.

Please call or visit our website to find resources to assist you as you care for aging adults and point them to the hope we have in Jesus.

www.WorshipAnew.org

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