Many older Americans are not prepared for long-term care and want policies to help with costs

Two-thirds of older Americans feel that neither they nor the country are prepared for the long-term health care needs that accompany the rapidly growing older adult population, according to a new survey of Americans age 40 and older from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Most older Amerians have done little or no planning for long-term care

In 2017, 67 percent of older Americans had done little or no planning for long-term care, leaving a very small fraction who have planned.



10% have done a great deal of planning



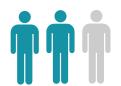
23% have done a moderate amount of planning



67% have done little or no planning

Few think America is prepared for its aging population

Two-thirds of Americans age 40 and older feel the country is not prepared for the rapid growth of the older adult population.



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FEEL THE COUNTRY IS NOT PREPARED FOR THE OLDER POPULATION

Many believe individuals should cover some costs of long-term care, but few want families to bear the burden

When it comes to who should ideally be responsible for paying for long-term care, 44 percent say that it should be the responsibility of individuals. Just 19 percent believe that families should have a large responsibility for paying these costs.

44%

Believe individuals should be responsible for paying costs

19%

Believe families should be responsible for paying costs

Most older Americans believe the government should help with the costs of ongoing care

The majority of Americans believe that the government should devote a great deal or at least a moderate amount of effort into helping people with the costs of ongoing living assistance.



Most people believe Medicare should be responsible for long-term care costs

Just over half of Americans age 40 and older believe that Medicare should be responsible for long-term care costs.

56%

Believe Medicare should be responsible for the costs of long-term care

A majority erroneously expect to be able to rely on Medicare to cover their long-term care needs

Fifty-seven percent say they will rely on Medicare quite a bit or completely to pay for any ongoing living assistance they need.



THINK THEY WILL RELY ON MEDICARE COMPLETELY OR OUITE A BIT

