# Arkansas

#### AARP STATE FACT SHEET



AARP is working to help Americans 50+ in Arkansas live life to the fullest. We advocate for our members on critical priorities, such as strengthening Social Security, protecting seniors' access to their doctors, and ensuring all Americans have independence and choice as they age.

AARP serves as a one-stop resource for information on the 50+ population in Arkansas. We also offer programs and tools that help Americans age 50+ make the best decisions about their health and financial security. We hope the data below and the programs on the reverse side will be helpful to you and your constituents in Arkansas.

## Membership

289,802

Total number of AARP members in Arkansas

## **Health Care**

627,699

Total number of Medicare beneficiaries Percent of Medicaid long-term care spending for home and community-based services for older adults and adults with physical disabilities: 34%

66%

Percent of Medicaid long-term care spending for institutional care for older adults and people with physical disabilities

8.4%

Average annual price increase for top brand name drugs in 2017

## Caregiving

460,000

Estimated number of family caregivers at some time during the year



Unpaid contributions of family caregivers annually are valued at

\$4.7 billion

## Retirement Income

696,936

Total number of Social Security Beneficiaries

439,558

Number of Beneficiaries who are Retirees

45,068

Widow(er)s/ parents

134,780

Disabled Workers

62.7%

Percent of Social Security recipients who rely on Social Security for 50% or more of their income



35.4%

Percent of Social Security recipients who rely on Social Security for 90% or more of their income



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## **10** CONTACT INFORMATION

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## **Older Workers**

47.4%

Percentage of labor force age 40+

(covered by federal age discrimination law)

Percentage of labor force age 50+: 36.3%

Percentage of adults age 65+ in the labor force:

17.3%

AARP has offices in all 50 states, Washington, DC, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.



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#### Getting Ready for Retirement

It's never too late to plan for retirement, and it doesn't have to be complicated. AARP offers award-winning, unbiased online tools and information that can help you make effective financial and health-related retirement decisions, such as determining how much money you will need, considerations for when to claim Social Security retirement benefits, and how to navigate through and select Medicare choices. In Arkansas, more than 1,615 individuals have participated in AARP's in-person and online events. www.aarp.org/retirement; www.aarp.org/medicare

## Staying Safe from Scammers

The AARP Fraud Watch Network provides you with the information you need to protect yourself and your family from scams and fraud. Learn the scammers' methods and the red flags that spell danger. Read tips sheets, listen to podcasts, sign up for biweekly "Watchdog" alerts, and check out the scams happening in your area on our scam-tracking map. You can report a scam or get help if you or a loved one has fallen victim through the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline, 877-908-3360. In Arkansas, 1,768 individuals have participated in fraud prevention events online and in person. You have the power to protect yourself! www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork

#### Finding a Job or Starting a Business

Whether you're looking for a new job or thinking about starting your own business, AARP can help turn your goals and dreams into real possibilities. In Arkansas, 1,759 individuals have learned from in person and online events. Check out www.aarp.org/work for job postings as well as tips, tools and other information on topics such as job hunting using social media and polishing your résumé. Through AARP's Employer Pledge Program at www.aarp.org/employers, you can find organizations that value your experience and expertise. Over 1,000 employers have already signed the Pledge which also provides employers with a variety of resources on recruiting and retaining experienced workers. Interested in starting or growing your own business? AARP provides resources at www.aarp.org/startabusiness

#### Making Communities More Livable and Age-Friendly

AARP research shows that nearly 80 percent of people age 50 and older want to stay in their homes and communities for as long as possible. That's why AARP is helping cities, towns, counties and states become great places for people of all ages to live, work and play through improved housing, transportation, public spaces and more. In Arkansas, 2 communities have enrolled in the AARP Network of Age Friendly States and Communities and 7 have received AARP Community Challenge grants. Learn more at www.aarp.org/livable

## Staying Ahead of the Curve with AARP Driver Safety

All drivers can sharpen their driving skills and refresh their knowledge of the rules of the road by taking the AARP Smart Driver course, available online or in a classroom, in English or Spanish. In some states, participants may receive a multi-year auto insurance discount for completing the course. (Participants should consult their insurance agent for details.) To learn more, visit www.aarp.org/drive or call 877-846-3299. In addition, CarFit (www.aarp.org/carfit) offers drivers the opportunity to check how well their personal vehicles "fit" them at our free CarFit events nationwide. The free We Need to Talk seminar (www.aarp.org/WNTT) provides tips on how to recognize when it's time for loved ones to limit or stop driving, and how to discuss this topic. Smart DriverTEK, one of Driver Safety's newest offerings, helps drivers understand evolving vehicle safety technologies and how these technologies might enhance their safety and extend their safe driving years. Smart DriverTEK workshops are available for free in person in select markets or online, www.aarp.org/sdtek. In Arkansas, 6.378 individuals have participated in a Driver Safety program.

## Caring for a Loved One

Caring for a family member or close friend is one of the most important —and complicated — roles you'll play. In Arkansas more than 1,862 individuals have participated in caregiving events and used online resources. Find resources, tools, and support to help you manage the care of a loved one at www.aarp.org/caregiving or 877-333-5885. To find local caregiving resources in your community, visit http://www.aarp.org/crf

## Connect to Fun, Interactive Learning from AARP Programs In-Person or Online

Whether you're sharpening your skills to find a job, trying to meet other family caregivers, or want to learn new skills and information, AARP Programs connects you to fun, interactive local events, and online resources – at no charge! Learn how to use your mobile device, save for retirement, stay ahead of scams, make the most of your Social Security and Medicare decisions, and more. Our in-person classes are offered in communities nationwide. You will also find us at fairs, festivals and local workshops. In 2019, more than 9,414 age 50+ adults in Arkansas participated our in-person and online events! And, you can learn online anytime through webinars, interactive videos, games, and online fairs. Find us online or in your community at learn aarp.org