The United States of Aging Survey
Gender-Based Findings

With seniors living longer and more active lives, and with more than 77 million baby boomers turning 65 at a rate of 10,000 per day, the United States is experiencing historic growth in the 65-plus demographic. This growth is pressing communities to think differently and more broadly about a whole host of issues: housing, transportation, social services, cultural offerings, and health and wellness programs, to name just a few. The ultimate question is: Are we as individuals and communities ready for an aging population?

To examine this question, the National Council on Aging (NCOA), UnitedHealthcare and USA TODAY created The United States of Aging Survey. In its inaugural year, the survey included a nationally representative sample of 1,000 Americans aged 60 and older (552 women, 452 men) who shared their perspectives on their own individual readiness for aging as well as their perceptions of their community’s resources for its senior residents.

Financial Security
Men are far more confident in their financial security than women of the same age.
- More than one in 10 older women (11 percent) have no financial plan for retirement whatsoever, versus 3 percent of men.
- More than seven in 10 senior men (72 percent) say their financial plan for retirement is sufficient, versus 65 percent of senior women who say the same.
- Older women are more likely to stay in the workforce for economic reasons, while men continue working for emotional reasons. Nearly three in four older women (73 percent) say they are still working because they need the money, versus 65 percent of men.
  - Nearly half of senior women (46 percent) still work because they need benefits, compared to one in three senior men (33 percent).
  - The top reasons seniors say they stay in the workforce, aside from finances, include wanting to stay active and productive (77 percent of men, 75 percent of women), and enjoying the sense of purpose working gives them (67 percent of men, 66 percent of women).
- Among seniors who currently rely on long-term care or support services, men find it easier to afford the assistance than women (41 percent versus 25 percent).
- When seniors living independently were asked about the potential future cost of long-term care, more than half of men (53 percent) said they would easily be able to afford it, versus about a third (34 percent) of women.

Aging in Place
Among seniors, women are nearly twice as likely as men to plan to move far from home as they age.
- Almost half of senior women (46 percent) say they plan to leave their current city or region, versus 28 percent of senior men.
- Men are most likely to move to another city for a better climate (65 percent, versus 29 percent of women), while women are most likely to move to be closer to a child (45 percent, versus 11 percent of men).
- Men are more likely than women to plan to make home modifications in order to age in place (26 percent of men versus 18 percent of women).
- Women are less likely than men to favorably view the senior living facilities in their own community (58 percent versus 66 percent).
• When asked what community characteristic would help them to lead a happy and healthy life, the leading answer for both men and women was a more affordable community (42 percent of men and 42 percent of women).

To access full survey findings, including results for seniors in Dallas, Miami, Milwaukee, Orange County and upstate New York, visit www.ncoa.org/UnitedStatesofAging or the newsroom at www.UnitedHealthGroup.com.

About the United States of Aging Survey
Penn Schoen Berland conducted 2,250 telephone interviews with Americans aged 60 and older between May 10 and June 6, 2012. This included a nationally representative sample of 1,000 respondents, and oversamples of 250 respondents in upstate New York, Milwaukee, Miami, Dallas and Orange County, Calif. The margin of error for the general population is +/-3.1 percent and 6.2 percent for each of the oversamples. The data is reflective of the U.S. Census Bureau demographic statistics in terms of gender, age, ethnicity, income, education and region.

About NCOA
The National Council on Aging is a nonprofit service and advocacy organization headquartered in Washington, D.C. NCOA is a national voice for millions of older adults—especially those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged—and the community organizations that serve them. It brings together nonprofit organizations, businesses, and government to develop creative solutions that improve the lives of all older adults. NCOA works with thousands of organizations across the country to help seniors find jobs and benefits, improve their health, live independently, and remain active in their communities. For more information, please visit: www.ncoa.org | www.facebook.com/NCOAging | www.twitter.com/NCOAging.

About UnitedHealthcare
UnitedHealthcare (www.uhc.com) is dedicated to helping people nationwide live healthier lives by simplifying the health care experience, meeting consumer health and wellness needs, and sustaining trusted relationships with care providers. The company offers the full spectrum of health benefit programs for individuals, employers and Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, and contracts directly with more than 650,000 physicians and care professionals and 5,000 hospitals nationwide. UnitedHealthcare serves more than 38 million people and is one of the businesses of UnitedHealth Group (NYSE: UNH), a diversified Fortune 50 health and well-being company.