AGING COMMUNITY FEARS NATIONAL CRISIS AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL BUDGET CUTS
Background and Definitions

About n4a > The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) is the leading voice on aging issues for Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) across the country and a champion for Title VI Native American aging programs. Through advocacy, training and technical assistance, we support the national network of 618 AAAs and 246 Title VI programs. These local aging organizations provide critical long-term services and supports such as transportation, congregate and home-delivered meals, in-home services and more to our country’s frail and vulnerable elderly population. n4a’s primary mission is to build the capacity of our members to help older adults and people with disabilities live with dignity and independence in their homes and communities for as long as possible.

The Older Americans Act > Since its inception in 1965, the Older Americans Act (OAA) has been the foundation of our national system of home and community-based services for older Americans. The OAA provides funding to states for a range of community planning and service programs to older Americans at risk of losing their independence. This federal investment leverages state, local and private dollars to support these vital community programs.

The Aging Network > To develop and implement the wide array of OAA services, a system of federal, state and local agencies, known as the Aging Network, was established. The core of the Aging Network is the U.S. Administration on Aging (AoA), 56 State Units on Aging, 618 Area Agencies on Aging, 246 Title VI Native American aging programs, and over 30,000 service provider organizations. This critical aging infrastructure is the backbone of our nation’s home and community-based long-term services and supports system, offering assistance to older adults, caregivers and people with disabilities.

Area Agencies on Aging > As created in the Older Americans Act amendments of 1973, Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) have developed and coordinated a wide array of home and community-based services for older adults and caregivers. These services include information and assistance; case management; transportation; nutrition education and meal programs; caregiver support and respite; health promotion and disease prevention; medication management; senior employment; legal services; financial assistance; senior centers; elder abuse and neglect prevention; housing modification and repair; in-home chore services; long-term care planning, and more.
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In October 2013, the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) conducted a survey to address the effects of stagnant and reduced federal funding in recent years, including sequestration, on aging programs and services provided under the Older Americans Act (OAA). The OAA provides federal funding to states for a range of community planning and service programs targeted to older Americans at risk of losing their independence. This funding is allocated to Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs) to develop, fund and coordinate delivery of critical supportive services on the ground to millions of seniors every day. These home and community-based services (HCBS) ensure that seniors are able to age with dignity and independence in their homes and communities rather than in costly institutional settings such as nursing homes or assisted living centers.

AGING POPULATION AND DEMAND FOR SERVICES GROWING RAPIDLY

The long-expected aging boom in the United States is beginning to take shape throughout the country, as the front-end of the baby boomer generation has passed age 60, and more and more seniors live past 85. By 2020, 22.5 percent of the U.S. population will be made up of people aged 60+.

By 2020

One in Five

of the U.S. population will be age 60+

In a recent study of states that increased the availability of HCBS to reduce the use of institutional care, researchers consistently found evidence of cost containment and a slower rate of spending growth in the Medicaid program as a result of the state’s rebalancing efforts. The research notably found much lower per-individual average costs for HCBS compared to institutional care, illustrating the value of HCBS programs to consumers and taxpayers. Ironically, despite the evidence that OAA discretionary programs save Medicare and Medicaid mandatory dollars, Congress allowed OAA funding to stagnate in the past decade. In the past several years, across-the-board cuts to discretionary funding further eroded the capacity of local aging programs to accomplish their cost-effective work. Then, in a final blow to federal investment, the first year of sequestration took effect in March 2013. This average of a 5.2 percent cut across all OAA programs was the final blow for many AAAs, which were forced to reduce services and staff. Unless altered by Congress, sequestration will occur again this January and annually for the next eight years. (For more information on the sequester, see n4a’s sequestration primer.)

Despite the evidence that OAA discretionary programs save Medicare and Medicaid mandatory dollars, Congress allowed OAA funding to stagnate in the past decade.

n4a’s NINE-STATE SURVEY ON EFFECTS OF FEDERAL CUTS

In an effort to capture the frightening effects of cuts to OAA programs, even as demand for these critical aging services grows on a daily basis, n4a conducted a national sample survey of nine states. Each state was chosen based on its projected aging population growth in relation to the national average. High-growth states were chosen due to the logical connection that demand for services is likely to be high in these states. The majority of the states surveyed are projected to have a higher percentage of older adults aged 60+ than the national average by 2020, with projections as high as 29.7 percent. n4a selected a few states that are slightly below the national average in growth rate to determine if responses are consistent across high-growth and slightly-below-average-growth states. n4a uses the 60+ figure (vs. age 65+) because the only eligibility criterion for Title III OAA services is a minimum age of 60.

The states surveyed were Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, South Carolina, Vermont and Washington. Combined, these states have 86 AAAs providing a wide range of aging and caregiver services in their respective communities. Each AAA was sent a link to a twelve-question survey that asked respondents to provide insight on the effect of federal funding cuts on their AAA’s ability to meet demand for services in the community. Sixty-nine of the 86 AAAs in the targeted states responded to the survey, generating a response rate of 80 percent. The response rate varied by state and is provided at the top of each state profile.

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4. The State of Florida’s 60+ population is projected to be 29.7% of the state’s general population by 2020.
KEY FINDINGS

Here are the highlights from the national sample results.

AGENCIES CAN’T MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS: 75.8 percent of respondents indicated that reduced federal funding has affected their AAA’s ability to meet the demand for services from older adults in their community.

ADDITIONAL CUTS WILL EXACERBATE THE PROBLEM: 84.6 percent of respondents stated that they will be unable to provide enough services to meet their community’s demands if federal funding cuts including sequestration continue.

OVERWHELMING CONCERN FOR ABILITY OF SENIORS TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY: 96.7 percent of respondents stated that they are either “concerned” (25.3 percent) or “very concerned” (71.4 percent) about the ability of seniors in their community to be able to remain living independently without costly institutional care if current federal funding levels do not rise.

INABILITY TO REPLACE FEDERAL FUNDS: Approximately 60 percent of respondents have been able to offset the impact of the first round of federal funding cuts in 2013 with other sources of funding; however, 80 percent of those AAAs state that the other funding sources do not entirely cover the federal funding gap.

- Of these AAAs, 76 percent believe that these other funds will not be available in 2014 or beyond.

FUNDING CUTS FORCE PROGRAM CUTS: Many programs/services are being cut as a result of federal funding cuts. The highest rate of cuts per particular aging service is as follows:

- 73.3 percent of respondents indicated that they are reducing nutrition services as a result of funding cuts. These include home-delivered meals (often referred to as Meals on Wheels) and congregate meals, which provide socialization as well as nutrition.
- 50 percent of respondents are reducing transportation services. These services provide the means for older adults with mobility challenges to get a ride to a doctor’s appointment, pharmacy, grocery store or other essential destinations.
- 36.7 percent of respondents are being forced to reduce caregiver support programs. Informal caregivers provided the equivalent of $450 billion worth of care to their adult parents and other loved ones in 2009. In a recent study, a vast majority of caregivers who use OAA caregiver support programs report that services enable them to provide care longer than otherwise would have been possible, avoiding costly institutional care.

“If federal funds for Older Americans Act services are further reduced...we will need to either cut services or more likely, through attrition, reduce the number of people we serve. If this occurs, it will be tragic because we have a heart-wrenching number of frail elders...waiting for help who will not receive it.”

—AN ALABAMA AAA DIRECTOR

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PROGRAM CUTS ARE WIDESPREAD AND GOING ON NOW: In addition to the three services listed above that were most impacted by current budget cuts, survey results indicate that AAAs are being forced to reduce every service offered, including home modification/repairs, legal services, personal care, respite care and more.

- 85.6 percent of respondents indicate that the quantity of services offered has been affected by federal funding cuts.
- 56.7 percent indicate that they have had to reduce staffing levels or hours, as well.

COMMUNITY CONTINUES TO FIGHT FOR SENIORS: Despite these challenges, AAAs are stretching all available non-federal resources in an effort to limit the negative health effects of cuts on older adults in the community.

- 77.8 percent indicate that they have informed consumers of the effects of reduced federal funding and sequestration on programs offered; however, half (50 percent) of those AAAs state that they have not yet shared the total effects with clients due to continual budget uncertainties.
- 92.1 percent believe that current clients in the community will be negatively affected by sequestration if it continues through federal fiscal year 2014.
- 51.1 percent of respondents state that clients have voiced their concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration on aging programs in the community.

These staggering figures confirm that older adults are at serious risk from federal budget cuts and illustrate that the current economic and budget crises have made it increasingly difficult for AAAs to even maintain existing services—let alone expand services for a growing aging population. Even before sequestration, stagnant federal investment prevented programs from growing along with the aging population. Now the poor economy has created increased demand for services as families struggle to support and care for older relatives, and as more older adults struggle to make ends meet. Meanwhile, state-funded programs for older adults and caregivers—created to supplement or fill gaps in federal funds—have suffered drastic reductions or even total elimination in recent years.

It is critical that Congress addresses and corrects the impending aging services catastrophe by investing in the OAA. It makes no sense to cut a program that saves federal dollars in the long run by ensuring that older adults can age with dignity and independence in their own homes and communities rather than in a more costly institutional setting.

The following pages of this report are profiles of each state surveyed, including quotes from respondents who were given the opportunity to share their thoughts on the local realities they face every day.

Has reduced federal funding affected your Area Agency on Aging’s (AAA) ability to meet the demand for services for older adults in your community?

If reduced federal funding continues unabated in FY 2014, will your AAA be able to provide the amount of services necessary to meet the demand in your community?

“"We used to provide two meals on wheels a day in some areas—a hot noon meal and a bag supper. We have eliminated the bag supper.”

OFFSETTING FEDERAL FUNDING

Approximately 60 percent of respondents have been able to offset the impact of the first round of federal funding cuts in 2013 with other sources of funding.

However, 80 percent of those AAAs state that the other funding sources do not entirely cover the federal funding gap.

Of these AAAs, 76 percent believe that these other funds will not be available in 2014 or beyond.

“We depend on matching funds from local cities and county government. Lessening our federal allocations reduces our ability to raise sufficient matching funds.”
National Snapshot | continued

TOP THREE SERVICES REDUCED AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS

NUTRITION SERVICES: 73.3%
TRANSPORTATION: 50%
CAREGIVER PROGRAMS: 36.7%

WHAT HAVE FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS AFFECTED AT YOUR AAA?

85.6% quantity of services offered
56.7% have reduced staffing levels

“More with less is no longer an option; less with less is the reality.”

DO CLIENTS KNOW?

77.8% of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs, due to continual funding uncertainties.

However, half (50 percent) of those AAAs have not shared the entire effects.

51.1% of respondents indicate that clients voiced concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration’s effects on aging programs.

FY 2014 OUTLOOK

“Reduced federal funding will make it increasingly difficult to support the most vulnerable...to remain living in their own homes...[S]ome...may experience negative health outcomes and...be required to move into more expensive, less preferred living arrangements...[T]hese outcomes are predictable—and they are still avoidable!”

92.1% indicate that current clients in the community will be negatively affected by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.
Alabama

Has reduced federal funding affected your Area Agency on Aging’s (AAA) ability to meet the demand for services for older adults in your community?

87.5% YES

If reduced federal funding continues unabated in FY 2014, will your AAA be able to provide the amount of services necessary to meet the demand in your community?

87.5% NO

“As our aging population is increasing daily, there is no way we can continue with services or provide aging staff that can handle all the calls.”

OFFSETTING FEDERAL FUNDING

Only 50 percent of respondents indicate that they have been able to offset federal funding cuts with other funding and every AAA that was able to offset federal cuts was not able to offset them completely.

The offset funding comes from state funding, local funding, aging fundraising activities, and private philanthropy, with the vast majority coming from state funding. 75 percent of those AAAs that were able to partially offset cuts indicated that the offset came from state funding.

Unfortunately, 100 percent of respondents who are able to offset federal cuts this year believe that those same funds will be unavailable next year.

“We never know when we will get the call to reduce or eliminate [programs]. More with less is no longer an option; less with less is the reality.”
Alabama | continued

TOP THREE SERVICES REDUCED AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS

NUTRITION SERVICES: 87.5%
TRANSPORTATION: 62.5%
EMPLOYMENT SERVICES: 62.5%

WHAT HAVE FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS AFFECTED AT YOUR AAA?

- 87.5% quantity of services offered
- 50% reduced staffing levels
- “We did not know what sequestration would do to our funds until the third quarter.”

DO CLIENTS KNOW?

- Only 62.5% of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs, due to continual funding uncertainties.
- Moreover, the majority of those AAAs (80%) have not shared the entire effects.

FY 2014 OUTLOOK

- “If federal funds for Older Americans Act services are further reduced...we will need to either cut services or more likely, through attrition, reduce the number of people we serve. If this occurs, it will be tragic because we have a heart-wrenching number of frail elders...waiting for help who will not receive it.”

- 100% indicate that current clients in the community will be negatively affected by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.
Has reduced federal funding affected your Area Agency on Aging’s (AAA) ability to meet the demand for services for older adults in your community?

83.3% Yes

If reduced federal funding continues unabated in FY 2014, will your AAA be able to provide the amount of services necessary to meet the demand in your community?

100% No

“We used our carryover to minimize the cuts; however, we did cut people in [one county] to two baths per month (Attendant Care) instead of four baths per month that was previously done.”

OFFSETTING FEDERAL FUNDING

100 percent of respondents stated that they have not been able to offset the federal cuts with other funding.

“Each year we will lay off individuals and decrease services in all Older Americans Act [programs].”

“This time we will cut people off of service. We will not have any carryover to make up any differences.”

100% are “very concerned” about the ability of seniors to remain living independently in the community if budget cuts continue to occur.
Arizona | continued

TOP THREE SERVICES REDUCED AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal Care</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition Services</td>
<td>83.3%</td>
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<td>Respite Care</td>
<td>83.3%</td>
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WHAT HAVE FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS AFFECTED AT YOUR AAA?

- 100% of respondents have reduced staffing levels.
- 67% of respondents have reduced the quantity of services offered.
- 100% of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs, due to continual funding uncertainties.
- 33.3% of respondents indicate that clients voiced concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration’s effects on aging programs.

DO CLIENTS KNOW?

- “They complain to us as if it is our fault....We are taking the blame. They are not calling Congressional staff to the degree that they should.”

FY 2014 OUTLOOK

- “Staff has not been replaced when there was a vacancy. Other[s] have picked up additional duties. This can no longer continue. Services have been reduced and the client is not receiving the same level of service.”

100% indicate that current clients in the community will be negatively affected by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.
Has reduced federal funding affected your Area Agency on Aging’s (AAA) ability to meet the demand for services for older adults in your community?

If reduced federal funding continues unabated in FY 2014, will your AAA be able to provide the amount of services necessary to meet the demand in your community?

"We will see drastic cuts in all our services. We currently have waiting lists for most services and we will only see that grow with more funding cuts."

OFFSETTING FEDERAL FUNDING

A majority of respondents (63.6 percent) have not been able to offset the federal funding cuts with other funding and every AAA that was able to offset federal cuts was not able to offset them completely.

For the minority that has been able to partially offset federal funding cuts, most of the funding comes from the local community.

Unfortunately, 100 percent of respondents who are able to offset federal cuts this year believe that those same funds will be unavailable next year.

“We depend on matching funds from local cities and county government. Lessening our federal allocations reduces our ability to raise sufficient matching funds.”
Florida | continued

TOP THREE SERVICES REDUCED AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS

- **Nutrition Services**: 100%
- **Transportation**: 90.9%
- **Respite Care**: 81.8%

WHAT HAVE FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS AFFECTED AT YOUR AAA?

- 100% quantity of services offered
- 81.8% have reduced staffing levels

DO CLIENTS KNOW?

- 90 percent of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs, due to continual funding uncertainties.
- 81.8 percent of respondents indicate that clients voiced concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration’s effects on aging programs.

“Some have expressed concern when contacting the ADRC/Elder Helpline, SHINE and through their case managers. Caregivers have been more vocal as waiting lists have increased and other resources are not available.”

FY 2014 OUTLOOK

“It will be much worse in FY 2014.”

“Services will most definitely have to be cut or eliminated. We and providers cannot continue to absorb reductions—there is no place to absorb reductions.”

100% indicate that current clients in the community will be *negatively affected* by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.
Has reduced federal funding affected your Area Agency on Aging’s (AAA) ability to meet the demand for services for older adults in your community?

If reduced federal funding continues unabated in FY 2014, will your AAA be able to provide the amount of services necessary to meet the demand in your community?

"Reduced funding forces seniors into more costly living arrangements when 94 percent of them wish to remain in their homes where it costs significantly less to support them."

"We have begun a reduction in full-time employees....However, we are about as ‘lean’ as we can get without giving up some service provision."

OFFSETTING FEDERAL FUNDING

Only 60 percent of respondents have been able to offset some—but not all—of the federal funding cuts with other funds.

For the AAAs that have been able to partially offset federal funding cuts, this funding typically comes from local funds, grants or carryover funds.

Unfortunately, 67 percent of respondents who are able to offset federal cuts this year believe that those same funds will be unavailable next year.
TOP THREE SERVICES REDUCED AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS

- **Home Modification/Repair**: 100%
- **Caretaker Programs**: 60%
- **Transportation**: 60%

WHAT HAVE FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS AFFECTED AT YOUR AAA?

- **80%** quantity of services offered
- **60%** have reduced staffing levels

DO CLIENTS KNOW?

- Only 60 percent of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs, due to continual funding uncertainties.
- 60 percent of respondents indicate that clients voiced concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration’s effects on aging programs.

“Concerns have been expressed in large part about the reduction of nutrition services offered in our region.”

FY 2014 OUTLOOK

“Seniors will be forced into more expensive alternatives, requiring them to leave their homes. For every dollar provided to this AAA, we are able to save taxpayers $8.”

80% indicate that current clients in the community will be **negatively affected** by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.
Has reduced federal funding affected your Area Agency on Aging’s (AAA) ability to meet the demand for services for older adults in your community?

If reduced federal funding continues unabated in FY 2014, will your AAA be able to provide the amount of services necessary to meet the demand in your community?

"We anticipate that although we will have [local] fundraising dollars, these will not be sufficient to meet the need even for priority services."

**Offsetting Federal Funding**

78.6 percent of respondents have been able to offset some of the federal funding cuts with other funds. Note: the majority of AAAs that were able to offset the federal cuts stated that they were not able to offset the cuts entirely (81.8 percent).

For the AAAs that have been able to partially offset federal funding cuts, this funding typically comes from state funding, local funding and carryover funds.

Unfortunately, 81.8 percent of respondents who are able to offset federal cuts this year believe that those same funds will be unavailable next year.

"In 2013 we were able to use carryover dollars to help offset the cuts. This will not be possible in 2014 as we do not anticipate carryover dollars."
Michigan | continued

TOP THREE SERVICES REDUCED AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS

WHAT HAVE FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS AFFECTED AT YOUR AAA?

- 92.9% quantity of services offered
- 50% have reduced staffing levels

DO CLIENTS KNOW?

- 85.7% of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs, due to continual funding uncertainties.
- 50% of respondents indicate that clients voiced concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration’s effects on aging programs.

“Most seniors are of the Depression era [and] are used to doing with less. [A]lthough they do not complain that much, make no mistake that more will not be able to remain in the community. This is a dangerous step overall to the sustainability of the community-based care.”

FY 2014 OUTLOOK

“Our partners are already implementing reduced availability of service hours. This will only increase the number of clients that are placed in nursing homes due to the limited access to services in the community. This is a total backward step towards rebalancing long-term care.”

100% indicate that current clients in the community will be negatively affected by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.
Has reduced federal funding **affected** your Area Agency on Aging’s (AAA) ability to meet the demand for services for older adults in your community?

If reduced federal funding continues unabated in FY 2014, will your AAA be able to provide the amount of services necessary to meet the demand in your community?

**50%**  YES  

**75%**  NO

“Another reduction in 2014 similar to this year would have a significant impact on the [OAA] Title III network to provide services.”

**OFFSETTING FEDERAL FUNDING**

- **75 percent of respondents** have been able to offset some of the federal funding cuts with other funds; however, most of the respondents that have been able to offset federal cuts with other funds have not been able to offset the cuts entirely (66.7 percent).

- For the AAAs that have been able to partially offset federal funding cuts, **this funding typically comes from state, local and carryover funds.**

- **100 percent of respondents** who are able to offset federal cuts this year believe that those same funds will be unavailable next year.

“We have been able to offset some of the funding cuts with grants through local foundations and local funding options to support [OAA] Title III programs.”
TOP THREE SERVICES REDUCED AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS

WHAT HAVE FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS AFFECTED AT YOUR AAA?

- 75% quantity of services offered
- 75% have reduced staffing levels

DO CLIENTS KNOW?

- 75 percent of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs, due to continual funding uncertainties.
- Only 25 percent of respondents indicate that clients voiced concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration’s effects on aging programs.

“Consumers are concerned that congregate dining sites that do not meet targeting criteria may need to close due to sequestration.”

FY 2014 OUTLOOK

“Our grantees will have to serve fewer clients and in some cases there may need to be waiting lists. This will impact key essential supports of home maker, chore, transportation, legal services, nutrition and respite care which are critical to keep older adults remaining independent with their homes.”

100% indicate that current clients in the community will be negatively affected by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.
Has reduced federal funding affected your Area Agency on Aging’s (AAA) ability to meet the demand for services for older adults in your community?

87.5% YES

If reduced federal funding continues unabated in FY 2014, will your AAA be able to provide the amount of services necessary to meet the demand in your community?

100% NO

"[OAA] Title IIIB cuts were tremendous in our state....Without the ability to get seniors to our programs, the meal programs are also hard hit."

"Federal cuts coupled with reductions in state funds would be devastating to seniors in the state of South Carolina."

OFFSETTING FEDERAL FUNDING

100 percent of respondents have been able to offset some of the federal funding cuts with other funds. Note that the majority of respondents that stated that they were able to offset cuts stated that they were not able to entirely offset all of the cuts (75 percent).

For the AAAs that have been able to partially offset federal funding cuts, this funding typically comes from state funds.

Unfortunately, 62.5 percent of respondents who are able to offset federal cuts this year believe that those same funds will be unavailable next year.
Top Three Services Reduced as a Result of Federal Funding Cuts

**Nutrition Services**
- 62.5% of respondents indicate that current clients in the community will be negatively affected by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.

**Transportation**
- 62.5% of respondents indicate that clients voiced concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration’s effects on aging programs.

**Aging and Disability Resource Centers**
- 50% of respondents indicate that clients voiced concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration’s effects on aging programs.

**What Have Federal Funding Cuts Affected at Your AAA?**

- 62.5% of respondents have reduced staffing levels.
- 37.5% of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs, due to continual funding uncertainties.

**Do Clients Know?**

- 872.5% of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs, due to continual funding uncertainties.

**FY 2014 Outlook**

- “In this community and in others when there is less funding, there will be fewer services.”

- 100% of respondents indicate that current clients in the community will be negatively affected by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.

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“Consumers are concerned that their services will have to be terminated because of lack of funding and they are sharing their concerns with service providers and local representatives.”
Has reduced federal funding affected your Area Agency on Aging’s (AAA) ability to meet the demand for services for older adults in your community?

If reduced federal funding continues unabated in FY 2014, will your AAA be able to provide the amount of services necessary to meet the demand in your community?

“\[I\]n some areas, we used to provide two meals on wheels a day—a hot noon meal and a bag supper. We have eliminated the bag supper.”

### Vermont

27.1% of the population will be 60+ by 2020

- **100%** of respondents who are able to offset federal cuts this year believe that those same funds will be unavailable next year.

- **66.7%** are “very concerned” about the ability of seniors to remain living independently in the community if budget cuts continue to occur.

### Offsetting Federal Funding

- Only 33.3 percent of respondents have been able to offset some of the federal funding cuts with other funds. Note that all of the respondents that stated that they were able to offset cuts stated that they were not able to entirely offset all of the cuts.

- For the AAAs that have been able to partially offset federal funding cuts, this funding typically comes from state and local funds, grants, or private philanthropy.

- 100 percent of respondents who are able to offset federal cuts this year believe that those same funds will be unavailable next year.
Vermont | continued

TOP THREE SERVICES REDUCED AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS

WHAT HAVE FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS AFFECTED AT YOUR AAA?

100% quantity of services offered
66.7% have reduced staffing levels

DO CLIENTS KNOW?

66.7 percent of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs.

Only 33.3 percent of respondents indicate that clients voiced concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration’s effects on aging programs.

FY 2014 OUTLOOK

“The growing senior population continues to require assistance to navigate complicated systems....Currently, we have less staff and more seniors asking for help. We try to use our ADRC, but often seniors require face-to-face [help] due to impairments.”

Further cutbacks will affect home-delivered meals, case management and financial assistance, as well as the state health insurance program.”

100% indicate that current clients in the community will be negatively affected by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.
Has reduced federal funding affected your Area Agency on Aging’s (AAA) ability to meet the demand for services for older adults in your community?

If reduced federal funding continues unabated in FY 2014, will your AAA be able to provide the amount of services necessary to meet the demand in your community?

"[O]ther publically funded programs [are] also feeling the same pinch, so it creates compassion fatigue on the part of donors."

**OFFSETTING FEDERAL FUNDING**

Only 60 percent of respondents have been able to offset some of the federal funding cuts with other funds. Note that all of the respondents that stated that they were able to offset cuts stated that they were not able to entirely offset all of the cuts.

For the AAAs that have been able to partially offset federal funding cuts, this funding typically comes from state, local or carry over funds.

100 percent of respondents who are able to offset federal cuts this year believe that those same funds will be unavailable next year.

"We are noticing a rise in our Medicaid population as we see all these [non-Medicaid] social and health safety nets being cut."
Washington | continued

TOP THREE SERVICES REDUCED AS A RESULT OF FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS

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<th>Service</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>Nutrition Services</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information and Referral</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>60%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

WHAT HAVE FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS AFFECTED AT YOUR AAA?

- 100% quantity of services offered
- 60% have reduced staffing levels

DO CLIENTS KNOW?

- 90 percent of respondents have notified clients of the effects of federal funding cuts on programs, due to continual funding uncertainties.
- 70 percent of respondents indicate that clients voiced concerns about reduced federal funding and sequestration’s effects on aging programs.

“They don’t feel anyone is listening or cares.”

FY 2014 OUTLOOK

“Reduced federal funding will make it increasingly difficult to support the most vulnerable...to remain living in their own homes...[S]ome...may experience negative health outcomes and...be required to move into more expensive, less preferred living arrangements...[T]hese outcomes are predictable—and they are still avoidable!”

100% indicate that current clients in the community will be negatively affected by sequestration if it continues into FY 2014.
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