

# FACTSHEET

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## 2020 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures

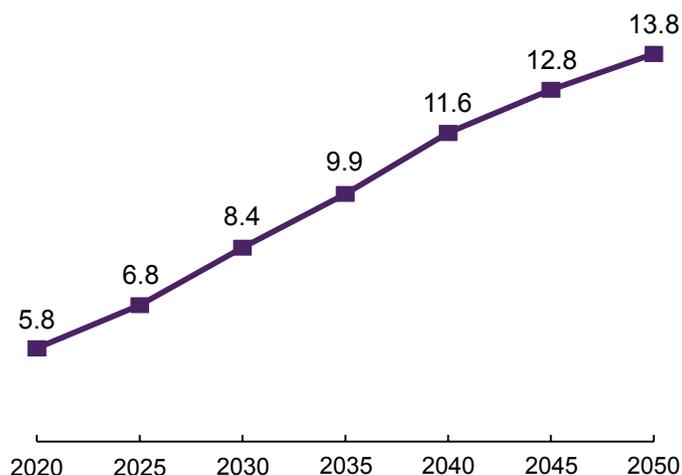
### The number of Americans living with Alzheimer's is growing — and growing fast.

- Today, more than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's — 1 in 10 people aged 65 and older.
- The number of people living with Alzheimer's is expected to reach nearly 14 million by mid-century.

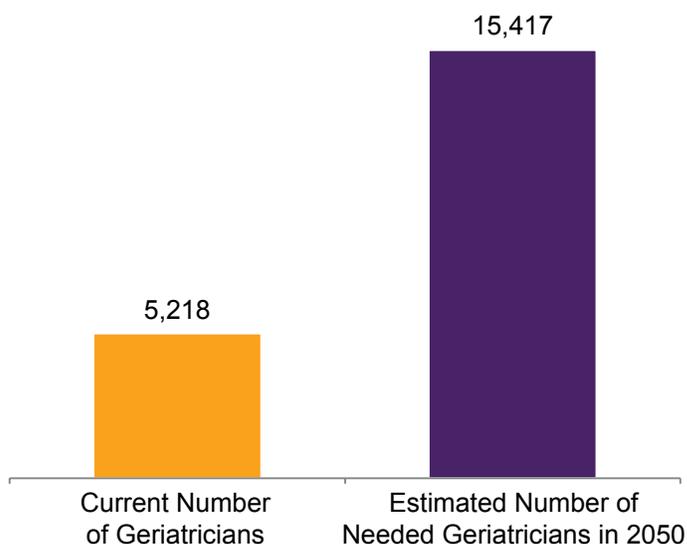
### The medical profession is not prepared to meet the needs of the escalating number of people with Alzheimer's.

- More than half of primary care physicians (PCPs) report that there are currently not enough specialists in their geographic area to meet patient demand. And to meet the needs of those with Alzheimer's by 2050, a nearly 200% increase in the number of geriatricians will be needed.
- This shortage in dementia specialists means the burden of dementia diagnosis and care falls on PCPs — 82% of them report being on the front lines of providing critical elements of dementia care.
- But 39% of PCPs say they are never or only sometimes comfortable making a diagnosis of dementia.
- Nearly one-fourth of all PCPs had no residency training in dementia diagnosis and care, and two-thirds of those with training reported the amount was “very little.”

### Millions of Americans Aged 65 and Older with Alzheimer's



### Geriatricians Needed to Meet Needs of Future Alzheimer's Population



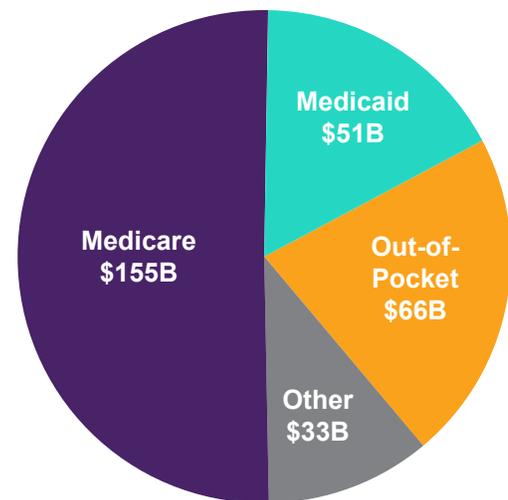
## The growing number of people living with Alzheimer's is placing a huge strain on the health care system.

- In 2020, the direct costs to American society of caring for those with Alzheimer's will total an estimated \$305 billion, with \$206 billion of it (67%) paid by Medicare and Medicaid.
- Average per-person Medicare spending for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias is more than three times higher than average per-person spending across all other seniors. Medicaid payments are 23 times higher.
- Emergency department visits for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias on Medicare increased 22% between 2007 and 2017.
- Unless something is done, in 2050, Alzheimer's will cost more than \$1.1 trillion (in 2020 dollars).

## Alzheimer's also places a substantial burden on families.

- In 2019, 16 million family members and friends provided more than 18 billion hours of unpaid care to people with Alzheimer's and other dementias, at an economic value of \$244 billion.
- Of the total lifetime cost of caring for someone with dementia, 70% is borne by families — either through out-of-pocket health and long-term care expenses or from the value of unpaid care.
- The annual out-of-pocket spending incurred by dementia caregivers — including on household and personal care expenses — is nearly twice as high as that incurred by caregivers of people with other conditions.
- Nearly three-fourths of dementia caregivers report that they are concerned about maintaining their own health since becoming a caregiver.

## 2020 Costs of Alzheimer's = \$305 Billion



## Alzheimer's is not just memory loss. Alzheimer's kills.

- In 2018, 122,019 people in the United States died from Alzheimer's disease, making it the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and the fifth leading cause of death for those aged 65 and older.
- Deaths from Alzheimer's increased 146% from 2000 to 2018, while deaths from other major diseases (including heart disease, stroke and HIV/AIDS) decreased.
- This year, about 1 in every 3 seniors who dies — an estimated 700,000 people — will have Alzheimer's.

## Facts in Your State

The 2020 *Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures* report also contains state-by-state data on the impact of the disease. Find the full report and information on your state at [alz.org/facts](https://www.alz.org/facts).