

FACTSHEET

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2021 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures

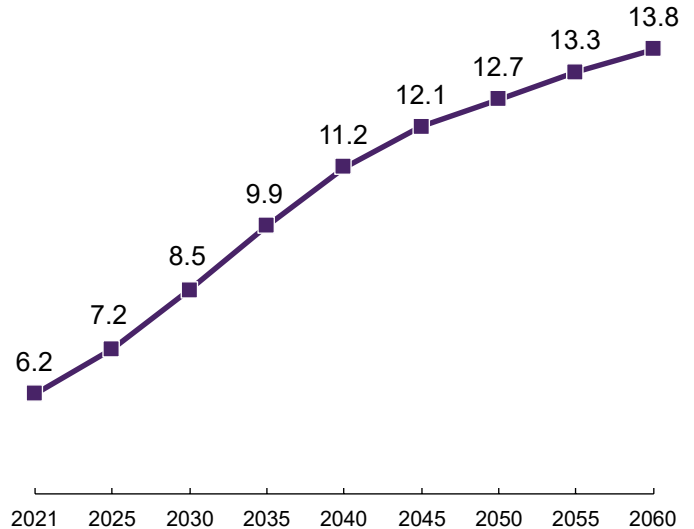
The number of Americans living with Alzheimer's is growing — and growing fast.

- Today, more than 6 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 more than double to nearly 13 million by 2050.

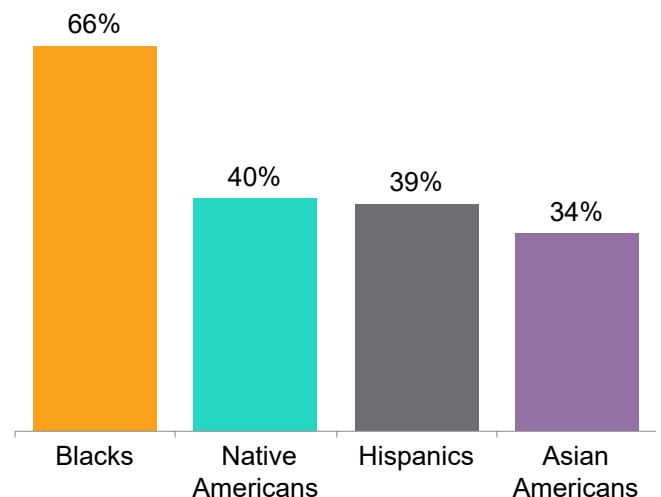
However, the burden of Alzheimer's is not equally shared. Non-White populations experience barriers when accessing dementia care.

- Blacks are about two times more likely than white Americans to have Alzheimer's and other dementias. Similarly, Hispanics are about one and one-half times more likely than whites to have Alzheimer's and other dementias.
- Yet, two-thirds of Blacks believe that it is harder for them to get excellent care for Alzheimer's, along with 40% of Native Americans and 39% of Hispanics.
- Fewer than half of Blacks and Native Americans feel confident they have access to providers who understand their ethnic or racial backgrounds.
- Additionally, 62% of Blacks believe that medical research is biased against people of color. This belief is also held by more than a third of Asian Americans, Native Americans, and Hispanics.

Millions of Americans Aged 65 and Older with Alzheimer's



Percentage of Adults Who Believe Their Race/Ethnicity Will Affect the Quality of Dementia Care



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

- In 2021, the direct costs to American society of caring for those with Alzheimer's will total an estimated \$355 billion, with \$239 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.
- Unless something is done, in 2050, Alzheimer's will cost more than \$1.1 trillion (in 2021 dollars).

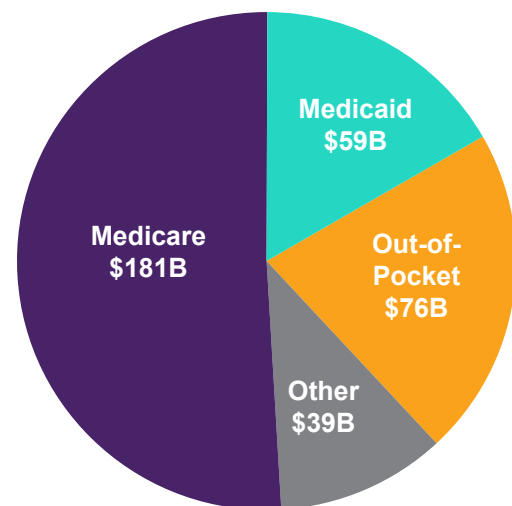
Alzheimer's is not just memory loss. Alzheimer's kills.

- In 2019, 121,499 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 145% from 2000 to 2019 while deaths from other major diseases (including heart disease, stroke and HIV/AIDS) decreased.
- Preliminary data shows that in 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, there were approximately 42,000 Alzheimer's and dementia deaths in excess of the average.

Facts in Your State

The 2021 *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).

2021 Costs of Alzheimer's = \$355 Billion



Alzheimer's also places a substantial burden on families.

- In 2020, family members and friends of individuals living with dementia provided unpaid care valued at nearly \$257 billion.
- On average, each dementia caregiver today spends 20% more time providing care than a dementia caregiver did a decade ago. This is the equivalent of nearly six more full work weeks of unpaid care each year.
- 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 expenses — is nearly twice as high as that incurred by caregivers of people without dementia.
- Nearly three-fourths of dementia caregivers report that they are concerned about maintaining their own health since becoming a caregiver.