2014 Alzheimer’s Disease Facts and Figures

Women are at the epicenter of the Alzheimer’s crisis.

- Nearly two-thirds of those with Alzheimer’s disease – 3.2 million – are women.

- Women in their 60s are about twice as likely to develop Alzheimer’s disease over the rest of their lives as they are to develop breast cancer.

- More than 3 in 5 unpaid Alzheimer’s caregivers are women – and there are 2.5 more women than men who provide on-duty care 24-hours a day for someone with Alzheimer’s.

- Among women caregivers who also work, 20 percent have gone from working full time to part time because of their caregiving duties.

All caregivers of people with Alzheimer’s – both women and men – face a devastating toll.

- In 2013, 15.5 million family and friends provided 17.7 billion hours of unpaid care to those with Alzheimer’s and other dementias – care valued at $220.2 billion.

- Nearly 60 percent of Alzheimer’s and dementia caregivers rate the emotional stress of caregiving as high or very high; more than one-third report symptoms of depression.

- Due to the physical and emotional toll of caregiving, Alzheimer’s and dementia caregivers had $9.3 billion in additional health care costs of their own in 2013.

The number of Americans with Alzheimer’s disease is growing – and growing fast.

- Today, over 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer’s disease, including an estimated 200,000 under the age of 65. By 2050, up to 16 million will have the disease.

- Of Americans aged 65 and older, 1 in 9 has Alzheimer’s; 1 in 3 people aged 85 and older has the disease.

- Another American develops Alzheimer’s disease every 67 seconds. In 2050, an American will develop the disease every 33 seconds.
The growing Alzheimer’s crisis is helping to bankrupt America.

- In 2014, the direct costs to American society of caring for those with Alzheimer’s will total an estimated $214 billion, including $150 billion in costs to Medicare and Medicaid.
- Nearly one in every five dollars of Medicare spending is spent on people with Alzheimer’s and other dementias.
- Average per-person Medicare spending for those with Alzheimer’s and other dementias is three times higher than for those without these conditions.
- Average per-person Medicaid spending for seniors with Alzheimer’s and other dementias is 19 times higher than average per-person Medicaid spending for all other seniors.
- Unless something is done, Alzheimer’s will cost an estimated $1.2 trillion (in today’s dollars) in 2050. Costs to Medicare and Medicaid will increase nearly 500 percent.

2014 Costs of Alzheimer’s = $214 Billion

- Medicare $113b
- Medicaid $37b
- Out-of-Pocket $36b
- Other $28b

Change in Number of Deaths Between 2000 and 2010

- Breast Cancer: -2%
- Prostate Cancer: -8%
- Heart Disease: -16%
- Stroke: -23%
- HIV: -42%
- Alzheimer’s Disease: +68%

Alzheimer’s is not just memory loss – Alzheimer’s kills.

- In 2010, 83,494 Americans died from Alzheimer’s, according to the official cause of death listed on death certificates. This makes Alzheimer’s disease the 6th leading cause of death in the United States.
- In addition, in 2010, Alzheimer’s played some role in the deaths of 500,000 Americans. And, in 2014, an estimated 700,000 people will die with the disease, meaning they will die after having developed it.
- Deaths from Alzheimer’s increased 68 percent between 2000 and 2010, while deaths from other major diseases decreased.

Facts in Your State

The 2014 Alzheimer’s Disease Facts and Figures report also contains data on the impact of the disease in every state across the nation. Find the full report and information on your state at www.alz.org/facts.