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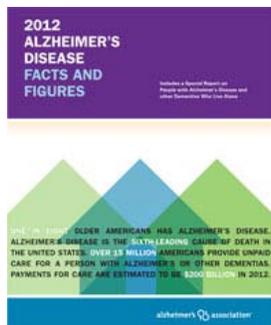
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2012 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures Released Today



Average per person Medicaid costs of caring for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias are 19 times higher than for people without these conditions, according to the Alzheimer's Association's 2012 *Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures* report released today.

The annual report details the growing prevalence and escalating impact of Alzheimer's on individuals, caregivers, families, government and the nation's health care system. Among the highlights of the report:

- Caring for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias will cost the United States an estimated \$200 billion in 2012, including \$140 billion paid by Medicare and Medicaid.

Public Health Agenda



The Alzheimer's Association has identified three key elements of an Alzheimer's public health agenda: surveillance, early detection, and promotion of brain health.

The Road Map



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the

- Average per person Medicare payments for an older person with Alzheimer's and other dementias are nearly three times higher while **Medicaid payments are 19 times higher** than for seniors without Alzheimer's and other dementias.
- Unless a concerted effort to change the trajectory of the disease is made today, the costs of caring for people with Alzheimer's will soar to **\$1.1 trillion dollars in 2050** (in today's dollars). This dramatic rise includes a 500 percent increase in combined Medicare and Medicaid spending and a 400 percent increase in out-of-pocket spending for families.
- There are **5.4 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease**, including 5.2 million people age 65 or older and 200,000 people under the age of 65.
- Every **68 seconds someone in America develops Alzheimer's**.
- Nearly **30 percent of people with Alzheimer's and other dementias are on Medicare and Medicaid** compared to 11 percent of individuals without dementia.
- While only 4 percent of the general population will be admitted to a nursing home by age 80, **for people with Alzheimer's, 75 percent will be admitted to a nursing home by age 80**, posing significant economic challenges to state Medicaid budgets.

800,000 People with Alzheimer's Live Alone

An estimated 800,000 people with Alzheimer's disease – more than one in seven – live alone, and up to half of them do not have an identifiable caregiver, according to a Special Report included in *2012 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures*. The large number of people with Alzheimer's who live alone and are without a caregiver raises important issues for the public health community, specifically:

- People **with dementia who live alone are at greater risk of poor health than those who live with others**, including a greater risk of missed or delayed diagnosis and an increased risk for self-neglect, including malnutrition and untreated medical conditions.
- Those who **have Alzheimer's and live alone are also at increased risk of wandering away from home and for accidental death**, possibly due to lack of recognition of harmful situations and delays in seeking medical attention.
- **Falls, which are a major cause of serious injury and emergency room visits** among the elderly, are more common among people with Alzheimer's who live alone than among those with the disease who live with others.
- These issues are compounded by the fact that **many**

Alzheimer's Association formed a partnership to examine how best to bring a public health perspective to the promotion of cognitive health. The resulting publication, *The Healthy Brain Initiative: A National Public Health Road Map to Maintaining Cognitive Health* outlines 44 priority actions to guide the public health community in surveillance, prevention research, communication, and policy.

The 10 Warning Signs



The Know the 10 Signs campaign is a national education effort to increase awareness of the warning signs of Alzheimer's disease and the benefits of early detection and diagnosis.

Contact

For more information on the Healthy Brain Initiative, the public health agenda, or Alzheimer's disease in general, contact [Catherine Morrison](#).

individuals who live alone are often in denial of how serious their cognitive impairment is and refuse help from others.

For more information on the *2012 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures* report, including to read the full report and find Alzheimer's statistics for your state, visit alz.org/facts.

For additional information or questions, please contact catherine.morrison@alz.org.
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National Headquarters

Alzheimer's Association National Office, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601
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Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's

Formed in 1980, the Alzheimer's Association is the world's leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research.