

FACTSHEET

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Costs of Alzheimer's to Medicare and Medicaid

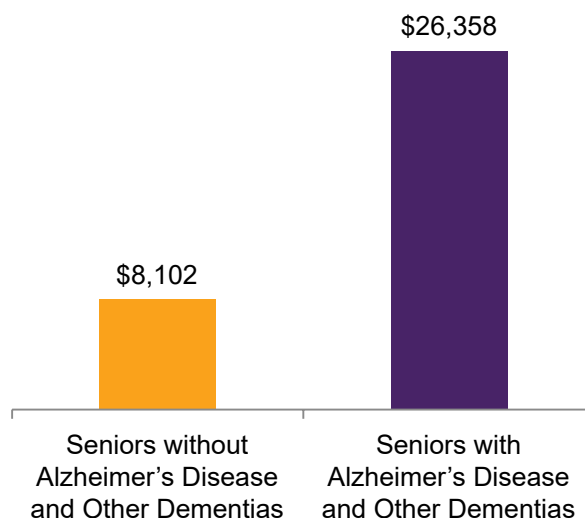
Alzheimer's is one of the most expensive diseases in America, costing more than cancer and heart disease.

- In 2021, the direct costs to American society of caring for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias will total an estimated \$355 billion.
- A study found that in the last five years of life, the costs of a person with dementia, on average, total more than \$287,000 (in 2010 dollars). This is compared with \$175,000 for a person with heart disease, and \$173,000 for someone with cancer.

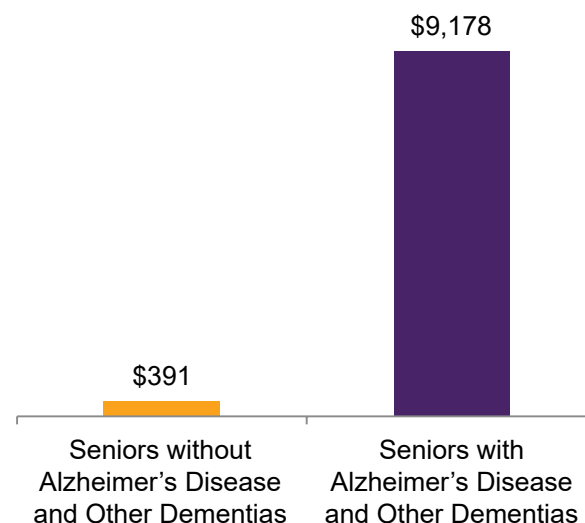
Most of these costs are borne by Medicare and Medicaid.

- In 2021, Medicare and Medicaid will spend an estimated \$239 billion caring for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias — 67% of total costs.
 - An estimated \$181 billion will be spent by the federal government under Medicare.
 - This means that 1 in every 5 Medicare dollars will be spent on someone with the disease.
 - Federal and state governments combined will spend an estimated \$59 billion under the Medicaid program caring for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias.
- Average per-person Medicare spending for seniors with Alzheimer's is more than three times higher than average per-person spending for all other seniors. Under Medicaid, spending is, on average, more than 23 times higher.

Average Annual Per Person Medicare Spending



Average Annual Per Person Medicaid Spending



With the aging of the baby boomers, the number of Americans aged 65 and older with Alzheimer's is expected to dramatically escalate.

- Today, an estimated 6.2 million Americans aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's disease.
- The number of Americans aged 65 and older is projected to grow from 58 million in 2021 to 88 million by 2050.
- The number of Americans living with Alzheimer's will more than double by 2050 to 12.7 million if nothing changes.

Costs will also expand in lockstep. By 2050, combined Medicare and Medicaid spending on people with Alzheimer's will skyrocket to \$798 billion (in 2021 dollars)

- In 2050, Medicare spending on people with Alzheimer's will total \$599 billion—an increase of 232% from today's spending levels. This will represent more than 1 in every 3 dollars of total estimated Medicare spending.
- Medicaid spending on people with Alzheimer's will increase 240% between now and 2050, as costs will reach \$199 billion in 2050.

Alzheimer's Prevalence and Costs to Medicare and Medicaid

