

FACTSHEET

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Costs of Alzheimer's to Medicare and Medicaid

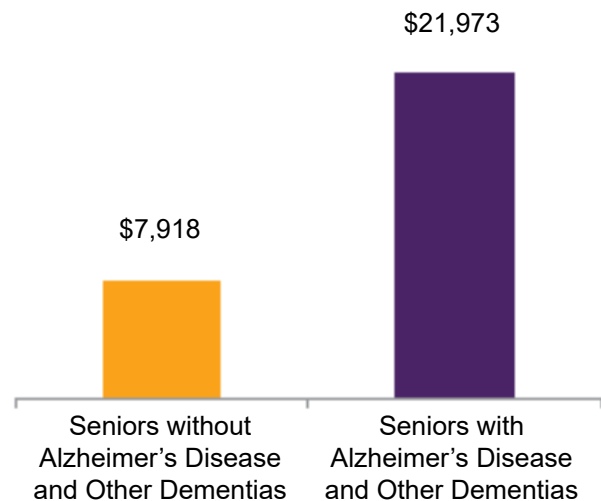
Alzheimer's is one of the most expensive diseases in America, costing more than cancer and heart disease.

- In 2024, the direct costs to American society of caring for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias will total an estimated \$360 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.

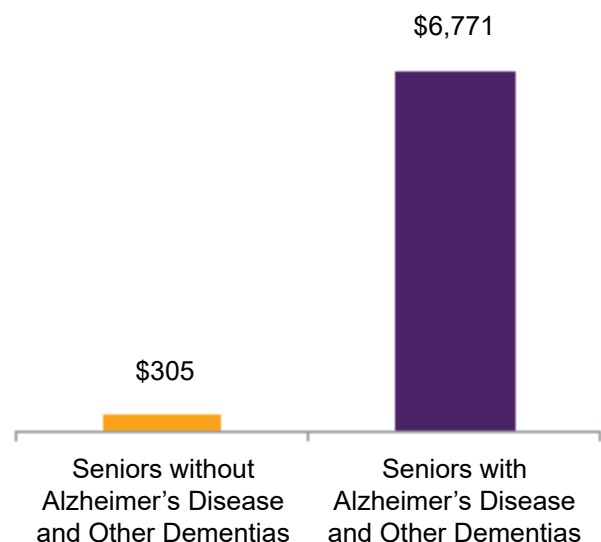
Most of these costs are borne by Medicare and Medicaid.

- In 2024, Medicare and Medicaid will spend an estimated \$231 billion caring for those with Alzheimer's and other dementias — 64% of total costs.
 - An estimated \$164 billion will be spent by the federal government under Medicare.
 - This means that nearly 1 in every 6 Medicare dollars will be spent on someone with the disease in 2024.
 - Federal and state governments combined will spend an estimated \$68 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 2.8 times higher than average per-person spending for all other seniors. Under Medicaid, spending is, on average, more than 22 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.

- Nearly 7 million Americans aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer’s dementia in 2024.
- The number of Americans aged 65 and older is projected to grow from 58 million in 2022 to 82 million by 2050.
- The number of Americans living with Alzheimer’s will nearly 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 \$637 billion (in 2024 dollars)

- In 2050, Medicare spending on people with Alzheimer’s will total a projected \$453 billion — an increase of 177% from today’s spending levels. This will represent nearly 1 in every 3 dollars of total estimated Medicare spending.
- Medicaid spending on people with Alzheimer’s will increase 173% between now and 2050, and costs are projected to reach \$185 billion in 2050.

Alzheimer’s Prevalence and Costs to Medicare and Medicaid

