

FACTSHEET

MARCH 2020

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Women and Alzheimer's Disease

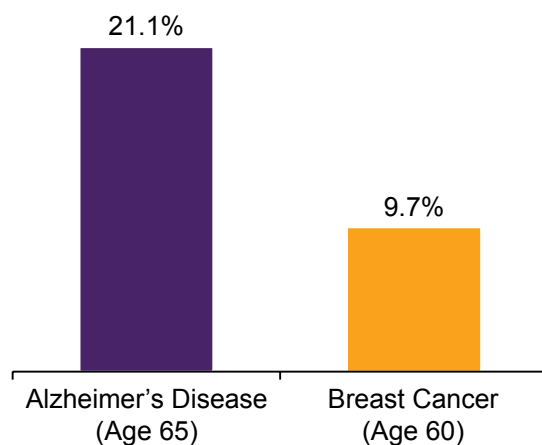
Women are at the epicenter of the Alzheimer's crisis. Almost two-thirds of American seniors living with Alzheimer's disease are women.

- An estimated 3.6 million women aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's.
- Among those aged 71 and older, 16% of women have Alzheimer's and other dementias, compared with 11% of men.
- At age 65, women without Alzheimer's have more than a 1 in 5 chance of developing Alzheimer's during the remainder of their lives, compared with a 1 in 9 chance for men.
- Women in their 60s are more than twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's disease over the rest of their lives as they are to develop breast cancer.

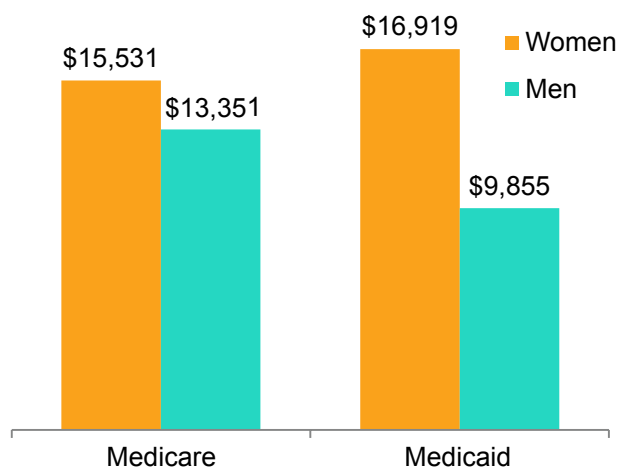
Individuals with Alzheimer's have higher health care costs. But, women with the disease have higher costs than men.

- Over the course of a lifetime, a woman with Alzheimer's will cost Medicare, on average, \$15,531 more than a woman without Alzheimer's. This is 16% higher than the "incremental cost" for men with the disease.
- Under Medicaid, a woman with Alzheimer's will have \$16,919 more in costs than a woman without — more than 70% higher than the incremental costs for male Alzheimer's patients.

Remaining Lifetime Risk of Women Developing Alzheimer's Disease and Breast Cancer



Average Lifetime Costs of a Person with Alzheimer's In Excess of a Person Without Alzheimer's



Not only are women more likely to have Alzheimer's, they are also more likely to be caregivers of those with Alzheimer's.

- Studies have consistently shown that women make up 60% to 70% of all unpaid Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers.
- This means that as many as 11 million women are currently providing unpaid care to someone with Alzheimer's or another dementia.

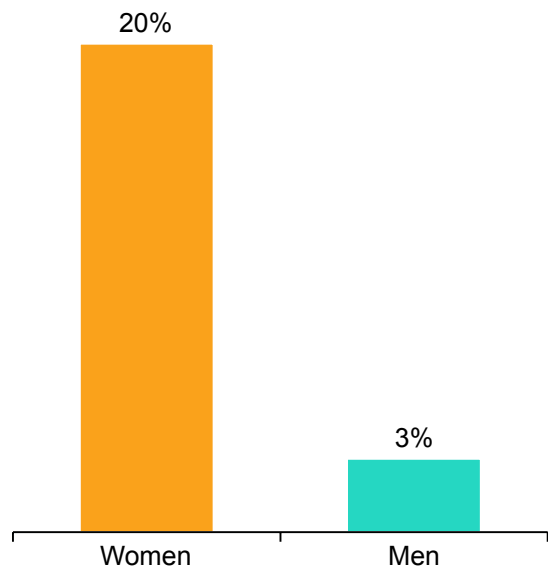
Women caregivers provide more intense care for longer periods of time.

- There are 2.5 times more women than men who provide on-duty care 24-hours a day for someone with Alzheimer's.
- Similarly, there are 1.7 times more women than men who have been providing care to someone with Alzheimer's for more than five years.
- Studies show female caregivers take on more caregiving tasks than their male counterparts — and care for people with more cognitive, functional, and/or behavioral problems.

Caregiving responsibilities take a toll on women's health and well-being.

- Almost half of all women Alzheimer's caregivers say caregiving is physically stressful. This is twice the rate as male Alzheimer's caregivers.
- While about one-third of both men and women Alzheimer's caregivers feel isolated as a result of their caregiving duties, for women, this feeling is much more commonly linked to depression.
- Nearly three-quarters of women caregivers express concern about the ability to maintain their own health since becoming a caregiver.

Percentage of Working Alzheimer's Caregivers Who Have Gone from Full-Time to Part-Time Work



Because of caregiving duties, women are likely to experience adverse consequences in the workplace.

- Nearly 19% of women Alzheimer's caregivers had to quit work either to become a caregiver in the first place or because their caregiving duties became too burdensome.
- Among working women caregivers, 20% have gone from working full time to part time, compared with only 3% of working male caregivers.
- Other employment effects on working women caregivers include:
 - 18% have taken a leave of absence from work
 - 10% have lost job benefits
 - 17% felt they had been penalized at work because of their caregiving duties.