



Dementia  
Friendly  
America®

FaithUnited  
AgainstAlzheimer's

## THE ALZHEIMER'S CRISIS

Alzheimer's is not a normal part of aging—it is a devastating disease. For families, caregivers, and society at large, Alzheimer's and related dementias can be emotionally and financially ruinous. Alzheimer's disease and other dementias generate catastrophic healthcare, economic, and social impacts – and these impacts are rapidly growing.

Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia, a progressive brain disease that slowly destroys memories and thinking skills. Alzheimer's often starts 5, 10, or even 20 years before symptoms appear. Symptoms usually start with difficulty remembering new information. In advanced stages, symptoms include confusion, mood and behavior changes, and inability to care for one's self and perform basic life tasks. Alzheimer's is ultimately fatal.

UsAgainstAlzheimer's knows that this is unacceptable and is working to stop Alzheimer's.

**Alzheimer's is the only top 10 cause of death in the U.S. with NO cure, means of prevention, or treatment to modify the disease.**

Alzheimer's is the third-leading cause of death in the U.S. It claimed more than 500,000 lives in 2010—that is more than 1,369 people a day.

Approximately 5.5 million people currently have Alzheimer's disease in the U.S. The number with Alzheimer's disease is projected to triple to 16 million by 2050.

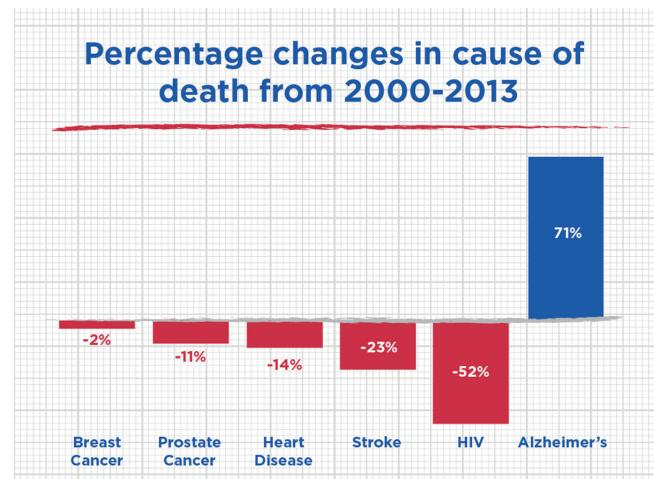
Someone develops Alzheimer's every 66 seconds in the U.S. By 2050 this is projected to be every 33 seconds.

Alzheimer's is not just a disease of old age. 200,000 people under age 65 have early-onset Alzheimer's disease and the disease affects the entire family.

15 million family caregivers in the United States provided an estimated 18.2 billion hours of unpaid care in 2016 for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias. A new report from UsAgainstAlzheimer's shows that the U.S. has vastly underestimated the public costs and consequences of the Alzheimer's epidemic and major social trends have direct and adverse implications for our capacity to cope with the Alzheimer's epidemic in the years ahead.

Alzheimer's disease is the most feared disease in the U.S.

Alzheimer's disproportionately impacts women and communities of color.



## The financial costs of Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's is the most expensive disease in the nation. The financial costs of Alzheimer's for families and the government are enormous.

Total annual out-of-pocket payments in the U.S. for healthcare, long-term care, and hospice care for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias is projected to total \$259 billion in 2017 and increase to \$1.1 trillion by 2050, if we don't have a treatment or cure.

Medicare and Medicaid cover \$175 billion, or approximately 68% of the out-of-pocket health-care costs. Medicaid payments are on average 23 times higher for those with Alzheimer's compared to those without, and Medicare payments are three times greater on average. By 2050, Alzheimer's is expected to increase Medicare and Medicaid costs by over 330%.

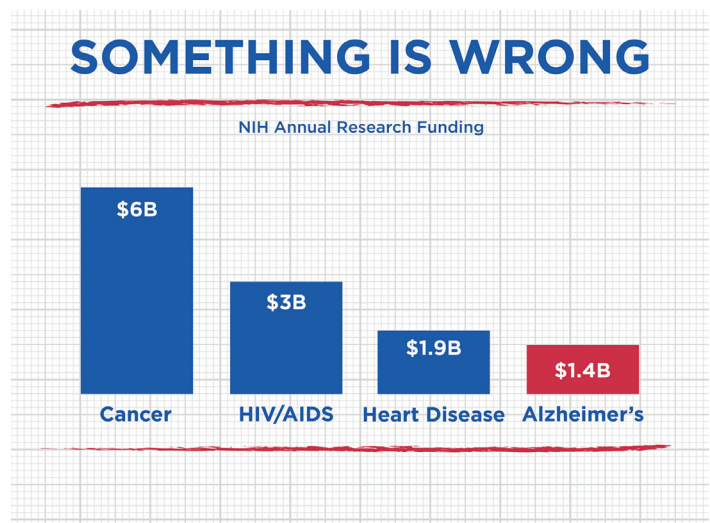
## Federal research funding is inadequate for the scope of the problem

The research community believes it is possible to prevent or control Alzheimer's within the next 10 years with adequate research funding and other reforms to accelerate the drug pipeline.

Federal research funding is a fraction of that of other major diseases. More than \$250 billion is spent annually in out of pocket health-care costs for Alzheimer's, which is more than 179 times the amount spent on finding a cure.

For every dollar the federal government spends today on the costs of Alzheimer's care, it invests less than a penny in research to find a cure.

It is important that our government officials make fighting Alzheimer's a national priority and dedicate adequate resources to research.



## The first person cured of Alzheimer's will be in a clinical trial

*We must speed up clinical trials and ensure the participants reflect the diversity of those with Alzheimer's disease.*

Important clinical trials are underway that focus on potential prevention and treatment for Alzheimer's. See our clinical trial page for more information.

## Alzheimer's is a global crisis that requires a global solution

It is a grave threat to the world's health and finances if not stopped. Worldwide about 50 million people have some form of dementia, and someone in the world develops dementia every three seconds.

When the world has faced catastrophic challenges before, nations have marshaled significant resources behind clear goals and objectives to achieve great things. For example, the world committed to an ambitious, aggressive and well-funded effort to prevent and treat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. That effort has paid significant dividends in lives and money saved.