



Dementia  
Friendly  
America®

FaithUnited  
AgainstAlzheimer's

## DISPARITIES: SHIFTING DEMOGRAPHICS PLACE COMMUNITIES OF COLOR IN THE CROSSHAIRS OF ALZHEIMER'S

The Latino and African American 65 and older populations will grow 224% and 114 % respectively by 2030, compared to a 65 % growth for non-Latino white Americans. This demographic trend foreshadows a tremendous growth of Alzheimer's in communities of color. According to researchers, the number one risk factor for Alzheimer's is advanced age and the likelihood of developing the disease doubles about every five years after age 65; after age 85, the risk reaches nearly 50 %.

### Latinos and African Americans Experience Higher Risk for Alzheimer's

Hypertension, diabetes, stroke, and coronary artery disease are all risk factors for Alzheimer's. These chronic conditions are more prevalent in Latinos and African Americans compared to other Americans, resulting in African Americans being two times more likely and Latinos being one and a half times more likely to develop Alzheimer's than white Americans. Despite this higher prevalence, African Americans and Latinos with Alzheimer's are, on average, less likely than white Americans to be diagnosed by a healthcare professional.

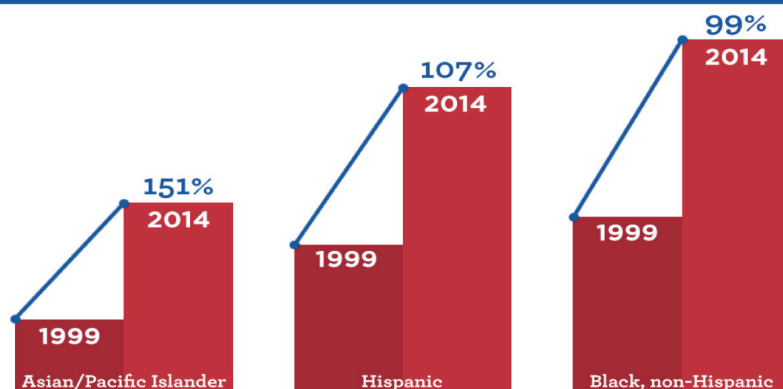
Stigma, misunderstanding, and weak linkages to our nation's healthcare system are leading to significant disparities in Alzheimer's and dementia diagnosis rates, access to treatment, quality care, and clinical research and trial participation rates among Latinos and African Americans.

### The Toll of Alzheimer's on Communities of Color is Growing

By 2030, Latinos and African Americans will make up nearly 40% of the 8.4 million American families affected by Alzheimer's disease.

Death rates among communities of color due to Alzheimer's disease are on the rise.

### Alzheimer's death rates in communities of color increased dramatically between 1999 and 2014



## **The Economic Impact of Alzheimer's on Communities of Color is Startling**

Communities of color are largely unprepared for the financial hardship of Alzheimer's. Families can expect to spend between \$41,000 and \$56,000 annually in dementia-related costs, according to a RAND Corporation study. This is a frightening prospect for Latino and African Americans communities where the median household income was \$40,785 and \$39,715 in 2010, respectively.

### **Latino Economic Impact**

According to UsAgainstAlzheimer's and the USC Roybal Institute on Aging, the total direct and indirect costs for Latinos living with Alzheimer's will reach approximately \$105.5 billion by 2060 (in 2012 dollars)—costing the U.S. economy a total of \$2.35 trillion (in 2012 dollars) through 2060.

### **African American Economic Impact**

While African Americans make up only 13.6% of the U.S. population, they bear a third of the costs of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. The economic burden of Alzheimer's and other dementias for African Americans was \$71.6 billion in 2012. Caregiving for African Americans with Alzheimer's represents the bulk of these costs—more than 60%. More than 60% of the costs are borne by the families of African American women with Alzheimer's, and close to half of the costs are concentrated in the southern states.

## **Sex-based Differences—Alzheimer's disease is the current greatest challenge to women's health.**

**Women are twice as likely to suffer from Alzheimer's.** Two-thirds of those dying with Alzheimer's are women, and one in six women aged 65+ will develop the disease, twice the rate of breast cancer. Yet, the disease is rarely defined as a sex or gender-based public health crisis.

**Women are twice as likely to care for someone with Alzheimer's.** The consequences are devastating. Half of women caregivers alter or end the basic routines of their working lives, and 75% worry about caregiving's toll on their health.

**This immense burden on women will only grow.** Women bear 80% of the social cost of Alzheimer's—already estimated at over \$200 billion in the U.S. alone. Imagine the impact as the global prevalence doubles every twenty years through 2050.