

DEMENTIA STATISTICS

Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia among older adults in the U.S. Approximately 6.9 million Americans aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's dementia in 2024. Approximately two-thirds of Americans over age 65 with Alzheimer's dementia (4.1 million) are women. The Alzheimer's Association reports that the number of Americans aged 65 and older with Alzheimer's could nearly double by 2050.

By Age:

Ages 65-74: 5.3% have Alzheimer's dementia.

Ages 75-84: 13.8% have Alzheimer's dementia.

Ages 85 and older: 34.6% have Alzheimer's dementia.

By Gender: Nearly two-thirds of Americans with Alzheimer's are women.

500,000 new cases of Alzheimer's dementia are diagnosed each year among people aged 65 and older.

As of 2022, approximately 58 million Americans were aged 65 and older, constituting about 17% of the total U.S. population. Therefore, approximately 9 new cases of Alzheimer's dementia per 1,000 individuals aged 65 and older each year in the United States. (close to 1%).

But at age 65, chance in one year is 0.5%. Goes up as age goes up.

Gender Differences:

Lifetime risk: At age 45, the risk is 1 in 5 for women and 1 in 10 for men.

Overall Mortality:

In 2021, Alzheimer's disease was the seventh leading cause of death in the U.S., accounting for 120,122 deaths. CDC

Among people aged 65 and older, Alzheimer's disease ranked as the fifth leading cause of death in 2021.

As of 2022, the leading causes of death among females aged 65 and older in the United States, along with the number of deaths, are:

- Heart Disease: 314,186 deaths
- Cancer: 253,793 deaths
- COVID-19: 85,512 deaths
- Lung Diseases: 61,839 deaths
- Stroke (Cerebrovascular Diseases): 60,553 deaths

Racial and Ethnic Differences:

Older Black Americans are about twice as likely to have Alzheimer's or other dementias as older White Americans.

Older Hispanics are about one and one-half times as likely to have Alzheimer's or other dementias as older White Americans.

In the UK, a study revealed that women who entered menopause before age 40 were 35% more likely to develop dementia compared to those who began menopause at the average age of 50 to 51 years.

The findings revealed that women who underwent natural menopause between ages 41 and 45 had a 19% higher risk of all-cause dementia compared to those who experienced menopause between ages 46 and 50.

Similarly, research presented at the American Heart Association Conference in 2022 found that women who entered menopause before age 45 were 1.3 times more likely to develop dementia before the age of 65, compared to those who began menopause at the average age of 50 to 51 years.

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