

## March Special Edition

2024 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures Special Report Highlights the Need for Dementia Care Navigation

Navigating the complex landscape of dementia care presents challenges for both caregivers and health care workers, as highlighted by the Alzheimer's Association [2024 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures](#) special report, *Mapping a Better Future for Dementia Care Navigation*. A survey of dementia caregivers found that 7 in 10 caregivers report high stress from coordinating care, and over half find the health care system difficult to navigate.



Similarly, 60% of health care workers surveyed — including nurse practitioners, community health workers and home health aides — say the current health care system is not effectively helping patients and their families navigate dementia care.

Alzheimer's and dementia are complex conditions, and new treatments and health care system barriers add to this complexity. Dementia care navigation can help families and caregivers understand and overcome these challenges. This year's special report, however, reveals that 66% of dementia caregivers have difficulty finding resources and support for their needs.

In the survey, dementia caregivers say the most valuable community-based resources include local caregiver support groups, respite programs, and the availability of financial resources in the community.

The report identifies three initial efforts that can be taken to advance dementia care navigation across health care:

- Formalize dementia care navigator roles and build expertise in dementia care.
- Incentivize and reward care coordination in dementia care.
- Leverage technology to create direct lines to dementia care navigators.



The special report, *Mapping a Better Future for Dementia Care Navigation*, shows that most (75%) non-physician health care professionals who provide care navigation services have received no formal training in dementia care navigation. Nine in 10 of these workers say social workers, community health workers or home health aides are best suited to help people living with dementia and their caregivers navigate health care.

[Read the Full Special Report](#)

### Other Highlights from 2024 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures

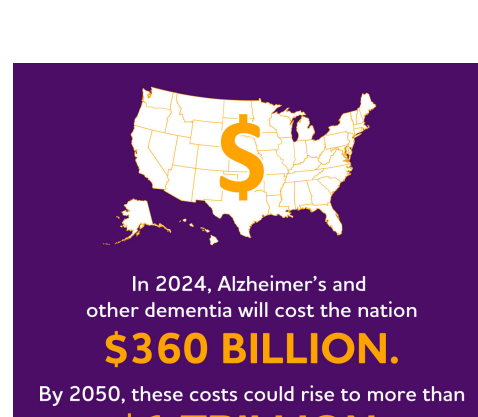
#### Rising Prevalence and Mortality

- The states with the highest percentage of Alzheimer's among their older population are Maryland (12.9%), New York (12.7%), Florida (12.5%), Mississippi (12.5%) and Louisiana (12.4%).
- Between 2000 and 2021, the number of deaths from Alzheimer's disease in the United States has more than doubled.



#### Rising Costs

- In 2024, the cost of caring for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias is projected to total \$360 billion.
- Medicare and Medicaid cover nearly two-thirds of the costs, or \$231 billion.



#### Workforce Shortages

- Fifty-five percent of primary care physicians caring for people living with Alzheimer's report there are not enough dementia care specialists in their communities.
- Compared with the direct care workforce in 2021, more than one million additional direct care workers will be needed to meet care demands — more new workers than in any other single occupation in the United States.

### New Individual State Data Available

The latest statistics from the Alzheimer's Association *2024 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures* on Alzheimer's prevalence, incidence, mortality, costs of care, and caregiving at the national and state levels are now available at [alz.org/facts](#). Additional state data are available at [alz.org/facts-states](#).

[Find Your State](#)

### New Tool for Community Health Improvement Planning

A new tool — *Integrating Brain Health into Community Health Improvement Planning* — outlines how the [Healthy Brain Initiative \(HBI\) Road Map](#) and [Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships \(MAPP\) 2.0](#) can be used by state and local public health departments in the community health improvement process to promote brain health, address dementia, and better help caregivers. To learn more, watch the [recording](#) of the launch webinar hosted by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) and the Alzheimer's Association.

[View Guide](#)

### Center for Dementia Respite Innovation Accepting Grant Applications Until June 1

The Alzheimer's Association is accepting applications for the [Center for Dementia Respite Innovation \(CDRI\)](#) grants. The CDRI initiative is focused on making respite service providers (adult day centers, in-home services, innovative models) more dementia-capable and ensuring they provide the best person-centered care possible. Beginning in July 2024, the CDRI will provide up to 20 grants totaling \$4 million per year for the next five years to respite providers. Public health practitioners are encouraged to share this funding opportunity with respite care providers in their communities. Applications are due June 1, 2024.



Call for grant applications for respite care providers. Applications due June 1, 2024. CENTER FOR DEMENTIA RESPITE INNOVATION

[alz.org/CDRI](#)

### Spotlight on Success: The Healthy Brain Initiative Road Map in Action

A new video — *Healthy Brain Initiative Road Map in Action: Making an Impact in Communities* — showcases seven communities implementing the [Healthy Brain Initiative \(HBI\) Road Map](#). Watch the video to learn more about the HBI Road Map and the work being done in Georgia, Washington, Mississippi, Kentucky, Vermont, the tribes represented by the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and Cameron County, Texas.



### Input Requested: World Alzheimer Report Survey

[Alzheimer's Disease International](#) is conducting a global survey on attitudes and beliefs about dementia. The survey is open to the general public, and individuals with dementia, caregivers, and health care professionals are particularly encouraged to participate.

[Learn More](#)

## Webinars and Upcoming Events

A Public Health Approach to Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

May 28 – May 31, 2024

The University of Minnesota's [Public Health Institute](#) is offering the course, *A Public Health Approach to Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias*. This online course will offer an in-depth exploration of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias from a public health perspective. Contact [phi@umn.edu](#) to learn more about registration, deadlines and eligibility.

### Tight Blood Pressure Control — Can We Prevent Dementia Among Older Adults?

April 15, 2024 | 3:30-5 p.m. ET

This panel discussion, co-sponsored by the [NYU Langone Health's Department of Population Health](#) and the Optimal Aging Institute, will delve into the potential of blood pressure control as an intervention for reducing the risk of dementia. Both [in-person](#) and [virtual](#) options are available.

## Recordings and Resources

### Integrating Sustainability into Implementation of the HBI Road Map

New resources developed by the [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials \(ASTHO\)](#) and CDC provide state and local public health professionals with tools and guidance to incorporate comprehensive sustainability plans into their work to implement the Healthy Brain Initiative (HBI) Road Map. The resources provide tips for collaborative approaches on integrating sustainability and operationalizing equity throughout Road Map implementation work. Also included are state success stories that can serve as examples for other public health agencies.

The *Program Sustainability in Healthy Brain Initiative* three-part video series highlights three state leaders and an academic expert talking about partnerships, equitable practice, and the blending of public health planning and sustainability for long-term benefits of the HBI.



The resource [Sustainability in HBI Implementation: Who? What? Why? Now!](#), complements the video series, highlighting ways for state and local health departments to integrate sustainability in HBI work and operationalize equity.

[Learn More](#)