

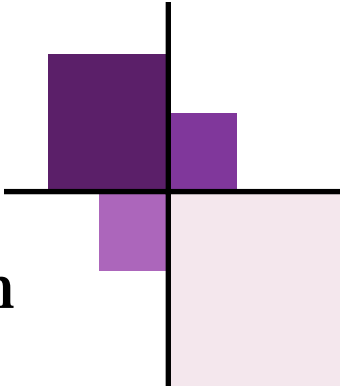
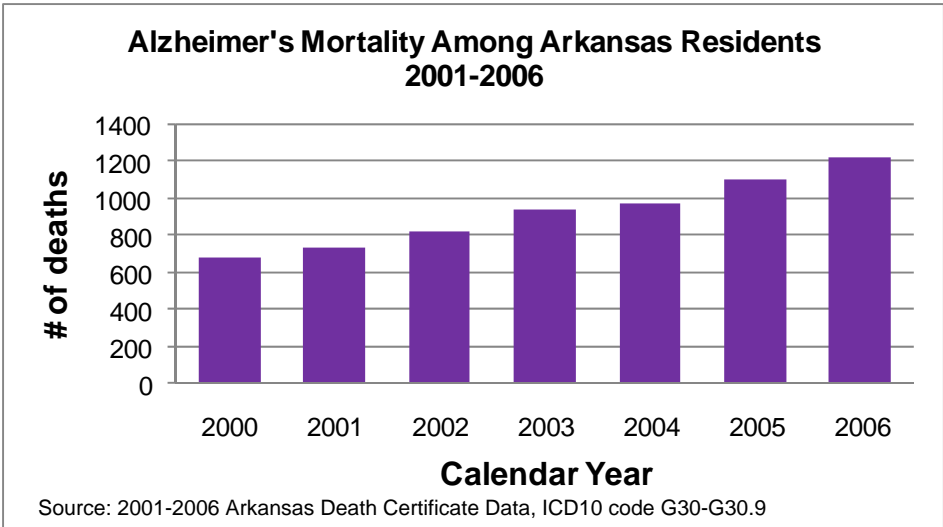
# Alzheimer's Disease in Arkansas

Alzheimer's is the most common type of dementia and accounts for 60-80% of all cases.

Alzheimer's is not a normal part of aging.

- Current research estimates 5.3 million Americans of all ages have Alzheimer's disease –this includes 5.1 million aged 65 and older and 200,000 under age 65 who have younger-onset Alzheimer's. Based on these estimates approximately 500,000 Americans under age 65 have Alzheimer's or related dementias.
- Age is the most important risk factor for Alzheimer's disease; in fact, by 2011 the first baby boomers will turn 65.
- By 2029, all baby boomers will be at least 65 years old, making attention to Alzheimer's disease a priority for Arkansas as the growth of older Arkansans increases.
- According to Arkansas death certificate data, the number of deaths due to Alzheimer's has almost doubled in the past seven years.
- In Arkansas, an Alzheimer's patients' final stage of life is lived out in many places. Half (53.6%) of Alzheimer's patients in Arkansas between 2001 and 2006 lived in nursing homes at the time of their death; twenty-three percent in hospitals and almost twenty percent at home.
- Women tend to have higher rates of Alzheimer's given they live long enough to develop these conditions and generally live longer than men; however, when age-adjusted, women and men suffer from Alzheimer's at similar rates.

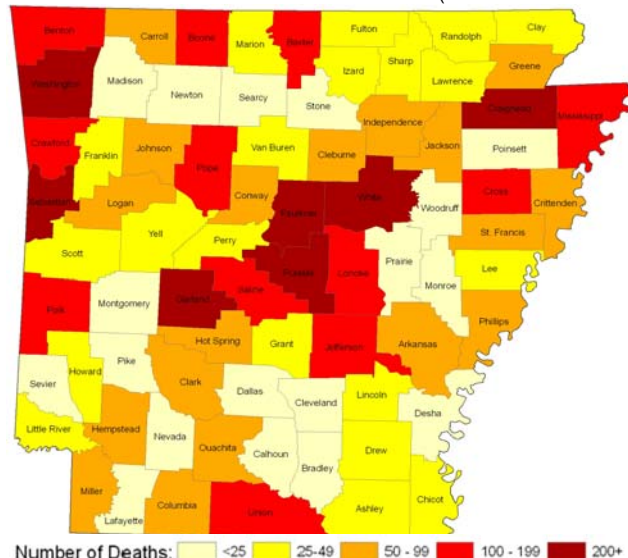
Location of Death, 2001-2006	
Nursing home	53.6%
Hospital - in patient	23.0%
Home	19.3%
Other	4.1%
Source: Arkansas Death Certificate Data	



November is Alzheimer's Awareness Month

- Another concern for Arkansas' population is education and its association to developing Alzheimer's and other dementias. Individuals with fewer years of education are associated with a higher likelihood of having Alzheimer's disease.
- During 2001-2006, 75% of Alzheimer's deaths were to Arkansans with a 12th grade education or less.
- The Task Force on the Effects of Alzheimer's Disease in Arkansas—ACT 92 of 2009, was created to assess and recommend strategies for meeting the Alzheimer's disease needs in the State of Arkansas.

Number of Deaths due to Alzheimer's Disease by County of Death from 2001 – 2006 Arkansas Death Certificates (ICD10 = G30 – G30.9)



## 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's Disease:

- Memory changes that disrupt daily life
- Challenges in planning or solving problems
- Difficulty completing familiar tasks
- Confusion with time or place
- Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships
- New problems with words in speaking or writing
- Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps
- Decreased or poor judgment
- Withdrawal from work or social activities
- Changes in mood and personality

To learn more about effective prevention and treatment strategies and to identify resources in your community, please contact:

### Alzheimer's Arkansas

1-800-689-6090

After hours "Care Phone":

501-913-1878

[www.alzark.org](http://www.alzark.org)



### Alzheimer's Association: Oklahoma and Arkansas Chapter

24/7 Helpline: 800-272-3900

Local office: 501-265-0027

[www.alz.org/alzokar](http://www.alz.org/alzokar)

alzheimer's association®

the compassion to care, the leadership to conquer

### Division of Aging and Adult Services—AR DHS

Call toll free:

1-866-801-3435

[www.daas.ar.gov](http://www.daas.ar.gov)



This factsheet made possible by the Task Force on the Effects of Alzheimer's Disease in Arkansas—ACT 92 of 2009 and the Health Data Initiative housed at the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement.

Sources: Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) Hospital Discharge Data, ADH Death Certificate Data, Alzheimer's Association, 2009 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures, US Census Bureau.

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