

The Impact on Arkansas Families

NUMBER OF PEOPLE AGED 65 AND OLDER WITH ALZHEIMER'S

YEAR

TOTAL

2020

58,000

2025

67,000

ESTIMATED % INCREASE

15.5%

PREVALENCE

Arkansas Prevalence

OF DEATHS FROM ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE (2019)

1,507 250.5%
INCREASE IN ALZHEIMER'S DEATHS 2000-2019

MORTALITY

UNPAID CAREGIVERS (2022)	CAREGIVER HEALTH (2021)		
154,000 # OF CAREGIVERS	72.8% OF CAREGIVERS WITH CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS		
268,000,000 TOTAL HOURS OF UNPAID CARE	38.0% OF CAREGIVERS WITH DEPRESSION		
\$4,423,000,000 TOTAL VALUE OF UNPAID CARE	25.0% OF CAREGIVERS IN POOR PHYSICAL HEALTH		
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CAREGIVING

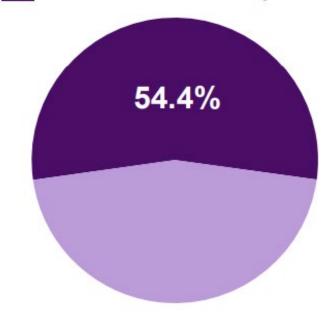
Source: 2023 Facts and Figures Report



Subjective Cognitive Decline in Arkansas

- In Arkansas, 11.5% of those aged 45 and over report they are experiencing confusion or memory loss that is happening more often or is getting worse
- For those with worsening memory problems, 60% say it has created "functional difficulties" — that is, caused them to give up day-to-day activities and/or interfered with work or social activities.

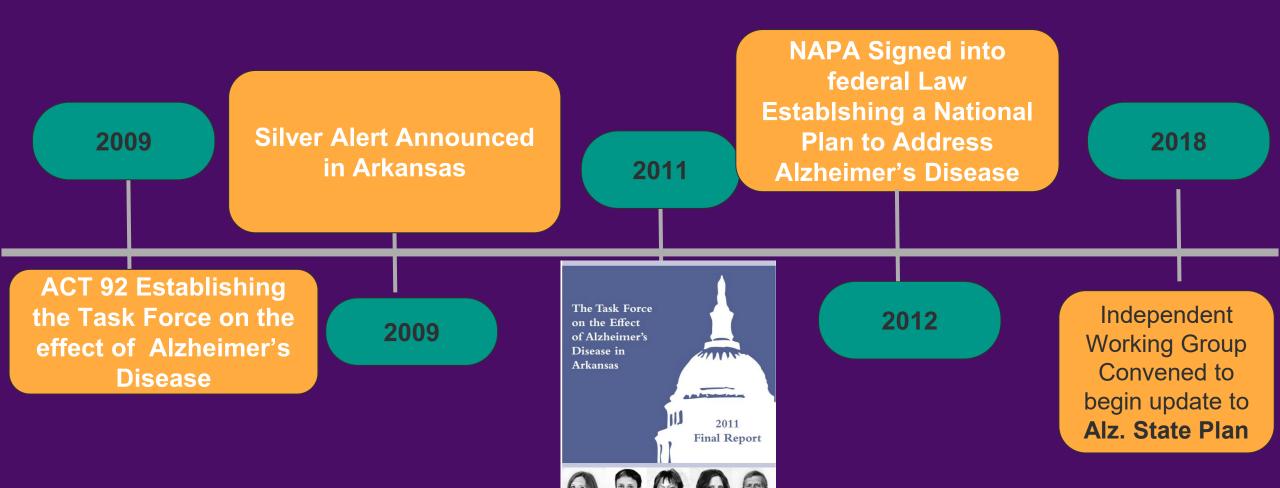
Percent with memory problems who have not talked to a health care provider



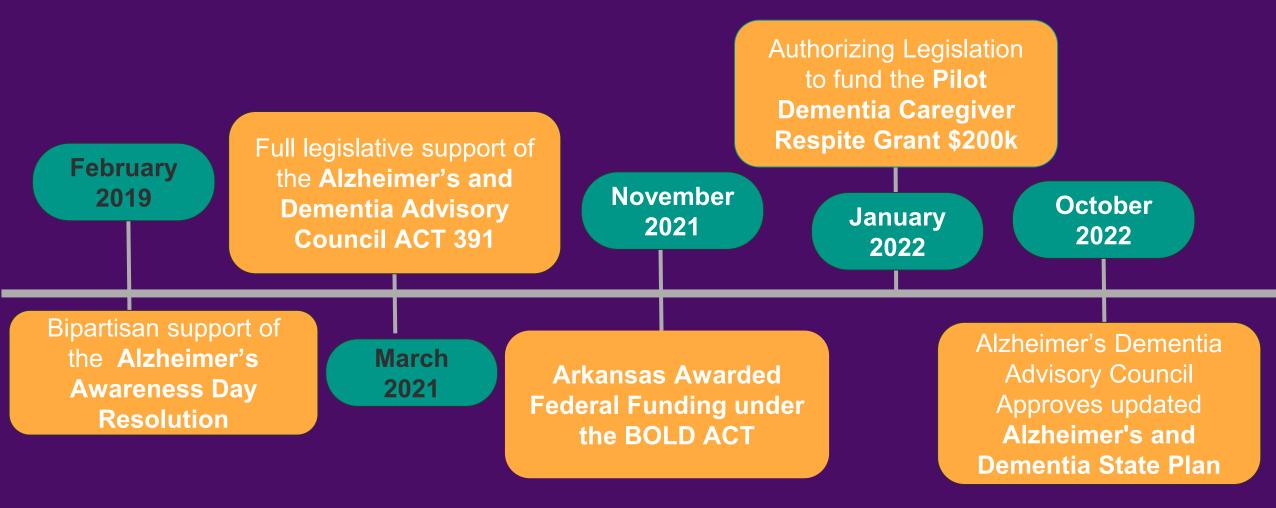
Overview of the 2023 Legislative Session



Arkansas Response



Arkansas Response



Alzheimer's and Dementia Advisory Council

ACT 391 of the 2021 Legislative Session

- I. Establishes an Alzheimer's and Dementia Advisory Council
- Requires the State Alzheimer's Disease Plan to be updated every four years
- II. Mandated Reporting to the Legislative Body on the Status of the Implementation Every Other Year





Alzheimer's and Dementia Advisory Council HB1166 ACT 102



THE PRIORITY:

Strengthen the Alzheimer's and Dementia Advisory Council

What Does the ACT Accomplish

- Strengthens the Advisory Council by adding two members from underrepresented healthcare providers
 - The Arkansas Association of HomeCare Providers
 - The Arkansas Residential Assisted Living Association





2023 Dementia Training Legislation



THE PRIORITY:

Strengthen the current workforce with the tools they need to meet the unique needs of persons with dementia

2023 Policy Initiatives:

Establish Dementia-Specific Training Standards for the following:

- Home health and Home-Care Providers
 - ACT 70 Requires (2) hours of dementia training for home care providers
 - ACT 202 Requires a minimum of (2) hours of dementia training for law enforcement and first responders
 - ACT 335 Require (4) hours of dementia training and (2) hours of annual continuing education for all direct care staff in Assisted Living Facilities





THE PRIORITY:

Alzheimer's and Dementia Services Coordinator S. 345 ACT 682



What Will The Position Do?

- Assist in coordinating the state's response to Alzheimer's
- UPDATE: DHS preparing to post the position



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Support for Family Caregivers

Alzheimer's and Dementia Caregiver Respite Grant Progr

- DHS include \$200,000 in the Division of Provider Services and Quality Assurance Budget (Funded by a Federal Block Grant)

The Program:

- Provides dementia caregivers with \$500 grant to secure respite services
- Eligibility:
 - Caregiver of someone with Alzheimer's or dementia
 - Must hire someone living outside of the home
 - Caregivers are eligible for two grants during the FY, must wait 6 months between award.





Highlights from the Alzheimer's Association International Conference

ALZHEIMER'S \\ ASSOCIATION°

About AAIC



The Alzheimer's Association International Conference is the largest and most influential international meeting dedicated to advancing dementia science. Each year, AAIC convenes the world's leading basic scientists, clinical researchers, early career investigators, clinicians and the care research community to share breaking research discoveries that will lead to methods of prevention and treatment and improvements in diagnosis for Alzheimer's disease.



Advancements in Alzheimer's **Treatments**



Donanemab - Trailblazer - ALZ2 Clinical Trial Evidence released

The results showed that Donanemab significantly slowed cognitive and functional decline in people with early symptomatic Alzheimer's disease (either mild cognitive impairment or mild dementia), confirming the company's May 2023 topline data release. At AAIC, we learned:

- The beneficial treatment effect continued to increase relative to placebo over the course of the trial, with the largest differences versus placebo seen at 18 months.
- Study participants at the earliest stage of disease had greater benefit, with 60% slowing of decline compared to placebo. Significant benefits were also seen in more advanced patients.
- Nearly half (47%) of study participants at the earliest stage of disease who received donanemab had no clinical progression at one year.



Advancements in Alzheimer's Treatments

Gene Therapies - Two studies on therapeutic approaches based on CRISPR gene editing.

- One study aims at reducing the impact of the strongest known Alzheimer's Risk Gene, APOE-e4
- One study aims to reduce production of a toxic protein in the brain, beta amyloid, which is a hallmark of Alzheimer's and the target of recently approved treatments.

Advancements in Alzheimer's Biomarkers



- Simplicity and diagnostic value of blood-based biomarkers for Alzheimer's
 - a. Simple finger prick blood test that allows promise in the ability to detect markers for Alz. with a single drop of blood, similar to the finger prick used for diabetes patients. (Sweden)
 - b. Blood test was more than 80% accurate in identifying Alzheimer's-related changes significantly better than doctors in the study who did not have access to the blood test.



Use of Opioids and Mortality Among Older Adults with Dementia

New Opioid use in older adults with dementia is associated with a significant increased risk, including an eleven fold increase in the first two weeks.

- 33.1% of study participants died within 180 days after initiating their first Opioid Rx.
- Compared to 6.4% of those without exposure to Opioids

Chronic Constipation Associated with Cognitive Decline

A researcher from University of Massachusetts, Amherst found individuals with chronic constipation (bowel movements every three days or more) had significantly worse cognition, equivalent to three years more of chronological cognitive aging, than those with healthy bowel movement patterns.

Plus, researchers from University of Texas San Antonio found specific gut bacteria that are associated with increased dementia risk, as well as gut bacteria that may be neuroprotective.

First Ever Nationwide Estimates of CorAAIC>23 Level Data

The first-ever nationwide estimates of the county-level prevalence of people with Alzheimer's dementia — in all 3,142 United States counties — were revealed at AAIC 2023.

Researchers from Rush University Medical Center in Chicago found that the eastern and southeastern U.S. have the highest prevalence of Alzheimer's dementia.

Arkansas County Level Data



Counties with the Highest Prevalence

Counties with the Lowest Prevalence

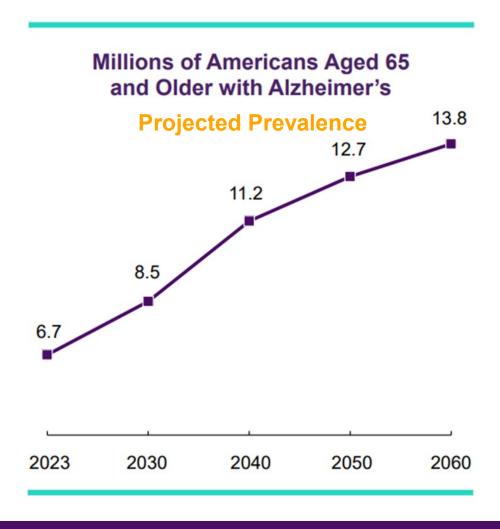
65+ Alz	<u>Prev</u> .		<u>65+</u>	Alz	Prev.
1,800 300 2,200 400 3,500 500	15.8%	Newton Marion Caroll	4,900	500	9.7%

Policy Implications

- Informed Public Health Strategy
 - Driving Risk Reduction
 - Early Detection and Diagnosis
- Improve Access to Diagnostics
- Improve Access to Education, Care and Support Services by strengthening existing infrastructure



The Urgency of Risk Reduction



 What happens to actual prevalence when a future cohort has higher rates of risk factors?



Modifiable Risk Factors

- In the vast majority of cases, Alzheimer's is a result of complex interactions among multiple factors.
- While there are <u>unmodifiable</u> risk factors, there are also <u>modifiable</u> risk factors:
 - Certain medical conditions
 - Health behavior habits
 - Social determinants of health







 According to the Lancet Commission, as many as 40% of dementia cases worldwide might be attributable to modifiable risk factors.



Some Preliminary Points

- Most evidence is population-based observational and epidemiological data, not randomized controlled trials.
- There is a lot we are still learning but there is sufficiently strong population-level evidence on some risk factors that we can no longer fail to act.
- We need to be mindful of social determinants of health, diversit and equity in relation to dementia.
- When thinking about how to act, you may need to shift your mindset.





Shifting the Mindset

- If you have previously engaged on the dementia issue, you have likely focused on working with older adults.
- But the greatest impact from a public health perspective will not be achieved if the focus is only on older adults.
- Risk reduction efforts need a different and younger audience.
- It's never too early nor too late for an individual to begin addressing risk factors; we need a life-course approach to dementia risk reduction.





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