Fiscal Year 2025 Alzheimer’s Research Funding

The escalating Alzheimer’s epidemic has profound implications for government budgets.

- Alzheimer’s is one of the most expensive diseases in America, costing more than heart disease or cancer.
- In 2024, caring for people with Alzheimer’s and other dementias will cost the United States an estimated $360 billion.
- Cumulatively between 2024 and 2050, costs are projected to total more than $18 trillion (in 2024 dollars) — nearly two-thirds of which will be borne by Medicare and Medicaid.
- Nearly 1 in every 6 dollars of Medicare spending is spent on people with Alzheimer’s and other dementias.

Despite the recent increased investment in Alzheimer’s research, more funding is needed to continue the work in key areas.

- For fiscal year 2024, Congress provided an additional $100 million in Alzheimer’s research funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).
- With this increase, along with previous research investments, annual NIH Alzheimer’s research funding is now more than $3.8 billion.
- However, this is still short of the funding scientists and the federal Alzheimer’s Advisory Council say is necessary for continued progress.

Alzheimer’s Costs to Medicare and Medicaid (in billions of 2024 dollars)

Congressional action is needed to stay on the path to discovering scientific breakthroughs.

- One of the goals of the National Alzheimer’s Plan is the development of preventions and effective treatments.
- To help achieve this, the NIH Alzheimer’s bypass budget — what the NIH scientists say they need — calls for an additional $318 million in Alzheimer’s research funding for fiscal year 2025.
- This increase will allow the NIH to accelerate investment in collaborations that speed discovery, groundbreaking prevention trials, and the testing of new therapeutics.