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Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Prevalence Data Report

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Introduction:

This report presents a comprehensive analysis of the prevalence of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) among Maryland residents. The data aggregates patient encounters with an ADRD diagnosis in any position across key state datasets over a five-year period, from September 30, 2019, to September 30, 2024. The analysis is based on aggregated data from Maryland Medicaid, the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) for hospital admission and discharge, and the CRISP-MD participant clinical data. Utilizing CRISP's Master Person Index (MPI), the methodology ensures each unique individual is counted once, providing a robust, unduplicated count of affected Marylanders.

The goal of this report is to provide current prevalence estimates and demographic breakdowns based on Healthcare Data to inform policy, resource allocation, and public health efforts aimed at addressing the challenges posed by ADRD in the state. Preliminary findings indicate a significant prevalence of ADRD among Maryland's older adult population, with 148,470 diagnosed individuals resulting in a total prevalence of 15.26% for the population aged 65 and older. The subsequent sections of this report detail the methodology, present the key findings, and offer a deeper discussion on the implications of this data.

Background:

In Maryland, the publication of the Dhana et al. (2023) study provided an alarming local assessment of the burden of Alzheimer's Disease. The study's projections led to the passage of Senate Bill 748 (SB 748), which mandates the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to establish and maintain a public website, in collaboration with the State-designated Health Information Exchange (CRISP), that includes the prevalence and hospitalization rate of ADRD. The bill requires this data to be disaggregated by county, age, sex, race, and ethnicity. This legislative action promotes the practice of comparing population-based estimates with real-world clinical data.

Key Findings:

- Over 15% of all Marylanders aged 65 and older have been diagnosed with some form of dementia.
- For every one person diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease, there are roughly three people diagnosed with other forms of dementia, primarily vascular and mixed dementia.
- Dementia incidence and risk increase sharply after age 85.
- Diagnosis rates for Alzheimer's are nearly 26 times higher for seniors over 85 compared to those aged 65–74.
- Black/African American seniors face the highest rates of diagnosis and hospitalization for dementia.
- Washington County (Rural) and Baltimore County (Urban) have the highest Alzheimer's diagnosis rates in their respective regions.

Methodology:

This analysis was performed on Maryland Medicaid data, HSCRC hospital admission and discharge data, and CRISP-MD participant clinical data. Using CRISP's Master Person Index (MPI), each unique person is only counted once. Data includes Marylanders with at least one encounter with a diagnosis of either Alzheimer's Disease, or a Related Dementia (ADRD) in any diagnosis position between September 30, 2019 and September 30, 2024.

All demographics were assessed as the most recent demographics in the CRISP MPI at the time of the analysis. For example, Maryland residence was defined as having a Maryland address at the time the analysis was performed. Age was calculated as the difference between the person's birthdate in the MPI and the date of the analysis. The analysis does not account for out of state migration outside of CRISP known affiliates (VA, DC, WV, CT, AK, RI) or any deaths. Sex for this analysis is 'administrative sex', as that is the variable provided by sources in a standard form. Analysis uses population denominators from Maryland Department of Planning estimates for July 1, 2020 data.

Limitations: While there is good coverage of the Maryland population across the three datasets, the analysis may not capture every Marylander with ADRD in the 5 year period. For example, this analysis does not include data from veteran healthcare providers, military healthcare providers, or out-of-state providers serving Maryland residents, as well as individuals who chose not to seek care. The analysis also does not reflect changes or corrections in diagnoses that may occur with additional tests or information throughout a person's clinical history. Because this is not a comprehensive source of all people with ADRD in the state, users should exercise caution in making conclusions or determinations based on prevalence estimates in this report.

Discussion:

This report builds upon the findings of the Dhana et al. (2023) study, which utilized math models to estimate the prevalence of Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) in Maryland and concluded that the state carries the highest disease burden in the U.S. The modeled prevalence estimates and the data from the Health Information Exchange (HIE) fundamentally capture different information. Modeled estimates aim to project the total number of people who have the disease, including those who have never been formally diagnosed. In contrast, the data from the HIE, captures people who have been diagnosed and sought medical care within the state's healthcare system. The state is currently working to adjust for these methodological differences. The data presented in this report, showing 148,470 diagnosed Marylanders aged 65 and older, represents the real-world burden of ADRD on Maryland’s healthcare system.

Table A. Total ADRD Prevalence (Aggregated) for the State of Maryland		
Total Diagnosed	MD Population (65+)	Prevalence (%)
148,470	973,152	15.26

Table A1. ADRD Prevalence by Diagnosis for the State of Maryland

Diagnosis	Diagnosed Patients	Hospitalizations	Population (65+)	Diagnoses per 100,000	Hospitalization per 100,000
Other Dementia	119,713	122,825	973,152	12,302	12,621
Alzheimer's Disease	34,404	23,159	973,152	3,535	2,380
Mixed Dementia	23,252	43,571	973,152	2,389	4,477
Vascular Dementia	4,277	2,385	973,152	439	245
Alcohol-Related Dementia	152	72	973,152	16	**
Lewy Body Dementia	71	11	973,152	**	**
Frontotemporal Dementia	35	<11	973,152	**	**
Young-Onset *	1,187	443	6,177,935	19	**
Down Syndrome Co-occurrence	619	616	973,152	64	63

* Young Onset has a different denominator than the other categories (whole population, vs. 65+)

** Data Value Suppressed

Table B. Estimated State Totals by Sex

Sex	Diagnoses	Hospitalizations	Population (65+)	Diagnoses per 100,000	Hospitalizations per 100,000
Alzheimer's					
F	22,878	14,122	559,916	4,086	2,522
M	12,713	9,480	427,436	2,974	2,218
Related Dementias					
F	94,827	100,388	559,916	16,936	17,929
M	68,880	79,339	427,436	16,115	18,562

** Data Value Suppressed

Table C. Prevalence by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Diagnoses	Hospitalizations	Population (65+)	Diagnoses per 100,000	Hospitalizations per 100,000
Alzheimer's					
Allegany	644	397	14,696	4,382	2,701
Anne Arundel	3,409	2,358	90,331	3,774	2,610
Baltimore	6,420	4,335	148,700	4,317	2,915
Baltimore City	3,664	2,681	87,793	4,173	3,054
Calvert	472	343	14,909	3,166	2,301
Caroline	206	91	5,755	3,579	1,581
Carroll	979	631	30,053	3,258	2,100
Cecil	438	238	17,186	2,549	1,385
Charles	768	445	21,861	3,513	2,036
Dorchester	219	82	7,188	3,047	1,141
Frederick	1,467	971	40,522	3,620	2,396
Garrett	320	128	6,789	4,714	1,885
Harford	1,707	1,279	43,705	3,906	2,926
Howard	1,683	1,217	48,178	3,493	2,526
Kent	158	45	5,254	3,007	856
Montgomery	5,190	3,299	173,612	2,989	1,900
Prince George's	3,754	2,714	129,868	2,891	2,090
Queen Anne's	340	164	10,207	3,331	1,607
Somerset	209	98	4,484	4,661	2,186
St. Mary's	515	262	15,725	3,275	1,666
Talbot	334	154	11,265	2,965	1,367
Washington	1,507	985	26,999	5,582	3,648
Wicomico	715	488	17,338	4,124	2,815
Worcester	473	197	14,934	3,167	1,319
Related Dementias					
Allegany	2,839	3,035	14,696	19,318	20,652
Anne Arundel	14,334	15,801	90,331	15,868	17,492
Baltimore	28,998	33,720	148,700	19,501	22,677

Baltimore City	21,369	26,755	87,793	24,340	30,475
Calvert	2,152	2,293	14,909	14,434	15,380
Caroline	1,028	755	5,755	17,863	13,119
Carroll	5,116	5,509	30,053	17,023	18,331
Cecil	2,688	2,468	17,186	15,641	14,361
Charles	3,473	3,483	21,861	15,887	15,932
Dorchester	1,313	913	7,188	18,267	12,702
Frederick	6,266	6,386	40,522	15,463	15,759
Garrett	1,017	708	6,789	14,980	10,429
Harford	7,169	8,475	43,705	16,403	19,391
Howard	6,896	8,268	48,178	14,314	17,161
Kent	809	508	5,254	15,398	9,669
Montgomery	23,061	24,633	173,612	13,283	14,189
Prince George's	18,351	20,617	129,868	14,131	15,875
Queen Anne's	1,396	1,177	10,207	13,677	11,531
Somerset	810	770	4,484	18,064	17,172
St. Mary's	2,269	2,270	15,725	14,429	14,436
Talbot	1,505	1,081	11,265	13,360	9,596
Washington	5,882	5,360	26,999	21,786	19,853
Wicomico	3,036	3,039	17,338	17,511	17,528
Worcester	1,937	1,708	14,934	12,970	11,437
** Data Value Suppressed					

Table D. Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity

Race/Ethnicity	Diagnoses	Hospitalizations	Population (65+)	Diagnoses per 100,000	Hospitalizations per 100,000
Alzheimer's					
Hispanic	1,021	615	36,513	2,796	1,684
Not Hispanic	34,251	22,972	950,839	3,602	2,416
American Indian/Alaskan Native	53	38	2,571	2,061	1,478
Asian	1,283	635	56,382	2,276	1,126
Black/African American	9,699	7,023	248,006	3,911	2,832
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	20	**	363	5,510	**
Multi-Racial	222	136	8,151	2,724	1,669
White	22,913	15,082	635,366	3,606	2,374
Related Dementias					
Hispanic	4,652	4,278	36,513	12,741	11,716
Not Hispanic	157,631	175,378	950,839	16,578	18,445
American Indian/Alaskan Native	292	271	2,571	11,357	10,541
Asian	5,169	4,835	56,382	9,168	8,575
Black/African American	49,871	60,054	248,006	20,109	24,215
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	123	111	363	33,884	30,579
Multi-Racial	1,040	1,115	8,151	12,759	13,679
White	100,833	108,312	635,366	15,870	17,047
** Data Value Suppressed					

Table E. Prevalence by Age Group

Age Group	Diagnoses	Hospitalizations	Population (65+)	Diagnoses per 100,000	Hospitalizations per 100,000
Alzheimer's					
65-74	3,620	2,080	578,509	626	360
75-84	11,118	7,560	288,312	3,856	2,622
85+	19,666	13,519	120,531	16,316	11,216
<65	1,187	443	4,875,195	24	**
Related Dementias					
65-74	22,951	23,766	578,509	3,967	4,108
75-84	46,296	54,845	288,312	16,058	19,023
85+	78,253	90,258	120,531	64,924	74,884
<65	16,214	10,863	4,875,195	333	223
** Data Value Suppressed					

ICD-10 Codes

These are the codes included in the analysis:

Description	ICD-10-CM Code	CCW Category
Alzheimer's Disease	G30.0–G30.9	Alzheimer's Disease
Vascular Dementia	F01.50–F01.C4	Non-Alzheimer's Dementia
Lewy Body Dementia	G31.83	Non-Alzheimer's Dementia
Frontotemporal Dementia	G31.09	Non-Alzheimer's Dementia
Alcohol-Related Dementia	F10.27, F10.97	Non-Alzheimer's Dementia
Mixed Dementia	Flagged if an individual has ICD-10 codes from ≥ 2 distinct dementia types (e.g., G30.x + F01.x). Mutually exclusive from other dementia categories	Non-Alzheimer's Dementia
Other Dementias	Includes any codes under the CCW definition for non-Alzheimer's Related Dementia not included in the other categories	Non-Alzheimer's Dementia
Young Onset	Includes any people identified as having Alzheimer's or Dementia under age 65	Alzheimer's Disease
Down Syndrome Co-Occurrence	Q90, Q90.0, Q90.1, Q90.2, Q90.9	Down Syndrome