

Alzheimer's disease and other dementias

Dementia is a term that refers to a range of symptoms that can impact the brain. These symptoms may include changes in memory, mood, personality or behaviour, and difficulties with judgment, thinking, problem solving, language, vision and movement and initiative. While dementia symptoms may seem small at the start, they will eventually affect the day-to-day lives of people living with dementia.

Many different diseases and conditions can cause dementia. There are different types of dementia depending on the cause, with Alzheimer's disease being the most common type. Other common types of dementia include vascular dementia, frontotemporal dementia, and Lewy body dementia. Some types of dementia are reversible, meaning that they can be treated and cured, while others are irreversible, meaning there is no cure.

What the numbers say

As of 2025:

More than 770,000 people in Canada are living with dementia. By 2050, this figure is expected to rise to 1.7 million, an increase of 120 per cent.¹

As of 2016:

The combined health-care system and out-of-pocket costs of dementia is estimated at \$10.4 billion. By 2031, this figure is expected to increase by 60 per cent, to \$16.6 billion.²

1. Alzheimer Society of Canada. (2022). [Landmark Study Report #1: Navigating the Path Forward for Dementia in Canada](#).

2. Alzheimer Society of Canada. (2016). [Prevalence and Monetary Costs of Dementia in Canada](#).



Alzheimer Society

Alzheimer Society of Canada

1-800-616-8816

pr@alzheimer.ca

alzheimer.ca