ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE IN VOLUSIA COUNTY

Alzheimer’s disease is the sixth leading cause of death among adults in the United States. It is the leading cause of disability. It is the most common form of dementia - the loss of cognitive functioning. Healthy People 2020 (HP2020) reports that Alzheimer’s disease interferes with a person’s daily life as it affects their thinking, memory, and reasoning.

The Alzheimer’s Association notes that an estimated 5.7 million people in the U.S. currently live with Alzheimer’s disease. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that by 2050 that number may almost triple to 14 million people. In Florida, there were over half a million (541,446) probable Alzheimer’s disease cases in 2017 for people ages 65 and older. And Volusia County’s probable Alzheimer’s disease cases in residents ages 65 and older was 16,689 in 2017, according to Florida Health Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set (FLHealthCHARTS).

Alzheimer’s Disease Age-Adjusted Death Rate, Volusia County and Florida, 2013-2017

The age-adjusted Alzheimer’s death rate due increased for Volusia County and Florida, 23 percent and 21 percent respectively from 2013 to 2017.

Volusia County’s rate was consistently higher than Florida’s rate by more than seven points each year.

The percent of probable Alzheimer’s disease cases among the population ages 65 and older in Volusia County was higher than Florida each year, except 2017.

Volusia had a seven percent increase compared to Florida’s 10 percent increase from 2013 to 2017.

Probable Alzheimer’s Disease Cases Volusia County and Florida, 2013-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Volusia</th>
<th>Florida</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>13.6%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources:

NOTE: Age-adjusting: The frequency with which health events occur is almost always related to age. The age-adjusted rate eliminates the effect of the underlying age distribution of the population, allowing for comparisons between populations regardless of their age structure.
Alzheimer’s Disease Age-Adjusted Death Rates by Race/Ethnicity Volusia County, 2013-2017

Alzheimer’s disease age-adjusted death rates increased for all racial/ethnic groups in Volusia County from 2013 to 2017.

Although the Alzheimer’s disease death rate for Hispanic residents increased the least (9.7%), they had the highest rates in three of the five years.

More than two thirds of deaths due to Alzheimer’s disease occurred among residents ages 85 and older.

Geographically, the northeast quadrant represented the highest percent of Volusia County’s general population and had the highest percentages of hospitalizations and emergency department (ED) visits due to Alzheimer’s disease in 2017.

The southeast quadrant had the highest percentage (30.5%) of deaths from Alzheimer’s disease.

For more information, contact the Florida Department of Health in Volusia County Office of Planning & Performance Management at (386) 274-0605, or visit our website www.volusiahealth.com/stats