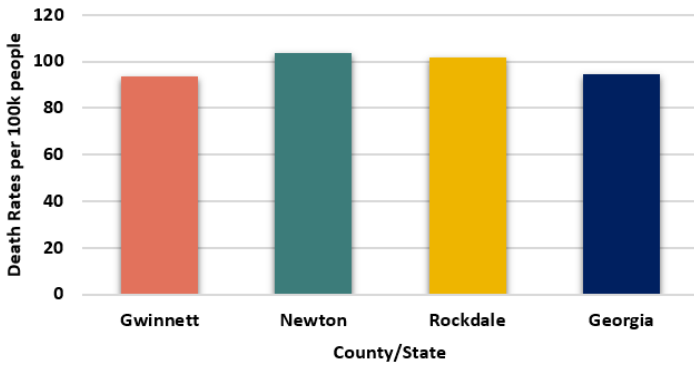
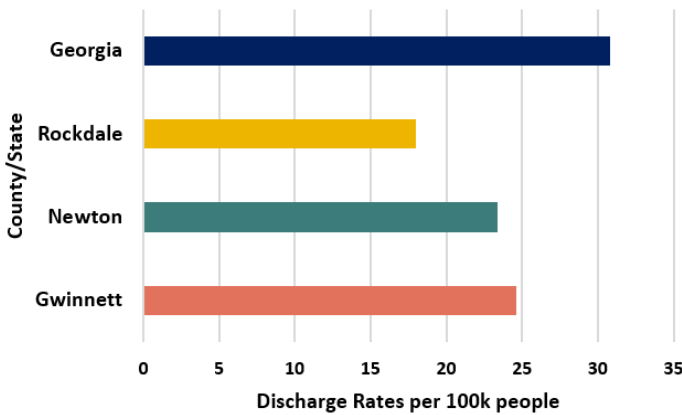


Chronic Disease Snapshot: ADRD

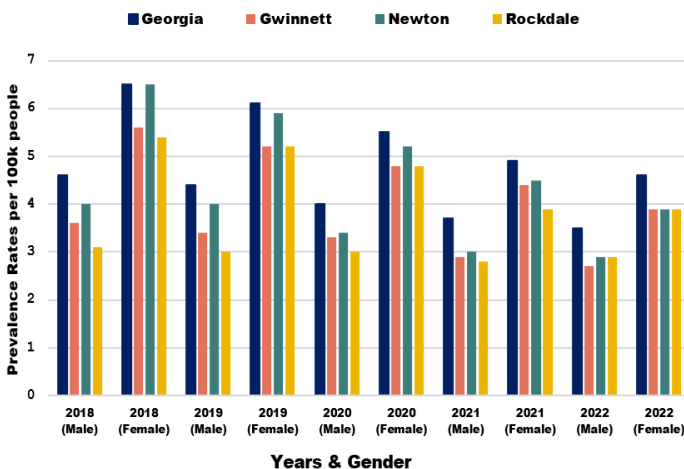
Age-Adjusted ADRD Death Rates in Gwinnett, Newton, Rockdale & Georgia, 2024³



Age-Adjusted ADRD Hospital Discharge Rates in Gwinnett, Newton, Rockdale & Georgia, 2024³



Prevalence Rates of ADRD Medicare Beneficiaries 65+ years old in Gwinnett, Newton, Rockdale & Georgia by Gender, 2018-2022³



Alzheimer's Disease/Related Dementia (ADRD)

Background

Dementia is a brain condition that slowly destroys memory, thinking skills and eventually, the ability to carry out daily tasks. Alzheimer's disease is the most common type of dementia. According to the CDC, it is the 6th leading cause of death among adults 60 and older. The cause of dementia varies depending on the types of changes the brain undergoes.¹

Burden

Healthcare costs associated with ADRD totaled \$360 million in 2024, and it is projected to cost \$1 trillion in 2050. Approximately 7 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's Disease, and by 2050, this number is projected to rise to nearly 13 million.¹ One in nine people age 65 and older has Alzheimer's Disease (10.9%) in the US. Almost 2/3 of Americans with Alzheimer's are women. Older Black Americans are twice as likely to develop Alzheimer's or other dementias as older White Americans. Additionally, older Hispanic individuals are 1.5 times as likely to develop this illness than older White individuals in the United States. One in three older Americans dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia, which is the leading cause of death that kills more older adults than breast and prostate cancer combined.²

Symptoms

Symptoms can vary based on the progression of Alzheimer's Disease. They include:

- Memory problems (Mild Cognitive Impairment—MCI)
- Movement difficulties
- Problems with their sense of smell
- Mood/behavior changes
- Confusion

Risk Factors

Identified risk factors include lack of physical activity, uncontrolled diabetes, high blood pressure, excessive tobacco/alcohol use and hearing loss. Adult African Americans, Hispanics, and American Indian/Alaska Native develop Alzheimer's disease at higher rates than White Americans.¹

Prevention

Living a healthy lifestyle can benefit brain health and slow the progression of dementia. Staying physically active, managing diabetes/blood pressure, limiting or avoiding drinking alcohol/ smoking and preventing or correcting hearing loss can reduce the risk of dementia.

GNR Morbidity

According to 2024 OASIS data, Newton County has higher age-adjusted Alzheimer's death rates (103.5 cases per 100,000 people) when compared to Rockdale (101.7), Gwinnett (93.4), and the state of Georgia (94.3). In Newton County, the age-adjusted death rate (103.5 per 100k people) is higher than Rockdale, Gwinnett and the state of Georgia as well. The state of Georgia has a higher age-adjusted hospital discharge (30.8 per 100,000 people) compared to Gwinnett (24.6), Newton (23.4) and Rockdale (18). In addition, there is a higher incidence of ADRD in Black/African American people.³

Source:

¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.). *Heart Disease*. <https://www.cdc.gov/heart-disease/about/index.html>. Retrieved April 28th, 2026.

²Alzheimer's Association. (n.d.). *Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figure*. <https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/facts-figures>. Retrieved April 28th, 2026.

³Georgia Department of Public Health. Online Analytical Statistical Information System (OASIS). <https://oasis.state.ga.us/>.