



Real Support for Massachusetts Caregivers



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State Director

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CAREGIVING in Massachusetts



780,000 caregivers

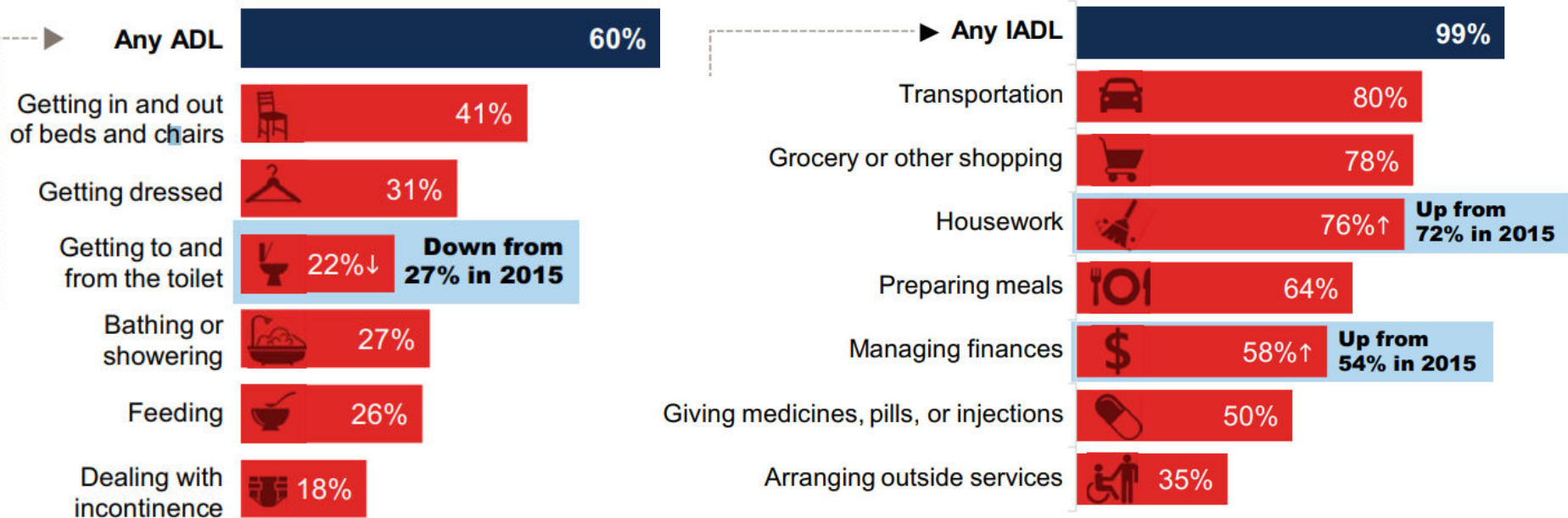


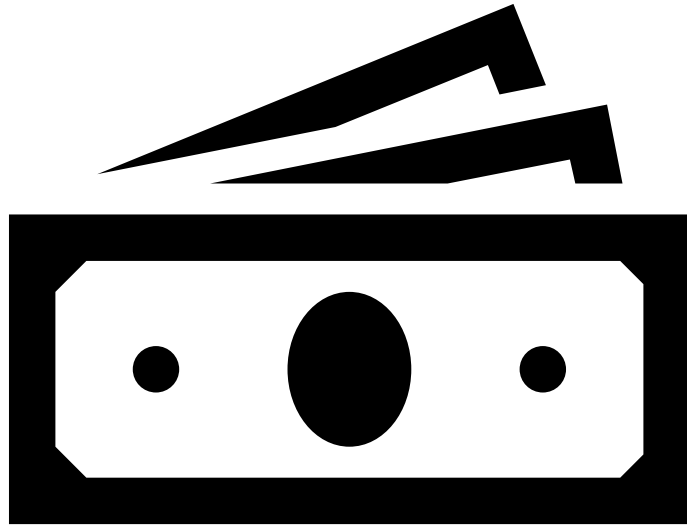
730 million care hours



**\$15.1 billion in
uncompensated care**

What do Caregivers do?

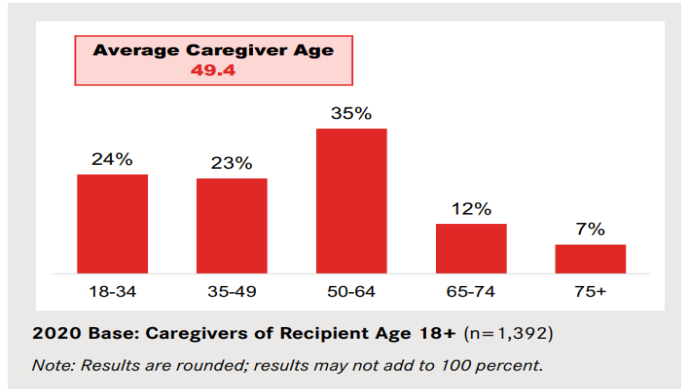




Financial Impact

- On average, working family caregivers spend \$7,242 on out-of-pocket costs due to caregiving responsibilities

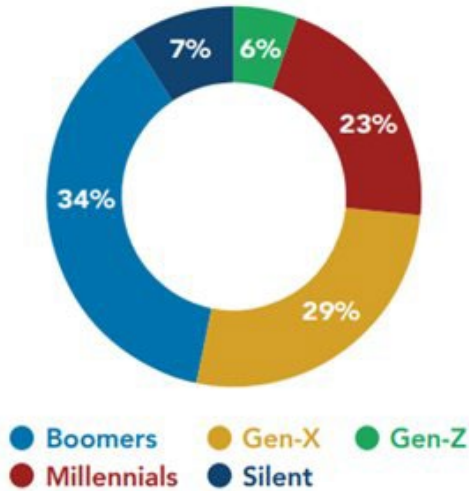
The average Caregiver...



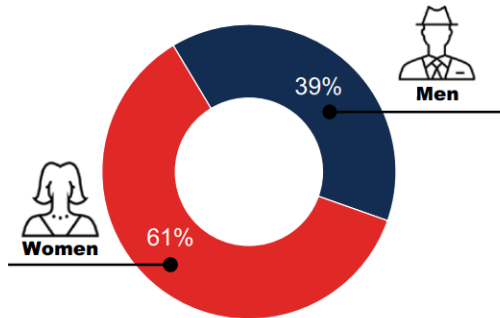
- is 49.4 years old
- Provides 23.7 hours of care per week
- Cares for their care recipient for 4.5 years



Caregivers are Diverse



- 23% are Millennials
- 4 in 10 are Male
- 17% are Hispanic/Latino
- 14% are African American/Black
- 5% are Asian American/Pacific Islander



Caregivers are Working

Today, 73% of US workers are also caregivers.



Pre-Pandemic:

- **61%** of working caregivers experienced at least 1 work related impact due to caregiving responsibilities
- Most reported going in late, leaving early, or taking time off
- **1 in 10** working caregivers had to give up work entirely or retire early

Congresswoman Katherine Clark



FEDERAL ADVOCACY: CREDIT FOR CARING ACT

- Nearly 8 in 10 family caregivers incur out-of-pocket caregiving costs – on average, \$7,200 annually on care-related expenses, or about 25% of their income on average.
- The Credit for Caring Act would provide 30% of the qualified expenses paid or incurred by the caregiver above \$2,000, up to a maximum credit amount of \$5,000.



HB3159/SB1938: An Act Supporting Family Caregivers

Sponsored By:

**State Representative Micheal Kushmerek
and
State Senator Joanne Comerford**

HB3158/SB1939: An Act Supporting Family Caregivers

- Section 1: Advisory Council on Family Caregiving

Creates a permanent advisory council on family caregiving to develop family caregiving policy.

- Section 2: Respite Vouchers

Establishes a voucher program for individuals in the middle-income brackets to purchase respite care.

- Section 3: Caregiver Tax Credit

Establishes a \$1500 annual, refundable tax credit for eligible family caregivers.

HB3159/SB1938: An Act Supporting Family Caregivers

- **Section 4-5: Family Caregivers Qualifying for Unemployment Insurance**

Includes family caregivers in the definition of those covered in the unemployment insurance program.

- **Sections 6-10: Protecting Family Caregivers from Discrimination at Work**

Includes family caregivers in the protected classes for workplace discrimination.

HB3159/SB1938: An Act Supporting Family Caregivers

- Sections 11-20: Prescription Drug Coverage During a State of Emergency

Allows a caregiver to acquire an immediate additional thirty-day supply of a prescription drug during a state disaster emergency for the person being cared for.

- Section 21: Allows Spouses to be Paid as Caregivers

Instructs the Secretaries of HHS and AGE to act, including working with federal agencies, to allow spouses to serve as paid caregivers in the MassHealth program.

What Can YOU Do to Help?

Join the AARP Advocacy Volunteer Team!

1. Become an E-Activist!
2. Text JOIN to 22777*
3. Join Us Once a Month for Webinars.
4. Volunteer as an “Issue Advocate” for one of our priority issues.

*By providing your mobile number you are consenting to receive recurring text messages from AARP at the number provided. Your consent is not required as a condition to purchase goods/services. Message and data rates may apply. Subject to these SMS Terms and Conditions. Reply HELP for help, STOP to opt out.



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QUESTIONS?

