Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey

Robert J. Blendon, Sc.D.
John M. Benson, M.A.
Kathleen J. Weldon

Harvard School of Public Health
Public Experience with Alzheimer’s Disease

• Majority of public have personal experience with Alzheimer’s disease, saying they know or have known someone with the disease

• About three in ten have personal experience with a family member with Alzheimer’s disease

• About one in seven have had significant life experience in giving support to someone who has Alzheimer’s disease
Public’s Experience with Knowing Someone with Alzheimer’s Disease

Know or have known someone with Alzheimer’s

- France: 72%
- Germany: 73%
- Poland: 54%
- Spain: 77%
- U.S.: 73%

And that person is/was a family member

- France: 30%
- Germany: 34%
- Poland: 19%
- Spain: 33%
- U.S.: 42%

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public’s Experience with Being One of People Most Involved in Decision-making, Financial Support or Day-to-Day Caretaking for Someone with Alzheimer’s Disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Yes, have been one of people most involved</th>
<th>No, have not been one of people most involved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public’s Experience with Being One of People Most Involved in
Decision-making or Financial Support for Someone with Alzheimer’s Disease

Yes, have been one of people most involved

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No, have not been one of people most involved

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Public’s Experience with Being One of People Most Involved in Day-to-day Care for Someone with Alzheimer’s Disease

Yes, have been one of people most involved

- France: 9%
- Germany: 10%
- Poland: 11%
- Spain: 18%
- U.S.: 13%

No, have not been one of people most involved

- France: 91%
- Germany: 89%
- Poland: 88%
- Spain: 80%
- U.S.: 86%

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public Beliefs about Availability of Treatment and Test

- Many believe there is now an effective medical or pharmaceutical treatment to slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease and make the symptoms less severe
- Majority in all five countries believe treatment is currently available or will be in five years
- Significant portion of the public in all five countries believes reliable medical test currently available
There is an effective treatment to slow the progression of Alzheimer’s disease and make the symptoms less severe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is currently a reliable medical test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Public's Perception of Whether There Is Or Will Be an Effective Medical or Pharmaceutical Treatment to Slow the Progression of Alzheimer’s Disease in the Next Five Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>There is an effective treatment now</th>
<th>There will be an effective treatment in next five years</th>
<th>Is not an effective treatment now/will not be one in five years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public's Perception of Whether There Is a Reliable Test Currently Available to Determine If a Person Suffering from Confusion and Memory Loss Is in Early Stages of Alzheimer's

- **Yes, there is a reliable test**
  - France: 50%
  - Germany: 44%
  - Poland: 38%
  - Spain: 48%
  - U.S: 59%

- **No, there isn’t**
  - France: 32%
  - Germany: 31%
  - Poland: 23%
  - Spain: 26%
  - U.S: 30%

- **Don’t know**
  - France: 18%
  - Germany: 25%
  - Poland: 39%
  - Spain: 27%
  - U.S: 11%

*Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011*
Public Attitudes about Testing and Diagnosis

- Most report would see doctor for diagnosis if had symptoms, and would want to be told if they had the disease
- Most would also want a family member to see a doctor, and would want the family member to be told
- Significant public interest in early diagnostic testing
Public Attitudes about Wanting to See a Doctor If They Were Exhibiting Signs of Confusion and Memory Loss

Yes, would want to see doctor to determine if Alzheimer’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Yes, would want to see doctor</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No, would not want to see doctor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>No, would not want to see doctor</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public Attitudes about Wanting a Family Member Who Was Exhibiting Signs of Confusion and Memory Loss to See a Doctor

Yes, would want family member to see doctor to determine if Alzheimer’s

- France: 94%
- Germany: 98%
- Poland: 97%
- Spain: 99%
- U.S.: 98%

No, would not want family member to see doctor

- France: 6%
- Germany: 1%
- Poland: 2%
- Spain: 1%
- U.S.: 2%
Public Attitudes about Wanting to Be Told If A Doctor Believed They Had Alzheimer’s Disease

Yes, would want to be told

- France: 97%
- Germany: 98%
- Poland: 96%
- Spain: 94%

No, would not want to be told

- France: 3%
- Germany: 2%
- Poland: 2%
- Spain: 5%

This question not asked in U.S.
Public Attitudes about Wanting a Family Member to Be Told If a Doctor Believed That Family Member Had Alzheimer’s Disease

Among those who said would want family member to see doctor

Yes, would want family member to be told

- France: 84%
- Germany: 87%
- Poland: 80%
- Spain: 81%

No, would not want family member to be told

- France: 10%
- Germany: 9%
- Poland: 11%
- Spain: 13%

This question not asked in U.S.
Public’s Interest in Getting a Test Before Exhibiting Symptoms to Determine If They Were Likely to Get Alzheimer’s in the Future, Should Such a Test Become Available

### Very likely to get such a test

- **France**: 26%
- **Germany**: 23%
- **Poland**: 30%
- **Spain**: 39%
- **U.S.**: 30%

### Somewhat likely

- **France**: 39%
- **Germany**: 28%
- **Poland**: 48%
- **Spain**: 32%
- **U.S.**: 35%

### Not too/not at all likely

- **France**: 33%
- **Germany**: 48%
- **Poland**: 20%
- **Spain**: 27%
- **U.S.**: 35%
Public Perceptions of Symptoms of Alzheimer’s Disease

• General agreement on some symptoms of Alzheimer’s, disagreement on others

• Majorities see the following as being common symptoms of Alzheimer’s: confusion and disorientation, wandering and getting lost, difficulty remembering things in their life from the day before, difficulty managing daily tasks, difficulty managing and paying bills

• Opinion is divided the following are common symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease: difficulty remembering things in their life from years before, anger and violence, loss of appetite

• Less than half of people in all countries believe hallucinations or hearing voices and problems with pain are common symptoms
Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms of Alzheimer’s Disease

- Confusion and disorientation
- Wandering and getting lost
- Difficulty remembering things from day before
- Difficulty managing daily tasks
- Difficulty managing and paying bills

France | Germany | Poland | Spain | U.S.
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Confusion and disorientation: 91% 92% 86% 96% 92%
Wandering and getting lost: 92% 95% 91% 89% 88%
Difficulty remembering things from day before: 91% 94% 87% 80% 91%
Difficulty managing daily tasks: 88% 86% 85% 83% 88%
Difficulty managing and paying bills: 84% 80% 80% 73% 74%
### Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms of Alzheimer’s Disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symptom</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>Poland</th>
<th>Spain</th>
<th>U.S.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Difficulty remembering things from years before</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anger and violence</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of appetite</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hallucinations and hearing voices</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problems with pain</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms or Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease: Confusion and Disorientation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Confusion and Disorientation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Yes, is a common symptom
- No, is not a common symptom
- Don’t know

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
### Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms or Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease: Wandering and Getting Lost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Yes, is a common symptom</th>
<th>No, is not a common symptom</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms or Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease: Difficulty Remembering Things in Their Life from the Day Before

Yes, is a common symptom
- France: 94%
- Germany: 87%
- Poland: 80%
- Spain: 91%
- U.S.: 92%

No, is not a common symptom
- France: 5%
- Germany: 10%
- Poland: 13%
- Spain: 7%
- U.S.: 7%

Don’t know
- France: 1%
- Germany: 3%
- Poland: 7%
- Spain: 2%
- U.S.: 2%
Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms or Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease: Difficulty Managing Daily Tasks

- **Yes, is a common symptom**
  - France: 83%
  - Germany: 86%
  - Poland: 85%
  - Spain: 88%
  - U.S.: 88%

- **No, is not a common symptom**
  - France: 16%
  - Germany: 12%
  - Poland: 11%
  - Spain: 10%
  - U.S.: 10%

- **Don’t know**
  - France: 2%
  - Germany: 2%
  - Poland: 4%
  - Spain: 2%
  - U.S.: 2%

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms or Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease: Difficulty Managing and Paying Bills

- **Yes, is a common symptom**
  - France: 80%
  - Germany: 73%
  - Poland: 74%
  - Spain: 80%
  - U.S.: 84%

- **No, is not a common symptom**
  - France: 18%
  - Germany: 21%
  - Poland: 18%
  - Spain: 14%
  - U.S.: 14%

- **Don’t know**
  - France: 2%
  - Germany: 7%
  - Poland: 9%
  - Spain: 6%
  - U.S.: 3%
Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms or Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease: Difficulty Remembering Things in Their Life from Years Before

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Yes, is a common symptom</th>
<th>No, is not a common symptom</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms or Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease: Anger and Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Yes, is a common symptom</th>
<th>No, is not a common symptom</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms or Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease: Loss of Appetite

Yes, is a common symptom
- France: 37%
- Germany: 31%
- Poland: 21%
- Spain: 33%
- U.S.: 52%

No, is not a common symptom
- France: 51%
- Germany: 55%
- Poland: 50%
- Spain: 49%
- U.S.: 40%

Don’t know
- France: 11%
- Germany: 14%
- Poland: 29%
- Spain: 17%
- U.S.: 8%
Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms or Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease: Hallucinations or Hearing Voices

- **Yes, is a common symptom**
  - France: 24%
  - Germany: 34%
  - Poland: 26%
  - Spain: 40%
  - U.S.: 40%

- **No, is not a common symptom**
  - France: 69%
  - Germany: 54%
  - Poland: 51%
  - Spain: 40%
  - U.S.: 51%

- **Don’t know**
  - France: 8%
  - Germany: 12%
  - Poland: 23%
  - Spain: 20%
  - U.S.: 9%

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer's Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public’s Perception of Common Symptoms or Signs of Alzheimer’s Disease: Problems with Pain

Yes, is a common symptom
- France: 23%
- Germany: 22%
- Poland: 21%
- Spain: 24%
- U.S.: 25%

No, is not a common symptom
- France: 68%
- Germany: 64%
- Poland: 50%
- Spain: 60%
- U.S.: 65%

Don’t know
- France: 9%
- Germany: 15%
- Poland: 29%
- Spain: 16%
- U.S.: 10%
Public Beliefs about Whether Alzheimer’s Is a Fatal Disease

- Large numbers do not believe Alzheimer’s is a fatal disease
Public’s Perception of Whether Alzheimer’s Is a Fatal Disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Yes, is a fatal disease</th>
<th>No, is not</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public Beliefs about Likely Caretakers

- Family members seen as critical to providing care
- Most often expected to be spouse
- Significant minorities in some countries expect care to come from a paid caretaker, either hired or arranged through the government or a charitable organization.
Public’s Expectations about Who Would Be Their Primary Caretaker if They Had Alzheimer’s Disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spouse</th>
<th>France (36%)</th>
<th>Germany (31%)</th>
<th>Poland (43%)</th>
<th>Spain (44%)</th>
<th>U.S. (45%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child or other relative</td>
<td>France (8%)</td>
<td>Germany (10%)</td>
<td>Poland (24%)</td>
<td>Spain (12%)</td>
<td>U.S. (24%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid caregiver (hired or arranged through govt or charitable org)</td>
<td>France (30%)</td>
<td>Germany (42%)</td>
<td>Poland (16%)</td>
<td>Spain (29%)</td>
<td>U.S. (25%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other/more than one of these</td>
<td>France (21%)</td>
<td>Germany (12%)</td>
<td>Poland (12%)</td>
<td>Spain (10%)</td>
<td>U.S. (3%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Public’s Expectations about Who Would Be Their Primary Caretaker if They Had Alzheimer’s Disease: Family Members

- **Spouse**
  - France: 36%
  - Germany: 31%
  - Poland: 43%
  - Spain: 44%
  - U.S.: 45%

- **Child**
  - France: 2%
  - Germany: 6%
  - Poland: 12%
  - Spain: 7%
  - U.S.: 12%

- **Another relative**
  - France: 6%
  - Germany: 4%
  - Poland: 12%
  - Spain: 5%
  - U.S.: 12%
Public’s Expectations about Who Would Be Their Primary Caretaker if They Had Alzheimer’s Disease: Other Caregivers

- **Friend**:
  - France: 1%
  - Germany: 1%
  - Poland: 1%
  - Spain: 1%
  - U.S.: 2%

- **Hired caregiver**:
  - France: 12%
  - Germany: 20%
  - Poland: 6%
  - Spain: 8%
  - U.S.: 13%

- **Caregiver provided by govt agency or charitable organization**:
  - France: 18%
  - Germany: 22%
  - Poland: 10%
  - Spain: 21%
  - U.S.: 12%

- **More than one of these (family or others)**:
  - France: 20%
  - Germany: 11%
  - Poland: 9%
  - Spain: 11%
  - U.S.: 1%

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Most who would benefit from information have not sought it from Alzheimer’s organizations
Experience Seeking Information on Alzheimer’s Disease from an Alzheimer’s Association

Among those who were among those most involved in financial support/decision-making/day-to-day care of someone with Alzheimer’s

**Yes, sought information**
- France: 30%
- Germany: 36%
- Poland: 25%
- Spain: 21%
- U.S.: 45%

**No, have not sought information**
- France: 70%
- Germany: 64%
- Poland: 71%
- Spain: 79%
- U.S.: 55%

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Majorities report their communities support involving people with Alzheimer’s in family and social events.
Public Attitudes on Whether the People in Their Community Prefer That People with Alzheimer’s Disease Attend Weddings, Social Club Events or Other Events

**Most people prefer that people with Alzheimer’s continue to attend**

- France: 89%
- Germany: 85%
- Poland: 80%
- Spain: 73%
- U.S.: 80%

**Most people prefer that people with Alzheimer’s stop attending**

- France: 7%
- Germany: 9%
- Poland: 10%
- Spain: 24%
- U.S.: 12%
Public Attitudes about Government Funding for Alzheimer’s Disease

- Support levels high for both Alzheimer’s research and care-giving in all five countries
- However, spending more on Alzheimer’s is not a major voting issue in most countries
Public Attitudes on Government Spending on Research on New Treatments for Alzheimer’s Disease

Increased

- France: 83%
- Germany: 68%
- Poland: 75%
- Spain: 83%
- U.S.: 67%

Decreased

- France: 1%
- Germany: 1%
- Poland: 3%
- Spain: 2%
- U.S.: 5%

Kept about the same

- France: 11%
- Germany: 20%
- Poland: 13%
- Spain: 11%
- U.S.: 23%

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public Attitudes on Government Spending on Caring for People with Alzheimer’s Disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Increased</th>
<th>Decreased</th>
<th>Kept about the same</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
### Public Attitudes on Whether a Candidate Favoring Spending More Money on Alzheimer’s Would Affect Their Vote

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Make more likely to vote for this candidate</th>
<th>Make less likely to vote for this candidate</th>
<th>Wouldn’t make much of a difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public Concerns about Alzheimer’s Disease

- Alzheimer’s disease ranked as a major concern in many countries
- Older people more likely to say Alzheimer’s is the disease they are most afraid of getting
- Substantial variation in concern across countries
- Worries about family even higher than worries about self
Public Attitudes about What Disease They Are Most Afraid of Getting, Top Three Choices

- **France**
  - Cancer: 41%
  - Alzheimers’s: 27%
  - Stroke: 18%

- **Germany**
  - Cancer: 44%
  - Alzheimers’s: 23%
  - Stroke: 14%

- **Poland**
  - Cancer: 43%
  - Heart disease: 13%
  - Alzheimers’s: 12%

- **Spain**
  - Cancer: 49%
  - Alzheimers’s: 24%
  - Stroke: 17%

- **U.S.**
  - Cancer: 40%
  - Alzheimers’s: 22%
  - Heart disease: 10%

Note: Respondents were offered a choice from a list of seven diseases, including Alzheimer’s disease, cancer, stroke, heart disease, diabetes, influenza, and depression.

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
### Proportion of Public Reporting Alzheimer’s as the Disease They Are Most Afraid of Getting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>18-34</th>
<th>35-59</th>
<th>60+</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
### Public Worries about Themselves or a Family Member Getting Alzheimer’s Disease

#### Very/somewhat worried

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Very/Somewhat Worried</th>
<th>Not Too/Not at All Worried</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
Public Worries about Getting Alzheimer’s Disease

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Very worried</th>
<th>Somewhat worried</th>
<th>Not too/not at all worried</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer’s Disease Survey, February, 2011
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Very worried</th>
<th>Somewhat worried</th>
<th>Not too/not at all worried</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Harvard School of Public Health/Alzheimer Europe Five-Country Alzheimer's Disease Survey, February, 2011