



What America Thinks MetLife Foundation Alzheimer's Survey

February 2011

Study Conducted by Harris Interactive for

MetLife Foundation

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RANKS AS ONE OF THE MOST FEARED DISEASES IN THE UNITED STATES

A new survey by MetLife Foundation finds that Alzheimer's disease is the second most feared disease among American adults, behind only cancer. When asked which of five major diseases they are most afraid, 31 % said Alzheimer's, while 41% said cancer. Heart disease and stroke were named by 8% each, while only 6% said they fear diabetes most.

A majority of those polled (62%) admit they know little or nothing about Alzheimer's disease, leading to the fact that few are planning for its possibility. Only 18%, fewer than one in five people, have developed any such plan, which may include care options, housing arrangements and/or financial planning.

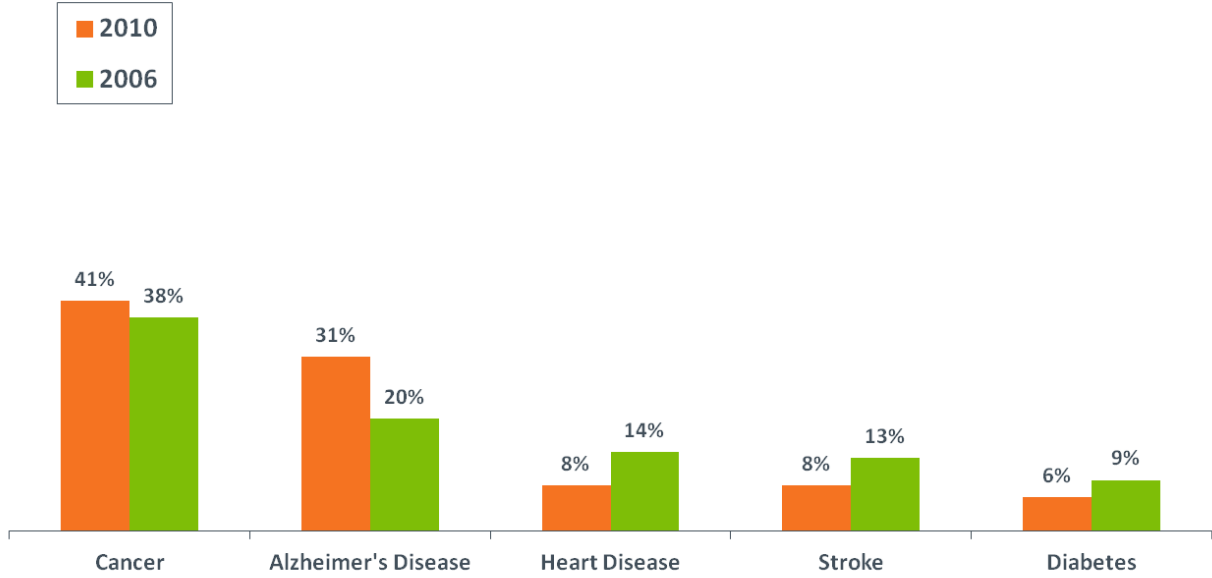
Currently, more than five million people have Alzheimer's. That number is expected to rise sharply as the Baby Boom generation reaches retirement age. 44% of adults indicate they have family members or friends with Alzheimer's.

The main survey findings include:

- Nearly a quarter (23%) of adults is extremely or very concerned that they may someday have to provide care for a loved one with Alzheimer's, an increase from 18% in 2006.
- Only 18% of all adults say they have made any plans for the possibility of getting Alzheimer's, compared to 12% in 2006.
- Fewer than half of all adults claim to have talked to their families about Alzheimer's (41%).
- Thirty-three percent have considered what care options would be available to them in the event of Alzheimer's; 44% have designated who would take care of them.
- Slightly more than one in five (21%) adults claims to have made any financial arrangement for the possibility of developing the disease.

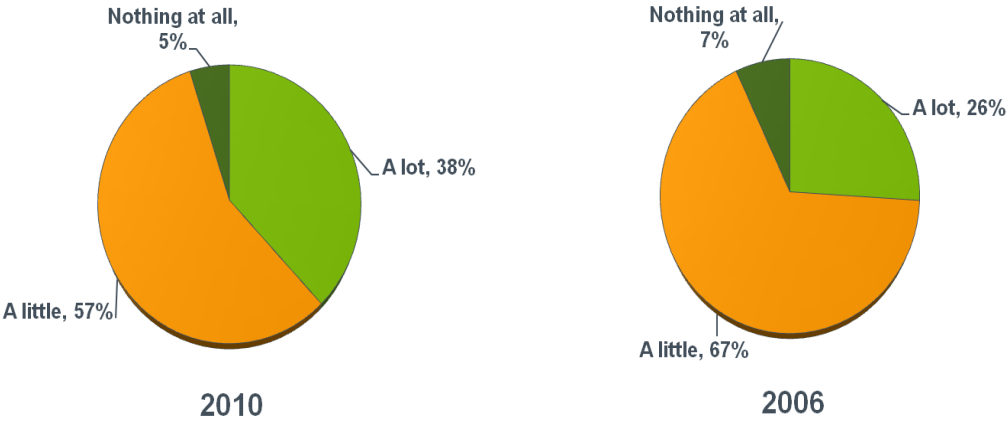
The survey, What America Thinks, was conducted by telephone with 1,007 adults by Harris Interactive for MetLife Foundation in September 2010. A similar study was conducted in 2006.

Fear of Alzheimer's Disease in the United States.



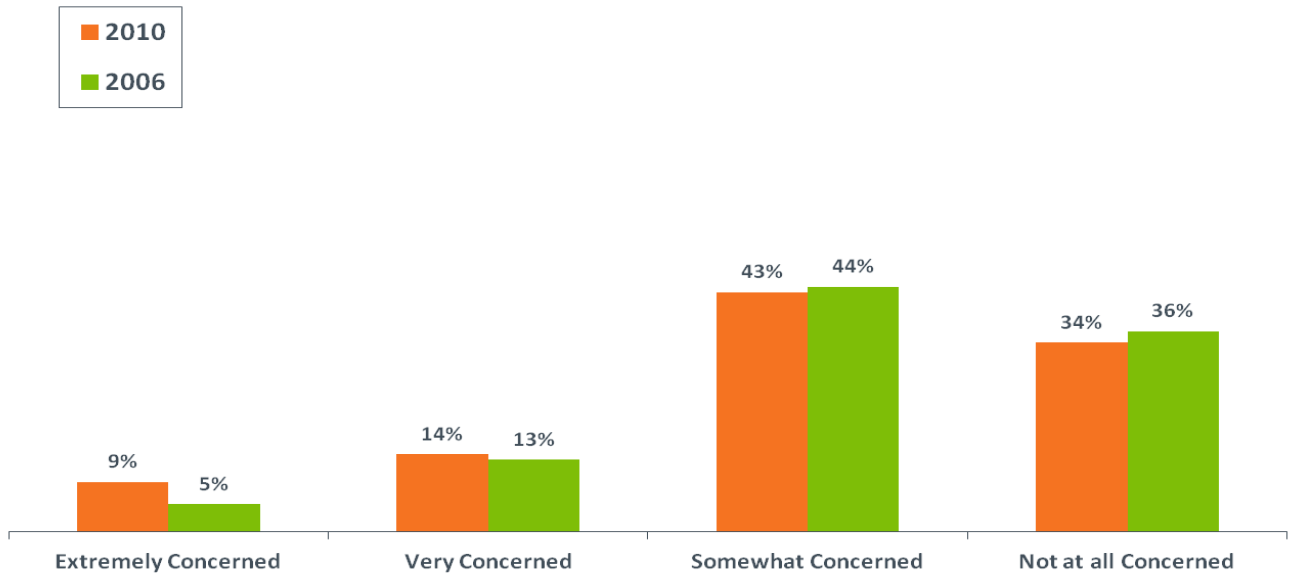
Since 2006, the percentage of those who fear getting Alzheimer's has increased more than the other illnesses.

American adults' knowledge of Alzheimer's disease



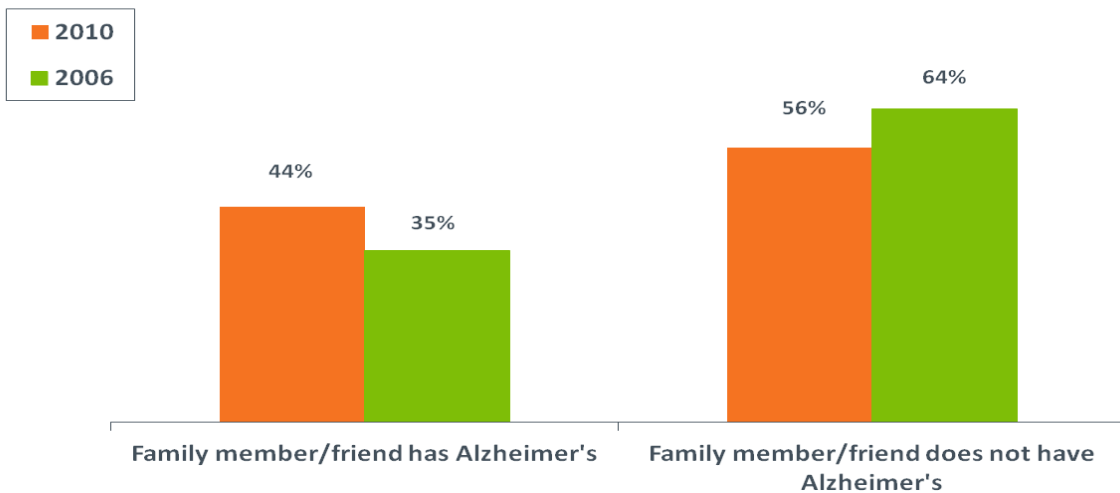
Knowledge of the disease has increased considerably since 2006, but those who know nothing at all remain relatively the same.

Concern in having to provide care for a loved one with Alzheimer's



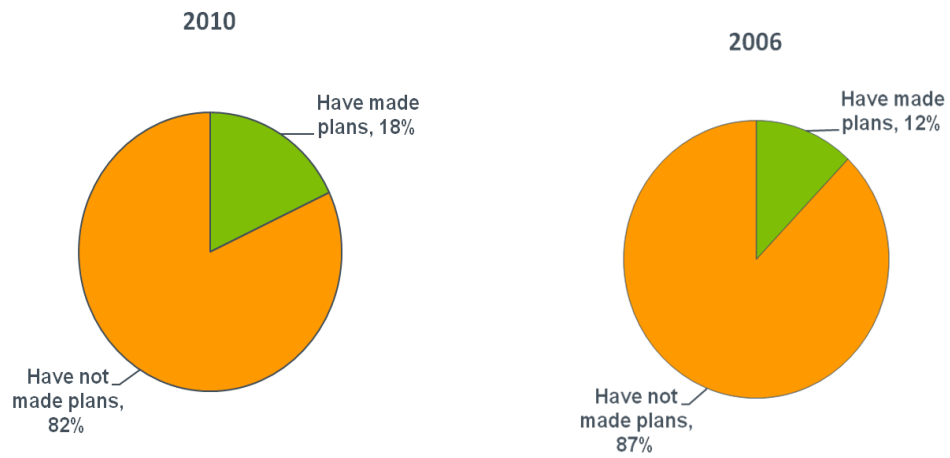
More than half of adults have some level of concern regarding the provision of care for a loved one with Alzheimer's.

Adults in the U.S. that have a family member or friend with Alzheimer's disease



Alzheimer's disease is no stranger to families in the U.S.; two in every five adults has a family member or friend with Alzheimer's disease.

Planning for the possibility of getting Alzheimer's disease among U.S. adults



Despite the increase of knowledge and fear of the disease, planning has increased only 5%.