

Financial Impact of Falls Among Older Adults



Falls are the leading cause of injuries for older Americans, and many of them result in permanent disability and fatalities.¹ In addition to threatening the health and independence of seniors, falls also generate significant economic costs.²

25%

One in four Americans aged 65+ falls each year²

50B

About \$50 billion is spent on non-fatal fall injuries²

2.8M

2.8 million injuries treated in emergency departments annually²

754M

\$754 million is spent on fatal falls³




800K

Over 800,000 hospitalizations each year²

The financial toll for older adult falls is expected to increase as the population ages and may reach \$101 billion by 2030.⁴



Costs of Non-Fatal Falls¹

-  \$29 billion is paid by Medicare
-  \$12 billion is paid by private or out-of-pocket payers
-  \$9 billion is paid by Medicaid

Vision problems are among risk factors that makes older adults more likely to fall.⁵

To prevent falls, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends having your eyes checked by an eye doctor at least once a year, and be sure to update your eyeglasses if needed.⁵



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 3. Florence, C.S., Bergen, G., Atherly, A., Burns, E.R., Stevens, J.A., Drake, C. Medical Costs of Fatal and Nonfatal Falls in Older Adults. Journal of the American Geriatrics Society, 03/2018, DOI:10.1111/jgs.15304external icon
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