Nearly 2 million women are pulled out of the workforce to care for loved ones with Alzheimer’s disease.

Not until 2016 were female mice mandated to be included in research by NIH.

Before 1993, most testing done in clinical trials and diagnostic and device development was conducted on men.

DID YOU KNOW?

The 2019 NIH Alzheimer’s budget equates to:

- $3 per woman over age 35
- $24 per man over age 35

Just 12% of the $2.4 billion 2019 NIH Alzheimer’s budget went to women-focused research.

Women are 2/3 of the 5.7 million people suffering from Alzheimer’s disease.

Yet 1/3 of the animals used in neuroscience research are female.

A woman’s risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease is almost 2X (two times) that of a man, and not just because women live longer.

In 2020, Alzheimer’s disease cost our economy $305 billion.
WHAT NEXT?

According to The WHAM Report*, if we double NIH funding for Alzheimer’s research specifically focused on women, adding $280 million, the funding:

- Pays for itself 3X OVER
- Generates $930 Million in returns to the economy
- Drops nursing home costs by more than $350 MILLION
- 224% return on investment

THE BACKGROUND:

WHAM (whamnow.org) was created in response to the considerable funding gap, historical exclusion, and underrepresentation of women in health research.

Women are the majority of the U.S. population, nearly 50% of the workforce, and control over 60% of personal wealth. In the U.S., women are responsible for over 85% of consumer spending and make over 80% of healthcare decisions. When women are pulled from the workforce because of inadequate treatment options or to care for their families, there are direct consequences – for our businesses and our economy.

The data on the reverse side of this page represents a very small sampling of the inequities and bias that exist in women’s health research. While some progress has been made since 1993, when the National Institutes of Health mandated that women and minorities be included in any government-funded health research, there is still a long way to go.

The lives of women and men will vastly improve through research that is equally inclusive of women and men in trials – and female and male animals in preliminary research. By conducting research in parity and reporting gender outcomes separately, health breakthroughs will be accelerated and health outcomes around the world improved. As women benefit from this research and reduce their burden of disease, they will improve their own wellbeing, which is directly connected to the wellbeing of our economy.

WHAM is committed to supporting research that investigates diseases and conditions that exclusively, differently or disproportionately affect women.

OUR FOCUS
- Autoimmune Disease
- Brain Health
- Cancer
- Cardiovascular Disease

WHAM IS FOCUSED ON THREE INITIATIVES:

THE WHAM COLLABORATIVE: The WHAM Collaborative is a group of leading scientists focused on women’s health research who help inform everything WHAM does.

THE WHAM INVESTIGATOR’S FUND: WHAM funds cutting edge investigators to study women’s health and the role of sex and gender in outcomes. WHAM collaborates with leading institutions in the U.S. focused on women’s health.

THE WHAM REPORT: The WHAM Report shows the impact of accelerating sex and gender-based health research on women, their families, and the economy. The WHAM Report will be a benchmark of change in this field and available to all.

WHAT NEXT?

To the best of WHAM’s and RAND’s knowledge this is the first analysis of its kind and is likely to become a seminal part of the arsenal in advocating for increased investment in women’s health research. The research methodology and the microsimulation models have been vetted by a diverse panel of experts convened by RAND.

We encourage other leaders, including advocates, economists, scientists, public health experts and policy makers to draw from and act upon the results of this report. Together, we can drive meaningful change.

WHAMnow.org

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Please find additional infographics and social media toolkits on thewhamreport.org.

WHAM is making this data available open source so that researchers can use it to amplify their work and drive new research. Please visit thewhamreport.org to learn more about using this data and citing this report.

* WHAM commissioned the RAND Corporation to conduct The WHAM Report, a data-driven study of the economic impact to society of increasing the investment in women’s health research. To the best of WHAM’s and RAND’s knowledge, The WHAM Report is the first analysis of its kind to create and calibrate a microsimulation model that examines differences for women’s health research investment.