



**State of Care<sup>SM</sup>**

# **Spotlight on Senior Care**

*A study from Care.com that measures families' attitudes toward caregiving*

Conducted and Funded by



## Cost of Senior Care

We surveyed people who provide direct care, make caregiving decisions, or provide financial support for one or more elderly family members.

- **58%** of individuals caring for elderly family members are providing financial support.
- These individuals pay an average of **\$5,054 per year** for care for their elderly loved ones, usually a supplemental contribution rather than covering the majority of the cost of care.
- A \$5,054 contribution would cover only **1/3 of the total** annual cost of care for one elderly family member.
- The total annual cost of care for one elderly loved one is on average **\$16,845**.

**Living Arrangement of the Elderly Loved One Respondents Help Most**

	Distribution of living arrangements	Entire annual cost of care for elderly loved one
He/she lives alone in their own home	35%	\$8,801.23
He/she lives in my home	24%	\$9,465.18
He/she lives with his/her spouse/partner	15%	\$19,908.70
He/she lives in a nursing home	10%	\$30,177.27
He/she lives in an assisted living facility	6%	\$33,038.46
He/she lives in the home of another family member	4%	\$2,512.50
He/she lives in my sibling's home	3%	\$5,050.00
Other	2%	\$8,000.00

## The Impact of Caregiving Responsibilities on Employment

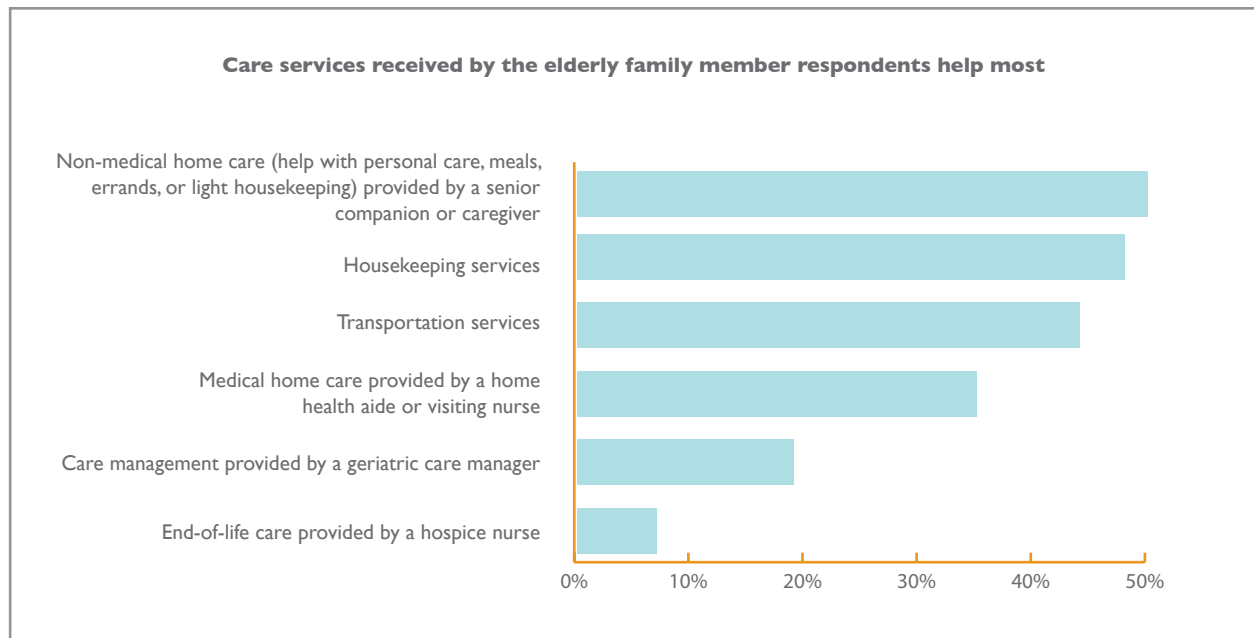
Families need to pay for senior care in order to work and need to work in order to pay for senior care. They worry that their financial constraints will negatively impact their loved ones' care and that their caregiving responsibilities will negatively impact their work.

Individuals caring for an elderly family member:

- 28% say that the recession has impacted their senior care choices.
- 24% say that their work performance/progress or the work performance/progress of a family member has been negatively impacted by their caregiving responsibility.

## Home Care

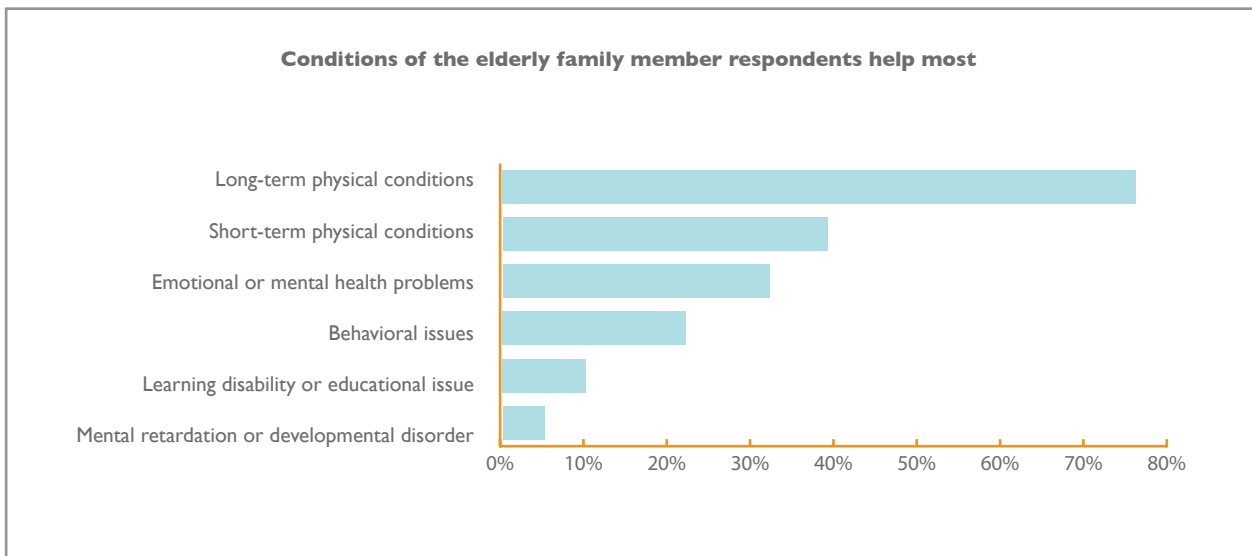
- Because 81% of seniors live in their own home or in the home of a family member, many require home care services.
- 50% of individuals caring for an elderly family member have hired a senior companion or caregiver to provide help with personal care, meals, errands, and housekeeping.
- Because this type of care is non-medical, it is often not covered by insurance.



## Senior Care Recipients

Caring for an elderly family member is a long-term commitment.

- According to the US Center for Disease Control, the remaining life expectancy for 75-year-old men and women in 2005 was 11 and 13 years respectively.
- 24% of survey respondents are caring for more than one elderly family member.
- The majority of respondents (78%) are primarily caring for an elderly female family member.
- Over half of respondents (52%) are primarily caring for an elderly family member over the age of 80.
- Over three quarters of respondents (76%) are primarily caring for an elderly family member with a long-term physical condition.



## Methodology

In January 2010, Care.com sponsored a phone survey of parents of young children and individuals caring for elderly family members. Parents of young children are defined as parents or guardians of one or more children aged 12 or younger. Individuals caring for elderly family members are defined as adults who provide direct care, make caregiving decisions, or provide financial support for one or more elderly family members. The phone survey was conducted by Eastern Research Services, who conducted interviews with 600 parents of young children and 300 individuals caring for elderly family members. The child care interviews were reached by randomly sampling households with children 12 or younger. The senior care interviews were reached by randomly sampling households with an adult between the ages of 45 and 65. The margin of error for the child care results is plus or minus approximately 4 percentage points at the 95% confidence level. This means that 95 times out of 100, a difference of greater than 4 percentage points would not have occurred by chance. The margin of error for the senior care results is plus or minus approximately 5.7%. For subsets of respondents, the margin of error is larger.

## About Care.com

Founded in 2006, Care.com is the largest and fastest growing service used by families to find high-quality caregivers, providing a trusted place to easily connect, share caregiving experiences and get advice. The company addresses the unique lifecycle of care needs that each family goes through—child care, special needs care, tutoring and lessons, in-home senior care, pet care, housekeeping and more. The service helps families find and select the best care possible based on detailed profiles, background checks and references for hundreds of thousands of mom-reviewed providers who seek to share their services. Through its Care.com for Recruiters service, Care.com also enables companies to find high-quality caregiving employees.

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