

Wisconsin

A survey of family caregivers 18 years and older who care for children and adults with complex medical conditions or disabilities

More than 1 million (1,085,000) adults in Wisconsin provide care to a family member or friend with complex medical conditions or disabilities — nearly one quarter (23%) of adults across the state.

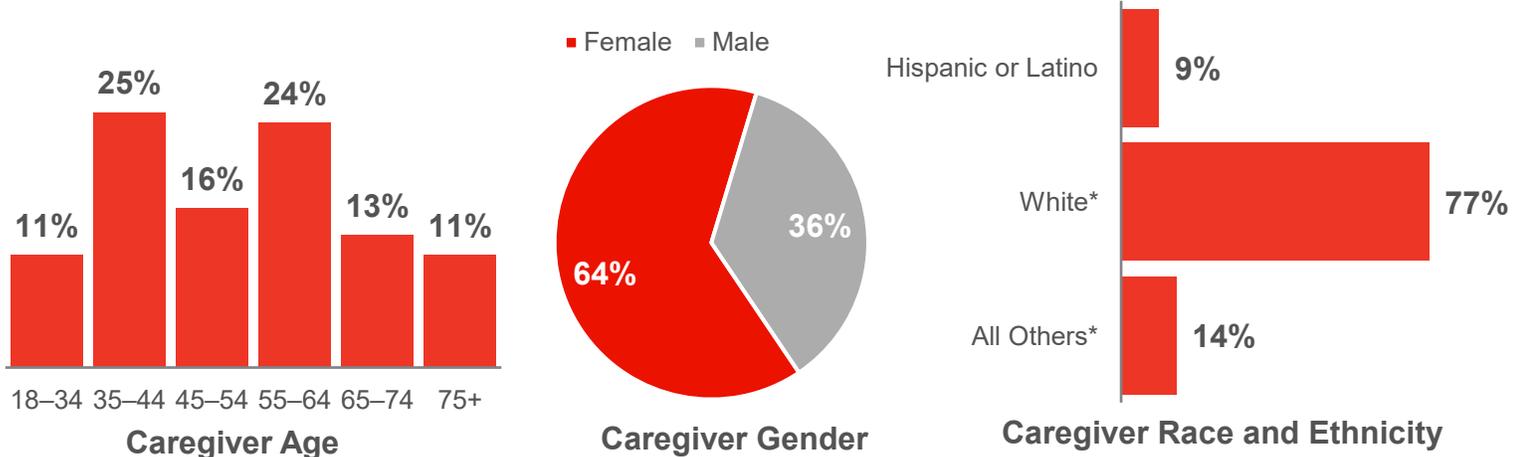
Most family caregivers in Wisconsin care for an adult (95%) — most often a parent (50%). Twelve percent care for a child with complex medical needs. Most caregivers are married or living with a partner (76%). Three in ten caregivers live in a household with income under \$50,000 (31%). Over one-third of caregivers (38%) are sandwich generation caregivers who care for an adult while also caring for a child under 18. One in five caregivers live with a disability. Three in ten family caregivers live with their care recipient (30%).

On average, family caregivers are **52 years old** and care for someone **69 years old** in Wisconsin.

Over half of family caregivers work while also caregiving (55%).

Most family caregivers in Wisconsin provide care to someone due to a long-term physical condition (59%).

Demographics of Family Caregivers in Wisconsin



*Non-Hispanic

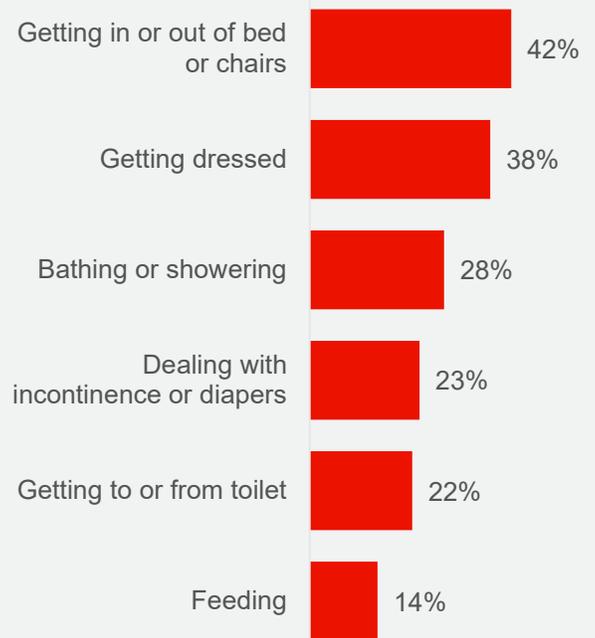
What Family Caregivers Do

Six in ten family caregivers in Wisconsin (61%) assist with at least one activity of daily living (ADL). ADLs are routine tasks that are essential for maintaining personal independence.

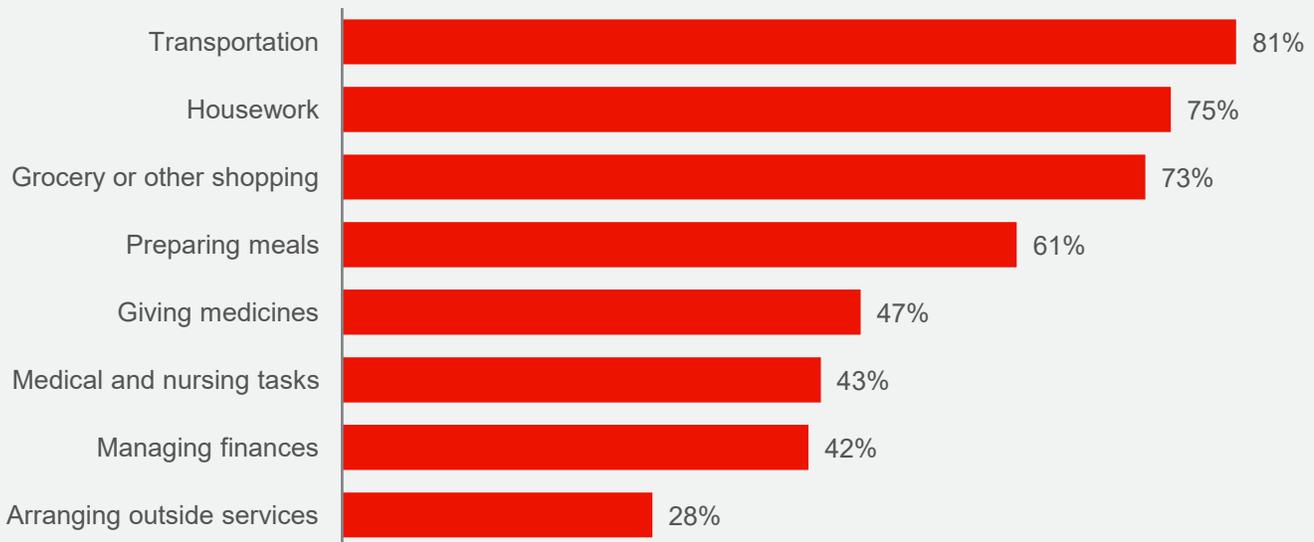
All family caregivers help with at least one instrumental activity of daily living (IADL), such as shopping, managing finances, preparing meals, and handling transportation.

8% of family caregivers receive training to help with ADLs, IADLs, or behavioral management.

Wisconsin Family Caregivers Help with Many Activities of Daily Living



Wisconsin Family Caregivers Help with Many Instrumental Activities of Daily Living



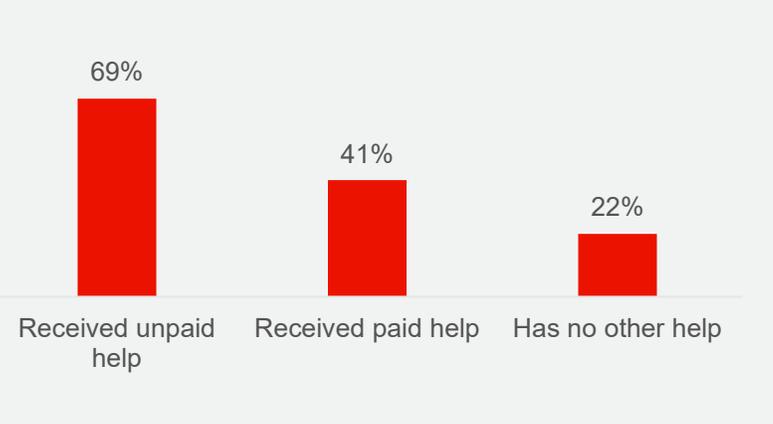
One in three family caregivers (32%) are high-intensity caregivers, providing more hours of care weekly and helping with more ADLs and IADLs.

17% of caregivers spend at least 40 hours a week providing care or provide constant care.

What Family Caregivers Do

Family caregivers in Wisconsin rely on unpaid or paid (aides, housekeepers) assistance in their network of support.

Help That Wisconsin Family Caregivers Receive



41% of caregivers have been providing care for three years or longer.

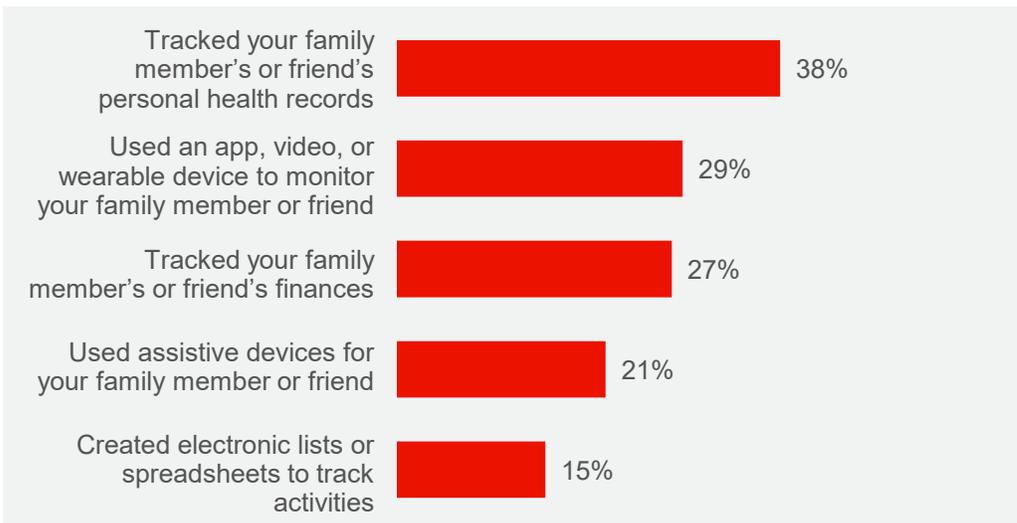
Four in ten family caregivers (43%) help with medical and nursing tasks.

Family caregivers in Wisconsin are key in managing health care:

- 62% communicate with health care professionals about their family member's or friend's care.
- 60% monitor the severity of their care recipient's condition.
- 56% advocate for them with health care providers, community services, or government agencies.

While **one-third (35%) of family caregivers** would find respite care helpful, **over eight in ten (85%)** have never used such services.

Six in ten family caregivers (63%) use at least one of the technology solutions asked about in our survey.



One quarter of family caregivers (26%) have been asked by health care providers about care needed for their care recipient, and **10% of caregivers** have been asked by such providers about care needed for themselves.

Financial Situation of Family Caregivers

Over one-third of family caregivers (37%) in Wisconsin have experienced at least one negative financial impact because of their care responsibilities. Common negative impacts include stopping saving, taking on more debt, and leaving bills unpaid.

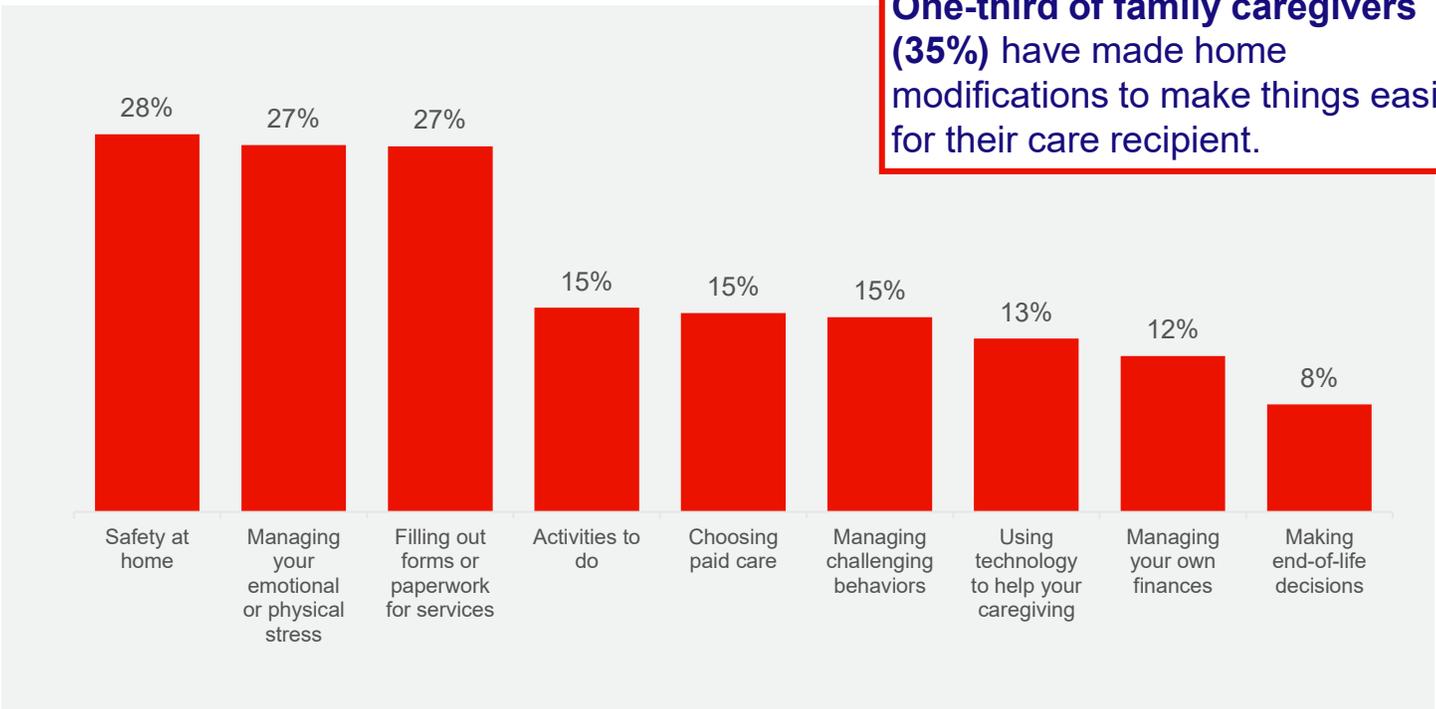
One in four family caregivers (26%) have difficulty getting local affordable services such as delivered meals, transportation, or in-home health services.

Financial Hardships Experienced by Wisconsin Family Caregivers

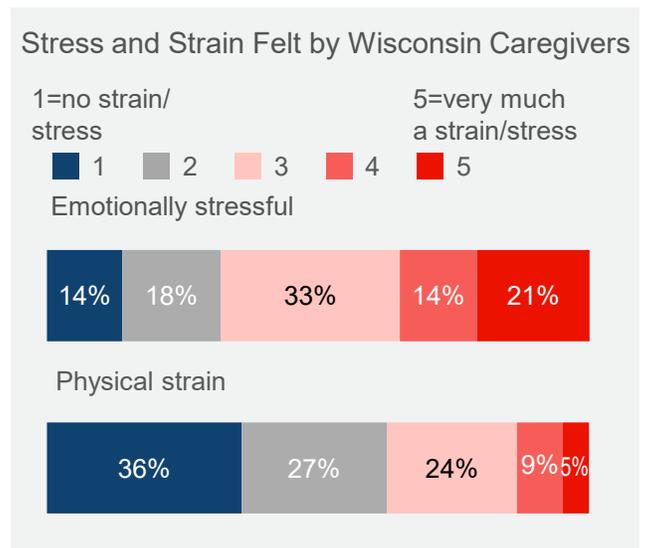
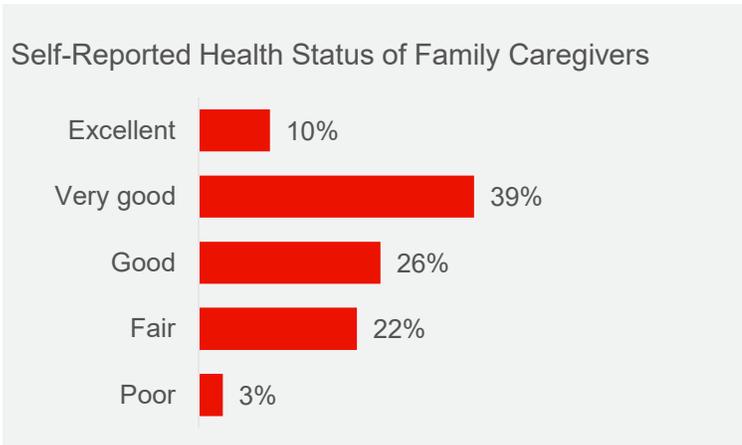
Stopped saving	29%	Had to start working or work more	11%
Took on more debt	24%	Used long-term savings	9%
Left bills unpaid or paid late	19%	Missed/late paying student loan	5%
Used up personal short-term savings	18%	Put off retirement	5%
Borrowed money from family/friends	14%	Moved to less expensive home	4%
Could not afford basic expenses	13%	Filed for bankruptcy	3%

Information Needs of Family Caregivers

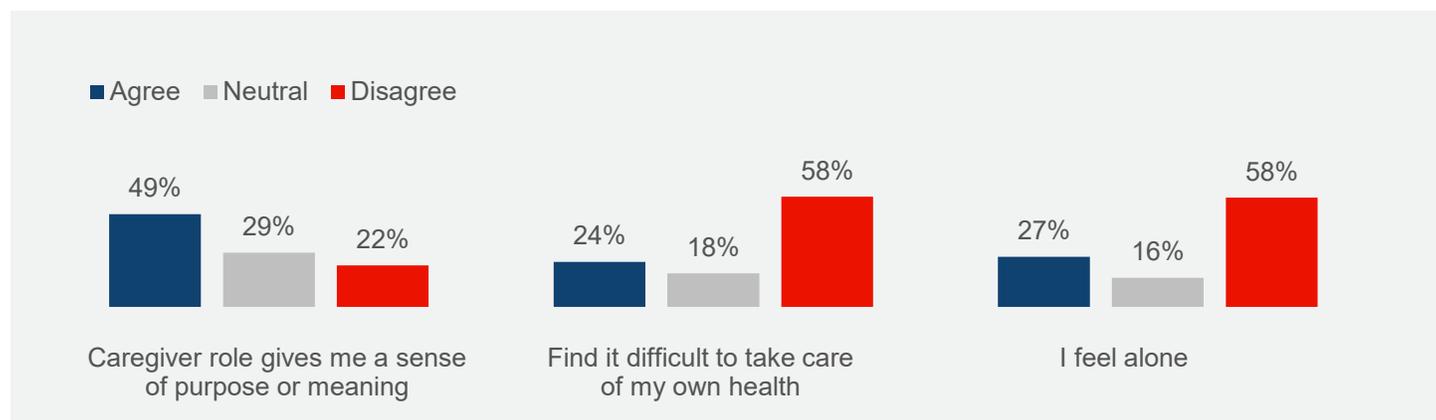
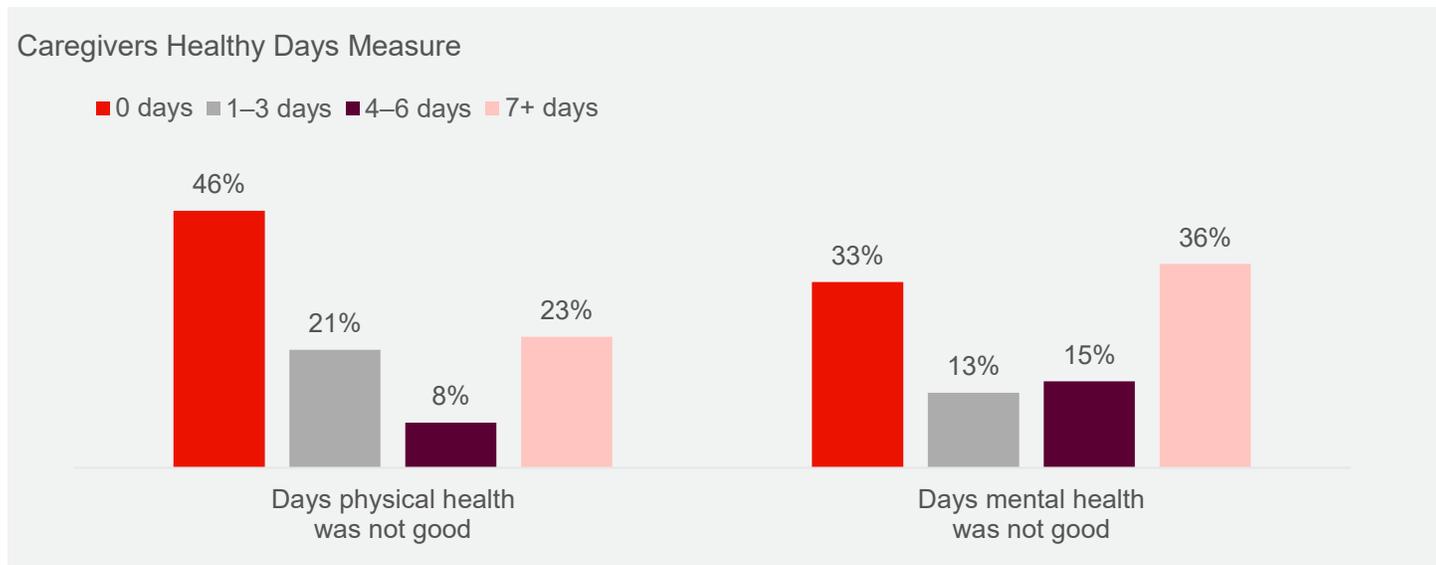
One-third of family caregivers (35%) have made home modifications to make things easier for their care recipient.



Well-Being of Family Caregivers



Nearly one quarter of family caregivers experience seven or more days a month of poor physical health. One-third of caregivers (35%) experience high emotional stress while caregiving. One quarter (24%) have difficulty taking care of their own health while they focus on their care recipient’s needs. Nearly three in ten (27%) feel alone while caregiving.



Demographic Characteristics of Family Caregivers in Wisconsin

Demographic variable	Weighted	Demographic variable	Weighted
Has children/grandchildren under 18 living with them	38%	Served in US Armed Forces	6%
Education		Cares for someone who served in the US Armed Forces	14%
Did not graduate from high school	8%	Has health insurance coverage	89%
Graduated from high school	30%	Has been a student while caregiving	9%
Some college or associate's degree	34%	Has a disability or handicap that limits them	19%
Bachelor's degree or higher	29%	Has internet access in home	95%
Marital status		Place of residence	
Married/living with partner	76%	Rural	36%
Single/never married	14%	Urban	41%
Widowed	4%	Suburban	23%
Separated/divorced	6%	Living situation	
Household income		Lives alone	10%
<\$25,000	12%	Lives with others	90%
\$25,000-\$49,999	19%		
\$50,000-\$99,999	31%		
\$100,000+	38%		

Methodology

For full methodology, see Methodology Appendix of <https://www.aarp.org/pri/topics/ltss/family-caregiving/caregiving-in-the-us-2025-caring-across-states>. report. The data in this report reflects 123 caregivers in Wisconsin, all sampled from Ipsos' national, probability-based online Knowledge Panel®; the margin of sampling error is ±9.6%.