

Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias in the U.S. Medicare Population: National and County-Level Trends and Predictors of Medicare Advantage Enrollment, 2017–2022



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- ADRD prevalence increased substantially over the study period, with the highest rates concentrated in South Central and South Atlantic counties - many of which rank among the poorest counties in the nation - suggesting an association between socioeconomic disadvantage and ADRD risk.
- MA enrollment among beneficiaries with ADRD grew rapidly, particularly among Hispanic beneficiaries, while younger, less frail, and urban-dwelling beneficiaries were consistently more likely to select MA over TM.
- Enrollment in MA was higher in counties with higher federal payment ceilings.

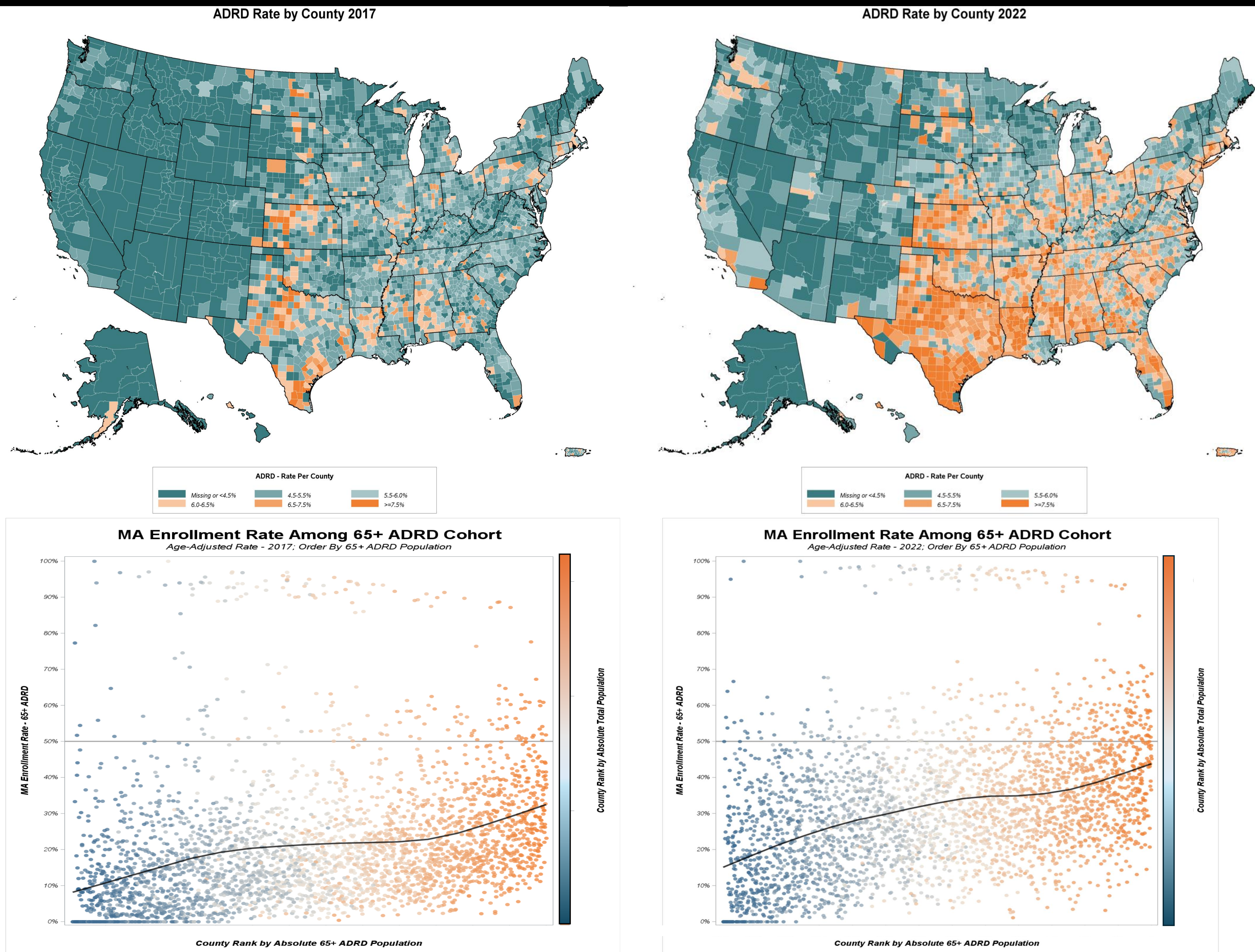
INTRODUCTION

Importance National estimates of ADRD prevalence and the factors driving Medicare Advantage versus traditional Medicare enrollment have important implications for Medicare policy and public health.

Objective To describe trends in ADRD prevalence and identify factors associated with MA versus TM enrollment among Medicare beneficiaries, at both the national and county level.

Methods Retrospective cohort study of 100% national Medicare claims data, 2017–2022. Beneficiaries with ADRD were identified using the Bynum algorithm (N=3,506,880 in 2022).

RESULTS



CONCLUSION

ADRD has grown rapidly and unevenly across the U.S. – concentrated in South Central and South Atlantic regions.

As MA becomes the dominant coverage pathway for this population, understanding who enrolls - and who doesn't - is essential to ensuring equitable access to dementia care.

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