

Manfred Huber / Ricardo Rodrigues /
Frédérique Hoffmann / Katrin Gasior /
Bernd Marin

Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care Europe and North America



EUROPEAN CENTRE
FOR SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND RESEARCH
AFFILIATED TO THE UNITED NATIONS

• EUROPÄISCHES ZENTRUM •
FÜR WOHLFAHRTSPOLITIK UND SOZIALFORSCHUNG
IN ZUSAMMENARBEIT MIT DEN VERBUNDENEN NATIONEN

• CENTRE EUROPÉEN •
DE RECHERCHE EN POLITIQUE SOCIALE
AFFILIÉ AUX NATIONS UNIES

Table of Contents

List of Acronyms	13
Chapter 1 Introduction	17
1.1. Monitoring long-term care	18
1.2. Terms and definitions for long-term care and other statistical issues	20
Defining long-term care	20
Drawing the line between institutional and home care	21
Cash for care allowances: added complexity	21
Chapter 2 Demography and Health	23
2.1. Populations are ageing across Europe	24
2.2. Living longer – living healthier	28
2.3. Will demographic ageing accelerate in the future?	34
2.4. Functional limitations are concentrated in the oldest age groups of the population	36
Chapter 3 Living Arrangements of Older People	39
3.1. A huge diversity of living arrangements across the globe	40
3.2. Living alone	44
3.3. Two is company	48
3.4. Living with children	50
Chapter 4 Informal Care	53
4.1. Mapping informal care	54
4.2. Who provides care in the family?	56
Number of carers by gender	56
Keeping it in the family: Relationship of carer to care recipient	59
4.3. Age structure of informal carers	62
From carer to care recipient?	62
4.4. Frequency, scope and type of care provided by informal carers	64
4.5. Employment status of informal carers	66

Chapter 5	Beneficiaries of Formal Home Care	69
5.1.	Is home care coping with an ageing society?.....	70
	Home is where you are cared for	73
5.2.	Cash for care allowances – a diversity of arrangements	77
5.3.	Balancing employment and paid care	80
5.4.	Gender dimension of home care	84
	Beneficiaries of home care: how much of it is a woman’s world?	84
Chapter 6	Beneficiaries of Institutional Care	87
6.1.	The changing faces and roles of institutional care.....	88
6.2.	Gender and age dimension of institutional care.....	91
	To what degree is care in institutions targeted at those aged 80 or older?	94
Chapter 7	Expenditure and Financing	97
7.1.	How much are countries spending on long-term care?.....	98
7.2.	Where is the money going?.....	101
7.3.	A closer look at the differences in expenditure levels in Europe.....	106
7.4.	Expenditure on cash allowances	108
	Maintaining expenditure under control.....	108
	There are large differences in the “generosity” of cash allowances	110
7.5.	Sharing the burden – private expenditure on long-term care.....	117
7.6.	How much does institutional care cost?.....	119
	References and Statistical Sources	123

List of Figures

Figure 1.1:	Grey areas at the boundaries between formal versus informal care and public versus private resources.....	22
Figure 2.1:	Europe and North America: ageing societies	25
Figure 2.2:	Old-age dependency ratios are growing fast in most countries	25
Figure 2.3:	The 80+ have become the fastest growing segment in the population	27
Figure 2.4:	The number of countries with over 4% of people aged 80+ is growing fast.....	27
Figure 2.5:	Ever more decades of life ahead at age 65.....	29
Figure 2.6:	In more and more countries, people aged 65 can expect to live 20 years or longer	29
Figure 2.7:	Even those who are 80 years old can expect to live longer	30
Figure 2.8:	Gains in life expectancy continue at the age of 80 and beyond.....	30
Figure 2.9:	Women outlive men, even at higher ages	31
Figure 2.10:	More or less of a woman’s world in third age (65+, 80+).....	31
Figure 2.11:	Uncertain improvements in old-age severe disability.....	33
Figure 2.12:	Population ageing is expected to accelerate in the next decades.....	35
Figure 2.13:	The future importance of the 80+	35
Figure 2.14:	Most people stay relatively healthy up to the age of 75-80 years.....	37
Figure 2.15:	After the age of 85, one in four persons suffers from dementia – 75% not.....	38
Figure 3.1:	La vie à deux? Large differences around the globe	41
Figure 3.2:	Gender and regional differences in living arrangements	43
Figure 3.3:	Where will I live? High mobility in later life	43
Figure 3.4:	Trends in single person households: a broader spectrum of change for women.....	45
Figure 3.5:	Home alone?	45
Figure 3.6:	Home alone ... even more so for the 80+	46
Figure 3.7:	Single person households across the globe.....	46
Figure 3.8:	United across the globe: an increasing trend towards living alone.....	47
Figure 3.9:	Two is company ... but less so for women aged 80+	49

Figure 3.10:	Moving back in: people aged 60+ living together with their children.....	51
Figure 3.11:	Living with others: rather steady across the older age groups.....	51
Figure 4.1:	A large diversity of care-giving in EU15 countries	55
Figure 4.2:	Who provides care for dependent older people within the family? It's a woman's world	57
Figure 4.3:	Heavy labour? It's even more a woman's world	57
Figure 4.4:	Sharing the burden: men's late catching-up	58
Figure 4.5:	Family affair, who cares?.....	58
Figure 4.6:	Intimacy at a distance in the North: a low share of co-resident informal carers	60
Figure 4.7:	Differences across Europe in filial obligations for one's older relative	60
Figure 4.8:	What is best for your parent: a child's perspective.....	61
Figure 4.9:	Family burden? Over-reliance of dependent older people on their relatives in some parts of Europe	61
Figure 4.10:	Mid-life challenges	63
Figure 4.11:	Who cares?.....	63
Figure 4.12:	Labour of love.....	65
Figure 4.13:	Changes in the family situation are reflected in the workplace	67
Figure 4.14:	The burden of care on employed carers.....	67
Figure 4.15:	The burden of care on non-employed carers	68
Figure 4.16:	The challenge of balancing work and family duties	68
Figure 5.1:	Ensuring access to home care	74
Figure 5.2:	The majority of beneficiaries are cared for at home in most countries	74
Figure 5.3:	Moving towards more home care, staying put or increased institutionalisation	76
Figure 5.4:	Stating preferences: most would like to be cared for in their own homes.....	76
Figure 5.5:	Do different approaches in providing cash for care produce different outcomes?.....	79
Figure 5.6:	Majority of beneficiaries of home care services are women	85
Figure 5.7:	Women are disproportionately represented in home care services ... or not that much?.....	85

Figure 6.1:	For most countries less than one in twenty older people receive care in institutions	89
Figure 6.2:	Women are significantly over-represented in institutional care	92
Figure 6.3:	Over-representation of women in institutional care increases with age	93
Figure 6.4:	Does living alone explain over-representation of women? Maybe so for institutional care	93
Figure 6.5:	The 80+ have higher chances of receiving (and needing) formal care	95
Figure 6.6:	Institutional care is targeted to the 80+.....	95
Figure 7.1:	There are large differences in public expenditure on long-term care, both in scope and in structure of spending	100
Figure 7.2:	Age structure per se does not explain differences in public expenditure levels	100
Figure 7.3:	Most beneficiaries are cared for at home ... but that's not where most public money goes to	102
Figure 7.4:	Explaining differences in expenditure on institutional care	103
Figure 7.5:	The importance of cash for care allowances in public expenditure	105
Figure 7.6:	What if ... all countries had the age structure of the EU15 average?.....	107
Figure 7.7:	What if ... all countries would spend on the EU15 level?.....	107
Figure 7.8:	Generosity of attendance allowances differs substantially	111
Figure 7.9:	Generosity of care allowances shows wide variation	113
Figure 7.10:	Benefit generosity vs. individual coverage generosity	115
Figure 7.11:	How are beneficiaries distributed across benefit thresholds.....	116
Figure 7.12:	Trade-offs in generosity in care allowances	116
Figure 7.13:	Different public/private mix in expenditure	118
Figure 7.14:	Paying for institutional care.....	121

List of Tables

Table 5.1:	Overview on the evolution of beneficiaries of long-term care services.....	72
Table 5.2:	(Un)regulated attendance allowances	81
Table 5.3:	Selected characteristics of care allowances	83
Table 6.1:	The percentage of older people receiving institutional care has remained stable on average	90
Table 7.1:	A diverse picture on public expenditure	99
Table 7.2:	Snapshot of measures to keep costs of attendance allowances under control	109

Facts and Figures on Long-Term Care

Europe and North America

This book displays new data on up to 56 countries of the UN-European region (comprising North America, Europe including Russia, Central Asia and Israel).

Despite growing concerns over ageing and its social and fiscal impact, surprisingly scarce information is available on basic indicators concerning long-term care for dependent older people. The present publication seeks to fill this gap of knowledge as it searches for answers to queries and puzzles such as...

What exactly do we mean by long-term care? Where to set the boundaries between family or informal and formal care, between home and residential / institutional care, between public and privately financed care?

Will demographic ageing further accelerate? How much gain in life ahead at retirement age and during the decades of third age are actually observed and to be expected in the future? To what an extent will longer lives correspond to healthier ones? Are there limits in shifting the oldest-old threshold - and correspondingly increased dependency risks – upwards?

What are the typical living arrangements of older people? How do they differ across countries, or between women and men? What are the social implications of living alone, in couples, with children or others? How much mobility is there in later life? And how much of it is preferred, expected, or involuntary?

Who provides care for dependent older people within the family? Is care-giving always a women's world? How do adult children and dependent parents feel about care arrangements? Who shares which burdens? Can work and family duties be balanced? What are people's preferences?

What are the differences between cash for care and attendance allowances or care leaves? How do the roles of residential care change? Is care provided mostly in institutions or at home? Where is formal care most widely available? Why are there so many more women than men in residential care?

Which countries spend the most in long-term care? Most people are cared for at home... is that where most money is spent? What are the public / private mixes in long-term care spending? What does a closer look at country differences in expenditure levels, spending patterns and forms of generosity disclose? What trade-offs are there between different forms of generosity – and which ones are fiscally or socially sustainable?

Are cash benefits one effective way to keep expenditure under control? What if...all countries would spend up to the EU-15 level? Demographics alone are the main driving force behind expenditure in long-term care... or not? How much can it cost to be cared for in an institution?

Ageing of the aged
EU27 population aged 80



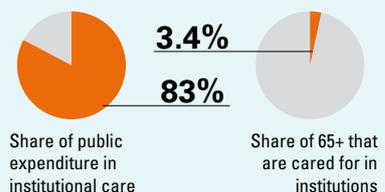
Women provide about two thirds of informal care.

Share of women providing home-care



Most beneficiaries are cared for at home ... but that's not where most public money goes to.

Canada



Manfred Huber, Health Economist, Director of the Health and Care programme of the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna

Ricardo Rodrigues, Economist, Researcher in the Health and Care programme

Frédérique Hoffmann, Social Scientist, Researcher in the Health and Care programme

Katrin Gasior, Sociologist, Graphics Developer

Bernd Marin, Social Scientist, Executive Director of the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna

ISBN 978-3-902426-49-9