

# THE DUAL ELIGIBLE POPULATION

**12M** individuals dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid (“dual beneficiaries”)

**Dual beneficiaries** comprise a medically, functionally, and socially complex population often forced to navigate two uncoordinated systems. As a result, these individuals tend to **experience poor health outcomes and barriers to care**, resulting in high spending across both Medicaid and Medicare.

See [A Profile of Medicare-Medicaid Dual Beneficiaries](#) for more information and data.

**Compared to Medicare-only beneficiaries, dual beneficiaries are:**

**+17%** more likely to be female

**+200%** more likely to be Black or Hispanic

**+100%** more likely to be unmarried

**+410%** more likely to be under age 65

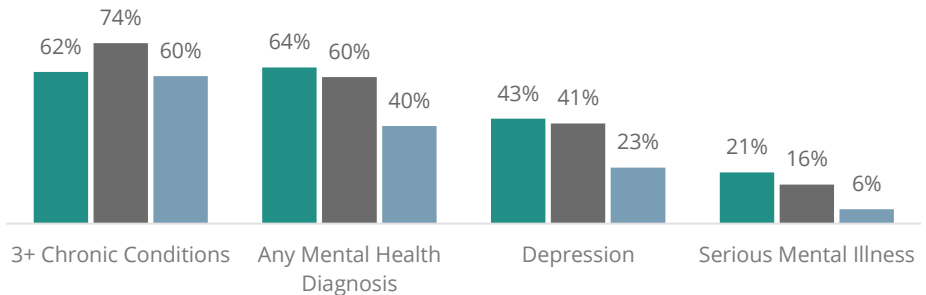
**+573%** more likely to be under the federal poverty level

**\$440B**

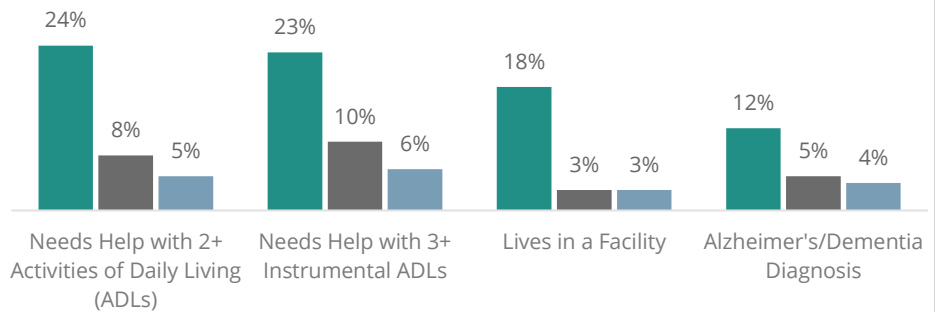
In 2019, Medicare and Medicaid spent \$440B on dual beneficiaries, with Medicare spending \$276B and Medicaid spending \$184B<sup>1</sup>

## DUAL BENEFICIARIES EXPERIENCE:

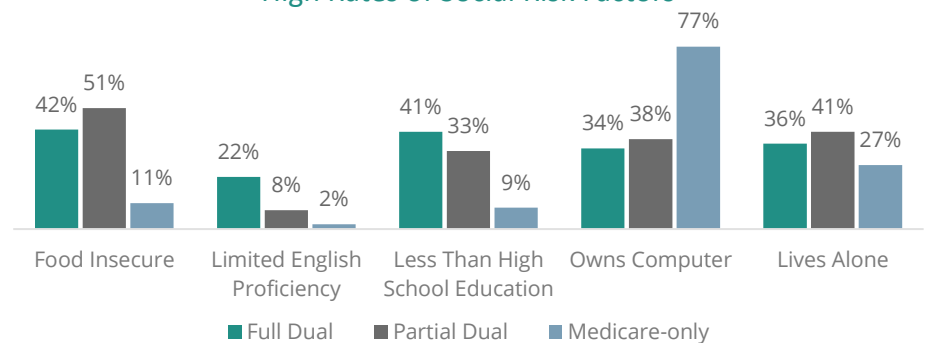
### High Rates of Clinical Need



### High Rates of Functional and Cognitive Need



### High Rates of Social Risk Factors



Data based on ATI analyses of 2019 Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey and the 2021 Master Beneficiary Summary File.

1. MedPAC and MACPAC. [Databook: Beneficiaries Dually Eligible for Medicare and Medicaid](#). February 2022.