

# Arthritis Foundation, Great West Region **Fact Sheet**

**The Arthritis Foundation is the largest and most trusted nonprofit organization dedicated to conquering the challenges of people with arthritis, one of the nation's leading cause of disability.**

**The Arthritis Foundation is the Champion of Yes. We lead the fight for the arthritis community and help conquer everyday battles through life-changing information and resources, access to optimal care, advancements in science and community connections. Our goal is to chart a winning course, guiding families in developing personalized plans for living a full life – and making each day another stride towards a cure.**

## Reach

The Arthritis Foundation, Great West Region serves Alaska, Northern California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

## Prevalence

Arthritis is a serious and growing health crisis, striking 50 million Americans (one in every five adults) and about 300,000 children. In the Great West Region, more than five million adults and 29,000 children are diagnosed with arthritis. It is a complex and incurable condition; two major types of arthritis alone – osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis – cost the U.S. economy more than \$156 billion annually in lost wages and medical expenses. Annually, arthritis and other rheumatic conditions result in 172 million missed work days.

## Arthritis

Arthritis means joint inflammation and is used to describe more than 100 rheumatic diseases and conditions that affect the joints, the tissues surrounding the joints and other connective tissues. The pattern, severity and location of symptoms can vary depending on the specific form of the disease. Typically, rheumatic conditions are characterized by pain and stiffness and around one or more joints. The symptoms can develop gradually or suddenly. Certain rheumatic conditions can also involve the immune system and various internal organs of the body. Many forms of arthritis are considered to be autoimmune conditions, meaning the immune system mistakes some part of the body as a germ or infectious agent and attacks its own cells.

### Some types of arthritis:

- Osteoarthritis
- Juvenile arthritis
- Osteoporosis
- Bursitis
- Raynaud's syndrome
- Psoriatic arthritis
- Lupus
- Lyme disease
- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Fibromyalgia
- Gout
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Tendinitis
- Spinal stenosis

## Core Areas

### Help & Support

Our goal is to help those with arthritis live life to its fullest – easing their pain and illuminating a path toward wellness. Through personalized information and support, we expertly guide individuals affected by arthritis in developing a customized plan for how to say Yes and make every step another victory. Each year, more than 20,000 individuals receive direct services through the Arthritis Foundation, Great West Region programs and educational events, including 1,400 children affected by juvenile arthritis. In addition, our social media reach and web visits total over 62,000 per year. Targeted educational and promotional email campaigns and e-newsletters are disseminated to over 125,000 constituents in our database each year, resulting in average email open rates of 15% and average click rates of 6%.

### Advocacy & Access

We are the authority on arthritis and have a strong voice at the state and federal levels. In telling the untold stories of those with arthritis to insurers and regulators, we work to make sure that all people with arthritis have access to optimal care and game-changing medicine. Through the Arthritis Foundation's effective and committed nationwide advocacy network – now more than 100,000 members strong – we are working to address key issues on both the state and federal levels with lawmakers, insurers, employers and providers.

### Scientific Discovery

Finding a cure for arthritis is, and always will be, a priority for the Arthritis Foundation. Science and technology is advancing every day, and the optimism and energy we pour into research and scientific discovery are helping pave the path toward progress. Last year, more than \$1.7 million was provided in funding to local researchers within the Great West Region.

## Raise funds

Through dozens of special events including Walk to Cure Arthritis, Jingle Bell Run/Walk and other fundraising initiatives, Arthritis Foundation, Great West Region seeks to raise several million dollars each year. Funds raised support mission activities and outreach (82%), fundraising (12%), and management/general (6%).

**WASHINGTON**

- **1,216,000** adults with arthritis
- **654,000** adults limited by arthritis
- **6,100** children with arthritis
- **24%** of Washingtonians have arthritis
- **\$2,786,900,000** in total costs to state economy

**IDAHO**

- **262,000** adults with arthritis
- **142,000** adults limited by arthritis
- **1,500** children with arthritis
- **23%** of Idahoans have arthritis
- **\$564,000,000** in total costs to state economy

**MONTANA**

- **202,000** adults with arthritis
- **94,000** adults limited by arthritis
- **900** children with arthritis
- **26%** of Montanans have arthritis
- **\$395,600,000** in total costs to state economy

**OREGON**

- **782,000** adults with arthritis
- **379,000** adults limited by arthritis
- **3,400** children with arthritis
- **26%** of Oregonians have arthritis
- **\$1,609,100,000** in total costs to state economy

**WYOMING**

- **103,000** adults with arthritis
- **49,000** adults limited by arthritis
- **500** children with arthritis
- **24%** of adults in Wyoming have arthritis
- **\$243,000,000** in total costs to state economy

**N. CALIFORNIA**

- **1,183,000** adults with arthritis
- **520,000** adults limited by arthritis
- **7,400** children with arthritis
- **22%** of Californians have arthritis
- Over **\$12,000,000,000** in total costs to state economy

**COLORADO**

- **830,000** adults with arthritis
- **368,000** adults limited by arthritis
- **4,600** children with arthritis
- **22%** of Coloradans have arthritis
- **\$1,920,000,000** in total costs to state economy

**ALASKA**

- **110,000** adults with arthritis
- **52,000** adults limited by arthritis
- **800** children with arthritis
- **21%** of Alaskans have arthritis
- **\$274,700,000** in total costs to state economy

**UTAH**

- **383,000** adults with arthritis
- **188,000** adults limited by arthritis
- **2,900** children with arthritis
- **20%** of Utahns have arthritis
- **\$820,000,000** in total costs to state economy

