

**The ALS Association Massachusetts Chapter**  
75 McNeil Way, Suite 201, Dedham, MA 02026

[www.als-ma.org](http://www.als-ma.org)  
[www.positivespinforals.org](http://www.positivespinforals.org)

## **ALS STATISTICS**

### **National Statistics per the ALS Association:**

- Every day 15 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with ALS
- Over 5,600 people in the U.S. are diagnosed every year
- Over 30,000 people in the U.S. currently have ALS at any given time
- Over 300,000 people in the U.S. who are alive today will die from ALS

### **ABOUT ALS**

- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease, is a progressive, fatal neuromuscular disease
- ALS eventually leads to total paralysis including the inability to walk, talk, speak, swallow or breathe
- The mind and senses of a person with ALS remain intact and unaffected
- ALS usually strikes those aged 40-70 with men and women affected nearly equally

**The cause of ALS is unknown. There is no cure. There is no treatment.**

- Over 90 percent of the people diagnosed with ALS have no family history
- 5 –10 % of the people diagnosed with ALS do have a genetic link to ALS
- The life expectancy of an ALS patient averages 2- 5 years after diagnosis
- More people die each year from ALS than from Huntington's disease and Multiple Sclerosis.

**ALS is not rare. ALS can strike anyone.**

*Riding with us helps raise money for patient services and ALS research and helps keep you in good health to boot! Ride on your own, ride with a team or organize a corporate team. Just spin 10, 25, 50 or 100-miles for someone with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis.*