

DIABETES PREVALENCE

AMONG MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES IN THE COMMUNITY

Approximately 37.3 million people in the U.S. reported having been diagnosed with diabetes, with this disease disproportionately impacting minority populations. Review the information^{1,2} included in this infographic to learn how these disparities are visible among Medicare enrollees.

1

The prevalence of diabetes has steadily increased over the years, going from almost 29 million in 2012³ to more than 37⁴ million in 2019. This increase, which has continued despite our knowledge of the factors that can lead to diabetes, emphasizes the need for better management and prevention strategies.

TOTAL MEDICARE ENROLLEES DIAGNOSED WITH DIABETES

Enrollees



1 in 3 (32%)

General Population



1 in 10 (11%)

OTHER ENROLLEES WHO WERE MORE LIKELY TO HAVE REPORTED HAVING DIABETES:

- Enrollees with lower levels of educational attainment compared to enrollees with higher levels of educational attainment
- Enrollees under 65 years old compared to individuals 65 years and older
- Enrollees who speak a language other than English at home compared to enrollees that only speak English at home

2

The increased prevalence of non-gestational diabetes among minority populations has contributed to reports of additional health complications.



2x

Black non-Hispanic and Hispanic enrollees were **twice as likely to have reported having current eye problems** due to diabetes compared with White non-Hispanic enrollees.

ENROLLEES REPORTING EVER HAVING KIDNEY PROBLEMS DUE TO DIABETES

15%



White non-Hispanic

10%



AMONG ENROLLEES THAT REPORTED EVER HAVING FOOT PROBLEMS DUE TO DIABETES:

- Enrollees living in the South were more likely than enrollees living in the Northeast
- Enrollees with lower incomes were more likely than enrollees with higher incomes

3

Knowledge gaps and disparities in receipt of self-management tools among minority communities have contributed to disparities in reported complications from non-gestational diabetes.

UNDERSTAND MEDICARE CAN HELP PAY FOR DIABETES SUPPLIES (ANTI-DIABETIC DRUGS, INSULIN, ETC.)

53% White non-Hispanic

44% Black non-Hispanic

40% Hispanic



White non-Hispanic enrollees were more likely to have reported well-controlled blood sugar than Black non-Hispanic and Hispanic enrollees, despite being less likely than Black non-Hispanic and Hispanic enrollees to have reported taking prescribed diabetes pill/medicine, measure blood pressure at home, and test blood for sugar/glucose.



Enrollees who speak English at home reported they were more likely than those who speak a language other than English to have completed a diabetes self-management course and reported knowing that Medicare helps pay for diabetes supplies for enrollees.

4

Addressing the Diabetes Epidemic through Effective Prevention and Care

- Understanding the diabetes landscape among Medicare beneficiaries is crucial for addressing disparities and improving care.
- Interventions should include focuses on increasing diabetes knowledge and promoting self-management.
- Collaborative efforts are needed to ensure equitable access to diabetes education, resources, and support for all, including Medicare enrollees, health practitioners, health plans, and community-based organizations.

Visit the CMS OMH website to find additional resources, including [Managing Diabetes: Coverage & Resources](#), available in 8 languages.

¹ The diabetes measure encompasses Type I, Type II, borderline diabetes, prediabetes, gestational diabetes, and high blood sugar.

² Estimates for Medicare enrollees reflect beneficiaries living in the community only (beneficiaries living in facilities are excluded).

³ National Diabetes Statistics Report, 2014

⁴ National Diabetes Statistics Report, 2022