



Diabetes in American Indians and Alaska Natives: Facts At-a-Glance

U.S. AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE POPULATION

3.3 million

Number of American Indians and Alaska Natives in 2007
(according to the U.S. census)

561

Number of federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes

DIABETES IN AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES

16.3%

Percent of American Indian and Alaska Native **adults** who have diagnosed diabetes
(compared with 8.7% of non-Hispanic whites)

1,758

Number of American Indian and Alaska Native **youth** under the age of 19 who have
diagnosed diabetes (2005)

68%

Percent increase in diabetes from 1994 to 2004 in American Indian and Alaska
Native youth **aged 15-19 years**

95%

Percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives with diabetes who have
type 2 diabetes (as opposed to type 1 diabetes)

30%

Estimated percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives who have **pre-diabetes**

2.2 times higher

Likelihood of American Indians and Alaska Natives to have diabetes
compared with non-Hispanic whites

58%

Increase in diabetes prevalence among American Indians and Alaska Natives aged 20–29
from 1990 to 1998, as compared with 9.1% in the U.S. general population

3 times higher

Death rate due to diabetes for American Indians and Alaska Natives
compared with the general U.S. population (2004)

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3.5 times higher

Rate of diabetes-related kidney failure in American Indians and Alaska Natives compared with the general U.S. population (2004)

18.5%

Percent reduction in new cases of kidney failure in American Indians and Alaska Natives from 1999 to 2004

3-4 times higher

The risk for developing cardiovascular disease in American Indians and Alaska Natives with diabetes compared with American Indians and Alaska Natives without diabetes

66%

Percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives with cardiovascular disease that had diabetes first

GENERAL DIABETES

15 years

Number of years by which diabetes can shorten a person's life span

\$13,243

Average annual medical care cost for a person with diabetes

\$2,560

Average annual medical care cost for a person without diabetes

Congress established the *Special Diabetes Program for Indians* in 1997 in response to the growing diabetes epidemic among American Indians and Alaska Natives. Since its inception, the *Special Diabetes Program for Indians* has helped make quality diabetes care practices commonplace in American Indian and Alaska Native health care facilities, resulting in better health outcomes and quality of life for people with diabetes.

See separate *Special Diabetes Program for Indians: Facts At-a-Glance* fact sheet for more information.

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