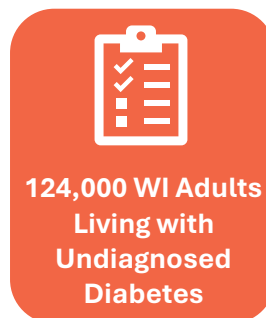
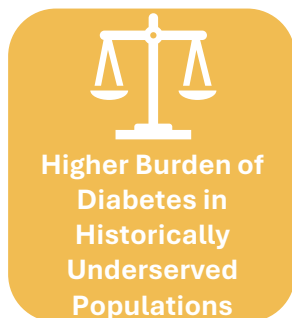


WCHQ Health Insights

Diabetes in Wisconsin | July 2026

Diabetes affects **more than 526,000 Wisconsinites**, with approximately **32,000 new diagnoses each year**, costing the state an estimated **\$5.9 billion annually**.



★ WHY THIS MATTERS

Over **one-third of Wisconsin's adult population** has higher-than-normal blood sugar levels.

RETURN ON IMPROVEMENT

\$78 MILLION

Annual healthcare costs avoided through improved blood sugar control across Wisconsin

IMPACT ON WISCONSIN

- Improved healthcare access and treatment lowers costs and improves quality of life.
- Prevention and early detection offer the best opportunity for improved health outcomes.

WHAT LAWMAKERS SHOULD KNOW

↑ Positive Movement

Measures of diabetes care quality are improving across the state.



Concerning Trend

Underserved populations have lower rates of blood sugar control, increasing their risk of diabetes complications.



Policy Implication

Investment in early detection and treatment offers improved health outcomes and cost containment.

IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR PATIENTS WITH DIABETES



Statewide Improvement Goal: Increase the number of patients with good blood sugar control by 3,850, raising the statewide rate to 77%.

Improve
Obesity Care

Interventions for
Patients with
Pre-Diabetes

Focus on
Underserved
Populations

Optimize
Medication
Management

DIABETES QUALITY IMPROVEMENT RESULTS

Improving Outcomes for Patients with Diabetes

WI health systems are:

- Integrating **pharmacists** into primary care teams to manage medications.
- **Screening for Social Determinants of Health** that affect diabetes outcomes, such as food insecurity and medication costs.
- Increasing access to care through **telehealth visits**

Since 2004, Wisconsin health systems improved blood sugar control by **27%**, meaning an additional **54,000 patients** have good control of their diabetes.

ABOUT WCHQ

We are Wisconsin's leading electronic health record data hub, connecting over 80% of primary care providers statewide. We help care providers measure outcomes, identify improvement opportunities, and support statewide initiative that improve the health of Wisconsin residents.