

State of Diabetes

Access and Affordability Survey – 2025

We asked advocates for their insights and perspectives on how the cost of managing diabetes and preventing obesity has impacted their daily lives, as well as the role that health insurance and access to care play in their health journeys. These responses play an important role in improving and shaping our advocacy programs.

TENNESSEE SURVEY RESULTS

HEALTH STATUS

60%

Households living with both **diabetes** and **excess weight**. Both conditions greatly increase the potential for complications such as heart disease, eye and foot damage and others.

HEALTH INSURANCE STATUS

52%

Households are enrolled in **Medicare**.

33%

Households have **employer-sponsored** insurance.

24%

Households have participated in **assistance programs**.

OBESITY COVERAGE

A majority of respondents **support insurance coverage for obesity** through medications, lifestyle change programs, surgery and other treatments.

76%

Support **coverage** of obesity medications

74%

Agree lifestyle change programs should be covered by insurance

MOST DESIRED CHANGE IN INSURANCE BENEFITS TO MANAGE CONDITIONS

67%

Want **diabetes education** as added coverage to insurance

52%

Want added coverage for **obesity medications**

41%

Want added **dental** coverage

REPORTED BARRIERS TO STAYING HEALTHY

#1

Medications were rated as the top medical cost.



High cost of **healthcare** is the primary barrier to staying healthy.



More than half of households **spend over \$200/month** on diabetes care

33%

Rationed, delayed, or skipped insulin or treatment due to cost in the last year, often to be able to afford other expenses like food, rent or gas.