Diabetes and prediabetes cost an estimated $7 billion in Washington each year. The serious complications include heart disease, stroke, amputation, end-stage kidney disease, blindness – and death.

Washington’s diabetes epidemic:

Approximately 658,603 people in Washington, or 11.4% of the adult population, have diabetes.

- Of these, an estimated 173,000 have diabetes but don’t know it, greatly increasing their health risk.
- In addition, 1,874,000 people in Washington, 36.1% of the adult population, have prediabetes with blood glucose levels higher than normal but not yet high enough to be diagnosed as diabetes.

Diabetes is expensive:

People with diabetes have medical expenses approximately 2.3 times higher than those who do not have diabetes.

- Total direct medical expenses for diagnosed and undiagnosed diabetes, prediabetes and gestational diabetes in Washington was estimated at $5.4 billion in 2012.
- In addition, another $1.6 billion was spent on indirect costs from lost productivity due to diabetes.

Improving lives, preventing diabetes and finding a cure:

In 2015, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases at the National Institutes of Health invested $51,800,120 in diabetes-related research projects in Washington.

The Division of Diabetes Translation at the CDC spent $2,425,627 on diabetes prevention and educational programs in Washington in 2016.

Sources include:
- Cost: Dall et al.