In England 270,935 adults had type 1 diabetes and over 3.3 million had type 2 and other diabetes in 2021–22. The number of people with type 1 and type 2 diabetes has increased since 2017–18.

Diabetes is a serious condition. When you’ve got type 1 diabetes, you can’t make insulin. If you’ve got type 2 diabetes you have some insulin but either you can’t produce enough or it doesn’t work effectively.

Diabetes can lead to health complications such as blindness, kidney failure and heart disease. But these complications can be prevented.

Everyone with diabetes should have healthcare checks at least once a year. Treatments may be adjusted to achieve recommended targets for HbA1c and blood pressure. Those with high heart risk should be prescribed a statin.

Completing all health checks and achieving the three treatment targets are the key to preventing complications.

* For this report type 2 diabetes refers to those with a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes and other rarer forms of diabetes such as MODY (Maturity Onset Diabetes of the Young) and LADA (Latent Autoimmune Diabetes in Adults) or unspecified diabetes.

Find out more
1. National Diabetes Audit
2. Audit results for your local services National Diabetes Audit dashboards