



U.S. Cost of Disease

1. Obesity:¹

Q: What is the **monetary cost of obesity and its effects**?

A: The National Institute of Diabetes & Digestive & Kidney Diseases provides the following statistics regarding the cost of obesity and some of its health consequences:

Q: What is the **cost of overweight and obesity**?

A: Total cost: \$99.2 billion

- **Direct cost:** \$51.6 billion (5.7 percent of the U.S. health expenditure)
- **Indirect cost:** \$47.6 billion (comparable to the economic costs of cigarette smoking)

Q: What is the **cost of heart disease** related to overweight and obesity?

A: Direct cost related to overweight and obesity: \$6.99 billion (17 percent of the \$40.4 billion total direct cost of heart disease, independent of stroke)

Q: What is the **cost of type 2 diabetes** related to overweight and obesity?

A: Total cost related to overweight and obesity: \$63.14 billion (more than 60 percent of the total cost of type 2 diabetes)

Q: What is the **cost of osteoarthritis** related to overweight and obesity?

A: Total cost related to overweight and obesity: \$17.2 billion

Q: What is the **cost of hypertension** (high blood pressure) related to overweight and obesity?

A: Direct cost related to overweight and obesity: \$3.23 billion (17 percent of the total cost of hypertension)

Q: How much **do we spend on weight loss** products and services?

A: Americans spend \$33 billion annually on weight-loss products and services.²⁰ (This figure represents consumer dollars spent in the early 1990s on all efforts at weight loss or weight maintenance including low-calorie foods, artificially sweetened products such as diet sodas, and memberships to commercial weight-loss centers.)

2. Heart Disease and Stroke:²

- a. \$432 billion/year.

3. Diabetes:³

- a. \$174 billion/year.

4. Lung Disease:⁴

- a. \$154 billion/year.

5. Alzheimer's Disease:⁵

- a. \$148 billion/year.

- b. The costs of caring for people with Alzheimer's are huge.

- The annual direct and indirect costs of caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease is \$100 billion
- The average lifetime cost of care for someone with Alzheimer's disease is \$174,000
- The yearly cost of caring for someone with Alzheimer's depends on the stage of the disease.
\$18,400 for someone with mild symptoms
\$30,100 for moderate symptoms
\$36,132 for severe symptoms.
- Alzheimer's disease costs business \$24.6 billion in health care
- In the US 7 out of 10 people with Alzheimer's live at home where 75% of costs are absorbed by the family. The remaining 25% of care costs cost an average \$19,000 a year
- It is estimated that Alzheimer's caregivers cost business \$36.5 billion. This includes the costs of absenteeism and lost productivity.
- The average cost of a nursing home in the US is \$42,000 a year. However in some areas those costs can be at least \$70,000
- Medicare costs for beneficiaries with Alzheimer's disease were \$91 billion in 2005. Medicare costs are expected to increase by 75% to \$160 billion in 2010
- Medicaid expenditures on residential dementia care were \$21 billion in 2005. These cost are estimated to rise by 14% to \$24 billion in 2010

References:

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3. American Diabetes Association. Direct and Indirect Costs of Diabetes in the United States. American Diabetes Association Web site. Available at <http://www.diabetes.org/diabetes-statistics/cost-of-diabetes-in-us.jsp>. Accessed September 20, 2007.

4. National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Morbidity and Mortality: 2004 Chart Book on Cardiovascular, Lung, and Blood Diseases. Bethesda, MD: National Institutes of Health, 2004.

5. Alzheimer's Association. Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures 2007. Alzheimer's Association Web site. Available at http://www.alz.org/national/documents/Report_2007FactsAndFigures.pdf. Accessed April 10, 2007.

6. <http://www.forahealthieramerica.com/ds/impact-of-chronic-disease.html>

