

Age-Standardized Incidence, Diabetes



Year to Date Performance	5.5 (2018/19)
Island Health Target	Less than or equal to 5.2 (2018/19)

Performance Assessment		Red
Performance is significantly outside acceptable range; take action and monitor progress.		

What do we measure and why?

The Age-Standardized Incidence Rate (ASIR) for diabetes reflects the number of new cases of diabetes identified in a given time period (in this case, one year) per 1,000 people.

A person is at greater risk of developing diabetes if they have high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and/or are overweight. As these risk factors can be affected by lifestyle, the rate of new diabetes cases indicates both the level of population health, and the potential opportunity for improvement. ASIR is included in the [Healthy Families BC Policy Framework](#). Reductions in the incidence of diabetes may reflect improvements in healthy eating, healthy weights and/or physical activity.

It should be noted that Type 1 Diabetes is included in this measure even though this type of diabetes is not modifiable through behavioural risk reduction. Type 2 Diabetes makes up the majority of cases.

What is the target?

Island Health's target for 2018/19 was 5.2 or fewer new cases per year, per 1,000 population.

The provincial goal set by the Ministry of Health in [BC's Guiding Framework for Public Health](#) is to reduce the incidence for BC overall to 6.0 per 1,000 by 2023. As the Island Health rate is already below this value, our goal is to maintain or further decrease the rate.

How are we doing?

Island Health's ASIR for diabetes in 2018/19 did not meet the target.

What actions are we taking?

Population health indicators, such as incidence of diabetes, broadly reflect population health and wellbeing and are impacted by factors including social determinants of health (for example, access to adequate income, affordable housing, education, healthy foods). 'Social determinants of health' are economic and social conditions that affect health.

Public health programs aimed at disease prevention and health promotion are one way to improve the health and wellness of a population. Other initiatives, such as [BC Healthy Communities](#), support collaborative approaches to address the broader social determinants of health in our communities.