

# Users of drugs for type 2 diabetes (NHC) - both genders, 30-74 years, users per 1000 inhabitants, age standardised

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Geography														
Nordland	24	26	28	30	31	32	32	32	33	34	34	36	37	39
Troms	26	28	29	32	34	35	35	36	36	36	36	37	38	39
Finnmark	30	32	35	37	38	40	40	41	40	41	41	41	43	44

## CellMark Legend

- .. Missing data
- .
- Not possible to calculate
- :
- Hidden value

# Users of drugs for type 2 diabetes (NHC) - *both genders, 30-74 years, users per 1000 inhabitants, age standardised*

## Description

Users of prescription drugs for treatment of type 2 diabetes among 30-74 year olds and 18-79 year olds. Users are defined as people who have been dispensed a prescription in the reporting period.

Four measures are available. Use the Measures menu to select:

1. number of users - Regional figures are hidden for privacy reasons.
2. users per 1000 = number of users per 1000 inhabitants of same sex and age per year
3. users per 1000 age standardised = number of users per 1000 inhabitants of same sex and age per year, age standardised. Age standardisation of rates reduces the effect of differing age distributions when groups are compared over time and between geographical regions.
4. Ratio (Norway=100): The ratio between the standardized rate in the county and the national rate for a given year. A ratio of 130 means that the county rate is 30 % higher than the national rate. A ratio of 87 means that the county rate is 13 % lower than the national level.

In the Norwegian Prescription Database, every individual is registered with a pseudonymous serial number which makes it possible to link drug consumption to individuals without knowing who they are. Even if a person has dispensed a prescription for the same drug several times, they are only counted as a user once.

Figures in Norhealth may vary slightly from the Norwegian Prescription Database because data may have been extracted from the main database at different times. The cause of this discrepancy is late reporting by a small number of chemists.

The following group of drugs is included:

- Blood glucose lowering drugs, excl. insulins (A10B)

Drugs are classified according to the ATC-system (Anatomic, Therapeutic, Chemical classification). By using this international classification system one can make statistics of drug consumption groups at 5 different levels, including from figures that show total use of all preparations classified under a main group (1st level, e.g. group C - Heart and circulation), figures for the different sub-groups (2nd, 3rd and 4th level) and down to figures that show use of each active ingredient.

Further information about the Norwegian Prescription Database can be found at [www.norpd.no](http://www.norpd.no).

See also Drug Consumption in Norway at [www.drugconsumption.no](http://www.drugconsumption.no).

## Rationale for indicator

An estimated 190 000 Norwegians have a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes. There are differences between sexes, socioeconomic groups and geographical regions in the prevalence of diabetes type 2.

The treatment varies. For some, diet, exercise and weight reduction can normalize blood sugar and control the illness. Around 70 % of patients need blood glucose lowering drugs. The use of these drugs, ATC group A10B, can be an indicator of the prevalence of type 2 diabetes in the population. A small proportion (< 10 %) of the type 2 diabetes-patients are treated with insulin only (ATC group A10A). Insulin combined with other blood glucose lowering drug is more used, and these patients will be included in the figures (A10B).

Overweight is an important risk factor for development of type 2 diabetes. The prevalence of type 2 diabetes can be an indicator of the dietary and physical exercise habits in the population. Smoking is also a risk factor for diabetes.

Whether drug use is a good indicator for prevalence, can be affected by local differences in treatment methods and diagnosing.

## Source

Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Department of Pharmacoepidemiology

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## Collection

The Norwegian Prescription Database contains information on all prescriptions dispensed from Norwegian pharmacies for both human and animal use. The register only contains information that directly or indirectly concerns prescriptions. Information about the patient and prescriber is pseudonymous.

## Interpretation and sources of error

Purchases of over the counter drugs from a pharmacy or grocery store are not included. Also not included are users who live at institutions where drugs are provided by the institution rather than via private prescriptions.

## Data quality

The data quality is very good.

## Statistical analysis

Age standardization is done using direct standardization. The standard population is the sum of men and women in 5-year age groups in Norway per 1. January 2012.

## When numbers are missing

Statistics based on fewer than five cases are hidden for privacy reasons. The same is done where the population segment from which the data are collected is less than ten.

If more than 20 per cent of the numbers in a time series are hidden for privacy reasons, the entire time series is concealed so as not to create a false impression of the situation in the county. Time series are also hidden where more than 50 per cent of the numbers in the time series are based on 6 or fewer cases.

## Time periods

2005-2018

## Geographical level

Country, health region, counties

## Gender

Both genders, men, women

## Age groups

30-74 years and 18-79 years

## Frequency of updates

Annually

## Last updated

14/03/19

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## Keywords

Click on a keyword to search for similar indicators.

- Diabetes
- Drugs
- Medication
- Prescription

## Fact sheets

Below are links to relevant fact sheets, articles and reports. These may describe trends over time in the Norwegian population or differences by sex, age group, geographical region or socioeconomic status:

- [Topic: Drug consumption](#)
- [Diabetes in Norway - Public Health Report](#)