

Diabetes Mortality in Montana, 2015-2019

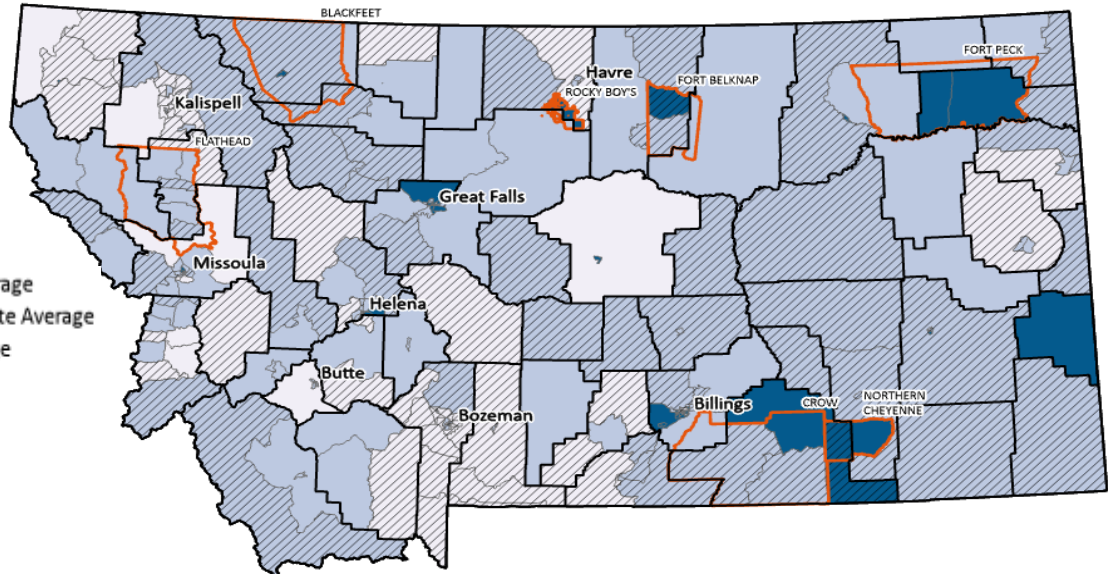
Diabetes was a primary or contributing factor to about **4,600 Montana deaths** from 2015-2019.

2015-2019 State Average: 118
Deaths / 100,000 Population

Note: Due to the map scale some tracts are not easily visible

Areas without hashmarks have reliable estimates.

- Significantly Higher than the State Average
- Not Significantly Different from the State Average
- Significantly Less than the State Average
- American Indian Reservations
- County
- Unreliable Census Tract Estimate



Background:

Using the [Rate Stabilizing Tool](#), the Montana (MT) Diabetes Program was able to generate 136 reliable census tract estimates of age-adjusted Diabetes mortality rates. These rates are spatially-smoothed by providing estimates that are [more accurate and precise](#) for areas with small populations. Smoothing uses an algorithm to stabilize rates by borrowing information from neighboring geographic areas. Many census tracts only had a few diabetes related death cases during the reporting period so a reliable rate could not be calculated by the tool in those areas. The following key findings from the reliable data include:

- 38 of 271 tracts in MT had rates that were significantly higher than the state average.
- A census tract within Glacier county on the Blackfeet Reservation had a rate of 641 diabetes related deaths per 100,000 population; this is five times higher than the average rate for Montana.
- 50% of all the tracts with significantly higher rates were in Yellowstone and Cascade counties.
- Eastern Montana tracts within Rosebud, Big Horn, Roosevelt, and Yellowstone counties had four of the top 10 highest rates. Those rates ranged from 329-560 diabetes related deaths per 100,000 population.

CONTACT

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Data Source: Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Montana Vital Statistics Analysis Unit, Montana Death Certificates, 2015-2019.

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