

# **Diabetes and COVID-19: New Data Shows Increased Difficulty for People with Diabetes During the Pandemic**

---

*The American Diabetes Association® and dQ&A - The  
Diabetes Research Company*



COVID-19 has made managing diabetes more difficult.



- **19% of adults living with diabetes** have missed at least one medical appointment during the public health emergency. Of those:
  - 26% missed one appointment
  - 36% missed two appointments
  - 38% missed three or more appointments
- **23% of adults with diabetes** have reported challenges managing their blood glucose during the pandemic:
  - 23% of adults with Type 1 diabetes
  - 24% of adults with Type 2 diabetes
- **17% of adults with diabetes** have reported developing one or more new health complications, such as high blood pressure, heart problems, peripheral artery disease, and eye disorders.

People with diabetes are getting vaccinated or intend to be more than the general public.



- As of March, **half of adults with diabetes** have received at least one dose of the vaccine.
- **62% of adults with diabetes** who said they have not been vaccinated intend to be when doses are available.
- **Nearly 9 in 10 adults with diabetes** said they did not experience any change in blood glucose management after they received the vaccine.
- **7% of the diabetes community** do not intend to get the vaccine compared to the general population, 30% of whom report not planning to get the shot at all.

# Methodology



- These figures are based on dQ&A's Q1 survey of 5,645 people with diabetes nationally since the start of the pandemic, between March 4th and March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Results are weighted to reflect the overall profile of the diabetes population by diabetes type, treatment and ethnicity.
- These numbers represent a conservative estimate of the pandemic's impact on the community. They are generated from an ongoing online study of the diabetes population amongst people who have opted in to participate.

### **About the American Diabetes Association**

Every day more than 4,000 people are newly diagnosed with diabetes in America. More than 122 million Americans have diabetes or prediabetes and are striving to manage their lives while living with the disease. The American Diabetes Association (ADA) is the nation's leading voluntary health organization fighting to bend the curve on the diabetes epidemic and help people living with diabetes thrive. For nearly 80 years the ADA has been driving discovery and research to treat, manage and prevent diabetes, while working relentlessly for a cure. We help people with diabetes thrive by fighting for their rights and developing programs, advocacy and education designed to improve their quality of life. Diabetes has brought us together. What we do next will make us Connected for Life. To learn more or to get involved, visit us at [diabetes.org](http://diabetes.org) or call 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383). Join the fight with us on Facebook (American Diabetes Association), Twitter (@AmDiabetesAssn) and Instagram (@AmDiabetesAssn).

### **About dQ&A – The Diabetes Research Company**

dQ&A is a social enterprise that's committed to making life better for people with diabetes. We harness patient voices to help develop better tools and policies for people with diabetes and improve health outcomes. For over ten years, we have been tracking the experiences and opinions of people with diabetes in the United States, Canada and Europe. We are trusted by patients because of our independence and commitment to them. Our team has decades of experience in quantitative and qualitative research and a deep knowledge of diabetes. Many of our own lives have been touched by diabetes, so we have a personal stake in our work. To learn more and to see research highlights, you can visit us at [d-qa.com](http://d-qa.com) and follow us on LinkedIn (dQ&A - The Diabetes Research Company), Facebook (@dQandA) and Twitter (@dQAresearch).

