

What is the toll?

New analysis indicates costs attributed to obesity are estimated to \$147 billion per year. [Annual medical spending attributable to obesity](#)

In 1998 the medical costs of obesity were estimated to be \$78.5 billion, approximately half financed by Medicare or Medicaid. [National Medical Spending Attributable To Overweight And Obesity: How Much, And Who's Paying? -- Finkelstein et al., 10.1377/hlthaff.w3.219 -- Health Affairs.](#)

Total health care expenditures of obese adults increased by more than 80% from 2001 to 2006.

During this time, the proportion of health care expenditures for obese adults increased from 28.1% of total health expenditures to 35.3%. The mean annual health care expenditure for obese adults increased from \$3,458 in 2001 to \$5,148 in 2006. [AHRQ News and Numbers: Health Care Spending for Obese U.S. Adults Rose More than 80 Percent from 2001 to 2006.](#)

Total health care costs attributable to obesity/overweight are projected to double every decade, accounting for 16-18% of total US health care costs. [Will all Americans become overweight or obese? est...\[Obesity \(Silver Spring\) 2008\] - PubMed Result](#)

Elevated BMI levels in children is associated with \$14.1 billion in additional prescription drug, emergency room and outpatient visit costs annually, indicating that the economic consequences of childhood obesity are probably much greater than previously indicated. [The Impact of Obesity on Health Service Utilizatio... \[Obesity \(Silver Spring\). 2009\] - PubMed Result.](#)

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