

# Massachusetts Vision Problems: The Scope and Burden of Age-Related Eye Disease



**Understanding the prevalence and cost of age-related eye disorders will help policymakers develop better policies and interventions for preventing and treating vision problems. If appropriate preventive steps are not taken, costs will burgeon as the population of Massachusetts ages and life expectancy increases. The number of Massachusetts residents with impaired vision, including blindness, could more than double over the next three decades.**

## Prevalence of age-related eye disease in Massachusetts

	<i>total</i>	<i>female</i>	<i>male</i>
Vision Impairment, Age 40 and older	89,861	60,970	28,891
Blindness, Age 40 and older	25,531	17,166	8,365
Myopia, Age 40 and older	791,817	436,899	354,918
Hyperopia, Age 40 and older	309,967	189,215	120,752
Age-Related Macular Degeneration, Age 50 and older	55,321	37,101	18,219
Cataract, Age 40 and older	542,352	337,194	205,158
Diabetic Retinopathy, Age 40 and older	96,239	49,506	46,733
Glaucoma, Age 40 and older	50,610	31,770	18,841

## The Economic Impact of Vision Problems in Massachusetts

<b>ANNUAL COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN MASSACHUSETTS</b>	<b>\$ 1,135,761,755</b>
<i>Massachusetts Share of Total Burden to the U.S. Economy</i>	\$ 782,521,723
Direct Medical Costs	\$ 358,103,161
Direct Non-Medical Costs	\$ 247,577,494
Productivity Losses	\$ 176,841,067
<i>Excess Monetary Impact to Individuals, Caregivers and Other Healthcare Payers</i>	\$ 353,240,032
Medical Care Expenditures	\$ 113,178,283
Informal Care Costs	\$ 7,957,848
Health Utility Loss	\$ 232,103,901

Details available online at [preventblindness.org](http://preventblindness.org)

*Vision Problems in the U.S., 2008 Update to the Fourth Edition*

<http://preventblindness.org/research/costofblindness.html>

