

Rhode Island 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 Rhode Island ages and life expectancy increases. The number of Rhode Island residents with impaired vision, including blindness, could more than double over the next three decades.

Prevalence of age-related eye disease in Rhode Island

	<i>total</i>	<i>female</i>	<i>male</i>
Vision Impairment, Age 40 and older	16,566	11,316	5,250
Blindness, Age 40 and older	4,691	3,185	1,506
Myopia, Age 40 and older	134,456	74,641	59,815
Hyperopia, Age 40 and older	54,213	33,313	20,900
Age-Related Macular Degeneration, Age 50 and older	10,349	6,991	3,359
Cataract, Age 40 and older	96,735	60,551	36,184
Diabetic Retinopathy, Age 40 and older	16,579	8,613	7,967
Glaucoma, Age 40 and older	8,852	5,610	3,242

The Economic Impact of Vision Problems in Rhode Island

ANNUAL COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN RHODE ISLAND	\$ 189,014,522
<i>Rhode Island Share of Total Burden to the U.S. Economy</i>	\$ 130,227,989
Direct Medical Costs	\$ 59,595,860
Direct Non-Medical Costs	\$ 41,202,076
Productivity Losses	\$ 29,430,054
<i>Excess Monetary Impact to Individuals, Caregivers and Other Healthcare Payers</i>	\$ 58,786,533
Medical Care Expenditures	\$ 18,835,235
Informal Care Costs	\$ 1,324,352
Health Utility Loss	\$ 38,626,946

Details available online at preventblindness.org

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

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

