Vision Problems in Alabama

Prevent Blindness America®
Our Vision Is Vision®

Understanding the prevalence and cost of eye disorders will help policy makers 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 Alabama ages and life expectancy increases. The number of Alabama residents with impaired vision, including blindness, could more than double over the next three decades.

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN ALABAMA

	female	*male*	*white*	*black*	*Hispanic*	*other*	*total*
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	135,654	86,076	189,516	26,636	2,063	3,516	**221,731**
Myopia, age 40 and older	285,575	239,613	436,318	71,613	6,885	10,372	**525,188**
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	19,699	10,661	26,734	3,199	149	278	**30,359**
Cataract, age 40 and older	238,623	148,408	309,148	68,266	3,451	6,166	**387,030**
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	60,852	56,348	84,615	27,622	2,644	2,319	**117,199**
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	27,930	18,848	27,522	17,806	443	1,007	**46,778**
Low vision, age 40 and older	26,078	14,778	33,068	6,684	480	624	**40,856**
Blindness, age 40 and older	12,864	6,663	14,288	4,933	77	229	**19,527**

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN ALABAMA

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in $ millions)	*Ages 0-17*	*Ages 18-39*	*Ages 40-64*	*Ages 65+*	*All Ages*
Direct Costs	$78	$137	$347	$496	**$1,059**
Indirect Costs	$10	$198	$180	$768	**$1,156**
Total Costs	**$88**	**$335**	**$527**	**$1,265**	**$2,215**

This data is based on two reports published by Prevent Blindness America: *Vision Problems in the U.S. – Prevalence of Adult Vision Impairment and Age-Related Eye Disease in America* and *The Cost of Vision Problems: The Economic Burden of Vision Loss and Eye Disorders in the United States.* While *Vision Problems in the U.S.* provides prevalence data for ages 40 and over, *The Cost of Vision Problems* addresses the economic burden for all ages. To read the reports online in full, visit www.preventblindness.org/publications.

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