

Vision Problems in Illinois

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN ILLINOIS

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	346,405	225,572	479,757	39,705	32,263	20,252	571,977
Myopia, age 40 and older	761,083	636,530	1,132,268	106,680	100,344	58,320	1,397,613
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	58,353	28,959	78,495	4,747	2,445	1,625	87,312
Cataract, age 40 and older	607,580	381,318	794,211	102,344	55,568	36,775	988,898
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	157,988	150,027	212,701	40,975	41,007	13,332	308,015
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	69,954	43,672	74,222	26,566	6,956	5,882	113,626
Low vision, age 40 and older	77,789	43,130	99,571	9,984	7,443	3,921	120,919
Blindness, age 40 and older	37,681	18,468	46,253	7,302	1,204	1,390	56,149

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN ILLINOIS

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$213	\$385	\$917	\$1,213	\$2,728
Indirect Costs	\$27	\$553	\$476	\$1,877	\$2,934
Total Costs	\$240	\$938	\$1,394	\$3,090	\$5,662

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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