Vision Problems in Iowa





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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN IOWA

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	97,335	66,572	159,239	1,183	1,799	1,685	163,906
Myopia, age 40 and older	202,722	171,615	358,850	3,906	6,051	5,529	374,337
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	18,985	9,319	27,916	131	130	127	28,304
Cataract, age 40 and older	168,121	110,696	270,185	2,775	2,983	2,873	278,816
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	39,889	34,636	69,751	1,366	2,288	1,120	74,525
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	17,172	9,775	25,298	771	384	493	26,947
Low vision, age 40 and older	23,830	12,671	35,534	254	415	298	36,501
Blindness, age 40 and older	11,857	5,391	16,875	198	67	109	17,249

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN IOWA

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$50	\$85	\$217	\$342	\$695
Indirect Costs	\$6	\$123	\$113	\$529	\$771
Total Costs	\$57	\$208	\$330	\$871	\$1,466

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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