

Vision Problems in Kansas

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN KANSAS

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	81,553	55,926	127,252	3,083	4,052	3,092	137,479
Myopia, age 40 and older	176,136	148,667	293,368	8,978	12,865	9,592	324,803
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	14,758	7,593	21,445	362	304	241	22,351
Cataract, age 40 and older	139,764	93,071	212,716	7,740	7,007	5,372	232,835
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	34,954	31,803	56,185	3,377	5,143	2,053	66,757
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	14,825	8,935	19,898	2,066	894	902	23,761
Low vision, age 40 and older	18,941	10,667	27,316	749	979	564	29,608
Blindness, age 40 and older	9,235	4,522	12,837	561	156	203	13,757

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN KANSAS

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$50	\$83	\$199	\$283	\$613
Indirect Costs	\$6	\$119	\$103	\$437	\$665
Total Costs	\$56	\$201	\$302	\$720	\$1,279

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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