

Vision Problems in Missouri

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN MISSOURI

	<i>female</i>	<i>male</i>	<i>white</i>	<i>black</i>	<i>Hispanic</i>	<i>other</i>	<i>total</i>
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	178,774	119,622	276,236	14,022	3,135	5,004	298,396
Myopia, age 40 and older	385,653	322,732	645,172	38,783	9,497	14,932	708,384
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	29,333	15,489	42,530	1,655	242	396	44,822
Cataract, age 40 and older	304,873	199,314	454,209	35,502	5,579	8,896	504,186
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	76,895	68,081	123,085	14,612	3,977	3,302	144,976
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	32,741	20,334	41,635	9,274	713	1,454	53,075
Low vision, age 40 and older	37,589	21,069	53,490	3,438	795	935	58,658
Blindness, age 40 and older	18,287	8,990	24,270	2,545	125	336	27,276

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN MISSOURI

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	<i>Ages 0-17</i>	<i>Ages 18-39</i>	<i>Ages 40-64</i>	<i>Ages 65+</i>	<i>All Ages</i>
Direct Costs	\$98	\$171	\$433	\$631	\$1,333
Indirect Costs	\$12	\$246	\$225	\$977	\$1,461
Total Costs	\$110	\$417	\$658	\$1,608	\$2,794

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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