

Vision Problems in Nebraska

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN NEBRASKA

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	53,501	36,919	85,753	1,331	2,032	1,303	90,420
Myopia, age 40 and older	114,266	97,099	196,221	4,085	6,841	4,219	211,366
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	9,969	5,076	14,649	151	147	99	15,045
Cataract, age 40 and older	91,614	61,251	144,110	3,210	3,341	2,203	152,865
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	22,493	20,210	37,756	1,483	2,609	855	42,703
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	9,530	5,636	13,486	876	425	379	15,166
Low vision, age 40 and older	12,619	7,000	18,650	296	450	223	19,620
Blindness, age 40 and older	6,228	2,965	8,810	227	73	82	9,193

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN NEBRASKA

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$32	\$53	\$127	\$185	\$397
Indirect Costs	\$4	\$76	\$66	\$287	\$433
Total Costs	\$36	\$129	\$193	\$472	\$830

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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