

Vision Problems in New Mexico

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN NEW MEXICO

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	53,630	37,488	59,101	750	25,132	6,136	91,118
Myopia, age 40 and older	111,605	94,156	125,411	2,221	60,822	17,307	205,761
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	7,209	4,289	8,763	91	2,146	497	11,498
Cataract, age 40 and older	95,631	65,235	97,596	1,954	50,015	11,300	160,866
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	29,560	33,415	26,251	884	31,824	4,016	62,974
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	10,479	6,873	8,667	539	6,346	1,799	17,352
Low vision, age 40 and older	11,828	8,021	10,958	193	7,426	1,271	19,849
Blindness, age 40 and older	4,091	2,481	4,851	143	1,142	435	6,572

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN NEW MEXICO

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$35	\$59	\$147	\$205	\$446
Indirect Costs	\$5	\$85	\$76	\$317	\$482
Total Costs	\$40	\$143	\$223	\$522	\$928

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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