

# Vision Problems in South Carolina

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

## PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN SOUTH CAROLINA

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	128,858	82,227	176,818	28,351	2,784	3,132	211,085
Myopia, age 40 and older	272,393	228,271	405,933	75,807	9,498	9,427	500,664
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	18,118	10,055	24,339	3,390	198	245	28,172
Cataract, age 40 and older	225,852	142,709	286,084	72,480	4,561	5,436	368,562
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	58,852	55,454	79,293	29,413	3,542	2,058	114,307
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	27,023	18,818	25,433	18,934	578	896	45,841
Low vision, age 40 and older	24,188	14,019	30,100	6,960	611	537	38,207
Blindness, age 40 and older	12,051	6,372	12,970	5,154	99	200	18,423

## THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN SOUTH CAROLINA

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$75	\$134	\$337	\$476	\$1,021
Indirect Costs	\$10	\$192	\$175	\$737	\$1,113
Total Costs	\$84	\$326	\$511	\$1,213	\$2,134

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](http://www.preventblindness.org/publications).

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