

Vision Problems in Virginia

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN VIRGINIA

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	211,665	139,608	293,382	33,649	9,018	15,224	351,273
Myopia, age 40 and older	483,998	407,619	718,503	94,661	30,840	47,612	891,617
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	30,781	16,762	41,761	3,962	649	1,172	47,543
Cataract, age 40 and older	361,277	233,242	468,531	85,113	14,578	26,298	594,519
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	97,181	91,943	132,377	35,567	11,146	10,034	189,125
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	42,973	28,806	43,040	22,478	1,847	4,414	71,779
Low vision, age 40 and older	41,206	24,075	52,428	8,278	1,924	2,650	65,280
Blindness, age 40 and older	20,071	10,697	23,341	6,134	314	978	30,768

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN VIRGINIA

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$128	\$240	\$594	\$736	\$1,698
Indirect Costs	\$16	\$345	\$308	\$1,139	\$1,809
Total Costs	\$144	\$585	\$902	\$1,875	\$3,506

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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