

# Vision Problems in Wisconsin

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

## PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN WISCONSIN

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	171,002	119,867	276,665	5,647	4,119	4,438	290,869
Myopia, age 40 and older	380,318	325,762	660,800	17,430	13,625	14,224	706,079
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	30,378	15,728	44,844	621	301	339	46,106
Cataract, age 40 and older	287,911	195,121	455,400	13,144	6,832	7,655	483,032
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	72,440	65,092	123,190	6,162	5,243	2,937	137,532
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	30,264	18,177	42,696	3,578	865	1,303	48,442
Low vision, age 40 and older	38,480	21,345	56,940	1,154	916	815	59,825
Blindness, age 40 and older	18,852	9,021	26,531	901	149	292	27,873

## THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN WISCONSIN

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$92	\$161	\$422	\$585	\$1,261
Indirect Costs	\$12	\$232	\$219	\$906	\$1,369
Total Costs	\$103	\$393	\$642	\$1,491	\$2,629

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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