

Vision Problems in Colorado

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN COLORADO

	<i>female</i>	<i>male</i>	<i>white</i>	<i>black</i>	<i>Hispanic</i>	<i>other</i>	<i>total</i>
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	126,391	90,762	188,492	3,583	18,834	6,245	217,153
Myopia, age 40 and older	304,843	260,754	481,204	11,327	53,654	19,413	565,597
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	17,887	10,284	25,786	404	1,496	485	28,171
Cataract, age 40 and older	203,840	142,593	292,584	8,602	34,347	10,899	346,432
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	59,762	58,536	86,228	4,140	23,820	4,110	118,298
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	21,796	14,063	27,324	2,383	4,326	1,826	35,859
Low vision, age 40 and older	24,298	15,032	32,583	784	4,808	1,155	39,330
Blindness, age 40 and older	10,673	5,772	14,666	605	761	413	16,445

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN COLORADO

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	<i>Ages 0-17</i>	<i>Ages 18-39</i>	<i>Ages 40-64</i>	<i>Ages 65+</i>	<i>All Ages</i>
Direct Costs	\$84	\$154	\$369	\$414	\$1,021
Indirect Costs	\$11	\$221	\$191	\$641	\$1,064
Total Costs	\$95	\$375	\$560	\$1,055	\$2,085

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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