

Vision Problems in Connecticut

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN CONNECTICUT

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	111,308	72,992	164,380	6,967	8,507	4,445	184,300
Myopia, age 40 and older	244,750	199,914	383,634	20,201	26,117	14,712	444,664
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	20,770	10,034	29,026	793	652	334	30,804
Cataract, age 40 and older	193,578	122,384	276,526	17,156	14,760	7,520	315,962
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	48,951	5,396	72,299	7,308	10,526	2,968	93,101
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	21,503	12,471	26,283	4,536	1,850	1,305	33,975
Low vision, age 40 and older	27,008	14,586	37,225	1,610	1,984	776	41,595
Blindness, age 40 and older	13,304	6,301	17,793	1,207	319	285	19,605

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN CONNECTICUT

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$55	\$98	\$275	\$382	\$811
Indirect Costs	\$7	\$142	\$143	\$591	\$882
Total Costs	\$62	\$240	\$418	\$973	\$1,693

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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