

Vision Problems in Maine

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN MAINE

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	46,608	32,519	77,712	157	300	958	79,127
Myopia, age 40 and older	102,409	84,595	182,625	601	851	2,928	187,004
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	7,688	4,169	11,742	17	24	75	11,858
Cataract, age 40 and older	76,572	52,424	126,442	356	553	1,645	128,996
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	19,463	16,470	34,715	203	375	640	35,933
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	7,567	4,518	11,633	106	71	276	12,086
Low vision, age 40 and older	9,602	5,447	14,768	32	81	168	15,049
Blindness, age 40 and older	4,568	2,232	6,699	26	13	62	6,799

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN MAINE

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$19	\$34	\$108	\$159	\$320
Indirect Costs	\$2	\$49	\$56	\$246	\$354
Total Costs	\$21	\$84	\$164	\$405	\$674

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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