

Vision Problems in Minnesota

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN MINNESOTA

	<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	152,963	107,868	248,452	3,369	2,762	6,247	260,831
Myopia, age 40 and older	349,312	297,739	604,577	12,126	9,780	20,568	647,051
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	27,141	14,093	40,228	340	193	472	41,234
Cataract, age 40 and older	253,987	173,900	405,710	7,154	4,398	10,623	427,887
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	64,888	57,911	111,201	3,952	3,496	4,150	122,799
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	26,866	16,006	38,413	2,059	563	1,838	42,873
Low vision, age 40 and older	34,434	19,233	51,373	580	590	1,123	53,667
Blindness, age 40 and older	17,045	8,207	24,263	487	96	405	25,252

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN MINNESOTA

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	\$88	\$154	\$388	\$515	\$1,144
Indirect Costs	\$11	\$222	\$201	\$796	\$1,230
Total Costs	\$99	\$376	\$589	\$1,311	\$2,374

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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