

Vision Problems in Montana

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

PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN MONTANA

	<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	31,096	23,369	51,915	39	507	2,004	54,465
Myopia, age 40 and older	67,027	58,561	118,186	155	1,389	5,858	125,588
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	5,045	3,043	7,883	4	41	159	8,088
Cataract, age 40 and older	50,979	38,087	84,547	91	926	3,501	89,065
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	13,259	12,070	23,292	57	643	1,338	25,329
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	5,123	3,337	7,744	29	116	572	8,461
Low vision, age 40 and older	6,390	4,071	9,971	8	130	352	10,461
Blindness, age 40 and older	3,031	1,678	4,552	7	20	130	4,709

THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN MONTANA

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	\$15	\$27	\$75	\$111	\$228
Indirect Costs	\$2	\$39	\$39	\$171	\$251
Total Costs	\$17	\$66	\$114	\$282	\$480

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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