

# Vision Problems in New Jersey

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

## PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN NEW JERSEY

	female	male	white	black	Hispanic	other	total
Hyperopia, age 40 and older	254,252	162,417	334,952	25,255	32,977	23,485	416,670
Myopia, age 40 and older	554,628	455,582	772,828	70,402	94,579	72,400	1,010,209
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	43,911	21,360	57,900	2,940	2,613	1,819	65,272
Cataract, age 40 and older	452,330	278,077	565,826	63,850	59,831	40,900	730,408
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	117,804	111,642	146,812	26,061	40,923	15,650	229,445
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	52,340	31,573	52,957	16,629	7,521	6,806	83,913
Low vision, age 40 and older	59,397	32,857	73,661	6,128	8,296	4,169	92,255
Blindness, age 40 and older	27,958	13,775	34,367	4,520	1,315	1,531	41,733

## THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN NEW JERSEY

The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)	Ages 0-17	Ages 18-39	Ages 40-64	Ages 65+	All Ages
Direct Costs	\$139	\$249	\$664	\$893	\$1,946
Indirect Costs	\$18	\$359	\$345	\$1,383	\$2,104
Total Costs	\$157	\$608	\$1,008	\$2,276	\$4,049

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](http://www.preventblindness.org/publications).

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