

# Vision Problems in New York

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

## PREVALENCE OF AGE RELATED EYE DISEASE IN NEW YORK

	<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	548,381	346,148	696,403	64,935	80,559	52,633	<b>894,530</b>
Myopia, age 40 and older	1,166,870	959,201	1,586,860	173,751	212,862	152,598	<b>2,126,071</b>
Age-related macular degeneration, age 50 and older	93,223	45,634	120,231	7,735	6,667	4,223	<b>138,857</b>
Cataract, age 40 and older	992,922	602,894	1,178,390	167,977	153,545	95,904	<b>1,595,816</b>
Diabetic retinopathy, age 40 and older	258,999	245,373	305,193	65,778	98,412	34,990	<b>504,373</b>
Glaucoma, age 40 and older	117,247	70,653	109,946	43,062	19,426	15,466	<b>187,900</b>
Low vision, age 40 and older	130,410	71,863	153,054	16,578	22,039	10,602	<b>202,273</b>
Blindness, age 40 and older	61,055	30,125	71,970	12,090	3,429	3,690	<b>91,180</b>

## THE COST OF VISION PROBLEMS IN NEW YORK

<b>The Economic Burden of Vision Problems (in \$ millions)</b>	<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	\$299	\$583	\$1,415	\$1,972	<b>\$4,268</b>
Indirect Costs	\$38	\$838	\$735	\$3,052	<b>\$4,663</b>
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$337</b>	<b>\$1,421</b>	<b>\$2,149</b>	<b>\$5,024</b>	<b>\$8,931</b>

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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