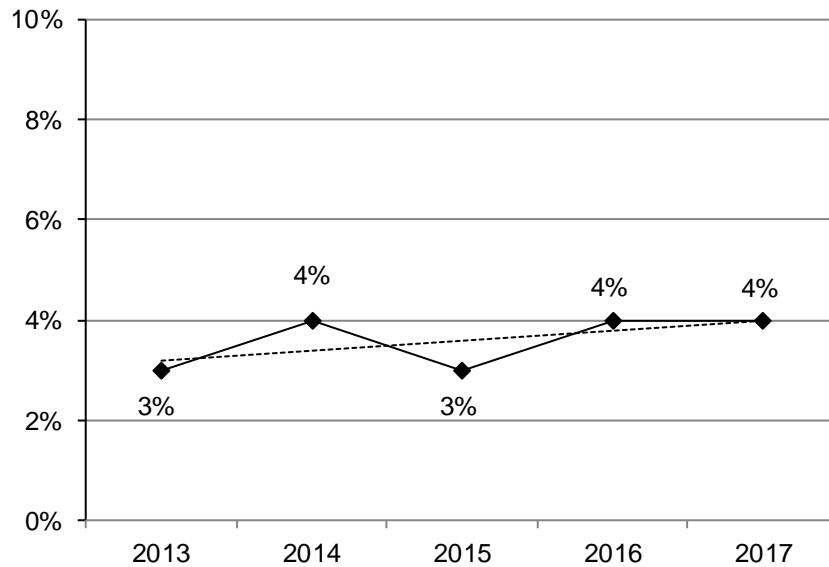# *Vision Impairment*

Definition: South Dakotans who answered "yes" to the question: "Are you blind or do you have serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses?"

Prevalence of Vision Impairment

o   South Dakota 4%
o   *There is no nationwide median for vision impairment*

Figure 53
Percent of South Dakotans Who Have a Vision Impairment, 2013-2017

Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2013-2017

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Table 46 South Dakotans Who Have a Vision Impairment, 2013-2017				
			95% Confidence Interval	
		2013-2017	Low	High
Gender	Male	3%	2.8%	3.7%
	Female	4%	3.5%	4.4%
Age	18-29	2%	1.3%	2.8%
	30-39	2%	1.1%	2.4%
	40-49	3%	1.9%	3.7%
	50-59	4%	3.3%	4.9%
	60-69	4%	3.0%	4.4%
	70-79	6%	4.7%	7.6%
	80+	12%	10.3%	14.5%
Race	White	3%	2.9%	3.6%
	American Indian	7%	5.5%	8.1%
Ethnicity	Hispanic	6%	2.5%	11.8%
	Non-Hispanic	4%	3.2%	3.9%
Household Income	Less than $35,000	6%	5.5%	7.2%
	$35,000-$74,999	2%	1.6%	2.5%
	$75,000+	1%	0.9%	1.6%
Education	Less than High School, G.E.D.	8%	6.5%	10.4%
	High School, G.E.D.	4%	3.6%	4.8%
	Some Post-High School	3%	2.3%	3.3%
	College Graduate	2%	1.5%	2.3%
Employment Status	Employed for Wages	2%	1.5%	2.3%
	Self-employed	2%	1.3%	2.8%
	Unemployed	6%	3.7%	8.6%
	Homemaker	5%	3.5%	7.5%
	Student	1%	0.3%	1.7%
	Retired	7%	5.9%	7.8%
	Unable to Work	14%	12.1%	17.2%
Marital Status	Married/Unmarried Couple	3%	2.3%	3.1%
	Divorced/Separated	5%	4.1%	6.2%
	Widowed	11%	9.3%	13.0%
	Never Married	3%	2.1%	3.7%
Home Ownership Status	Own Home	3%	2.8%	3.5%
	Rent Home	5%	4.2%	5.9%
Children Status	Children in Household (Ages 18-44)	2%	1.5%	2.7%
	No Children in Household (Ages 18-44)	2%	1.1%	2.4%
Phone Status	Landline	5%	4.4%	5.5%
	Cell Phone	3%	2.4%	3.2%
Pregnancy Status	Pregnant (Ages 18-44)	1%	0.2%	8.0%
	Not Pregnant (Ages 18-44)	2%	1.3%	2.6%
County	Minnehaha	3%	2.2%	3.8%
	Pennington	4%	3.2%	5.3%
	Lincoln	3%	2.1%	4.5%
	Brown	4%	3.0%	5.8%
	Brookings	3%	1.4%	4.6%
	Codington	3%	2.3%	4.8%
	Meade	5%	3.6%	6.3%
	Lawrence	3%	2.5%	4.3%

Note: *Results based on small sample sizes have been suppressed.
Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2013-2017

Demographics

Gender   There seems to be no gender difference regarding the prevalence of severe vision impairment.

Age   The prevalence of severe vision impairment increases as age increases including significant increases as the 70s and 80s are reached.

Race   American Indians exhibit a significantly higher prevalence of severe vision impairment than whites.

Ethnicity   There seems to be no Hispanic difference regarding the prevalence of severe vision impairment.

Household Income   The prevalence of severe vision impairment decreases as household income increases with a significant decrease as the $35,000-$74,999 income group is reached.

Education   The prevalence of severe vision impairment decreases as education levels increase with significant decreases as the high school and some post-high school levels are reached.

Employment   Those who are unable to work demonstrate a very high prevalence of severe vision impairment, while those who are employed for wages, self-employed, or a student show a very low prevalence.

Marital Status   Those who are widowed exhibit a very high prevalence of severe vision impairment, while those who are married or have never been married show a very low prevalence.

Home Ownership   Those who rent their home show a significantly higher prevalence of severe vision impairment than those who own their home.

Children Status   The prevalence of severe vision impairment in the adults does not seem to change based on the presence of children in the household.

Phone Status   Those with a landline phone show a significantly higher prevalence of severe vision impairment than those with a cell phone.

Pregnancy Status   The prevalence of severe vision impairment does not seem to change based on pregnancy status.

County   There seems to be no difference regarding the prevalence of severe vision impairment among the eight counties with sufficient sample size.