

2009 American Eye-Q Results

Screening Questions

S1. When was the last time you personally used the services of an eye doctor or eye care specialist?

Within the past year	55%
Within the past two years	20%
Within the past three or four years	9%
Five or more years ago	10%
Never	5%
Don't know	2%

S2. Which of the following statements best describes the reason you last visited an eye doctor or eye care specialist?

For a regular eye examination	60%
Need to purchase new eyeglasses or contact lenses	29%
For treatment of an eye problem or condition	9%
For corrective eye surgery	3%

S3. Do you currently wear contact lenses, eyeglasses or both?

Contact lenses	4%
Eyeglasses	57%
Both	18%
Don't use corrective lenses	21%

S4. Do you have any children under 18 living at home that currently wear contact lenses or glasses? (Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home)

Yes	46%
No	54%

AGING EYES (Asked only of those aged 55 or over)

1. Which condition(s) below is/are associated with macular degeneration? Please select all that apply. (multiple responses permitted)

Blindness	53%
Diabetes	25%
Hypertension	16%
Increased risk of stroke	11%
Increased risk of heart attack	9%
None of the above	4%
Don't know	32%

2. What can you do to help reduce the risk of developing age-related vision problems? (multiple responses permitted)

Visit your eye doctor regularly for a comprehensive eye exam	92%
Know your family history of vision problems	55%
Visit your primary care physicians for screenings	41%
Avoid smoking	40%
Eat a low-fat, low-salt diet	30%
Other	2%
None of the above	1%
Don't know	6%

3. Which of the following would concern you the most about developing serious age-related vision problems?

Being unable to live independently	45%
Not being able to see your loved ones	21%
Being unable to read	20%
Losing the ability to drive	11%
Not being able to watch television	2%
Other	1%
None of the above	1%

4. Which of the following steps do you take to cope with age-related eye problems? (multiple responses permitted)

Purchase or request items in larger print	18%
Limit night driving	33%
Use brighter lights	27%
Use wetting eye drops or artificial tears	24%
Other	7%
None of the above	37%

UV PROTECTION

5. Have you ever worn corrective eyewear (either contact lenses or eyeglass lenses) that provides UV protection? (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eyeglasses)

Yes, glasses	57%
Yes, contact lenses	3%
Yes, both glasses and contact lenses	13%
No	28%

6. Do you wear prescription sunglasses? (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eyeglasses)

Yes	38%
No	62%

7. Why not? (asked to those who wear contact lenses or eyeglasses who don't wear prescription sunglasses)

Cost	49%
Lose sunglasses too easily	14%
Didn't know they are available	8%
Other	29%

8. Which of the following would you say is most important to you when purchasing sunglasses?

UV protection	33%
Comfort/fit	26%
Price	18%
Style	15%
Lens color	3%
Other	2%

9. Overexposure to UV rays increases your risk for which of the following? Please select all that apply. (multiple answers permitted)

Cataracts	30%
Macular degeneration	28%
Eye cancer	26%
Dry eye	24%
Glaucoma	24%
Temporary blindness	21%
Nearsightedness	9%
Pink eye	5%
Styes	5%
None of the above	3%
Other	2%
Don't know	35%

10. Do you wear sunglasses during the winter months?

Yes	58%
No	42%

GENERAL QUESTION

11. As people age, what types of eye or vision changes are they likely to experience? (multiple answers permitted)

Difficulty seeing things up close	73%
Difficulty seeing things far away	66%
Light sensitivity	57%
Dry eyes	49%
Color perception	31%
Contract sensitivity	24%
Other	3%
None of the above	2%
Don't know	7%

12. Do you wear disposable contact lenses (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eye glasses)

Yes	81%
No	19%

13. What is the longest you have worn your disposable contact lenses without taking them out? (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eye glasses and wear disposable contact lenses)

I change my contacts on a daily basis	31%
Two days	18%
One week	16%
Two weeks	11%
One month	12%
2-3 months	8%
6 months or longer	3%
Don't know	1%

14. How often do you replace your contact lens case? (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eye glasses)

Every 1-3 months	35%
Every 4-6 months	26%
Every 7-12 months	10%
Every year	14%
Never	10%
Don't know	5%

15. Do you always wash your hands before handling your contact lenses or lens case? (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eye glasses)

Yes	84%
No	16%

16. How many times per week do you misplace your glasses? (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eye glasses)

Once	15%
2-3 times	20%
4-5 times	5%
6 or more times	1%
So many times I can't keep count	4%
Never	52%
Don't know	1%

17. Have you ever repaired your eye glasses yourself? (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eye glasses)

Yes	59%
No	41%

18. What did you use to repair your eye glasses? (Asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eye glasses and have repaired their glasses themselves. Multiple answers permitted)

Eye glass repair kit	79%
Super glue	22%
Tape	17%
Wire	13%
Paper clip	8%
Twist-tie	7%
Safety pin	6%
Other	4%
None of the above	2%

19. Has a doctor ever advised you to wear your contact lenses or glasses at night while driving? (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eye glasses)

Yes	51%
No	49%

20. Do you always follow your doctor's orders by wearing your contact lenses or glasses at night while driving? (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eye glasses and whose doctor has advised them to wear contact lenses or glasses at night while driving)

Yes	89%
No	11%

21. Do you follow all of your doctor's orders for cleaning and wearing your lenses? (asked only to those who wear contact lenses or eye glasses)

Yes	76%
No	24%

22. When you are doing home improvement projects (such as yard work, painting, carpentry or plumbing) do you always wear safety glasses or goggles?

Yes	36%
No	64%

23. Do you agree or disagree with this statement: "There is a difference between a vision screening and an eye exam."

Agree	70%
Disagree	8%
Don't know	22%

24. Which of the following do you worry most about losing?

Vision	43%
Memory	32%
Ability to walk	12%
Hair	4%
Other	2%
Don't know	7%

25. Which of the following conditions do you think can be detected through a comprehensive eye exam? Please select all that apply. (multiple answers permitted)

Diabetes	38%
Hypertension	32%
Cancer	21%
Cardiovascular disease	20%
Multiple sclerosis	9%
Don't know	31%
None of the above	13%

26. Which of the following behaviors are bad for your eyes? (multiple answers permitted)

Reading under dim lights	76%
Sitting too close to the TV	67%
Rubbing eyes	54%
Smoking cigarettes	52%
Drinking alcohol	26%
Drinking caffeine	14%
Crying	5%
None of the above	2%
Other	1%
Don't know	6%

27. Which of the following foods are best for your eye health? (multiple answers permitted)

Carrots	53%
All equally good	37%
Broccoli	2%
Spinach	2%
Apples	1%
Other	0%
None of the above	0%
Don't know	6%

28. How important do you think nutrition is when it comes to the health of your eyes?

Very important	69%
Somewhat important	29%
Not very important	1%
Not at all important	0%
Don't know	2%

29. What health conditions increase your risk for eye disease and disorders? (multiple answers permitted)

Diabetes	64%
Hypertension	39%
High cholesterol	21%
Heart disease	18%
Cancer	16%
Thyroid disorder	16%
None of the above	3%
Don't know	24%

30. When doing near work (such as reading, computer work, etc.) how often do you take breaks?

Every 20 minutes	15%
Every 30 minutes	26%
Every hour	29%
Every few hours	20%
Never	5%
Don't know	5%

31. How long per day do you spend using portable electronic devices (such as a computer, cell phone or PDA)?

1 hour or less	13%
2-4 hours	41%
5-7 hours	23%
8-10 hours	13%
10 or more hours	10%

32. After 60, how often do you think Americans should have their eyes examined?

Twice a year	36%
Once a year	53%
Every 2 years	6%
Every 3 years	1%
Only when there's a noticeable eye or vision problem	2%
Don't know	2%

33. What is the leading cause of blindness in adults?

Glaucoma	22%
Diabetes	19%
Macular degeneration	18%
Cataracts	14%
UV exposure	5%
Eye injuries	4%
Other	0%
Don't know	18%

34. If you suffer from allergies, what preventive measures do you take to reduce your eye irritations? (multiple answers permitted)

Use eye drops for allergies	42%
Take an antihistamine or other medication	36%
I do not suffer from allergies	30%
Rinse eyes	23%
Wear eyeglasses	18%
Apply a cool compress over the eyes/eyelids	18%
Wear daily disposable contact lenses instead of 2-week or monthly disposables	5%
None of the above	4%
Other	0%

35. Has the recession caused you to limit your doctor visits?

Yes	36%
No	65%

36. If the recession has caused you to limit your doctor visits, which doctor(s) are you visiting less these days? Please select all that apply.

Dentist	63%
Primary care physician	59%
Eye doctor	52%
Chiropractor	18%
Podiatrist	15%
Psychologist	13%
Plastic surgeon	6%
Other	13%

GLAUCOMA

37. Glaucoma causes damage to which part of the eye?

Please select all that apply. (multiple responses permitted)

Your retina	39%
Your optic nerve	21%
Your pupil	13%
None of the above	1%
Don't know	41%

38. What factors place you at a higher risk for developing glaucoma? (multiple responses permitted)

Family history	58%
Age	52%
Diet/nutrition	30%
Race	20%
Gender	11%
Exercise	7%
None of the above	3%
Don't know	23%

39. Is the following statement true or false? "People with thyroid disorders have a higher risk of developing glaucoma."

True	21%
False	10%
Don't know	69%

40. Glaucoma causes deterioration of which part of your eyesight? Please select all that apply. (multiple responses permitted)

Spotty/blurry vision throughout	34%
Peripheral	23%
Center	21%
Don't know	36%

41. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: “Glaucoma is preventable with proper eye care?”

Agree	61%
Disagree	12%
Don't know	28%

DIABETES

42. Do you, or does anyone in your family, have diabetes?

Yes	46%
No	54%

43. What do you or what does your family member do to minimize the risk of complications? Please select all that apply. (Asked only to those diagnosed with diabetes or have a family member diagnosed; multiple responses permitted)

Take medication	78%
Monitor diet	72%
Receive regular dilated eye exams	43%
Exercise frequently	38%
None of the above	3%
Don't know	4%

INFANTS/CHILDREN

44. How many children do you think have undetected vision problems in the United States?

1 in 200	7%
1 in 100	12%
1 in 50	22%
1 in 10	22%
1 in 4	12%
Don't know	24%

45. How many infants (up to 12 months of age) do you think have undetected vision problems in the United States?

1 in 200	10%
1 in 100	14%
1 in 50	18%
1 in 10	14%
1 in 4	9%
Don't know	35%

46. Does your child use a computer on a daily basis, either at school or at home? (Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home)

Yes	67%
No	31%
Don't know	2%

47. How long per day do they spend using it? (Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home and who use a computer daily)

30 minutes or less	16%
1-2 hours	52%
3-4 hours	24%
5 or more hours	8%

48. Is the following statement true or false? “Eye injuries are the number one cause of blindness in children.”

True	47%
False	18%
Don't know	35%

49. When did your child(ren) receive their first comprehensive eye exam, performed by an eye doctor? (Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home who uses contact lenses or eye glasses)

Six to 12 months of age	13%
Between 1 and 2 years of age	24%
Between 3 and 4 years of age	26%
Age 5 or older	32%
Never	3%
Don't know	3%

50. When did your child(ren) receive their second comprehensive eye exam, performed by an eye doctor? (Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home who uses contact lenses or eye glasses)

2 years old	13%
3 years old	14%
4 years old	11%
Age 5 or older	53%
Never	2%
Don't know	6%

51. Which of the following do you think is a sign that a child's vision may be impaired? Please select all that apply. (multiple answers permitted)

Squinting while reading or watching television	86%
Sitting too close to the TV or holding a book too close	76%
Headaches	71%
Turning/tilting their head to see better	62%
Lower classroom marks	57%
Behavioral problems	35%
Using a finger to follow along while reading	31%
None of the above	1%
Other	0%
Don't know	6%

52. Do you purchase sunglasses for your child(ren)?
(Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home)

Yes	66%
No	33%
Don't know	1%

53. How old was your child when you purchased his or her first pair of sunglasses? (Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home and who have purchased sunglasses for them)

6-12 months	20%
1-2 years	30%
3-4 years	25%
5 or older	22%
Don't know	3%

54. When you purchase sunglasses for your child(ren), do you always check for UV protection? (Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home and who have purchased sunglasses for them)

Yes	71%
No	26%
Don't know	3%

55. Do you make sure that your child(ren) always wears sunglasses outdoors? (Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home)

Yes	29%
No	71%

56. Does your child(ren) wear sunglasses in the winter time? (Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home)

Yes	34%
No	66%

57. Does your child(ren) always wear a safety helmet when riding a bike, skate boarding or roller blading? (Asked only of those with children under 18 living at home)

Yes	68%
No	32%

58. Is the following statement true or false? "An eye doctor can detect eye and vision problems before a child is a year old."

True	56%
False	8%
Don't know	36%

59. What eye and vision conditions can be detected in an infant? Please select all that apply. (multiple answers permitted)

Eye tracking to follow an object	59%
Whether the eyes are working together properly	53%
General health of the eyes	51%
Eye focusing	48%
Abnormal development	44%
Ability to see clearly	23%
None of the above	1%
Don't know	27%

60. What concerns would you have about taking your infant to see an eye doctor before age one? Please select all that apply. (multiple answers permitted)

Infant can't communicate	37%
Infant can't sit still	25%
Too early to detect problems	19%
Expensive	15%
It will hurt the infant	8%
Inconvenience	5%
No eye doctor nearby	4%
None of the above	41%
Other	2%

61. Can babies see color when they are first born?

Yes	21%
No	39%
Don't know	40%

62. At what age does a baby have fully developed vision?

3 months	21%
6 months	15%
9 months	11%
12 months	9%
2 years old	4%
Don't know	40%

63. Is it safe to have a baby's eyes dilated?

Yes	12%
No	20%
Don't know	68%

CONSUMER

64. Which types of sunglass frames do you prefer?

Military-inspired aviator frames	16%
Frameless sunglasses	15%
Vintage rectangular frames	14%
Oversized round frames	13%
Cat-eye frames	9%
Retro square frames	8%
Other	6%
Don't know	19%

65. What eye color are you most attracted to?

Blue	41%
Brown	21%
Green	15%
Hazel	13%
Don't know	10%

66. Are eyes the first thing you notice when you meet someone?

Yes	56%
No	40%
Don't know	4%

67. How often do you replace your mascara?

Within the first three months	25%
Every 4-6 months	28%
Every 7-12 months	11%
Less than once a year	18%
Don't know	19%

