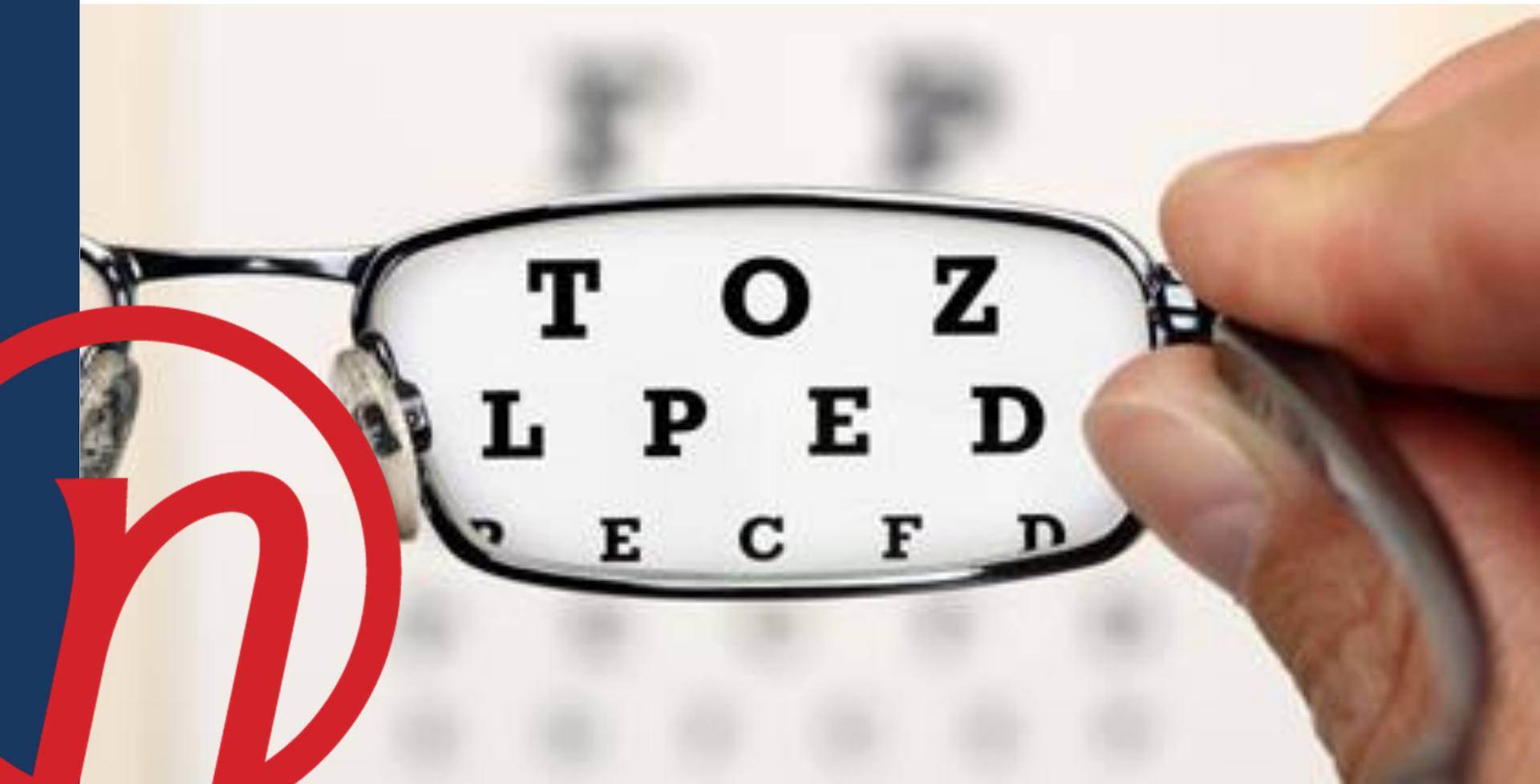


Six in ten Canadians have had a vision problem – vision issues are far reaching to Canadians

*submitted by Nanos to the Canadian Association of Optometrists, March 2016
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Sixteen million Canadians have suffered a vision problem; 850 thousand adults have missed work

The research suggests that eye health and vision correction as an issue reaches the vast majority of Canadians. Sixteen million Canadians have had a vision problem, over 11 million are involved in eye care decisions for themselves and/or loved ones and over 850 thousand Canadians have missed work because of a vision problem.

- **Lifetime problems with vision** – Thirty-eight percent of Canadians have long term problems with vision over the course of their lifetime. An additional 15% have a temporary problem only, 10% have both temporary and long term problems, and 36% have never had a vision problem.
- **Serious vision problems** – Just under half of Canadians (48%) say that someone in their immediate family has had a serious vision problem such as macular degeneration, glaucoma, cataracts or diabetic retinopathy where they had difficulties seeing.
- **Hardship due to vision problem** - Of those who experienced a serious vision problem, 23% had to miss work because of the vision problem. Additionally, 11% experienced financial hardship because of the problem. Experiencing a financial hardship was higher among those who have lower incomes.
- **Type of hardship endured due to vision problem** – Among those who suffered a serious problem, 39% said they missed work or school or that their performance was impacted due to a vision problem, and 22% experienced some financial hardship.

All of the questions asked are appended to this summary with the complete wording and in the sequence they were introduced to respondents.

These observations are based on an RDD dual frame (land- and cell-lines) hybrid telephone and online random survey of 1,000 Canadians, 18 years of age or older, between February 22nd to 24th, 2016 as part of an omnibus survey. Participants were randomly recruited by telephone using live agents and administered a survey online. The sample included both land- and cell-lines across Canada. The results were statistically checked and weighted by age and gender using the latest Census information and the sample is geographically stratified to be representative of Canada. The margin of error for a random survey of 1,000 Canadians is ± 3.1 percentage points, 19 times out of 20.