World report on vision

World Health Organization

## The Facts
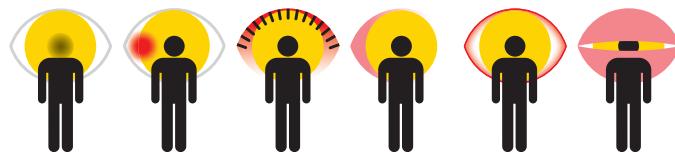
Everyone, if they live long enough, will experience at least one eye condition in their lifetime.

Cataract surgery
US$ 6.9 billion

Refractive error
US$ 7.4 billion
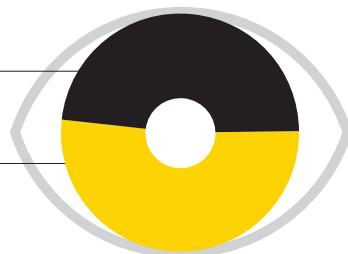
US$14.3 billion
(is the investment) needed globally to treat existing unaddressed cases of refractive error and cataract.

low- and middle-income regions
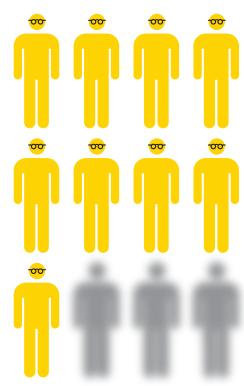
high-income regions

Unaddressed distance vision
impairment in many low- and middle-income regions is **4x higher** than in high-income regions.

Projected number of people estimated to have age related macular degeneration and glaucoma, 2020–2030.

243.4 million

195.6 million

Age related macular degeneration (any)

76 million

95.4 million

Glaucoma   2020   2030
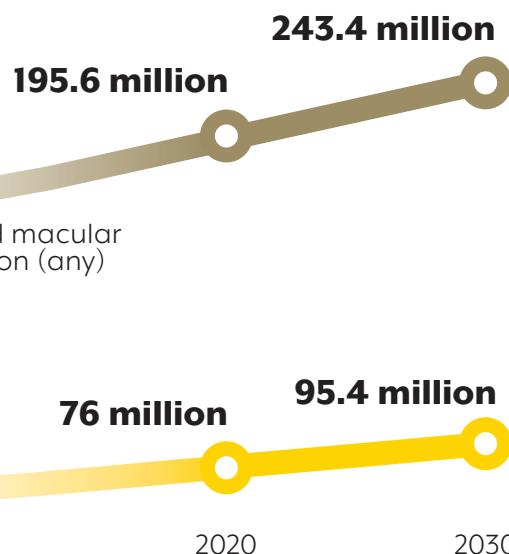
Eye conditions are projected to increase due to a variety of factors, including ageing population, lifestyle and NCDs.

At least **2.2 billion** people live with a vision impairment

In at least **1 billion** of these cases, vision impairment could have been prevented or has yet to be addressed
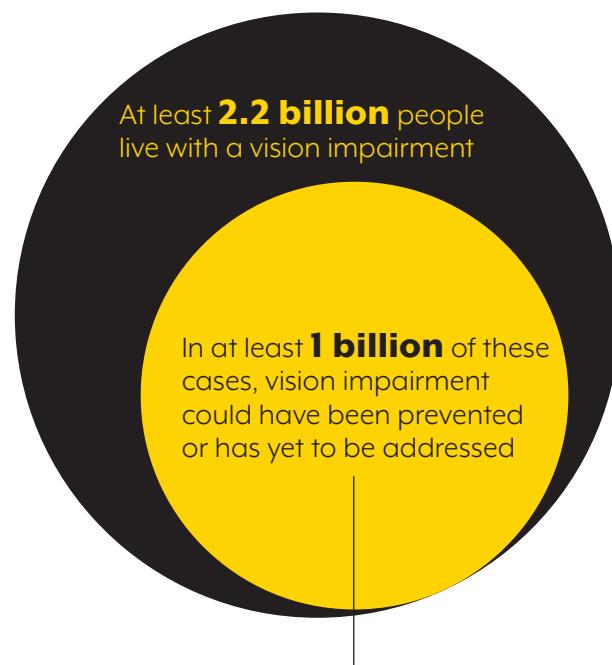
Unaddressed refractive error (123.7 million)
Cataract (65.2 million)
Glaucoma (6.9 million)
Corneal opacities (4.2 million)
Diabetic Retinopathy (3 million)
Trachoma (2 million)
Unaddressed presbyopia (826 million)

Eye conditions

Some eye conditions do not typically cause vision impairment, but others can.

Common eye conditions that **do not** typically cause vision impairment

Blepharitus

Conjunctivitis

Dry eye

Chalazion and hordeolum (stye)

Pterygium and pinguecula

Subconjunctival haemorrhage

Common eye conditions that **can** cause vision impairment

Cataract

Corneal opacity

Glaucoma

Trachoma

Age-related macular degeneration

Diabetic retinopathy

Refractive error

The burden of eye conditions and vision impairment is often far greater among:

- People living in rural areas
- People with low incomes
- Women
- Older people
- People with disabilities
- Ethnic minorities
- Indigenous populations

Risk factors

Many eye conditions depend on a variety of factors.

Non-Modifiable

Ageing   Genetics   Ethnicity

Modifiable

Lifestyle related (e.g.: smoking, nutrition, occupational and recreational activities)

Environment related (e.g.: hygiene, sanitation, access to water)

The problem
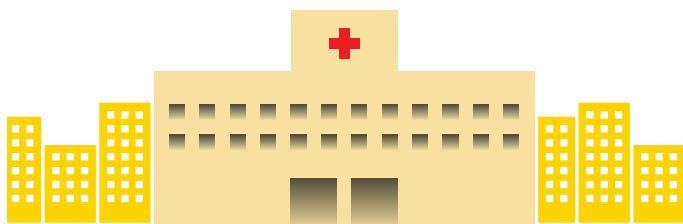
Availability

Accessibility

Acceptability

Eye care services are poorly integrated into health systems.
The availability, accessibility and acceptability of eye care services have an influence on eye conditions and vision impairment. For example, in many countries, eye care needs are greater in rural areas but services are often provided in hospitals in urban areas.

Recommendations

Make eye care an integral part of universal health coverage

Implement integrated people-centred eye care in health systems

Promote high-quality research

Monitor trends and evaluate progress

Raise awareness and engage and empower people and communities