

According to the World Health Organization

(As of 2010)

> of the approximate 7 billion people on the earth, estimates are that 285 million people are visually impaired worldwide.

**VISUAL IMPAIRMENT INCLUDES THOSE THAT ARE BLIND AND THOSE THAT HAVE LOW VISION**

The breakdowns listed below are based on binocular viewing conditions, taking distance visual acuities with the patients presenting correction if any and not on best correctable vision standards. This does not take into account an estimated 517 million people that have uncorrected presbyopia.

39 million people are blind  
worse than 20/400, to no light perception.  
Or a visual field of less than 10 degrees from the point of fixation.

246 million people have low vision  
considered a moderate or severe vision defect, but not enough  
to be considered blind.  
20/80 to 20/400

BREAKDOWN OF TYPES OF VISUAL IMPAIRMENT [INCLUDES BLINDNESS AND LOW VISION]		BREAKDOWN OF TYPES OF BLINDNESS [INCLUDES ONLY BLINDNESS]	
Uncorrected Refractive Error: 42% of 285M	119,700,000	Cataract: 51% of 39M	19,890,000
Cataracts: ( 33% of 285M )	94,050,000	Uncorrected Refractive Error: 3% of 39M	1,170,000
Glaucoma: 2 % of 285M	5,700,000	Glaucoma: 8% of 39M	3,120,000
Age-related macular degeneration: 1% of 285M	2,850,000	Age-related Macular Degeneration: 5% of 39M	1,950,000
Corneal Opacities: 1% of 285M	2,850,000	Corneal Opacities: 4% of 39M	1,560,000
Trachoma: 1% of 285M	2,850,000	Trachoma: 3% of 39M	1,170,000
Diabetic Retinopathy: 1% of 285M	2,850,000	Diabetic Retinopathy: 1% of 39M	390,000
Childhood: 1% of 285M	2,850,000	Childhood: 4% of 39M	1,560,000
Undetermined: 18% of 285M	51,300,000	Undetermined: 21% of 39M	8,190,000

> of the 285M who are visually impaired: people who are 50 years old and older, represent 65% of the visually impaired and 82% of the blindness; while representing only 20% of the worlds population.

Global Estimate of the number of people visually impaired by age in 2010				
Ages	Population	Blind	Low Vision	Visually Impaired
0-14	1,848,500,000	1,421,000	17,518,000	18,939,000
15-49	3,548,200,000	5,784,000	74,463,000	80,248,000
50 and older	1,340,800,000	32,160,000	154,043,000	186,203,000
All ages	6,737,500,000	39,365,000	246,024,000	285,389,000

Prevalence of Blindness: 0.58% of the worlds estimated population

Prevalence of Low Vision: 3.65% of the worlds estimated population

Prevalence of Visually Impaired: 4.24% of the worlds estimated population

80% of visual impairment is considered to be preventable

Approximately 90% of the worlds visually impaired people, live in developing countries

WHO REGION	Population	Blind	Low Vision	Visually Impaired
African	804,900,000	5,888,000	20,407,000	26,295,000
Americas	915,400,000	3,211,000	23,401,000	26,612,000
E. Mediterranean	580,200,000	4,918,000	18,581,000	23,499,000
Europe	889,200,000	2,713,000	25,502,000	28,215,000
S.E. Asia <India>	579,100,000	3,974,000	23,938,000	27,913,000
W. Pacific <China>	442,300,000	2,338,000	12,386,000	14,724,000
India	1,181,400,000	8,075,000	54,544,000	62,619,000
China	1,344,900,000	8,248,000	67,264,000	75,512,000
World	6,737,500,000	39,365,000	246,024,000	285,389,000