



# GLOBAL VISION IMPAIRMENT BY THE NUMBERS

**> 2.2 BILLION**  
people globally have a near or distance vision impairment<sup>1</sup>

**> 1 BILLION**  
cases of vision impairment could have been prevented or have yet to be addressed<sup>1</sup>

The major causes of vision impairment include refractive error (88.4 million), cataract (94 million), glaucoma (7.7 million), corneal opacities (4.2 million), diabetic retinopathy (3.9 million), and trachoma (2 million), and near vision impairment caused by unaddressed presbyopia (826 million)<sup>1</sup>

**33 MILLION**  
people live with avoidable blindness<sup>2</sup>

**USD \$410.7 BILLION**  
= the annual global cost of productivity losses due to vision impairment<sup>1</sup>

**USD \$244 BILLION**  
= the annual global cost of productivity losses associated with vision impairment from uncorrected myopia<sup>1</sup>

**USD \$25.4 BILLION**  
= the annual global cost of productivity losses associated with vision impairment from uncorrected presbyopia<sup>1</sup>

**60 MILLION**  
people are projected to be living with blindness by 2050<sup>2</sup>

**90%** of people with vision loss live in low- and middle-income countries<sup>2</sup>

**64%** of people with vision loss live in South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia, and Oceania<sup>3</sup>

The risk of premature mortality is **29% higher** for people with vision loss that is mild or worse, **49% higher** for people with vision loss that is moderate to severe or worse, and **157% higher** for people with blindness<sup>3</sup>

1. Blindness and vision impairment. World Health Organization. [www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/blindness-and-visual-impairment](http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/blindness-and-visual-impairment)  
2. Avoidable blindness. Orbis International. [www.orbis.org/en/avoidable-blindness](http://www.orbis.org/en/avoidable-blindness)  
3. Vision atlas. The International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. [www.iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/](http://www.iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/)