

# What is the global burden of visual impairment?

## Additional file 1

### Literature Search Results

#### PubMed and Cross References

Last PubMed search on 7 December 2005

#### *Terms used for PubMed search:*

blindness AND population-based survey  
blindness AND population-based study  
visual impairment AND population-based survey  
visual impairment AND population-based study  
low vision AND population-based survey  
low vision AND population-based study

#### *Limit:*

Published 1996 onwards

**List of publications located through PubMed and search of cross-references follows. Reason for inclusion or exclusion of each publication for utilising data for our analysis mentioned in bold below each publication.**

1. Laitinen A, Koskinen S, Harkanen T, Reunanen A, Laatikainen L, Aromaa A. A nationwide population-based survey on visual acuity, near vision, and self-reported visual function in the adult population in Finland. *Ophthalmology*. 2005 Dec;112(12):2227-37. PMID: 16325714  
**Excluded because: WHO categories of visual impairment not available**
2. Thiagarajan M, Evans JR, Smeeth L, Wormald RP, Fletcher AE. Cause-specific visual impairment and mortality: results from a population-based study of older people in the United Kingdom. *Arch Ophthalmol*. 2005 Oct;123(10):1397-403. PMID: 16219731  
**Excluded because: 75 years or older participants**
3. Xu L, Li J, Cui T, Hu A, Zheng Y, Li Y, Sun B, Ma B, Jonas JB. Visual acuity in northern China in an urban and rural population: the Beijing Eye Study. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2005 Sep;89(9):1089-93. PMID: 16113354  
**Excluded because: Presenting visual acuity not available; uncorrected and best-corrected visual acuity reported**
4. Robaei D, Rose K, Ojaimi E, Kifley A, Huynh S, Mitchell P. Visual acuity and the causes of visual loss in a population-based sample of 6-year-old Australian children. *Ophthalmology*. 2005 Jul;112(7):1275-82. PMID: 15921756  
**Excluded because: children only**
5. Taylor HR, Keeffe JE, Vu HT, Wang JJ, Rochtchina E, Pezzullo ML, Mitchell P.

Vision loss in Australia. *Med J Aust.* 2005 Jun 6;182(11):565-8. PMID: 15938683  
**Excluded because: WHO categories of visual impairment not available**

6. Shaikh SP, Aziz TM. Pattern of eye diseases in children of 5-15 years at Bazzertaline Area (South Karachi) Pakistan. *J Coll Physicians Surg Pak.* 2005 May;15(5):291-4. PMID: 15907241  
**Excluded because: children only**
7. He M, Xu J, Yin Q, Ellwein LB. Need and challenges of refractive correction in urban Chinese school children. *Optom Vis Sci.* 2005 Apr;82(4):229-34. PMID: 15829844  
**Excluded because: children only**
8. Goh PP, Abqariyah Y, Pokharel GP, Ellwein LB. Refractive error and visual impairment in school-age children in Gombak District, Malaysia. *Ophthalmology.* 2005 Apr;112(4):678-85. PMID: 15808262  
**Excluded because: children only**
9. Tsai CY, Woung LC, Chou P, Yang CS, Sheu MM, Wu JR, Chuang TL, Tung TH. The current status of visual disability in the elderly population of Taiwan. *Jpn J Ophthalmol.* 2005 Mar-Apr;49(2):166-72. PMID: 15838737  
**Excluded because: 65 years or older participants**
10. Murthy GV, Gupta SK, Bachani D, Jose R, John N. Current estimates of blindness in India. *Br J Ophthalmol.* 2005 Mar;89(3):257-60. PMID: 15722298  
**Excluded because: discrepancy in contribution of refractive error to visual impairment as shown in two tables for which no explanation provided – Table 1 shows prevalence of presenting visual acuity less than 6/60 as 8.5% and prevalence of best-corrected visual acuity less than 6/60 as 4.3% (49% improvement from presenting acuity), but Table 3 mentions 19.6% of presenting vision less than 6/60 was due to refractive error and 1.5% of best-corrected vision less than 6/60 was due to refractive error(!); also, this study was on persons 50 years of age or older whereas other population-based studies on all age groups available from this country (India)**
11. Ahmad K, Khan MD, Qureshi MB, Munami S, Shah RA, Rasheed H, Jamali B, Baluch A, Khan MA. Prevalence and causes of blindness and low vision in a rural setting in Pakistan. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol.* 2005 Feb;12(1):19-23. PMID: 15848917  
**INCLUDED – met inclusion criteria**
12. Rudanko SL, Laatikainen L. Visual impairment in children born at full term from 1972 through 1989 in Finland. *Ophthalmology.* 2004 Dec;111(12):2307-12. PMID: 15582091  
**Excluded because: children only**

13. Saw SM, Foster PJ, Gazzard G, Friedman D, Hee J, Seah S. Undercorrected refractive error in Singaporean Chinese adults: the Tanjong Pagar survey. *Ophthalmology*. 2004 Dec;111(12):2168-74. PMID: 15582070  
**Excluded because: data on causes of visual impairment from this survey presented in another paper**
  
14. Adeoti CO. Prevalence and causes of blindness in a tropical African population. *West Afr J Med*. 2004 Jul-Sep;23(3):249-52. PMID: 15587840  
**Excluded because: number sampled not mentioned, making it difficult to determine the participation rate and generalisability of those who participated in this survey**
  
15. Saw SM, Foster PJ, Gazzard G, Seah S. Causes of blindness, low vision, and questionnaire-assessed poor visual function in Singaporean Chinese adults: The Tanjong Pagar Survey. *Ophthalmology*. 2004 Jun;111(6):1161-8. PMID: 15177966  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error to visual impairment not clear; prevalence of habitual bilateral low vision (presenting visual acuity less than 6/18 to 3/60) mentioned as 5.3% and prevalence of best-corrected visual acuity less than 6/18 to 3/60 mentioned as 1.1% (79% improvement from habitual acuity), but text mentions that 66% of subjects with bilateral low vision improved with best correction**
  
16. Varma R, Ying-Lai M, Klein R, Azen SP; Los Angeles Latino Eye Study Group. Prevalence and risk indicators of visual impairment and blindness in Latinos: the Los Angeles Latino Eye Study. *Ophthalmology*. 2004 Jun;111(6):1132-40. PMID: 15177963  
**Excluded because: WHO categories of visual impairment not available**
  
17. Fotouhi A, Hashemi H, Mohammad K, Jalali KH; Tehran Eye Study. The prevalence and causes of visual impairment in Tehran: the Tehran Eye Study. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2004 Jun;88(6):740-5. PMID: 15148203  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error not available separately for blindness and less severe visual impairment**
  
18. Fouad D, Mousa A, Courtright P. Sociodemographic characteristics associated with blindness in a Nile Delta governorate of Egypt. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2004 May;88(5):614-8. PMID: 15090410  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error to visual impairment not distinct**
  
19. Congdon N, O'Colmain B, Klaver CC, Klein R, Munoz B, Friedman DS, Kempen J, Taylor HR, Mitchell P; Eye Diseases Prevalence Research Group. Causes and prevalence of visual impairment among adults in the United States. *Arch Ophthalmol*. 2004 Apr;122(4):477-85. PMID: 15078664  
**Excluded because: best-corrected visual impairment definitions**

20. Pascolini D, Mariotti SP, Pokharel GP, Pararajasegaram R, Etya'ale D, Negrel AD, Resnikoff S. 2002 global update of available data on visual impairment: a compilation of population-based prevalence studies. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol.* 2004 Apr;11(2):67-115. PMID: 15255026  
**Excluded because: this was a review and did not report primary data**
21. Leske MC, Wu SY, Hyman L, Nemesure B, Hennis A, Schachat AP; Barbados Eye Studies Group. Four-year incidence of visual impairment: Barbados Incidence Study of Eye Diseases. *Ophthalmology.* 2004 Jan;111(1):118-24. PMID: 14711723  
**Excluded because: best-corrected visual impairment definitions**
22. Hsu WM, Cheng CY, Liu JH, Tsai SY, Chou P. Prevalence and causes of visual impairment in an elderly Chinese population in Taiwan: the Shihpai Eye Study. *Ophthalmology.* 2004 Jan;111(1):62-9. PMID: 14711715  
**Excluded because: 65 years or older participants**
23. Buch H, Vinding T, La Cour M, Appleyard M, Jensen GB, Nielsen NV. Prevalence and causes of visual impairment and blindness among 9980 Scandinavian adults: the Copenhagen City Eye Study. *Ophthalmology.* 2004 Jan;111(1):53-61. PMID: 14711714  
**Excluded because: best-corrected visual impairment definitions**
24. Dunzhu S, Wang FS, Courtright P, Liu L, Tenzing C, Noertjojo K, Wilkie A, Santangelo M, Bassett KL. Blindness and eye diseases in Tibet: findings from a randomised, population based survey. *Br J Ophthalmol.* 2003 Dec;87(12):1443-8. PMID: 14660448  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error to WHO categories of visual impairment not available**
25. Nirmalan PK, Vijayalakshmi P, Sheeladevi S, Kothari MB, Sundaresan K, Rahmathullah L. The Kariapatti pediatric eye evaluation project: baseline ophthalmic data of children aged 15 years or younger in Southern India. *Am J Ophthalmol.* 2003 Oct;136(4):703-9. PMID: 14516811  
**Excluded because: children only**
26. Stang A, Jockel KH. Visual disturbances in a population-based survey of 6962 subjects: the German National Health Examination Survey 1998. *Eur J Public Health.* 2003 Sep;13(3):202-9. PMID: 14533721  
**Excluded because: no visual acuity measurements reported**
27. Courtright P, Hoehsman A, Metcalfe N, Chirambo M, Noertjojo K, Barrows J, Katz J; Chikwawa Survey Team. Changes in blindness prevalence over 16 years in Malawi: reduced prevalence but increased numbers of blind. *Br J Ophthalmol.* 2003 Sep;87(9):1079-82. Erratum in: *Br J Ophthalmol.* 2003 Nov;87(11):1432.

- Hoeshcmmann, A [corrected to Hoechsmann, A]. PMID: 12928269  
**Excluded because: WHO categories of visual impairment not available**
28. Saw SM, Husain R, Gazzard GM, Koh D, Widjaja D, Tan DT. Causes of low vision and blindness in rural Indonesia. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2003 Sep;87(9):1075-8. PMID: 12928268  
**Excluded because: participating sample less than 1000**
29. Thulasiraj RD, Nirmalan PK, Ramakrishnan R, Krishnadas R, Manimekalai TK, Baburajan NP, Katz J, Tielsch JM, Robin AL. Blindness and vision impairment in a rural south Indian population: the Aravind Comprehensive Eye Survey. *Ophthalmology*. 2003 Aug;110(8):1491-8. PMID: 12917162  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error to visual impairment categories not clear – Table 4 mentions prevalence of presenting visual acuity less than 3/60 in persons 40 years or older as 4.5% and best-corrected visual acuity less than 3/60 as 1.0% (78% improvement from presenting acuity) – all of this 78% cannot be attribute to uncorrected refractive error as it seems implausibly high, and no explanation is provided in the paper about what else could have been responsible for this or the exact contribution of uncorrected refractive error to blindness / visual impairment**
30. Chen JH, Xu L, Hu AL, Sun BC, Li JJ, Ma K, Xia CR, Cui TT, Zheng YY, Li YB, Zhang RX, Yang H, Sun XY, Zou Y, Wang Y, Ma BR. [Prevalence of low vision and blindness in defined populations in rural and urban areas in Beijing] *Zhonghua Yi Xue Za Zhi*. 2003 Aug 25;83(16):1413-8. Chinese. PMID: 14521745  
**Excluded because: results reported with best-corrected visual acuity**
31. Dineen BP, Bourne RR, Ali SM, Huq DM, Johnson GJ. Prevalence and causes of blindness and visual impairment in Bangladeshi adults: results of the National Blindness and Low Vision Survey of Bangladesh. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2003 Jul;87(7):820-8. PMID: 12812875  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error to visual impairment not shown for the WHO categories after adjusting for the presence of cataract grade 2A or higher (the method used in this paper for attributing vision loss to uncorrected refractive error)**
32. Melese M, Alemayehu W, Bayu S, Girma T, Hailesellasié T, Khandekar R, Worku A, Courtright P. Low vision and blindness in adults in Gurage Zone, central Ethiopia. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2003 Jun;87(6):677-80. PMID: 12770959  
**Excluded because: the total number of visually impaired persons mentioned in the text and the numbers shown for the causes of visual impairment in Table 3 do not match; the latter may not be for causes of visual impairment in persons and therefore could not be used**

33. Cedrone C, Culasso F, Cesareo M, Nucci C, Palma S, Mancino R, Cerulli L. Incidence of blindness and low vision in a sample population: the Priverno Eye Study, Italy. *Ophthalmology*. 2003 Mar;110(3):584-8. PMID: 12623826  
**Excluded because: best-corrected visual impairment definitions**
34. Dandona R, Dandona L. Childhood blindness in India: a population based perspective. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2003 Mar;87(3):263-5. PMID: 12598433  
**Excluded because: children only**
35. Foran S, Mitchell P, Wang JJ. Five-year change in visual acuity and incidence of visual impairment: the Blue Mountains Eye Study. *Ophthalmology*. 2003 Jan;110(1):41-50. PMID: 12511344  
**Excluded because: WHO categories of visual impairment not available**
36. Thulasiraj RD, Rahamathulla R, Saraswati A, Selvaraj S, Ellwein LB. The Sivaganga eye survey: I. Blindness and cataract surgery. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol*. 2002 Dec;9(5):299-312. PMID: 12528915  
**Excluded because: this study was on those 50 years of age or older, whereas other population-based studies on all age groups available from this country (India)**
37. Dandona R, Dandona L, Srinivas M, Giridhar P, Nutheti R, Rao GN. Planning low vision services in India: a population-based perspective. *Ophthalmology*. 2002 Oct;109(10): 1871-8. PMID: 12359608  
**Excluded because: this paper used a low vision definition different from that used by WHO**
38. Zainal M, Ismail SM, Ropilah AR, Elias H, Arumugam G, Alias D, Fathilah J, Lim TO, Ding LM, Goh PP. Prevalence of blindness and low vision in Malaysian population: results from the National Eye Survey 1996. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2002 Sep;86(9):951-6. PMID: 12185113  
**INCLUDED – met inclusion criteria**
39. Abdu L. Prevalence and causes of blindness and low vision in Dambatta local government area, Kano State, Nigeria. *Niger J Med*. 2002 Jul-Sep;11(3):108-12. PMID: 12221951  
**Excluded because: basis for attributing visual impairment to refractive error not clear**
40. Foran S, Wang JJ, Mitchell P. Causes of incident visual impairment: the Blue Mountains Eye Study. *Arch Ophthalmol*. 2002 May;120(5):613-9. PMID: 12003611  
**Excluded because: WHO categories of visual impairment not available**
41. Nirmalan PK, Thulasiraj RD, Maneksha V, Rahmathullah R, Ramakrishnan R, Padmavathi A, Munoz SR, Ellwein LB. A population based eye survey of older

- adults in Tirunelveli district of south India: blindness, cataract surgery, and visual outcomes. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2002 May;86(5):505-12. PMID: 11973242  
**Excluded because: this study was on those 50 years of age or older, whereas other population-based studies on all age groups available from this country (India)**
42. Dandona R, Dandona L, Srinivas M, Giridhar P, Prasad MN, Vilas K, McCarty CA, Rao GN. Moderate visual impairment in India: the Andhra Pradesh Eye Disease Study. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2002 Apr;86(4):373-7. PMID: 11914201  
**INCLUDED – met inclusion criteria**
43. Rodriguez J, Sanchez R, Munoz B, West SK, Broman A, Snyder RW, Klein R, Quigley H. Causes of blindness and visual impairment in a population-based sample of U.S. Hispanics. *Ophthalmology*. 2002 Apr;109(4):737-43. PMID: 11927431  
**Excluded because: best-corrected visual impairment definitions**
44. Haddadin A, Ereifej I, Zawaida F, Haddadin H. Causes of visual impairment and blindness among the middle-aged and elderly in northern Jordan. *East Mediterr Health J*. 2002 Mar-May;8(2-3):404-8. PMID: 15339130  
**Excluded because: hospital-based data**
45. Munoz B, West SK, Rodriguez J, Sanchez R, Broman AT, Snyder R, Klein R. Blindness, visual impairment and the problem of uncorrected refractive error in a Mexican-American population: Proyecto VER. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci*. 2002 Mar;43(3):608-14. PMID: 11867574  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error to WHO categories of visual impairment not available**
46. Michon JJ, Lau J, Chan WS, Ellwein LB. Prevalence of visual impairment, blindness, and cataract surgery in the Hong Kong elderly. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2002 Feb;86(2):133-9. PMID: 11815334  
**Excluded because: 60 years or older participants**
47. Dandona R, Dandona L. Review of findings of the Andhra Pradesh Eye Disease Study: policy implications for eye-care services. *Indian J Ophthalmol*. 2001 Dec;49(4):215-34. PMID: 12930114  
**Excluded because: primary data from this study in other papers included**
48. Liu JH, Cheng CY, Chen SJ, Lee FL. Visual impairment in a Taiwanese population: prevalence, causes, and socioeconomic factors. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol*. 2001 Dec;8(5): 339-50. PMID: 11922386  
**Excluded because: best-corrected visual impairment definitions**
49. Dandona L, Dandona R, John RK. Estimation of blindness in India from 2000 through 2020: implications for the blindness control policy. *Natl Med J India*.

- 2001 Nov-Dec;14 (6):327-34. PMID: 11804362  
**Excluded because: primary data from this study in other papers included**
50. Klein R, Klein BE, Lee KE, Cruickshanks KJ, Chappell RJ. Changes in visual acuity in a population over a 10-year period : The Beaver Dam Eye Study. *Ophthalmology*. 2001 Oct;108(10):1757-66. PMID: 11581046  
**Excluded because: WHO categories of visual impairment not available**
51. Hyman L, Wu SY, Connell AM, Schachat A, Nemesure B, Hennis A, Leske MC. Prevalence and causes of visual impairment in The Barbados Eye Study. *Ophthalmology*. 2001 Oct;108(10):1751-6. PMID: 11581045  
**Excluded because: best-corrected visual impairment definitions**
52. Lewallen S, Courtright P. Blindness in Africa: present situation and future needs. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2001 Aug;85(8):897-903. Review. PMID: 11466240  
**Excluded because: this was a review and did not report primary data**
53. VanNewkirk MR, Weih L, McCarty CA, Taylor HR. Cause-specific prevalence of bilateral visual impairment in Victoria, Australia: the Visual Impairment Project. *Ophthalmology*. 2001 May;108(5):960-7. PMID: 11320028  
**INCLUDED – met eligibility criteria**
54. Murthy GV, Gupta S, Ellwein LB, Munoz SR, Bachani D, Dada VK. A population-based eye survey of older adults in a rural district of Rajasthan: I. Central vision impairment, blindness, and cataract surgery. *Ophthalmology*. 2001 Apr;108(4):679-85. PMID: 11297483  
**Excluded because: this study was on those 50 years of age or older, whereas other population-based studies on all age groups available from this country (India)**
55. Dandona L, Dandona R, Srinivas M, Giridhar P, Vilas K, Prasad MN, John RK, McCarty CA, Rao GN. Blindness in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci*. 2001 Apr;42(5):908-16. PMID: 11274066  
**INCLUDED – met eligibility criteria**
56. Abou-Gareeb I, Lewallen S, Bassett K, Courtright P. Gender and blindness: a meta-analysis of population-based prevalence surveys. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol*. 2001 Feb;8(1):39-56. PMID: 11262681  
**Excluded because: this was a review and did not report primary data**
57. Faal H, Minassian DC, Dolin PJ, Mohamed AA, Ajewole J, Johnson GJ. Evaluation of a national eye care programme: re-survey after 10 years. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2000 Sep;84(9):948-51. PMID: 10966942  
**Excluded because: refractive error as a cause of visual impairment shown mixed with the “others” category and not shown distinctly**

58. Munoz B, West SK, Rubin GS, Schein OD, Quigley HA, Bressler SB, Bandeen-Roche K. Causes of blindness and visual impairment in a population of older Americans: The Salisbury Eye Evaluation Study. *Arch Ophthalmol*. 2000 Jun;118(6):819-25. PMID: 10865321  
**Excluded because: 65-84 years old participants**
59. Foran S, Wang JJ, Rochtchina E, Mitchell P. Projected number of Australians with visual impairment in 2000 and 2030. *Clin Experiment Ophthalmol*. 2000 Jun;28(3):143-5. PMID: 10981782  
**Excluded because: primary data on visual impairment and its causes not reported in this paper**
60. Cohen D, Sartral M, Nounou P, Hamar M, Drouard ME, El Alamy A, Bendeddouche K. [Evaluation of moderate and severe visual impairments in patients attending an ophthalmology clinic. A prospective study of 1,172 patients] *J Fr Ophtalmol*. 2000 May;23(5):437-43. French. PMID: 10844301  
**Excluded because: hospital-based study**
61. Lam BL, Lee DJ, Gomez-Marin O. Prevalence of usual-corrected binocular distance visual acuity impairment in Hispanic and non-Hispanic adults. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol*. 2000 Mar;7(1):73-83. PMID: 10652174  
**Excluded because: WHO categories of visual impairment not available**
62. van der Pols JC, Bates CJ, McGraw PV, Thompson JR, Reacher M, Prentice A, Finch S. Visual acuity measurements in a national sample of British elderly people. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2000 Feb;84(2):165-70. PMID: 10655192  
**Excluded because: 65 years or older participants**
63. Li S, Xu J, He M, Wu K, Munoz SR, Ellwein LB. A survey of blindness and cataract surgery in Doumen County, China. *Ophthalmology*. 1999 Aug;106(8):1602-8. PMID: 10442910  
**INCLUDED – met inclusion criteria**
64. Bergman B, Bergstrom A, Sjostrand J. Longitudinal changes in visual acuity and visual ability in a cohort followed from the age of 70 to 88 years. *Acta Ophthalmol Scand*. 1999 Jun;77(3):286-92. PMID: 10406147  
**Excluded because: 70-88 years old participants**
65. Dandona L, Dandona R, Naduvilath TJ, McCarty CA, Srinivas M, Mandal P, Nanda A, Rao GN. Burden of moderate visual impairment in an urban population in southern India. *Ophthalmology*. 1999 Mar;106(3):497-504. PMID: 10080205  
**Excluded because: later paper with both urban and rural data from this study included**
66. Krumpaszky HG, Ludtke R, Mickler A, Klauss V, Selbmann HK. Blindness incidence in Germany. A population-based study from Wurttemberg-

- Hohenzollern. *Ophthalmologica*. 1999;213(3):176-82. PMID: 10202291  
**Excluded because: WHO categories of visual impairment not available**
67. Awan HR, Ihsan T. Prevalence of visual impairment and eye diseases in Afghan refugees in Pakistan. *East Mediterr Health J*. 1998;4(3):560-6.  
**INCLUDED – met inclusion criteria**
68. Zhao J, Jia L, Sui R, Ellwein LB. Prevalence of blindness and cataract surgery in Shunyi County, China. *Am J Ophthalmol*. 1998 Oct;126(4):506-14. PMID: 9780095  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error to visual impairment in persons not clear**
69. Ayed S, Negrel AD, Nabli M, Kamel N, Jebri AM, Siddhom M. [Prevalence and causes of blindness in the Tunisian Republic. Results of a national survey conducted in 1993. Tunisian Team on the Evaluation of Blindness] *Sante*. 1998 Jul-Aug;8(4):275-82. French. PMID: 9794038  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error to visual impairment not clear**
70. Dandona L, Dandona R, Naduvilath TJ, McCarty CA, Nanda A, Srinivas M, Mandal P, Rao GN. Is current eye-care-policy focus almost exclusively on cataract adequate to deal with blindness in India? *Lancet*. 1998 May 2;351(9112):1312-6. PMID: 9643793  
**Excluded because: later paper with both urban and rural data from this study included**
71. Reidy A, Minassian DC, Vafidis G, Joseph J, Farrow S, Wu J, Desai P, Connolly A. Prevalence of serious eye disease and visual impairment in a north London population: population based, cross sectional study. *BMJ*. 1998 May 30;316(7145):1643-6. PMID: 9603746  
**Excluded because: 65 years or older participants**
72. Klaver CC, Wolfs RC, Vingerling JR, Hofman A, de Jong PT. Age-specific prevalence and causes of blindness and visual impairment in an older population: the Rotterdam Study. *Arch Ophthalmol*. 1998 May;116(5):653-8. PMID: 9596502  
**Excluded because: best-corrected visual impairment definitions**
73. Dandona L, Williams JD, Williams BC, Rao GN. Population-based assessment of childhood blindness in southern India. *Arch Ophthalmol*. 1998 Apr;116(4):545-6. No abstract available. PMID: 9565065  
**Excluded because: children only**
74. Zainal M, Masran L, Ropilah AR. Blindness and visual impairment amongst rural Malays in Kuala Selangor, Selangor. *Med J Malaysia*. 1998 Mar;53(1):46-50.

PMID: 10968137

**Excluded because: participating sample size less than 1000**

75. Mansour AM, Kassak K, Chaya M, Hourani T, Sibai A, Alameddine MN. National survey of blindness and low vision in Lebanon. *Br J Ophthalmol.* 1997 Oct;81(10):905-6. PMID: 9486035  
**INCLUDED – met inclusion criteria**
76. Ezepue UF. Magnitude and causes of blindness and low vision in Anambra State of Nigeria (results of 1992 point prevalence survey). *Public Health.* 1997 Sep;111(5):305-9. PMID: 9308379  
**Excluded because: best-corrected visual impairment definitions**
77. Schwartz EC, Huss R, Hopkins A, Dadjim B, Madjitouloum P, Henault C, Klauss V. Blindness and visual impairment in a region endemic for onchocerciasis in the Central African Republic. *Br J Ophthalmol.* 1997 Jun;81(6):443-7. PMID: 9274406  
**Excluded because: data from this atypical area could not be generalised to the GDB sub-region**
78. Stocks NP, Hiller JE, Newland H. Visual acuity in an Australian aboriginal population. *Aust N Z J Ophthalmol.* 1997 May;25(2):125-31. PMID: 9267598  
**Excluded because: data atypical for this predominantly well-developed GDB sub-region**
79. Jackson H, Foster A. Causes of blindness in northwest Cambodia. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol.* 1997 Mar;4(1):27-32. PMID: 9145413  
**Excluded because: hospital-based data**
80. Zerihun N, Mabey D. Blindness and low vision in Jimma Zone, Ethiopia: results of a population-based survey. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol.* 1997 Mar;4(1):19-26. PMID: 9145412  
**INCLUDED – met eligibility criteria**
81. Taylor HR, Livingston PM, Stanislavsky YL, McCarty CA. Visual impairment in Australia: distance visual acuity, near vision, and visual field findings of the Melbourne Visual Impairment Project. *Am J Ophthalmol.* 1997 Mar;123(3):328-37. PMID: 9063242  
**Excluded because: later paper from this study included**
82. Krumpaszky HG. [Temporal trends in the etiology of blindness] *Klin Monatsbl Augenheilkd.* 1997 Feb;210(2):aA9-16. Review. German. PMID: 9229589  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error to visual impairment not clear**

83. West SK, Munoz B, Rubin GS, Schein OD, Bandeen-Roche K, Zeger S, German S, Fried LP. Function and visual impairment in a population-based study of older adults. The SEE project. Salisbury Eye Evaluation. Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci. 1997 Jan;38(1):72-82. PMID: 9008632  
**Excluded because: 65-84 years old participants**
84. Van Newkirk MR. The Hong Kong vision study: a pilot assessment of visual impairment in adults. Trans Am Ophthalmol Soc. 1997;95:715-49. PMID: 9440191  
**Excluded because: participating sample size less than 1000**
85. Vassileva P, Gieser SC, Vitale S, Cholakova T, Katz J, West S. Blindness and visual impairment in western Bulgaria. Ophthalmic Epidemiol. 1996 Dec;3(3):143-9. PMID: 8956318  
**Excluded because: contribution of uncorrected refractive error to visual impairment in persons not clear**
86. Negrel AD, Minassian DC, Sayek F. Blindness and low vision in southeast Turkey. Ophthalmic Epidemiol. 1996 Dec;3(3):127-34. PMID: 8956316  
**INCLUDED – met inclusion criteria**
87. Haussler M, Bartels H, Strassburg HM. Multihandicapped blind and partially sighted children in south Germany. II: Aetiology and pathogenesis. Dev Med Child Neurol. 1996 Dec;38(12):1076-90. PMID: 8973293  
**Excluded because: children only**
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