

Dominican Republic Fact Sheet

SEVA'S WORK AT A GLANCE: In country since 2016 | Partner: 1

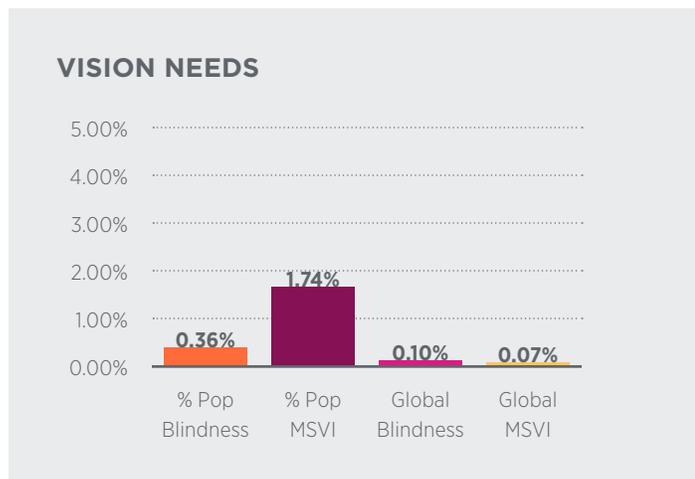


Country Overview

- » Located in the Caribbean
- » The Dominican Republic spans 18,704 mi²
- » Population: 10.6 million
- » 2019 Human Development Index Ranking: 89 of 189 countries¹

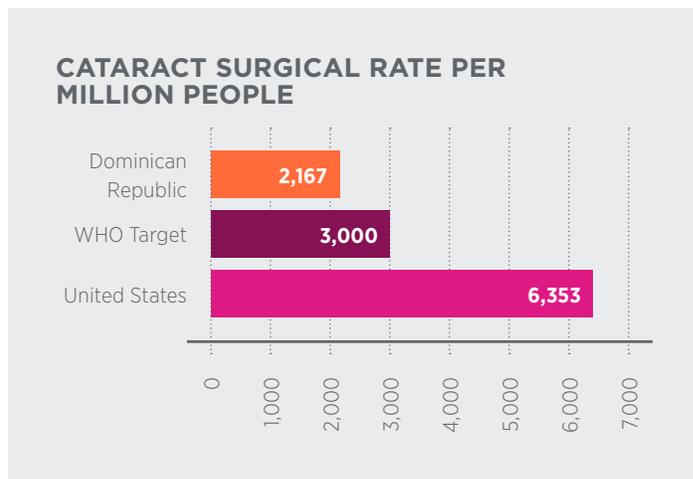
Scope of Vision Needs²

- » 0.36% of the Dominican Republic's population is blind (34K), as compared to 0.15% in the United States
- » 1.74% of the population has moderate to severe vision impairment or MSVI (160K), as compared to 1.25% in the United States
- » The DR accounts for 0.1% of global blindness and 0.07% of global MSVI



Nationwide Eye Care Response

- » The DR's Cataract Surgical Rate is 2,167 per million as of 2013
- » The DR's CSC = 60% (<3/60)
- » There are 42 ophthalmologists per million people (428 total)
- » No data is currently available for optometrists and AOPs



¹ 2019 UNDP Human Development Report: <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries>

² Unless otherwise noted, all statistics provided by IAPB Vision Atlas Global Vision Database.

Seva's Approach in the Dominican Republic

Through its partnership in the Global Sight Initiative with Visualiza Clínica Médica Oftalmológica in Guatemala, Seva supports Centro Oftalmico Digar in the Dominican Republic. Visualiza's skills-based training to eye care professionals in the DR will increase the number and quality of eye care services provided to the people of the capital city, Santo Domingo, and surrounding areas, will help to reduce cases of preventable blindness and moderate and severe visual impairment.

SPOTLIGHT ON PROMOTING EVIDENCE

As part of its mentorship process, Visualiza works with hospitals to ensure they have an electronic data management system to assess the work that they are doing to improve eye care delivery. If the hospital does not have such a system, they introduce a system specifically designed by Visualiza. The system allows the hospital to track the number of patients, their place of origin, their gender, their eye care needs and the services the hospital provides. The hospital can then use this data to assess if they are reaching their target demographic of patients, if there is a village or community that needs further eye health promotion, if quality outcomes are being reached, or if further follow up is required. With this information, the hospital is better equipped to provide quality services to communities in need.

SIGHT SERVICES

42



Ophthalmologists per million people

= 1 million people

IMPACT (FY 2019-2020)*

1,929

People receiving services

75

Cataract surgeries performed

Impact of COVID-19 in Dominican Republic

COVID-19 continues to have a major impact on the country. Movement continues to be restricted in the country and operations limited as a way to limit the spread of COVID-19. Seva's partner has been able to resume eye care services using enhanced safety protocols. As part of its response to COVID-19, Seva made funds available to its partner in the Dominican Republic to procure necessary protective equipment for its staff.

Resources:

[Case Study: Visualiza Eye Care Systems](#)

* Numbers based on reports received.