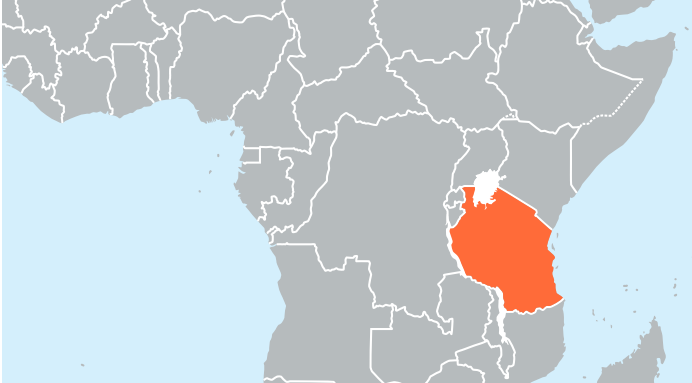


Tanzania Fact Sheet

SEVA'S WORK AT A GLANCE: In country since 2001 | Partners: 5

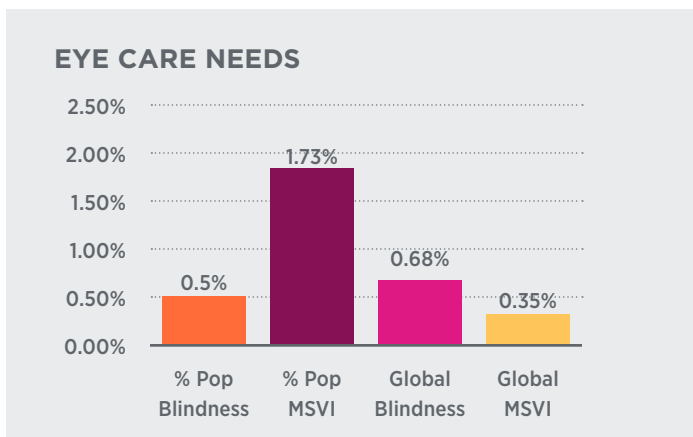


Country Overview

- » Located in Eastern Sub-Saharan Africa
- » The Republic of Tanzania spans 364,900 square miles
- » Population: 65.5 million people
- » 2023-2024 Human Development Index Ranking: 167 of 193 countries¹

Scope of Eye Care Needs²

- » 0.5% of Tanzania's population is blind, as compared to 0.19% in the United States
- » 1.73% of the population has moderate to severe vision impairment or MSVI, as compared to 2.02% in the United States
- » 0.68% of global blindness
- » 0.35% of global MSVI



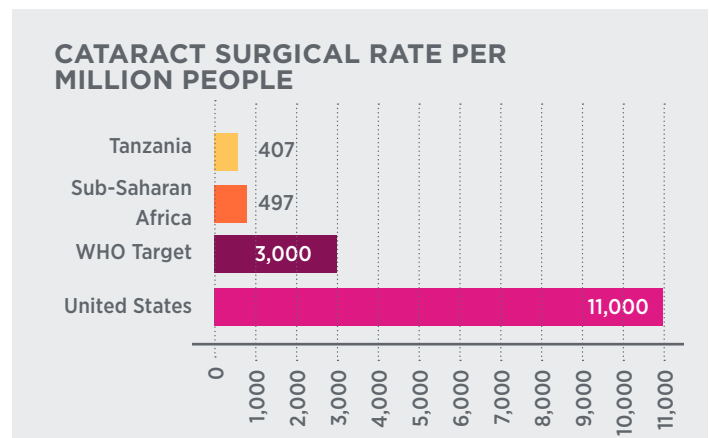
¹ UNDP (United Nations Development Programme). 2024. Human Development Report 2023-24: Breaking the gridlock: Reimagining cooperation in a polarized world. New York.

² Unless otherwise noted, all country sight statistics from IAPB Vision Atlas: <https://www.iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas/>

Nationwide Eye Care Response

Sub-Saharan Africa's median Cataract Surgical Rate (CSR) is 497 – 28% of the global average and 6% of the average for high-income countries. Seva works to improve these rates through our hospital management systems and training support in Tanzania, focusing on improvement in the following Global Action Plan indicators for universal eye health.

- » Tanzania's CSR was 407 surgeries per million in 2010, as compared to the US CSR of 11,000
- » 0.8 ophthalmologists per million people in 2018 (69 total)
- » 6.6 optometrists per million people in 2020 (394 total)
- » 3 allied ophthalmic personnel per million people (186 total)



TANZANIA FACT SHEET

EYE CARE PERSONNEL

0.8



Ophthalmologists per million people

6.6



Optometrists per million people

3



Ophthalmic personnel per million people



= 1 million people

Seva's Approach in Tanzania

Seva's longstanding partnership in this region aims to tackle blindness in Tanzania. This partnership is dedicated to increasing and distributing access to high-quality eye care services provided by Africans for Africans. With the support in hospital management systems and training, our partner collaborates with local, private, and governmental hospitals to strengthen and build comprehensive eye care systems across Tanzania. This support extends to five regional hospitals in the country to ensure quality eye care reaches as many people as possible. Over time, significant milestones have been achieved, including increased awareness of eye health within communities, the growth of human resources for eye health in subspecialties, enhanced collaboration among eye care teams, and strengthened advocacy and national coordination for eye health resources. Moreover, the expertise developed through this partnership has been expansively shared across the East African region, fostering the growth and development of other hospitals in neighboring countries. These efforts collectively contribute to a more robust and accessible eye care system in Tanzania and beyond.

Resources:

[Seva in Tanzania](#)

[Program Videos](#)

SPOTLIGHT ON INCREASING ACCESS

Nurdin was born in the Bukoba Region in Tanzania. He had been blind since he was four years old. His relatives were ashamed of his blindness and mostly hid him inside their house. He was later sent to live with his aunt in the Singida Region, so that he could attend a school for the blind.

Now, at 23 years old, he and his aunt heard an announcement from a nearby hospital about an outreach event that would take place near their village. They decided to get screened there. Seva and their partner collaborated to support the outreach efforts. At the outreach event, the team diagnosed Nurdin with bilateral cataract. They met with the hospital counselor and discussed the importance of having cataract surgery. Nurdin agreed to receive surgery. Following the operation, he opened his eyes and he could see! He was very excited to have his vision back after living a very long time with blindness.

TANZANIA FACT SHEET

IMPACT (FY 2023-2024)*

42,512

People receiving services

4,173

Cataract surgeries performed

1,529

Children screened

409

Children receiving surgery

60

Children receiving glasses

2

Doctors trained

15

Administrators trained

235

Community Health Promoters trained



* Numbers based on reports received.