



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Prevalence and Disability of vision impairment in Mexico: Evidence not seen or spoken about

Aida Jiménez-Corona, MSc, PhD¹, Enrique O. Graue-Hernández, MD, MSc², María Jesús Ríos-Blancas, MSc, PhD³, Héctor Gómez-Dantés, MD, MSc⁴

¹ Department of Ocular Epidemiology and Visual Health, Institute of Ophthalmology, Conde de Valenciana. Mexico City, Mexico; General Directorate of Epidemiology, Ministry of Health, Mexico

² Department of Cornea and Refraction, Institute of Ophthalmology, Conde de Valenciana. Mexico City, Mexico.

³ Carlos Slim Foundation

⁴ Health Systems Research Center, National Institute of Public Health, Cuernavaca Morelos, Mexico



PUBLISHED
31 July 2024

CITATION
Jiménez-Corona, A., Graue-Hernández, EO., et al., 2024. Prevalence and Disability of vision impairment in Mexico: Evidence not seen or spoken about. Medical Research Archives, [online] 12(7). <https://doi.org/10.18103/mra.v12i7.5432>

COPYRIGHT
© 2024 European Society of Medicine. This is an open- access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

DOI
<https://doi.org/10.18103/mra.v12i7.5432>

ISSN
2375-1924

ABSTRACT

According to the World Health Organisation, in 2015 about 253 million people, mainly from low- and middle-income countries, had vision impairment. **Aim.** We set out to provide an updated overview of the burden of visual impairment in Mexico to guide public health policy towards its prevention and control. **Methods.** Using data from the Global Burden of Disease study, we describe the age-standardised disability and prevalence rates (per 100,000 population) of total, severity, and cause-specific visual impairment and blindness with 95% uncertainty intervals (UIs) in Mexico from 1990 to 2019.

Results. During the study period, age-standardised prevalence of blindness and vision loss showed a national decrease of -7.0% from 10115.3 (95% UI 8540.6-11947.8) to 9410.2 (95% UI 7895.6-11230.4.1) cases per 100,000 population but it was not significant. Blindness prevalence showed a significant national decrease of -40.0% from 742.2 (95% UI 653.7-828.8) to 445.6 (95% UI 391.5-495.0) cases per 100,000 population. Decreasing trends in vision disability rates were not significant but changes were observable for blindness (-39.6%). Although a remarkable decline on disability rates due to glaucoma (-33.1%), cataract (-27.5%), and macular degeneration (-20.4%) was observed, neither was it significant.

Conclusions. The trends in prevalence of vision impairment and disability did not change significantly during the study period. Presbyopia and moderate vision loss accounted for most of the disability in all age groups. Inequalities between the poorest and richest states remained unchanged.

Keywords: Burden of disease, blindness, vision impairment, YLDs

Introduction

Vision impairment is a global health concern that keeps growing in a context of aging population in both developing and developed countries.^{1,2} This impairment entails risks and costs derived from health care demands and social support required by vulnerable populations. Vision disability has lasting effects over the cognitive, psychosocial, and functional health, and increases the risk of mortality.^{3–5} Vision impairment and blindness may occur early in life but are more common in elderly population and are associated with chronic disabling conditions, such as non-communicable diseases like diabetes and hypertension.^{6,7}

Global burden of vision impairment

In 2015, the World Health Organisation (WHO) reported that globally about 216.6 million people suffered from moderate or severe vision impairment, and the absolute number of blind people increased from 30.6 million to 36 million (18%) during the years 1990–2015. Of these people, 90% lived in developing countries. Conditions such as cataract and uncorrected refractive error combined contributed to 77% of vision impairment and 55% of blindness in adults ages 50 years and over. Projections for 2020 estimated that out of 237.1 million people with moderate or severe vision impairment, 127.7 million (54%) would be affected by uncorrected refractive errors, with cataracts accounting for 57.1 million (24%) cases, followed by age-related macular degeneration (8.8 million, 4%), glaucoma (4.5 million, 2%), and diabetic retinopathy (3.2 million 1%). Among the 38.5 million blind people projected for 2020, cataract would be responsible for 13.4 million cases (35%), uncorrected refractive error for 8.0 million (20%), and glaucoma for 3.2 million (8%). About 56% of these cases would be women, and changes would be attributable to population growth (38.4%), population aging (34.6%), and age-specific prevalence.^{1,8}

Recently, prevalence of visual impairment and disability by age, sex, and causes in Mexico was reported, but trends across time were not estimated. The burden of blindness and vision impairment was estimated at 11.01 million (95% UI, 9.25–13.11) prevalent cases and 384.96 thousand (259.57–544.24) years lived with disability (YLDs) during 2019.⁹

Aim and scope

Mexico needs to acknowledge the magnitude of the disability caused by visual impairment to implement, organise, and improve specific programmes across the country focused on early vision loss detection, treatment, and rehabilitation. The objective of this study is to provide an overview of the burden and trends of visual impairment to guide and support Mexican public health policy towards the prevention and control of this disability in the mid-term in accordance with the global targets recommended by the WHO by 2030.¹⁰

Methods

The Global Burden of Disease (GBD) 2019 study methods to assess visual impairment are described on detail elsewhere.¹¹ For this analysis we analysed data from the GBD study available for the 1990 to 2019 period.

Briefly, visual impairment is defined as visual acuity $<6/18$ according to the Snellen chart. Categorisation is as follows: presbyopia (near visual acuity of $<6/12$ distance equivalent), moderate vision loss ($\geq 6/16$ and $<6/18$), severe vision loss ($\geq 3/60$ and $<6/60$), and blindness (visual acuity of $<3/60$ or $<10\%$ visual field around central fixation).¹² Vision impairment causes fall into the following categories: uncorrected refractive error (presbyopia, myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism), cataract, glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and trachoma. Vision loss due to vitamin A deficiency, retinopathy of prematurity, meningitis, encephalitis, and onchocerciasis fall under their underlying cause.⁸

Years lived with disability (YLD) for a particular health outcome in each population are calculated by multiplying the number of people living with that outcome by a disability weight representing the magnitude of health loss associated with the outcome. Disability weights are used to measure the health status after disease or injury on a scale ranging from 0 (full health) to 1 (death). For vision loss, disability weights go from 0.011 (near vision loss) to 0.187 (blindness). Details on disability weights for the GBD 2019 study –including data collection and disability weight construction– have been described previously.^{11,13}

Data sources used to quantify non-fatal outcomes are detailed elsewhere.^{11,14} Data from reports on near-vision and visual acuity measurements were extracted from nationally representative studies such as the United States National Health and Examination Surveys (NHANES), the World Health Surveys (WHS), the Health Survey for England (HSE), WHO Studies on Global AGEing and Adult Health (SAGE), the Surveys of Health, Ageing, and Retirement in Europe (SHARE); and the WHO Multi-Country Survey Study on Health and Responsiveness (MCSS).¹⁴ Data on overall vision impairment came from surveys measuring ‘presenting’ or ‘best-corrected’ vision in representative population-based studies. A subset of these studies reporting vision loss by cause were used to assess the prevalence of vision loss due to cataract, glaucoma, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, among other causes.¹ For the GBD 2017 and 2019, a comprehensive extraction of the repository of Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB) studies reporting vision loss in developing countries was done^{15–18} (<http://raabdata.info/>). Finally, for the GBD 2019, additional literature sources were provided by the Vision Loss Expert Group. Globally, the GBD used 481 data input sources to assess the burden of blindness and vision loss. Five sources were from Mexico and included four research papers from Chiapas (Polack et al., 2012), Nuevo León¹⁷, Queretaro¹⁶, one National Elementary School Health Survey (2008), specific studies, and country specific surveys.^{19–21} Other sources were the Mexico City Survey on Health, Well-Being, and Aging in Latin America and the Caribbean (1999–2000); Mexico’s Family Life Survey (2002, 2005–2006), World Health Survey 2002–2003, Health and Aging Studies (2001, 2012, 2015), WHO Study on Global AGEing and Adult Health (2009–2010), Demographic Dynamic Surveys (2014, 2018), and Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (2015). All sources are available on the Global Health

Data Exchange (IHME) website at <http://ghdx.healthdata.org/>.

For this report, we compared the trends of age-standardised prevalence rates of vision loss and disability (YLDs) with their uncertainty interval (UI) from 1990 to 2019 between the world's regions. We further made those comparisons within Mexico at the national and state levels.

Results

GLOBAL PREVALENCE AND DISABILITY FROM VISION LOSS

Global prevalence of vision loss and disability (YLD) age-standardised rates showed variable but not significant decreasing trends from 1990 to 2019. Vision loss

prevalence was significantly higher in the South Asian (20587.5 in 1990 and 18337.0 in 2019 per 100,000 population) and Sub-Saharan (15016.5 in 1990 and 14297.3 in 2019 per 100,000 population) regions as compared with the rest of the world's regions. Disability rates (YLDs per 100,000 population) also exhibited significant differences in the South Asian (796.2 in 1990 and 602.0 in 2019 per 100,000 population) and Sub-Saharan (547.0 in 1990 and 462.6 in 2019 per 100,000 population) regions as compared with some other of the world's regions. The region of high-income countries showed the lowest prevalence (2871.1 in 1990 and 2779.3 in 2019 per 100,000 population) and YLD (139.5 in 1990 and 128.6 in 2019 per 100,000 population) rates for vision loss (Table 1).

Table 1. Global Age-standardised prevalence and disability rates for blindness and vision loss by region, GBD 2019

	1990			2019			% Change
	Rate	95%UI Lower	95%UI Higher	Rate	95%UI Lower	95%UI Higher	
Prevalence rate							
Global	9871.3	8271.7	11602.3	10034.6	8379.1	11825.6	1.7
South Asia	20587.5	17347.5	23892.0	18337.0	15282.0	21535.8	-10.9
Sub-Saharan Africa	15016.5	12358.3	17821.6	14297.3	11771.0	16953.7	-5.8
Southeast Asia, East Asia, and Oceania	11002.1	8989.3	13315.7	10594.9	8710.0	12783.6	-3.7
North Africa and Middle East	9514.7	8335.7	10869.5	8211.4	7194.7	9380.5	-13.7
Central Europe, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia	10195.9	8343.2	12375.8	10208.2	8320.9	12435.1	0.1
Mexico	10115.3	8540.6	11947.8	9410.2	7895.6	11230.4	-7.0
Latin America and the Caribbean	9928.7	8515.4	11546.6	9229.4	7868.4	10795.1	-7.0
High-income countries	2871.1	2600.5	3154.1	2779.3	2510.3	3059.7	-3.2
(YLD rate)							
Global	359.4	247.6	500.6	328.0	222.5	465.6	-8.8
South Asia	796.2	552.4	1101.7	602.0	411.0	850.3	-24.4
Sub-Saharan Africa	547.0	379.4	759.7	462.6	317.1	649.4	-15.4
Southeast Asia, East Asia, and Oceania	375.9	257.7	528.7	324.5	219.1	464.2	-13.7
North Africa and Middle East	491.2	342.6	669.9	371.6	257.7	515.2	-24.4
Central Europe, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia	269.5	180.4	390.7	251.9	165.7	375.6	-6.6
Mexico	405.9	282.6	564.4	328.9	222.4	463.9	-19.0
Latin America and the Caribbean	414.6	288.1	573.9	346.2	237.0	483.0	-16.5
High-income countries	139.5	95.9	194.1	128.6	87.7	180.0	-7.8

Source: Global Burden of Disease Collaborative Network. Global Burden of Disease Study 2019 (GBD 2019) results. Seattle, United States: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), 2020. Available from <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-results/>. Rates per 100,000 population.

PREVALENCE AND DISABILITY FROM VISION LOSS IN MEXICO

In Mexico, vision loss prevalence decreased -7.0% at the national level from 10115.3 (95% UI 8540.6-11947.8) to 9410.2 (95% UI 7895.6-11230.4) cases per 100,000 population but it was not significant, whereas prevalence of blindness significantly decreased by -40% from 742.2 (95% UI 653.7-828.8) to 445.6 (95% UI 391.5-495.0) cases per 100,000 population during the same period.

Decreasing trends in YLDs were not significant but changes were observable for vision loss (-19.0%) and blindness (-39.6%). In terms of YLDs from causes of vision loss, the largest decreases corresponded to glaucoma (-33.1%), cataract (-27.5%), age-related macular degeneration (-20.4%), and refractive disorders (-14.4%), although changes from 1990 to 2019 were not significant. YLDs due to diabetes mellitus did not change (-13.6%) during the period. (Table 2).

Table 2. Age-standardised prevalence and disability (YLD) rates for blindness and vision loss, Mexico 1990-2019

	1990			2019			% Change
	Rate	95%UI Lower	95%UI Higher	Rate	95%UI Lower	95%UI Higher	
Prevalence rate							
Presbyopia	5328.6	3849.1	7115.0	5252.6	3768.3	7011.0	-1.4
Moderate vision loss	3417.1	3041.3	3791.4	3176.1	2824.5	3514.6	-7.1
Severe vision loss	627.4	544.9	732.3	535.9	465.9	622.6	-14.6
Blindness	742.2	653.7	828.8	445.6	391.5	495.0	-40.0*
Blindness and vision loss	10115.3	8540.6	11947.8	9410.2	7895.6	11230.4	-7.0
Vision impairment (YLD rate)							
Presbyopia	55.8	25.4	110.7	55.0	25.3	109.8	-1.3

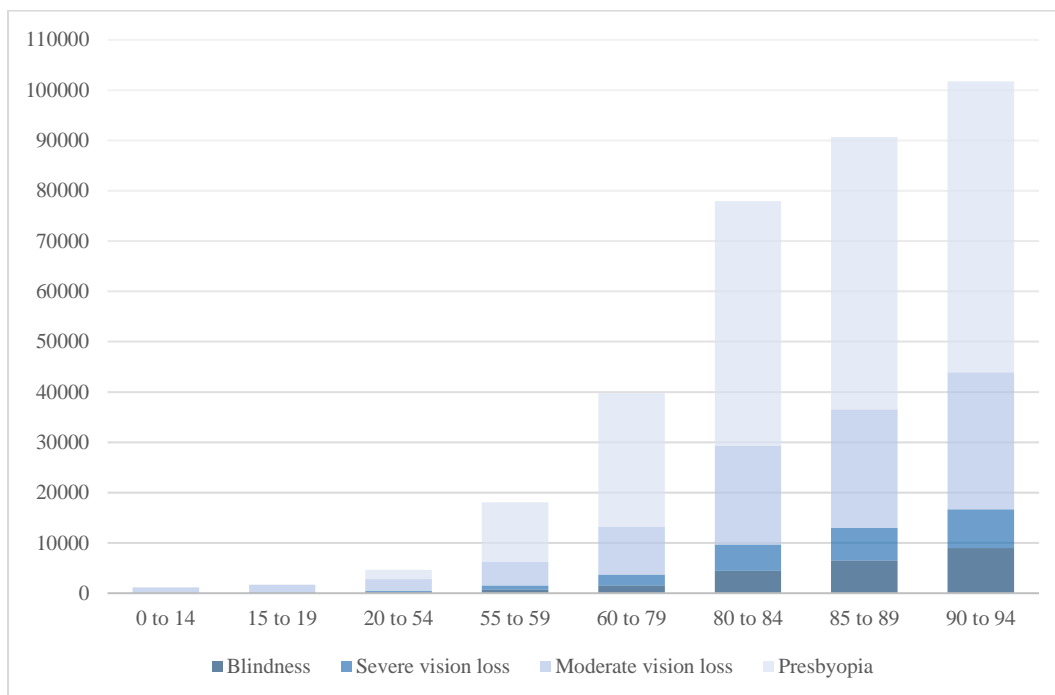
	1990			2019			% Change
	Rate	95%UI Lower	95%UI Higher	Rate	95%UI Lower	95%UI Higher	
Moderate vision loss	104.0	62.3	164.4	96.8	58.0	153.0	-6.9
Severe vision loss	111.9	74.7	163.9	96.0	64.3	139.9	-14.2
Blindness	134.3	89.8	190.5	81.1	54.3	115.1	-39.6
Blindness and vision loss	405.9	282.6	564.4	328.9	222.4	463.9	-19.0
Causes of vision impairment (YLD rate)							
Near vision	55.8	25.4	110.7	55.0	25.3	109.8	-1.3
Refraction disorders	113.9	76.6	161.3	97.5	65.5	138.6	-14.4
Glaucoma	18.3	12.1	26.0	12.2	8.2	17.2	-33.1
Cataract	105.9	73.1	147.4	76.8	53.2	107.4	-27.5
Age-related macular degeneration	6.6	4.3	9.8	5.2	3.5	7.7	-20.4
Vitamin A deficiency	6.4	4.0	9.7	6.0	3.8	9.1	-5.0
Diabetes mellitus	21.5	13.9	30.9	18.6	12.1	26.5	-13.6

Source: Global Burden of Disease Collaborative Network. Global Burden of Disease Study 2019 (GBD 2019) results. Seattle, United States: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), 2020. Available from <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-results/>.

Rate per 100,000 population. *Statistically significant.

Presbyopia and moderate vision loss accounted for most of the disability across all age groups in the country (Figure 1).

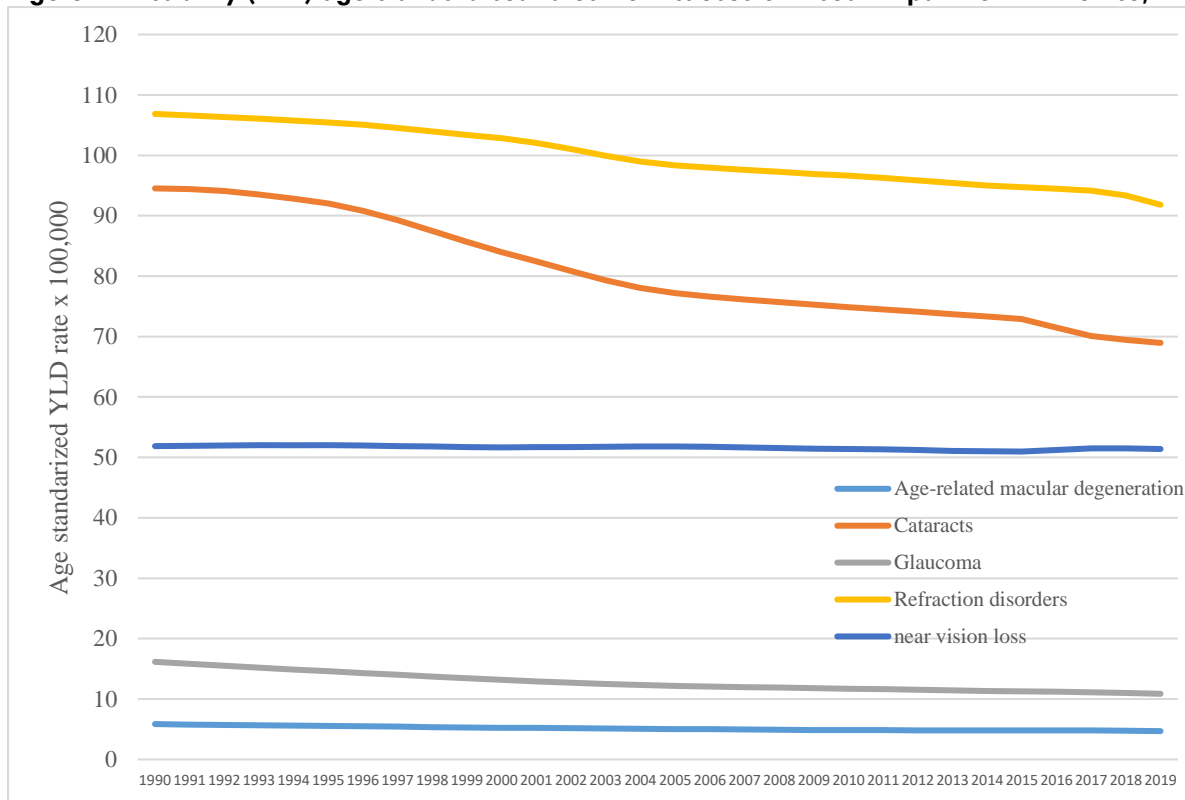
Figure 1. Prevalent cases (x 100,000 population) of vision loss in Mexico by age and both sexes, 2019



Source: Global Burden of Disease Collaborative Network. Global Burden of Disease Study 2019 (GBD 2019) results. Seattle, United States: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), 2020. Available from <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-results/>.

In Mexico, the prevalence of disability caused by vision impairment has kept a steady trend from 1990 through 2019, with no significant changes in age-standardised YLD rates for near vision loss, age-related macular

degeneration, and glaucoma. On the other hand, highly treatable disorders such as cataract and refraction disorders showed a declining trend during the period, although changes were not significant (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Disability (YLD) age-standardised rates from causes of visual impairment in Mexico, 1990-2019

Source: Global Burden of Disease Collaborative Network. Global Burden of Disease Study 2019 (GBD 2019) results. Seattle, United States: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), 2020. Available from <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-results/>.

Prevalence and trends for blindness and vision loss showed no significant differences or changes between the country's states or within each state. The highest prevalence rates per 100,000 population were found in Hidalgo (from 11235.2 to 10398.2), followed by Michoacan (from 11184.7 to 10427.4) and Tlaxcala (from 10989.8 to 10265.5), and the lowest prevalence rates were found in Nuevo Leon (from 9599.7 to 9108.4), Queretaro (from 9526.2 to 8851.1), Aguascalientes (from 9497.8 to 8857.3), and Baja California (from 9492.8 to 8878.6) (Supplementary Table 1). The vision disability trend has been steady from 1990 to 2019 with similar changes in age-standardised YLD rates per 100,000 population among states. The states of Michoacan, Yucatan and Sonora presented higher rates and a similar decreasing trend for blindness and vision loss during the study period, but the differences were not significant (Supplementary Table 2).

Overall, disability due to visual impairment from uncorrected refractive error decreased. Likewise, uncorrected presbyopia presented a -1% decline during the period, whereas refraction and accommodation disorders decreased (-3.4%) from 106.9 (95% UI 73,3-148.5) YLD to 103.2 (95%UI 69- 144.9) per 100,000 population. On the contrary, refraction disorders showed little or no improvement at all, with minor differences between states. The national age-standardised YLD rate for cataract showed a decreasing trend (-31.1%) from 94.5 in 1990 to 65.1 in 2019, but the difference was not significant. Michoacan presented the highest decline (-39%) in YLD rate from 110.1 (95%UI 67.8-127.9) in 1990 to 66.5 (95% UI 47.3-91.0) per 100,000 population in 2019, but the decline was not significant. Glaucoma also showed a declining trend (-38.9%) but no significant changes were observed between states during

the study period. As for age-related macular degeneration, a steady trend was observed during the period.

Prevalence of vitamin A deficiency decreased (-60.3%) from 18,098.5 to 7,181.8 per 100,000 population with the poorest states (Chiapas, Oaxaca, and Guerrero) exhibiting the highest prevalence as compared with the most developed states (Nuevo Leon and Mexico City). Differences between states were significant, as well as the changes during the period.

Discussion

Prevalence estimates show that one in five individuals from Latin America Countries (LAC) had some degree of vision loss in 2015, and the absolute number of people with vision loss increased by 12% from 2015 to 2019. Regional patterns are also clear when comparing the prevalence rate of vision loss in 2016 in high-income North America (United States and Canada), which was 6,298 cases per 100,000 population (95% UI 6,090-6,514) vs. the prevalence rate in Tropical Latin America (Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela), which was 17,241 cases per 100,000 population (95% UI 16,625-17,881).²

As for Mexico, this is the first report addressing the burden of vision impairment at the national and subnational levels spanning almost three decades (1990-2019). Our report shows that the trends in prevalence and disability due to this non-lethal impairment has not changed significantly during the study period. Near vision and moderate vision loss accounted for most of the disability in all age groups, and inequalities between the poorer and richest states have remained unchanged. The age-standardised YLD rates trends for cataract, glaucoma, and age-related macular degeneration had

minor but non-significant changes. Blindness associated with onchocerciasis in Mexico occurred in the poorest states of Chiapas and Oaxaca and decreased by 87.8% in the 2006-2012 period, with the country having a certification of being free of transmission in 2015.²² Likewise, trachoma significantly decreased at the national level (-44%) until elimination was certified by WHO in 2017.²²

The studies conducted so far in Mexico provide a partial overview of the burden of visual impairment in specific age groups,^{23,24} populations, or regions,²⁵ but fail to provide an comprehensive view of the magnitude and trends of this disability by state,^{18,26,27} all age groups, and causes.²⁸ The GBD-2019 study is a unique tool that provides standardised data on disability, prevalence, and causes of visual impairment from 1990 to 2019 for all age groups and for both sexes at the state level using and modelling all available data in the country. Findings reported in this study highlight the need to boost and improve prevention, early detection, and treatment programmes to deal with this impairment, especially considering the population's fast-aging process.

Regarding vision and eye health efforts, Mexico has a long tradition of Extramural Surgery campaigns to treat cataract, strabismus, and pterygium; yet only about 28% of the 360,000 surgeries required to treat cataract are performed annually.²⁹⁻³¹ The improved detection and treatment of other causes of blindness requires the deployment of specialised care (surgery) and cost-effective technologies. Cataract, strabismus, and glaucoma surgery were covered by the social protection programme "Seguro Popular" but did not reach all vulnerable populations (elderly and poor people).³² From 2011 to 2014 a total of 1.2 million eyeglasses were distributed in public primary schools across Mexico, but the campaign did not reach all the schools in the country. In addition, refractive error correction requires robust follow-up screening programmes particularly in the young and elderly population in order not to lose the effect of correction. Such programmes are essentially non-existent.

The certification of the recent elimination of onchocerciasis and trachoma in Mexico —the main infectious causes of blindness in the country— showed that long-term initiatives can produce significant results when effective coverage of target populations is accomplished under well-planned and organised programs.

Vision impairment must be addressed as an important health problem, while recognising the insufficient strategies designed to prevent and treat it. It affects both sexes at all ages, in all regions and across all populations. Its control should be conceived as an attainable goal since medical treatments and technologies exist to lessen its impact. Most of the available measures are cost-effective, but outdated health policies and regulations may be limiting access to these therapies.³³ Strategies deployed in 2017 by the National Council for the Prevention and Treatment of Visual Diseases (CNPTEV)³⁴ included the creation of the National Registry for Visual Diseases, the improvement of the Cornea Transplant Registry, the implementation of Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness (RAAB) surveys, the screening of refraction errors in children and cataract in elderly population, the detection and treatment of diabetic retinopathy, the screening and treatment of premature retinopathy, and the increase of human resources in ophthalmology and optometry to be distributed across the country. However, not all of these strategies have been implemented efficiently or have reached all the population.²²

Conclusions

The panorama of vision loss in Mexico —as in other countries and regions of the world— portrays a reality that calls for new focused strategies and regulations in public health policy, since most of the burden entailed by this impairment is avoidable, preventable, treatable, or even reversible. By acknowledging this 'invisible and silent disability', the country can rank vision loss among public health care top priorities to deal with its occurrence and reduce its burden.

Conflicts of Interest Statement

None of the authors have any proprietary interests or conflicts of interest related to this submission. This manuscript has not been published anywhere previously and it is not simultaneously being considered for publication in any other journal.

Funding

This research did not receive any funding or grant.

Acknowledgments

None.

Supplementary Table 1. Age-standardised prevalence rates for blindness and vision loss by state, Mexico 1990-2019

	Blindness and vision loss						
	1990			2019			% change
	Rate	95%UI Lower	95%UI Higher	Rate	95%UI Lower	95%UI Higher	
Aguascalientes	9497.8	7984.3	11296.8	8857.3	7341.1	10614.4	-6.7
Baja California	9492.8	7975.4	11307.4	8878.6	7442.9	10578.2	-6.5
Baja California Sur	9758.1	8227.8	11490.5	9144.5	7669.2	10938.8	-6.3
Campeche	9871.3	8302.7	11664.1	9157.0	7643.5	10838.7	-7.2
Chiapas	10285.7	8579.7	12243.9	9516.5	7852.7	11609.3	-7.5
Chihuahua	10119.5	8556.8	11835.3	9570.3	8050.0	11286.2	-5.4
Coahuila	10078.0	8479.9	12053.2	9432.0	7895.4	11400.1	-6.4
Colima	9751.4	8143.2	11629.3	9052.5	7522.2	10899.3	-7.2
Durango	10479.5	8831.9	12417.7	9701.4	8130.6	11596.4	-7.4
Guanajuato	10252.3	8670.9	12141.2	9541.8	8038.0	11342.8	-6.9
Guerrero	10477.8	8850.4	12516.7	9688.9	8050.5	11764.1	-7.5
Hidalgo	11235.2	9610.1	13043.4	10398.2	8857.0	12255.6	-7.4
Jalisco	9793.7	8201.0	11631.8	9096.5	7550.6	10959.2	-7.1
State of Mexico	9739.9	8159.8	11487.2	9101.1	7626.7	10915.3	-6.6
National	10115.3	8540.6	11947.8	9410.2	7895.6	11230.4	-7.0
Mexico City	10321.1	8842.5	12021.1	9780.3	8309.3	11547.2	-5.2
Michoacan	11184.7	9510.7	13038.0	10427.4	8827.3	12314.9	-6.8
Morelos	10305.8	8742.6	12169.7	9713.2	8163.2	11516.1	-5.7
Nayarit	10153.4	8572.0	12017.6	9380.7	7842.4	11327.1	-7.6
Nuevo Leon	9599.7	8125.3	11446.8	9108.4	7605.2	10840.0	-5.1
Oaxaca	10028.0	8359.2	12032.7	9290.5	7718.7	11248.9	-7.4
Puebla	10027.8	8509.0	11900.3	9370.8	7811.3	11227.0	-6.6
Queretaro	9526.2	7993.2	11313.6	8851.1	7315.8	10638.6	-7.1
Quintana Roo	10103.5	8527.1	11873.7	9409.1	7952.0	11246.4	-6.9
San Luis Potosi	10347.4	8680.4	12255.0	9524.9	7940.4	11378.5	-7.9
Sinaloa	9954.9	8436.4	11829.6	9241.9	7736.0	10998.8	-7.2
Sonora	10100.0	8615.0	11782.0	9472.3	8041.4	11183.9	-6.2
Tabasco	10188.0	8520.7	12163.3	9385.0	7780.3	11263.0	-7.9
Tamaulipas	9636.5	8061.4	11377.0	9037.3	7546.3	10759.8	-6.2
Tlaxcala	10989.8	9464.6	12843.1	10265.5	8763.1	11951.6	-6.6
Veracruz	10141.4	8528.2	12054.6	9436.9	7790.9	11275.3	-6.9
Yucatan	9769.4	8230.3	11644.5	9039.7	7468.0	10871.9	-7.5
Zacatecas	9792.1	8203.6	11688.2	9128.1	7560.7	10969.9	-6.8

Source: Global Burden of Disease Collaborative Network. Global Burden of Disease Study 2019 (GBD 2019) results. Seattle, United States: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), 2020. Available from <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-results/>. Rate per 100,000 population.

Supplementary Table 2. Age-standardised YLD rates for blindness and vision loss by state, Mexico 1990-2019

	Blindness and vision loss						
	1990			2019			% change
	Rate	95%UI Lower	95%UI Higher	Rate	95%UI Lower	95%UI Higher	
Aguascalientes	384.2	268.0	532.2	310.5	210.0	437.7	-19.2
Baja California	384.0	268.3	533.0	310.8	211.4	439.5	-19.1
Baja California Sur	387.5	268.7	534.9	317.6	216.0	446.4	-18.1
Campeche	399.8	277.8	552.4	320.3	216.4	451.2	-19.9
Chiapas	388.5	266.9	537.5	324.8	220.5	460.3	-16.4
Chihuahua	403.4	279.7	561.3	334.2	227.6	474.7	-17.2
Coahuila	403.3	281.0	560.6	327.2	221.2	460.8	-18.9
Colima	396.0	275.9	548.7	316.6	214.6	446.5	-20.0
Durango	417.0	288.2	581.7	334.3	224.0	474.9	-19.8
Guanajuato	405.8	282.6	565.8	327.0	222.6	463.9	-19.4
Guerrero	414.5	285.7	577.2	329.6	223.4	466.7	-20.5
Hidalgo	452.5	314.6	627.7	368.1	251.0	522.6	-18.6
Jalisco	394.3	273.2	547.3	315.8	214.3	443.5	-19.9
State of Mexico	394.5	271.2	546.9	318.9	217.1	447.5	-19.2
National	405.9	282.6	564.4	328.9	222.4	463.9	-19.0
Mexico City	400.4	275.4	557.9	332.5	223.6	473.2	-16.9
Michoacan	469.2	326.9	647.3	384.7	261.8	544.4	-18.0
Morelos	405.6	279.8	564.0	331.4	224.5	470.3	-18.3
Nayarit	406.8	284.9	565.1	324.8	219.9	457.4	-20.2
Nuevo Leon	370.3	256.5	513.3	317.8	217.1	446.0	-14.2
Oaxaca	409.4	283.2	567.5	323.8	221.6	456.7	-20.9
Puebla	409.5	283.2	566.6	330.4	226.4	465.4	-19.3
Queretaro	364.1	252.7	508.7	296.8	200.6	420.4	-18.5
Quintana Roo	440.3	308.9	608.1	357.3	245.7	501.3	-18.8
San Luis Potosí	406.5	283.1	565.8	321.8	218.7	455.2	-20.8
Sinaloa	396.8	275.8	546.8	318.2	215.8	449.2	-19.8
Sonora	466.4	327.6	643.2	389.9	270.8	542.0	-16.4
Tabasco	409.6	285.2	569.3	325.5	220.0	458.2	-20.5
Tamaulipas	387.1	272.5	538.5	312.4	210.1	441.0	-19.3
Tlaxcala	434.5	299.6	602.8	356.6	242.9	505.8	-17.9
Veracruz	400.4	275.4	557.9	326.6	222.3	460.8	-19.9
Yucatan	469.2	326.9	647.3	316.3	215.3	446.0	-19.9
Zacatecas	405.6	279.8	564.0	336.6	232.3	472.4	-18.5

Source: Global Burden of Disease Collaborative Network. Global Burden of Disease Study 2019 (GBD 2019) results. Seattle, United States: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), 2020. Available from <https://vizhub.healthdata.org/gbd-results/>. Rate per 100,000 population.

References

1. Bourne RR, Flaxman SR, Braithwaite T, et al. Magnitude, temporal trends, and projections of the global prevalence of blindness and distance and near vision impairment: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Lancet Glob Health*. 2017;5(9):e888–e897. Doi:10.1016/S2214-109X(17)30293-0
2. Leasher JL, Braithwaite T, Furtado JM, et al. Prevalence and causes of vision loss in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2015: magnitude, temporal trends and projections. *Br J Ophthalmol*. 2019;103(7):885-893. Doi:10.1136/bjophthalmol-2017-311746
3. Campbell V, Crews J, Moriarty D, Zack M, DK; Blackman. Surveillance for sensory impairment, activity limitation, and health-related quality of life among older adults-United States, 1993-1997. *Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*. Published online 1999.
4. Lupsakko T, Mäntyjärvi M, Kautiainen H, Sulkava R. Combined hearing and visual impairment and depression in a population aged 75 years and older. *Int J Geriatr Psychiatry*. 2002;17(9):808-813. Doi:10.1002/gps.689
5. Kempen GI, Verbrugge LM, Merrill SS, Ormel J. The impact of multiple impairments on disability in community-dwelling older people. *Age Ageing*. 1998;27(5):595-604.
6. Schneider JM, Gopinath B, McMahon CM, Leeder SR, Mitchell P, Wang JJ. Dual sensory impairment in older age. *J Aging Health*. 2011;23(8):1309-1324. Doi:10.1177/0898264311408418
7. Manrique-Espinoza B, Salinas-Rodríguez A, Moreno-Tamayo KM, et al. Health conditions and functional status of older adults in Mexico. *Salud Publica de Mex*. 2013;55(Suppl 2):s323-s331.
8. Flaxman SR, Bourne RR, Resnikoff S, et al. Global causes of blindness and distance vision impairment 1990–2020: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Lancet Glob Health*. 2017;5:e1221–34. Doi:10.1016/S2214-109X(17)30393-5
9. Madueña-Angulo SE, Beltran-Ontiveros SA, Leal-Leon E, et al. National sex- and age-specific burden of blindness and vision impairment by cause in Mexico in 2019: a secondary analysis of the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019. *The Lancet Regional Health - Americas*. 2023;24:100552. Doi:10.1016/j.lana.2023.100552
10. World Health Organization (WHO). *Report of the 2030 Targets on Effective Coverage of Eye Care*; 2022.
11. Vos T, Lim SS, Abbafati C, et al. Global burden of 369 diseases and injuries in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019. *The Lancet*. 2020;396(10258):1204-1222. Doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(20)30925-9
12. Naghavi M, Abajobir AA, Abbafati C, et al. Global, regional, and national age-sex specific mortality for 264 causes of death, 1980–2016: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016. *The Lancet*. 2017;390(10100):1151-1210. Doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(17)32152-9
13. Allen C, Arora M, Barber RM, Bhutta Zulfiqar A, Brown Alexandria, Carter Austin. Global, regional, and national incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 310 diseases and injuries, 1990–2015: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2015. *Lancet*. 2016;388(10053):1545-1602. Doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(16)31678-6
14. Vos T, Abajobir AA, Abate KH, et al. Global, regional, and national incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 328 diseases and injuries for 195 countries, 1990–2016: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2016. *The Lancet*. 2017;390(10100):1211-1259. Doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(17)32154-2
15. Limburg H, Silva JC, Foster A. Cataract in Latin America: findings from nine recent surveys. *Rev Panam Salud Publica*. 2009;25(5):449-455. Doi:10.1590/s1020-49892009000500011
16. López-Star EM, Allison-Eckert K, Limburg H, Brea-Rodríguez I, Lansingh VC. Evaluación rápida de la ceguera evitable, incluida la retinopatía diabética, en Querétaro, México. *Revista Mexicana de Oftalmología*. 2018;92(2S):84-93. Doi:10.24875/RMO.M18000016
17. Lopez-Ramos A, Gomez-Bastar PA, Lansingh VC, et al. Rapid assessment of avoidable blindness: Prevalence of blindness, visual impairment and diabetes in nuevo leon, Mexico 2014. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol*. 2018;25(5-6):412-418. Doi:10.1080/09286586.2018.1501498
18. Polack S, Yorston D, López-Ramos A, et al. Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness and diabetic retinopathy in Chiapas, Mexico. *Ophthalmology*. 2012;119(5):1033-1040. Doi:10.1016/j.ophtha.2011.11.002
19. National Institute of Public Health (Mexico) WHO (WHO). *Mexico WHO Multi-Country Survey Study on Health and Health System Responsiveness 2000-2001*; 2014. Accessed April 29, 2024. <https://apps.who.int/healthinfo/systems/surveydata/index.php/catalog/201/study-description>
20. National Institute of Public Health (Mexico) WHO (WHO). *Mexico WHO Study on Global AGEing and Adult Health 2009-2010*; 2011. <http://ghdx.healthdata.org/record/mexico-who-study-global-ageing-and-adult-health-2009-2010>
21. Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) University of Wisconsin-Madison, Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), College of the Northern Border (COLEF), Research in Health and Demographics (INSAD), NATIONAL Institute of Med C for D and E. Mexico - Mexico City Survey on Health, Well-Being, and Aging in Latin America and the Caribbean 1999-2000. *Ann Arbor, United States: Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)*. Published online 2019.
22. Secretaría de Salud, Programa Sectorial de Salud. Programa de Acción Específico: Eliminación de Oncocercosis 2013-2018. Published online 2014:11-62. Accessed April 29, 2024. <http://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Programas/VIH/OtrasPublicacionesdeinteresrelacionadosconelVIH/CENSIDA/CAUSES2016.pdf>
23. Castanon Holguin AM, Congdon N, Patel N, et al. Factors associated with spectacle-wear compliance in school-aged Mexican children. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis*

- Sci. 2006;47(3):925-928. Doi:10.1167/iovs.05-0895
24. Ramírez-Sánchez EV, Arroyo-Yllanes ME, Magaña-García M. Determinación del estado refractivo en niños sanos, en el Hospital General de México. *Rev Mex Ophthalmol.* 2003;77(3):120-123. <https://www.medigraphic.com/pdfs/revmexoft/rmo-2003/rmo033e.pdf>
 25. Gomez-Salazar F, Campos-Romero A, Gomez-Campana H, et al. Refractive errors among children, adolescents and adults attending eye clinics in Mexico. *Int J Ophthalmol.* 2017;10(5):796-802. Doi:10.18240/ijo.2017.05.23
 26. Baz Iglesias R, Solis Lopez S, Gaxiola Armenta M, Carrillo Gomez S, Baz Diaz Lombardo G. [Vision disorders in the municipality of Naucalpan]. *Salud Publica Mex.* 1984;26(1):17-25. <http://dx.doi.org/>
 27. Villarreal GM, Ohlsson J, Cavazos H, Abrahamsson M, Mohamed JH. Prevalence of myopia among 12- to 13-year-old schoolchildren in northern Mexico. *Optom Vis Sci.* 2003;80(5):369-373. Doi:10.1097/00006324-200305000-00011
 28. Pezzullo L, Cheung S, Tay-Teo K, Stevens B. El costo economico y carga de las enfermedades oculares y de la ceguera evitable en Mexico. *Revista Mexicana de Oftalmologia.* 2014;88(Supl 1):1-30.
 29. Navarrete-López M, Puentes-Rosas E, Pineda-Pérez D, Martínez-Ojeda H. El papel del Fondo de Protección contra Gastos Catastróficos en la cobertura de atención a pacientes con cataratas. *Salud Publica Mex.* 2013;55(4):394-398. Doi:10.21149/spm.v55i4.7223
 30. Trigos-Micoló I, Barquín-Donnadieu M, Gutiérrez-Soriano L. Programa Nacional de Cirugía Extramuros de la SSA 1994-2000. *Cir Cir.* 2019;69(4):160-166. <https://www.medigraphic.com/pdfs/circir/cc-2001/cc014b.pdf>
 31. Trigos-Micoló I, Gutiérrez-Soriano L, Guzmán-López ME, Quintana-Pali L. Logros 2002-2003 del Programa Nacional de Cirugía Extramuros en la atención oftalmológica. *Cir Cir.* 2004;72(6):511-516.
 32. Salud S de, ed. Secretaría de Salud, Comisión Nacional de Protección Social en Salud. Catálogo Universal de Servicios de Salud 2016. Published online 2016:28-777. <https://www.cndh.org.mx/sites/all/doc/Programas/VIH/OtrasPublicacionesdeinteresrelacionadosconelVIH/CENSIDA/CAUSES2016.pdf>
 33. Executive Board 132. Draft action plan for the prevention of avoidable blindness and visual impairment 2014-2019: universal eye health: a global action plan 2014-2019: report by the Secretariat. Published online 2013. Doi:<https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/78620>
 34. Consejo Nacional para la Prevención y Tratamiento de Enfermedades Visuales (CNPTEV), Propuesta para la prevención de discapacidad visual y ceguera. Published online October 2014:1-66. Accessed April 29, 2024. <https://www.gob.mx/salud/prensa/en-marcha-programa-nacional-para-la-prevencion-de-la-discapacidad-por-ceguera>