

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 48,442 square kms (18,704 mi²)
- » Population: 10.8 million
- » 2020 Human Development Index Ranking: 88 of 189 countries¹

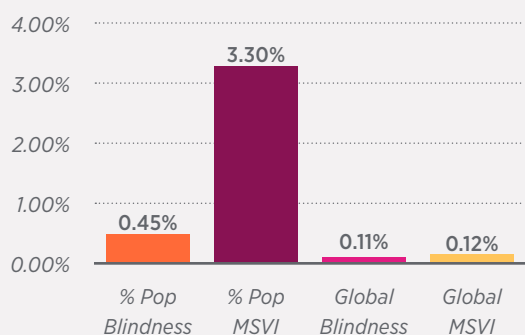
Scope of Eye Care Needs²

- » 0.45% of the Dominican Republic's population is blind (49,000), as compared to 0.19% in the United States
- » 3.30% of the population has moderate to severe vision impairment or MSVI (356,175), as compared to 2.02% in the United States
- » The DR accounts for 0.11% of global blindness and 0.12% of global MSVI

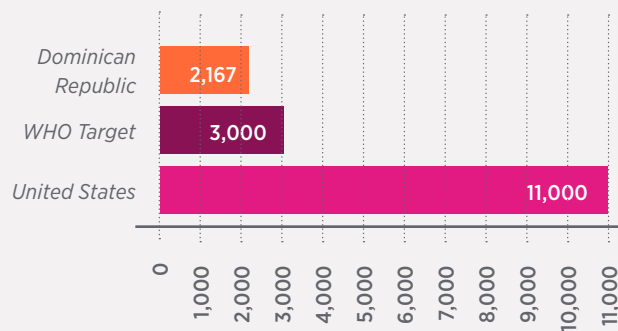
Nationwide Eye Care Response

- » The DR's Cataract Surgical Rate is 2,167 per million as of 2013
- » The DR's CSC = 30.2%
- » There are 41 ophthalmologists per million people (432 total)
- » No data is currently available for optometrists and AOPs

EYE CARE NEEDS



CATARACT SURGICAL RATE PER MILLION PEOPLE



¹ 2020 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 Oftálmico 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. The system allows serves as an electronic management system for patients, allowing the hospital to assess care over time. This year, Seva will work with Visualiza to set up this system with Centro Oftálmico Digar. The hospital can also 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.

EYE CARE PERSONNEL

41



Ophthalmologists per million people

= 1 million people

IMPACT (FY 2020-2021)*

5,289

People receiving services

643

Cataract surgeries performed

Impact of COVID-19 in Dominican Republic

COVID-19 continues to have a major impact on the country. The country has experienced a few waves of COVID-19 but has made progress in its vaccination effort with just over 50% of the population receiving at least one dose. 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.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC FACT SHEET

