Country Overview

» Myanmar spans 261,228 square miles
» Population: 54.4 million
» 2021-22 Human Development Index Ranking: 149 of 191

Scope of Eye Care Needs

» 0.88% of Myanmar’s population is blind (477,463), as compared to 0.19% in the United States
» 4.28% of the population has moderate to severe vision impairment or MSVI (2,318,893), as compared to 2.02% in the United States
» 1.11% of global blindness
» 0.79% of global MSVI

Nationwide Eye Care Response

» Myanmar’s Cataract Surgical Rate (CSR) was 2,280 surgeries per million in 2019
» 5.8 ophthalmologists per million people in 2018 (361 total)
» 1.1 optometrists per million people in 2018 (59 total)
» 5 allied ophthalmic personnel per million people in 2019 (260 total)

EYE CARE NEEDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Pop</th>
<th>% Pop</th>
<th>Global</th>
<th>Global</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blindness</td>
<td>MSVI</td>
<td>Blindness</td>
<td>MSVI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.88%</td>
<td>4.28%</td>
<td>1.11%</td>
<td>0.79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CATARACT SURGICAL RATE PER MILLION PEOPLE

- Myanmar: 2,280
- WHO Target: 3,000
- United States: 11,000

---

2 Unless otherwise noted, all country sight statistics from IAPB Vision Atlas: http://atlas.iapb.org/global-action-plan/gap-indicators/
Seva’s Approach in Myanmar

Seva’s approach in Myanmar focused on training front line HIV doctors to examine their patients using an indirect ophthalmoscope through the AIDS Eye Initiative and our partnership with Medical Action Myanmar (MAM).

Medical Action Myanmar (MAM) is a non-governmental organization with a mission to improve access to health care all people on Myanmar. Myanmar experiences high rates of HIV, with approximately 200,000 people living with AIDS. Seva’s work with MAM enabled HIV doctors to detect and treat blinding CMV Retinitis. These trained health workers can also detect tuberculosis using this technique, allowing early treatment of TB. Seva has no active programs in Myanmar because of its ongoing political situation and lack of positive operational conditions inside the country. Seva, however, has continued to keep in contact with its alumni doctors who received training and fellowships in Nepal. Seva also did some consultation with the Nepalese Ambassador in Myanmar, the Buddhist Pilgrims Consortium and NNJS/Lumbini Eye Institute to revive Seva programs in the future. Seva is currently working on the possibilities of providing a short-term online training course for its alumni in Myanmar.

EYE CARE PERSONNEL

- **5.8**
  - Ophthalmologists per million people

- **1.1**
  - Optometrists per million people

- **5**
  - Ophthalmic personnel per million people

= 1 million people

Resources

[Partner Website: Medical Action Myanmar](#)
[Regaining Sight and Hope in Myanmar](#)

---

**MYANMAR FACT SHEET**

---

**Seva’s Approach in Myanmar**

Seva’s approach in Myanmar focused on training front line HIV doctors to examine their patients using an indirect ophthalmoscope through the AIDS Eye Initiative and our partnership with Medical Action Myanmar (MAM).

Medical Action Myanmar (MAM) is a non-governmental organization with a mission to improve access to health care all people on Myanmar. Myanmar experiences high rates of HIV, with approximately 200,000 people living with AIDS. Seva’s work with MAM enabled HIV doctors to detect and treat blinding CMV Retinitis. These trained health workers can also detect tuberculosis using this technique, allowing early treatment of TB. Seva has no active programs in Myanmar because of its ongoing political situation and lack of positive operational conditions inside the country. Seva, however, has continued to keep in contact with its alumni doctors who received training and fellowships in Nepal. Seva also did some consultation with the Nepalese Ambassador in Myanmar, the Buddhist Pilgrims Consortium and NNJS/Lumbini Eye Institute to revive Seva programs in the future. Seva is currently working on the possibilities of providing a short-term online training course for its alumni in Myanmar.

---

**EYE CARE PERSONNEL**

- **5.8**
  - Ophthalmologists per million people

- **1.1**
  - Optometrists per million people

- **5**
  - Ophthalmic personnel per million people

= 1 million people

---

**Resources**

[Partner Website: Medical Action Myanmar](#)
[Regaining Sight and Hope in Myanmar](#)