

## New estimates of visual impairment and blindness: 2010

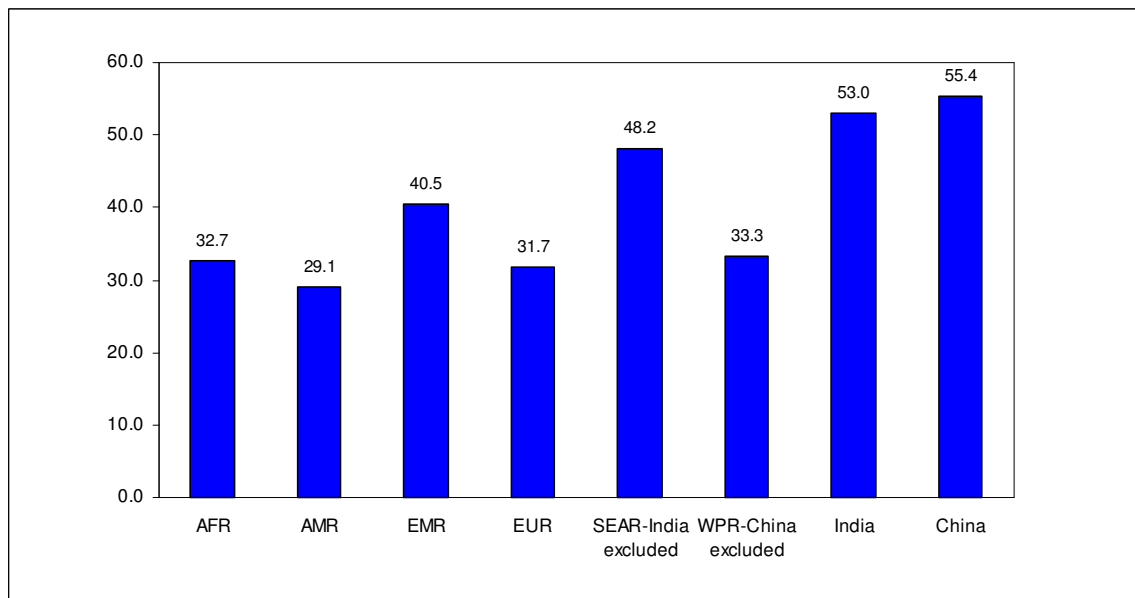
### Global estimate of the number of people visually impaired.

| Population (millions) | (A) Blind (millions) | (B) Low Vision (millions) | (A+B) Visually Impaired (millions) |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 6,737.50              | 39.365               | 246.024                   | 285.389                            |

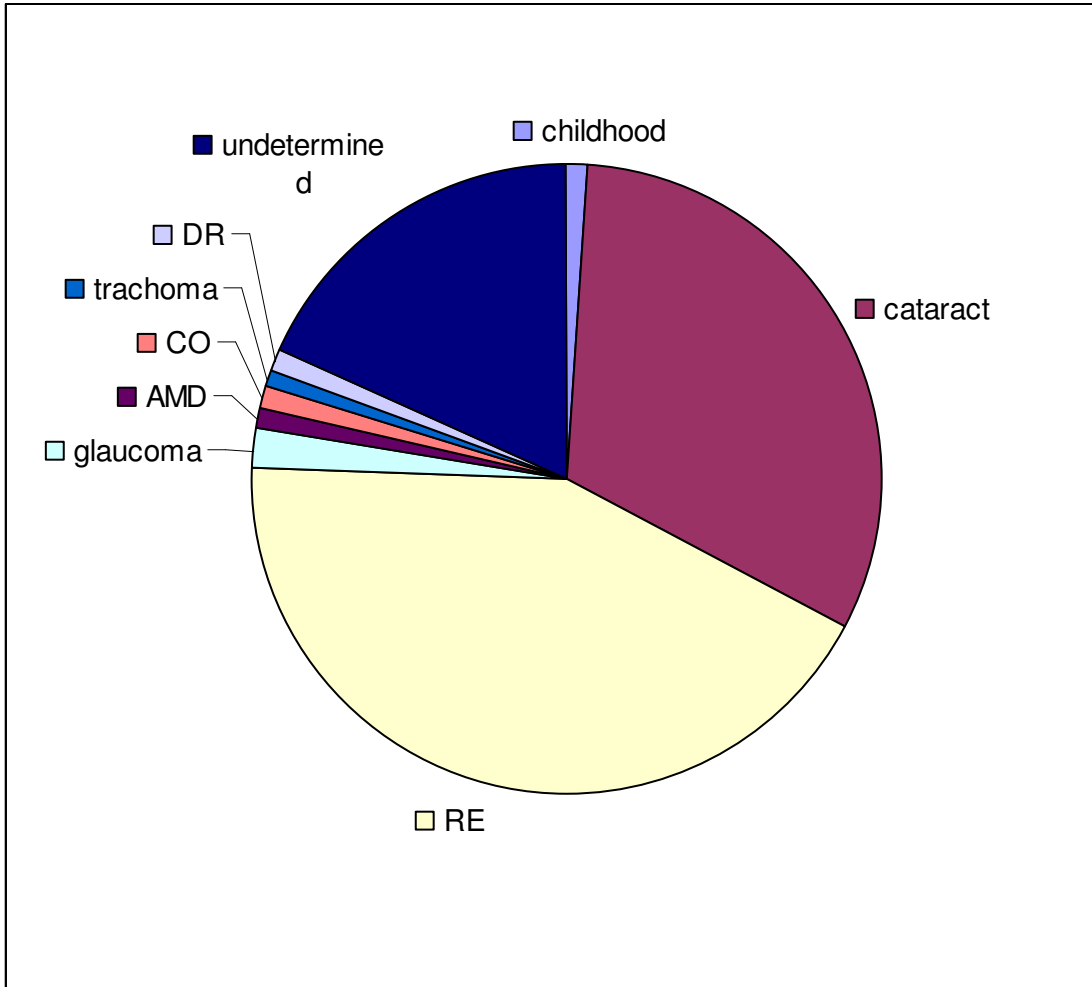
The magnitude of visual impairment and blindness and their causes have been estimated, globally and by WHO region from recent data. For countries without data estimates were based on newly developed model. Globally the number of people of all ages **visually impaired** is estimated to be **285 million**, of whom **39 million are blind**. People 50 years and older are 82% of all blind. The major causes of visual impairment are uncorrected refractive errors (43%) and cataract (33%); the first cause of blindness is cataract (51%). Visual impairment in 2010 is a major global health issue: the preventable causes are as high as 80% of the total global burden.

*Ref: Pascolini D, Mariotti SPM. Global estimates of visual impairment: 2010. British Journal Ophthalmology Online First published December 1, 2011 as 10.1136/bjophthalmol-2011-300539.*

### Number of people (in 1000s) visually impaired per million population by WHO region and country, 2010.



Global causes of visual impairment inclusive of blindness as percentage of global visual impairment in 2010. RE: uncorrected refractive errors, AMD: Age-related macular degeneration, CO: corneal opacities, DR: diabetic retinopathy.



**Global causes of blindness as percentage of global blindness in 2010. RE: uncorrected refractive errors, AMD: Age-related macular degeneration, CO: corneal opacities, DR: diabetic retinopathy.**

