

Papua New Guinea



Population¹	9,690,196
Prevalence of Blindness (Projection)²	5.6%
Prevalence of Diabetes (Projection)³	16.7%
Most common causes of vision impairment⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cataract • Refractive error • Diabetic retinopathy
Health expenditure⁵	US \$61 per capita (2% of GDP)
Key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Department of Health • Provincial Health Authorities • Madang Provincial Hospital Eye Clinic • Divine Word University • University of Papua New Guinea • Prevention of Blindness Committee • World Health Organization • The Foundation for People and Community Development, and Callan Services

¹ Pacific Community, Pacific Data Hub, Mid-Year Population Estimate, <https://pacificdata.org/>

² Lee, Ling & D'Esposito, Fabrizio et al.(2018). Rapid assessment of avoidable blindness in Papua New Guinea: A nationwide survey. British Journal of Ophthalmology. This is a study of the 50+ population.

³ Diabetes Federation Atlas, <https://diabetesatlas.org/data/en/>

⁴ PNG Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness 2017

⁵ WHO Global Health Expenditure Database, https://apps.who.int/nha/database/country_profile/Index/en

Eye care workforce



15 active eye doctors*

(of which 6 are Foundation-sponsored graduates)

Lae: 1 / Nonga: 2 / Madang: 1 / Mendi: 1 / Mt Hagen: 1 / Port Moresby: 8 / Wewak: 1



119 active eye nurses and eye care clinicians*

(of which 111 are Foundation-sponsored graduates)

Aitape: 1 / Alotau: 4 / Arawa: 1 / Banz: 2 / Bogia: 2 / Buin: 1 / Buka: 1 / Daru: 3 / Dogura: 1 / Finschhafen: 1 / Goroka: 2 / Gusap: 1 / Kavieng: 4 / Kerema: 1 / Kerevat: 1 / Kimbe: 8 / Kokopo: 2 / Kundiawa: 4 / Lae: 5 / Lemakot: 2 / Lorengau: 1 / Lumi: 1 / Madang: 25 / Maprik: 1 / Mendi: 3 / Mount Hagen: 7 / Nipa: 1 / Nonga: 4 / Palmalmal: 1 / Pangia: 1 / Popondetta: 2 / Port Moresby: 6 / Rabaraba: 1 / Siroga: 1 / Tabubil: 2 / Tari: 1 / Vanimo: 3 / Wabag: 4 / Warangoi: 1 / Watuluma: 1 / Wewak: 4 / Yagaum: 1



1 eye clinic supported by The Foundation

Madang Provincial Hospital Eye Clinic, Madang

* This number can fluctuate annually and does include private practitioners.

Eye care training outcomes

Eye care training for eye nurses is conducted in partnership with Divine Word University and eye care training for eye doctors is conducted by the University of Papua New Guinea.

In total

4 Foundation-sponsored eye doctor graduates⁶.

2 Foundation-sponsored trainee eye doctor graduates⁷.

130 Foundation-sponsored eye nurse and eye care clinician graduates⁸.

In 2023

2 trainee eye-doctors completed a further year of study towards a Master of Medicine in Ophthalmology from the University of Papua New Guinea.

10 eye nurses graduated with an Advanced Diploma in Eye Care from Divine Word University.

8 eye care professionals participated in Advanced Gender Equality and Diversity (GED) Training.

2023 Key Highlights

11,767 consultations provided.*

1,104 sight-saving surgeries performed.

2,155 spectacles were dispensed.

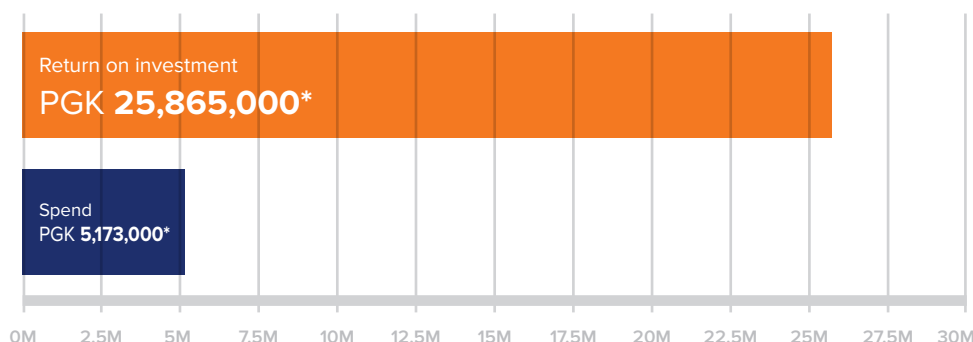
24 outreaches made eye care services accessible to communities across PNG.

2 eye nurses completed a Bachelor of Health Management from Divine Word University.

1 eye nurse completed a Master of Leadership in Development from Divine Word University.

*includes WFS clinic data

Return on investment 2023



Programme funding in NZD was \$2.1 million* with a return on investment of \$10.6 million*.

The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust funded a report by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)⁹ that measured the economic benefit of investing in vision. The study demonstrated that for every \$1 invested in tackling avoidable blindness in the Commonwealth, \$5 is returned in economic value.

⁶ Completed Masters of Medicine in Ophthalmology. First eye doctor trained in 2019.

⁷ Completed Post Graduate Diploma in Ophthalmology.

⁸ First eye nurse trained in 2007.

* These figures are approximate.

⁹ PriceWaterhouseCoopers 2018: Investing in vision making a difference across the Commonwealth, www.hollows.org.nz

