

Vanuatu



Population¹	321,406
Prevalence of Blindness (Projection)²	1.7%
Prevalence of Diabetes (Projection)³	15.6%
Most common causes of vision impairment⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cataract • Diabetic retinopathy • Refractive error • Pterygium
Health expenditure⁵	US \$117 per capita (4% of GDP)
Key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Health • National Eye Centre • Eye Health Steering Committee • Lankel Hospital

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

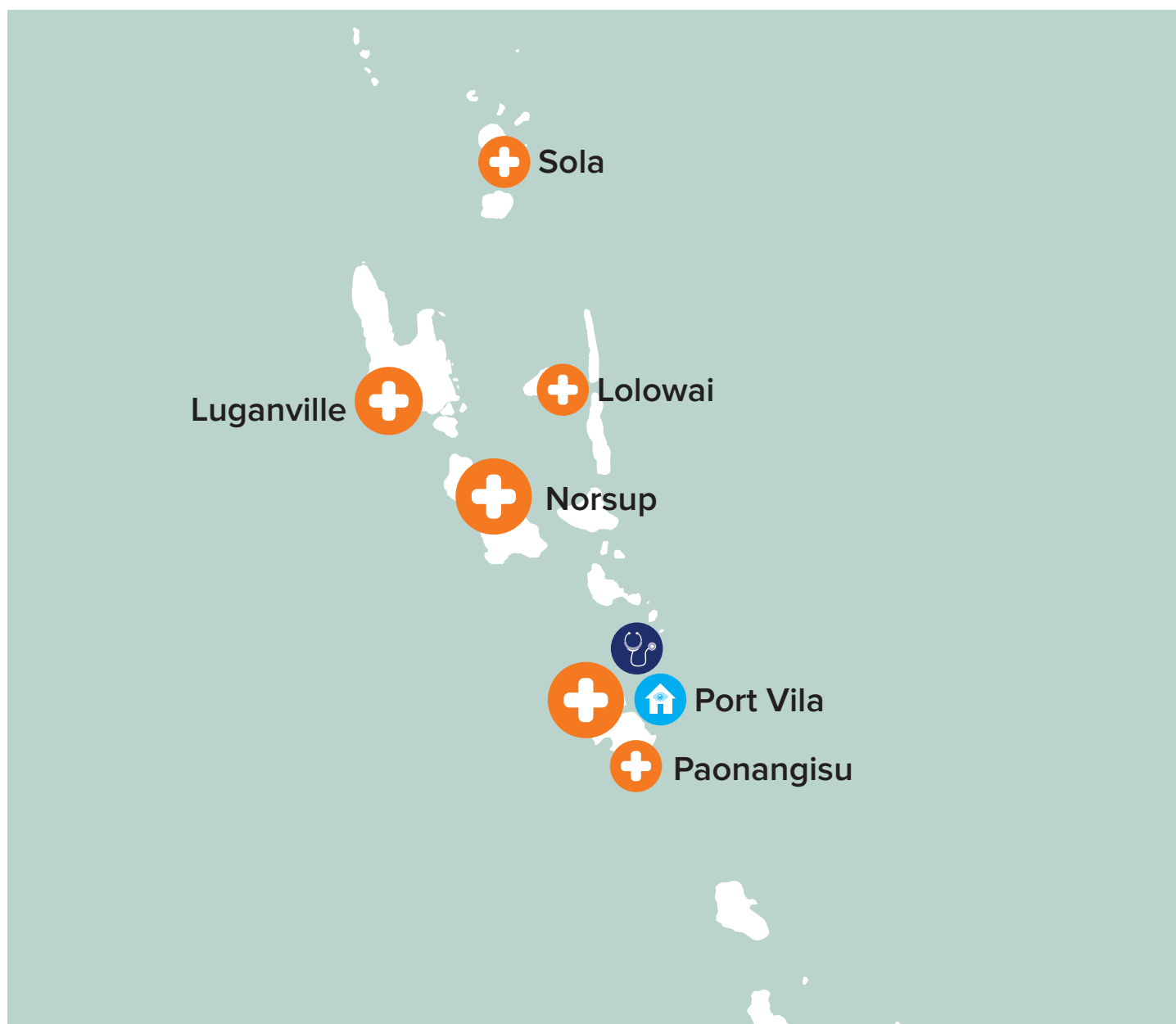
² The Fred Hollows Foundation NZ and Vanuatu Ministry of Health. (2024). 2023 Vanuatu RAAB: National survey of avoidable blindness and vision impairment. The Fred Hollows Foundation New Zealand, Auckland NZ. This was a RAAB survey on the 50+ population.

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

⁴ IAPB World Vision Atlas, <https://www.iapb.org/learn/vision-atlas>

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

Eye care workforce



1 active eye doctor*
(who is a Foundation-sponsored graduate)

Port Vila: 1



11 active eye nurses*
(all 11 are Foundation-sponsored graduates)

Lolowai: 1 / Luganville: 2 / Norsup: 3 / Paonangisu: 1 / Port Vila: 3 / Sola: 1



**Components of Vanuatu's eye care programme
supported by The Foundation**

Vanuatu National Eye Centre, Port Vila

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

⁶ In 2023, 2 Foundation-sponsored eye doctors worked in Vanuatu - one from Vanuatu and one from Timor-Leste.

Eye care training outcomes

In total

- 1** Foundation-sponsored eye doctor graduate⁷.
- 11** Foundation-sponsored eye nurse and eye care clinician graduates⁸.

In 2023

- 1 eye nurse graduated** with a Postgraduate Diploma in Eye Care from Fiji National University.

2023 Key Highlights

7,530
consultations provided.

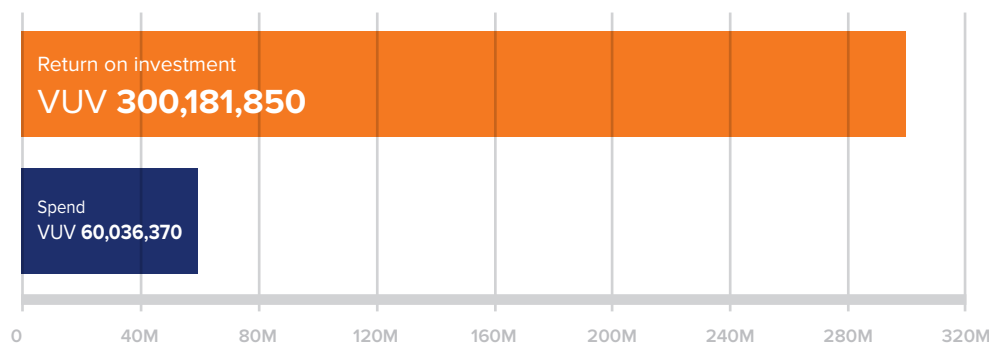
487
sight-saving surgeries performed.

436
diabetic retinopathy screenings conducted.

39
diabetic retinopathy treatments provided.

448
spectacles were dispensed.

Return on investment 2023



Programme funding in NZD was \$810,000 with a return on investment of \$4 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.



⁷ Completed Masters of Medicine in Ophthalmology. First eye doctor trained in 2018.

⁸ First eye nurse trained in 2008.

* These figures are approximate.

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