



DATA REPORT

February 2025

Military Health System Summary Data Report, 2021-22:

For the CDC Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System (VEHSS)

www.cdc.gov/vision-health-data

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Dataset Description

This report described the analysis of the Military Health System (MHS) for the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System (VEHSS The VEHSS analysis of the MHS data was conducted by the Defense Health Agency's (DHA) Vision Center of Excellence (VCE). The VCE provides and coordinates vision and eye care services for military service members and veterans. VCE analyzed data in the U.S. Military Health System (MHS), which is operated by the Department of Defense (DOD). The MHS serves active-duty service members of all branches of the U.S. military, National Guard and Reserve members, military retirees, and their eligible family members. TRICARE, which is the MHS health care program, provides comprehensive medical, dental, and pharmacy coverage to beneficiaries through a network of military treatment facilities and civilian healthcare providers.

The MHS Management Analysis and Reporting Tool (MART) Database is a data management and reporting system used by the MHS to support decision-making, healthcare analysis, and operational reporting. The MART integrates from various sources within the MHS to provide a centralized repository for healthcare data, facilitating access to information that aids in managing healthcare services, resources, and performance across the MHS.

The Vision Center of Excellence (VCE), established by a congressional mandate, is a branch of the Research and Engineering Directorate within the Defense Health Agency (DHA). The VCE is dedicated to advancing eye injury research and care for service members and veterans. Through collaborative efforts across the Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), VCE maximizes the potential for effective prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of visual system injuries. VCE provides access to the Defense and Veterans Eye Injury and Vision Registry (DVEIVR), a critical resource for tracking long-term data on eye injuries. Its structure enables effective use of information management systems, the identification of research capabilities, and the promotion of evidence-based best practices. Focused on improving vision health, enhancing readiness, and ensuring quality of life, VCE works across five key areas: clinical care, research, policy, education, and collaboration with federal and private partners to optimize ophthalmic outcomes for all service members and veterans.

Analysis Overview

The DOD VCE analyzed data in the MART by applying VEHSS case definitions for diagnosed eye disorders. VCE provided summary prevalence values to the VEHSS team for incorporation into the VEHSS Data Explorer and Data Portal.



Data Indicators and Case Definitions

Diagnosis Categories and Subgroup Indicators

Medical Diagnoses were reported based on the VEHSS-defined medical diagnosis categorization structure. As reported in detail in the "VEHSS Medical Diagnosis Categorization" report, we identified all eye and vision related ICD9 and ICD10 diagnosis codes, and organized them into a 2-level categorization structure which has 17 Categories and 79 Subgroups (**Table 4**).

For example, assume a beneficiary has three eye and vision related ICD9 codes in the year of observation:

- 362.3 Retinal vascular occlusion, unspecified
- 362.9 Retinal nerve fiber bundle defects
- 362.11 Hypertensive retinopathy
 - 362.3 and 362.9 are assigned to subgroup 'Retina vascular disease, Occlusive (arterial, venous)'.
 - 362.11 is assigned to a different subgroup; 'Retina vascular disease, Non-Occlusive'. Both of these subgroups are within one category (Other Retinal Disorders).

This beneficiary is counted as one prevalent case for subgroup 'Retina vascular disease, Occlusive (arterial, venous)', and one case for subgroup 'Retina vascular disease, Non-Occlusive'. This beneficiary would count as one case in the category 'Other Retinal Disorders'. Thus, individual patients can appear in multiple subgroups, but cannot be double counted within a specific category or subgroup. Patients may also appear in multiple separate categories.

Table 4. Medical Diagnosis Categories and Subgroups

| Category | Subgroup | | | |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Retinal Detachment and D | efects | | | |
| Diabetic Eye Diseases | Early/mild diabetic retinopathy | | | |
| | Moderate /severe non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy | | | |
| | Proliferative diabetic retinopathy | | | |
| | Diabetic macular edema (dme, csme) | | | |
| | Other/unspecified diabetes related eye conditions | | | |
| Age related macular | AMD, unspecified | | | |
| degeneration (AMD) | Early AMD | | | |
| | Dry-form AMD | | | |
| | GA, modifier for Dry-form | | | |
| | Wet-form AMD | | | |
| | CNV, modifier for Wet-form | | | |



| Other Retinal Disorders Retina vascular disease, occlusive (arterial, venous) Central retinal vein occlusion Branch retinal vein occlusion Central retinal arterial occlusion Branch retinal arterial occlusion Retina vascular disease, non-occlusive Macular edema (if not diabetic) Hereditary chorioretinal dystrophy Myopic degeneration Other/unspecified retinal disorders Glaucoma Open-angle glaucoma Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | Category | Subgroup |
|---|--------------------------|--|
| Branch retinal vein occlusion Central retinal arterial occlusion Branch retinal artery occlusion Retina vascular disease, non-occlusive Macular edema (if not diabetic) Hereditary chorioretinal dystrophy Myopic degeneration Other/unspecified retinal disorders Glaucoma Open-angle glaucoma Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | Other Retinal Disorders | Retina vascular disease, occlusive (arterial, venous) |
| Central retinal arterial occlusion Branch retinal artery occlusion Retina vascular disease, non-occlusive Macular edema (if not diabetic) Hereditary chorioretinal dystrophy Myopic degeneration Other/unspecified retinal disorders Glaucoma Open-angle glaucoma Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Central retinal vein occlusion |
| Branch retinal artery occlusion Retina vascular disease, non-occlusive Macular edema (if not diabetic) Hereditary chorioretinal dystrophy Myopic degeneration Other/unspecified retinal disorders Glaucoma Open-angle glaucoma Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Branch retinal vein occlusion |
| Retina vascular disease, non-occlusive Macular edema (if not diabetic) Hereditary chorioretinal dystrophy Myopic degeneration Other/unspecified retinal disorders Glaucoma Open-angle glaucoma Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Central retinal arterial occlusion |
| Macular edema (if not diabetic) Hereditary chorioretinal dystrophy Myopic degeneration Other/unspecified retinal disorders Glaucoma Open-angle glaucoma Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Branch retinal artery occlusion |
| Hereditary chorioretinal dystrophy Myopic degeneration Other/unspecified retinal disorders Glaucoma Open-angle glaucoma Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Retina vascular disease, non-occlusive |
| Myopic degeneration Other/unspecified retinal disorders Glaucoma Open-angle glaucoma Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Macular edema (if not diabetic) |
| Other/unspecified retinal disorders Glaucoma Open-angle glaucoma Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Hereditary chorioretinal dystrophy |
| Glaucoma Open-angle glaucoma Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Myopic degeneration |
| Primary open-angle glaucoma Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Other/unspecified retinal disorders |
| Low-tension glaucoma Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | Glaucoma | Open-angle glaucoma |
| Glaucoma suspect Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Primary open-angle glaucoma |
| Primary angle-closure glaucoma Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Low-tension glaucoma |
| Narrow-angle glaucoma Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Glaucoma suspect |
| Congenital glaucoma Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Primary angle-closure glaucoma |
| Neovascular glaucoma Other/unspecified glaucoma Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Narrow-angle glaucoma |
| Other/unspecified glaucoma Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Congenital glaucoma |
| Cataracts Senile cataract Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Neovascular glaucoma |
| Non-congenital cataract Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Other/unspecified glaucoma |
| Congenital cataract Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | Cataracts | Senile cataract |
| Posterior capsular opacity Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Non-congenital cataract |
| Pseudophakia Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Congenital cataract |
| Aphakia and other disorders of lens | | Posterior capsular opacity |
| | | Pseudophakia |
| | | Aphakia and other disorders of lens |
| • • | Disorders of Refraction | Myopia |
| and accommodation Hypermetropia | and accommodation | Hypermetropia |
| Astigmatism | | Astigmatism |
| Presbyopia | | Presbyopia |
| Other disorder of refraction and accomodation | | Other disorder of refraction and accomodation |
| Blindness and low vision Unqualified visual loss, both eyes | Blindness and low vision | Unqualified visual loss, both eyes |
| Unqualified vision loss in one eye, or unspecified visual loss | | Unqualified vision loss in one eye, or unspecified visual loss |
| Vision impairment one eye | | Vision impairment one eye |



| Category | Subgroup |
|----------------------------|---|
| | Moderate or severe vision impairment better eye; profound vision impairment of lesser eye |
| | Moderate or severe vision impairment both eyes |
| | Profound vision impairment, bilateral, or legal blindness |
| Strabismus and | Strabismus |
| amblyopia | Amblyopia |
| Injury, burns and surgical | Injury |
| complications of the eye | Burn |
| | Surgical complication |
| Disorders of optic nerve | Optic nerve disorders |
| and visual pathways | Visual pathway disorders |
| Other visual | Visual field defect |
| disturbances | Color blindness |
| | Night blindness |
| | Other/unspecified visual disturbances |
| Infectious and | Infectious diseases |
| Inflammatory diseases | Keratitis |
| | Conjunctivitis |
| | Eyelid infection and inflammation |
| | Other inflammatory conditions |
| | Lacrimal system and orbit inflammation |
| | Endophthalmitis |
| Orbital and external | Congenital anomalies |
| disease | Other/unspecified orbital or external disease |
| | Lacrimal diseases |
| | Eyelid disorders |
| | Dry eye syndrome |
| | Disorders of the globe |
| Cancer and neoplasms | Malignant neoplasm of the eye |
| of the eye | Benign neoplasm of the eye |
| Cornea disorders | Keratoconus |
| | Endothelial dystrophy (inc Fuchs) |
| | Other corneal disorders |
| Other eye disorders | |



Stratification Factors

We report the summary outcomes of each data indicator overall, and by the stratification factors age group, sex, and state. This report includes outcomes estimated for single levels of stratification. To estimate prevalence rates for specific multi-variable stratification categories, please visit the VEHSS data visualization application.

Age Groups

Beneficiary age was categorized into the VEHSS-defined major age groups: 0-17, 18-39, 40-64, 65-84, 85+.

Sex Categories

Beneficiaries were classified as either Male or Female. Only a few beneficiaries had missing Sex data, and all cases were suppressed.

States and Territories

Table 5. VEHSS State and Territory Abbreviations

| and a second and second | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|----|--------------------------|----|---------------------|--|
| AK | Alaska | LA | Louisiana | ок | Oklahoma | |
| AL | Alabama | MA | Massachusetts | OR | Oregon | |
| AR | Arkansas | MD | Maryland | PA | Pennsylvania | |
| AS | American Samoa | ME | Maine | PR | Puerto Rico | |
| AZ | Arizona | МН | Marshall Islands | PW | Palau | |
| CA | California | MI | Michigan | RI | Rhode Island | |
| СО | Colorado | MN | Minnesota | sc | South Carolina | |
| СТ | Connecticut | МО | Missouri | SD | South Dakota | |
| DC | District of Columbia | MP | Northern Mariana Islands | TN | Tennessee | |
| DE | Delaware | MS | Mississippi | TX | Texas | |
| FL | Florida | MT | Montana | UT | Utah | |
| GA | Georgia | NC | North Carolina | VA | Virginia | |
| GU | Guam | ND | North Dakota | VI | U.S. Virgin Islands | |
| НІ | Hawaii | NE | Nebraska | VT | Vermont | |
| IA | Iowa | NH | New Hampshire | WA | Washington | |
| ID | Idaho | NJ | New Jersey | WI | Wisconsin | |
| IL | Illinois | NM | New Mexico | WV | West Virginia | |
| IN | Indiana | NV | Nevada | WY | Wyoming | |
| KS | Kansas | NY | New York | XX | Missing State | |
| KY | Kentucky | ОН | Ohio | US | National | |
| OCONUS | Outside Continental US | | | | | |
| | | | 1 | | · | |

Suppression and Data Release Restrictions

To ensure patient privacy and protections, the VEHSS project implements additional data suppression on all publicly released data. All data incorporated into the VEHSS system is de-identified summary data. VEHSS does not report any patient-level data. To ensure maximum levels of data privacy and security, NORC worked with its internal data governance board, external experts and data providers and the CMS VRDC to design suppression algorithms to balance high level patient protection while maintaining the utility of publicly released data. VEHSS employed the following data suppression algorithm:

- 1. Suppress rates and denominator when denominator < 11
- 2. Suppress rates if numerator < 3
- 3. Report rates to 4 digits, formatting as percentage with two decimal points.
- 4. For public data on the VEHSS Data Visualization Application and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Open Data Platform, counts of less than 100 are rounded to the nearest 10, and counts of 100 or greater are rounded to the nearest 100.

Validation

Internal Validation

Sample Size

| Total Sample Rate: 9,077,752 | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------|-------------|---------|-----------|--------|--|--|
| | | | | | | | |
| By sex | | | | | | | |
| Female | 4323337 | Male | 4754092 | Unknown | 323 | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| By Age Groups | | | | | | | |
| 0-17 years | 1807111 | 40-64 years | 2267474 | 85+ years | 331365 | | |
| 18-39 years | 3116890 | 65-85 years | 1783026 | Unknown | 69 | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| By States | | | | | | | |
| AK | 23709 | LA | 34640 | ОН | 41912 | | |
| AL | 65521 | MA | 17554 | ок | 66639 | | |
| AR | 26059 | MD | 73987 | OR | 17077 | | |
| AS | 18 | ME | 6231 | PA | 43267 | | |
| AZ | 75246 | МІ | 21734 | PR | 4539 | | |
| CA | 178020 | MN | 17481 | RI | 8617 | | |
| CO | 70160 | МО | 95809 | SC | 123812 | | |
| СТ | 14955 | MP | 90 | SD | 9827 | | |
| DC | 7473 | MS | 32797 | TN | 53956 | | |

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| Total Sample Rate: 9,077,752 | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|----|--------|--|--|
| DE | 10240 | MT | 9776 | TX | 323489 | | |
| FL | 216857 | NC | 164716 | UT | 22204 | | |
| GA | 158878 | ND | 10580 | VA | 235664 | | |
| Н | 7325 | NE | 19130 | VI | 181 | | |
| IA | 43089 | NH | 6846 | VT | 2786 | | |
| ID | 12293 | NJ | 39237 | WA | 86059 | | |
| IL | 14887 | NM | 21682 | WI | 17003 | | |
| IN | 37279 | NV | 27493 | wv | 7707 | | |
| KS | 21165 | NY | 47423 | WY | 5952 | | |
| KY | 43257 | OCONUS | 107169 | XX | 2546 | | |

External Validation

We conducted external validation by comparing the results of this analysis to separate analyses of claims data using the same VEHSS case definitions, shown below. USU indicates a recent analysis of military health data system using the VEHSS indicators conducted by the Uniformed Services University. The USU analysis is based on 2018 data and is restricted to members age 64 and younger. MarketScan includes claims from participating commercial medical insurance programs and is limited to ages 64 and younger. Medicare includes 2019 Medicare Fee for Service beneficiaries aged 65 and older.

As would be expected, the results from the current analysis of MHS data shows diagnosed prevalence rates generally between datasets for ages younger and older than age 65, and exceptions to this pattern fit with expected age distributions of eye disorders. For example, the current all-ages analysis of MHS data shows higher prevalence of most eye disorder categories than USU's analysis of MHS data for ages younger than 65. The VCE analysis is particularly higher for age-related eye conditions including AMD and cataract. As would be expected, the VCE finds lower rates of certain categories than were found in the younger USU sample for certain conditions usually associated with younger persons and children, including Strabismus and Amblyopia and Eye Infections and Inflammatory Diseases. Likewise, the VCE MHS results generally fall between the MarketScan (age <65) and Medicare (age >=65) results.

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¹ Slepski NE, Jackson KM, Mitro JP, Banaag A, Madsen C, Wittenborn J, Koehlmoos TP. Prevalence of Eye and Vision Disorders in the Military Health System, Fiscal Year 2018. Mil Med. 2023 Nov 3;188(11-12):e3393-e3397. doi: 10.1093/milmed/usad070. PMID: 36928318.



External Validation

| | VCE MHS 2021 All ages | | USU MHS 2018 Age 0-64 | | MarketScan 2016 Ages 0-64 | Medicare FFS 2019 All ages 65+ |
|--|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Sample 9077 | | Sample 4548 | | Sample Size = 28717700 | Sample Size = 25432700 |
| Retinal detachment and defects | 33473 | 0.37% | 9578 | 0.21% | 0.20% | 1.16% |
| All Diabetic eye diseases | 68480 | 0.75% | 10437 | 0.23% | 0.38% | 3.05% |
| Proliferative diabetic retinopathy | 10034 | 0.11% | | | 0.06% | 0.53% |
| Diabetic macular edema | 19243 | 0.21% | | | 0.12% | 0.91% |
| Other diabetes related eye disorders | 15530 | 0.17% | | | 0.14% | 0.69% |
| Non-proliferative | 49417 | 0.54% | | | | 2.19% |
| Severe non-proliferative | 3311 | 0.04% | | | | 0.15% |
| All Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) | 213375 | 2.35% | 8826 | 0.19% | 0.25% | 10.74% |
| Unspecified age-related macular degeneration | 15874 | 0.17% | | | 0.03% | 0.92% |
| Early-stage age-related macular degeneration | 57618 | 0.63% | | | 0.12% | 2.83% |
| Dry-form age-related macular degeneration | 140114 | 1.54% | | | 0.11% | 7.30% |
| Geographic atrophy | 14787 | 0.16% | | | 0.00% | 0.80% |
| Wet-form age-related macular degeneration | 45094 | 0.50% | | | 0.02% | 2.14% |
| Choroidal neovascularization | 36521 | 0.40% | | | 0.00% | 1.68% |
| Advanced GA or Inactive CNV | 28899 | 0.32% | | | | 1.55% |
| All Other retinal disorders | 272227 | 3.00% | 43455 | 0.96% | 0.96% | 11.16% |
| Occlusive retinal vascular disease | 1090 | 0.01% | | | 0.01% | 0.05% |
| Other/unspecified other retinal disorders | 206856 | 2.28% | | | 0.68% | 8.39% |
| Retinopathy of prematurity | 1554 | 0.02% | | | 0.01% | 0.01% |
| Macular edema (Cystoid or non-diabetic) | 10683 | 0.12% | | | | 0.50% |
| Central retinal vein occlusion | 7868 | 0.09% | | | 0.02% | 0.36% |
| Branch retinal vein occlusion | 13766 | 0.15% | | | 0.03% | 0.60% |
| Central retinal arterial occlusion | 2059 | 0.02% | | | 0.00% | 0.09% |
| Branch retinal artery occlusion | 3434 | 0.04% | | | 0.01% | 0.17% |
| Non-Occlusive retinal vascular disease | 48304 | 0.53% | | | 0.19% | 2.27% |
| Hereditary chorioretinal dystrophy | 10568 | 0.12% | | | 0.05% | 0.38% |
| Myopic degeneration | 6680 | 0.07% | | | 0.07% | 0.22% |
| All Glaucoma | 377269 | 4.16% | 68252 | 1.50% | 1.66% | 14.95% |



| | VCE MHS 2021 All ages | | 20 | MHS 18 0-64 | MarketScan 2016 Ages 0-64 | Medicare FFS 2019 All ages 65+ |
|---|-----------------------------|--------|--------|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Open-angle glaucoma | 147128 | 1.62% | | | 0.38% | 6.61% |
| Secondary glaucoma | 5297 | 0.06% | | | 0.03% | 0.21% |
| Glaucoma suspect | 221024 | 2.43% | | | 1.20% | 7.99% |
| Primary angle-closure glaucoma | 23339 | 0.26% | | | 0.13% | 1.21% |
| Other/unspecified glaucoma | 36022 | 0.40% | | | 0.08% | 1.52% |
| Specified glaucoma | 81539 | 0.90% | | | | |
| All Cataracts | 804730 | 8.86% | 84284 | 1.85% | 2.18% | 37.81% |
| Congenital Cataract | 2855 | 0.03% | | | 0.02% | 0.03% |
| Posterior capsular opacity | 130256 | 1.43% | | | 0.15% | 6.20% |
| Pseudophakia | 283732 | 3.13% | | | 0.25% | 13.65% |
| Aphakia and disorders of lens | 4542 | 0.05% | | | 0.02% | 0.27% |
| Age-related cataract | 495523 | 5.46% | | | NA | 23.72% |
| Other or unspecified cataract | 53610 | 0.59% | | | NA | 2.07% |
| All Refraction and accommodation disorders | 1053789 | 11.61% | 695729 | 15.29% | 2.93% | 12.18% |
| Myopia | 528637 | 5.82% | | | 1.45% | 2.94% |
| Hypermetropia | 270247 | 2.98% | | | 0.64% | 3.62% |
| Astigmatism | 589680 | 6.50% | | | 1.06% | 5.18% |
| Presbyopia | 267325 | 2.94% | | | 0.85% | 7.94% |
| Other refraction and accommodation disorders | 48776 | 0.54% | | | 0.21% | 0.82% |
| All Blindness and low vision | 29013 | 0.32% | 10744 | 0.24% | 0.14% | 0.77% |
| Unqualified impairment, both eyes | 2000 | 0.02% | | | 0.01% | 0.06% |
| Blindness, both eyes, including legal blindness | 3444 | 0.04% | | | NA | 0.15% |
| Unqualified impairment in one eye, or unspecified | 20981 | 0.23% | | | 0.09% | 0.42% |
| Low vision or blindness, one eye | 2861 | 0.03% | | | NA | 0.13% |
| Blindness one eye, low vision other eye | 656 | 0.01% | | | NA | 0.04% |
| Low vision, both eyes | 756 | 0.01% | | | NA | 0.03% |
| All Strabismus and amblyopia | 91967 | 1.01% | 60087 | 1.32% | 0.65% | 1.36% |
| Strabismus | 64688 | 0.71% | | | 0.50% | 0.98% |
| Amblyopia | 36876 | 0.41% | | | 0.23% | 0.44% |
| All Injury, burns and surgical complications of the eye | 88047 | 0.97% | 36884 | 0.81% | 0.69% | 1.80% |
| Ocular injury | 77628 | 0.86% | | | 0.66% | 1.40% |



| | VCE N 202 All ag | 21 | USU 20 Age | | MarketScan 2016 Ages 0-64 | Medicare FFS 2019 All ages 65+ |
|--|------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ocular burns | 1152 | 0.01% | | | 0.01% | 0.01% |
| Surgical complication of the eye | 10505 | 0.12% | | | 0.03% | 0.44% |
| All Disorders of optic nerve and visual pathways | 48366 | 0.53% | 27 | 0.00% | 0.26% | 1.48% |
| Optic nerve disorders | 48168 | 0.53% | | | 0.26% | 1.48% |
| Disorders of the visual pathway and visual cortex | 220 | 0.00% | | | NA | 0.01% |
| All Other visual disturbances | 162935 | 1.79% | 60788 | 1.34% | 0.97% | 3.94% |
| Visual field defect | 22998 | 0.25% | | | 0.12% | 0.86% |
| Color blindness | 3294 | 0.04% | | | 0.01% | 0.03% |
| Night blindness | 4059 | 0.04% | | | 0.01% | 0.09% |
| Other/unspecified visual disturbances | 139172 | 1.53% | | | 0.86% | 3.16% |
| All Infectious and inflammatory diseases | 512854 | 5.65% | 260577 | 5.73% | 5.22% | 12.41% |
| Infectious diseases | 20234 | 0.22% | | | 0.24% | 0.49% |
| Keratitis | 112384 | 1.24% | | | 0.56% | 3.59% |
| Conjunctivitis | 278990 | 3.07% | | | 3.57% | 5.64% |
| Eyelid infection and inflammation | 134599 | 1.48% | | | 1.10% | 4.24% |
| Other/unspecified infectious and inflammatory diseases | 22306 | 0.25% | | | 0.19% | 0.56% |
| Lacrimal and orbit inflammation | 5082 | 0.06% | | | 0.06% | 0.10% |
| Endophthalmitis | 2604 | 0.03% | | | 0.02% | 0.07% |
| All Orbital and external disease | 478093 | 5.27% | 115185 | 2.53% | 1.82% | 15.53% |
| Congenital anomalies | 18921 | 0.21% | | | 0.13% | 0.13% |
| Other/unspecified orbital and external disease | 5944 | 0.07% | | | 0.04% | 0.14% |
| Lacrimal diseases | 20800 | 0.23% | | | 0.14% | 0.58% |
| Eyelid disorders | 155029 | 1.71% | | | 0.44% | 5.67% |
| Dry eye syndrome | 333078 | 3.67% | | | 1.18% | 11.21% |
| Disorders of the globe | 1836 | 0.02% | | | 0.01% | 0.07% |
| All Cancer and neoplasms of the eye diseases | 64219 | 0.71% | 14058 | 0.31% | 0.23% | 2.39% |
| Malignant neoplasm | 6379 | 0.07% | | | 0.01% | 0.25% |
| Benign neoplasm | 58618 | 0.65% | | | 0.22% | 2.17% |
| All Cornea disorders | 95866 | 1.06% | 30542 | 0.67% | 0.45% | 3.51% |
| Keratoconus | 7365 | 0.08% | | | 0.07% | 0.10% |
| Endothelial dystrophy (Fuchs) | 20812 | 0.23% | | | 0.07% | 1.12% |



| | VCE I 202 All a | 21 | 20 | MHS 18 0-64 | MarketScan 2016 Ages 0-64 | Medicare FFS 2019 All ages 65+ |
|---|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Other corneal disorders | 68504 | 0.75% | | | 0.34% | 2.47% |
| Cornea disorder related to contact lens | 3274 | 0.04% | | | NA | 0.03% |
| Corneal transplant | 1003 | 0.01% | | | NA | NA |
| Other eye disorders | 375078 | 4.13% | 69001 | 1.52% | 1.57% | 14.67% |



Potential Limitations

This analysis is subject to a number of potential limitations:

- This data is based on claims and encounter data which may suffer from bias or limited detail.
- Enrollees and their beneficiaries could be insured by multiple insurers, such as Medicare or commercial medical or vision insurance. Services covered by other payers would not be represented in the MHS data.
- The sample includes active-duty service members and their beneficiaries. This sample is not representative of the general population, nor service members alone.
- These prevalence results do not include undiagnosed or untreated eye conditions.

Summary Statistics



Table 7. Prevalence of Treated Medical Diagnoses by Category and Subgroup, 2020-2021

| | Prevalence Estimates (2020) Sample Size = 8715576 | Prevalence Estimates (2021) Sample Size = 9077752 |
|--|---|--|
| Retinal detachment and defects | 0.35% | 0.37% |
| All Diabetic eye diseases | 0.75% | 0.75% |
| Proliferative diabetic retinopathy | 0.11% | 0.11% |
| Diabetic macular edema | 0.21% | 0.21% |
| Other diabetes related eye disorders | 0.17% | 0.17% |
| Non-proliferative | 0.53% | 0.54% |
| Severe non-proliferative | 0.04% | 0.04% |
| All Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) | 2.28% | 2.35% |
| Unspecified age-related macular degeneration | 0.18% | 0.17% |
| Early-stage age-related macular degeneration | 0.58% | 0.63% |
| Dry-form age-related macular degeneration | 1.50% | 1.54% |
| Geographic atrophy | 0.16% | 0.16% |
| Wet-form age-related macular degeneration | 0.51% | 0.50% |
| Choroidal neovascularization | 0.41% | 0.40% |
| Advanced GA or Inactive CNV | 0.32% | 0.32% |
| All Other retinal disorders | 2.81% | 3.00% |
| Occlusive retinal vascular disease | 0.01% | 0.01% |
| Other/unspecified other retinal disorders | 2.13% | 2.28% |
| Retinopathy of prematurity | 0.02% | 0.02% |
| Macular edema (Cystoid or non-diabetic) | 0.12% | 0.12% |
| Central retinal vein occlusion | 0.09% | 0.09% |

| | Prevalence Estimates (2020) Sample Size = 8715576 | Prevalence Estimates (2021) Sample Size = 9077752 |
|--|---|--|
| Branch retinal vein occlusion | 0.15% | 0.15% |
| Central retinal arterial occlusion | 0.02% | 0.02% |
| Branch retinal artery occlusion | 0.04% | 0.04% |
| Non-Occlusive retinal vascular disease | 0.50% | 0.53% |
| Hereditary chorioretinal dystrophy | 0.10% | 0.12% |
| Myopic degeneration | 0.07% | 0.07% |
| All Glaucoma | 4.05% | 4.16% |
| Open-angle glaucoma | 1.62% | 1.62% |
| Secondary glaucoma | 0.06% | 0.06% |
| Glaucoma suspect | 2.30% | 2.43% |
| Primary angle-closure glaucoma | 0.25% | 0.26% |
| Other/unspecified glaucoma | 0.40% | 0.40% |
| Specified glaucoma | 0.91% | 0.90% |
| All Cataracts | 8.40% | 8.86% |
| Congenital Cataract | 0.03% | 0.03% |
| Posterior capsular opacity | 1.34% | 1.43% |
| Pseudophakia | 2.98% | 3.13% |
| Aphakia and disorders of lens | 0.05% | 0.05% |
| Age-related cataract | 5.17% | 5.46% |
| Other or unspecified cataract | 0.52% | 0.59% |
| All Refraction and accommodation disorders | 10.53% | 11.61% |
| Муоріа | 5.32% | 5.82% |

| | Prevalence Estimates (2020) Sample Size = 8715576 | Prevalence Estimates (2021) Sample Size = 9077752 |
|---|---|--|
| Hypermetropia | 2.76% | 2.98% |
| Astigmatism | 5.92% | 6.50% |
| Presbyopia | 2.60% | 2.94% |
| Other refraction and accommodation disorders | 0.49% | 0.54% |
| All Blindness and low vision | 0.30% | 0.32% |
| Unqualified impairment, both eyes | 0.02% | 0.02% |
| Blindness, both eyes, including legal blindness | 0.04% | 0.04% |
| Unqualified impairment in one eye, or unspecified | 0.21% | 0.23% |
| Low vision or blindness, one eye | 0.03% | 0.03% |
| Blindness one eye, low vision other eye | 0.01% | 0.01% |
| Low vision, both eyes | 0.01% | 0.01% |
| All Strabismus and amblyopia | 0.95% | 1.01% |
| Strabismus | 0.68% | 0.71% |
| Amblyopia | 0.38% | 0.41% |
| All Injury, burns and surgical complications of the eye | 0.95% | 0.97% |
| Ocular injury | 0.84% | 0.86% |
| Ocular burns | 0.01% | 0.01% |
| Surgical complication of the eye | 0.11% | 0.12% |
| All Disorders of optic nerve and visual pathways | 0.49% | 0.53% |
| Optic nerve disorders | 0.49% | 0.53% |
| Disorders of the visual pathway and visual cortex | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| All Other visual disturbances | 1.68% | 1.79% |

| | Prevalence Estimates (2020) Sample Size = 8715576 | Prevalence Estimates (2021) Sample Size = 9077752 |
|--|---|--|
| Visual field defect | 0.25% | 0.25% |
| Color blindness | 0.04% | 0.04% |
| Night blindness | 0.04% | 0.04% |
| Other/unspecified visual disturbances | 1.43% | 1.53% |
| All Infectious and inflammatory diseases | 5.65% | 5.65% |
| Infectious diseases | 0.26% | 0.22% |
| Keratitis | 1.14% | 1.24% |
| Conjunctivitis | 3.15% | 3.07% |
| Eyelid infection and inflammation | 1.46% | 1.48% |
| Other/unspecified infectious and inflammatory diseases | 0.24% | 0.25% |
| Lacrimal and orbit inflammation | 0.06% | 0.06% |
| Endophthalmitis | 0.03% | 0.03% |
| All Orbital and external disease | 4.84% | 5.27% |
| Congenital anomalies | 0.19% | 0.21% |
| Other/unspecified orbital and external disease | 0.06% | 0.07% |
| Lacrimal diseases | 0.22% | 0.23% |
| Eyelid disorders | 1.53% | 1.71% |
| Dry eye syndrome | 3.35% | 3.67% |
| Disorders of the globe | 0.02% | 0.02% |
| All Cancer and neoplasms of the eye diseases | 0.65% | 0.71% |
| Malignant neoplasm | 0.07% | 0.07% |
| Benign neoplasm | 0.59% | 0.65% |

| | Prevalence Estimates (2020) Sample Size = 8715576 | Prevalence Estimates (2021) Sample Size = 9077752 |
|---|---|--|
| All Cornea disorders | 1.02% | 1.06% |
| Keratoconus | 0.08% | 0.08% |
| Endothelial dystrophy (Fuchs) | 0.23% | 0.23% |
| Other corneal disorders | 0.72% | 0.75% |
| Cornea disorder related to contact lens | 0.04% | 0.04% |
| Corneal transplant | 0.00% | 0.01% |
| Other eye disorders | 3.86% | 4.13% |

Table 8. Medical Diagnosis Categories by Age Group, 2021

| | ne eutogeniee zy / | <u> </u> | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | All Ages (%) | 0-17 Years (%) | 18-39 Years (%) | 40-64 Years (%) | 65-84 Years (%) | Above 85 (%) |
| | Sample Size = 9077752 | Sample Size = 1807111 | Sample Size = 3116890 | Sample Size = 2267474 | Sample Size = 1783026 | Sample Size = 331365 |
| Retinal detachment and defects | 0.37 | 0.02 | 0.13 | 0.40 | 1.01 | 0.64 |
| All Diabetic eye diseases | 0.75 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.65 | 2.58 | 2.09 |
| All Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) | 2.35 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.57 | 7.70 | 19.13 |
| All Other retinal disorders | 3.00 | 0.27 | 0.52 | 1.96 | 9.62 | 10.90 |
| All Glaucoma | 4.16 | 0.19 | 0.68 | 3.27 | 12.88 | 15.40 |
| All Cataracts | 8.86 | 0.09 | 0.15 | 5.42 | 33.05 | 26.74 |
| All Refraction and accommodation disorders | 11.61 | 9.00 | 14.48 | 9.61 | 10.91 | 8.37 |
| All Blindness and low vision | 0.32 | 0.33 | 0.13 | 0.24 | 0.51 | 1.30 |
| All Strabismus and amblyopia | 1.01 | 2.33 | 0.56 | 0.42 | 1.07 | 1.19 |
| All Injury, burns and surgical complications of the eye | 0.97 | 0.83 | 0.70 | 0.75 | 1.51 | 2.15 |
| All Disorders of optic nerve and visual pathways | 0.53 | 0.19 | 0.30 | 0.46 | 1.16 | 1.33 |
| All Other visual disturbances | 1.79 | 1.04 | 1.16 | 1.69 | 3.21 | 3.85 |
| All Infectious and inflammatory diseases | 5.65 | 4.63 | 3.10 | 5.02 | 10.33 | 10.74 |
| All Orbital and external disease | 5.27 | 1.45 | 1.43 | 4.24 | 14.55 | 15.99 |
| All Cancer and neoplasms of the eye diseases | 0.71 | 0.09 | 0.19 | 0.59 | 2.05 | 2.10 |
| All Cornea disorders | 1.06 | 0.08 | 0.52 | 0.87 | 2.70 | 3.28 |
| Other eye disorders | 4.13 | 0.84 | 0.82 | 2.82 | 12.92 | 12.33 |



Table 9. Medical Diagnosis Categories by Sex, 2021

| | Both Sexes (%) | Female (%) | Male (%) |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | Sample Size = 9077752 | Sample Size = 4323337 | Sample Size = 4754092 |
| Retinal detachment and defects | 0.37 | 0.36 | 0.37 |
| All Diabetic eye diseases | 0.75 | 0.86 | 0.66 |
| All Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) | 2.35 | 3.05 | 1.71 |
| All Other retinal disorders | 3.00 | 3.52 | 2.53 |
| All Glaucoma | 4.16 | 4.91 | 3.47 |
| All Cataracts | 8.86 | 10.89 | 7.02 |
| All Refraction and accommodation disorders | 11.61 | 11.80 | 11.44 |
| All Blindness and low vision | 0.32 | 0.37 | 0.28 |
| All Strabismus and amblyopia | 1.01 | 1.06 | 0.97 |
| All Injury, burns and surgical complications of the eye | 0.97 | 0.92 | 1.01 |
| All Disorders of optic nerve and visual pathways | 0.53 | 0.61 | 0.46 |
| All Other visual disturbances | 1.79 | 2.10 | 1.52 |
| All Infectious and inflammatory diseases | 5.65 | 6.88 | 4.53 |
| All Orbital and external disease | 5.27 | 7.04 | 3.65 |
| All Cancer and neoplasms of the eye diseases | 0.71 | 0.81 | 0.62 |
| All Cornea disorders | 1.06 | 1.21 | 0.92 |
| Other eye disorders | 4.13 | 5.11 | 3.24 |