

Supplementary table: Studies and data sets comprising the convenience sample.

Study and location	Year of publication	Age (Sub-group)	Sample size	Refractive threshold (D)	Prevalence (%)
Baltimore (USA) <sup>1</sup>	1997	40-49 (Black)	613	-0.5	30.7
				-3	3.3
				-6	1.0
		50-59 (Black)	666	-0.5	20.9
				-3	3.9
				-6	0.9
		40-49 (White)	531	-0.5	40.9
				-3	11.1
				-6	2.5
		50-59 (White)	598	-0.5	24.9
-3	4.9				
-6	1.7				
Blue Mountains (Australia) <sup>2</sup>	1999	≥ 49	3350	-0.5	14.4
				-4	3.0
Victoria (Australia) <sup>3</sup>	1999	≥ 30	4532	-0.5	16.8
				-2.5	6.4
				-5	2.1
				-7.5	0.8
				-10	0.3
				-12.5	0.1
Tanjong Pagar (Singapore) <sup>4</sup>	2000	40-49 (Male)	124	-0.5	45.2
				-5	11.3
		50-59 (Male)	115	-0.5	25.2
				-5	4.3
		40-49 (Female)	151	-0.5	51.7
				-5	15.9
		50-59 (Female)	188	-0.5	27.1
				-5	4.8
Sumatra <sup>5</sup>	2002	≥ 21	358	-1	22.4
				-6	1.7
Shihpai (Taiwan) <sup>6</sup>	2003	≥ 65	1361	-1	13.6
				-6	2.3
Beijing <sup>7</sup>	2005	≥ 40	4319	-0.5	22.9
				-1	16.9
				-5	3.3
				-6	2.6
				-8	1.5
Los Angeles Latino <sup>8</sup>	2006	≥ 40	5927	-1	16.8
				-6	2.4
Sawada <sup>9</sup>	2008	40-49 Male		-0.5	70.3
				-5	17.7
		50-59 Male		-0.5	49.6
				-5	8.7
		40-49 Female		-0.5	67.8
				-5	15.0
		50-59 Female		-0.5	42.4
				-5	7.1
Singapore-Malay <sup>10</sup>	2008	≥ 40	2974	-0.5	26.2
				-0.75	21.8
				-1	20.0
				-5	3.9
Segovia (Spain) <sup>11</sup>	2009	≥ 40	417	-0.5	25.4
				-6	1.9
Liwan (China) <sup>12</sup>	2009	≥ 50	1269	-0.5	32.3
				-5	5.0

Central India <sup>13</sup>	2010	≥ 30	4619	-0.5	17.0
				-1	13.0
				-6	0.9
				-8	0.4
Multi-ethnic (USA) <sup>14</sup>	2013	≥ 45 (White)	1667	-0.5	31.0
				-5	5.4
		≥ 45 (Chinese)	487	-0.5	37.2
				-5	11.8
		≥ 45 (Black)	1230	-0.5	21.5
		-5	3.1		
SEED (Singapore) <sup>15</sup>	2013	40-49	2437	-0.5	47.4
				-1	37.7
				-5	11.5
		50-59	3013	-0.5	35.9
				-1	28.8
		-5	6.7		
Namil (South Korea) <sup>16</sup>	2013	40-49 (Male)	96	-0.5	29.2
				-6	1.0
		40-49 (Female)	102	-0.5	42.2
				-6	2.9
		50-59 (Male)	145	-0.5	17.9
		-6	0.7		
Suzhou (China) <sup>17</sup>	2017	≥ 60	4795	-0.5	21.1
				-5	2.5
Chinese American (USA) <sup>18</sup>	2017	≥ 50	4414	-0.5	35.1
				-5	7.4
Kumejima (Japan) <sup>19</sup>	2018	≥ 40	2383	-0.5	29.5
				-6	1.9
Hisayama (Japan) <sup>20</sup>	2019	≥ 40 (2005)	1892	-0.5	37.7
				-5	5.8
				-8	1.5
		≥ 40 (2012)	2874	-0.5	40.6
				-5	8.0
Inner Mongolia (China) <sup>21</sup>	2019	≥ 40	2090	-8	2.5
				-0.5	45.8
				-5	9.5
				-8	3.0
Yunnan (China) <sup>22</sup>	2019	≥ 40 (Han)	302	-0.5	27.8
				-6	3.0
		≥ 40 (Yi ethnicity)	77	-0.5	14.2
				-6	1.1

## References

1. Katz J, Tielsch JM, Sommer A. Prevalence and risk factors for refractive errors in an adult inner city population. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 1997;38:334-340.
2. Attebo K, Ivers RQ, Mitchell P. Refractive errors in an older population - The blue mountains eye study. *Ophthalmol.* 1999;106:1066-1072.
3. Wensor M, McCarty CA, Taylor HR. Prevalence and risk factors of myopia in Victoria, Australia. *Arch Ophthalmol.* 1999;117:658-663.
4. Wong TY, Foster PJ, Hee J, et al. Prevalence and risk factors for refractive errors in adult Chinese in Singapore. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2000;41:2486-2494.
5. Saw SM, Gazzard G, Koh D, et al. Prevalence rates of refractive errors in Sumatra, Indonesia. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2002;43:3174-80.
6. Cheng CY, Hsu WM, Liu JH, Tsai SY, Chou P. Refractive errors in an elderly Chinese population in Taiwan: the Shihpai Eye Study. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2003;44:4630-8.
7. Xu L, Li J, Cui T, et al. Refractive error in urban and rural adult Chinese in Beijing. *Ophthalmology.* 2005;112:1676-83.
8. Tarczy-Hornoch K, Ying-Lai M, Varma R, Los Angeles Latino Eye Study G. Myopic refractive error in adult Latinos: the Los Angeles Latino Eye Study. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2006;47:1845-52.
9. Sawada A, Tomidokoro A, Araie M, Iwase A, Yamamoto T, Tajimi Study G. Refractive errors in an elderly Japanese population - The Tajimi study. *Ophthalmol.* 2008;115:363-370.
10. Saw SM, Chan YH, Wong WL, et al. Prevalence and risk factors for refractive errors in the Singapore Malay Eye Survey. *Ophthalmology.* 2008;115:1713-9.
11. Anton A, Andrada MT, Mayo A, Portela J, Merayo J. Epidemiology of refractive errors in an adult European population: the Segovia study. *Ophthalmic Epidemiol.* 2009;16:231-7.
12. He M, Huang W, Li Y, Zheng Y, Yin Q, Foster PJ. Refractive error and biometry in older Chinese adults: the Liwan eye study. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2009;50:5130-6.
13. Nangia V, Jonas JB, Sinha A, Matin A, Kulkarni M. Refractive error in central India: the Central India Eye and Medical Study. *Ophthalmology.* 2010;117:693-9.
14. Pan CW, Klein BE, Cotch MF, et al. Racial variations in the prevalence of refractive errors in the United States: the multi-ethnic study of atherosclerosis. *Am J Ophthalmol.* 2013;155:1129-1138 e1.
15. Pan CW, Zheng YF, Anuar AR, et al. Prevalence of refractive errors in a multiethnic Asian population: the Singapore epidemiology of eye disease study. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2013;54:2590-8.
16. Yoo YC, Kim JM, Park KH, Kim CY, Kim TW, Namil Study Group KGS. Refractive errors in a rural Korean adult population: the Namil Study. *Eye (Lond).* 2013;27:1368-75.
17. Xu C, Pan C, Zhao C, et al. Prevalence and risk factors for myopia in older adult east Chinese population. *BMC Ophthalmol.* 2017;17:191.
18. Varma R, Torres M, McKean-Cowdin R, et al. Prevalence and Risk Factors for Refractive Error in Adult Chinese Americans: The Chinese American Eye Study. *Am J Ophthalmol.* 2017;175:201-212.
19. Nakamura Y, Nakamura Y, Higa A, et al. Refractive errors in an elderly rural Japanese population: The Kumejima study. *PLoS One.* 2018;13:e0207180.
20. Ueda E, Yasuda M, Fujiwara K, et al. Trends in the Prevalence of Myopia and Myopic Maculopathy in a Japanese Population: The Hisayama Study. *Invest Ophthalmol Vis Sci.* 2019;60:2781-2786.
21. Wang M, Ma J, Pan L, et al. Prevalence of and risk factors for refractive error: a cross-sectional study in Han and Mongolian adults aged 40–80 years in Inner Mongolia, China. *Eye.* 2019;
22. Wang M, Cui J, Shan G, et al. Prevalence and risk factors of refractive error: a cross-sectional Study in Han and Yi adults in Yunnan, China. *BMC Ophthalmol.* 2019;19:33.