

# Eye Facts And Figures

## Making Clear Vision A Reality

(NAPSA)—Here's something to reflect on: not being able to see clearly because you don't have access to vision care might seem like something that only impacts people in lesser developed countries—but that's not the case. One in seven people around the world need glasses, but lack access to an eye exam and a simple pair of glasses.

The issue spans across every country and continent. In the U.S. alone, one in four students has an undiagnosed vision problem significant enough to impact their academic performance. However, despite these overwhelming numbers, a new survey conducted by independent research firm Wakefield Research for OneSight, revealed that 65 percent of Americans are unaware that these problems exist in their own country. And though they may be unaware of just how many people are unable to get an eye exam and glasses in the U.S., Americans can imagine the practical and emotional implications of not being able to see clearly.

When asked what issues they may face if they could not see clearly, 60 percent of Americans feel they'd lose their independence. Forty one percent said they would be less productive at work or school, 43 percent say they would have a harder time earning a living and 23 percent feel they would lose social connections with family members and friends.

The consequences of not being able to see clearly can not only affect someone's overall well-being, but also compromises their financial stability. Research shows that clear vision enables a provider to earn up to 20 percent more each year and empowers students to be twice as effective in school. Without access to clear vision, a child's future or a parent's ability to maintain a living and provide for their family is unclear.

Consider this: Americans who cannot see clearly face these issues and emotions every day.

### What You Can Do

One organization making an impact is OneSight, a nonprofit leading the global movement to solve the vision care crisis. In honor of World Sight Day and throughout October, OneSight is helping the world see a better future with the launch of their



**When you help the world see better you help the world live better.**

digital movement, #UNBLUR. The campaign aims to raise advocacy and funds to help provide eye exams and glasses to people in need in the U.S. and around the world.

OneSight is uniting people across the world to show firsthand what lack of access to vision care looks like and how a pair of glasses can have a life-changing impact on someone's future. Anyone can join the global #UNBLUR movement and help the world see by making a ten dollar donation at [www.onesight.org/donate](http://www.onesight.org/donate), which can help provide a pair of glasses to a person in need. OneSight is also encouraging people to watch the #UNBLUR video at [www.onesight.org/wsd2016](http://www.onesight.org/wsd2016) and share it on social media to show how clear sight can empower people to reach their full potential.

“Access to vision care and a new pair of glasses could empower a student to reach their full potential, a parent to better connect with their children or a provider to get a better job and increase their earning potential,” says Mony Iyer, OneSight's executive director. “There is no greater feeling than seeing how a simple pair of eyeglasses can alter the course of someone's life; this is why we won't stop until the world can see.”

OneSight makes access to clear vision a reality through immediate and long-term solutions for underserved communities worldwide. Since 1988, OneSight Vision Clinics have served 9 million people in 46 countries and 49 states. With the help of dedicated partners, there are 23 permanent vision centers operating today, providing ongoing access to vision care to nearly 5 million people. That number will grow to over 20 million people by 2020.