With at least $5 million appropriated to vision and eye health at the CDC in FY2021, the CDC can conduct long overdue and needed national surveillance on rates of diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, and vision loss.

Data can also be collected to determine rates of vision and eye examinations and measurements of visual acuity, screening tests, and visual functioning assessment to better determine where gaps in access and patient education exist.

With this data, state and local public health departments and community leaders can respond to the needs of their populations with collaborative interventions and targeted strategies to improve vision and eye health at the state, local, or systems level.

**Fiscal Year 2021: The Time is Now**

While updated national prevalence estimates of our vision and eye health burden are needed, what we do know is that: **at least 12 MILLION** Americans aged 40 and older (working age adults) have impaired vision.

**1 MILLION**
Americans are **BLIND**.

**3 MILLION**
Americans have **uncorrectable vision impairment**.

**8 MILLION** live with **uncorrected refractive error**.

These are the most common, yet most preventable, reasons why people lose their sight:

- Normal Vision
- Diabetic Eye Disease
- Glaucoma
- Uncorrected Refractive Error
- Age-Related Macular Degeneration

**With $5 million in renewed investments to the CDC’s Vision and Eye Health program, we can begin to reverse these trends.**