

**Legal blindness is** a level of vision loss that has been specifically defined to determine eligibility for benefits. In the United States, this refers to a medically diagnosed central visual acuity of 20/200 or less in the better eye with the best possible correction, and/or a visual field of 20 degrees or less.



**7,297,100** people in the United States reported to have a visual disability in 2015.

**2,985,900** are 65 and older.



### Most Prevalent Causes of Blindness

- Diabetic Retinopathy
- Cataracts
- Glaucoma
- Macular Degeneration



### Worldwide Statistics

- 20 million are blind because they cannot access affordable surgery.
- 82 million are visually impaired from cataracts.
- 90% of people who are blind and visually impaired live in the developing world.
- 2/3 of people who are blind are women.
- 80% of global blindness is preventable.
- By 2050, the number of people who are blind across the world is expected to triple.

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<https://www.cdc.gov/healthcommunication/toolstemplates/entertainment/tips/blindness.html>,  
<https://www.helpmeseesee.org/Why-Cataracts>, [www.disabilitystatistics.org](http://www.disabilitystatistics.org), [www.who.int/pbd/en](http://www.who.int/pbd/en),  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/health-40806253>

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