

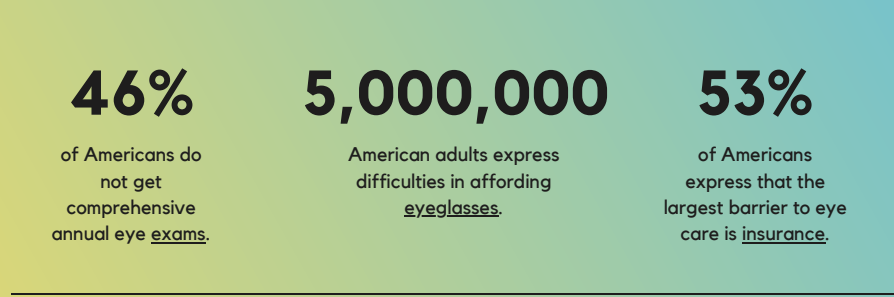
UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic 2021 Needs Assessment

An analysis of current need to bridge the gap in access to proper eye care.



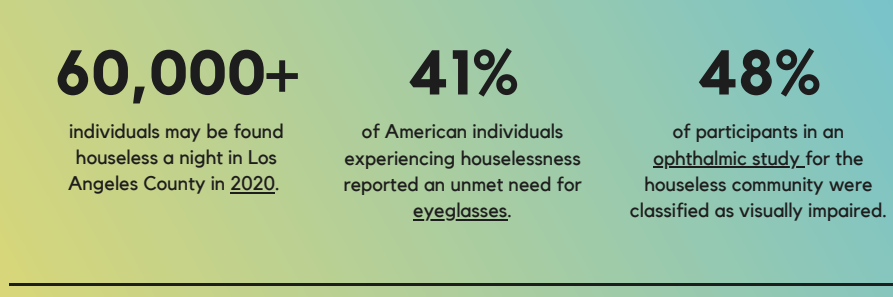
Underserved and Undertreated Adults

32.2 million adult Americans report visual acuity problems, and low-income, marginalized populations are at greater risk for undiagnosed and uncorrected eye disorders than the general population. However, Medi-Cal only covers eye exams and glasses every 24 months, which does not include immediate need.



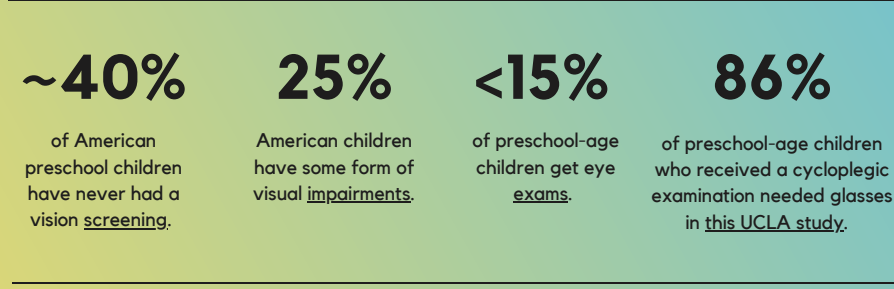
People Experiencing Houselessness

Individuals experiencing houselessness are disproportionately affected by refractive errors, glaucoma, and diabetic retinopathy. Because diseases such as glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy can greatly impair one's quality of life, there is immediate need for strategies to ensure follow-up care for these individuals.



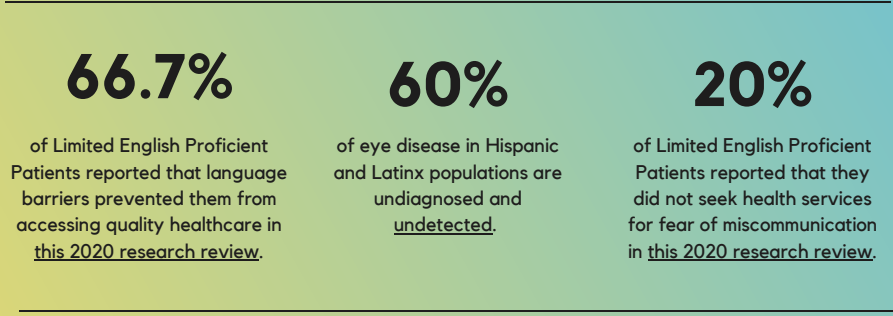
Youth in School-Based Programs

Studies show a correlation between school performance and vision problems: children who receive glasses generally perform better in school. Pediatric vision screening is crucial for the early detection of vision-threatening ocular conditions, providing an opportunity to prevent significant visual disability. Because of this, it is imperative to increase access to children's vision care services.



Non-English Speaking Individuals

Language barriers lead to ineffective communication, mistrust in healthcare, and lower quality healthcare interactions. Further, Los Angeles County has the largest Spanish-speaking population in the United States, highlighting the importance of bridging the language barrier to provide adequate eye care to individuals in need.



Prescription Shortages

Vision care and access to eyeglasses are overlooked issues on lists of public health priorities.

Many Americans experience difficulties accessing eye care, but are still met with needs to replace glasses, eyedrops, etc.

There is immediate need to replace lost prescriptions and mend irritated vision from fires and/or poor air quality, a prominent issue in the Los Angeles area.

COVID-19's Effect on Access to Eye Care

Job loss due to the pandemic has left many Americans subsequently without health insurance coverage. Widespread layoffs cut millions of Americans off from employer-sponsored health insurance, threatening their access to necessary health services, such as eye care.

