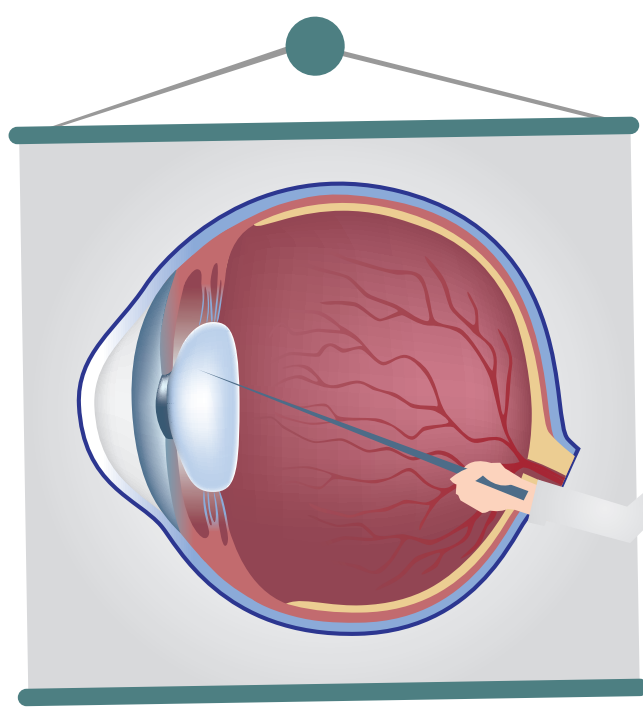


# JUST THE FACTS ABOUT CATARACTS

## IT'S NATURAL

AS WE AGE, THE LENSES IN OUR EYES BECOME CLOUDY, OBSCURING OUR VISION. THAT'S WHAT THE FOLKS IN THE LAB COATS CALL CATARACTS – AND IT'S A COMMON PHENOMENON.



Cataracts affect more than **20.5 million** Americans over 40<sup>1</sup>



50% of Americans **have cataracts** or have had them removed by age 80<sup>2</sup>

## SO HOW CAN YOU TELL IF **YOU** HAVE CATARACTS?

It's a gradual process, so you may not notice any symptoms until the cataract is severe enough to distort light as it enters your eye.<sup>3</sup> Here are some signs that you might have cataracts:

- Cloudy, blurry or dim vision<sup>3</sup>
- Increasing difficulty with night vision<sup>3</sup>
- Sensitivity to light and glare<sup>3</sup>
- Seeing rings around lights<sup>3</sup>
- Frequent changes in eyeglass or contact lens prescription<sup>3</sup>
- Fading or yellowing of colors<sup>3</sup>
- Double vision in a single eye<sup>3</sup>

## SURGERY REMOVES CATARACTS

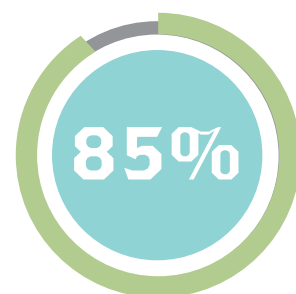
Cataracts aren't preventable. But here's the good news:

# 3 MILLION

CATARACT SURGERIES ARE PERFORMED IN THE U.S. EACH YEAR<sup>4</sup>

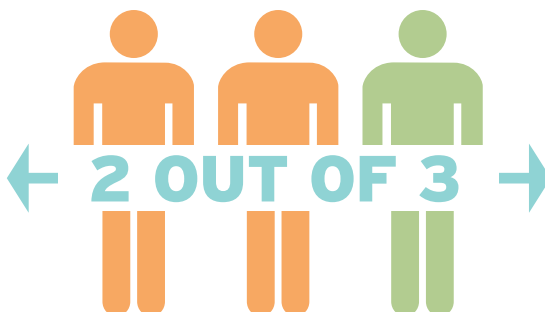
THAT MAKES IT ONE OF THE MOST COMMON SURGERIES<sup>4</sup>

## ACCORDING TO A TELEPHONE SURVEY OF 1,000 RANDOMLY SELECTED AARP MEMBERS<sup>5</sup>:



85% OF PATIENTS SAY CATARACT REMOVAL SURGERY ADDRESSED ALL OR MOST OF THE PROBLEMS THEY EXPERIENCED BEFOREHAND

said they were less dependent on glasses for distance vision after surgery



were pleasantly surprised by the improvement they experienced with their vision



## 2 IN 3

said they can read better (with or without glasses) after surgery



## 82%

said cataract surgery made it easier to drive



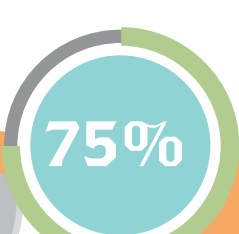
## 93%

said they can see distant road signs better

## DON'T LIVE LIFE IN THE DARK



90% of people over 50 say independence is **"EXTREMELY IMPORTANT"**



75% of people over 50 say they want to overcome their cataracts in order to **BETTER ENJOY DAILY ACTIVITIES**



# 90%

of people over 50 drive, and most say they'd miss being behind the wheel more than anything else as their eyesight diminished

## 54%

of those surveyed drive every day

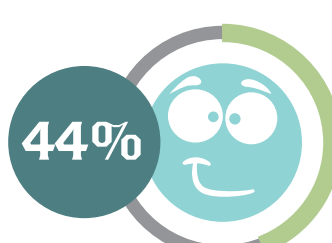
## 82%

of those surveyed drive at night

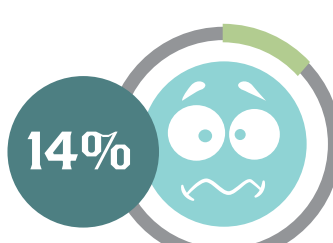
## HOWEVER, ONLY 2 IN 5



PEOPLE WITH CATARACTS PLAN TO HAVE SURGERY IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS



44% of cataract patients put off surgery because their vision is **"fine for now"**



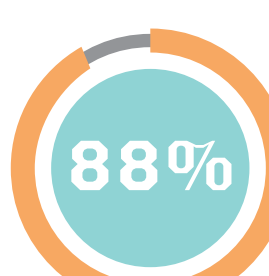
14% of cataract patients say they are **"fearful," "scared" or "afraid"** of surgery

## BUT THE TRUTH IS:



people who underwent cataract surgery said the experience was easier than they expected

## 2 OUT OF 3 SAID SURGERY WAS NOT PAINFUL



88% said they'd definitely recommend cataract surgery to their friends and family



95% of cataract surgery patients in the U.S. experienced improvements in their vision<sup>6</sup>

## REFERENCES

1. [http://www.cdc.gov/visionhealth/basic\\_information/eye\\_disorders.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/visionhealth/basic_information/eye_disorders.htm)
2. [http://www.nei.nih.gov/health/cataract/cataract\\_facts.asp](http://www.nei.nih.gov/health/cataract/cataract_facts.asp)
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6. [http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/wilmer/conditions/cataracts\\_faqs.html](http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/wilmer/conditions/cataracts_faqs.html)