

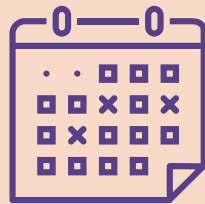
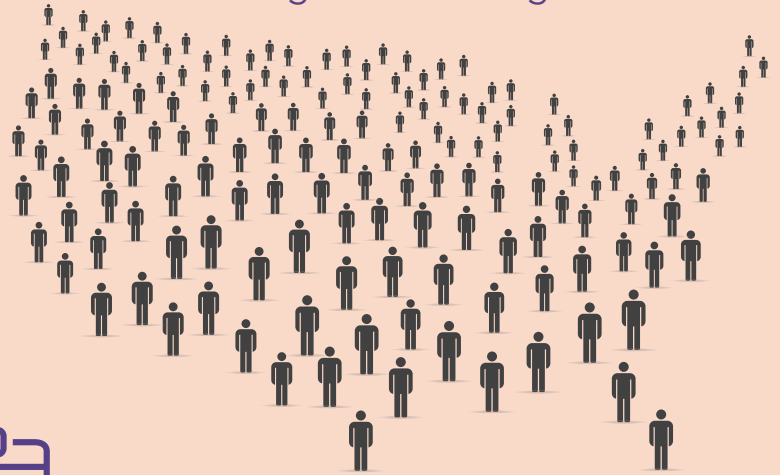


# Hearing Loss Facts and Statistics



Hearing loss has been shown to **negatively impact nearly every dimension of the human experience**, including physical health, emotional and mental health, perceptions of mental acuity, social skills, family relationships, and self-esteem, as well as work and school performance.

Approximately **48 million Americans** have some degree of hearing loss.



People with hearing loss **wait an average of 7 years** before seeking help.



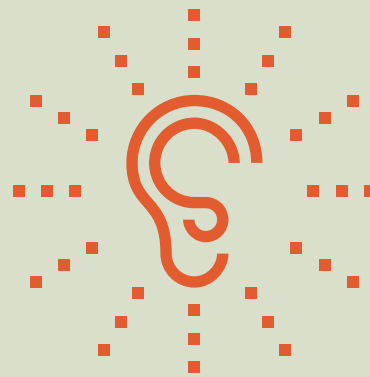
An estimated **50 million Americans** experience **tinnitus** (ringing in the ears); **90 percent** of those also have hearing loss.



Only **1 in 5 people** who would benefit from a hearing aid actually uses one.

# General

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) **prevents an employer from firing any person with "impairments that substantially limit a major life activity."** This includes hearing loss.



**22 million Americans**—or about **22 percent**—are exposed to hazardous noise levels in the workplace.

# Employment



The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) **ensures that students with hearing loss receive proper education** and accommodations if necessary.

About **2 to 3 out of every 1,000 children** in the United States are born with a detectable level of hearing loss in one or both ears.



An estimated **1 in 5 American teens** experiences some degree of hearing loss.



**12.5 percent of kids between the ages of 6 and 19** have hearing loss as a result of listening to loud music, particularly through earbuds at unsafe volumes.



Even a mild hearing loss can cause a child to **miss as much as 50 percent of classroom discussion.**

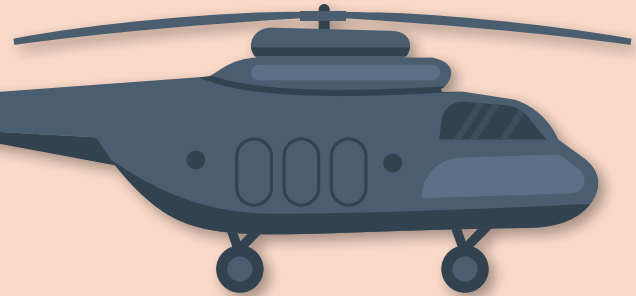
# Children/Teens



Those with unaided hearing loss **earned on average \$20,000 less annually** than those who used hearing aids or cochlear implants.



Hearing issues are the most common service-connected **disability among American veterans.**



**2.7 million veterans** receive either disability compensation for service-connected hearing disabilities or are in treatment for related hearing issues.



Half of all blast-induced injuries sustained result in **permanent hearing loss for veterans.**

# Veterans

## About the Hearing Loss Association of America

The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) is the nation's leading organization representing the 48 million Americans with hearing loss. HLAA publishes the bimonthly magazine, *Hearing Life*, holds annual conventions, produces the Walk4Hearing, offers training courses and online learning, holds monthly webinars and advocates for the rights of people with hearing loss. The national support network includes the Washington, D.C. area office and more than 150 state organizations and local chapters across the country.

Visit [hearingloss.org](http://hearingloss.org) for sources.

**Hearing Loss Association of America**

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