

## Some Quick Statistics About The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community

- There is a strong relationship between age and reported hearing loss: 18 percent of American adults 45-64 years old, 30 percent of adults 65-74 years old, and 47 percent of adults 75 years old or older have hearing loss
- Men are more likely to experience hearing loss than women.
- Approximately 17 percent (36 million) of American adults report some degree of hearing loss.
- About 2 to 3 out of every 1,000 children in the United States are born deaf or hard-of-hearing.
- Nine out of every 10 children who are born deaf are born to parents who can hear.
- The NIDCD estimates that approximately 15 percent (26 million) of Americans between the ages of 20 and 69 have high frequency hearing loss due to exposure to loud sounds or noise at work or in leisure activities.
- Only 1 out of 5 people who could benefit from a hearing aid actually wears one.
- Three out of 4 children experience ear infection (otitis media) by the time they are 3 years old.
- More than 112,000 people worldwide have received cochlear implants. In the United States, roughly 23,000 adults and 15,500 children have received them.
- Approximately 4,000 new cases of sudden deafness occur each year in the United States. Hearing loss affects only 1 ear in 9 out of 10 people who experience sudden deafness. Only 10 to 15 percent of patients with sudden deafness know what caused their loss.

All information found on this page is from the National Institute of Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), <http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/index.asp>