

What Is an Audiologist?



Audiology is a highly recognized profession and has been ranked by U.S. News and World Report as one of the Best Health Care Jobs.

- **Au-di-ol-o-gists:** Audiologists are the primary health-care professionals who evaluate, diagnose, treat, and manage hearing loss and balance disorders in adults and children.
- **Audiologists**
 - ~ Evaluate and diagnose hearing loss and vestibular (balance) disorders.
 - ~ Prescribe, fit, and dispense hearing aids and other amplification and hearing assistance technologies.
 - ~ Are members of cochlear implant teams.
 - ~ Perform ear- or hearing-related surgical monitoring.
 - ~ Design and implement hearing conservation programs.
 - ~ Design and implement newborn hearing screening programs.
 - ~ Provide hearing rehabilitation training such as auditory training and listening skills improvement.
 - ~ Assess and treat individuals, especially children, with central auditory processing disorders.
 - ~ Assess and treat individuals with tinnitus. (noise in the ear, such as ringing)
 - ~ Audiologists treat all ages and types of hearing loss: the elderly, adults, teens, children, and infants.
 - ~ Almost all types of hearing loss are treatable by an audiologist.
 - ~ Most hearing loss that is caused by nerve damage can be treated by an audiologist with hearing aids, assistive listening devices, and hearing rehabilitation.
 - ~ Audiologists work in a variety of settings, such as hospitals, clinics, private practice, ENT offices, universities, K-12 schools, government, military, and Veterans' Administration (VA) hospitals.
 - ~ Most audiologists earn a doctor of audiology (AuD) degree. Some audiologists earn a doctor of philosophy (PhD) or doctor of science (ScD) degree in the hearing and balance sciences.
 - ~ Audiologists must be licensed or registered for practice in all states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

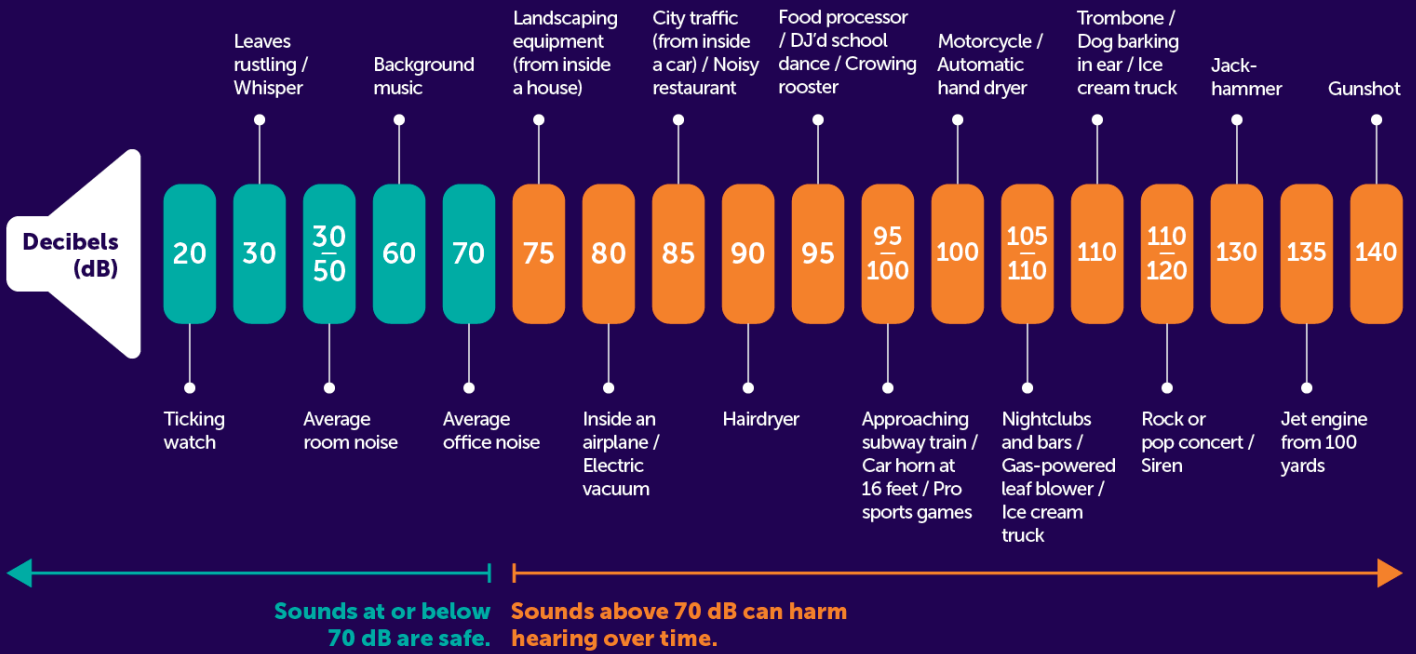
Sources:
https://audiology-web.s3.amazonaws.com/migrated/Fact%20Sheets%20-%20What%20Is%20an%20AuD.pdf_53984ec127bb84.60507072.pdf <https://money.usnews.com/careers/best-jobs/audiologist>
<https://hearinghealthmatters.org/hearingnewswatch/2018/audiology-jobs-pay-low-stress/>



For more information on audiology and hearing loss, visit www.rhsc.org.



NOISE LEVELS



Source: <https://hearinghealthfoundation.org/decibel-levels>

How Loud Is Too Loud?

The louder the sound, the quicker it can damage your hearing. Sound is measured in decibels. Sounds at or above 85 dBA* can cause hearing loss.

*dBA = A-weighted decibels

Duration	Sound Level (dBA)	Example
2 minutes	140-160	Fireworks show
	110-129	Ambulance sirens
14 minutes	94-110	Headphones, sporting events and concerts
8 hours	80-100	Lawnmower
	74-104	Movie theater
At or below 70 dBA	60-70	Normal conversation
	30	Whisper

Why Protect Your Hearing?

- Noise-induced hearing loss:
 - Can build over time.
 - Is permanent.
 - Is preventable.

How to Protect Your Hearing:

- Lower the volume.
- Move away from the noise.
- Wear hearing protectors, such as earplugs or earmuffs.

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PROTECT THEIR HEARING

A program of the National Institutes of Health

<https://www.noisyplanet.nidcd.nih.gov>

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National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders

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Source: CDC National Center for Environmental Health

Source: <https://www.noisyplanet.nidcd.nih.gov/publications/how-loud-is-too-loud-poster>



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