

Children & Teens Hearing Loss Facts

Children in the United States:

- There are **48 million Americans** who have a significant hearing loss. *(2011 National Health Interview Survey)*
- Approximately **2 to 3 out of every 1,000 children** in the United States are born deaf or hard of hearing. **9 out of every 10 children** who are born deaf are born to parents who can hear. *(National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders)*
- **98 percent** of U.S.-born infants are now screened for hearing loss usually before leaving the hospital. *(2016 CDC Hearing Screening and Follow-up Survey)*
- Since 2005, over **58 thousand** deaf and hard of hearing infants in the U.S. have been identified early. *(Center for Disease Control Prevention, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities.)*

In the United States...

- More than **22 million Americans** are exposed to damaging levels of noise. *(2016 National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety)*
- Hearing Loss ranks as the **third most common** health issue in the United States behind heart disease and arthritis. *(National Institutes of Health)*
- An estimated 1 in 5 American teens experience some type of hearing loss. *(Hearing Loss Association of America)*
- **12.5% of children** between the ages of 6 and 19 have hearing loss as a result of listening to loud music, particularly through earbuds at unsafe volumes. *(Hearing Loss Association of America)*

In Kentucky:

- Nearly **700,000** deaf and hard of hearing residents. *(2011 American Community Survey Data, United States Census)*
- Kentucky ranks **third per capita** nationally in people identified as deaf or hard of hearing. *(2010 American Community Survey Data, United States Census)*

Is YOUR Child at Risk for Hearing Loss?

If you checked off one or more boxes below, your child may be at risk!

	Spent 5 days or more in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) or had complications while in NICU.
	Needed special procedure (blood transfusion) to treat jaundice (hyperbilirubinemia)
	Was exposed to infection before birth.
	Has head, face, or ears shaped or formed in a different way than usual.
	Has a condition (neurological disorder) that is associated with hearing loss.
	Had an infection around the brain and spinal cord called Meningitis.
	Received a bad injury to the head that required a hospital stay.
	Was given certain medications, like cancer chemotherapy or other medications that might hurt healing.
	Your family has a history of children with hearing loss.
	You are worried about your child's hearing for any reason.

KCDHH—How We Can Help!

Do you have trouble hearing on the phone?

KCDHH provides specialized equipment such as TDDs, amplified, captioned and wireless phones and devices to eligible deaf and hard of hearing Kentuckians at no charge.

Looking for Information, Referrals, or Assistance?

KCDHH:

- Maintains a library of books, periodicals, DVDs, videotapes, and CDs on deaf and hard of hearing issues that are available and loaned to the public.
- Produces resources and provides information, education, and outreach through web and social media, publications, presentations, and trainings and makes referrals to assist concerns.
- Provides assistance and advocacy or makes appropriate referrals to agencies that can offer the best assistance for you and your needs.