

SOUND	NOISE LEVEL (dBA)	EFFECT
Jet Engines (Near)	140	
Shotgun Firing	130	
Jet Takeoff (100-200 Ft.)	130	
Rock Concert (Varies)	110-140	Threshold of pain (125 dB)
Oxygen Torch	121	
Discotheque/Boom Box	120	Threshold of sensation (120 dB)
Thunderclap (Near)	120	
Stereo (Over 100 Watts)	110-125	
Symphony Orchestra	110	Regular exposure of more than 1 minute risks permanent hearing loss (over 100 dB)
Power Saw (Chain Saw)	110	
Jackhammer	110	
Snowmobile	105	
Jet Fly-over (1000 Ft.)	103	
Electric Furnace Area	100	No more than 15 minutes of unprotected exposure recommended (90-100 dB)
Garbage Truck/Cement Mixer	100	
Farm Tractor	98	
Newspaper Press	97	
Subway, Motorcycle (25 Ft)	88	Very annoying
Lawnmower, Food Blender	85-90	Level at which hearing damage (8 hrs.) begins (85dB)
Recreational Vehicles, TV	70-90	
Diesel Truck (40 Mph, 50 Ft.)	84	
Average City Traffic Noise	80	Annoying; interferes with conversation; constant exposure may cause damage
Garbage Disposal	80	
Washing Machine	78	
Dishwasher	75	
Vacuum Cleaner	70	Intrusive; interferes with telephone conversation
Hair Dryer	70	
Normal Conversation	50-65	
Quiet Office	50-60	Comfortable (under 60 dB)
Refrigerator Humming	40	
Whisper	30	Very quiet
Broadcasting Studio	30	
Rustling Leaves	20	Just audible
Normal Breathing	10	
	0	Threshold of normal hearing (1000-4000 Hz)

