

Hearing Loss is a Significant Health Issue

Research shows it is the 4th largest chronic disability in Canada and its consequences are far reaching. It affects physical and emotional health, employment, financial stability, social and cultural participation. People are losing their hearing at a faster rate compared to past generations due to industrial and recreational noise.



Hearing Loss is the 4th Most Prevalent Disability in Canada after Mobility, Pain, and Agility.

Source: Statistics Canada, Participation and Activity Limitation Survey, 2001.
<http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/89-577-XIE/tables/table7.htm>

40% of Persons Aged 65+ Report a Significant Hearing Loss

Source: Statistics Canada (December 2002), A Profile of Disability in Canada, 2001—Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey), catalogue no. 89-579-XIE, Government of Canada.
<http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/en/hip/odi/documents/PALS/PALS012.shtml>

Today's Youth are at Risk of Significant Hearing Loss –

At 85dB, you can listen to music for eight hours with no damage. But for every 3dB increase, cut that time in half. Four hours for 88dB, 2 hours for 91 dB (subway, lawnmower), half hour 97dB (motorcycle), 3fi minutes at 100dB (school dance), and for a concert which can be 110 dB and above... less than a minute!

Source Ontario Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists, (2005) <http://www.chha.ca/chha/projects-yisforyouth.php>

Assistive Devices are Expensive

In 2003, the Average Cost of:

- A Hearing Aid was \$1,575.00
- An Assistive Listening Device was \$1,485.00
- A Text Telephone Device was \$810.00
- An Alerting Device was \$180.00

Source: Statistics Canada, (December 2003) Price Survey of Assistive Devices and Supports for Persons with Disabilities
<http://www.sdc.gc.ca/en/cs/sp/sdc/pkrf/publications/research/2003-002351/page00.shtml>

57% of Consumers Are Not Informed of Communication Strategies, Coping Skills and Support Services after Diagnosis and their Selection of a Hearing Aid.

Source: Canadian Hard of Hearing Association, (2005) Canadian Hard of Hearing Consumer Survey, <http://www.chha.ca/chha/projects-surveys.php>