

# HEARING LOSS: GET THE FACTS

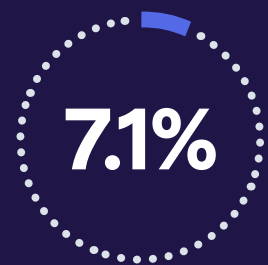
Hearing is the sense that allows us to communicate with each other and plays a significant role in functioning throughout all stages in life. It is a major contributor to the global burden of disability, however it can often be prevented and have a reduced impact with early intervention.



Globally, **1.5 billion** people suffer from **hearing loss**. This equates to **20%** of the global population.



By 2050, it is estimated that **1 in every 4 people** will suffer from hearing loss.



**71%** of the population, or 136.5 million people **suffer from hearing loss** in the western pacific region. In **South East Asia**, hearing loss affects **5.5%** of the population or 109.4 million people.

## DID YOU KNOW?



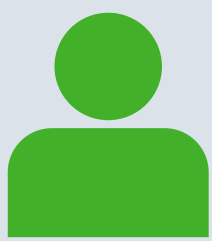
Approximately **8%** of **dementia** cases may be the result of unaddressed hearing loss.



Approximately over **42%** of people suffering from hearing loss are **60 years or older**. The prevalence of hearing loss increases with age globally, reaching 64.9% of those aged above 90 years.



**>90%** of **deaf children** are actually born to hearing parents.



- ABILITY TO LISTEN
- DEVELOP LANGUAGE
- SPEECH SKILLS
- COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT
- EDUCATION
- EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

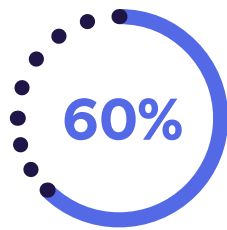
There are many aspects of a person's life that hearing loss may impact including the **ability to listen and develop language** and **speech skills, cognitive development, education** and subsequent **employment opportunities**. It can also result in social isolation, loneliness and adversely impact a person's mental health.



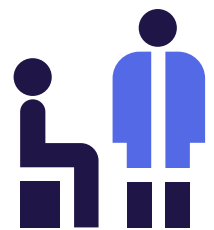
The onset and progression of hearing loss can be prevented through early identification and treatment of otitis media.



Nearly **60%** of hearing loss in children is preventable.



The availability of ENT specialists in some parts of Asia Pacific is less than 10 per million population. The availability of Audiologists is significantly less with none or 1 per million population.



Tasks traditionally performed by specialists in the field of ear and hearing care can be undertaken by non-specialists. **Hillrom provides tools to enable early diagnosis and treatment and expand diagnostic capabilities in Primary Care.**

Hearing loss is invisible and therefore can remain undetected. Effective management is reliant on early identification of hearing loss and ear disease. Hearing loss can be identified at any age with appropriate technology and equipment.