

Data Brief 414. Hearing Difficulties Among Adults: United States, 2019

Data table for Figure 1. Percentage of adults aged 18 and over with difficulty hearing even when using a hearing aid, by age group: United States, 2019

Level of difficulty hearing and age group	Percent (95% confidence interval)	Standard error
No difficulty		
Total	85.4 (84.8–85.9)	0.3
18–44	93.1 (92.5–93.7)	0.3
45–64	85.0 (84.0–85.9)	0.5
65 and over	69.2 (67.9–70.4)	0.6
Some difficulty		
Total	13.0 (12.5–13.5)	0.3
18–44	6.3 (5.7–6.9)	0.3
45–64	13.6 (12.7–14.5)	0.4
65 and over	26.8 (25.7–27.9)	0.6
A lot of difficulty hearing or cannot hear		
Total	1.6 (1.5–1.8)	0.1
18–44	0.6 (0.5–0.8)	0.1
45–64	1.5 (1.2–1.8)	0.1
65 and over	4.1 (3.6–4.6)	0.3

NOTES: Confidence intervals were calculated using the Korn-Graubard method for complex surveys. Hearing limitation is based on responses to the survey question, "Do you have difficulty hearing, even when using a hearing aid? Would you say no difficulty, some difficulty, a lot of difficulty, or you cannot do this at all?" Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey, 2019.

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Data table for Figure 2. Percentage of adults aged 45 and over with difficulty hearing even when using a hearing aid, by sex and age group: United States, 2019

Sex and age group	Percent (95% confidence interval)	Standard error
Some difficulty hearing		
Total:		
Men	21.9 (20.8–23.1)	0.6
Women	15.8 (15.0–16.8)	0.5
45–64:		
Men	16.7 (15.4–18.0)	0.7
Women	10.6 (9.7–11.7)	0.5
65 and over:		
Men	30.9 (29.1–32.7)	0.9
Women	23.5 (22.1–24.9)	0.7
A lot of difficulty hearing or cannot hear		
Total:		
Men	3.0 (2.6–3.4)	0.2
Women	2.0 (1.7–2.4)	0.2
45–64:		
Men	1.8 (1.4–2.3)	0.2
Women	1.1 (0.8–1.5)	0.2
65 and over:		
Men	5.0 (4.2–5.8)	0.4
Women	3.3 (2.6–4.1)	0.4

NOTES: Confidence intervals were calculated using the Korn-Graubard method for complex surveys. Hearing limitation is based on responses to the survey question, "Do you have difficulty hearing, even when using a hearing aid? Would you say no difficulty, some difficulty, a lot of difficulty, or you cannot do this at all?" Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey, 2019.

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Data table for Figure 3. Percentage of adults aged 45 and over with difficulty hearing even when using a hearing aid, by age group and race and Hispanic origin: United States, 2019

Age group and Hispanic origin	Percent (95% confidence interval)	Standard error
Some difficulty hearing		
45–64:		
Non-Hispanic white	16.4 (15.3–17.5)	0.6
Non-Hispanic black	7.7(6.0–9.7)	0.9
Hispanic	8.6 (6.8–10.6)	0.9
Non-Hispanic Asian	5.7 (3.6–8.5)	1.2
65 and over:		
Non-Hispanic white	29.4 (28.1–30.7)	0.7
Non-Hispanic black	19.0 (16.0–22.4)	1.6
Hispanic	16.6 (13.4–20.3)	1.7
Non-Hispanic Asian	16.2 (10.9–22.8)	2.9
A lot of difficulty hearing or cannot hear		
45–64:		
Non-Hispanic white	1.8 (1.5–2.3)	0.2
Non-Hispanic black	0.7 (0.3–1.3)	0.2
Hispanic	0.8 (0.4–1.5)	0.2
Non-Hispanic Asian	0.5 (0.1–1.6)	0.2
65 and over:		
Non-Hispanic white	4.0 (3.5–4.6)	0.3
Non-Hispanic black	1.9 (0.9–3.5)	0.6
Hispanic	6.3 (3.7–10.0)	1.5
Non-Hispanic Asian	3.6 (1.6–8.00)	1.5

NOTES: Confidence intervals were calculated using the Korn-Graubard method for complex surveys. Hearing limitation is based on responses to the survey question, “Do you have difficulty hearing, even when using a hearing aid? Would you say no difficulty, some difficulty, a lot of difficulty, or you cannot do this at all?” Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey, 2019.

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Data table for Figure 4. Percentage of adults aged 45 and over who used a hearing aid, by sex and age group: United States, 2019

Sex and age group	Percent (95% confidence interval)	Standard error
Sex		
Total	7.1 (6.7–7.5)	0.2
Men	8.9 (8.2–9.6)	0.3
Women	5.4 (5.0–5.9)	0.2
45–64		
Total	2.3 (2.0–2.7)	0.2
Men	2.8 (2.3–3.4)	0.3
Women	1.9 (1.5–2.4)	0.2
65 and over		
Total	14.4 (13.6–15.2)	0.4
Men	19.2 (17.8–20.6)	0.7
Women	10.6 (9.7–11.5)	0.5

NOTES: Confidence intervals were calculated using the Korn-Graubard method for complex surveys. Hearing aid use is based on responses to the survey question, "Do you use a hearing aid?" Estimates are based on household interviews of a sample of the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized population.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Health Interview Survey, 2019.