

Instructions

How Does Your Hearing Loss Score Compare to Adults with Hearing loss?

In adding up your responses to the 15 items you are now able to compare your scores to adults who have a hearing loss. The National Council on the Aging (NCOA) collected this information based on the responses from a representative sample of 2,304 people with hearing loss, ages 50 and above, using the National Family Opinion Panel in 1999.

First, locate your total score in column 1; Column 2 tells you how your hearing loss compares to adults with hearing loss; Column 3 tells how your significant other views the hearing loss; Column 4 tells you what hearing solution action is needed.

1 What is your hearing loss score?	2 How does your hearing loss compare to others?	3 How does your significant other describe your hearing loss?	4 Hearing Solution Action Needed
0-4	Lower 5%	Very Mild	None
5-9	Lower 10%	▼	▼
10-13	Lower 15%	Majority mild with some moderate	Hearing test may be necessary to monitor your hearing.
14-17	Lower 20%		
18-19	Lower 25%	▼	▼
20-21	Lower 30%	Majority moderate with about a third mild	Hearing test recommended; hearing solution based on lifestyle
22-23	Lower 35%		▼
24-25	Lower 40%	▼	Hearing test recommended; hearing solution probably needed in many situations.
26-27	Lower 45%	Majority moderate with some mild	
28-29	Middle 50%		
30-31	Upper 45%	▼	▼
32-33	Upper 40%	Majority moderate to severe	Extensive communication difficulty requiring testing and hearing solution.
34-35	Upper 35%		
36-37	Upper 30%		
38-39	Upper 25%		
40-42	Upper 20%	▼	
43-45	Upper 15%	Majority severe to profound	
46-50	Upper 10%		
51-55	Upper 5%		
56-60	Upper 1%	▼	▼

*Source: Koike, J.; Hurst, M.K.; and Wetmore, S. J. Correlation between the American Academy of Otolaryngology- Head and Neck Surgery five-minute hearing test and standard audiological data, *Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery*, Volume 111 (5), pp. 625-632.