https://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/statistics/quick-statistics-hearing

- Age is the strongest predictor of hearing loss among adults aged 20-69, with the greatest amount of hearing loss in the 60 to 69 age group.
- About 2 percent of adults aged 45 to 54 have disabling hearing loss. The rate increases to 8.5 percent for adults aged 55 to 64. Nearly 25 percent of those aged 65 to 74 and 50 percent of those who are 75 and older have disabling hearing loss.
- Among adults aged 70 and older with hearing loss who could benefit from hearing aids, fewer than one in three (30 percent) has ever used them. Even fewer adults aged 20 to 69 (approximately 16 percent) who could benefit from wearing hearing aids have ever used them.

https://www.gallaudet.edu/office-of-international-affairs/demographics/deaf-employment-reports/

- Across all age groups, in the United States, approximately 1,000,000 people (0.38% of the population, or 3.8 per 1,000) over 5 years of age are "functionally deaf;" more than half are over 65 years of age." From the Survey of Income and Program participation (SIPP), http://www.census.gov/sipp/
- Across all age groups, approximately 600,000 people in the United States (0.22% of the population, or 2.2 per 1,000) are "deaf;" more than half are over 65 years of age. About 6,000,000 people (2.2%) report having "a lot of trouble" hearing with, again, more than half over 65 years of age. Over 28,000,000 people (10%) report having "a little trouble" hearing with just less than a third over 65 years of age, but more than half over 45 years of age. Altogether, more than 35,000,000 people (13%) report some degree of hearing trouble. Again, we emphasize that these estimates are based upon self-reported (or informant-reported) hearing trouble and not on independent audiometric measurements.

https://www.healthyhearing.com/report/52814-Hearing-loss-statistics-at-a-glance

- One of the most common ways people damage their hearing is through excessive noise exposure, leading to noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL). The CDC reports these numbers on NIHL:
- About 40 million US adults aged 20-69 years have noise-induced hearing loss.
- More than 1 in 2 US adults with hearing damage from noise do not have noisy jobs, meaning the exposure is likely recreational.
- About 1 in 4 US adults who report excellent to good hearing already have hearing damage.

https://www.healthyhearing.com/report/53317-Autoimmune-diseases-hearing-loss-tinnitus-ra-lupus

Skin conditions may also affect hearing. Vitiligo, which creates patches of skin without pigment, has been linked to a higher risk of sensorineural hearing loss. Psoriasis, which causes patches of scaly itchy skin, increases the risk of sudden sensorineural hearing loss by 50 percent. Sudden hearing loss in one or both ears is considered a medical emergency. The faster you seek treatment, the more likely you will save your hearing.

https://www.hearingloss.org/hearing-help/hearing-loss-basics/

- Presbycusis, or age-related hearing loss, causes changes in the inner ear as you get older resulting in a slow but steady hearing loss. In older people, a hearing loss is often confused with, or complicates, conditions such as dementia.
- Noise-induced hearing loss may happen suddenly or gradually. Being exposed to everyday noises such as listening to loud music, being in a noisy work environment, or using a lawn mower can lead to hearing loss over many years.
- Sudden, noise-induced hearing loss from gunfire and explosions is the number one disability caused by combat in current wars.

https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/hearing-loss-common-problem-older-adults

Presbycusis, or age-related hearing loss, comes on gradually as a person gets older. It seems to run in families and may occur because of changes in the inner ear and auditory nerve. Presbycusis may make it hard for a person to tolerate loud sounds or to hear what others are saying.

Age-related hearing loss usually occurs in both ears, affecting them equally. The loss is gradual, so someone with presbycusis may not realize that he or she has lost some of his or her ability to hear.

https://hearingreview.com/inside-hearing/research/right-product-wrong-message[1]

The majority of people with significant hearing loss and/or who have difficulty understanding speech in quiet or noise appear to avoid hearing aid amplification. The traditionally accepted—and often quoted—time lapse between a person noticing a reduction in hearing (and/or listening ability) and subsequently acquiring a professional consultation and/or acquiring hearing aids is seven long and frustrating years.

[1] Great article – worth reading in its entirety