

## ADVOCACY FACTS

### ***Did you know...***

"Research shows that by the time a child with hearing loss graduates from high school, more than \$400,000 per child can be saved in special education costs if the child is identified early and given appropriate educational, medical, and audiological services."

Source: White, K. R., & Maxon, A. B. (1995). *Universal screening for infant hearing impairment: Simple, beneficial, and presently justified. International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology, 32, 201-211*

"Based on incidence data, it is estimated that there will be slightly over 15,000 new cases each year: Societal losses will amount to \$4.6 billion over the lifetime. If early identification and intervention shifted 10% of the children into mainstreamed settings, the return on investments would be more than double!"

Source: Mohr, P.E, Feldman, J.J., Dunbar, J.L., McConkey-Robbins, A., Niparko, J.K., Rittenhouse, R.K., & Skinner, M.W. (2000). *The societal costs of severe to profound hearing loss in the United States. International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care, 16(4), 1120-1135.*

### ***Did you know...***

"Research has even compared children with hearing loss who receive early intervention and amplification before 6 months of age versus after 6 months of age. By the time they enter first grade, children identified earlier are 1-2 years ahead of their later- identified peers in language, cognitive, and social skills."

Source: Yoshinaga-Itano, C., Sedey, A., Apuzzo, M., Carey, A., Day, D., & Coulter, D. (July 1996). *The effect of early identification on the development of deaf and hard-of-hearing infants and toddlers. Paper presented at the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing Meeting, Austin, TX. Moeller, M. P. (October 1996). Early intervention of hearing loss in children. Paper presented at Fourth International Symposium on Childhood Deafness, Kiawah Island, South Carolina*

"Left undetected, mild or unilateral hearing loss can result in delayed speech and language acquisition, social-emotional or behavioral problems, and lags in academic achievement."

Sources: Yoshinaga-Itano C., Sedey A.L., Coulter B.A., & Mehl A.L. (1998). *Language of early and later-identified children with hearing loss. Pediatrics, 102(5), 1168-1171.*

Bess, F. (1985). *The minimally hearing-impaired child. Ear & Hearing, 6(1), 43-47.*

Bess, F., Dodd-Murphy, J., Parker, R. Oylar R., Oylar A., & Matkin N. (1988).

*Unilateral hearing loss: Demographics and educational impact. Language, Speech and Hearing Services in Schools, 19(2), 201-209.*

***Did you know...***

Approximately 3 in 1,000 babies are born with permanent hearing loss, making hearing loss one of the most common birth defects in America.

*Source: Ross, D., Holstrum, W.J., Gaffney, M., Green, D., Oyler, R., and Gravel, J. (2008).*

*Hearing screening and diagnostic evaluation of children with unilateral and mild bilateral hearing loss. Trends in Amplification, 12(1), 27.*

96% of children with permanent hearing loss are born to one hearing parent and one parent with hearing loss.

*Source: Mitchell, R.E. & Karchmer, M.A. (2004). Chasing the mythical ten percent: Parental hearing status of deaf and hard of hearing students in the United States. Sign Language Studies, 4(2), 138-163.*

According to a survey published in the Alexander Graham Bell Association For The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Voices Magazine, March/April 2002 issue, 43 percent of parents reported they were unable to secure any financial assistance for providing amplification for their children. Only 16 percent of the parents were able to secure some level of hearing aid coverage through private health insurance. Sixteen (16) states have passed groundbreaking laws to start to address this problem; Tennessee has not passed such legislation.

**[Download these facts and more](#)**

***To learn more about hearing loss, check out these websites:***

[Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Beginnings](#)

[Center for Disease Control: Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Hands and Voices](#)

[National Association of the Deaf](#)

[National Cued Speech Association](#)

[Option Schools](#)

[The National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management](#)