Noise Measures from Various Sources

Noise Source	Inside/Outside	dBA peak	dBA (Average)
Whispering @ 5 feet [1]	N/A	N/A	20
Quiet Office/Library [1]	Inside	N/A	40
Large Office [1]	Inside	N/A	50
Large Store [1]	Inside	N/A	50
Commercial Garage [7]	Inside	N/A	55
Cicadas [2]	Outside	N/A	57
Chicken Shed [3]	Inside	92	71
Passenger Car @ 50 feet Traveling@ 55mph [2]	Outside	N/A	71
One Large Dog Barking @ 50 feet [2]	Outside	N/A	72
Reception/Lobby Area [2]	Inside	N/A	78
Classroom [2]	Inside	N/A	78
Factory (light to medium work) [7]	Inside	N/A	78
Military Helicopter @ 500 feet [2]	Outside	N/A	80
Vacuum Cleaner @ 3 feet [2]	Inside	N/A	81
Two Motorbikes [6]	Outside	103	81
Large Trucks @ 50 feet Traveling@ 55mph [2]	Outside	N/A	86
Piggeries (Auto-fed) [4]	Outside	104	72
Two Dogs Barking @10 Feet [5]	Outside	104	N/A
Riveter @ 35 feet [7]	Outside	N/A	97
Dog Kennel [2]	Inside	N/A	108
Amplified Rock Music Performance [2]	Inside	N/A	121

1 League for the Hard of Hearing, Noise Levels in Our Environment Fact Sheet. Available at http://www.lhh.org/noise/decibel.htm.
2 M.David Egan, Architectural Acoustics, 1988, p. 34-35.
3 Farm Noise Hazards: Noise Emissions during Common Agricultural Activities, Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety, 2002, p.36. Available at http: www.acahs.med.usyd.edu.au/nfidc/Farmnoise.pdf.
4 Farm Noise Hazards: Noise Emissions during Common Agricultural Activities, Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety, 2002, p. 43. Available at http: www.acahs.med.usyd.edu.au/nfidc/Farmnoise.pdf.
5 Farm Noise Hazards: Noise Emissions during Common Agricultural Activities, Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety, 2002, p.38. Available at http: www.acahs.med.usyd.edu.au/nfidc/Farmnoise.pdf.
6 Farm Noise Hazards: Noise Emissions during Common Agricultural Activities, Australian Centre for Agricultural Health and Safety, 2002, p.42. Available at http: www.acahs.med.usyd.edu.au/nfidc/Farmnoise.pdf.
7 Van Nostrand's Scientific Encyclopedia, Seventh Edition, Vol.II, 1989, p. 1986.
N/A = Not applicable

Compiled by Lisa Chiu, 2004

BZA
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District of Columbia
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