The Bad News

• Approximately **30 million** Americans are affected by hearing loss. 50 million have tinnitus: an early indicator of hearing loss.

• **5.2 million 6-19 year olds** have hearing loss directly related to noise exposure. (3rd National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, Niskar et al. 2000)

• "... over the last 10 years, the percentage of 2nd graders with hearing loss has increased 2.8 times; hearing loss in **8th graders** has increased over 4 times." (Montgomery and Fujukawa 1992)

Source: www.dangerousdecibels.org