



## Health Surveillance - Audiometry

### General health effects of noise on hearing

Noise induced hearing loss is permanent and cannot be reversed. This is the reason why hearing checks at work are carried out at regular periodic intervals so that slight changes in your hearing can be detected at a stage where action can be taken to prevent lasting damage. Exposure to loud noise can also lead to tinnitus (ringing in your ears) which can be temporary or become permanent. Exposure to loud noise may also affect your performance, communication and interfere with audibility of safety/warning signals. The sound frequencies most commonly damaged are those that you rely on every day e.g. during conversation with family or friends. It is important that if you do work in a noisy environment that you comply with all safety measures that are in place e.g. wearing hearing protection where provided.