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HEALTH EFFECTS OF NOISE
Literature Survey Update

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I INTRODUCTION

In September 1980, the authors submitted a report to the Motor Vehicle Manufacturers Association which reviewed the literature existing at that time concerning the health effects of noise. This report is an update and extension of that literature review, covering material published on that topic since January 1, 1980, and extending the coverage to include infrasound. The time period covered with reference to the effects of infrasound is from 1972 to the present. This report is a brief summary of the findings, based on the same procedures and the same criteria described in full in the 1980 report.

II METHODS

The computerized bibliographic data bases MEDLINE/MEDLARS, BIOSIS, ENGINEERING INDEX, NTIS and INDEX MEDICUS were searched for the period January 1 1980 to March 31 1982 to find those articles related to noise and health. In addition, the same data bases were searched from 1972 to March 31 1982 to find articles related specifically to infrasound. The abstracts for both of these sets of articles were screened to delete those papers which were not relevant to health outcomes. The remaining abstracts were examined in order to choose those papers which are most important to the assessment of the effects of noise on human health. It is these papers which are examined in this report. Fifty nine papers relevant to the effects of noise on health are discussed (Appendix A(1)), and nineteen

papers which relate health effects to infrasound (Appendix A(ii)). Those papers examining noise and health or infrasound and health but judged not to be of primary importance for this study are included in Appendices A(iii) and A(iv) respectively.

Each article involving original research was assessed on substantive and methodological grounds, using a form which is very similar to the one used in the previous report (Appendix B). All of the papers were assessed by Mrs. Birnie. Subsets of the papers were also assessed by Dr. Taylor and Dr. Hall. In addition ten papers were independently assessed by Wayne Taylor, a clinical epidemiologist in the Health Sciences faculty at McMaster University. On the papers assessed by all four people, the resulting evaluations were very consistent, confirming the reliability of the primary assessments conducted by Mrs. Birnie. The results of the assessment procedure, including an evaluation of each paper, are provided in the form of a table (Appendix C).

The conclusions drawn concerning the state of the evidence linking health effects to noise are presented separately for noise in general and infrasound.

III RESULTS

1. Effects of noise on health

In the previous report to the MVMA, the authors concluded that the weight of evidence linking noise and health was not strong, and that weak

study design was a primary fault in many of the studies. Many of the authors of the 14 review articles examined in this report agree with that conclusion. Kryter (1980) and Stream (1980) both point out that most research designs fail to control for confounding variables adequately, and have further problems with sample size, spurious correlations, and questionable statistics. These problems preclude conclusive results, and open the studies to criticism. Moller (1980) adds that few studies are able to examine the long-term effects of exposure to noise, thereby resulting in practically no evidence concerning the effects on general health. Lambert and Hafner (1979) maintain that many of the effects have not been adequately examined, and that some may be important under certain conditions.

The health effects examined in the 45 papers involving original research cover a range of topics. They involve auditory effects (both hearing loss and temporary threshold shift) and cardiovascular, biochemical, sleep, task performance, and other health effects. The types of noise studied also vary, including industrial, road traffic, aircraft and a number of artificial noise sources.

1.1. Auditory Effects

A total of fifteen articles dealt with auditory effects of noise. Eight studies examined permanent hearing loss, while 7 were concerned with temporary threshold shift. As reported previously, the auditory effect of noise is the only one which is clearly defined and understood. The papers examined here which deal with hearing loss are mainly concerned with industrial noise. The exceptions are (one paper which looks at ambulance para-

medics, and one study which is an on-going longitudinal study on children.) They deal most often with hearing loss in a particular industry, although two of the studies are cross-sectional (Alberti et al, 1979 and Schori and Johnson, 1979). Willson et al (1979) are concerned with the relationship of occupational noise-induced hearing loss to general health factors (height, weight, biological parameters), but find no clear relationship.

Generally, these studies add no new information to the existing knowledge concerning noise and hearing loss, or to the guidelines concerning workplace noise. One review article (Lipscomb, 1979) cautions that although such guidelines guard against hearing loss due to occupational noise, they assume that nonoccupational noise levels are sufficiently low to allow the hearing mechanism to recover between exposure periods. The implication of this is that to guard adequately against hearing loss, the community noise level should be less than 70 dBA.

Of the articles concerned with temporary threshold shift, 6 examine the effects of impulse, impact or intermittent noise. Generally they agree that the equal energy assumption and the conventional rules for trade-off between steady state and intermittent noise do not hold, as intermittent noise results in lower threshold shift than the equivalent steady state noise (Yamamura and Aoshima, 1980 and Yamamura and Itoh, 1981), and a number of other variables such as number of impacts, duration and repetition rates are important in the assessment of impact noise (Tremolieres, 1980). Stephenson et al (1980) identify a minimum level of 75-80 dB to produce an asymptotic TTS after 8-16 hours of exposure. On this basis, they conclude that levels

less than 75 dB are harmless, even for those exposed for long periods of time.

1.2 Cardiovascular

A total of thirteen papers examined various effects of noise on the cardiovascular system, ranging from ischaemic heart disease and hypertension to blood pressure and peripheral pulse amplitude. Six studies were conducted in the field, while the remainder were laboratory experiments.

Two papers report on well designed studies of industrial noise. Lees and Roberts (1979) conducted a case-control study which found no significant effect of noise on mean blood pressure levels or the incidence of hypertension. Lees et al (1980) examined the incidence of ischaemic heart disease, hypertension and myocardial infarction as well as other health effects such as accidents, absenteeism, alcoholism and mental illness in a prospective cohort study. They found no significant difference between the exposed and control groups, although they were hindered by a small sample size. Knipschild and Sallé (1979) also found no difference between exposed and control groups in the incidence of hypertension and ischaemia, as well as angina pectoris, heart shape pathology, and cardiologist consultations, in a field survey concerned with road traffic noise. These articles provide further support for the conclusion of other reviewers that noise is not a contributing factor to hypertension in industrial settings (Kryter, 1980), that any effects found are not consistent across studies, and that observations are hampered by confounding variables and conflicting results (Harlan et al, 1981).

The remainder of the papers dealing with cardiovascular outcomes were concerned with one or more parameters of a physiological nature rather than a health outcome, often in conjunction with other physiological or biochemical parameters. The implication of studies of this type in the assessment of health state or of pathogenesis of disease is not at all clear, hence they may only be useful for explanations of physiological mechanisms (Jansen, 1978). The parameters studied most often are blood pressure, heart rate and peripheral pulse pressure. Effects for some of the parameters were found in some circumstances, but the evidence is not strong enough or consistent enough to formulate any definite relationship between noise exposure and cardiovascular parameters.

1.3 Biochemical Parameters

Five papers examined biochemical parameters either singly or in combination. One of the articles reported on a field study: Rai et al (1981) examined a number of biochemical parameters in an industrial setting. He found that the levels of cortisol, free cholesterol, and 1 of 5 serum protein levels were significantly higher in the noise group (of 9 parameters studied). In the laboratory experiments, some of the parameters were found to be affected by some noise exposure conditions. However, the criticism applied to the examination of single cardiovascular factors applies here as well. The contribution of such studies to the overall assessment of the effect of noise on health outcomes is extremely limited.

1.4 Sleep

Three papers examine the effect of noise on sleep. One study is a field experiment (Vernet, 1979) which examines sleep disturbance using a number of different parameters, and concludes that for the same L_{eq} , disturbance of sleep due to road noise is greater than that due to rail noise (the number of events for road noise is greater). Sumitsuji et al (1980) found that facial expressions during sleep were related to noise level and sleep stage, and that there was habituation over 3 nights. Levere (1979) emphasizes that total disruption time was most important as an indicator of sleep disturbance. In all three studies, interpersonal differences were very important. We conclude that the assessment of the state of research in this field by Griefahn (1978) is still correct; that the most important conclusion to be drawn from the sleep research is that the significance of sleep disturbance to general health is still unresolved.

1.5 Task performance

A large number of papers looked at the relationship between noise and some measure of task performance. Most of the studies examine the effect of noise on the performance of complex tasks (ones which require a wide range of attention). The mechanism by which noise affects performance of such tasks is postulated to be through a narrowing of the focus of attention, either by an increase in arousal induced by the noise, or by the noise taxing the processing capacity, and hence there is a strategy to decrease the amount of information being processed. The majority of the studies are short-term laboratory experiments involving tasks ranging from counting

light flashes to finding embedded figures. The vast majority of the experiments found no effect of noise on task performance. Of those studies which did find an effect, two (Zentall and Shaw, 1980 and Cohen et al, 1980) involved children who were exposed to noise in the classroom. Broadbent (1980), in a review article, claims that although there has been an enormous output of papers on the subject, the issue is still very confusing, due to the examination of performance on main versus peripheral tasks. Cohen (1980) says that noise is just one stress factor, and that unpredictable stress leads to decrements in performance, but that predictability and control over the stress reduce its effect. In general, there is no hard evidence that task performance is affected by noise.

1.6 Other Outcomes

Five papers looked at the effect of noise on other health outcomes. The outcomes examined were anxiety, birth weight, mental health, and general health. In the only lab study, Standing and Stace (1980) conclude that anxiety trait scores increase for noise levels of 75 dB. The remaining studies are all large-scale field surveys dealing with aircraft noise. Knipschild et al (1981) examined birth records and found that the proportion of birth weights less than 3000 grams differed between high and low noise areas. The meaning of this finding is uncertain, however, since the World Health Organization defines prematurity as a birth weight less than 2500 grams (an examination of the data in the article shows that the incidence of prematurity is almost identical between the two areas). Jenkins et al (1981) examined the admissions at three psychiatric hospitals over a four-year period, and found no consistent relationship of admissions with the

patient's home noise levels. They conclude that the only effects of noise may be small, weakly influencing other causal factors. The other two articles are a result of the same survey which administered a General Health Questionnaire around London Heathrow Airport. Tarnopolsky et al (1980) examined 27 acute and chronic symptoms, and found that the chronic symptoms were more prevalent in the low noise areas, and the acute symptoms were more prevalent in the high noise areas. They concluded that they could find no evidence of noise as a stressor. Watkins et al (1981) examined the use of drugs and medication, the use of psychotropic drugs, visits to a G.P. or out-patient clinic, in-patient status, and use of community health and welfare services. They found no clear results across noise levels for any of the 6 indicators.

1.7 Conclusions

A wide range of effects has been examined in assessing the relationship between noise and health. The articles examined in this review, however, have failed to establish any better than previously a causal link between health outcomes and noise. A number of fairly well designed studies have concluded quite strongly that no relationship can be found.

There are some fairly strong reasons why the articles examined here cannot provide a conclusion to the question being addressed. First, much of the research depends on laboratory experiments, and these are unable to firmly establish a cause and effect relationship between a long term environmental factor and health outcomes. Field studies have the potential to do this, especially through stronger experimental designs such as randomized

clinical trials and paired cohort studies. However, the field studies to date have had major problems, especially in the sample design and the control of identified or unidentified intervening or confounding variables.

If we accept the notion the noise is but one of a series of environmental factors (or stressors) that may each affect health in some manner, then establishing the exact effect of noise on health may be an impossible task. Indeed, if noise is but a single factor, and it requires the cumulation of many individual factors to lead to disease, then measuring the incidence of that disease against noise exposure alone will not result in significant results.

2. Effects of infrasound on health

2.1 Introduction

Infrasound is defined as any sound having a frequency less than 20 Hz. This definition was accepted at the International Colloquium on Infrasound in Paris in 1973, and is commonly used in the literature reviewed here. Levels of infrasound between 75 and 95 dB are common from both naturally occurring and man-made sources. Infrasound between 110-120 dB may be produced in motor vehicles (with open windows). Very high levels of infrasound must be artificially produced. Man-made infrasound is normally in the 2-20 Hz region. Infrasound below 2 Hz is usually naturally occurring, and can be caused by jogging, swimming or natural phenomena such as wind and storms (Green and Dunn, 1968).

A common misconception is that infrasound is inaudible. The perception threshold is approximately 90 dB at 20 Hz, and 130-140 dB at 1 Hz (von Gierke and Parker, 1976). Above these levels infrasound is audible. It is not the pure tones that are heard, but rather harmonics generated by distortion from the middle and inner ear.

Infrasound rarely occurs by itself. It is almost always (except for artificial sources) combined with noise of higher frequencies. Therefore, it is extremely difficult to isolate the effects of infrasound. Hence, most of the work investigating the effects is done in a laboratory using an artificial noise source. For this reason there are no studies which directly relate transportation sources to infrasound effects.

Recently attention has been focussed on infrasound because of concerns with space systems, especially during launch. Much of this work involved high levels of infrasound for short periods of time. For example, one of the first objective studies (Mohr et al, 1965) examined whole body exposure at levels up to 154 dB for 2 minutes. For the infrasound exposures, the authors found that 150 dB was well within the human tolerance limits for a variety of effects, including hearing, cardiac rhythm and motor control. Sensations of pressure build-up in the middle ear, and nostril and abdominal vibrations were evident, but disappeared when earmuffs were worn.

Much of the early work which provoked concern about the effects of infrasound was based on personal experience (Gavreau, 1968), or used previous relationships and measurements to make inferences (Bryan and Tempest, 1972) without using statistical methods. Therefore, these studies really

provide very little reliable information.

Studies objectively examining the relationship between infrasound and health cover only a small range of effects. The papers examined here examine auditory, physiological, or balance and performance effects.

2.2 Auditory effects

The discussion of auditory effects is limited to temporary threshold shift (TTS). Jerger et al (1966) examined noise in the 2-22 Hz range, at levels of 119-144 dB. Of 19 subjects exposed to the noise for 3 minutes, 8 displayed no TTS effect. The remaining subjects had TTS of 10-22 dB, in the 3-8 KHz range. All of the subjects recovered, and TTS did not accumulate during successive exposures. A higher proportion of hearing impaired subjects reported TTS than did normal hearing subjects.

Von Gierke (in Tempest, 1976, Chapter 6) reports on Johnson's work presented at the International Colloquium in Paris. No TTS was reported for whole body exposures of 120-144 dB for 8 minutes. For ear only exposures of 26 seconds to 30 minutes, at levels of 126-171 dB, some TTS was experienced. One subject had TTS of 8 dB after exposure to 140 dB for 5 minutes, and exposure to 140 dB for 30 minutes resulted in 14-17 TTS. In all cases the subjects recovered full hearing within 30 minutes after exposure.

2.3 Performance

Evans and Tempest (1972) used headsets to deliver infrasound to sub-

jects while measuring nystagmus (involuntary eye movements) as well as reaction time and visual acuity while performing a shape recognition task. The study claims to measure the effects of transportation noise, but in fact the artificially produced tones (130-146 dB at 2-20 Hz) were higher than those actually measured in automobiles. The authors report a significant nystagmus effect, but in a review of this study Harris et al (1976) report that in an examination of the chart provided, after accounting for eye blinks, etc., the slow phase velocity is so small that it would be difficult to classify as nystagmus. Evans and Tempest found no effect on visual disturbance, but a 30% increase in reaction time at low levels (115-120 dB). Since the actual values are not published, it is difficult to verify this. Von Gierke and Parker (1976) contend that Evans and Tempest's findings may be biased since evaluation of the effects was not blind, and that confounders due to audio frequency sound may be possible.

The findings of Evans and Tempest are refuted in other experiments. Johnson (1975) reports on a series of experiments utilizing various frequencies with levels up to 140 dB. No significant effect on rail task performance was found. Von Gierke and Parker (1976) report that experiments have found no effect on visual nystagmus for levels of 142-155 dB.

Cognitive performance was measured using serial search and complex counting tasks (Harris and Johnson, 1978). Fifteen and 30 minute exposures to levels of 125-142 dB resulted in no significant effect. They conclude that very high levels of infrasound may be necessary to produce effects.

Kyriakides and Leventhall (1977) compared the effects of infrasound,

audible noise, and alcohol on task performance. They utilized a high priority pointer-following task in conjunction with both central and peripheral components of a secondary task involving response to the onset of light. For a level of 115 dB, there was no significant effect of infrasound on the performance of either the primary or secondary tasks. The authors concluded, however, that changes in performance over time were different for infrasound than for audible noise. A degradation of performance over time was observed for the infrasound condition, while performance was maintained over time for the audible noise condition. Therefore, a significant change in performance may be apparent if the time of exposure is increased.

2.4 Physiology

Since the middle ear is the most susceptible part of the body to infrasound, it has been suggested that the physiological tolerance limit to infrasound is determined by the middle ear (Johnson, 1975). The pain threshold for the middle ear is 140 dB at 20 Hz, and 162 dB at 2 Hz (von Gierke and Parker, 1976). Slarve and Johnson (1975) examined human whole body exposure to a maximum of 144 dB for 8 minutes. They found no effects on auditory acuity, respiration rate, pulse rate and the general condition of the eardrum. The effects found were middle ear pressure build-up (above 126 dB), voice modulation (above 135 dB) and chest vibration (above 135 dB). Johnson (1975) reports on an experiment by Borredon which provided exposure for 50 minutes at 130 dB. The only effect found was a small (< 1.5 mm Hg) increase in the minimum arterial blood pressure. In addition, several of the subjects reported a drowsy feeling.

2.5 Conclusion

Those papers which have reviewed the full range of literature on the effects of infrasound (Johnson, 1975, Harris et al, 1976, von Gierke and Parker, 1976, Johnson, 1976, Johnson, 1980) conclude that the early reports of drastic effects of infrasound were greatly exaggerated. The current concensus about the effects of infrasound is as follows:

1. whole body effects - no subjective effects until greater than 150 dB
- middle ear pressure build-up at 130 dB.
2. vestibular - no effect up to 155 dB.
3. respiratory - rhythm change about 130 dB
- definite effect at 166 dB.
4. performance - limit not reached
- only speech interference below 142 dB.
5. auditory - some TTS for exposures greater than 20 minutes.
- 150 dB acceptable if exposure less than 30 minutes.

Infrasound must be regarded as only a very small part of the problem of the health effects of noise. At levels commonly found in motor vehicles, there is no firm indication that any harmful effects due to infrasound may occur.

Appendix A(1)

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Appendix B

LITERATURE ASSESSMENT FORM

Author _____

Title _____

Abstract

1. Health Effects

Yes _____
No _____
Maybe _____

2. Problem Statement

Clear _____
Vague _____
Absent _____

3. Research Setting

Lab. _____
Field _____

Human _____
Animal _____

4. Sample Design

Explicit Yes _____
No _____

Health Status Reported _____
Not Reported _____

Sample Size N(s) = _____

Response Rate Reported _____
Not Reported _____

Biases _____

5. Experimental Measure Type of Noise _____
 Descriptor _____
 Level _____
 Duration _____
 Measurement _____

6. Compliance Applicable _____
 Not Applicable _____

7. Confounding Factors _____

8. Outcome Measurement _____

Physiological _____
Pathological _____

Appropriate _____
Inappropriate _____

Subjective _____
Objective _____

Sensitive _____
Insensitive _____

Valid _____
Invalid _____

Reliable _____
Unreliable _____

Blind Yes _____
 No _____

Rigorous Yes _____
 No _____

9. Analysis

Replicable Yes
No

Statistics _____

Valid
Invalid

Results _____

10. Interpretation

Conclusions _____

Interpretation by Author Justified
UnJustified

Generalizability _____

11. Study Class _____

12. Overall Comments _____

Appendix C

Summary of Assessment Results

To provide a standardized evaluation, each paper was rated on three major criteria: noise exposure; health outcome measurement; study design and analysis. The items used to score each paper on these criteria are listed below. The total score obtained on each criterion is reported in the Evaluation column of the summary table. The scores provide a standardized measure of the strengths of each paper relative to the other papers.

Noise:

Type	specified = 1	unspecified = 0
Descriptor	specified = 1	unspecified = 0
Level	specified = 1	unspecified = 0
Duration	specified = 1	unspecified = 0
Measurement procedure	specified = 1	unspecified = 0
Realistic	yes = 1	no = 0
Maximum score = 6		

Health:

Health effect	yes = 2	maybe = 1	no = 0
Outcome	pathological = 2		
	physiological = 1		
	psychological/task = 0		
Appropriate	yes = 1	no = 0	
Objective	yes = 1	no = 0	
Sensitive	yes = 1	no = 0	
Valid	yes = 1	no = 0	
Reliable	yes = 1	no = 0	
Blind	yes = 1	no = 0	
Regorous	yes = 1	no = 0	
Maximum score = 11			

Design and Analysis:

Type	randomized clinical trial/ cohort analytic = 3		
	case control/descriptive analytic = 2		
	laboratory/descriptive = 1		
	other = 0		
Problem statement	clear = 1	vague/absent = 0	
Design explicit	yes = 1	no = 0	
Health status	yes = 1	no = 0	
Sample size	large = 1	small = 0	
Response rate	yes = 1	no = 0	
Bias	no = 0	yes = 1	
Replicable	yes = 1	no = 0	
Statistics	yes = 1	no = 0	
Valid	yes = 1	no = 0	
Maximum score = 12			

Author	Research Setting	Study Type	Noise		Sample	Noise Measure
			Problem Statement	Outcome		
Alberti, P.W., Symons, F., Hyde, M.L. 1979	industry Ontario	case study	"to investigate the significance of this physical sign (asymmetrical hearing loss) in the context of the quasi-medico-legal setting of pension assessments."	asymmetrical hearing loss	108 patients referred by Workmen's Compensation board of Ontario with asymmetrical hearing loss.	categorized according to industry type
Ambawakaran, M., Brahmachari, D., Chadha, V.K., Phadnis, M.G., Raju, A., Ramaswamy, A., Shah, V.R. 1981	industry India	descriptive analytic	"to monitor the noise level ... and to measure the hearing level of those exposed ..."	hearing loss	209 control 51 air conditioning plant 15 glass blowing shops	A/C plant: 72-100 dBA low frequency continuous glass blowing plant: 70-116 dBA high frequency intermittent
Andren, L., Hansson, L., Hjorkman, M., Jonsson, A. 1980	lab recorded industrial noise	laboratory study	"to establish whether exposure to noise at levels which frequently occur in occupational life may cause a rise in BP also in men ..."	cardiovascular	18	40, 75, 85, 95 dBA 10 or 20 min.
Arnoult, M.D., Voorhees, J.W., 1980	lab recorded aircraft noise	laboratory study	"whether there is any difference in the extent to which impulsive and non-impulsive noises actually interfere with performance on a representative audiovisual task."	task performance	30	24 different flyover conditions 10 min.
Bättli, K., Cham, H., Müller, R., Suzzi, R. 1980	airport Switzerland	descriptive	"...to investigate possible autonomic noise responses of airport area residents in their private homes..."	physiological	33	10-65 NN1 45 min.
Cohen, S., Evans, G.W., Krantz, D.S., Stokols, D. 1980	school children aircraft noise California	descriptive analytic	"to explore the relationship between aircraft noise exposure and a number of cognitive, motivational and physiological measures."	- physiology - task performance	142 noisy 120 quiet	control: mean peak 56 dBA noisy: mean peak 74 dBA 100 flights/day

Outcome Measurement	Analysis and Statistics	Possible bias and Confounders	Conclusions	Evaluation
% of patients whose AHI could be attributed to various causes	descriptive	many possible including: nonrespondent bias noncompliance bias other exposures	"workplace noise does in fact produce asymmetrical hearing loss in a significant percentage of patients and that its presence should not disqualify them from pension award."	Noise: 2 Health: 5 Design and Analysis: 0
% of sample having hearing impairment median hearing threshold for various frequencies	descriptive	- duration of exposure - other exposures	"seems to indicate that the intense low frequency noise affects the hearing level at all frequencies."	Noise: 4 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 4
average: -systolic, diastolic blood pressure -stroke volume -heart rate -peripheral resistance	t-test	volunteer bias	- sig. increase in diastolic b.p. at 95 dBA - no increase in systolic b.p. - sig. rise of total peripheral resistance at 95 dBA - no increase in heart rate - no increase in stroke volume	Noise: 5 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 5
number of errors, unheard, and failures in correct/incorrect designation of word description	regression	speech interference	No support for the assumption that impulsive noise is more annoying or interfering than nonimpulsive noise.	Noise: 4 Health: 2 Design and Analysis: 4
for every 30 sec: - number of respiratory movements - number and amplitude of skin-conductance changes - average pulse rate - 6 Nonresponses while doing various activities	correlation Chi-square	- volunteers selected by an anti-noise group	"effects of noise were modest" - vegetative responses did not habituate - effect of noise was less than that of mental activity	Noise: 4 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 3
- Average systolic and diastolic blood pressure - absenteeism - persistence on task after previous success/failure - distractibility on task - school achievement	regression multivariate F	- controlled for age, social class, race, length of residence - different schools and teachers for noise and quiet situations - mobility differences for 2 groups	- significant differences in general health, blood pressure - noise-school children attended school more - no difference in school achievement, attentional strategy - persistence at puzzle solving less in noisy area	Noise: 4 Health: 7 Design and Analysis: 8

Author	Research Setting	Study Type	Problem Statement	Outcome	Sample	Noise Measure
Fullenius, M., Brandenberger, G., Lecornu, C., Simoni, M., Reinhardt, B. 1980	lab pink noise	laboratory experiment	"to investigate the possible immediate effects of noise exposure on circulating epinephrine, norepinephrine, and dopamine ... plasma ACTH, cortisol, and GH were analysed simultaneously ..."	biochemical	7 (own controls)	99 dBA intermittent 2 hours
Fruhstorfer, B., Hensel, H. 1980	lab white noise	laboratory experiment	"to examine the problem of noise adaptation under more rigidly controlled conditions ..."	physiological	13	100 dBA 12 x 16 sec. within 1 hour for 10 or 21 days
Harris, C.S., Shoenberger, R.M. 1980	lab white noise	laboratory experiment	"to determine the single and combined effects of 100 dBA broadband noise and complex waveform vertical vibration on cognitive performance."	task performance	12	65,100 dBA 3 x 10 min.
Ising, H., Diemel, D., Günther, T., Markert, B. 1980	lab recorded road traffic noise	laboratory experiment	"...laboratory study of the combined effect of mental load and noise."	task performance	57 (own controls)	control <50 dBA Leq noise 85 dBA Leq 7 hours
Jenkins, L., Tarnopolaky, A., Hend, D. 1961	from records of 3 psychiatric hospitals, London	descriptive analytic	To compare mental hospital admission rates for areas exposed and not exposed to aircraft noise	mental health	9,000	<35, 35-44, 45-54, >55 NNI from noise contours
Johnson, D.W., Hammond, R.J., Sherman, R.E. 1980	ambulance cab noise Minnesota	field survey	"to determine effects of noise exposure on our ambulance service paramedics."	hearing loss	56	96-102.5 dBA average 16-22 min. each day
Jones, D., Broadbent, D. 1979	lab recorded office noise	laboratory study	evaluation of costs (psychological) involved in coping with speech interference	psychological effects	12	55, 80 dBC 30 minutes

Outcome Measurement	Analysis and Statistics	Possible bias and Confounders	Conclusions	Evaluation
levels of: plasma epinephrine norepinephrine dopamine ACTH cortisol GH urinary epinephrine norepinephrine dopamine	t-test		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no difference in plasma urinary catecholamine levels - no difference in plasma GH or ACTH - significant change in pattern of cortisol throughout the day <p>"noise alone does not give rise to important endocrinological changes in well informed volunteer human subjects."</p>	Noise: 4 Health: 5 Design and Analysis: 6
respiration- amplitude and frequency heart rate cutaneous blood- flow EEG	not specified	volunteer bias	respiration - no change in amplitude - frequency change varies heart rate - no change over time blood flow - vascular response decreased over time EEG - activity changed over time <p>"a general statement about hysiological noise adaptation is not possible."</p>	Noise: 4 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 5
total responses, early responses, late responses, percent correct for complex counting task	ANOVA (4 way) t-tests	volunteer bias vibration-separated out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100 dB resulted in worse performance than 85 dB. - vibration & 85 dBA produced an adverse effect. - performance at 100 dB worse without vibration than with vibration - performance deteriorated as a function of time. 	Noise: 4 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 7
performance - failures - quality - achievement blood circulation - pulse - systolic b.p. - diastolic b.p. 10 biochemical parameters	Wilcoxon nonparametric correlation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - some significant results. - increases in blood pressure did not change over time. 	Noise: 5 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 5
admission rates to psychiatric hospitals	multivariate log-linear methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - looked at interaction with socio-economic variables - self selection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no common pattern of admission across 3 hospitals - positive associations for some groups. <p>"effects of noise, if any, could only be small, weakly influencing other causal variables but not overriding them."</p>	Noise: 4 Health: 8 Design and Analysis: 8
comparison of hearing levels to normative values.	difference of means test	length of service	"pattern of hearing loss present ...was suggestive of noise exposure etiology."	Noise: 3 Health: 7 Design and Analysis: 6
1 error detection speed in proof reading task stroop test (index of interference) mood adjective check list	Wilcoxon		no effect on Stroop test. some composite psychological factors were significant	Noise: 5 Health: 5 Design and Analysis: 6

Author	Research Setting	Study Type	Problem Statement	Outcome	Sample	Noise Measure
Knipschild, P., Meijer, H., Sallé, H. 1981	aircraft noise (mother) Amsterdam	descriptive Analytic	the relationship between aircraft noise and birth- weight	birthweight	404 low noise 498 high noise	low <60-65 Ldn high 65-75 Ldn.
Knipschild, P., Sallé, H. 1979	cardiovascu- lar screening program road traffic noise Netherlands	descriptive analytic	"whether people living in a street with much traffic (noise) run an increased risk of cardiovascular diseases."	cardio- vascular	1342 quiet 399 noisy response rate 86%	quiet 55-60 Ldn noisy 65-70 Ldn
Kryter, K.D., Fosa, P. 1980	lab recorded computer line printer noise	laboratory experiment	monitoring of physiological parameters and psychomotor task performance	task performance physiological	6 (own controls)	50,100 dBA 8 min. x 4
Kryter, K.D., Fosa, P. 1980	lab pink noise	laboratory experiment	- effect of noise on physiological stress responses	physiological	24	67, 76, 92 dBA 8 min. x 4
Lees, R.E.M., Roberts, J.H. 1979	Industry Ontario	descriptive analytic	"to look for evi- dence of a relation between hyperten- sion and noise- induced hearing loss in the work force of a local industrial plant."	cardio- vascular	62 exposed 62 control noise induced hearing loss a criteria for selection in exposed group.	exposed 95-98 control 485 dBA hearing loss used as surrogate for noise exposure
Lees, R.E.M., Romeril, C.S., Wucherall, L.D. 1980	Industry Ontario	paired cohort historical prospective	"...to assess the effects of high noise level on incidence and type of morbidity and frequency of absentism, head- aches and acci- dents."	cardio- vascular general health	70 matched pairs	noisy > 90 dBA control < 85 dBA 3-15 years

Outcome Measurement	Analysis and Statistics	Possible Bias and Confounders	Conclusions	Evaluation
incidence of birthweight categories (esp. < 3000 g)	t-test	self-selection socio-economic status length of exposure other exposures	proportion of birthweight < 3000 g. for high noise area. - lack of biological sense (effect limited to female infants) - results are inconclusive	Noise: 4 Health: 5 Design and Analysis: 8
incidence of: cardiologist consultation hypertension angina pectoris ischaemia heart shape pathology	Fisher's Exact	- nonrespondent bias - self selection - length of residence	no significant differences "the question, whether traffic noise can increase the risk of contracting a cardiovascular disease, remains unanswered."	Noise: 4 Health: 8 Design and Analysis: 9
mean: - heart rate - peripheral pulse amplitude - peripheral blood volume number of errors in psychomotor task performance	not specified		- only pulse amplitude showed any effect "no trend in the physiological measures that would suggest that the noise had any particular "over arousal" or stress effect." - no effect on task performance	Noise: 4 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 5
pulse amplitude skin temperature heart rate blood volume "epoch percent-age score" - averaged over 20 secs.	difference of means test		- constriction of peripheral blood vessels increased with noise level - no change in heart rate, skin temperature	Noise: 4 Health: 5 Design and Analysis: 3
mean systolic and diastolic blood pressure incidence of hypertension	not specified	- matched for age and duration of employment - other exposures	- no significant difference between groups in mean systolic or diastolic blood pressure, or incidence of hypertension	Noise: 2 Health: 8 Design and Analysis: 6
incidence of: - ischaemic heart disease - peptic ulcer - diabetes mellitus - hypertension - myocardial infarction - mental illness - alcoholism - absenteeism - accidents - psychosocial disorders	analysis of variance	work shift controlled	- no significant relationship between noise level and absenteeism, headaches or accidents - unable to accept or reject hypothesis for specific medical conditions due to small sample size	Noise: 3 Health: 8 Design and Analysis: 9

Author	Research Setting	Study Type	Problem Statement	Outcome	Sample	Noise Measure
LoVere, T.E. 1980	lab recorded sound	laboratory experiment	To compare individual reactions to auditory sound when asleep with reactions when awake. To find out whether sleep disruption necessarily involves behavioural awakening.	sleep disturbance	not reported	80 dBA various frequencies 15-30 secs duration for each occurrence
Lovallo, W.R., Pishkin, V. 1980	lab recorded sound	laboratory experiment	"effects of exposure to uncontrollable noise and task failure in Type A (coronary prone) and Type B (nonprone) men."	task performance	42	complex combination of sounds 15 min x 2
Moller, L. 1980	lab music white noise	laboratory experiment	"to determine what differences would occur in the performance of tasks by musicians while subjected to silence or intermittent noise stimuli."	task performance	30 2 x 10 exposed 10 control	I 55-80 dBA II 70 dBA 16 min. intermittent
Oleru, U.G. 1980	industry Nigeria	descriptive analytic	to determine if incidence of hearing loss is greater for noise-exposed workers than for non-exposed controls	hearing loss	61 exposed 90 control	95-115 dBA 3 months-17 years
Percival, L., Loeb, M. 1980	lab I recorded combination of sounds II - Glass & Singer noise - aircraft flyover peak combinations - normal aircraft flyovers - white noise	laboratory experiment	to replicate previous findings on the behavioural after effects of exposure to various noises	task performance	I 42 II 60	control 46 dBA experiment 95 dBA 24 min.
Pfander, F., Bonyartz, H., Brinkmann, H., Kietz, H. 1980	weapons firing range Germany	descriptive analytic	To study the effect of impulse noise on hearing damage	temporary threshold shift	10,000	peak 154-186 dB 1-105 ms.

Outcome Measurement	Analysis and Statistics	Possible bias and Confounders	Conclusions	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - amount of cortical desynchronization - reaction time task 	descriptive		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - response when awake is a poor predictor of response when asleep - total disruption time important 	Noise: 3 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 3
3 tasks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - number of errors or time to solution - number of problems attempted 	analysis of variance		Type A men did not exhibit stronger coping attempts than Type B men.	Noise: 4 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 7
math test <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - correctness and speed index 	analysis of variance		"no significant difference in performance between groups or between treated and control groups."	Noise: 4 Health: 5 Design and Analysis: 8
hearing threshold levels	not specified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no ear protection - other exposures - respondent bias 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for every age group the exposed subgroup has a higher hearing level than the controls - hearing loss rate with duration increases after 7 years. 	Noise: 3 1/2 Health: 8 Design and Analysis: 3 1/2
during exposure: 4 correct in tasks after exposure: number of attempts at insoluble puzzle	ANOVA (2 way)		I "noise had no effect on the tasks performed during exposure." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - noise affected performance on a task performed later in quiet II - no significant differences between noise conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no significant differences between attempts at soluble puzzles - significantly fewer attempts at insoluble puzzles for Glass and Singer, and aircraft peak combination noises. 	Noise: 5 1/2 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 5 1/2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TTS after 2 min. - recovery time 	descriptive	all wore hearing protection	Exposures which were above CHABA'S permissible levels resulted in prolonged recovery time in less than 5% of subjects.	Noise: 4 1/2 Health: 9 Design and Analysis: 4

Author	Research Setting	Study Type	Problem Statement	Outcome	Sample	Noise Measure
Nai, R.M., Singh, A.P., Upadhyay, T.M., Patil, S.K.B., Nayer, H.S. 1981	industry India	descriptive analytic	"to evaluate the levels of a few biochemical parameters recognized as indices of stress..."	biochemical	exposed: 75 control: 15	88-107 dBA 10-15 years
Roche, A.P., Himes, J.H., Starvogel, R.M. 1979	ongoing study of school children Ohio	longitudinal study	To determine variation in patterns of change in thresholds with other factors	hearing loss	251	- noise scores from question- naire - some dosimeter readings
Roevekamp, A., Passchier- Vermeer, W. 1978	lab white noise	laboratory experiment	"...the influence of noise exposure of longer duration on a number of parameters for blood circulation and respiration..."	cardiovascu- lar	12 7 between 18-25 years old 5 between 45-55 years old	I 75-80 dBA II 90-95 dBA III intermittent IV traffic noise 73 dBA Leq 2 hours
Schorf, T.R., Johnson, D.L. 1979	industry United States	cohort analytic	To conduct an independent analysis of the Inter-Industry Noise Study	hearing loss	170 exposed 294 control	exposed 82-92 dB Leq control < 82 dB Leq 1-53 years
Smith, A.P., Broadbent, D.E. 1980	lab recorded sound	laboratory equipment	"...to investigate the effects of noise on another task involving relevant and irrelevant cues - the embedded figures task."	task performance	I 20 II 12	control 55 dBC noise 85 dBC
Standing, L., Stace, G. 1980	lab white noise	laboratory equipment	"What...are the effects of "mild" noise on "average" SA who are exposed to it briefly in a fairly normal environment?"	anxiety level	14 quiet 15 noisy 16 very noisy	43, 61, 75 dB 30 man.

Outcome Measurement	Analysis and Statistics	Possible bias and Confounders	Conclusions	Evaluation
<p>Mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - serum cortisol - serum proteins - total & free cholesterol - uric acid 	z statistic	controlled for age, length of exposure, activity level, nutritional status.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - free cholesterol higher in noise group - serum cortisol higher in noise group - 1 of 5 serum protein fractions higher in noise group - total cholesterol, uric acid significantly different <p>"Thus it is conjectured that exposure to high intensity noise in man for a long duration...brings about biochemical changes which make him prone to cardiovascular pathology."</p>	Noise: 4 1/2 Health: 7 Design and Analysis: 8
hearing threshold levels	Spearman rank correlation coefficients	controlled for sex, age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - children susceptible to noise damage - no significant relationship between noise scores and hearing thresholds, but trends for noisy events. 	Noise: 1 1/2 Health: 9 Design and Analysis: 9
<p>median value each 30 seconds for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - heart beat frequency - absolute impedance - plethysmogram - diastolic and systolic blood pressure - pulse pressure - respiratory frequency 	t-test		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increase in respiratory frequency, heart beat frequency, relative impedance - increases larger for older people - complete recovery after exposure - largest change caused by fluctuating levels (III) - little relationship between effects on physiological parameters and equivalent sound level 	Noise: 5 Health: 7 Design and Analysis: 6
- hearing threshold at various frequencies	- analysis of covariance - multiple linear regression	- compliance with ear protection gear - losses over time	- Industrial noise levels of the exposed group increased hearing threshold at 4 kHz by about 6-7 dB.	Noise: 4 1/2 Health: 9 Design and Analysis: 8
mean number of figures completed. Task involves finding a simple figure embedded in a more complex one.	analysis of variance		- effect of noise not significant in experiment I and II	Noise: 5 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 7 1/2
<p>during exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eysenck Personality Inventory - Large-Thorn-dike Intelligence test <p>after exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State-trait anxiety inventory - IPAT objective anxiety test 	ANOVA χ^2	volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - at highest noise levels anxiety increased significantly during exposure - anxiety scores did not increase after exposure to noise 	Noise: 5 1/2 Health: 5 1/2 Design and Analysis: 5 1/2

Author	Research Setting	Study Type	Problem Statement	Outcome	Sample	Noise Measure
Stephenson, H.R., Nixon, C.W., Johnson, D.L. 1980	lab pink noise	laboratory experiment	"...to identify the minimum noise level capable of producing an asymptotic temporary threshold shift."	temporary threshold shift	12	65-80 dBA 24 hours
Sulkowski, W. 1980	drop forging industry Poland	descriptive analytic	to investigate hearing impairment caused by impulse noise	hearing loss	511 exposed 169 control	100.4, 114, 119.5 dBA Leq ≥ 10 years
Sumitsuji, N., Nanno, H., Kuwata, Y., Ohta, Y. 1980	lab recorded aircraft noise	laboratory experiment	Relationship between facial expression, sleeping stage, reaction and noise level	sleep disturbance	7	65, 75, 85 dBA 20-30 times/night 3 nights
Tarnopolaky, A., Watkins, G., Hand, D.J. 1980	domiciliary survey aircraft noise London	descriptive analytic	part of a survey to assess the associations between aircraft noise exposure and various indicators of psychiatric morbidity	general health	5885	< 35 NNI 35-44 NNI 45-54 NNI ≥ 55 NNI
Thackray, R.I., Touchstone, R.M. 1979	lab recorded control room sounds	laboratory experiment	"...examined the effect of noise... on the ability to sustain attention to a complex monitoring task	task performance	14 x 2 control 14 x 2 noise	78-80 dBA 2 hours
Trémolières, C., Hélu, R. 1980	lab impact noise	laboratory experiment	To measure temporary threshold shift as a function of various parameters of impact noise exposure.	temporary threshold shift	15	107-117 dB 30-200 ms. 60-1000 impacts repetition rate .25-2/sec.

Outcome Measurement	Analysis and Statistics	Possible bias and Confounders	Conclusions	Evaluation
temporary threshold shift measured during and after exposure	t-test		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reached asymptotic TTS after 8-16 hours - recovery within 24 hours - maximum TTS at 4 kHz - ATTS threshold level 75-80 dB <p>"...prolonged exposure to broad-band noise with a sound level below 75 dB would be innocuous for populations regularly exposed to those or lower levels."</p>	Noise: 5 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 5
permanent hearing loss	not specified	matched for age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - hearing loss increases with length of employment and age - hearing impairment does not differ from steady state, but there is a wider spread of effect. 	Noise: 5 1/2 Health: 9 Design and Analysis: 4 1/2
EMG amplitude EEG button pressing on awakening	not specified		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - facial expression related to noise level - facial expression associated with EEG changes and button pressing - different strength of reaction depending on sleep stage - facial expression eliminated by third night 	Noise: 5 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 2
27 acute and chronic symptoms, eg. depression sore throat headaches sleep nervousness back pain from General Health Questionnaire	χ^2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - controlled for age and sex - nonrespondent bias - other socio-economic characteristics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - only burns/cuts/minor accidents, and tinnitus significantly higher in noisy areas - most chronic symptoms more prevalent in low noise areas <p>"Noise is not a stressor precipitating symptoms, but rather an agent for sorting individuals into annoyance categories according to their vulnerability to stress."</p>	Noise: 4 Health: 5 1/2 Design and Analysis: 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - maximum, minimum, mean latency of detection of stimulus change in visual monitoring task - 2 difficulty levels - heart rate and heart rate variability 	ANOVA χ^2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no significant difference in latency or missed stimuli between noise levels - heart rate variability lower under noise - no effect on performance, but additional effort expended 	Noise: 5 Health: 8 Design and Analysis: 5
temporary threshold shift - critical level 15 dB	χ^2 Wilcoxon		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - significant effects of number of impacts, repetition rate, rise and decay times, duration - TTS not a linear function of L_{eq}, but L_{eq} could be used if put in terms of longest duration, highest repetition rate, largest number. 	Noise: 5 1/2 Health: 7 Design and Analysis: 3 1/2

Author	Research Setting	Study Type	Problem Statement	Outcome	Sample	Noise Measure
Vernet, M. 1979	field experiment road and rail noise	descriptive	To measure reaction to train noise, the conditioning to noise over time, and to compare these with road noise.	sleep disturbance	10 rail 10 road	I rail 66-69 Leq road 67-69 Leq II rail 50 Leq road 50-55 Leq
Watkins, G., Tarnopolsky, A., Jenkins, L. 1981	domiciliary survey London airport	descriptive analytic	"...use of medicines, general practitioner services, hospital facilities and community services were investigated in relation both to the level of aircraft noise..."	general health	5825	< 35 NNI 35-44 NNI 45-54 NNI > 54 NNI
Willson, G.M., Chung, D.V., Gannon, R.P., Roberts, M., Mason, K. 1979	industry British Columbia	descriptive	To study the relationship between hearing loss and various health factors	hearing loss	85 workers petitioning Workmen's Compensation Board for noise-induced hearing loss.	noise hazard rate based on occupational history
Yamamura, K., Aoshima, K. 1980	lab pink noise	laboratory experiment	to examine the effect of various levels and frequencies of trapezoidal noise on TTS and urinary 17 OHCS	temporary threshold shift biochemical	6-12	80, 90 db peak various periods 8 hours
Yamamura, K., Aoshima, K., Hiramatsu, S., Hikichi, T., Hiramatsu, S. 1980	lab pink noise	laboratory experiment	To examine the effects of noise of a relatively low peak level to develop damage risk criteria for impulse noise	temporary threshold shift biochemical	11-18	100, 105 db peak 10, 50, 100 ms. within 20 db of peak 8 hours
Yamamura, K., Itoh, P. 1981	field experiment traffic noise	descriptive	To investigate the effects of variable noise levels of moderate intensity	temporary threshold shift physiology	6	closed windows: 50 dBA L ₅₀ open windows: 70 dBA L ₅₀
Yamamura, K., Itoh, P., Mishara, N. 1981	lab pink noise	laboratory experiment	To compare changes in TTS and in the circulatory system with exposure to intermittent and steady state noise.	temporary threshold shift physiology	7-9	75, 80, 85 dBA peak 500 ms, 1 sec. rise time 6, 10 sec. cycle 9.25 hours

Outcome Measurement	Analysis and Statistics	Possible bias and Confounders	Conclusions	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> incidence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - zero response - transitory response - change of stage - awakening - positive response 	regression		For same L_{eq} , three times as many disturbances due to road noise, but also three times as many noise occurrences.	Noise: 6 Health: 8 Design and Analysis: 4 1/2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> incidence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - use of drugs or medication - use of psychotropic drugs - visit to GP - out-patient clinic - in-patient - use of community health and welfare services 	χ^2	self-selection	- no clear trend across noise for any of the 6 indicators	Noise: 4 Health: 5 1/2 Design and Analysis: 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> height, weight, blood pressure and 25 biological tests - incidence of abnormal values 	χ^2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - other sources of hearing loss - controlled for age - socio-economic factors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no significant difference in incidence of abnormal values between hearing loss and no hearing loss groups - in age group 50-59 years, hearing loss associated with high cholesterol values 	Noise: 3 Health: 8 Design and Analysis: 7 1/2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - temporary threshold shift - urinary 17 OHCS patterns over time 	regression		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - urinary 17 OHCS only significant for 80 dB, 1 and 2 min. periods - TTS growth significant for steady state and short periods - length of exposure important 	Noise: 5 Health: 7 Design and Analysis: 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TTS growth over time - urinary 17 OHCS levels over time 	regression		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TTS growth less for impulse noise than for equal energy steady state noise - TTS significantly related to duration, repetition rate - urinary 17 OHCS production lower in impulse noise than steady state noise 	Noise: 5 1/2 Health: 7 Design and Analysis: 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TTS growth over time - blood pressure over time 	regression	- rising temperature with length of exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TTS increased slightly with noise exposure - some subjects showed a rise in blood pressure 	Noise: 6 Health: 7 Design and Analysis: 3 1/2
TTS, blood pressure, heart rate, electrocardiogram over time	regression		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no significant differences in blood pressure and heart rate between conditions - conventional rules for evaluation of intermittent noise do not hold for TTS 	Noise: 5 Health: 7 Design and Analysis: 4

Author	Research Setting	Study Type	Problem Statement	Outcomes	Sample	Noise Measure
Zentall, S.D., Shaw, J.H. 1980	lab recorded classroom noise	laboratory experiment	"To assess the effects of classroom noise on the activity and performance of hyperactive and comparison children."	task performance	I 24 hyperactive 24 control II 20 hyperactive 20 control	I quiet 64 dB noisy 69 dB II quiet 52-60 noisy 70-72 25 minutes

Outcome Measurement	Analysis and Statistics	Possible Bias and Confounders	Conclusions	Evaluation
<p>I number of correct answers to math problems</p> <p>II errors of omission and commission on a cancellation task</p>	<p>analysis of covariance</p>		<p>- control children performed better in high noise</p> <p>- hyperactive children performed worse in high noise (not significantly)</p> <p>"High levels of classroom noise appear to exacerbate those problem areas outstanding in hyperactive children relative to control children."</p>	<p>Noise: 6</p> <p>Health: 7</p> <p>Design and Analysis: 9</p>

Author	Research Setting	Study Type	Infrasound		Sample	Noise Measure
			Problem Statement	Outcome		
Evans, M.J., Tempest, W. 1972	lab pure tone	laboratory experiment	"...to see if infrasound, at the levels measured in vehicles has any effect on the sense of balance and psychological fitness of normal human observers."	balance and psychological awareness	25	130-146 dB 2-20 Hz 60 sec
Green, J.E. Dunn, P. 1968	naturally occurring infrasound Illinois	descriptive	To see if distantly produced infrasonic waves (from weather systems) affected selected aspects of human behaviour	human behaviour	1000 accident claims 1500 students	75-95 db theorized
Harris, C.S., Johnson, D.L. 1978	lab infrasound & ambient or background noise	laboratory experiment	To assess the effects of infrasound on cognitive behaviour	task performance	I 12 II 12 III 10	125, 112, 142 db infrasound at 7 Hz 65 db ambient 110 db low frequency back- ground I 15 min. II 30 min. III 15 min.
Jerger, J., Alford, B., Coats, A. 1966	lab Infrasound	laboratory experiment	"...to explore the frequency region from 2 to 22 cps in an attempt to determine critical sound pressure levels leading to temporary threshold shift."	temporary threshold shift	19	114-144 db 2-22 Hz 3 min.
Kyriakides, K., Levithall, H.G. 1977	lab whole-body exposure to infrasound	laboratory experiment	To assess the degree to which the performance of a number of tasks can be maintained or changed by exposure to infrasound.	task performance	I 6 II 26	115 db 2-15 Hz 36 min. control-70 dBA background
Mohr, G.C., Cole, J.N., Guild, E., von Glazke, H.E. 1965	lab low frequency and infra- sound whole- body expo- sures	laboratory experiment	to investigate human tolerance to high intensity, low frequency noise.	-auditory -physiology -voluntary tolerance	5	up to 154 db 1-100 Hz 2 min.
Slerve, R.N., Johnson, D.L. 1975	lab whole-body exposure	laboratory experiment	"...to verify that the levels produced were safe for at least an 8-min. exposure."	physiological psychological	4	up to 144 db 1-20 Hz 8 min.

Outcome Measurement	Analysis and Statistics	Possible bias and Confounders	Conclusions	Evaluation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - involuntary eye movement - nystagmus - reaction time and visual acuity in a shape recognition task 	none	random eye movements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no effect on visual disturbance - some effect on reaction time (no gradient) - nystagmus evident; most pronounced at 7 Hz <p>"... infrasound noise has a significance in both comfort and safety in transportation..."</p>	Noise: 4 Health: 4 Design and Analysis: 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - incidence of automobile accidents - school absenteeism 	correlations	many possible e.g. effect of local weather conditions itself on parameters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increases in times of intense disturbance <p>"a correlation may exist"</p>	Noise: 2 Health: 5 Design and Analysis: 3
I. no of searches completed in serial search task II and III. 1 correct in complex counting task	analysis of variance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no significant effects found <p>"Very high levels of infrasound, more than 150 dB, may be necessary to produce decrements in cognitive performance."</p>	Noise: 5 Health: 6 Design and Analysis: 7
noise level required to produce 10 dB threshold shift that persisted 3 minutes after exposure	descriptive		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no clear-cut functional relationship between TTS and exposure signal - all TTS produced by exposure to 137-141 dB. - frequencies affected by TTS were from 3 to 8 kHz. 	Noise: 4 Health: 7 Design and Analysis: 3
scores in central and peripheral tasks in following a moving pointer and responding to lights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - analysis of variance - Wilcoxon 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no significant decrements in task performance - degradation of performance over time - changes in performance over time different than for audible noise. 	Noise: 5 Health: 5 Design and Analysis: 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - auditory acuity - voluntary tolerance <p>subjective & objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - visual acuity - spatial orientation - speech intelligibility - EKG - fine finger dexterity 	not specified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - used only noise - experienced personnel - sound above 100 Hz - wore hearing protectors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no significant objective changes - many severe subjective complaints - did not reach the voluntary tolerance limit. 	Noise: 4 Health: 5 Design and Analysis: 1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - examination of tympanic membrane - audiogram - subjective: - vibration - respiration - psychological 	not specified		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - "no objective evidence (including audiograms) of any detrimental effect due to infrasound." - pressure build-up in middle ear, voice modulation, body vibration occurred consistently. 	Noise: 4 Health: 5 Design and Analysis: 3