Comparative Noise Levels (dBA)

COMMON OUTDO SOUND LEV		NOISE LEVEL (dBA)	COMMON INDOOR SOUND LEVELS
		110	111 dBA ² Rock Band
Power Mower 96	i dBA²	100	100 dBA3 Subway
Heavy City Traffic 92 Motorcycle at 25 feet 90 Busy Urban Street 90	dBA ²	90	
Car Wash (at 20 feet) 89 dBA ² Diesel Truck (40 mph at 50 feet) 84 dBA ² High Urban Ambient Sound 80 dBA ²) dBA² dBA²	80 88 dBA ² Food Blender 80 dBA ² Garbage Disposal	
Freeway Traffic (at 50 feet) 76		70	80 dBA ¹ Ringing Alarm Clock (at 2 feet)
Air Conditioning Unit (at 100 feet) 60) dBA²	60	69 dBA ¹ Vacuum Cleaner (at 10 feet) 65 dBA ¹ Busy Restaurant 60 dBA ³ Conversational Speech in Restaurant
Quiet Suburb (Daytime) 50) dBA3	50	50 dBA ³ Conversation in Living Room
Bird Calls 44 Lowest Limit of Urban Ambient Sound 40	Provide the second s	40	40 dBA ³ Library 40 dBA ³ Soft Background Music
Quiet Rural Nighttime 30) dBA3	30	34 dBA ¹ Soft Whispers (at 5 feet) 32 dBA ¹ Room in a quiet dwelling at midnight
Rustling Leaves 20	dBA1 —	20	
		10	
		0	o dBA4 Threshold of Hearing

1 Aviation Noise Effects, FAA, AEE, March, 1985 (FAA-EE-85-2), Table 1.1

- 2 Federal Agency Review of Selected Airport Noise Analysis Issues (Federal Interagency Committee on Noise), August 1992, Table B.1
- 3 Children's health and the environment, A Global Perspective, World Health Organization, 2005. Table 15.1
- 4 OSHA Technical Manual, TED 01-00-015. Section III (Health Hazards), Chapter 5 (Noise, Updated 8/15/2013)