

REMINDER OF THE CONTEXT

There are many sources of noise in our daily lives: at work, on public transportation, in public places, at home, on the street. Noise is everywhere, all the time, making its management particularly challenging.

This note focuses primarily on perceptible noise disturbances in public spaces.

Key figures about noise pollution in the world

**2 billion
people worldwide
will experience
varying degrees
of hearing impairment
by 2050**

Source – OMS, 2021

**18 million
inhabitants of the EU
suffer from high
chronic annoyance
due to noise**

Source – European Environment Agency
Report, 2021

**12,000
premature deaths
per year in Europe
are attributed to noise**

Source – Press Release from the European
Commission, 2020

**57% of French
people now consider
themselves
more sensitive
to the quality
of the sound
environment
than before**

Source – CidB, 2020

**740 million
adults worldwide
suffer from tinnitus**

Source – JAMA Neurology study, 2022

NOISE POLLUTION

A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE

Monitoring of water and air pollution has long been at the forefront of concerns, at the expense of noise pollution, which has recently come under increasing attention.

There is an increasing amount of research demonstrating the health and environmental impacts of prolonged noise exposure.

Noise has been identified by the World Health Organization (WHO) as the second leading cause of morbidity in Europe, behind air pollution.

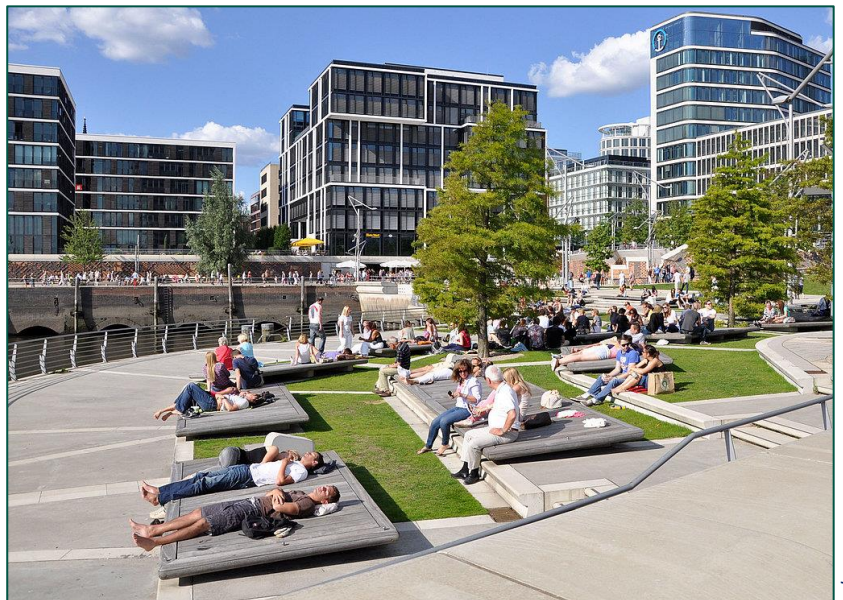
Noise disturbances are now recognized as a significant public health issue. The latest surveys conducted in France indicate that 65% of the French population personally declare being bothered by noise and sound disturbances (French Institute for public opinion survey, 2022).

Due to its invisible and omnipresent nature, noise is challenging to identify. The lockdowns implemented worldwide during the health crisis and the associated decrease in sound volume served as a unique example of an experiment with a quieter city.

This experience has raised awareness of the impact of such disturbances on the quality of life for everyone.

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Source – World Health Organization (WHO)



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