

DID YOU KNOW?

Disorders of hearing, speech, and language cost the U.S. economy an estimated **\$30 billion** each year in lost productivity, special education costs, and medical costs.¹

More than **12,000** babies are born each year with a significant hearing loss, which can affect speech and language development.²

84% of incarcerated youth have a communication disorder.³

Hearing loss is expected to cost society an additional **\$297,000** over the lifetime of an individual.⁴

There are approximately **42 million** Americans with speech, voice, and/or language impairments and/or hearing loss (approximately 1 in every 6 persons).⁵

It is estimated that approximately **one million** individuals in the United States have aphasia (an acquired language disorder). The majority of these cases are a result of stroke.⁶

References:

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- 3) Larson, V.L., and McKinley, N. (2000). Youth at Risk. In Language Disorders in Older Students: Preadolescents and Adolescents. Thinking Publications, 1-20.
- 4) The Societal Costs of Severe to Profound Hearing Loss in the United States. (2000) International Technology Assessment in Healthcare, 16 (4).
- 5) a. National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. (N.D.) Strategic plan: Plain language version. (Retrieved 4-23-03 from <http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/strategic/strategic.htm>).
b. National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. (N.D.) Fiscal year 1999 President's budget request for the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. (Retrieved 4-23-01 from <http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/about/director/openstate.htm>).
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- 6) National Aphasia Association. (1999, June 22). Aphasia facts sheet. (Retrieved 5-8-01 from <http://www.aphasia.org/NAAfactsheet.html>).