

Appendix 19.1

World Health Organisation Guidelines

GUIDELINES

FOR

COMMUNITY NOISE

World Health Organization, Geneva: 1999

Table 4.1: Guideline values for community noise in specific environments

	Critical health effect(s)	LAeq [dB]	Time Base [Hours]	LAmx fast [dB]
Outdoor Living Area	Serious annoyance, daytime and evening Moderate annoyance, daytime and evening	55 50	16 16	- -
Dwelling, indoors Inside bedrooms	Speech intelligibility and moderate annoyance, daytime and evening Sleep disturbance, night time	35 30	16 8	- 45
Outside bedrooms	Sleep disturbance, window open (outdoor values)	45	8	60
School class rooms and pre – schools, indoors	Speech intelligibility, disturbance of information extraction, message communication	35	during class	-
Pre – school Bedrooms, indoors	Sleep disturbance	30	sleeping - time	45
School, playground outdoor	Annoyance(external source)	55	during play	-
Hospital, ward rooms, indoors	Sleep disturbance, nighttime Sleep disturbance, daytime and evenings	30 30	8 16	40 -
Hospitals, treatment rooms, indoors	Interference with rest and recovery	#1		
Industrial, commercial, shopping and traffic areas, indoors and Outdoors	Hearing impairment	70	24	110
Ceremonies, festivals and entertainment events	Hearing impairment (patrons:<5 times/year)	100	4	110
Public addresses, indoors and outdoors	Hearing impairment	85	1	110
Music through headphones/Earphones	Hearing impairment (free - field value)	85 #4	1	110
Impulse sounds from toys, fireworks and firearms	Hearing impairment (adults) Hearing impairment (children)	- -	- -	140 #2 120 #2
Outdoor in parkland and conservation areas	Disruption of tranquillity	#3		