Ohio MCH Fact Sheet

Early Childhood Hearing

Ohio Data

43.5%

Preschool-aged children enrolled in school-based preschools who received a hearing screening in 2006.

92.4%

School-aged children who received a hearing screening in 2006.

2.8%

School-aged children who received a hearing screening and failed the screening in 2006.

2.7%

Children in kindergarten and first grade who received a hearing screening and failed the screening in 2006.

2,911

Children and youth (0-21 years old) who received hearing clinic services in the Medical Specialty Clinics Program in SFY 2006.

Source: Data are from a statewide sample of schools administered every other year through the School Hearing and Vision Screening Report. The denominator was obtained through ODE enrollment data for the 2006-07 school year. Data are reported from school-based preschools only.

The advantages of early detection of hearing impairments are indisputable and include necessary follow-up of free and appropriate enrollment in habilitation and education programs.

Hearing loss affects language, speech, cognitive development and educational progress as well as self-image and social/emotional development. Even mild hearing loss has substantial detrimental consequences. Periodic screening is essential to identify hearing loss.

Only 5.5 percent of students involved in noisy activities use hearing protection and it is estimated that 1 percent of school-aged children have some degree of noise-induced hearing loss (National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, 2008).

Children who are hard of hearing will find it much more difficult than children who have normal hearing to learn vocabulary, grammar, word order, idiomatic expressions and other aspects of verbal communication.

Healthy People Objective 28-13

Increase access by persons who have hearing impairments to hearing rehabilitation services and adaptive devices, including hearing aids, cochlear implants or tactile or other assistive or augmentative devices.

Healthy People Objective 28-17 (developmental)

Reduce noise-induced hearing loss in children and adolescents aged 17 years and under.