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# Noise Hazards

## ROADWAY SAFETY

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# Is Too Much Noise a Serious Problem?

**You can lose your hearing. You can lose your life.**

## On the job

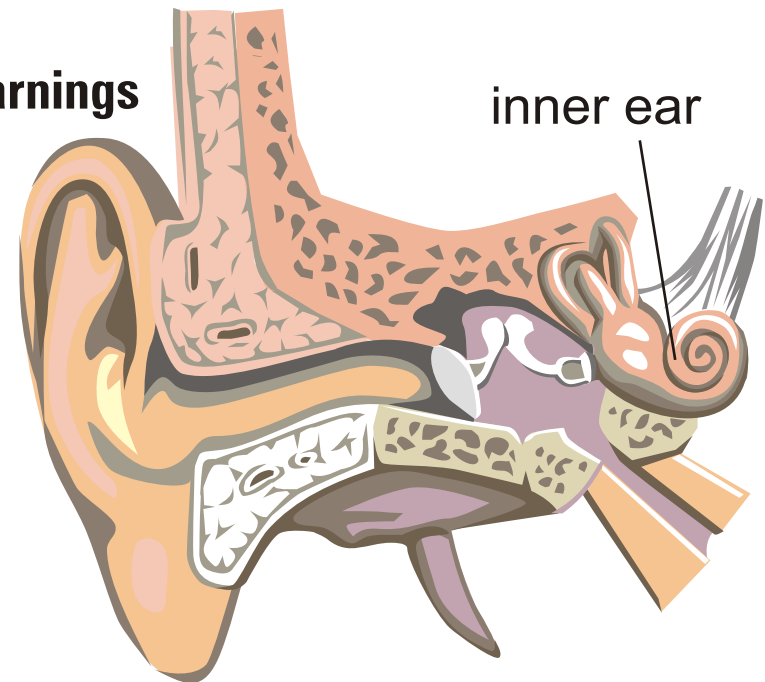
- Noise can distract you, you may not hear warnings
- Noise damages the nerves in the inner ear, they cannot be repaired

## After 15 to 20 years in the trade

- You may suffer permanent hearing loss
- You may suffer constant ringing (tinnitus)

## If you suffer hearing loss

- You cannot hear well, especially when there is background noise
- It can affect your family and personal life



NAPA

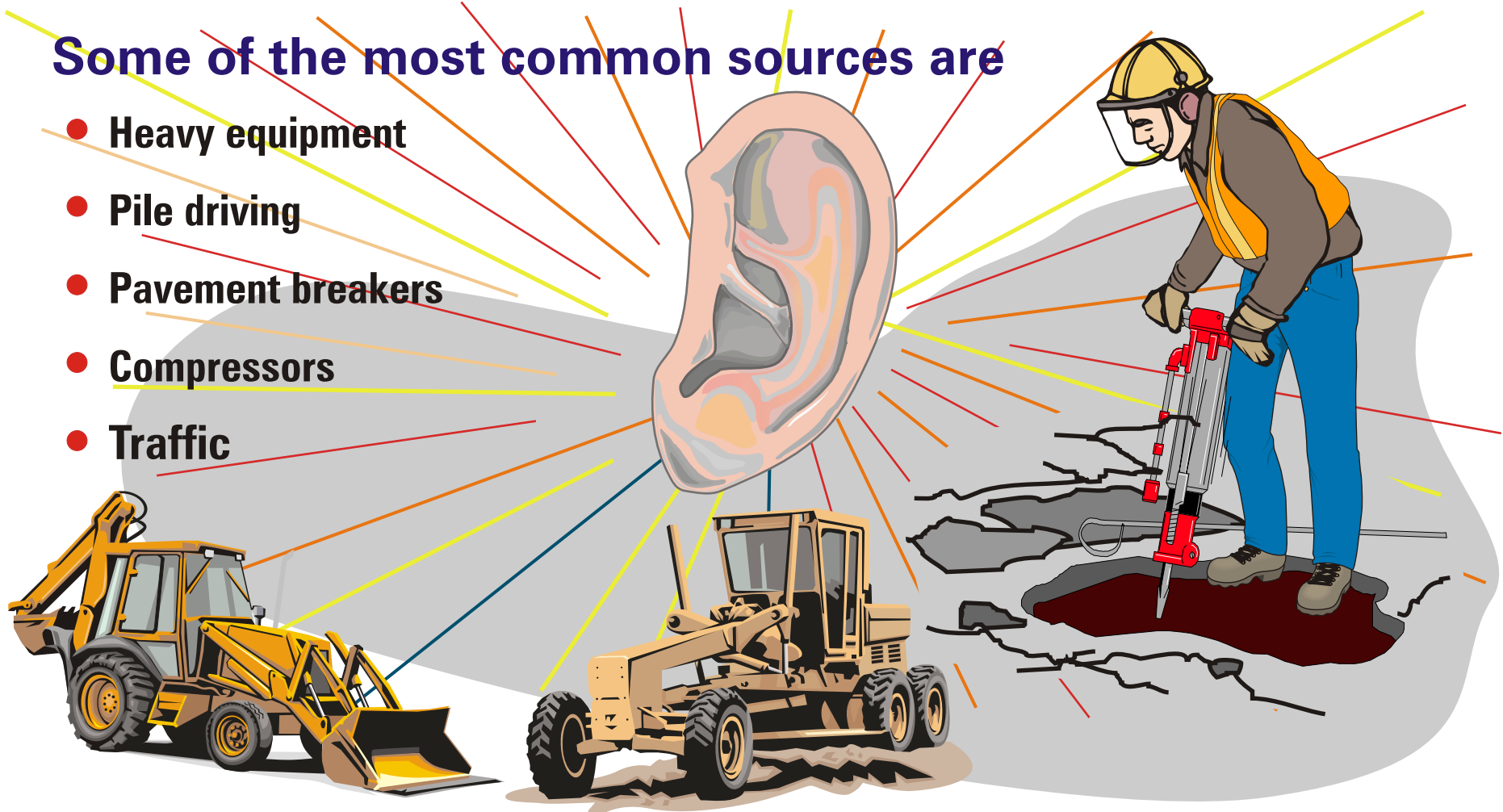
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# What Noise Sources Are Most Common?

There are many noise sources in road work.

Some of the most common sources are

- Heavy equipment
- Pile driving
- Pavement breakers
- Compressors
- Traffic



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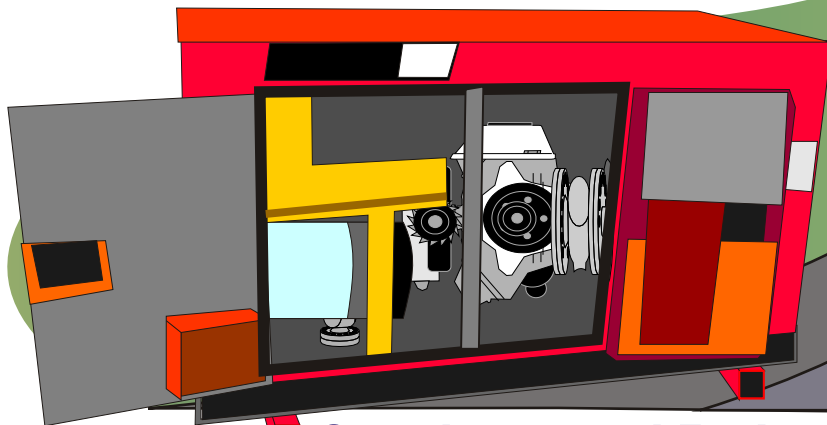


# Could Road Work Be Less Noisy?

**Yes. There are efforts to make it quieter.**

**Noise levels can be reduced by**

- Buying/renting quieter equipment
- Keeping equipment well maintained
- Move noisy equipment away
- Sound barriers around equipment



■ **Sound Insulated Equipment**

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## How Do We Protect Our Hearing Now?

**Wear hearing protection.**

**If you must shout to talk with someone 3 feet away, you need protection from noise**

- Use hearing protectors provided by your employer
- Notify employer if proper hearing protection is not available
- Make sure hearing protection fits and is comfortable
- Follow instructions for proper hearing protection use
- Get a hearing test about once a year so you'll know your hearing protection is working

