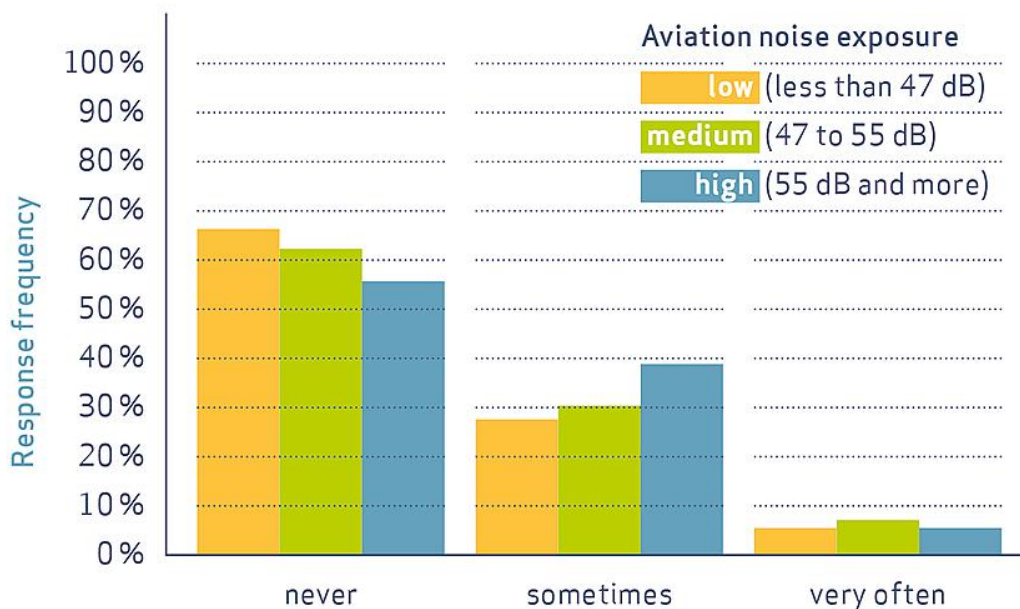


The quality of life from the point of view of the children

“In the last week I had headaches or tummy ache.”



Responses of the children to the statement "In the last week I had headaches or tummy ache." in the groups with low, medium and high aviation noise exposure. Children in the areas with high exposure were less likely to state that they had "never" suffered from headaches or tummy ache.

In order to find out how the children assess their physical and mental quality of life, the scientists asked them to answer various questions relating to the last week. Among other things, children were asked whether they had suffered from headaches or tummy problems in this time, whether they slept well, and whether they had been bored. To answer the questions they could choose from "never", "sometimes", or "very often". It was shown that there was a statistically significant effect of the aviation noise on the responses.



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In the group of children with the lowest level of noise exposure, 67 percent stated that they never had headaches or tummy aches. In the group of children with the highest level of noise exposure only 56 percent said this. The scientists were able to statistically rule out any other differences between the groups – e.g. different socioeconomic status (L Glossary) – that might have had an influence on the children's responses.