

SOUND OUTCOMES

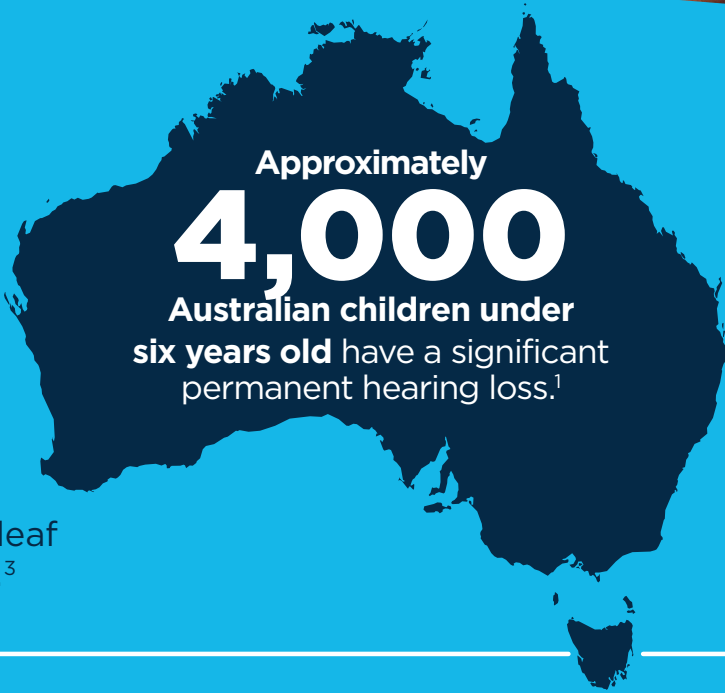
Transforming the lives of children with hearing loss.



Half

of the population

knows someone with hearing loss,² yet 94% don't realise that clear speech can be the main form of communication for children born deaf or hard of hearing.³



Right now, more than

50%^{**}

of Australian children with hearing loss are not receiving critical specialised services to develop spoken language.

In First Voice centres children with hearing loss are achieving better language outcomes than their typically hearing peers.*

Language scores within or above the average range:

86% of First Voice children with hearing loss alone.

84% general population.

73% of children with additional disability and/or exposed to a language other than English.

¹ Hearing Australia. (2019). Aided Child Demographics. <https://www.hearing.com.au/HearingAustralia/media/assets/Documents/Aided-Child-demographics-2019-Hearing-Australia.pdf>

² The State of Hearing Report. (2019). Retrieved from Cochlear website: https://www.cochlear.com/Ob77bb79-d5f6-4afe-9086-fcde0c72ae65/D1591517+4.2+FE19+Global+state+of+hearing+report+GB_WEB.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE-0b77bb79-d5f6-4afe-9086-fcde0c72ae65-mAN.EVf

³ First Voice. (2021). *Public Perceptions of Deafness* (market research report).

* Enrolled in a First Voice Listening and Spoken Language Early Intervention program, children otherwise typically developing and whose diagnosis was not delayed.

** Less than 50% of the children with significant hearing loss¹ attend an early intervention service specialising in language development for children with hearing loss.

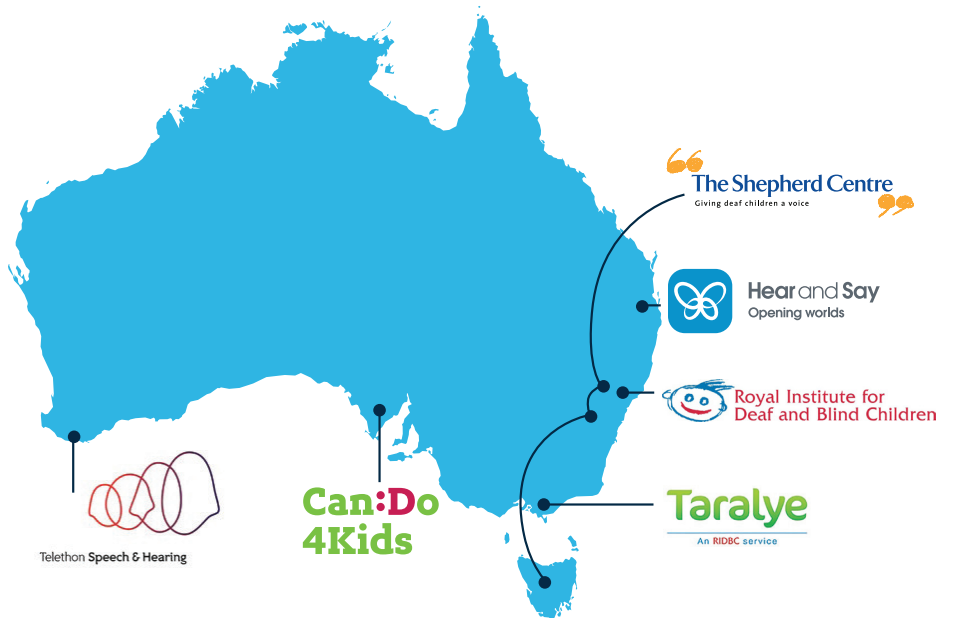
First Voice Who We Are

First Voice is an association of world-leading centres across the globe who, through the combination of early diagnosis, advanced hearing technology and highly specialised speech therapy (known as listening and spoken language early intervention) help children with hearing loss to reach their potential.

Hearing loss is often called the invisible disability. Many children and families impacted by hearing loss are being overlooked.

You can help ensure they are being heard.

firstvoice.org.au
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International members



AUDITORY VERBALSM



Together we achieve



Access to early diagnosis, the best possible **hearing technology** and **specialised support**.



Empowerment for families, children, individuals and communities impacted by hearing loss.



Children starting at their local school with clear speech and language **on par with their peers without a hearing loss**.



Adolescents maximising opportunities such as going to university or beginning their career of choice.



Optimised outcomes through evidence-based programs, underpinned by research and extensive clinical experience.



Advocacy at all levels, driving and influencing public perceptions, government policy and clinical pathways.

At a glance



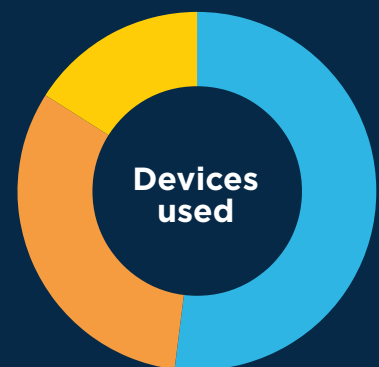
83% of children were diagnosed through hospital-based Universal Newborn Hearing Screening.

17% of children developed late onset hearing loss or were born overseas with no hearing screening.



76% of children had hearing loss in both ears.

24% of children had single-sided hearing loss.



52% wore hearing aids.

32% of children wore cochlear implants.

16% wore a hearing device other than hearing aids/cochlear implants, or were not fitted with a device.