

A Survey of Hearing Tests for Drivers Using Whispered Voices

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In order to obtain a train driver's license, you have to pass a physical examination. The standard for hearing in the physical examination states that "each ear must be able to hear whispered words clearly at a distance of 5 meters", but the specific method of measurement is not clear, nor is the relevance to the audiometer test method used by JR. A survey was conducted to understand the reality of hearing tests using whispered voices. The results confirmed that the peak sound pressure level of a whisper voice is around 1000 Hz, and that the A-weighted sound pressure level in this frequency band is generally 30 dB to 40 dB, which is roughly consistent with the results of audiometer tests.