

How many deafblind people are there?

The deafblind population has been significantly underestimated and is set to rise dramatically.



Sense commissioned independent, expert research on the numbers of deafblind people now and over the next twenty years. The Centre for Disability Research (CeDR) report, summarised in the download below, found that the deafblind population has been significantly underestimated and is set to rise dramatically.

The numbers of deafblind people in the UK

The new research is available to download below:

- [Summary report \(PDF 821KB\)](#) of new national data and Sense recommendations
- [Detailed CeDR report \(DOC 348KB\)](#) - [Original report \(DOC 412KB\)](#)
- [Text only version of summary report \(DOC 69KB\)](#)
- [View the regional data of future deafblind population.](#)

Number of deafblind people by age band

	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
0-19	21,000	22,000	23,000	23,000	23,000
20-59	56,000	59,000	60,000	59,000	58,000
60-69	57,000	59,000	59,000	66,000	71,000
70+	222,000	254,000	298,000	348,000	418,000
TOTAL	356,000	394,000	440,000	496,000	569,000

Taking action

Sense's main recommendations are contained in the [summary report](#), these include improvements in identification, planning and budgeting, assessments, social care services and government policies.

More information

Local authorities have statutory responsibilities towards deafblind people. Those responsible for commissioning, planning and delivering primary health care will need to know how to support deafblind people.

We've put together a short [question and answer](#) page to provide further resources.

If you would like further information:

- [Contact the Information and Advice Team](#) who can answer your questions and put you in touch with specialist support where needed.
- Contact your local authority, who are responsible for supporting deafblind people in their area - find details for your [local authority](#).
- Contact a health professional for health related advice - [find contact details](#).