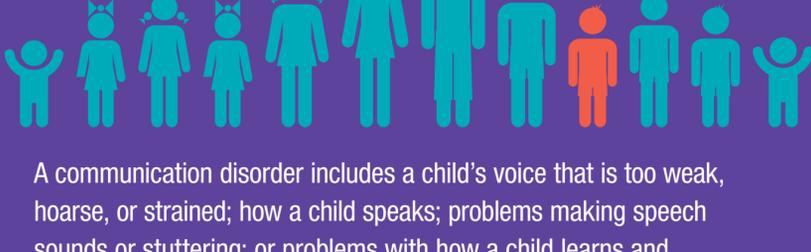
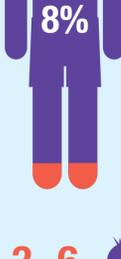


# Nearly 1 in 12 Children Ages 3–17 Has a Disorder Related to Voice, Speech, Language, or Swallowing



A communication disorder includes a child's voice that is too weak, hoarse, or strained; how a child speaks; problems making speech sounds or stuttering; or problems with how a child learns and understands words or sentences. A swallowing disorder means that a child has trouble swallowing food or liquids for at least 1 week.

Treatment, such as speech and language therapy, can help these children overcome their communication or swallowing disorders.



Nearly **8%** of children ages 3–17 has had a communication or swallowing disorder during the **past 12 months**.



Among those with any communication or swallowing disorder, **younger children, boys, and non-Hispanic white children** were more likely than other children **to receive treatment** for their disorder.

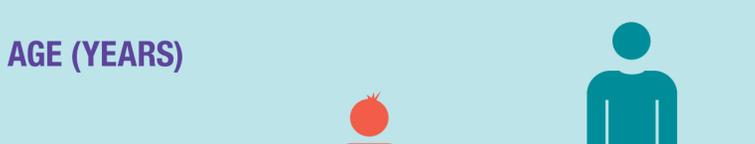
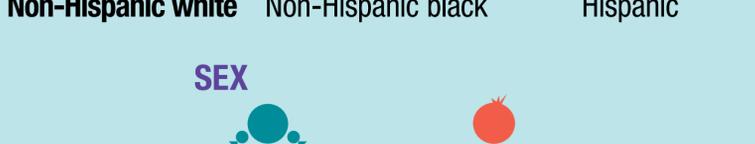
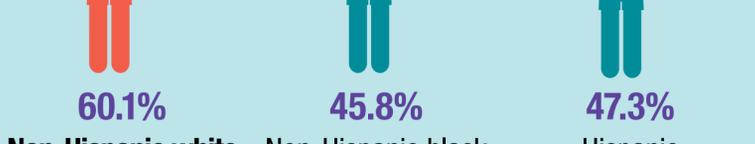
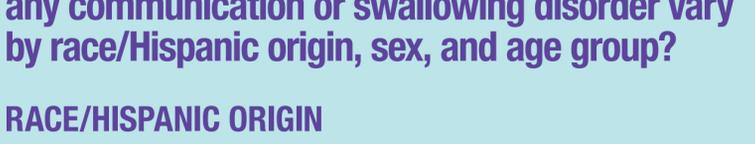
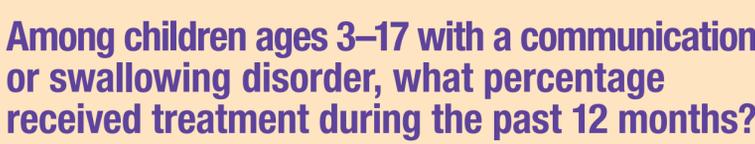
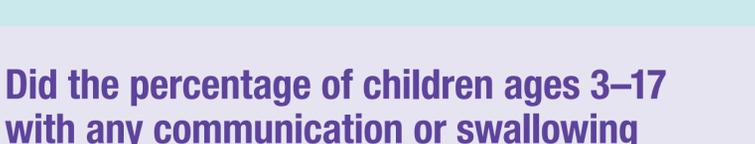
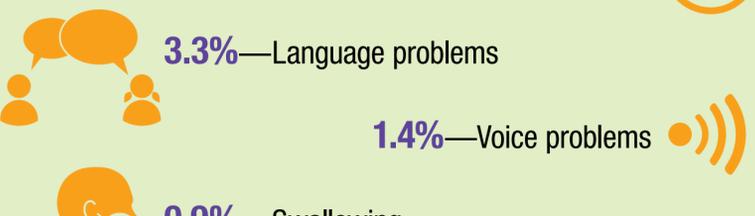


**Children ages 3–6, boys, and non-Hispanic black children** are more likely than other children **to have** any communication or swallowing disorder.



Approximately **55%** of children ages 3–17 who had any communication or swallowing disorder **received treatment** during the past 12 months.

## What percentage of children ages 3–17 years had a communication disorder during the past 12 months?



1 in 3 children ages 3–10      1 in 4 children ages 11–17

## Did the percentage of children ages 3–17 with any communication or swallowing disorder during the past 12 months vary by race/Hispanic origin, sex, or age group?



**RACE/HISPANIC ORIGIN**

7.8% Non-Hispanic white      9.6% Non-Hispanic black      6.9% Hispanic

**SEX**

5.7% Girls      9.6% Boys

**AGE (YEARS)**

11.0% 3–6 year olds      9.3% 7–10 year olds      4.9% 11–17 year olds

## Among children ages 3–17 with a communication or swallowing disorder, what percentage received treatment during the past 12 months?



55.2% Any communication or swallowing disorder      67.6% Speech problems      66.8% Language problems

22.8% Voice problems      12.7% Swallowing problems

## Did the percentage of children ages 3–17 who received treatment during the past 12 months for any communication or swallowing disorder vary by race/Hispanic origin, sex, and age group?



**RACE/HISPANIC ORIGIN**

60.1% Non-Hispanic white      45.8% Non-Hispanic black      47.3% Hispanic

**SEX**

47.8% Girls      59.4% Boys

**AGE (YEARS)**

59.8% 3–6 year olds      61.3% 7–10 year olds      42.6% 11–17 year olds