

infrasound

Infrasound is [sound](#) that is lower in [frequency](#) than 20 Hz (Hertz) or cycles per second, the "normal" limit of human hearing. Hearing becomes gradually less sensitive as [frequency](#) decreases, so for humans to perceive **infrasound**, the [sound pressure](#) must be sufficiently high. The [ear](#) is the primary organ for sensing **infrasound**, but at higher levels it is possible to feel **infrasound** vibrations in various parts of the [body](#).

The study of such sound waves is sometimes referred to as **infrasonics**, covering sounds beneath 20 Hz down to 0.001 Hz. This [frequency](#) range is utilized for monitoring earthquakes, charting rock and petroleum formations below the earth, and also in ballistocardiography and seismocardiography to study the mechanics of the [heart](#). **Infrasound** is characterized by an ability to cover long distances and get around obstacles with little [dissipation](#).

See Also

[high silence](#)
[infrasound](#)
[low silence](#)
[silence](#)
[ultrasound](#)
[Sonar](#)