

### Supplementary Files

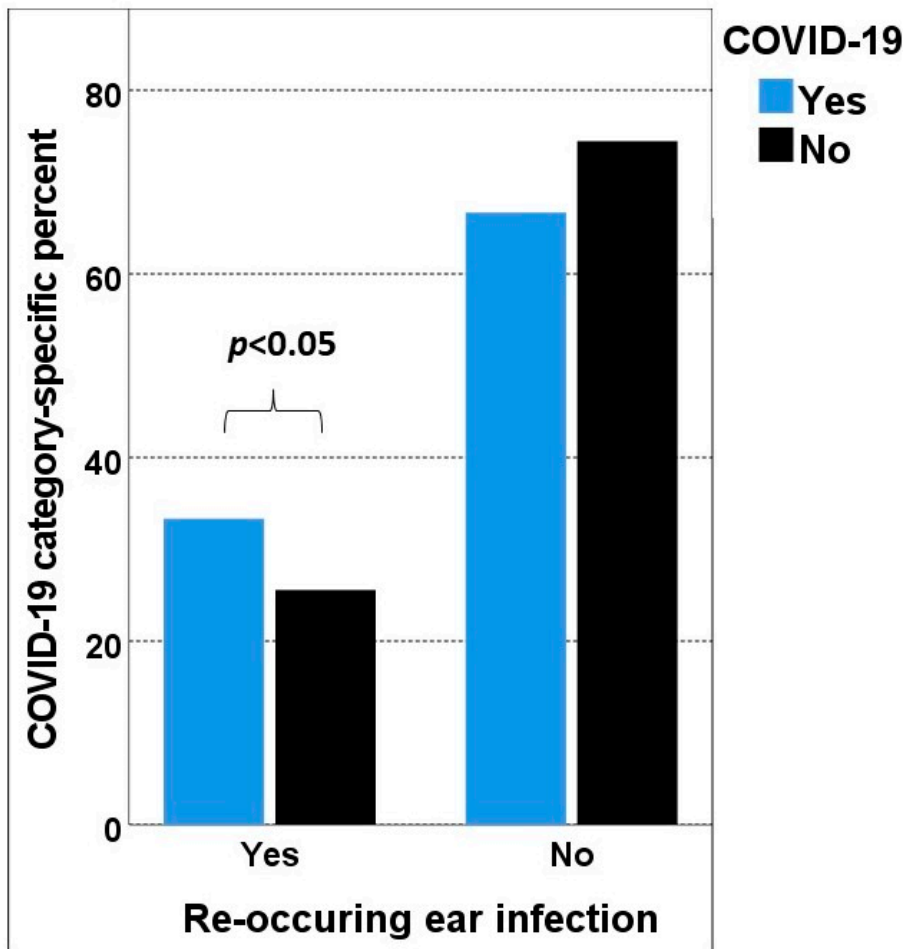


Figure S1: A bar chart showing the prevalence of COVID-19 between individuals with and without a history of reoccurring ear infections. Individuals with reoccurring ear infections reported a significantly higher prevalence of COVID-19 (NT – Not tinnitus, SAT = subacute tinnitus, AT – acute tinnitus, and CT – chronic tinnitus).

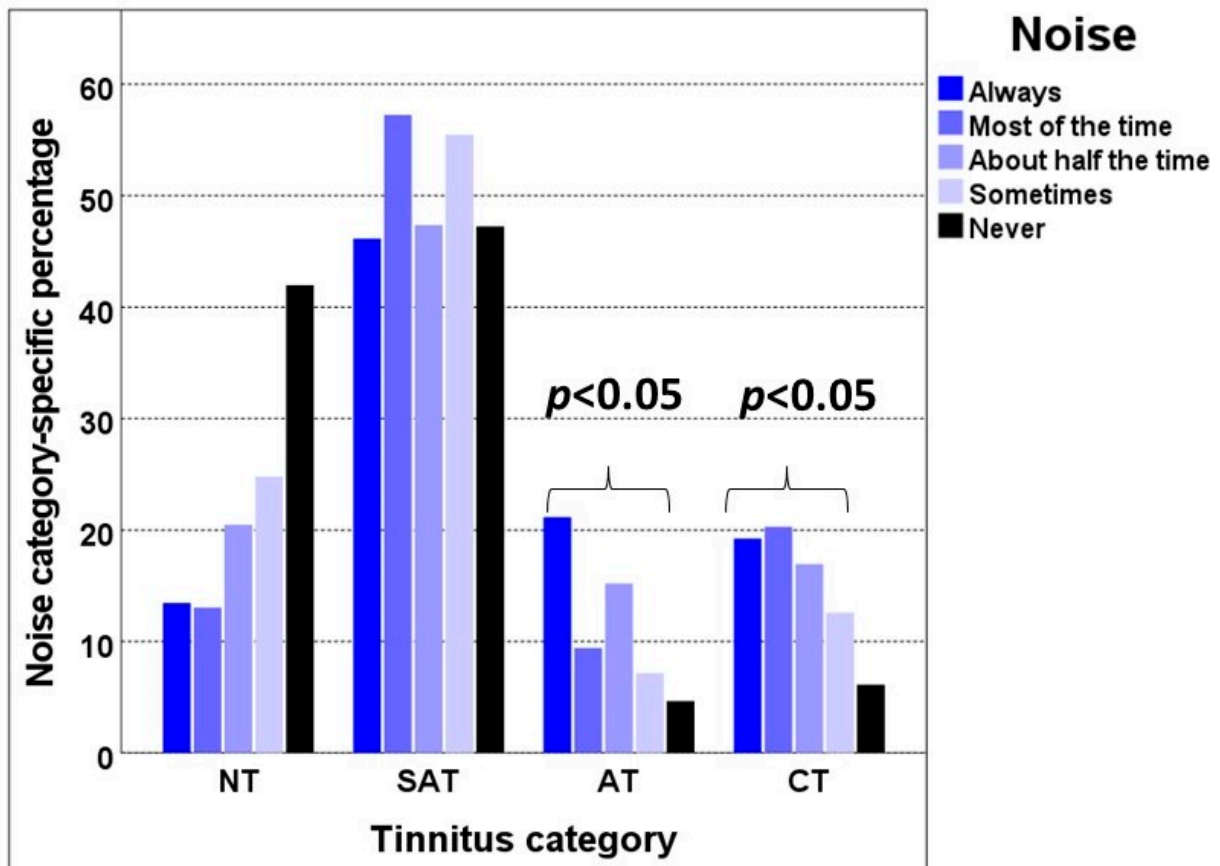
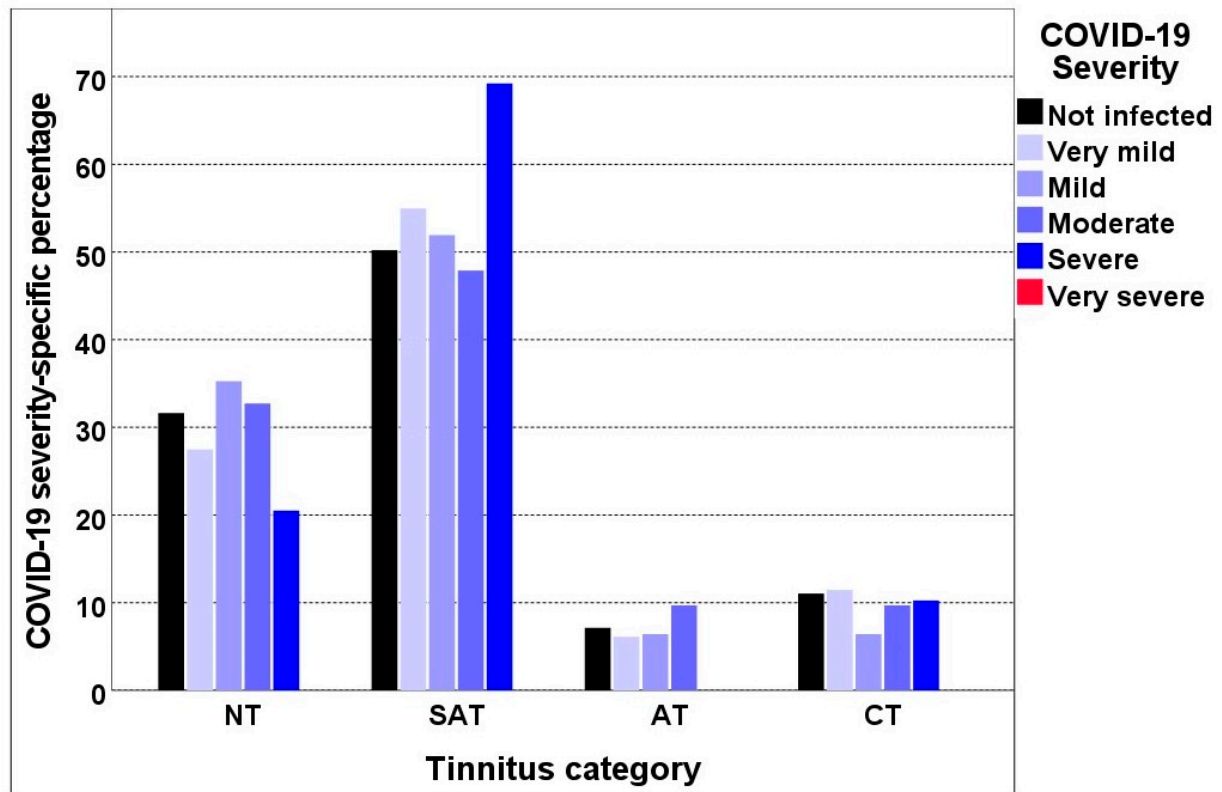


Figure S2: A bar chart showing the noise category-specific prevalence of tinnitus. The prevalence of chronic tinnitus rises from about 6% to 20% as a function of the noise exposure category, showing that chronic tinnitus is significantly associated with noise exposure (NT – Not tinnitus, SAT = subacute tinnitus, AT – acute tinnitus, and CT – chronic tinnitus).



**Figure S3:** A bar chart showing the COVID-19 severity-specific percentage among tinnitus categories, suggesting no significant association between COVID-19 and tinnitus category in young adults (NT – Not tinnitus, SAT = subacute tinnitus, AT – acute tinnitus, and CT – chronic tinnitus).

Table S1. Study Questionnaire

<b>Study Questionnaire</b>	
Please read all the questions carefully before answering them.	
<b>1</b>	<b>Demographic Details</b>
<p><b>What is your age?</b> _____ years</p> <p><b>What is your gender?</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Male  <input type="checkbox"/> Female  <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____  <input type="checkbox"/> No disclosure         </p> <p><b>What is your ethnicity? Please check all that apply.</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 60%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Black/ African American/ Afro Caribbean  <input type="checkbox"/> White  <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/ Latino  <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander  <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/ Alaskan Native         </div> <div style="width: 35%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Middle Eastern  <input type="checkbox"/> South Asian  <input type="checkbox"/> East Asian  <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____         </div> </div>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Tinnitus</b>
<p><b>In the past 12 months, have you been bothered by ringing, roaring, buzzing, or any other type of sounds in ears or head that lasts for <u>5 minutes or more</u>?</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No         </p> <p><b>If you answered “Yes” to the above question, then please answer how long have you been bothered by this ringing, roaring, or buzzing in ears or head?</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Less than three months   <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 4 years  <input type="checkbox"/> 10 or more years         </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Three months to a year   <input type="checkbox"/> 5 to 9 years  <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know         </div> </div> <p><b>Have you <u>ever</u> experienced ringing, roaring, or buzzing in your ears/head?</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No         </p> <p><b>If yes, do you hear continuous ringing, roaring, or buzzing <u>in silence when you pay attention</u>?</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No         </p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Overall health</b>
<p><b>What illnesses do you have, or have you had? Please check all that apply.</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p>Please select all that apply:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 40%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Meningitis  <input type="checkbox"/> High Blood Pressure   <input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet fever         </div> <div style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes         </div> <div style="width: 35%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Heart disease  <input type="checkbox"/> Head Injury         </div> </div> <p><b>Please list other health conditions that you have or had in the past (including physical and mental health conditions):</b></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	

<b>Have you ever been infected with COVID-19?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <b>If yes, please indicate overall symptom severity while you were infected:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Very mild <input type="checkbox"/> Mild <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate <input type="checkbox"/> Severe <input type="checkbox"/> Very severe	
<b>4</b>	<b>Hearing health</b>
<b>Do you have a history of ear infections?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  <b>Ever had 3 or more ear infections?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No  <b>Have you been exposed to loud recreational or occupational noise/music for more than 10 hours a week over the past year?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Never <input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/> About half the time <input type="checkbox"/> Most of the time <input type="checkbox"/> Always	