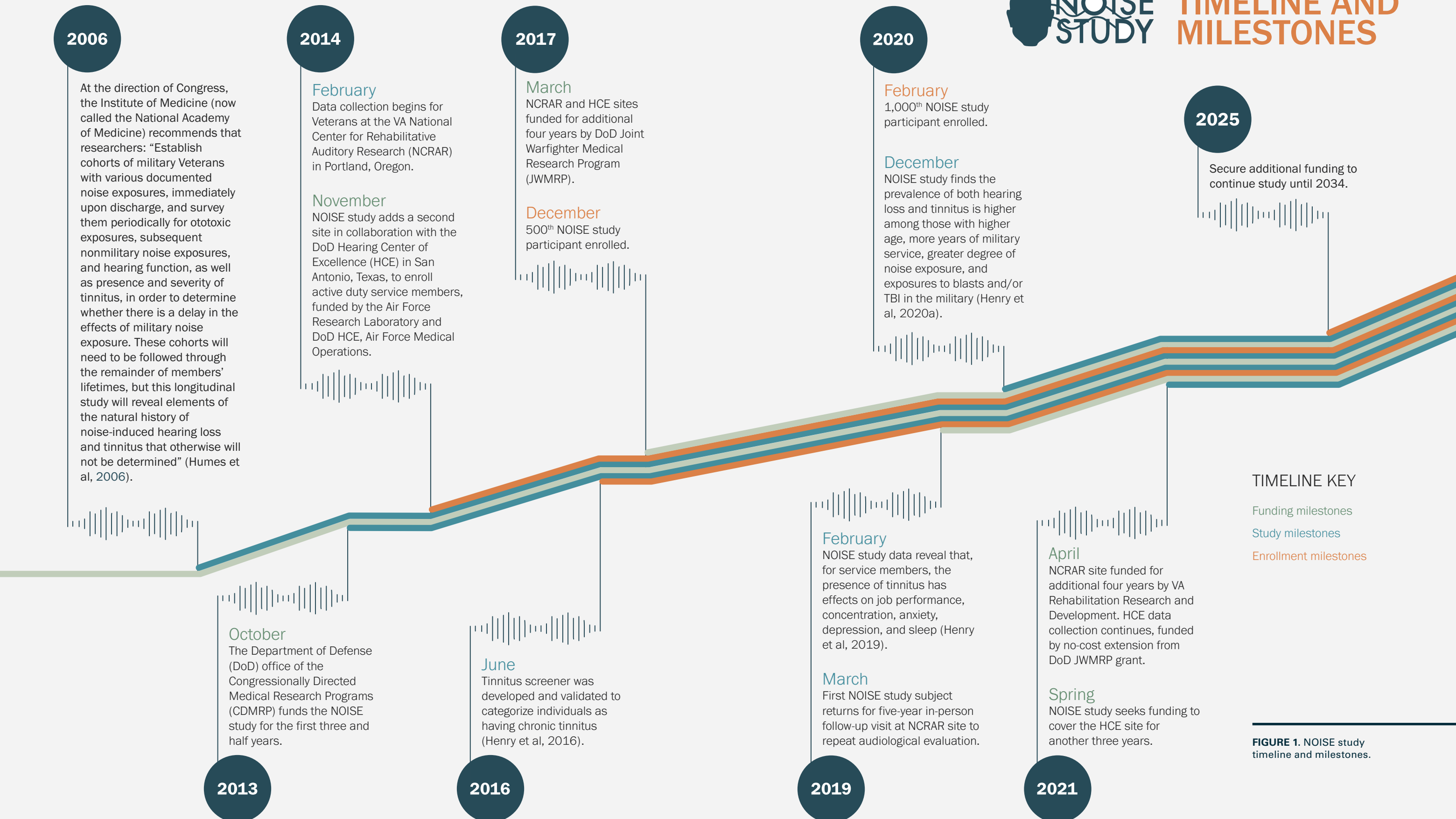


NOISE STUDY TIMELINE AND MILESTONES



2006

At the direction of Congress, the Institute of Medicine (now called the National Academy of Medicine) recommends that researchers: “Establish cohorts of military Veterans with various documented noise exposures, immediately upon discharge, and survey them periodically for ototoxic exposures, subsequent nonmilitary noise exposures, and hearing function, as well as presence and severity of tinnitus, in order to determine whether there is a delay in the effects of military noise exposure. These cohorts will need to be followed through the remainder of members’ lifetimes, but this longitudinal study will reveal elements of the natural history of noise-induced hearing loss and tinnitus that otherwise will not be determined” (Humes et al, 2006).

2014

February

Data collection begins for Veterans at the VA National Center for Rehabilitative Auditory Research (NCRAR) in Portland, Oregon.

November

NOISE study adds a second site in collaboration with the DoD Hearing Center of Excellence (HCE) in San Antonio, Texas, to enroll active duty service members, funded by the Air Force Research Laboratory and DoD HCE, Air Force Medical Operations.

2017

March

NCRAR and HCE sites funded for additional four years by DoD Joint Warfighter Medical Research Program (JWMRP).

December

500th NOISE study participant enrolled.

2020

February

1,000th NOISE study participant enrolled.

December

NOISE study finds the prevalence of both hearing loss and tinnitus is higher among those with higher age, more years of military service, greater degree of noise exposure, and exposures to blasts and/or TBI in the military (Henry et al, 2020a).

2025

Secure additional funding to continue study until 2034.

2013

October

The Department of Defense (DoD) office of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) funds the NOISE study for the first three and half years.

2016

June

Tinnitus screener was developed and validated to categorize individuals as having chronic tinnitus (Henry et al, 2016).

2019

February

NOISE study data reveal that, for service members, the presence of tinnitus has effects on job performance, concentration, anxiety, depression, and sleep (Henry et al, 2019).

March

First NOISE study subject returns for five-year in-person follow-up visit at NCRAR site to repeat audiological evaluation.

2021

April

NCRAR site funded for additional four years by VA Rehabilitation Research and Development. HCE data collection continues, funded by no-cost extension from DoD JWMRP grant.

Spring

NOISE study seeks funding to cover the HCE site for another three years.

TIMELINE KEY

Funding milestones

Study milestones

Enrollment milestones

FIGURE 1. NOISE study timeline and milestones.