



Supply and Demand Resource List for Audiologists

January 2009

Introduction

This report presents data on national and state-level demand projections for the profession of audiology. Relevant data from external sources and recent ASHA-sponsored surveys are presented.

National and State-Level Demand Estimates Across All Types of Employment Facilities

The **U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)** monitors the supply and demand for more than 800 occupations. According to the BLS, the national employment rate of audiologists is expected to demonstrate *average growth* (i.e., reflecting an increase of 7% to 13%) through the year 2016 (www.bls.gov/oco/ocos085.htm#outlook).

According to the BLS, 1,200 additional audiologists will be needed to fill the demand between 2006 and 2016—a 10% increase in job openings. Openings are due to growth and net replacements (www.bls.gov/oco/ocos085.htm#projections_data).

The BLS *Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH)*, 2008–09 Edition, is available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/oco/home.htm.

- Use the *OOH* Index to locate data for the audiology profession.

BLS state occupation projections for 2006–2016 are available on the Projections Central Web site at www.projectionscentral.com/.

- Click on “2006–2016 Long Term Projections.”
- Scroll down to “Audiologists.”
- Scroll down and select the state(s) for which you are interested.
- Click on “View Projections.”

National, state-level, and metropolitan occupational employment and wage data for the profession of audiology are available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes291121.htm.

- Wage data are presented at the 10th, 25th, 50th (median), 75th, and 90th percentiles.
- Data reflect May 2007.

BLS wages by area and occupation are available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/bls/blswage.htm.

- Click on “By State” under the State Wage Data heading.
- Click on the state for which you are interested.
- Scroll down to occupation code 29-1121 and click on “Audiologists.”
- Wage data are presented at the 10th, 25th, 50th (median), 75th, and 90th percentiles.
- Data reflect May 2007.

Best Careers 2009: Audiologist

The U.S. News and World Report selected “audiologist” as one of its “30 Best Careers of 2009.” The article is available at <http://www.usnews.com/articles/business/best-careers/2008/12/11/best-careers-2009-audiologist.html>.

General Health Care Workforce Information

Information on the overall health care workforce is available from the **National Center for Health Workforce Analysis**, which operates under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). State health workforce profiles (published in 2004 and 2000) are presented, as are reports on the aging population, diversity in the health professions, and other topics. These reports are available on the DHHS Web site at www.bhpr.hrsa.gov/healthworkforce, under the “All Reports” link.

The Center for Health Workforce Studies (CHWS), a not-for-profit research organization, released a report in May 2008 summarizing labor projections for the period 2006 through 2016 for health care settings and occupations (including audiologist). The report, “Health Care Employment Projections: An Analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Projections, 2006–2016,” is available on the CHWS Web site at <http://chws.albany.edu/index.php?id=11,0,0,1,0,0>.

Vacancies in School Facilities

Data on vacancies for audiologists in school facilities are available in the **U.S. Department of Education's** (ED) *Twenty-Seventh Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*, published in September 2007.

Data Table 3-3 (in Volume II, page 227 of the PDF version) contains national and state-level data on the number of “fully certified” and “not fully certified” audiologists and vacant funded positions (in full-time equivalency) to provide special education and related services to individuals age 3 through 21, by personnel type, certification status, and state (as of fall 2002). According to the report, there were 1,060 fully certified and 47 not fully certified audiologists employed in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Note that states use their own definition of “qualified,” which typically equates to state license and not necessarily to ASHA certification. Therefore, not all individuals counted as “fully certified” would meet requirements for ASHA certification, the only standards-based criteria for being qualified to enter the practice of audiology. The report is available on the ED Web site at www.ed.gov/about/reports/annual/osep/2005/parts-b-c/index.html.

The 2006 “Educator Supply and Demand” research report by the **American Association for Employment in Education** (AAEE) presents job market data on 64 teaching, administrative, and support fields including audiology. According to the report, respondents indicate “some shortage” of audiologists in school settings (see Table 1, page 7). The report also includes regional highlights and data trends, and may be accessed on the AAEE Web site at www.aeee.org/, under the “Research/Grants” label.

Enrollments and Graduations in Communication Sciences and Disorders Programs

According to the most recent published **Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders** (CAPCSD) demographic survey (2000–01), the number of master’s programs in audiology changed from 118 in 1994–95 and 119 in 1996–97 to 112 in 1998–99. In 2000–01, there were a total of 118 clinical entry-level audiology programs (102 master’s programs, 12 entry-level doctor of audiology [AuD] programs, and 4 post-entry-level AuD programs; see Table 2, page 23 of the survey report).

The percentage of master’s student applicants who were admitted to graduate programs increased between 1996–97 and 2000–01 from 26.8% to 43.0%, while the percentage who were admitted and enrolled decreased during the same period (from 64.5% to 56.1%; see Table 1 below).

Table 1. Number of Master’s Students Who Applied, Who Were Admitted, and Who Enrolled in Graduate Programs, 1994–95 to 2000–01.

Academic Year ^a	Applied/Enrolled			Applied/Admitted			Admitted/Enrolled		
	# Applied	# Enrolled	% Enrolled	# Applied	# Admitted	% Admitted	# Admitted	# Enrolled	% Enrolled
1994–95	21,631	4,478	20.7%	21,631	6,498	30.0%	6,498	4,478	68.9%
1996–97	26,912	4,660	17.3%	26,912	7,225	26.8%	7,225	4,660	64.5%
1998–99	26,296	5,127	19.5%	26,296	8,000	30.4%	8,000	5,127	64.1%
2000–01	15,464	3,733	24.1%	15,464	6,650	43.0%	6,650	3,733	56.1%

Note. Data reflect all master’s-level students in communication sciences and disorders programs combined; separate data for audiology, speech-language pathology, and speech and hearing science programs are not available. From Council of Academic Programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders, 1994–95, 1996–97, 1998–99, and 2000–01 Surveys of Undergraduate and Graduate Programs.

^aFor 1994–95, 77% of programs reported; for 1996–97, 76% of programs reported; for 1998–99, 73% of programs reported; for 2000–01, 56% of programs reported.

According to the 2000–01 survey, there was a 17% increase in the number of enrollments from 1998–99 and 2000–01 (see page 7 of the survey report). The number of audiology master’s-level students rose from 1,306 in 1998–99 to 1,521 in 2000–01 (see Table 14, page 37). In addition, 124 students were enrolled in clinical doctorate programs in 2000–01 (see page 7). Decreases were noted in the number of master’s degrees awarded in audiology between 1997–98 and 1999–2000 (873 to 856, respectively; see Table 7, page 30). In addition, 19 clinical doctorate degrees were awarded in 1999–2000 (see page 11). The survey report is available on the CAPCSD Web site at www.capcsd.org/survey/2002/2000-01DemographicsSurvey.pdf.

ASHA Resources on Audiologist Supply and Demand and Wages

ASHA publishes **annual demographic reports** on the number of individuals who hold the ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence in Audiology (CCC-A). At year-end 2007, almost 13,000 individuals held the CCC-A. The number of CCC-A holders has increased by 6% over the last decade, from 12,090 in 1997 to 12,773 in 2007. The demographic reports present data on employment status, primary employment facility and function, private practice status, age, race, ethnicity, and gender. The reports are available on the ASHA Web site at www.asha.org/about/membership-certification/member-data/member-counts.htm.

A report on **personnel-to-population ratios** by state is also available on the ASHA Web site at www.asha.org/members/research/reports/personnel.htm.

As part of the **2006 ASHA Audiology Survey**, ASHA-certified audiologists were asked to rate the current job market for audiologists in their type of employment facility and in their geographic area. Approximately 43% of all audiologists responding to the survey indicated that there were fewer job openings than job seekers, 37% indicated that the number of job openings was in balance with the number of job seekers, and 19% indicated that job openings were more numerous than job seekers. These data are presented in the **2006 Audiology Survey Frequency Report** (Question 2). This report is available on the ASHA Web site at www.asha.org/NR/rdonlyres/AE659AD6-0C89-4EC9-B468-C3500970DC76/0/06AudSurvey_FrequencyReport.pdf.

The **2006 ASHA Audiology Survey Annual and Hourly Salaries Reports** provide information on the median salaries of ASHA-certified audiologists by facility and function, highest level of academic degree, years of experience, geographic region, and other variables. These and other survey reports are available on the ASHA Web site at www.asha.org/about/membership-certification/member-data/audiologysurvey.htm.

In 2006, the overall median annual salary for an ASHA-certified audiologist was \$65,000 (on a calendar-year basis; see Table 2 below).

Table 2. Median Annual and Hourly Salaries for ASHA-Certified Audiologists.

Salary Basis	2000	2001	2003	2004	2006
Annual					
Academic-year (9–10 month) basis	\$45,000	\$46,800	\$50,000	\$53,000	\$56,000
Calendar-year (11–12 month) basis	\$48,000	\$50,000	\$55,000	\$62,000	\$65,000
Hourly					
27 or fewer hours	–	–	–	–	\$30.00
28 or more hours	–	–	–	–	\$29.02

Note. From 2000, 2001, and 2003 ASHA Omnibus Surveys and 2004 and 2006 ASHA Audiology Surveys.

For additional information about the materials presented in this resource list, please contact:

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
 Gail Brook ♦ Surveys and Information Team
 800-498-2071, ext. 8737 ♦ gbrook@asha.org