



Demographic Profile of ASHA Members Providing Bilingual Services February 2018

Introduction

State data on the number of bilingual speech-language pathologists (SLPs) and audiologists are frequently requested from ASHA's Office of Multicultural Affairs by individuals seeking information related to grant funding for bilingual training programs and by those preparing recruitment initiatives. In an effort to satisfy those requests, this report presents data from ASHA's 2017 Member Counts on bilingual service provision alongside data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2016 American Community Survey (ACS) on the potential need for these services.

What is the ACS?

The ACS is part of the Decennial Census Program of the U.S. Census Bureau. The ACS is sent to a small percentage of the U.S. population annually. The purpose of this survey is to refresh data gathered via the Decennial Census, allowing for more current data throughout the decade. For more information about the ACS, visit <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>.

What data from the ACS are used in this report?

This report includes three sets of one-year estimates based on data from the ACS. The first set presents the percentage of individuals in a given state who speak English less than "Very Well." These data are the closest estimates available to the number of individuals who would require services in a language other than English. The second percentage represents those who speak a language other than English as their primary language at home. While it is likely that many of these individuals are fluent English speakers, they may feel more comfortable discussing medical issues in their native language. Finally, in Table 3 the non-English at home column is replaced by the percentage of individuals who speak Spanish at home. All three data elements exclude children under the age of 5 from analysis.

Which members are considered bilingual service providers?

While ASHA does not offer bilingual certification, on the 2016 dues notice ASHA provided members with an opportunity to self-identify as being bilingual, which requires native or near-native proficiency in a second language. For more information on ASHA's definition of bilingual service provision, see the document at <http://www.asha.org/Practice-Portal/Professional-Issues/Bilingual-Service-Delivery/>.

On the 2016 dues notice, ASHA asked a series of questions about bilingual service provision, two of which are critical to this analysis. Following a lengthy definition, respondents were asked "Are you a bilingual service provider?" and "In what language(s) are you qualified to provide bilingual services?" This was followed by an extensive list of languages other than spoken English. Individuals used in this analysis include those who answered "Yes" to the first question, and/or provided a language in the second. Many more respondents indicated they were not qualified, or chose not to answer either question; these individuals were excluded from analysis.

Other than completing their dues notice, members can also update their demographic information, which includes bilingual service provision, by contacting the Action Center at 800-498-2071, or going to www.asha.org and selecting "My Account" at the top of the webpage.

In addition to including certified SLPs and audiologists, the columns marked "Total" in Tables 2 and 3 also include dually certified, in process, and uncertified constituents.

Data Snapshot: ASHA Bilingual Service Providers, Year-End 2017

Counts

- **Overall.** At year-end 2017, ASHA represented **185,563** audiologists; speech-language pathologists (SLPs); speech, language, and hearing scientists; and audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel.
- **Bilingual Service Providers.** Of the 185,563 individuals represented by ASHA, **11,958 (6%)** indicated they met the ASHA definition of bilingual service provider. Of these, 10,930 were ASHA-certified SLPs and 749 were ASHA certified audiologists. The remainder included members with dual certification, individuals who had started—but not yet completed—the certification process, and non-certified members.
- **Languages Used.** There were 78 spoken languages other than English reported by those who met the ASHA definition of bilingual service provider. In addition, 700 individuals indicated that they can communicate using American Sign Language, 150 use Manually Coded English (including SE, SEE, Cued Speech, etc.), and 28 use “other sign languages”.
- **Spanish-Language Service Providers.** Of the 11,958 individuals who met the ASHA definition of *bilingual service provider*, most (**7,609 or 64%**) were Spanish-language service providers. Of these, 7,221 were ASHA-certified SLPs, and 285 were ASHA-certified audiologists. The remainder included members with dual certification, individuals who had started—but not yet completed—the certification process, and non-certified members.

Employment Characteristics

- **Employment Status.** The majority (77%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were employed full time; 18% were employed part time. The remainder were on leave of absence, unemployed, or retired. Percentages were similar for the total ASHA membership and affiliation.
- **Primary Work Setting.** One half (49%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were employed in educational settings, including 43% in schools and 5% in colleges and universities. An additional 43% were employed in health care settings, including 24% in non-residential health care facilities, 13% in hospitals, and 7% in residential health care settings. Percentages were similar for the total ASHA membership and affiliation.
- **Primary Work Role.** The majority (72%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were clinical service providers. Nearly one-tenth (9%) held an administrative position, 7% were special education teachers, 4% were college or university professors, 2% were consultants, and fewer than 1% were researchers. Percentages were similar for the total ASHA membership and affiliation.
- **Private Practice.** One-third (33%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were employed full or part time in private practice. In comparison, 22% of ASHA’s total membership and affiliation were employed full or part time in private practice.

Demographics

- **Race.** The majority (80%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were White. More than one tenth (14%) were Asian, 3% were Black or African-American, 2% were multi-racial, 1% were American Indian or Alaska Native, and fewer than 1% were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. In comparison, 92% of ASHA's total membership and affiliation were White, 4% were Black or African-American, 3% were Asian, 1% were multi-racial, and fewer than 1% were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
- **Ethnicity.** More than one third (42%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were of Hispanic or Latino descent, compared with 5% of ASHA's total membership and affiliation.
- **Gender.** The majority (92%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were female, compared with 95% of ASHA's total membership and affiliation.
- **Age.** The median age of ASHA bilingual service providers was 41 years, compared with 42 years for ASHA's total membership and affiliation.
- **Location.** The largest number of ASHA-certified SLPs who lived in the United States and were bilingual service providers lived in Texas (1,826), New York (1,747), California (1,647), and Florida (1,145). Many of these were Spanish-language service providers: Texas (1,644), New York (892), California (993), and Florida (968).

The largest number of ASHA-certified audiologists who lived in the United States and were bilingual service providers lived in California (100), New York (82), Texas (70), and Florida (57). Many of these were Spanish-language service providers: California (53), New York (24), Texas (46), and Florida (37).

2016 American Community Survey Data

- **Individuals Who Spoke English Less Than "Very Well."** The percentages of individuals who indicated they spoke English less than "Very Well" were highest in California (19%); Texas and New York (14% each); New Jersey (13%); Hawaii, Florida, and Nevada (12% each).
- **Individuals Who Spoke a Language Other Than English as Their Primary Language at Home.** The percentages of individuals who indicated they spoke a language other than English as their principal language at home were highest in California (45%); Texas (36%); New Mexico (35%); New Jersey (32%); New York and Nevada (31% each).
- **Individuals Who Spoke Spanish at Home.** The percentages of individuals who indicated they spoke Spanish at home were highest in Texas (30%); California (29%); New Mexico (27%); Nevada (22%); Florida (21%); and Arizona (20%).

**TABLE 1: Demographic Profile of ASHA Constituents
Who Self-Identified as Bilingual Service Providers:
January 1 Through December 31, 2017
(n = 11,958)**

Employment Status^a (n = 10,984)	
Employed Full Time	76.9%
Employed Part Time	17.8%
On Leave of Absence	1.1%
Unemployed/Seeking Work	1.1%
Unemployed/Not Seeking Work	1.9%
Retired	1.1%

Race^b (n = 10,006)	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.7%
Asian	14.1%
Black or African-American	2.9%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.3%
White	79.9%
Multiracial	2.2%

Primary Employment Facility^a (n = 10,265)	
Educational Facility	48.5%
School	43.1%
Special School	2.1%
Preschool	6.9%
Elementary School	16.5%
Secondary School	2.3%
Several Schools	12.8%
Schools, Unspecified	2.4%
College/University	5.4%
Health Care Facility (HCF)	43.4%
Hospital Facility	12.5%
Residential HCF	7.2%
Skilled Nursing Facility	5.7%
Other Residential Facility	1.6%
Nonresidential HCF	23.7%
Home Health	6.8%
Private Physician's Office	1.1%
SLP's or AUD's Office	3.4%
Speech & Hearing Center	2.4%
Other Nonresidential Facility	9.9%
All Other Facilities	8.1%

Ethnicity^b (n = 10,826)	
Hispanic or Latino	41.9%
Not Hispanic or Latino	58.1%

Primary Employment Function^a (n = 10,103)	
Clinical Service Provider	71.6%
Teacher	11.6%
Special Education Teacher	7.3%
College/University Professor	4.3%
Researcher	0.4%
Consultant	1.9%
Doctoral Candidate	0.3%
Administrator	8.6%
Administrator/Exec. Officer	2.5%
Chair/Dept. Head/Manager	2.2%
Supervisor of Clinical Activity	2.1%
Other Director/Supervisor	1.8%
Other Position	5.6%

Private Practice^a (n = 10,084)	
Not Employed in Private Practice	67.4%
Employed Full Time	15.0%
Employed Part Time	17.6%

Age^b (n = 11,528)	
34 and younger	25.7%
35-44	36.2%
45-54	20.9%
55-64	12.6%
65 and older	4.7%

Gender^b (n = 11,526)	
Female	92.1%
Male	7.9%

These counts include individuals who were ASHA members, nonmember certificate holders, international affiliates, or associates during the period and whose dues/fees were paid. The percentages are for the number of respondents (n = respondents) to that question only; percentages may not total 100.0% due to rounding.

Sources: ^aDues Notice 2015. ^bDues Notice 2017. In addition to completing their dues notice, members can also update their demographic information by contacting the Action Center at 800-498-2071, or going to www.asha.org and selecting "My Account" at the top of the webpage.

TABLE 2: ASHA Bilingual Service Providers (BSP) and American Community Survey (ACS) Data on English-Language Proficiency and Non-English Households

State	ASHA SLPs		ASHA Audiologists		ASHA Total		ACS Language Use	
	# of BSP	% of BSP	# of BSP	% of BSP	# of BSP	% of BSP	English < Very Well	Non-Eng @ Home
Alabama	16	0.8%	3	1.3%	19	0.9%	2.1%	5.1%
Alaska	11	3.1%	1	2.6%	13	3.3%	5.3%	16.5%
Arizona	239	9.1%	20	6.7%	263	8.8%	8.8%	27.1%
Arkansas	33	1.3%	4	3.2%	38	1.4%	3.1%	7.3%
California	1,647	12.6%	100	13.2%	1,782	12.5%	18.6%	44.6%
Colorado	184	5.6%	19	4.7%	205	5.5%	6.1%	17.1%
Connecticut	108	4.7%	10	5.1%	119	4.7%	7.9%	22.7%
Delaware	13	3.0%	3	7.5%	18	3.7%	4.6%	12.9%
Dist of Columbia	36	10.3%	4	9.3%	41	10.3%	6.1%	17.1%
Florida	1,145	12.0%	57	8.1%	1,221	11.7%	12.0%	28.8%
Georgia	132	3.0%	10	3.1%	145	3.0%	5.7%	14.0%
Hawaii	20	3.9%	2	4.1%	23	4.1%	12.2%	26.5%
Idaho	21	2.6%	4	6.6%	25	2.9%	4.2%	10.8%
Illinois	425	5.2%	19	3.7%	450	5.1%	8.7%	22.9%
Indiana	70	2.4%	7	2.4%	80	2.5%	3.3%	8.7%
Iowa	15	1.3%	3	1.7%	20	1.4%	3.4%	7.7%
Kansas	24	1.4%	4	2.4%	29	1.5%	4.6%	11.7%
Kentucky	15	0.6%	2	1.4%	17	0.6%	2.1%	5.2%
Louisiana	35	1.3%	3	1.3%	40	1.4%	2.8%	8.1%
Maine	12	1.5%	0	0.0%	12	1.4%	1.7%	6.2%
Maryland	180	5.2%	27	8.1%	211	5.5%	7.0%	18.9%
Massachusetts	240	5.1%	21	5.2%	262	5.0%	9.2%	23.7%
Michigan	87	1.9%	20	4.6%	111	2.1%	3.5%	9.5%
Minnesota	74	2.5%	6	1.9%	82	2.5%	4.6%	11.6%
Mississippi	9	0.6%	6	4.4%	16	0.9%	1.4%	3.8%
Missouri	44	1.2%	9	3.0%	53	1.3%	2.2%	6.3%
Montana	4	0.9%	0	0.0%	4	0.8%	0.7%	3.7%
Nebraska	15	1.2%	0	0.0%	15	1.1%	5.4%	11.5%
Nevada	46	5.9%	5	6.9%	51	5.9%	11.8%	30.7%
New Hampshire	12	1.4%	4	8.5%	16	1.7%	2.5%	7.7%
New Jersey	450	7.3%	29	7.8%	483	7.2%	12.6%	31.7%
New Mexico	186	14.3%	6	7.7%	193	13.8%	8.3%	34.5%
New York	1,747	11.0%	82	8.9%	1,860	10.8%	13.7%	31.0%
North Carolina	205	3.7%	12	3.1%	218	3.6%	4.5%	11.5%
North Dakota	3	0.6%	0	0.0%	4	0.7%	1.8%	5.2%
Ohio	109	1.7%	16	2.7%	126	1.8%	2.5%	7.0%
Oklahoma	40	1.9%	4	2.6%	45	2.0%	4.0%	10.3%
Oregon	125	6.4%	4	2.5%	133	6.2%	5.9%	15.2%
Pennsylvania	184	2.5%	18	3.4%	203	2.5%	4.3%	11.3%
Rhode Island	21	3.3%	1	1.9%	22	3.1%	8.4%	22.8%
South Carolina	43	1.8%	3	2.1%	46	1.7%	2.7%	6.8%
South Dakota	2	0.5%	1	2.0%	3	0.6%	2.3%	6.5%
Tennessee	62	2.0%	9	2.3%	73	2.1%	2.9%	7.0%
Texas	1,826	14.2%	70	8.3%	1,914	13.7%	14.0%	35.6%
Utah	61	4.8%	24	14.7%	87	5.9%	4.9%	15.3%
Vermont	13	2.7%	0	0.0%	14	2.7%	1.3%	5.5%
Virginia	148	3.8%	22	5.9%	174	4.0%	6.0%	16.2%
Washington	148	4.8%	15	4.4%	164	4.7%	7.7%	19.3%
West Virginia	5	0.6%	2	2.0%	7	0.7%	0.8%	2.5%
Wisconsin	97	2.9%	0	0.0%	97	2.7%	3.2%	8.8%
Wyoming	4	1.2%	1	5.3%	5	1.4%	2.0%	7.6%
U.S. Subtotal	10,391	6.2%	692	5.3%	11,252	6.2%	8.6%	21.6%
Puerto Rico	204	70.6%	11	64.7%	217	69.1%	76.3%	94.3%
Other U.S. Terr.	3	6.1%	0	0.0%	3	5.0%	No Data	
Other Countries	332	18.1%	46	27.7%	486	18.6%	No Data	
Total	10,930	6.5%	749	5.6%	11,958	6.4%	No Data	

TABLE 3: ASHA Spanish-Language Service Providers (SSP) and ACS Data on English-Language Proficiency and Spanish-Language Households

State	ASHA SLPs		ASHA Audiologists		ASHA Total		ACS Language Use	
	# of SSP	% of SSP	# of SSP	% of SSP	# of SSP	% of SSP	English < Very Well	Spanish @ Home
Alabama	8	0.4%	1	0.4%	9	0.4%	2.1%	3.2%
Alaska	5	1.4%	0	0.0%	6	1.5%	5.3%	3.7%
Arizona	197	7.5%	8	2.7%	208	6.9%	8.8%	20.4%
Arkansas	25	1.0%	0	0.0%	26	1.0%	3.1%	5.2%
California	993	7.6%	53	7.0%	1,065	7.5%	18.6%	29.0%
Colorado	147	4.5%	8	2.0%	156	4.2%	6.1%	12.0%
Connecticut	70	3.1%	3	1.5%	73	2.9%	7.9%	11.9%
Delaware	8	1.9%	0	0.0%	9	1.9%	4.6%	7.1%
Dist of Columbia	24	6.9%	2	4.7%	26	6.5%	6.1%	9.2%
Florida	968	10.1%	37	5.3%	1,017	9.8%	12.0%	21.3%
Georgia	68	1.5%	3	0.9%	72	1.5%	5.7%	8.0%
Hawaii	3	0.6%	0	0.0%	3	0.5%	12.2%	2.2%
Idaho	15	1.9%	3	4.9%	18	2.1%	4.2%	8.1%
Illinois	285	3.5%	4	0.8%	291	3.3%	8.7%	13.5%
Indiana	35	1.2%	0	0.0%	36	1.1%	3.3%	4.9%
Iowa	7	0.6%	1	0.6%	8	0.6%	3.4%	4.0%
Kansas	17	1.0%	1	0.6%	18	1.0%	4.6%	7.8%
Kentucky	8	0.3%	0	0.0%	8	0.3%	2.1%	2.6%
Louisiana	22	0.8%	1	0.4%	23	0.8%	2.8%	3.8%
Maine	5	0.6%	0	0.0%	5	0.6%	1.7%	0.9%
Maryland	90	2.6%	9	2.7%	101	2.6%	7.0%	8.3%
Massachusetts	104	2.2%	5	1.2%	110	2.1%	9.2%	9.0%
Michigan	42	0.9%	2	0.5%	45	0.9%	3.5%	3.0%
Minnesota	47	1.6%	1	0.3%	48	1.5%	4.6%	3.9%
Mississippi	5	0.3%	2	1.5%	7	0.4%	1.4%	2.4%
Missouri	23	0.6%	3	1.0%	26	0.6%	2.2%	2.6%
Montana	3	0.7%	0	0.0%	3	0.6%	0.7%	1.2%
Nebraska	9	0.7%	0	0.0%	9	0.6%	5.4%	7.7%
Nevada	33	4.2%	3	4.2%	36	4.1%	11.8%	21.8%
New Hampshire	9	1.0%	0	0.0%	9	1.0%	2.5%	2.2%
New Jersey	190	3.1%	10	2.7%	200	3.0%	12.6%	16.5%
New Mexico	158	12.1%	4	5.1%	163	11.6%	8.3%	26.8%
New York	892	5.6%	24	2.6%	932	5.4%	13.7%	15.2%
North Carolina	162	2.9%	3	0.8%	166	2.8%	4.5%	7.4%
North Dakota	3	0.6%	0	0.0%	3	0.5%	1.8%	1.8%
Ohio	44	0.7%	3	0.5%	48	0.7%	2.5%	2.2%
Oklahoma	25	1.2%	1	0.7%	27	1.2%	4.0%	7.0%
Oregon	97	5.0%	0	0.0%	101	4.7%	5.9%	9.0%
Pennsylvania	104	1.4%	5	0.9%	109	1.4%	4.3%	4.9%
Rhode Island	14	2.2%	1	1.9%	15	2.1%	8.4%	12.0%
South Carolina	24	1.0%	2	1.4%	26	1.0%	2.7%	4.4%
South Dakota	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	2.3%	2.1%
Tennessee	39	1.3%	2	0.5%	42	1.2%	2.9%	4.2%
Texas	1,644	12.8%	46	5.4%	1,704	12.2%	14.0%	29.6%
Utah	44	3.5%	12	7.4%	56	3.8%	4.9%	10.4%
Vermont	2	0.4%	0	0.0%	2	0.4%	1.3%	0.9%
Virginia	86	2.2%	6	1.6%	93	2.1%	6.0%	7.2%
Washington	79	2.5%	3	0.9%	82	2.3%	7.7%	8.5%
West Virginia	3	0.3%	0	0.0%	3	0.3%	0.8%	1.1%
Wisconsin	76	2.3%	0	0.0%	76	2.1%	3.2%	4.6%
Wyoming	3	0.9%	0	0.0%	3	0.8%	2.0%	5.0%
U.S. Subtotal	6,965	4.2%	272	2.1%	7,323	4.0%	8.6%	13.4%
Puerto Rico	203	70.2%	11	64.7%	216	68.8%	76.3%	94.2%
Other U.S. Terr.	2	4.1%	0	0.0%	2	3.3%	No Data	
Other Countries	51	2.8%	2	1.2%	68	2.6%	No Data	
Total	7,221	4.3%	285	2.1%	7,609	4.1%	No Data	