

MEMBER ACTIVITY PROGRAMS

2 0 0 5





MAP Points: Private Practice

Introduction

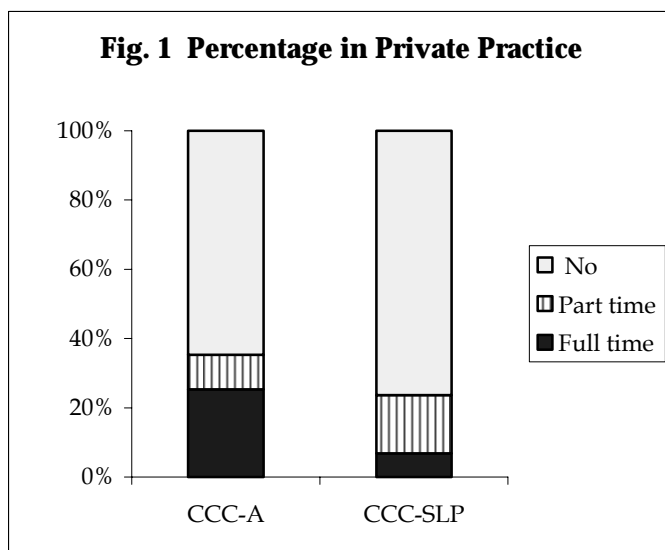
In the fall of 2005, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) conducted a mail survey of 3,000 speech-language pathologists (SLPs) and audiologists designed to provide information about practice trends and other topics of interest to the disciplines. A response rate of 57% ($n = 1,702$) was reached.

The results are presented in a series of topical reports, including this one on private practice. Differences are described (such as between audiologists and SLPs or between types of private practice) only when such differences are statistically significant at $p \leq .05$.

The Percentage Working in Private Practice

Audiologists were more likely to work in private practice (35%) than were SLPs (24%). They were also more likely than SLPs to work full time in private practice (25% vs. 7%) but less likely to work part time (10% vs. 17%) (Fig. 1).

Fig. 1 Percentage in Private Practice



Type of Practice

SLPs (62%) were significantly more likely to work in a solo practice than were audiologists (44%). They were much less likely than audiologists, though, to work in a group practice exclusively with other audiologists or SLPs (16% vs. 31%). The likelihood of working in a group practice with other disciplines was nearly identical for both groups of professionals: 24% of SLPs and 25% of audiologists.

Where Clients Are Seen

Audiologists were more likely to see patients in free standing clinics or offices than in any other type of facility. SLPs, on the other hand, were more likely to see clients in their homes than at other sites (Table 1).

Table 1. Rank Order of Service Location

CCC-A	Location	CCC-SLP
1	Free standing clinic/office	2
2	Health care facility	5
3	Patient's/client's home	1
4	Corporate setting	6
5	School	3
6	Practitioner's home	4

The percentage of SLPs who selected a response was significantly different from that of audiologists for each type of service location except for "corporate setting" (Table 2). For example, 82% of audiologists selected "free standing clinic/office" as a private practice location, but only 36% of SLPs made this selection.

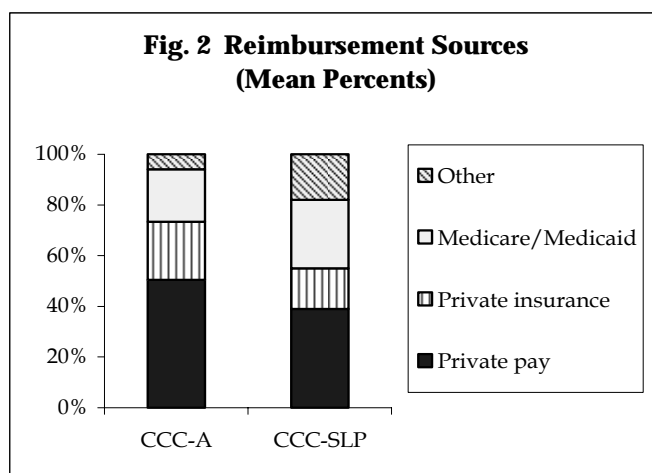
Table 2. Service Location (Percent)

CCC-A	Location	CCC-SLP
82	Free standing clinic/office	36
23	Health care facility	12
14	Patient's/client's home	56
4	Corporate setting	3
4	School	29
3	Practitioner's home	13

(Columns total more than 100% because multiple responses were allowed.)

Reimbursement Sources

More than half of the reimbursement for audiologists came from private pay (Fig. 2). Although that was also the largest single source of reimbursement for SLPs, the percentage was smaller (39% vs. 51%). Reimbursement was more evenly distributed across the four sources for SLPs than for audiologists.



Suggested Citation

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2006). *ASHA member activities programs 2005. MAP points: Private practice*. Rockville, MD: Author.

Web Link

More information about the survey, including the frequencies of responses to all 37 survey questions, can be found in the *ASHA member activities programs 2005. MAP points: Frequencies* at the following Web site:

<http://www.asha.org/about/membership-certification/member-data/2005MAP.htm>

Questions?

Contact ASHA's Surveys and Information Team at 800-498-2071.