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# AUDIOLOGY SURVEY 2006

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## Hourly Salaries

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## Executive Summary

In the fall of 2006, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) conducted a survey of audiologists. This survey was designed to provide information about salaries, working conditions, and service delivery, and to update and expand information gathered from previous Audiology and Omnibus Surveys.

The results are presented in a series of reports. This hourly salary report is based on responses from audiologists in schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, private physicians' offices, and other nonresidential health care facilities.

### *Highlights:*

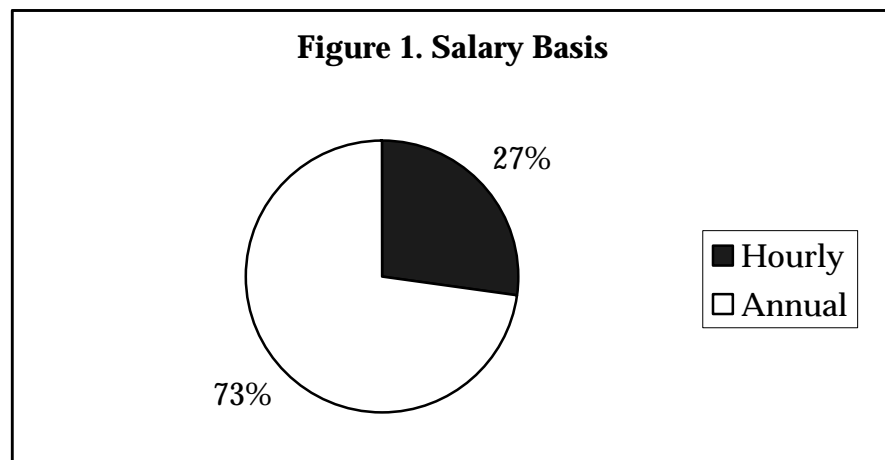
- ◆ 27% of the respondents received an hourly salary.
- ◆ 58% of those receiving an hourly wage worked part-time.
- ◆ 27: median number of hours worked.
- ◆ Median salary was \$30.00 per hour for those who worked up to 27 hours per week and \$29.02 for those working 28 or more hours.
- ◆ 19% had an AuD degree.
- ◆ Median hourly salaries ranged from \$23.57 with 1–3 years of experience to \$38.67 with 28 or more years.
- ◆ Highest hourly salaries were in the Northeast.
- ◆ Rural salaries were lower than metropolitan or suburban salaries.
- ◆ Contract employees who worked up to 27 hours per week averaged \$35.00 per hour.
- ◆ Median salaries for males were higher (\$37.34) than for females (\$30.00), but males had more years of experience than females and were twice as likely as females to have a doctoral degree.

## Salaries

There was diversity within the group of audiologists who responded to the survey. They varied by salary basis (annual/hourly), status (full-time/part-time), and situation (salaried/contract/owner). In addition, there were differences in function, facility, region of the country, and other similar characteristics that had an impact on their wages.

### Salary Basis

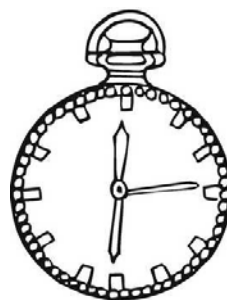
Of the audiologists who responded to the 2006 Audiology Survey, slightly more than one quarter worked for an hourly wage (see Figure 1).



$n = 2,182$

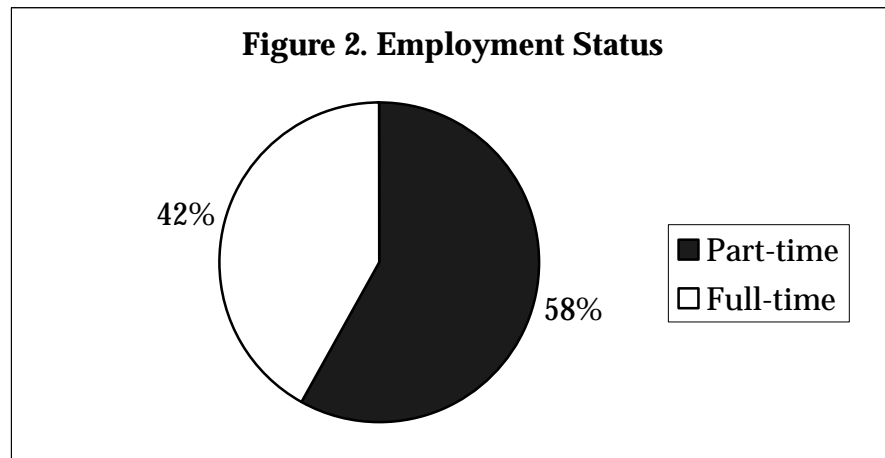
### Median Weekly Hours

Of those who worked for an hourly wage, the **median number of hours worked per week was 27**. Therefore, many of the tables and graphs in this report will divide the salaries at that median, showing data for the group who worked up through 27 hours a week separately from those who worked 28 or more hours.



**Employment Status**

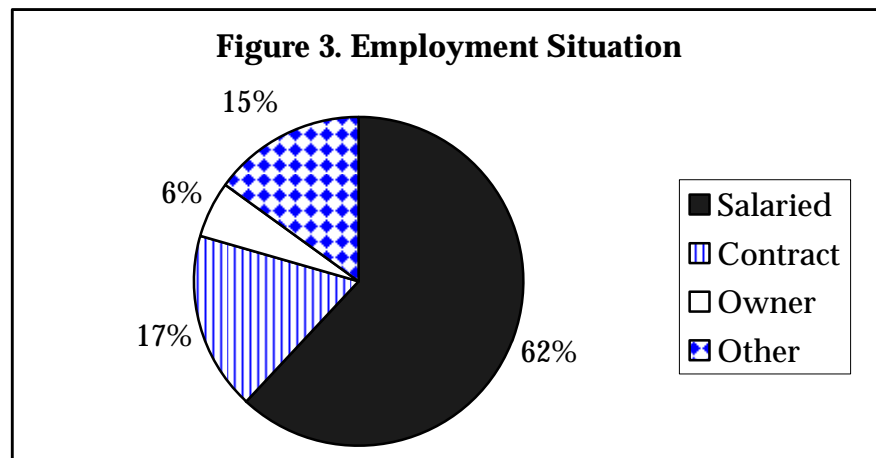
Of every 10 audiologists who were paid an hourly salary, nearly 6 (58%) worked **part-time** compared with 42% who worked **full-time** (see Figure 2).



n = 601

**Employment Situation**

The survey also found that **62%** of the respondents who were paid an hourly wage were **salaried** (either full-time or part-time), but 17% were contract employees (part-time or full-time), 6% were owners (e.g., owners of a private practice), and the remaining 15% identified their employment situation as other (see Figure 3).



n = 588

**Median Hourly Wage...**

The median (50<sup>th</sup> percentile) hourly salary, when no other characteristics were accounted for such as number of hours worked, type of facility, or region of the country, was **\$30.00** ( $n = 601$ ). The hourly salary was \$25.00 at the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile and \$36.00 at the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile.

**...by Hours Worked**

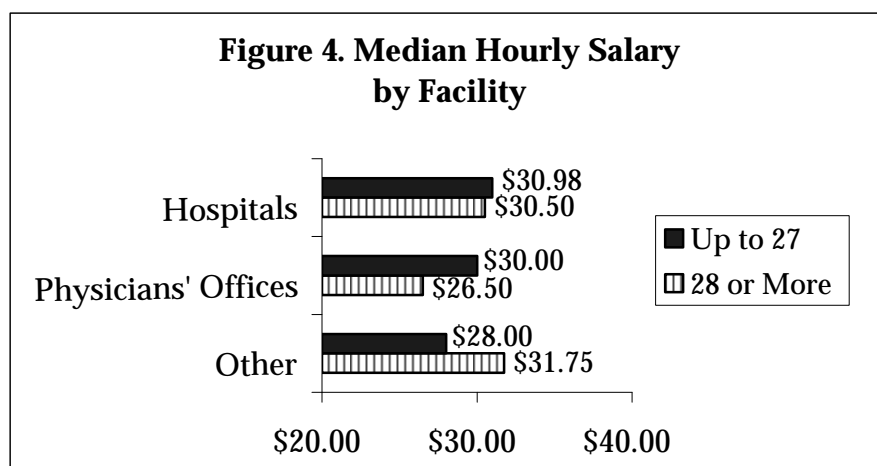
Half ( $n = 295$ ) of the audiologists who received an hourly salary worked for **27 or fewer hours**, and their median salary was **\$30.00**. Half ( $n = 291$ ) worked for **28 or more hours**, and their median salary was **\$29.02**.

In order to protect anonymity and to reduce variability, the minimum number of respondents required in a cell is 25. For those characteristics in the following sections where there are sufficient respondents, hourly salaries will be divided at the median.

**...by Employment Facility**

Median salaries for audiologists who were paid an hourly salary were highest in **hospitals** for those who worked 27 or fewer hours weekly (**\$30.98**). For those who worked 28 or more hours, the highest median hourly salary was in **other nonresidential health care facilities** (**\$31.75**; see Figure 4).

The 28 audiologists who worked for an hourly salary in **schools** averaged **\$40.00** an hour. There were too few of them to present their data by the number of hours they worked.



$n = 517$

*...by Function*

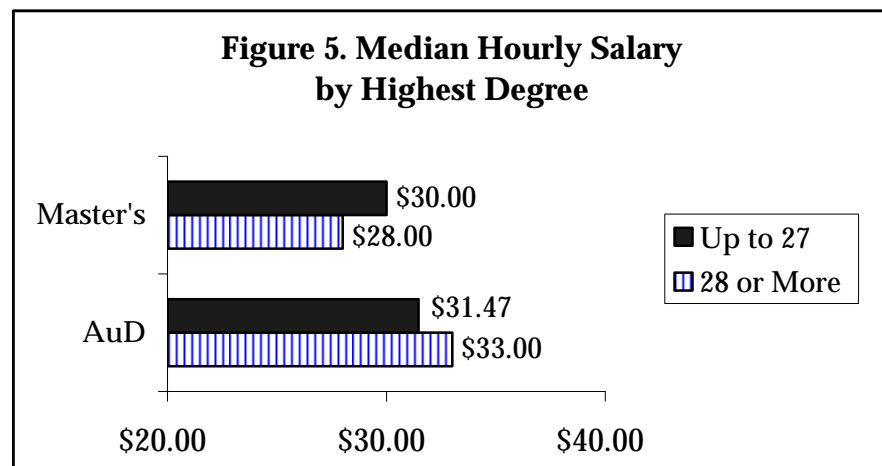
Of the individuals paid an hourly wage, **94% were clinical service providers**. Those who worked up to 27 hours reported an annual hourly salary of **\$30.00** ( $n = 275$ ) compared with **\$29.00** ( $n = 271$ ) for the clinical service providers who worked 28 or more hours weekly. There were insufficient respondents with other employment functions to present data for them.



*...by Highest Degree*

Most (80%) of the audiologists who were paid hourly had a master's as their highest degree; 19% had an AuD, and a few had other doctorates.

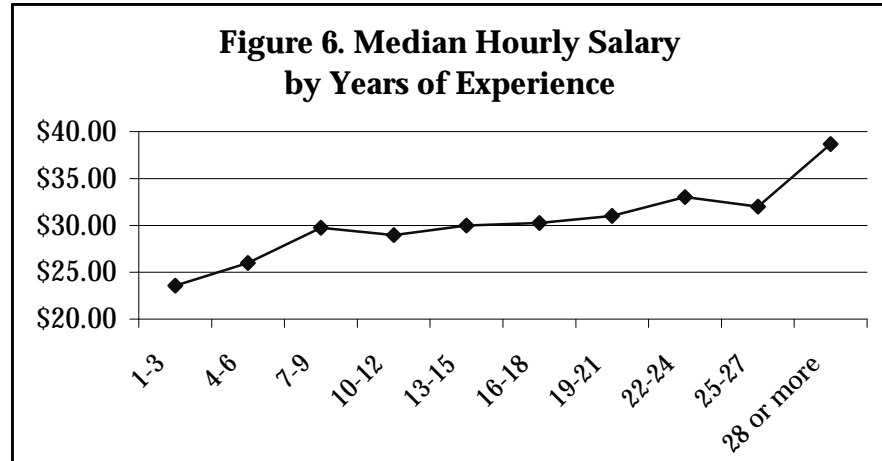
Salaries for audiologists with an AuD degree were higher than for those with a master's. Salaries for those with a master's who worked up to 27 hours a week were higher than for those who worked 28 or more hours. The reverse was true for AuD holders (see Figure 5).



$n = 476$

*...by Years of Experience*

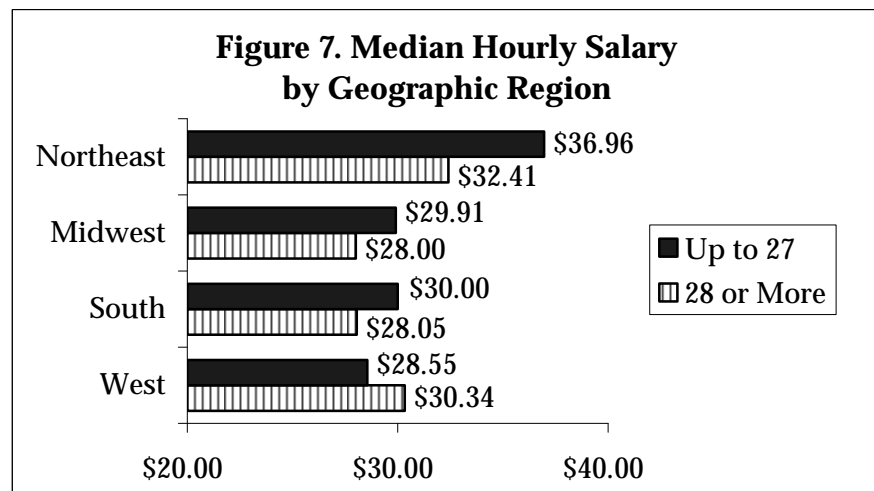
Median hourly salaries rose from a low of **\$23.57** with 1–3 years of experience to a high of **\$38.67** with 28 or more years. The rate of increase between 1 and 9 years and after 27 years was steeper than that for the intervening years (see Figure 6).



n = 599

*...by Geographic Region*

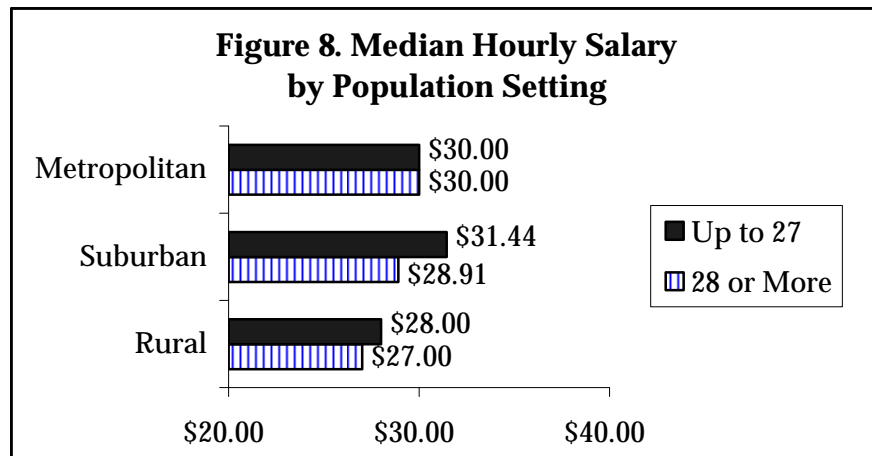
There was more variability in salaries by geographic region for audiologists who worked 27 or fewer hours than for those who worked longer hours. For the former group, salaries ranged from **\$28.55** in the **West** to **\$36.96** in the **Northeast**; for the latter group, the range was from **\$28.00** (**Midwest**) to **\$32.41** (**Northeast**; see Figure 7).



n = 586

*...by Population Setting*

The highest median hourly salary was achieved by audiologists who worked in **suburban** areas and who worked for 27 or fewer hours per week (**\$31.44**). The lowest medians were found in **rural** areas, regardless of the length of the work week (see Figure 8).



*n* = 578

*...by Sex*

Compared with the 553 females who responded to the survey and earned an hourly wage, only a few males (*n* = 46) participated. The median salary was **\$30.00** for **females** and **\$37.34** for **males**. While the average salary was lower for females, they also were less likely to have characteristics associated with higher salaries:

- Doctoral degree: 19% of females compared with 39% of males
- Mean number of years of experience: 15 for females but 23 for males

*Contract Employees*

Of all the audiologists who responded to the survey, 101 were **contract employees** (e.g., per diem, temporary) who received an hourly salary. Of this group, 85 worked up to 27 hours per week. Their median salary was **\$35.00**.

## Survey Notes and Method- ology

### *Response Rate*

The 20-year-old ASHA Omnibus Survey has been retired, replaced by surveys specific to work settings and/or professions in order to better meet affiliates' needs. This 2006 Audiology Survey is one of the replacements and melds topics from both the Omnibus Surveys and previous Audiology Surveys.

The survey was mailed in September 2006 to a random sample of 4,000 ASHA-certified audiologists in the United States who worked in schools, colleges or universities, hospitals, or other nonresidential health care facilities. Second and third mailings followed, at approximately 4-week intervals, to individuals who had not responded to earlier mailings.

Of the original 4,000 audiologists in the sample, 7 were no longer employed in the field, 5 were retired, and 3 were ineligible for other reasons, leaving 3,985 possible respondents. The actual number of respondents was 2,354, resulting in a 59.1% response rate. The results presented in this report are based on responses from those 2,354 individuals.

### *Other Reports*

Results from the 2006 Audiology Survey are reported in a series of reports:

- Annual Salaries
- Hourly Salaries
- Clinical Focus Patterns
- Private Practice
- Frequency Report
- Survey Methodology, Respondent Demographics, and Glossary

## Electronic Copy

An electronic copy of this report will be available for a limited time on the ASHA Web site at <http://www.asha.org/about/membership-certification/member-data/member-counts.htm>.

## **Suggested Citation**

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2006). *2006 Audiology Survey report: Hourly salaries*. Rockville, MD: Author.

## **Supplemental Sources**

Salary data may also be available from other sources, such as state associations and state departments of labor. Suggested Web sites include the following:

<http://www.bls.gov/bls/blswage.htm> (where audiologists are classified as category 29-1121)

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/>

<http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/6038.html>

<http://www.capcsd.org/survey/2004/CAPCSD2003-2004SalarySurvey.pdf>

[www.salary.com](http://www.salary.com)

To compare costs of living:

<http://www.homefair.com/homefair/calc/salcalc.html>

[http://www.bestplaces.net/html/cost\\_of\\_living.html](http://www.bestplaces.net/html/cost_of_living.html)



## **Additional Information**

For additional information regarding the 2006 Audiology Survey, please contact Pam Mason, Director of ASHA's Audiology Professional Practices, at 301-897-5700, ext. 4135, [pmason@asha.org](mailto:pmason@asha.org). To learn more about how the Association is working on behalf of ASHA-certified audiologists, members may visit ASHA's Web site at <http://www.asha.org/members/aud/default>.

## **Appendix**

*Regions of the Country*

Northeast

- ◆ Middle Atlantic
  - New Jersey
  - New York
  - Pennsylvania
- ◆ New England
  - Connecticut
  - Maine
  - Massachusetts
  - New Hampshire
  - Rhode Island
  - Vermont

South

- ◆ East South Central
  - Alabama
  - Kentucky
  - Mississippi
  - Tennessee
- ◆ South Atlantic
  - Delaware
  - District of Columbia
  - Florida
  - Georgia
  - Maryland
  - North Carolina
  - South Carolina
  - Virginia
  - West Virginia
- ◆ West South Central
  - Arkansas
  - Louisiana
  - Oklahoma
  - Texas

Midwest

- ◆ East North Central
  - Illinois
  - Indiana
  - Michigan
  - Ohio
  - Wisconsin
- ◆ West North Central
  - Iowa
  - Kansas
  - Minnesota
  - Missouri
  - Nebraska
  - North Dakota
  - South Dakota

West

- ◆ Mountain
  - Arizona
  - Colorado
  - Idaho
  - Montana
  - Nevada
  - New Mexico
  - Utah
  - Wyoming
- ◆ Pacific
  - Alaska
  - California
  - Hawaii
  - Oregon
  - Washington