



AUDIOLOGY SURVEY 2006



SPECIAL REPORT: SALARY TRENDS

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Introduction

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) conducted the 2006 Audiology Survey to gather information about issues related to the audiology profession. Results from this survey are presented in a series of reports, including this report on **salary trends**. In this trend report, findings are presented on the following topics:

- salary basis (annual salary or hourly wage and academic year or calendar year)
- calendar year salaries (by primary employment facility and function and level of academic degree and years of experience in the profession, of males and females, and by geographic region, type of community, and private practice)
- academic year salaries (by primary employment facility and function, and level of academic degree in the profession)

Findings from the 1986–1987, 1990, 1995, 1999, 2000, and 2003 ASHA Omnibus Surveys and 2004 ASHA Audiology Survey are also included in this report for comparative purposes.

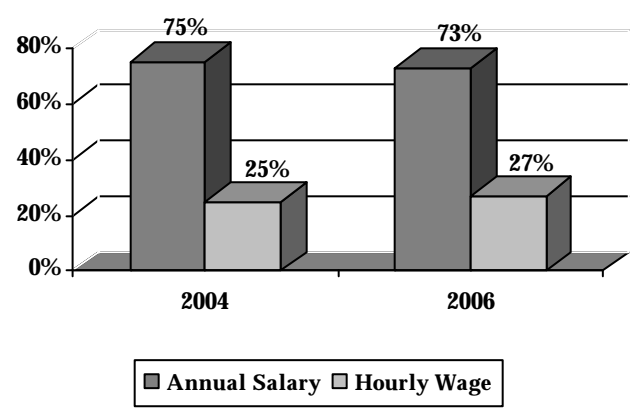
The salaries presented in this report are **full-time** gross salaries (salaries prior to deductions). They include bonuses and commissions. To preserve confidentiality, salaries are not reported for groups of less than 25.

Salary Basis

In 2006, as in 2004, the majority of audiologists who responded to the survey reported that they were paid an **annual salary** (73% and 75%, respectively; see Figure 1). The remainder (27% in 2006 and 25% in 2004) reported that they were paid an **hourly wage**.

Annual Salary or Hourly Wage

Figure 1
Audiologists, Annual Salary or Hourly Wage, 2004 and 2006

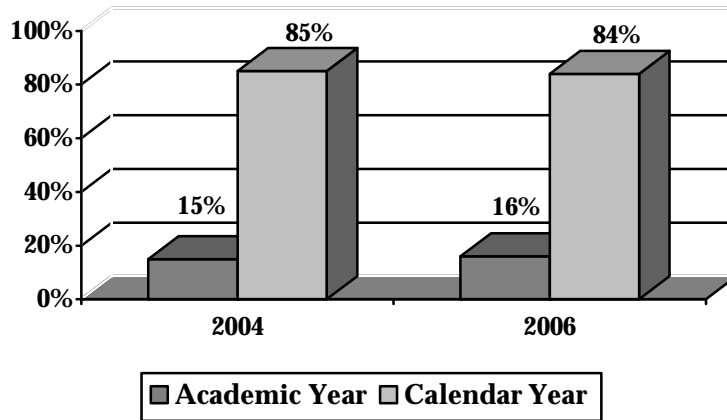


n = 2,041 (2004); n = 2,182 (2006)

Academic Year or Calendar Year

In 2006, as in 2004, over 80% of survey respondents reported that they worked for a **calendar year** (i.e., 11 or 12 months), as opposed to an academic year (i.e., 9 or 10 months; see Figure 2).

Figure 2
Audiologists, Academic Year or Calendar Year, 2004 and 2006



n = 1,082 (2004); *n* = 1,624 (2006)

Excluded Groups

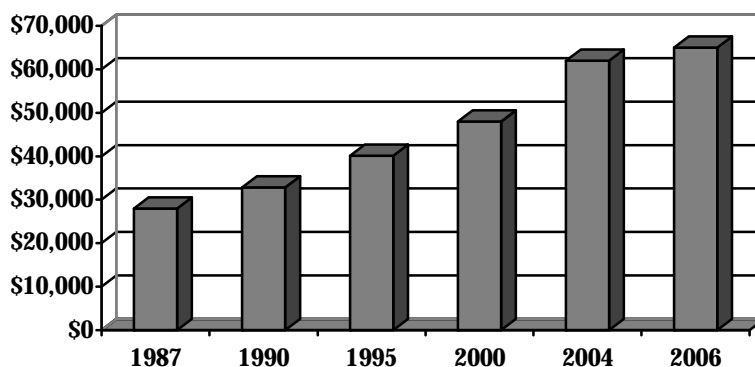
Because the number of survey respondents who worked for an hourly wage or an academic year was so small, most of the analyses included in this report will be limited to audiologists who were paid an **annual salary** and worked for a **calendar year**.

Calendar Year Salaries

In 2006, the **overall median calendar year** salary of audiologists was **\$65,000**, up from \$62,000 in 2004 (a 5% increase), \$48,000 in 2000, \$40,122 in 1995, \$32,800 in 1990, and \$28,000 in 1987 (see Figure 3).



Figure 3
Median Calendar Year Salaries of Audiologists, 1987, 1990,
1995, 2000, 2004, and 2006



n = 605 (1987); *n* = 633 (1990); *n* = 804 (1995); *n* = 866 (2000);
n = 915 (2004); *n* = 1,160 (2006)

**Salaries by
 Primary
 Employment
 Facility**

From 1995 to 2006, overall, audiologists employed in schools, colleges/universities, and hospitals reported **higher** median calendar year salaries than audiologists employed in nonresidential health care facilities, particularly private physicians' offices (see Table 1).

Table 1
Median Calendar Year Salaries of Audiologists by Primary Employment Facility, 1995,
2000, 2004, and 2006

Employment Facility	1995	2000	2004	2006
School	\$40,244	\$48,000	\$65,000	\$68,000
College/university	\$41,000	\$52,000	\$63,000	\$69,000
Hospital	\$43,000	\$48,000	\$64,000	\$65,000
Residential health care facility	\$42,000	<i>n</i> = < 25	<i>n</i> = < 25	<i>n</i> = < 25
Nonresidential health care facility	\$38,117	\$45,000	\$60,000	\$63,000
Private physician's office	\$36,000	\$43,000	\$55,500	\$60,000
Other nonresidential health care facility	\$38,000	\$48,000	\$62,000	\$69,250

n = 714 (1995); *n* = 719 (2000); *n* = 915 (2004); *n* = 1,160 (2006)

**Salaries by
Primary
Employment
Function**

From 1995 to 2006, audiologists employed as college/university professors and/or administrators reported **higher** median calendar year salaries than audiologists employed as clinical service providers (see Table 2).

**Table 2
Median Calendar Year Salaries of Audiologists by Primary
Employment Function, 1995, 2000, 2004, and 2006**

Employment Function	1995	2000	2004	2006
Clinical service provider	\$39,200	\$45,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
Special education teacher	<i>n</i> < 25	<i>n</i> < 25	<i>n</i> < 25	<i>n</i> < 25
College/university professor	<i>n</i> < 25	\$58,000	\$65,000	\$70,000
Administrator	\$52,000	\$69,000	\$78,000*	\$85,000*
Chair	\$55,000	\$65,000		
Supervisor	\$43,000	\$53,200		

*Beginning in 2004, the “Administrator” category was expanded to include chairs and supervisors.

n = 743 (1995); *n* = 783 (2000); *n* = 860 (2004); *n* = 1,106 (2006)

**Salaries by Level
of Academic
Degree**

As might be expected, from 1995 to 2006, audiologists with a doctorate reported **higher** median calendar year salaries than audiologists with only a master’s degree. From 2004 to 2006, audiologists with an **AuD** reported earning at least \$6,000 more per year than those with only a master’s degree. In the same time period, audiologists with a **PhD** reported earning at least \$24,000 more per year than those with only a master’s degree (see Table 3).

**Table 3
Median Calendar Year Salaries of Audiologists by Level of Academic
Degree in the Profession, 1995, 2000, 2004, and 2006**

Academic Degree	1995	2000	2004	2006
Master’s	\$40,000	\$46,000	\$58,116	\$60,000
Doctorate	\$63,000	\$70,000	*	*
AuD	*	*	\$65,000	\$68,000
PhD	*	*	\$82,606	\$90,000

*Item not included in survey.

n = 800 (1995); *n* = 862 (2000); *n* = 912 (2004); *n* = 1,148 (2006)

Salaries by Years of Experience

As would be expected, from 1995 to 2006, average calendar year salaries of audiologists **increased** with experience. From 1995 to 2006, the most seasoned audiologists reported earning at least \$21,000 more per year than those starting out (see Table 4).

Table 4
Median Calendar Year Salaries of Audiologists by Years of Experience, 1995, 2000, 2004, and 2006

Years of Experience	1995	2000	2004	2006
1-3	\$30,000	\$36,000	\$45,000	\$52,000
4-6	\$34,000	\$42,000	\$50,000	\$54,000
7-9	\$40,000	\$45,000	\$59,780	\$60,000
10-12	\$40,000	\$48,000	\$61,155	\$63,879
13-15	\$43,000	\$52,500	\$60,000	\$65,000
16-18	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$62,095	\$68,000
19-21	\$52,000	\$57,500	\$70,002	\$69,595
22-24	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$72,564	\$79,000
25-27	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$72,734	\$78,809
≥ 28 years	\$51,000	\$64,500	\$78,000	\$80,000

n = 804 (1995); *n* = 648 (2000); *n* = 913 (2004); *n* = 1,155 (2006)

Salaries of Males and Females

In 2006, as in 2004, male survey respondents reported substantially **higher** median calendar year salaries than female survey respondents. In 2006, the males reported a median calendar year salary of \$79,000, up from \$75,000 in 2004 (a 5% increase). The females reported a median calendar year salary of \$60,000, up slightly from \$59,500 in 2004 (a 1% increase). (These data are not shown in any table.)

As indicated throughout this report, numerous variables, including primary employment function and level of academic degree and years of experience in the profession, affect earnings. These variables must be considered when making conclusions about male/female salary differences (and other types of salary differences). For example, in 2006, among survey respondents, males were more likely than females to be employed as college/university professors (6% vs. 4%) or administrators (14% vs. 10%), and to have a doctorate (57% vs. 40%) and more years of experience in the profession (22 years vs. 15 years). Consequently, they were also more likely to have higher salaries.

Salaries by Geographic Region

From 1995 to 2006, the median calendar year salaries of audiologists varied across all geographic regions of the United States (U.S.), with the **lowest** salaries reported in the Midwest and South and the **highest** salaries reported in the Northeast and West (see Table 5).

Table 5
Median Calendar Year Salaries of Audiologists by Geographic Region, 1995, 2000, 2004, and 2006

Geographic Region	1995	2000	2004	2006
Northeast	\$43,000	\$48,000	\$65,000	\$70,000
Midwest	\$39,050	\$45,000	\$57,000	\$60,000
South	\$40,000	\$46,750	\$60,000	\$63,000
West	\$42,000	\$54,000	\$66,890	\$68,000

n = 801 (1995); *n* = 865 (2000); *n* = 911 (2004); *n* = 1,157 (2006)

U.S. Geographic Regions and Divisions With Corresponding States:

Northeast

New England CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT
 Mid-Atlantic NJ, NY, PA

Midwest

East North Central IL, IN, MI, OH, WI
 West North Central IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD

South

South Atlantic DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV
 East South Central AL, KY, MS, TN
 West South Central AR, LA, OK, TX

West

Mountain AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, WY
 Pacific AK, CA, HI, OR, WA



Salaries by Type of Community

From 1999 to 2006, overall, audiologists in metropolitan/urban communities reported **higher** median calendar year salaries than audiologists in suburban and rural communities, especially those in rural communities (see Table 6).

Table 6
Median Calendar Year Salaries of Audiologists by Type of Community, 1999, 2004, and 2006

Type of Community*	1999	2004	2006
Metropolitan/Urban	\$45,000	\$62,500	\$65,000
Suburban	\$45,000	\$60,000	\$63,210
Rural	\$41,950	\$58,554	\$60,271

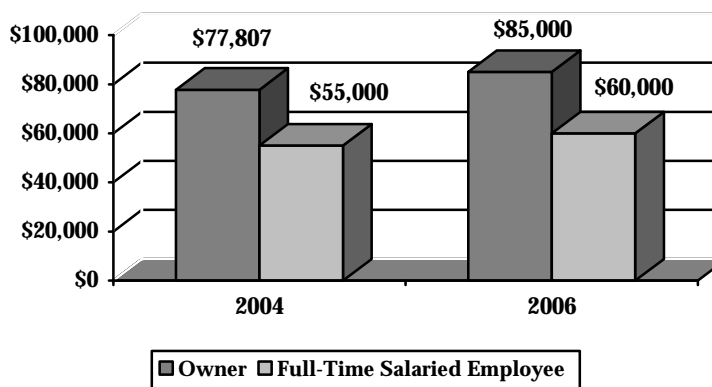
*Type of community was self-defined by respondents (i.e., definitions of the terms “metropolitan/urban,” “suburban,” and “rural” were not provided).

n = 730 (1999); *n* = 909 (2004); *n* = 1,145 (2006)

Private Practice Salaries

In 2006, private practice **owners** reported a median calendar year salary of \$85,000, up from \$77,807 in 2004 (a 9% increase). Audiologists employed as **full-time salaried employees** in private practice reported a median calendar year salary of \$60,000, up from \$55,000 in 2004 (also a 9% increase; see Figure 4).

Figure 4
Median Calendar Year Salaries of Private Practice Owners and Full-Time Salaried Employees, 2004 and 2006

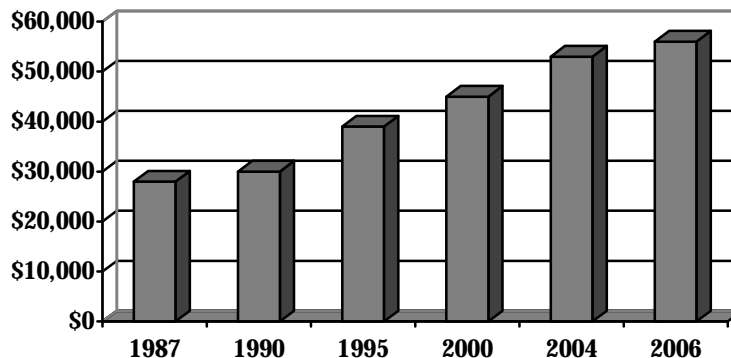


n = 337 (2004); *n* = 509 (2006)

Academic Year Salaries

As stated earlier in this report, few survey respondents (16% in 2006 and 15% in 2004) worked for an **academic year**. Of those who did, however, in 2006, their **overall** median salary was **\$56,000**, up from \$53,000 in 2004 (a 6% increase), \$45,000 in 2000, \$39,000 in 1995, \$30,000 in 1990, and \$27,990 in 1987 (see Figure 5).

Figure 5
Median Academic Year Salaries of Audiologists, 1987, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2004, and 2006



n = 89 (1987); *n* = 117 (1990); *n* = 103 (1995); *n* = 139 (2000);
n = 167 (2004); *n* = 219 (2006)

Salaries by Primary Employment Facility

From 1995 to 2006, audiologists employed in colleges/universities reported **higher** median academic year salaries than audiologists employed in schools. During that time period, the median academic year salaries of audiologists employed in colleges/universities increased by about 43%; the median academic year salaries of those employed in schools increased by about 38% (see Table 7).

Table 7
Median Academic Year Salaries of Audiologists by Primary Employment Facility, 1995, 2000, 2004, and 2006

Employment Facility	1995	2000	2004	2006
School	\$40,000	\$43,500	\$50,757	\$55,000
College/university	\$42,000	\$48,000	\$58,640	\$60,072

n = 88 (1995); *n* = 121 (2000); *n* = 194 (2004); *n* = 226 (2006)

**Salaries by
Primary
Employment
Function**

From 1995 to 2006, audiologists employed as college/university professors reported **higher** median academic year salaries than audiologists employed as clinical service providers (see Table 8).

**Table 8
Median Academic Year Salaries of Audiologists by Primary
Employment Function, 1995, 2000, 2004, and 2006**

Employment Function	1995	2000	2004	2006
Clinical service provider	\$36,012	\$43,000	\$52,000	\$55,000
Special education teacher	<i>n</i> < 25	<i>n</i> < 25	<i>n</i> < 25	<i>n</i> < 25
College/university professor	\$41,500	\$48,100	\$58,448	\$60,072
Administrator	<i>n</i> < 25	<i>n</i> < 25	<i>n</i> < 25*	<i>n</i> < 25*
Chair	<i>n</i> < 25	<i>n</i> < 25		
Supervisor	<i>n</i> < 25	<i>n</i> < 25		

*Beginning in 2004, the “Administrator” category was expanded to include chairs and supervisors.

n = 94 (1995); *n* = 131 (2000); *n* = 158 (2004); *n* = 198 (2006)

**Salaries by Level
of Academic
Degree**

From 2000 to 2006, overall, audiologists with a doctorate reported **higher** academic year salaries than audiologists with only a master’s degree. From 2004 to 2006, audiologists with a **PhD** reported earning at least \$12,000 more per year than audiologists with only a master’s degree (see Table 9).

**Table 9
Median Academic Year Salaries of Audiologists by Level of Academic
Degree in the Profession, 1995, 2000, 2004, and 2006**

Academic Degree	1995	2000	2004	2006
Master’s	\$36,246	\$43,000	\$49,931	\$53,939
Doctorate	<i>n</i> < 25	\$51,000	*	*
AuD	*	*	<i>n</i> < 25	\$53,306
PhD	*	*	\$62,937	\$66,310

*Item not included in survey.

n = 101 (1995); *n* = 139 (2000); *n* = 165 (2004); *n* = 213 (2006)

Response Rate

The 2006 Audiology Survey was mailed in September 2006 to a random sample of 4,000 ASHA-certified audiologists who were employed in schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, and residential and nonresidential health care facilities in the United States. 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.

Demographics

On some characteristics, respondents to the 2006 Audiology Survey were very similar to the population of ASHA-certified audiologists from which they were selected. The vast majority of both groups were female (81% in the survey, 82% in the population), Not Hispanic or Latino (99% in the survey, 98% in the population), and White (95% in the survey, 93% in the population).

The respondents differed somewhat from the population on other characteristics. For example, survey respondents were slightly younger than the population (average age was 42 years vs. 45 years, respectively) but had more experience (15 years vs. 10 years, respectively).

Electronic Copy

An electronic copy of this report (and other, more detailed survey reports) is available on the ASHA Web site at www.asha.org/members/aud/Audsur.

Additional Information

For additional information regarding this report or audiology professional practices generally, please contact Pam Mason, Director, Audiology Professional Practices, at pmason@asha.org or 800-498-2071, ext. 4137. To learn more about how the Association is working on behalf of ASHA-certified members, visit www.asha.org/members/aud.

