

ASHA Health Care/Business Institute 2009 Survey Results

Introduction. A Web-based survey was fielded on March 19, 2009 to 486 individuals who had registered for the ASHA Health Care/Business Institute 2009. The purpose of the survey was to further understand how the current economy is impacting ASHA members, and to look for ways to better serve the membership. A follow-up reminder was mailed to non-respondents on March 26. A total of 260 individuals completed the survey for a 54% response rate (out of 486 pre-registrants, excluding ASHA staff members and BOD members, less four undeliverable survey invitations). Survey results were shared with interested attendees during the conference.

1. What is your current employment status? (Check one.)

Response	Percent	Number
Employed full-time in profession/ discipline	78%	201
Employed part-time in profession/ discipline	18%	47
Employed full- or part-time outside of the profession/ discipline	2%	5
Not employed and seeking employment	1%	3
Not employed and <u>not</u> seeking employment	-	1
On leave of absence	-	1
Retired/volunteer	-	1

2. What is your current primary employment setting? (Check one.)

Response	Percent	Number
Hospital	34%	85
Residential health care facility (SNF, etc.)	13%	34
Nonresidential health care facility (private practice, clinic, etc.)	34%	85
College/university	7%	18
School	6%	16
Other (see below)	6%	14

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration • Administrative for school services • Birth to Three Agency • Consulting • Contract agency • Early Intervention • Federal Government - HQ position • Infant and Toddler program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manufacturer of AAC tools • School and private practice • Supervisor • The Israel cancer association: a non-profit organization • Traveling SLP, setting variable • University and private practice |
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3. What is your current primary employment function? (Check one.)

Response	Percent	Number
Clinical service provider	73%	185
Clinical instructor/lecturer	2%	4
Professor	4%	10
Researcher /university	1%	2
Student	-	1
Consultant	2%	4
Administrator	15%	38
Other (see below)	4%	9

- All of the above (and more)!
- Clinical service provider along with regular instruction to PT, OT, and SLPs - Clinical Specialist
- Director of pediatric and adult feeding programs/clinical service provider
- I do both. Run the biz and see patients full time.
- Peds hopefully
- Primarily clinical service but also significant time as researcher, supervisor, and professor
- Sales of DME for AAC tools
- Service Provider and Manager
- Vice President, duties include patient care

4. Have you made plans to reduce your professional spending in 2009 (purchasing equipment or supplies, participating in continuing education activities/programs, attending meetings, etc.)?

Response	Percent	Number
Yes, by a little	47%	121
Yes, by a lot	22%	56
No, not at all	24%	61
Do not know	8%	21

5. Has your employer made plans to reduce spending in 2009?

Response	Percent	Number
Yes, by a little	28%	71
Yes, by a lot	40%	103
No, not at all	8%	21
Do not know	17%	42
Not employed	7%	18

6. How have current economic conditions impacted the number of speech-language pathology and/or audiology positions in your work setting in 2008 and in 2009? (Check all that apply.)

Response	Percent	Number
We reduced the number of positions in 2008.	9%	22
We increased the number of positions in 2008.	8%	20
We plan to reduce the number of positions in 2009.	4%	10
We plan to increase the number of positions in 2009.	15%	38
We have not made any reductions, but are not filling open positions.	16%	41
We have made no significant changes to the number of positions.	45%	117
Do not know	9%	22
Not employed	4%	9

7. During the past 12 months, have you experienced any of the following *undesired* changes in your employment situation? (Check all that apply.)

Response	Percent	Number
Job loss/layoff	5%	8
Involuntary reduction in work hours	17%	29
Involuntary increase in work hours	5%	9
Reduction in salary or benefits (without change in hours)	29%	51
Conversion from salaried to hourly or PRN pay	5%	9
Increase in the number of sites served	14%	25
Decrease in the number of sites served	3%	5
Reduction in caseload/workload/productivity	10%	17
Increase in caseload/workload/productivity	38%	67
Replacement by support personnel	1%	1
Change in employment facility	6%	10
Employment facility was closed	2%	3
Other	24%	43

8. ASHA wants to make sure we are providing you with useful resources during these challenging economic times. Please review the following list and indicate the value that you place on each product/service. (n=254)

Response	Not at all valuable	Not very valuable	Somewhat valuable	Very valuable	Do not know/ no opinion
Products to help you market your services (<i>Guide to Successful Private Practice in Speech-Language Pathology</i> , etc.)	8%	17%	30%	25%	20%
Resources and advocacy tools that help better explain the profession to consumers/patients	3%	11%	36%	41%	9%
Tools to help you personalize your outreach (such as stationery or business cards)	17%	24%	26%	23%	11%
Patient diagnostic or assessment tools (discounts of 10% off publisher list price, etc.)	3%	6%	33%	53%	6%
Resources to help you manage your career (information about switching to practice in a different setting, etc.)	10%	20%	29%	26%	16%
Tools to help improve your billing practices (CEU program on Medicare Enrollment and Compliance for SLPs in Private Practice, etc.)	7%	9%	22%	49%	12%
Materials you can market to patients (brochures, DVDs, etc.)	6%	14%	36%	36%	8%
Stress management resources	14%	23%	28%	14%	21%
Opportunities to share experiences with colleagues regarding current situations/strategies (Member Forum, Face-book site, Division List-servs, etc.)	5%	9%	34%	42%	11%

9. Please indicate your interest in reading/learning more about each of the following topics through ASHA's communication vehicles (*The ASHA Leader*, Web site, etc.).

Response	Not at all interested	Not very interested	Somewhat interested	Very interested	Do not know/ no opinion
Information about the stimulus package and its effect on members	4%	7%	40%	47%	2%
Member stories about successfully coping with the recession	9%	18%	37%	32%	3%
Reports about the impact of the recession on members	6%	15%	43%	34%	2%

10. Which of the following statements best describes your personal prediction about the economy in 2009? (Check one.)

Response	Percent	Number
The economy will probably <u>get worse</u> before it gets better, but I <u>am not</u> worrying about the potential of losing my job.	52%	132
The economy will probably <u>get worse</u> before it gets better, and I <u>am</u> worrying about the potential of losing my job.	16%	40
The economy will probably <u>start to improve</u> by year end and I <u>am not</u> worrying about losing my job.	26%	67
The economy will probably <u>start to improve</u> by year end, but I <u>am</u> worrying about the potential of losing my job.	5%	13
I have no opinion	2%	4