

ASHA Economic Impact on Academics 2009 Survey Results

Introduction. A Web-based survey was fielded on June 18, 2009 to 4,532 ASHA members employed in a college or university setting. The purpose of the survey was to understand how the current economy is impacting ASHA members, and to look for ways to better serve this constituency. A follow-up reminder was mailed to non-respondents on June 25. The survey closed on July 2. A total of 378 college- or university-based individuals completed the survey for a 9% response rate (out of 4,532, less 247 undeliverable survey invitations and opt outs).

1. Which of the following best describes your college/university? (Check one.)

Response	Percent	Number
Public	78%	292
Private	21%	80
Other	1%	4

2. With which communication sciences and disorders program(s) are you affiliated? (Check all that apply.)

Response	Percent	Number
Undergraduate	66%	248
Master's	82%	307
Clinical doctorate	18%	68
Research doctorate	30%	113
Other	10%	36

3. What is your role(s) at the college/university? (Check all that apply.)

Response	Percent	Number
Department head/chair	15%	56
Academic faculty	62%	229
Clinical faculty	32%	117
Clinical director/supervisor	21%	79
Researcher/research faculty	26%	97
Other	17%	61

4. What is your primary professional area of focus? (Check one.)

Response	Percent	Number
Audiology/Hearing Science	14%	50
Speech-Language Pathology/Speech-Language Science	80%	295
Both	3%	11
Other - not communication sciences and disorders	4%	13

5. Have you made plans to reduce your personal spending in 2009?

Response	Percent	Number
By a little	63%	230
By a lot	24%	88
Not at all	12%	44
Do not know	1%	5

6. 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
By a little	43%	157
By a lot	33%	123
Not at all	18%	66
Do not know	6%	22

7. Has your institution made plans to reduce spending in 2009?

Response	Percent	Number
By a little	21%	76
By a lot	70%	257
Not at all	1%	3
Do not know	9%	32

8. How have current economic conditions impacted your college/university in 2008 and 2009? (Check all that apply.) [Percentages based on $n=361$ who responded to question]

Response	2008		2009	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Budget cuts	52%	186	86%	309
Staff cuts	26%	94	52%	186
Salary freeze	26%	94	62%	223
Hiring freeze on academic positions	30%	107	58%	211
Hiring freeze on clinical positions	19%	69	41%	149
Faculty/staff furloughs imposed for a period of time	4%	16	23%	82
Ability to send supervisors to off-campus placement sites	5%	18	13%	45
Ability to send faculty/staff to conferences	26%	94	59%	213
Ability to purchase equipment/instrumentation/educational and/or clinical materials	25%	89	52%	188
Program/department at risk of closure	2%	7	6%	20
Decreased graduate student financial support	16%	56	36%	128
Lack of jobs for graduates	4%	15	9%	32
There have been no significant changes.	6%	23	3%	12
Do not know	5%	17	6%	23

9. 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. [Percentages based on $n=349$ who responded to question]

Response	Not at all valuable	Not very valuable	Somewhat valuable	Very valuable	Do not know/ no opinion
Curriculum resources (policy documents, publications, brochures, etc.)	3%	5%	30%	54%	7%
Clinical instruction and supervision resources	3%	5%	28%	51%	13%
Teaching tools (primers, scenarios, etc.)	3%	9%	32%	41%	13%
Information on grants and funding	1%	7%	26%	55%	12%
Resources and advocacy tools that help better explain the profession to others	2%	10%	44%	35%	8%
Resources that serve to promote the value of CSD education and programs to the university, local and state communities	1%	9%	32%	44%	13%
Patient diagnostic or assessment tools (discounts of 10% off publisher list price, etc.)	3%	16%	42%	27%	11%
Strategic planning resources for academic programs	1%	10%	39%	26%	22%
Access Academics and Research e-newsletter, a bimonthly customized newsletter with information and timely news for academic and clinical faculty	3%	9%	38%	32%	18%
Award programs (e.g., Advancing Academic and Research Careers, travel award programs)	2%	11%	29%	42%	15%
Stress management resources	16%	35%	21%	8%	19%
Opportunities to share experiences with colleagues regarding current situations/strategies (Member Forum, Face-book site, Division List-servs, etc.)	8%	21%	35%	20%	16%

10. Please describe any other product or resource that you would find helpful/useful during these challenging economic times.

Not shown

11. 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.). [Percentages based on n=351 who responded to question]

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	7%	9%	39%	44%	1%
Member stories about successfully coping with the recession	14%	24%	41%	17%	3%
Reports about the impact of the recession on members	10%	19%	45%	23%	1%

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

Response	Percent	Number
The economy probably will <u>get worse</u> before it gets better, but my college/university position <u>is not</u> likely to be significantly impacted.	18%	64
The economy probably will <u>get worse</u> before it gets better and my college/university position <u>is</u> likely to be significantly impacted.	39%	136
The economy probably will <u>start to improve</u> by year end and my college/university position <u>is not</u> likely to be significantly impacted.	23%	81
The economy probably will <u>start to improve</u> by year end, but my college/university position <u>is</u> likely to be significantly impacted.	17%	61
I have no opinion.	3%	9