

MASSACHUSETTS

DEFINING THE PROFESSIONALS



Audiologists specialize in assessing and preventing hearing, balance and other related disorders, as well as treatment of those disorders.



Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) identify, assess, and treat speech, language, voice, cognitive communication, and swallowing disorders.

Audiologists and SLPs provide diagnostic and treatment services to people of all ages, from infants to older adults.

NATIONAL AND STATE DATA

15%

of Americans have some degree of hearing loss

7.6%

of Americans have some form of language impairment

From 2022–2032...

DEMAND FOR AUDIOLOGISTS WILL INCREASE:

10% in the U.S.

10% in Massachusetts

DEMAND FOR SLPs WILL INCREASE:

19% in the U.S.

22.7% in Massachusetts

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT IN MASSACHUSETTS



13 higher institutions in the state with a communication sciences and disorders degree program

Where do audiologists and SLPs work in Massachusetts?

10.1% of audiologists
57.9% of SLPs



EDUCATION FACILITIES

82.3% of audiologists
34.3% of SLPs



HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

7.7% of audiologists
7.9% of SLPs



OTHER FACILITIES

TOTAL POPULATION

7 mil

NUMBER OF
ASHA-CERTIFIED
AUDIOLOGISTS

450

24 provide Multilingual Services

NUMBER OF
ASHA-CERTIFIED
SPEECH-LANGUAGE
PATHOLOGISTS

5,634

367 provide Multilingual Services

Making effective communication, a human right,
accessible and achievable for all.



FACT SHEET

HEARING LOSS AND DISORDERS

37.5 million

Americans report having some trouble hearing

- **51%** of all adults report having hearing problems, but **only 11%** have received treatment
- **12.5%** of Americans ages 6-19 have suffered permanent damage to their hearing from excessive exposure to noise
- **13%** of Americans ages 12 or older have hearing loss in both ears, based on standard hearing examinations

People with untreated hearing loss have **3X greater risk** of falling

30 million

American adults could benefit from using hearing aids

SPEECH, LANGUAGE, AND SWALLOWING DISORDERS

7.7%

OF AMERICAN CHILDREN AGES 3-17 HAVE VOICE, SPEECH, LANGUAGE, OR SWALLOWING DISORDERS

Only 59.7% of those children received intervention services within the past year

The highest percentage of children with these disorders are **3-6 years old**

People with communication disorders have poorer health and health outcomes than those without communication disorders.

ABOUT US

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 247,000 members, certificate holders, and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology assistants; and students.

RESOURCES

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CONTACT US

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

2200 Research Blvd
Rockville, MD 20850

DC OFFICE

444 N. Capitol St., NW, Suite 715
Washington, DC 20001

CONTACT

800-638-8255



ASHA
American
Speech-Language-Hearing
Association

945057