



ASHA
American
Speech-Language-Hearing
Association

Audiology Survey Report: Clinical Focus Patterns Trends, 2014–2025

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Introduction

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) conducted the *2025 Audiology Survey* to gather information about employment and earnings, service provision, and other professional topics. Results from this survey are presented in a series of reports, including this report on trends in clinical focus patterns.

Findings from the 2016, 2018, 2021, and 2023 *ASHA Audiology Surveys* are included in this report for comparative purposes. Questions and response options differ among surveys; therefore, data on all topics are not available for all survey years. To preserve confidentiality and provide more certain results, we have not reported data for groups of fewer than 25 survey respondents.

The statistic that is presented is the *median* (i.e., middle or 50th percentile). Median values are presented because they are more stable than *means* (averages) and are less sensitive to extreme values.

Survey Report Highlights

- In 2025, overall, 69% of audiologists who were clinicians indicated that they fit and dispensed hearing aids—down from 82% in 2016 and 2018.
- The percentage of clinicians who program cochlear implants rose from 8% in 2014 to 9% in 2016, 11% in 2018, and 19% in 2025.
- In 2025, 28% of audiologists said that they work with third-party administrators for hearing aid dispensing and related services—down from 37% in 2023.
- The percentage of audiologists who currently provide follow-up care for patients who purchased hearing aids online or over the counter remained steady at 15% in 2023 and 16% in 2025.
- In 2025, 33% of audiologists provided telepractice services. In 2023, 27% provided telepractice services to patients who were of school age.
- In both 2023 (54%) and 2025 (37%), more clinicians chose *financial compensation for their time* as the impetus for encouraging them to supervise extern students than any other strategy.
- In both 2023 (50%) and 2025 (55%), most clinicians said that *insufficient time* was the main challenge that discouraged them from supervising extern students.
- In 2023 (54%) and 2025 (52%), most audiologists said that their employer paid their ASHA dues.

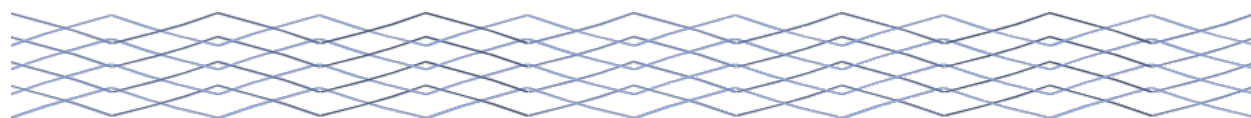
Service Provision

In 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2025, ASHA gave audiologists who were clinicians a list of activities and asked them to indicate how often they performed each (daily, weekly, monthly, less often than monthly, or never). Table 1 shows the percentage of clinicians who performed the activities daily or weekly.

Table 1. *Percentage of clinicians who perform activities daily or weekly, by year.*

Activity	%			
	2014	2016	2018	2025
Demonstrate, fit, or dispense hearing assistive technology ^a	80	67	68	56
Fit and dispense hearing aids ^b	76	82	82	69
Perform cerumen management ^c	37	37	39	34
Perform diagnostic hearing assessment	—	—	—	92
Perform evoked potential testing	—	—	—	30
Program cochlear implants ^d	8	9	11	19
Provide audiologic/aural rehabilitation	—	—	—	45
Provide hearing conservation services ^e	38	13	13	14
Provide tinnitus assessment/rehabilitation	—	—	—	27
Provide vestibular assessment and/or rehabilitation ^f	25	28	26	19
Verify performance of hearing aids using real ear measurements ^g	48	52	54	58

Note. These data are from the 2014, 2016, 2018, and 2025 *ASHA Audiology Surveys*. Dash indicates that the item was not included in the survey. $n \geq 1,427$ (2014); $n \geq 1,203$ (2016); $n \geq 1,265$ (2018); $n \geq 948$ (2025). ^aIn 2014, this item was titled “Demonstration/fitting/orientation of hearing assistive technology.” ^bIn 2014, this item was titled “Fitting and dispensing hearing aids.” ^cIn 2014, this item was titled “Cerumen management.” ^dIn 2014, this item was titled “Programming and fitting cochlear implants.” In 2016 and 2018, this item was titled, “Program cochlear implants (Cis).” ^eIn 2014, this item was titled “Hearing conservation and prevention.” ^fIn 2014, this item was titled “Vestibular assessment and rehabilitation.” ^gIn 2014, this item was titled “Verification of performance of hearing aids using real ear measures.” In 2016 and 2018, this item was titled “Verify performance of hearing aids using real-ear measures.”



Hearing Aids

Third Party

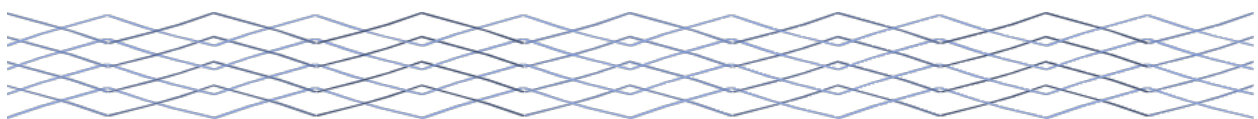
In recent years, we asked audiologists two questions related to hearing aids. One of those questions asked if audiologists worked with third-party administrators for hearing aid dispensing and related services. Question wording varied from year to year (see Table 2).

Table 2. *Percentage of audiologists who work with third-party administrators, by year.*

Year	Question Wording	Responses
2018	Do you work with a third-party administrator (e.g., HearUSA, TruHearing) for hearing aid dispensing and related services?	33% – Yes 58% – No 10% – Not applicable
2021	Which third-party administrators do you currently work with for hearing aid dispensing and related services? <i>Select all that apply.</i>	40% – selected one or more from a list of nine options, including <i>other</i> 60% – Not applicable
2023	Do you currently work with third-party administrators for hearing aid dispensing and related services?	37% – Yes 57% – No 7% – Not applicable
2025		28% – Yes 55% – No 17% – Not applicable

Note. These data are from the 2018–2025 ASHA Audiology Surveys. $n = 1,318$ (2018); $n = 1,481$ (2021); $n = 1,196$ (2023); $n = 1,196$ (2025).

The percentage of audiologists who said that they worked with third-party administrators for hearing aid dispensing and related services declined by 24% between 2023 and 2025—from 37% to 28%.



Follow-Up Care

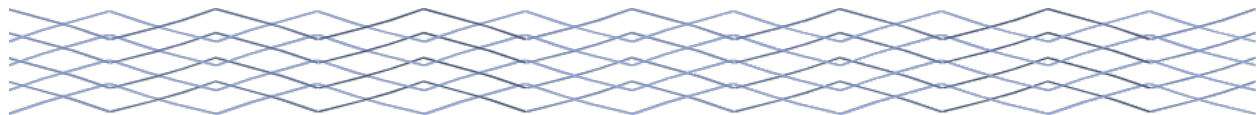
The other question related to hearing aids asked about follow-up care for patients who purchased over-the-counter hearing aids. Again, question wording varied from year to year (see Table 3).

Table 3. *Percentage of audiologists who provide follow-up care, by year.*

Year	Question Wording	Responses
2021	Will your practice setting be providing follow-up care for patients who purchased hearing aids either online or over the counter?	<p>46% – No, we are not planning to provide this service.</p> <p>30% – We are considering it but have not made a decision.</p> <p>24% – Yes, we have plans to provide this service.</p>
2023	Will your practice be providing follow-up care for patients who purchased hearing aids either online or over the counter?	<p>52% – No, we are not planning to provide this service.</p> <p>20% – We are considering it but have not made a decision.</p> <p>14% – Yes, we have plans to provide this service.</p> <p>15% – We are doing it now.</p>
2025	Do you provide follow-up care for patients who purchased hearing aids over the counter?	<p>45% – No, we do not provide this service and are not planning to provide it.</p> <p>9% – No, we do not provide this service; we are considering it but have not made a decision.</p> <p>2% – No, we do not provide this service but have plans to provide it.</p> <p>16% – Yes, we provide this service now.</p> <p>28% – Not applicable.</p>

Note. These data are from the 2021–2025 ASHA Audiology Surveys. $n = 1,371$ (2021); $n = 1,150$ (2023); $n = 1,196$ (2025).

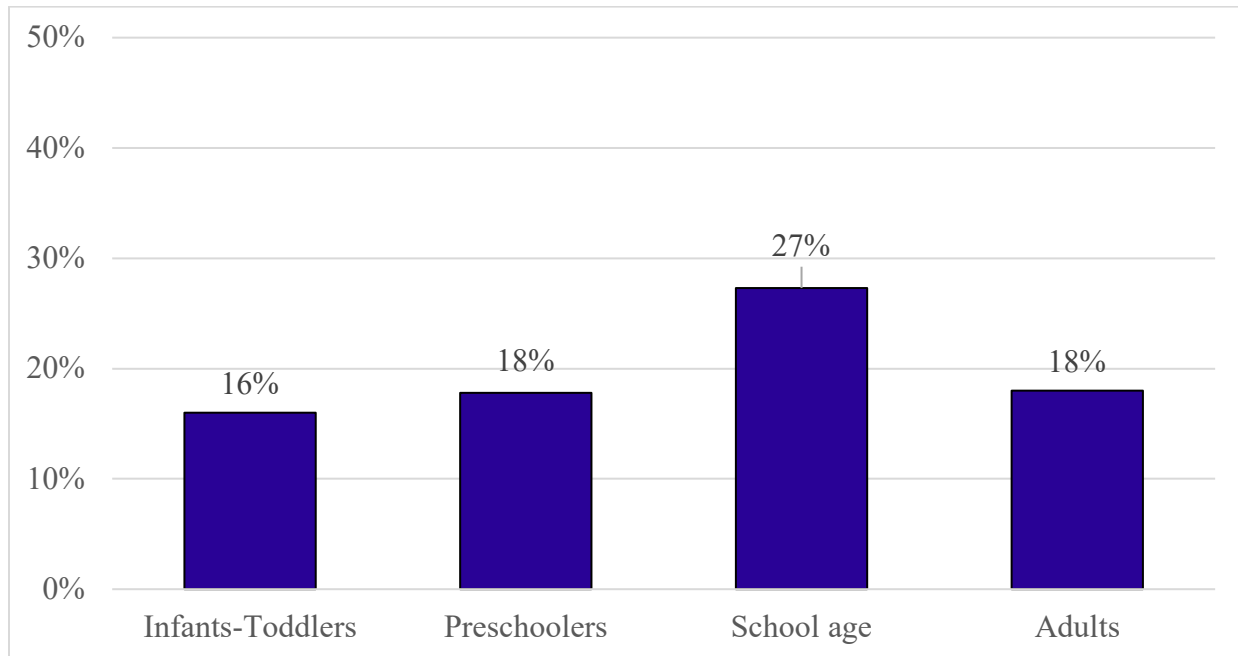
The percentage of audiologists who currently provide follow-up care for patients who purchased hearing aids online or over the counter remained steady at 15% in 2023 and 16% in 2025.



Telepractice

In both 2023 and 2025, we asked about telepractice, although question wording differed from year to year. In 2023 we asked whether audiologists provided services via telepractice to specific age groups; in 2025 we simply asked if their workplace offered telepractice services.

Figure 1. *Percentage of audiologists who provided telepractice in 2023, by age of patient.*



Note. These data are from the 2023 *ASHA Audiology Survey*. $n \geq 1,253$.

In 2023, audiologists were more likely to provide telepractice to school-age children or adolescents than to other age groups. For each age group, the type of facility where audiologists were employed had a significant effect on whether they provided telepractice ($p < .001$; not shown in any table).

- Audiologists were more likely to provide telepractice to infants–toddlers (38%) and to preschoolers (45%) in pediatric hospitals than in any other type of facility.
- Audiologists were more likely to provide telepractice to school-age children or adolescents (50%) and to adults (26%) in outpatient clinics or offices than in any other type of facility.

In 2025, we asked a more general question: Does your workplace offer telepractice services? Approximately one third of the audiologists said that they did.

- 52% – No, we do not provide—and do not currently plan to provide—telepractice services.
- 15% – No, but we are considering providing telepractice services in the future.
- 7% – We began providing telepractice services on or after January 1, 2024.
- 26% – We currently provide telepractice services and have been doing so since before January 1, 2024.

Supervision

Aides

In 2021 and 2025, we asked about supervision of aides. Question wording was not identical in both years. In 2021, we asked audiologists how many individuals they currently supervised who were audiology assistants, graduate students, or hearing aid dealers. We excluded anyone who said that the number they supervised was 0. The median number of *audiology assistants* reported by 282 audiologists was 1.0, and the mean was 2.1.

In 2025, we asked audiologists if they currently supervise an *audiology assistant or aide*. One fourth said that they did.

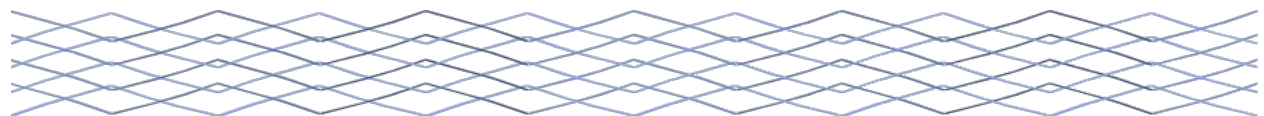
- 24% – Yes, I do.
- 25% – No, my workplace employs them, but I do not supervise any.
- 51% – No, my workplace does not employ them.

Final-Year Externs

In those same years, we also asked about experience with *final-year externship students*. In 2021, the median number of *graduate students* that 520 audiologists supervised was 2.0, and the mean was 3.3.

In 2025, we asked, “What is your experience with supervising *final-year externship students*?” More than one third had never supervised an extern.

- 21% – I am currently supervising one or more.
- 43% – I have supervised in the past but am not currently.
- 36% – I have never supervised.



Encourage / Discourage

We were interested in knowing what might encourage—or discourage—audiologists from supervising final-year externship students in the future, regardless of whether they were currently supervising one. In both 2023 and 2025, we provided a list of options and asked clinicians to select as many of the options that applied to them as possible.

Table 4. Percentage of clinicians who selected what would encourage or discourage them from supervising extern students, by year.

Encouraging Strategies	%	
	2023	2025
Financial compensation for my time	54	37
Release time	14	36
Training in supervision	25	31
Free ASHA continuing education courses	32	27
Insurance reimbursement for services	15	10
Other, specify	19	5
Discouraging Challenges		
Insufficient time	50	55
Lack of financial compensation for my time	31	30
Lack of administrative support	22	30
Poor student quality	25	26
Lack of financial compensation for the student	—	25
Other, specify	25	10

Note. These data are from the 2023 and 2025 ASHA Audiology Surveys. $n = 1,042$ (2023); $n = 1,076$ (2025). Dash indicates that the item was not included in the survey.

What would encourage them: Audiologists in both years ranked *financial compensation for my time* as their top choice for what would encourage them to supervise an extern student. *Free ASHA continuing education courses* took second place in 2023 but was replaced by *release time* in 2025.

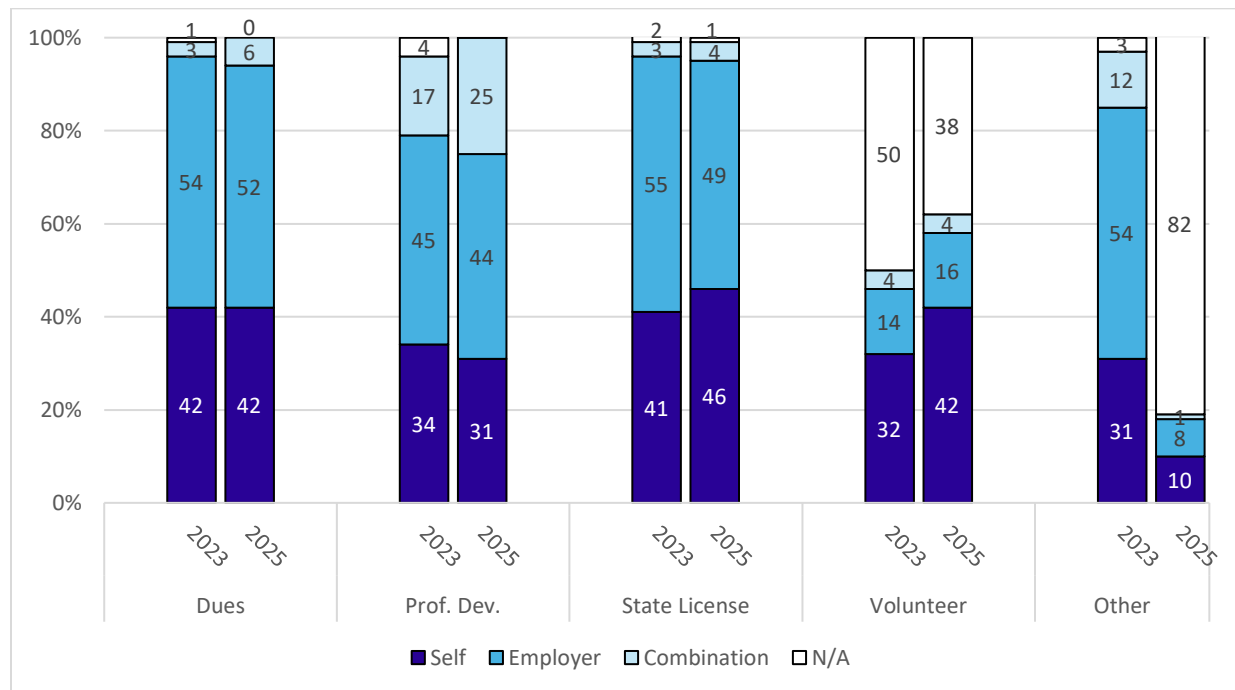
What would discourage them: Clinicians in both years ranked *insufficient time* as their top choice for what would discourage them from supervising an extern student.

Expenses

In both 2023 and 2025, we asked audiologists who paid for a variety of expenses: themselves, their employers, or a combination—or whether the question was not applicable.

Five of the expenses—*ASHA dues, professional development, state licensing fees, leave time to volunteer, and other*—were included in both surveys. In both years, ASHA dues were more likely to be paid by employers (54% in 2023 and 52% in 2025) than by all other sources combined (see Figure 2).

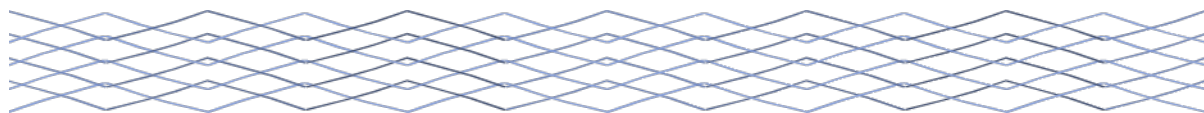
Figure 2. Percentage of expenses paid by audiologists or others, by year.



Note. These data are from the 2023 and 2025 ASHA Audiology Surveys. Ranges: $n = 1,285$ to $1,317$ (2023); $n = 667$ to $1,327$ (2025). Columns may not total 100% because of rounding. Prof. Dev. = professional development.

Professional development expenses were more likely to be paid by employers (45% in 2023 and 44% in 2025) than by any other source, as were state licensing fees (55% in 2023 and 49% in 2025).

In 2023, half of the audiologists said that leave time to volunteer was not applicable. This number declined to 38% in 2025.



Survey Methodology and Response Rates

ASHA fielded the *2025 Audiology Survey* to all ASHA-certified audiologists (CCC-A) and dually certified constituents (CCC-A and CCC-SLP) who had postal addresses in the United States. Of the dually certified constituents, we included in these results only those respondents who said that they were employed as audiologists. We also marketed the survey to known audiology communities and through social media invitations to provide additional avenues for audiologists to become aware that the survey was in the field. The survey was fielded electronically, via SurveyMonkey, six times between September 23 and November 6, closing on November 10.

We obtained a response rate of 13.8% (1,478 completed surveys directly from emailed invitations and an additional 47 surveys that were responded to on the web from a net sample of 11,044 audiologists).

Past *ASHA Audiology Survey* response rates were 39.5% (2016), 39.7% (2018), 30.7% (2021), and 27.2% (2023).

Suggested Citation

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2026). *Audiology Survey report: Clinical focus patterns trends, 2014–2025*. www.asha.org

Additional Information

Audiology Survey reports are available at <https://www.asha.org/research/memberdata/audiology-survey/>. *Schools Survey* reports, which present data for educational audiologists in years prior to 2025, are available at <https://www.asha.org/research/memberdata/schools-survey/>.

Questions?

For additional information regarding the *2025 Audiology Survey*, please contact ASHA's Audiology Practices unit at audiology@asha.org. To learn more about how the Association is working on behalf of ASHA-certified audiologists, visit ASHA's website at www.asha.org/aud/.

Acknowledgment

Without the generous cooperation of the members who participate in our surveys, ASHA could not fulfill its mission to provide vital information about the professions and discipline to the Association membership and the public. Thank you.

Is this information valuable to you? If so, please accept invitations to participate in other ASHA-sponsored surveys and focus groups. You are the experts, and we rely on you to provide data to share with your fellow members. ASHA surveys benefit *you*.