



## Demographic Profile of ASHA Members Providing Bilingual Services Year-End 2020

### Introduction

State data on the number of bilingual speech-language pathologists (SLPs) and audiologists are frequently requested from ASHA's Office of Multicultural Affairs for purposes, e.g., seeking information related to grant funding for bilingual training programs and preparing recruitment initiatives. In an effort to satisfy those requests, this report presents data from ASHA's 2020 Member Counts on bilingual service provision alongside data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) on the potential need for these services.

### What is the ACS?

The ACS is part of the Decennial Census Program of the U.S. Census Bureau. The ACS is sent to a small percentage of the U.S. population annually. The purpose of this survey is to refresh data gathered via the Decennial Census, allowing for more current data throughout the decade. For more information, visit <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>.

### What data from the ACS are used in this report?

This report includes three sets of one-year estimates based on data from the ACS. The first set presents the percentage of individuals in a given state who speak English less than "Very Well." These data are the closest estimates available to the number of individuals who would require services in a language other than English. The second percentage represents those who speak a language other than English as their primary language at home. While it is likely that many of these individuals are fluent English speakers, they may feel more comfortable discussing certain issues, e.g., those related to medical, educational, personal, etc., concerns in their native language. Finally, in Table 4 the non-English at home column is replaced by the percentage of individuals who speak Spanish at home. All three data elements exclude children under the age of 5 from analysis.

### Which members are considered bilingual service providers?

While ASHA does not offer bilingual certification, on the annual dues notice ASHA provided members with an opportunity to self-identify as being bilingual, which requires native or near-native proficiency in a second language. For more information on bilingual service provision, visit <http://www.asha.org/Practice-Portal/Professional-Issues/Bilingual-Service-Delivery/>.

Also on the annual dues notice, ASHA asked a series of questions about bilingual service provision, two of which are critical to this analysis. Following a description of the linguistic proficiency bilingual audiologists and SLPs must have to provide services, respondents were asked "Are you a bilingual service provider?" and "In what language(s) are you qualified to provide bilingual services?" This was followed by an extensive list of languages other than spoken English. Individuals used in this analysis include those who answered "Yes" to the first question, and/or provided a language in the second. Many more respondents indicated they were not qualified or chose not to answer either question; these individuals were excluded from analysis.

In addition to completing their dues notice, members can update their demographic information by contacting the Action Center at 800-498-2071 or by going to [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org) and selecting "My Account" at the top of the webpage.

The column marked "Total" in Tables 2, 3, and 4 includes certified SLPs and audiologists (including those who are dually certified), individuals who have started—but not yet completed—the certification process, and non-certified constituents.

## Data Snapshot: ASHA Bilingual Service Providers, Year-End 2020

### Counts

- **Overall.** At year-end 2020, excluding National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA) members, ASHA represented 208,135 audiologists; speech-language pathologists (SLPs); speech, language, and hearing scientists; and audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel—up from 201,961 at year-end 2019.
- **Bilingual Service Providers.** Of the 208,135 individuals ASHA represented, which excludes NSSLHA members, 16,656 (8.0%) indicated they were bilingual service providers—up from 6.5% at year-end 2019. Of these, 14,958 were ASHA-certified SLPs and 885 were ASHA-certified audiologists. The remainder included members with dual certification, individuals who had started—but not yet completed—the certification process, and non-certified members.
- **Languages Used.** There were 82 spoken languages other than English reported by those who indicated they were bilingual service providers—up from 78 at year-end 2019. In addition, 781 individuals indicated that they could communicate using American Sign Language, 111 use Manually Coded English (including SE, SEE, Cued Speech, etc.), and 28 use “other sign languages”.
- **Spanish-Language Service Providers.** Of the 16,656 individuals who indicated they were bilingual service providers, most (11,023 or 66.2%) were Spanish-language service providers—up from 64.9% at year-end 2019. Of these, 10,208 were ASHA-certified SLPs, and 358 were ASHA-certified audiologists. The remainder included members with dual certification, individuals who had started—but not yet completed—the certification process, and non-certified members.

### Employment Characteristics

- **Employment Status.** The majority (77.9%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were employed full time; 15.8% were employed part time. The remainder were on leave of absence, unemployed, or retired. Percentages were similar for the total ASHA membership and affiliation.
- **Primary Work Setting.** One half (48.1%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were employed in educational settings, including 43.4% in schools and 4.7% in colleges and universities. An additional 43.2% were employed in health care settings, including 23.9% in non-residential health care facilities, 11.9% in hospitals, and 7.4% in residential health care facilities. Percentages were similar for the total ASHA membership and affiliation.
- **Primary Work Role.** The majority (72.9%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were clinical service providers. Nearly one-tenth (7.3%) held an administrative position, 6.9% were special education teachers, 3.8% were college or university professors, 1.8% were consultants, and 0.4% were researchers. Percentages were similar for the total ASHA membership and affiliation.
- **Private Practice.** One-third (33.5%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were employed full or part time in private practice. In comparison, 22.4% of ASHA’s total membership and affiliation were employed full or part time in private practice.

## Demographics

- **Race.** The majority (78.5%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were White. More than one tenth (14.9%) were Asian, 3.3% were Black or African-American, 2.3% were multi-racial, 0.7% were American Indian or Alaska Native, and 0.2% were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. In comparison, 91.5% of ASHA's total membership and affiliation were White, 3.6% were Black or African-American, 3.1% were Asian, 1.4% were multi-racial, 0.3% were American Indian or Alaska Native, and 0.1% were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
- **Ethnicity.** More than one third (45.6%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were of Hispanic or Latino descent, compared with 6.1% of ASHA's total membership and affiliation.
- **Sex.** The majority (92.2%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were female, compared with 95.5% of ASHA's total membership and affiliation.
- **Age.** The median age of ASHA bilingual service providers was 40 years, compared with 42 years for ASHA's total membership and affiliation.
- **Location.** The largest number of ASHA-certified SLPs who lived in the United States and were bilingual service providers lived in Texas (2,542), California (2,361), New York (2,181), and Florida (1,657). Many of these were Spanish-language service providers: Texas (2,290), California (1,423), New York (1,153), and Florida (1,450).

The largest number of ASHA-certified audiologists who lived in the United States and were bilingual service providers lived in California (122), New York (100), Texas (82), and Florida (73). Many of these were Spanish-language service providers: California (57), New York (29), Texas (53), and Florida (55).

## 2019 American Community Survey Data

- **Individuals Who Spoke English Less Than “Very Well.”** The percentages of individuals who indicated they spoke English less than “Very Well” were highest in California (17.1%); Texas (13.3%); New York (13.1%); and Florida and New Jersey (both 12.0%).
- **Individuals Who Spoke a Language Other Than English as Their Primary Language at Home.** The percentages of individuals who indicated they spoke a language other than English as their principal language at home were highest in California (44.5%); Texas (35.6%); New Mexico (34.0%); and New Jersey (32.2%).
- **Individuals Who Spoke Spanish at Home.** The percentages of individuals who indicated they spoke Spanish at home were highest in Texas (29.2%); California (28.8%); New Mexico (26.5%); and Florida (22.5%).

## Suggested Citation

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2021). *Demographic profile of ASHA members providing bilingual services, year-end 2020*. [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org).

**Table 1. Demographic Profile of ASHA Constituents  
Who Self-Identified as Bilingual Service Providers  
January 1 – December 31, 2020  
(n = 16,656)**

<b>Employment Status<sup>a</sup></b> (n = 14,711)	
Employed Full Time	77.9%
Employed Part Time	15.8%
On Leave of Absence	0.9%
Unemployed/Seeking Work	2.7%
Unemployed/Not Seeking Work	1.7%
Retired	0.9%

<b>Race<sup>b</sup></b> (n = 12,979)	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.7%
Asian	14.9%
Black or African American	3.3%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.2%
White	78.5%
Multiracial	2.3%

<b>Primary Employment Facility<sup>a</sup></b> (n = 13,614)	
Educational Facility	48.1%
School	43.4%
○ Special School	2.0%
○ Preschool	6.0%
○ Elementary School	17.2%
○ Secondary School	2.4%
○ Several Schools	13.1%
○ Unspecified	2.8%
College/University	4.7%
Health Care Facility (HCF)	43.2%
Hospital	11.9%
Residential HCF	7.4%
○ Skilled Nursing Facility	5.8%
○ Other Residential HCF	1.5%
Nonresidential HCF	23.9%
○ Home Health Care	6.3%
○ Private Physician's Office	0.9%
○ AUD's or SLP's Office	2.9%
○ Speech & Hearing Center	2.2%
○ Other Nonresidential HCF	11.6%
All Other Facilities	8.7%

<b>Ethnicity<sup>b</sup></b> (n = 14,655)	
Hispanic or Latino	45.6%
Not Hispanic or Latino	54.4%

<b>Primary Employment Function<sup>a</sup></b> (n = 13,146)	
Clinical Service Provider	72.9%
Special Education Teacher	6.9%
College/University Professor	3.8%
Researcher	0.4%
Doctoral Candidate	0.3%
Administrator	7.3%
○ Administrator/Executive Officer	2.3%
○ Chair/Department Head/Manager	1.7%
○ Supervisor of Clinical Activity	1.8%
○ Other Director/Supervisor	1.6%
Consultant	1.8%
Other Position	6.6%

<b>Private Practice<sup>a</sup></b> (n = 12,007)	
Employed Full Time in Private Practice	16.4%
Employed Part Time in Private Practice	17.1%
Not Employed in Private Practice	66.5%

<b>Age<sup>b</sup></b> (n = 14,975)	
34 and younger	30.9%
35–44	33.1%
45–54	20.6%
55–64	10.5%
65 and older	4.8%

<b>Sex<sup>b</sup></b> (n = 15,550)	
Female	92.2%
Male	7.8%

Note. These counts include ASHA members, nonmember certificate holders, International Affiliates, and Associates during the period and whose dues/fees were paid. The percentages are for the number of respondents (n = respondents) to that question only; percentages may not total 100.0% due to rounding.

Sources: <sup>a</sup>Dues Notice 2019. <sup>b</sup>Dues Notice 2020. Dues Notice 2021. In addition to completing their dues notice, members can update their demographic information by contacting the Action Center at 800-498-2071 or by going to [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org) and selecting "My Account" at the top of the webpage.

**Table 2. Number of ASHA Constituents who have Self-identified as Bilingual Service Providers, by the Language(s) in which they are Qualified to Provide Bilingual Services, December 31, 2020.**

Language	# of Bilingual Service Providers			Language	# of Bilingual Service Providers		
	Audiologists	SLPs	Total		Audiologists	SLPs	Total
Akeanon	0	1	1	Konkani	4	4	9
American Sign Language	159	604	781	Korean	27	169	210
Other sign language	2	24	28	Laotian	0	4	4
Amharic	0	3	3	Latvian	0	1	2
Anaang	0	1	1	Lithuanian	0	16	16
Arabic	34	278	347	Macedonia	0	1	1
Armenian	1	46	51	Malayalam	2	106	112
Assyrian	0	1	1	Manually Coded English (SE, SEE, Cued Speech, etc.)	24	82	111
Azerbaijani Turkish	1	2	3	Manyika	1	1	2
Bengali	3	37	46	Marathi	18	79	101
Cambodian	1	3	4	Mien	0	1	1
Chinese-Cantonese	32	209	268	Navajo	0	12	12
Chinese-Mandarin	77	393	509	Norwegian	0	8	11
Chinese-Wu	1	2	5	Oriya	1	4	6
Chinese (other dialects)	9	32	45	Pilipino (Filipino)	5	66	82
Creek	0	2	4	Polish	9	125	139
Creole	0	21	22	Portuguese	10	194	230
Croatian	0	7	9	Punjabi	10	66	86
Czech	1	4	7	Romanian	4	20	26
Danish	0	3	3	Russian	37	575	633
Dutch	1	27	33	Samoan	0	1	1
Ebira	0	1	1	Serbian	0	14	15
Farsi (Persian)	19	128	156	Serbo-Croatian	0	13	14
Finnish	0	2	3	Shona	0	1	1
French	22	423	493	Sinhalese	0	3	3
Fulfulde	0	1	1	Slovak	1	2	3
German	9	142	171	Slovenian	0	1	2
Greek	11	177	199	Somali	0	4	4
Gujarati	14	107	126	Spanish	358	10,208	11,023
Haitian Creole	3	90	95	Swahili	0	2	3
Hausa	0	1	1	Swedish	1	21	25
Hebrew	27	467	520	Tagalog	4	170	184
Hindi	63	505	605	Taiwanese	6	41	50
Hmong	0	12	13	Tamil	7	112	126
Hopi	0	2	2	Telugu	8	54	68
Hungarian	0	15	16	Thai	2	9	14
Icelandic	1	8	11	Turkish	0	25	29
Ilonggo	0	4	5	Ukrainian	2	41	43
Indonesian	1	15	20	Urdu	16	153	180
Italian	10	116	137	Vietnamese	6	83	91
Japanese	14	79	98	Yiddish	3	393	408
Kannada	7	99	121	Other language	4	47	60
Kiswahili	0	6	6				

Source: 2021 ASHA Dues Notice. Members can also update their demographic information by contacting the Action Center at 800-498-2071, or by going to [www.asha.org](http://www.asha.org) and selecting "My Account" at the top of the webpage. ASHA constituents include members, nonmember certificate holders, International Affiliates, and Associates.

**Table 3. ASHA Bilingual Service Providers (BSP) and American Community Survey (ACS) Data on English-Language Proficiency and Non-English Households**

State	ASHA Audiologists		ASHA SLPs		ASHA Total		ACS Language Use	
	# of BSP	% of BSP	# of BSP	% of BSP	# of BSP	% of BSP	English < Very Well	Non-English @ Home
Alabama	4	1.6%	38	1.7%	43	1.7%	2.2%	5.5%
Alaska	1	2.4%	22	5.5%	24	5.3%	4.4%	16.3%
Arizona	19	5.9%	310	10.2%	342	9.9%	8.1%	27.2%
Arkansas	6	4.5%	53	2.0%	61	2.1%	3.2%	7.6%
California	122	15.4%	2,361	15.8%	2,620	15.9%	17.1%	44.5%
Colorado	16	3.9%	273	7.1%	294	6.8%	5.4%	16.7%
Connecticut	13	6.5%	150	5.9%	166	5.9%	8.3%	22.5%
Delaware	3	7.3%	20	4.2%	24	4.5%	5.0%	14.0%
Dist of Columbia	5	11.6%	37	10.0%	43	10.1%	5.2%	16.1%
Florida	73	10.0%	1,657	15.3%	1,787	15.1%	12.0%	30.3%
Georgia	11	3.0%	173	3.5%	190	3.5%	5.4%	14.4%
Hawaii	4	7.3%	32	6.2%	37	6.3%	11.9%	27.8%
Idaho	5	8.2%	31	3.3%	37	3.6%	3.6%	10.8%
Illinois	17	3.4%	582	6.5%	628	6.4%	8.4%	23.3%
Indiana	8	2.7%	96	2.9%	111	3.0%	3.1%	8.8%
Iowa	4	2.2%	24	1.8%	28	1.8%	3.6%	8.9%
Kansas	5	2.7%	37	2.0%	46	2.2%	4.6%	12.1%
Kentucky	3	2.2%	32	1.1%	35	1.2%	2.5%	6.0%
Louisiana	2	0.9%	42	1.4%	46	1.4%	2.9%	7.8%
Maine	1	1.6%	18	2.1%	19	2.0%	1.5%	5.9%
Maryland	37	10.5%	220	6.0%	266	6.5%	7.3%	19.4%
Massachusetts	23	5.3%	288	5.7%	317	5.6%	9.2%	24.7%
Michigan	18	4.3%	138	2.6%	164	2.8%	3.4%	10.0%
Minnesota	5	1.6%	92	2.8%	100	2.7%	4.4%	12.3%
Mississippi	6	4.1%	10	0.6%	17	0.9%	1.5%	4.0%
Missouri	15	4.7%	55	1.4%	71	1.6%	2.1%	6.6%
Montana	0	0.0%	9	1.7%	9	1.6%	0.6%	4.0%
Nebraska	2	1.6%	17	1.2%	20	1.3%	5.0%	11.8%
Nevada	6	8.2%	72	8.0%	79	7.9%	11.9%	31.2%
New Hampshire	5	9.3%	14	1.5%	19	1.9%	2.5%	8.4%
New Jersey	36	9.5%	654	9.2%	722	9.3%	12.0%	32.2%
New Mexico	12	15.4%	222	16.5%	237	16.3%	8.6%	34.0%
New York	100	10.1%	2,181	12.6%	2,394	12.6%	13.1%	30.7%
North Carolina	17	4.0%	287	4.7%	309	4.6%	4.4%	12.3%
North Dakota	0	0.0%	5	0.9%	6	1.0%	1.9%	5.1%
Ohio	15	2.5%	139	2.0%	162	2.1%	2.7%	7.5%
Oklahoma	5	3.0%	64	2.8%	71	2.8%	3.9%	10.9%
Oregon	7	4.4%	181	8.3%	196	8.1%	5.1%	15.5%
Pennsylvania	16	2.9%	259	3.1%	278	3.0%	4.5%	11.7%
Rhode Island	1	1.8%	37	5.1%	38	4.8%	8.2%	22.7%
South Carolina	3	1.9%	71	2.5%	76	2.5%	3.0%	7.5%
South Dakota	1	1.9%	3	0.6%	4	0.7%	2.1%	5.8%
Tennessee	12	3.0%	78	2.3%	94	2.4%	3.1%	7.6%
Texas	82	9.5%	2,542	17.3%	2,682	16.8%	13.3%	35.6%
Utah	22	12.5%	84	5.6%	111	6.4%	4.6%	16.0%
Vermont	0	0.0%	15	3.0%	17	3.2%	1.7%	5.5%
Virginia	20	5.5%	190	4.5%	223	4.7%	6.1%	16.8%
Washington	22	6.3%	213	6.0%	242	6.1%	7.6%	20.5%
West Virginia	3	3.3%	7	0.7%	11	1.0%	0.7%	2.6%
Wisconsin	2	0.6%	127	3.6%	137	3.5%	2.9%	8.7%
Wyoming	0	0.0%	7	1.9%	7	1.7%	1.6%	6.6%
U.S. Subtotal	815	6.0%	14,269	7.7%	15,660	7.6%	8.3%	22.0%
Puerto Rico	17	81.0%	259	79.7%	335	74.9%	74.4%	93.6%
Other U.S. Terr.	0	0.0%	5	8.9%	5	7.4%	No Data	
Other Countries	53	31.7%	425	22.2%	656	24.1%	No Data	
Total	885	6.4%	14,958	8.0%	16,656	8.0%	No Data	

Sources: 2019 American Community Survey and 2021 ASHA Dues Notice.

**Table 4. ASHA Spanish-Language Service Providers (SSP) and ACS Data on English-Language Proficiency and Spanish-Language Households**

State	ASHA Audiologists		ASHA SLPs		ASHA Total		ACS Language Use	
	# of SSP	% of SSP	# of SSP	% of SSP	# of SSP	% of SSP	English < Very Well	Spanish @ Home
Alabama	2	0.8%	26	1.2%	28	1.1%	2.2%	3.6%
Alaska	1	2.4%	11	2.7%	12	2.6%	4.4%	4.0%
Arizona	13	4.0%	268	8.9%	292	8.5%	8.1%	20.3%
Arkansas	1	0.8%	44	1.6%	47	1.6%	3.2%	5.6%
California	57	7.2%	1,423	9.5%	1,568	9.5%	17.1%	28.8%
Colorado	5	1.2%	214	5.6%	222	5.1%	5.4%	11.4%
Connecticut	6	3.0%	99	3.9%	107	3.8%	8.3%	12.3%
Delaware	0	0.0%	12	2.5%	13	2.4%	5.0%	7.1%
Dist of Columbia	2	4.7%	25	6.8%	27	6.3%	5.2%	8.9%
Florida	55	7.6%	1,450	13.4%	1,555	13.2%	12.0%	22.5%
Georgia	4	1.1%	103	2.1%	110	2.0%	5.4%	8.1%
Hawaii	1	1.8%	8	1.5%	9	1.5%	11.9%	2.4%
Idaho	3	4.9%	25	2.6%	29	2.8%	3.6%	8.0%
Illinois	6	1.2%	389	4.4%	413	4.2%	8.4%	13.6%
Indiana	0	0.0%	55	1.6%	59	1.6%	3.1%	4.3%
Iowa	0	0.0%	13	1.0%	13	0.8%	3.6%	4.4%
Kansas	2	1.1%	23	1.2%	27	1.3%	4.6%	7.8%
Kentucky	0	0.0%	19	0.7%	19	0.6%	2.5%	2.9%
Louisiana	1	0.4%	29	1.0%	31	0.9%	2.9%	3.9%
Maine	0	0.0%	8	0.9%	8	0.8%	1.5%	0.9%
Maryland	10	2.8%	124	3.4%	141	3.4%	7.3%	8.7%
Massachusetts	7	1.6%	143	2.8%	151	2.7%	9.2%	9.7%
Michigan	1	0.2%	67	1.3%	70	1.2%	3.4%	2.9%
Minnesota	2	0.6%	61	1.9%	64	1.8%	4.4%	4.0%
Mississippi	1	0.7%	6	0.3%	7	0.4%	1.5%	2.3%
Missouri	6	1.9%	33	0.8%	40	0.9%	2.1%	2.9%
Montana	0	0.0%	7	1.3%	7	1.2%	0.6%	1.3%
Nebraska	0	0.0%	9	0.7%	9	0.6%	5.0%	7.6%
Nevada	4	5.5%	55	6.1%	60	6.0%	11.9%	21.6%
New Hampshire	0	0.0%	9	1.0%	9	0.9%	2.5%	2.8%
New Jersey	12	3.2%	307	4.3%	338	4.4%	12.0%	16.9%
New Mexico	8	10.3%	201	14.9%	212	14.6%	8.6%	26.5%
New York	29	2.9%	1,153	6.6%	1,248	6.6%	13.1%	14.9%
North Carolina	7	1.7%	224	3.6%	233	3.5%	4.4%	7.9%
North Dakota	0	0.0%	5	0.9%	5	0.8%	1.9%	1.6%
Ohio	3	0.5%	68	1.0%	75	1.0%	2.7%	2.4%
Oklahoma	1	0.6%	48	2.1%	49	2.0%	3.9%	7.7%
Oregon	3	1.9%	136	6.2%	145	6.0%	5.1%	9.2%
Pennsylvania	4	0.7%	152	1.8%	158	1.7%	4.5%	5.2%
Rhode Island	1	1.8%	27	3.7%	28	3.5%	8.2%	12.8%
South Carolina	2	1.3%	48	1.7%	51	1.7%	3.0%	4.6%
South Dakota	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2.1%	1.9%
Tennessee	2	0.5%	51	1.5%	54	1.4%	3.1%	4.5%
Texas	53	6.1%	2,290	15.6%	2,388	15.0%	13.3%	29.2%
Utah	11	6.3%	64	4.3%	76	4.4%	4.6%	10.6%
Vermont	0	0.0%	6	1.2%	7	1.3%	1.7%	1.2%
Virginia	7	1.9%	105	2.5%	119	2.5%	6.1%	7.7%
Washington	4	1.1%	123	3.5%	131	3.3%	7.6%	9.0%
West Virginia	0	0.0%	5	0.5%	5	0.5%	0.7%	1.0%
Wisconsin	1	0.3%	105	3.0%	111	2.8%	2.9%	4.8%
Wyoming	0	0.0%	5	1.3%	5	1.2%	1.6%	4.3%
U.S. Subtotal	338	2.5%	9,881	5.3%	10,585	5.2%	8.3%	13.5%
Puerto Rico	17	81.0%	258	79.4%	334	74.7%	74.4%	93.4%
Other U.S. Terr.	0	0.0%	4	7.1%	4	5.9%	No Data	
Other Countries	3	1.8%	65	3.4%	100	3.7%	No Data	
Total	358	2.6%	10,208	5.4%	11,023	5.3%	No Data	

Sources: 2019 American Community Survey and 2021 ASHA Dues Notice.