



Supply and Demand Resource List for Audiologists

Introduction

This resource list presents data on the current and future status of the supply of—and demand for—audiologists in the United States. Data from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and external sources are presented.

External Resources

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Projections

According to the BLS, the national employment rate of audiologists is expected to grow *much faster than average* through the year 2028. An additional 2,200 audiologists will be needed to fill the demand between 2018 and 2028—a 16% increase in job openings. These and additional data on the job outlook for audiologists are included in the BLS *Occupational Outlook Handbook*.

Long- and short-term [state projections](#) of employment growth for the audiology profession are available.

- Select “Long-term Projections (2016–2026)” or “Short-term Projections (2019–2021).”
- Select the state in the “Area” box, then “Audiologists” in the “Occupations” box, then “Search.”
- For all state projections, select “All” in the “Area” box.
- Select “Export–CSV” at the bottom of the grid to export data in a spreadsheet format.

[National employment and wage estimates](#) for the audiology profession are available.

- Hourly and annual wage estimates are presented at the 10th, 25th, 50th (median), 75th, and 90th percentiles.
- Industry and geographic profiles for the audiology profession are presented.
- Data reflect May 2019 conditions.
- See the [National Employment Matrix](#) for audiologist employment data by industry.

[State employment and wage estimates](#) for the audiology profession are available.

- Select the state from the map or alphabetical list.
- Scroll down to Occupation Group Code 29-0000, and select “Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations.”
- See Occupation Code 29-1181 (Audiologists).
- Data reflect May 2019 conditions.

U.S. News & World Report Job Rankings

Using data from the BLS and other sources, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked “audiologist” as #26 in their “[Best Health Care Jobs](#)” category for 2020.

Reports From the Center for Health Workforce Studies

The Center for Health Workforce Studies, a not-for-profit research organization, published *Health Care Employment Projections: An Analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Projections, 2010–2020* in March 2012. The report provides a summary of labor projections to help health care providers, educators, policymakers, and other stakeholders better understand which health care occupations, including audiology, will be in greatest demand during this 10-year period.

Reports From the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Information on the overall health care workforce is available from the National Center for Health Workforce Analysis, which operates under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration. [Reports](#) on the impact of the aging population on the health care workforce, diversity in the health care professions, and other relevant topics are presented.

U.S. Department of Education Data

Public school employment data are collected by the U.S. Department of Education (ED) and disseminated through the *Annual Reports to Congress on the Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)*. According to the *41st Annual Report to Congress*, 1,275 full-time equivalent (FTE) audiologists (1,226 “fully certified”) were employed to provide related services for children and students ages 3–21 served under IDEA, Part B, in Fall 2016 (see Exhibit 45 of the report). Note that ED’s definition of *certified* differs from the ASHA definition.

ASHA Resources

Student Enrollment and Graduation Data

ASHA conducts the annual *Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) Education Survey* to collect information on student applications, admissions, enrollment, graduation, and first employment—as well as other data about undergraduate through research doctoral (PhD) education—to inform the pipeline of the discipline. The information is presented in the [CSD Education Survey data reports](#).

Membership and Affiliation Data

ASHA publishes [membership and affiliation counts](#) annually. Data on the number of individuals who hold the ASHA Certificate of Clinical Competence in audiology (CCC-A) and/or speech-language pathology (CCC-SLP) are reported. Their employment characteristics and demographics are presented as well. At year-end 2019, 13,610 individuals held the CCC-A—up from 13,407 in 2018 (a 1.5% increase). An additional 785 individuals held dual certification (the CCC-A/SLP).

Audiologist-to-Population Ratios

ASHA publishes [audiologist-to-population ratios](#) annually. In 2019, nationwide, there were 4.1 ASHA-certified audiologists for every 100,000 residents—the same or about the same as in recent past years (4.0–4.1 from 2009 to 2018). Regional ratios ranged from 5.3 in the Midwest to 3.9 in the West. State-level ratios ranged from 7.3 in Colorado to 1.9 in California.

Job Market Data

In recent years, ASHA has included a question on its major surveys to assess the job market for audiologists and quantify shortages and surpluses. The question and response categories were patterned after definitions used by the BLS. In 2018, overall, 39% of audiologists responding to the *ASHA Audiology Survey* reported that job openings were fewer than job seekers in their type of employment facility and geographic area (see Table 1). Responses to the survey varied by facility. Audiologists in hospitals were most likely to report that job openings were fewer than job seekers.

Table 1. *Assessment of the job market for audiologists, by work setting, 2018.*

Assessment	%					
	Overall (<i>n</i> = 1,712)	Audiology franchise/ retail chain (<i>n</i> = 69)	College/ university (<i>n</i> = 140)	Hospital (<i>n</i> = 448)	Industry (<i>n</i> = 76)	Nonresidential health care facility (<i>n</i> = 853)
More job openings than job seekers	22	32	28	12	26	25
Job openings and job seekers in balance	39	32	47	39	36	40
Fewer job openings than job seekers	39	36	25	48	38	35

Note. These data are from the 2018 ASHA Audiology Survey. Because of rounding, percentages may not total exactly 100%.

In 2018, overall, nearly half (42%) of audiologists responding to the *ASHA Schools Survey* reported that there were fewer job openings than job seekers in their type of employment facility and geographic area (see Table 2). Responses to the survey varied by facility.

Table 2. *Assessment of the job market for audiologists, by school setting, 2018.*

Assessment	%		
	All school types (<i>n</i> = 196)	Elementary school (<i>n</i> = 44)	Combination of schools (<i>n</i> = 83)
More job openings than job seekers	25	30	29
Job openings and job seekers in balance	33	32	36
Fewer job openings than job seekers	42	39	35

Note. These data are from the 2018 ASHA Schools Survey. Because of rounding, percentages may not total exactly 100%.

Annual Salary and Wage Data

ASHA survey results indicate that in 2018, the median academic year (9- to 10-month) salary of audiologists was \$67,000 in the schools and \$84,869 in colleges/universities (see Table 3). The median calendar year (11- to 12-month) salary of audiologists ranged from \$73,157 in franchises/retail chains to \$89,000 in colleges/universities. Median hourly wages were \$40.00 in hospitals and nonresidential health care facilities.

Table 3. Median academic and calendar year salaries and hourly wages of audiologists, by facility, 2018.

Facility	(\$)		
	Median academic year salary (n = 167)	Median calendar year salary (n = 974)	Median hourly wage (n = 347)
Audiology franchise/retail chain	n/r	73,157	n/r
College/university	84,869	84,969	n/r
Hospital	n/r	89,000	40.00
Industry	n/r	84,431	n/r
Nonresidential health care facility (e.g., clinic, office)	n/r	75,000	40.00
School	67,000	80,000	n/r

Note. These data are from the 2018 ASHA Audiology Survey and the 2018 ASHA Schools Survey. n/r = not reported. (To preserve confidentiality and provide more certain results, we have not reported data for groups of fewer than 25.)

Bonuses

Some audiologists receive a bonus in addition to their base earnings. In 2018, audiologists who were paid an annual salary received a median bonus of \$3,000; those who were paid an hourly wage received a median bonus of \$1,000.

Commissions

Some audiologists receive commissions in addition to their base earnings. Most work in nonresidential health care facilities. In 2018, audiologists who were paid an annual salary received a median amount of \$20,000 in commissions; those who were paid an hourly wage received a median amount of \$12,270 in commissions.

These and additional salary and wage data are presented in the [2018 ASHA Audiology Survey](#) reports and the [2018 ASHA Schools Survey](#) reports.

Suggested Citation

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Questions?

Please direct questions about this resource list to Gail Brook, research associate, Surveys and Analysis, at gbrook@asha.org or data@asha.org.