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

**DEFINING THE PROFESSIONALS**

- **Audiologists** specialize in preventing and assessing hearing and balance disorders as well as providing audiology treatment, including hearing aids.
- **Speech-language pathologists (SLPs)** identify, assess, and treat speech, language, cognitive communication, and swallowing disorders.

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

**NATIONAL AND STATE DATA**

- **6-8 million** Americans have some form of language impairment.
- **37.5 million** Americans have some degree of hearing loss.

**From 2016-2026, Rhode Island is expected to see ...**

- 4% increase in demand for speech-language pathologists
- 700 accredited higher education institutions with communication sciences and disorders degree program in the state.

**EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND**

Where do Audiologists and SLPs work in Rhode Island?

- **EDUCATION FACILITIES**
  - 7% Audiologists
  - 62% SLPs

- **HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**
  - 80% Audiologists
  - 33% SLPs

- **OTHER FACILITIES**
  - 14% Audiologists
  - 5% SLPs
SOURCES


ABOUT US

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is the national professional, scientific, and credentialing association for 211,000 members and affiliates who are audiologists; speech-language pathologists; speech, language, and hearing scientists; audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel; and students.