TOTAL POPULATION

7 mil

NUMBER OF ASHA-CERTIFIED AUDIOLOGISTS

445

26 provide Multilingual Services

NUMBER OF ASHA-CERTIFIED SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

5,530

352 provide Multilingual Services

ASHA American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

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

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?

EDUCATION FACILITIES	HEALTH CARE FACILITIES	OTHER FACILITIES
9.9% of audiologists	82% of audiologists	8.1% of audiologists
57.8% of SLPs	34.3% of SLPs	8% of SLPs

FACT SHEET

HEARING LOSS AND DISORDERS

37.5 million
Americans report having some trouble hearing

30 million
American adults could benefit from using hearing aids

- **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

SPEECH, LANGUAGE, AND SWALLOWING DISORDERS

7.7%
OF AMERICAN CHILDREN AGES 3-17 HAVE VOICE, SPEECH, LANGUAGE, OR SWALLOWING DISORDERS

Only 55% of those children received intervention services within the past year

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

7.6%
OF AMERICAN ADULTS HAVE VOICE, SPEECH, LANGUAGE, OR SWALLOWING DISORDERS

3 million
Americans stutter

2 million
Americans have aphasia

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 241,000 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

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2024). *Demographic Profile of ASHA Member and Nonmember Certificate Holders by State.* www.asha.org/siteassets/surveys/2024-demographic-profile-certificate-holders-by-state.pdf

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2024). *Annual Demographic and Employment Data. 2024 Member and Affiliate Profile.* www.asha.org/siteassets/surveys/2024-member-affiliate-profile.pdf

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (n.d.) *Quick Facts.* www.asha.org/about/press-room/quick-facts/

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (n.d.). *Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC).* www.asha.org/advocacy/state/audiology-and-speech-language-pathology-interstate-compact/

U.S. Census Bureau. State Population Totals (2024). www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2020s-state-total.html#v2024

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2023). *Occupational Outlook Handbook, Audiologists.* www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/audiologists.htm

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2023). *Occupational Outlook Handbook, Speech-Language Pathologists.* www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/speech-language-pathologists.htm

Projections Central. (n.d.). *Long-Term Occupational Projections (2022-2032).* www.projectionscentral.org/longterm

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. (2024). *Quick Statistics About Hearing, Balance, and Dizziness.* www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/statistics/quick-statistics-hearing

National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. (2024). *Quick Statistics About Voice, Speech, Language.* www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/statistics/quick-statistics-voice-speech-language

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