

TOTAL POPULATION

8 mil

NUMBER OF
ASHA-CERTIFIED
AUDIOLOGISTS

361

31 provide Multilingual Services

NUMBER OF
ASHA-CERTIFIED
SPEECH-LANGUAGE
PATHOLOGISTS

3,992

288 provide Multilingual Services

ASLP-IC

Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology
Interstate Compact

MEMBER STATE



ASHA
American
Speech-Language-Hearing
Association

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

WASHINGTON

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.

12.2% in Washington

DEMAND FOR SLPs
WILL INCREASE:

19% in the U.S.

19.3% in Washington

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON



4

higher institutions in the state with a communication
sciences and disorders degree program

Where do audiologists and SLPs work in Washington?

17.5% of audiologists
50.6% of SLPs

71.6% of audiologists
41.6% of SLPs

10.9% of audiologists
7.8% of SLPs



EDUCATION
FACILITIES



HEALTH CARE
FACILITIES



OTHER
FACILITIES

FACT SHEET

HEARING LOSS AND DISORDERS

37.5 million

Americans report having some trouble hearing

- **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

30 million

American adults could benefit from using hearing aids

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

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