Demographic Profile of ASHA Members Providing Bilingual Services, Year-End 2019

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 2019 Member Counts on bilingual service provision alongside data from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2018 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 about the ACS, 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 3 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 2016 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 ASHA's definition of bilingual service provision, see the document at http://www.asha.org/Practice-Portal/Professional-Issues/Bilingual-Service-Delivery/.

On the 2016 dues notice, ASHA asked a series of questions about bilingual service provision, two of which are critical to this analysis. Following a lengthy definition, 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.

Other than completing their dues notice, members can also update their demographic information, which includes bilingual service provision, by contacting the Action Center at 800-498-2071, or going to www.asha.org and selecting "My Account" at the top of the webpage.

In addition to including certified SLPs and audiologists, the columns marked "Total" in Tables 2 and 3 also include dually certified, in process, and uncertified constituents.

Data Snapshot: ASHA Bilingual Service Providers, Year-End 2019

Counts

- **Overall.** At year-end 2019, excluding NSSLHA members, ASHA represented **201,961** audiologists; speech-language pathologists (SLPs); speech, language, and hearing scientists; and audiology and speech-language pathology support personnel.

- **Bilingual Service Providers**. Of the 201,961 individuals ASHA represented which excludes NSSLHA members, **13,211 (6.5%)** indicated they met the ASHA definition of bilingual service provider. Of these, 11,865 were ASHA-certified SLPs and 765 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 78 spoken languages other than English reported by those who indicated they met the ASHA definition of bilingual service provider. In addition, 742 individuals indicated that they can communicate using American Sign Language, 141 use Manually Coded English (including SE, SEE, Cued Speech, etc.), and 26 use “other sign languages”.

- **Spanish-Language Service Providers**. Of the 13,211 individuals who indicated they met the ASHA definition of *bilingual service provider*, most (8,579 **or 64.9%**) were Spanish-language service providers. Of these, 7,969 were ASHA-certified SLPs, and 290 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 (77.2%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were employed full time; 16.8% 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 (48.9%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were employed in educational settings, including 43.7% in schools and 5.2% in colleges and universities. An additional 42.7% were employed in health care settings, including 23.5% in non-residential health care facilities, 12.3% in hospitals, and 7.0% in residential health care settings. Percentages were similar for the total ASHA membership and affiliation.

- **Primary Work Role**. The majority (72.0%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were clinical service providers. Nearly one-tenth (8.1%) held an administrative position, 7.1% were special education teachers, 4.2% 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 (33.4%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were employed full or part time in private practice. In comparison, 22.1% of ASHA’s total membership and affiliation were employed full or part time in private practice.

Demographics

- **Race**. The majority (79.6%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were White. More than one tenth (14.3%) were Asian, 3.0% were Black or African-American, 2.2% were multi-racial, 0.7% were American Indian or Alaska Native, and 0.2% were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander. In comparison, 91.7% of ASHA's total membership and affiliation were White, 3.5% were Black or African-American, 3.0% were Asian, 1.4% were multi-racial, 0.3% were American Indian or Alaska Native, and 0.2% were Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.

- **Ethnicity**. More than one third (43.9%) of ASHA bilingual service providers were of Hispanic or Latino descent, compared with 5.8% 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 41 years, the same as that of 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 (1,951), California (1,815), New York (1,795), and Florida (1,291). Many of these were Spanish-language service providers: Texas (1,769), California (1,098), New York (936), and Florida (1,103).

  The largest number of ASHA-certified audiologists who lived in the United States and were bilingual service providers lived in California (96), New York (83), Texas (71), and Florida (63). Many of these were Spanish-language service providers: California (49), New York (25), Texas (45), and Florida (43).

2018 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 (17.4%); Texas (13.8%); New York (13.2%); New Jersey (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 (44.6%); Texas (35.8%); New Mexico (34.1%); New Jersey (31.7%).

- **Individuals Who Spoke Spanish at Home**. The percentages of individuals who indicated they spoke Spanish at home were highest in Texas (29.4%); California (28.9%); New Mexico (26.4%); Florida (22.2%).

Suggested Citation

American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. (2020). *Demographic profile of ASHA members providing bilingual services, year-end 2019*. Available from www.asha.org.

Table 1. Demographic Profile of ASHA Constituents Who Self-Identified as Bilingual Service Providers: January 1 – December 31, 2019 (*n* = 13,211)

Employment Status[a] (*n* = 12,404)	
Employed Full Time	77.2%
Employed Part Time	16.8%
On Leave of Absence	1.1%
Unemployed/Seeking Work	1.7%
Unemployed/Not Seeking Work	1.9%
Retired	1.2%

Primary Employment Facility[a] (*n* = 11,578)		
Educational Facility	48.9%	
School	43.7%	
○ Special School		2.0%
○ Preschool		6.3%
○ Elementary School		17.0%
○ Secondary School		2.4%
○ Several Schools		13.3%
○ Unspecified		2.7%
College/University		5.2%
Health Care Facility (HCF)	42.7%	
Hospital		12.3%
Residential HCF	7.0%	
○ Skilled Nursing Facility		5.5%
○ Other Residential HCF		1.5%
Nonresidential HCF	23.5%	
○ Home Health Care		6.5%
○ Private Physician's Office		1.0%
○ AUD's or SLP's Office		3.0%
○ Speech & Hearing Center		2.3%
○ Other Nonresidential HCF		10.7%
All Other Facilities		8.4%

Age[b] (*n* = 12,219)	
34 and younger	24.3%
35–44	35.8%
45–54	22.3%
55–64	12.1%
65 and older	5.4%

Race[b] (*n* = 10,908)	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.7%
Asian	14.3%
Black or African American	3.0%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.2%
White	79.6%
Multiracial	2.2%

Ethnicity[b] (*n* = 12,125)	
Hispanic or Latino	43.9%
Not Hispanic or Latino	56.1%

Primary Employment Function[a] (*n* = 11,307)		
Clinical Service Provider		72.0%
Special Education Teacher		7.1%
College/University Professor		4.2%
Researcher		0.4%
Doctoral Candidate		0.2%
Administrator	8.1%	
○ Administrator/Executive Officer		2.4%
○ Chair/Department Head/Manager		1.9%
○ Supervisor of Clinical Activity		2.0%
○ Other Director/Supervisor		1.8%
Consultant		1.8%
Other Position		6.1%

Private Practice[a] (*n* = 10,796)	
Employed Full Time in Private Practice	15.9%
Employed Part Time in Private Practice	17.5%
Not Employed in Private Practice	66.6%

Sex[b] (*n* = 12,699)	
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: [a]Dues Notice 2019. [b]Dues Notice 2020. 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 and selecting "My Account" at the top of the webpage.

Table 2. 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-Eng @ Home
Alabama	5	2.0%	26	1.2%	31	1.3%	2.1%	5.3%
Alaska	2	4.9%	14	3.7%	17	3.9%	4.3%	16.3%
Arizona	22	7.1%	250	8.6%	275	8.3%	8.6%	27.5%
Arkansas	4	3.0%	38	1.5%	43	1.5%	3.2%	7.7%
California	96	12.5%	1,815	12.6%	2,010	12.7%	17.4%	44.6%
Colorado	15	3.6%	207	5.7%	230	5.5%	5.7%	16.7%
Connecticut	8	3.9%	118	4.8%	128	4.7%	8.5%	22.1%
Delaware	3	7.3%	13	2.9%	18	3.5%	4.6%	13.1%
Dist of Columbia	4	9.1%	41	10.8%	48	11.0%	5.6%	16.9%
Florida	63	9.0%	1,291	12.4%	1,388	12.2%	11.9%	29.7%
Georgia	8	2.3%	148	3.1%	163	3.1%	5.4%	14.0%
Hawaii	2	4.0%	23	4.4%	27	4.6%	11.9%	27.5%
Idaho	5	9.1%	23	2.5%	31	3.1%	3.8%	10.9%
Illinois	19	3.8%	476	5.5%	522	5.5%	8.4%	23.5%
Indiana	8	2.8%	78	2.4%	93	2.6%	3.1%	8.9%
Iowa	2	1.1%	21	1.6%	24	1.6%	3.4%	8.8%
Kansas	3	1.7%	28	1.5%	33	1.6%	4.6%	11.8%
Kentucky	2	1.4%	24	0.9%	26	0.9%	2.3%	5.6%
Louisiana	2	0.8%	35	1.2%	39	1.2%	2.8%	7.6%
Maine	1	1.6%	16	1.9%	18	2.0%	1.5%	6.1%
Maryland	29	8.1%	193	5.4%	231	5.7%	7.0%	19.3%
Massachusetts	23	5.4%	257	5.2%	286	5.1%	9.5%	24.3%
Michigan	20	4.7%	97	1.9%	122	2.2%	3.3%	9.8%
Minnesota	6	1.9%	77	2.4%	87	2.4%	4.6%	12.2%
Mississippi	7	4.8%	9	0.5%	18	1.0%	1.5%	3.7%
Missouri	12	3.8%	41	1.0%	54	1.2%	2.3%	6.3%
Montana	0	0.0%	7	1.4%	7	1.3%	0.8%	4.4%
Nebraska	0	0.0%	17	1.3%	18	1.2%	4.9%	11.2%
Nevada	4	5.6%	54	6.3%	58	6.0%	11.1%	30.9%
New Hampshire	5	10.0%	13	1.4%	20	2.0%	2.5%	7.8%
New Jersey	30	8.1%	510	7.5%	569	7.7%	12.0%	31.7%
New Mexico	9	12.0%	194	14.6%	207	14.4%	9.6%	34.1%
New York	83	8.6%	1,795	10.6%	1,949	10.5%	13.2%	30.7%
North Carolina	15	3.8%	233	3.9%	261	4.0%	4.5%	12.0%
North Dakota	0	0.0%	2	0.4%	2	0.3%	2.2%	7.4%
Ohio	18	2.9%	117	1.7%	138	1.8%	2.6%	7.3%
Oklahoma	3	2.0%	45	2.0%	51	2.1%	3.9%	10.7%
Oregon	5	3.3%	146	7.0%	160	6.9%	5.8%	15.9%
Pennsylvania	17	3.1%	210	2.6%	234	2.6%	4.4%	11.9%
Rhode Island	1	1.8%	26	3.7%	27	3.5%	8.4%	21.7%
South Carolina	4	2.6%	63	2.3%	67	2.3%	2.6%	7.4%
South Dakota	1	2.1%	2	0.4%	3	0.6%	2.1%	6.8%
Tennessee	7	1.7%	60	1.8%	69	1.8%	2.9%	7.3%
Texas	71	8.3%	1,951	13.9%	2,079	13.6%	13.8%	35.8%
Utah	24	13.7%	70	4.9%	98	5.8%	4.7%	15.8%
Vermont	0	0.0%	13	2.7%	14	2.7%	1.6%	5.6%
Virginia	23	6.2%	156	3.8%	191	4.1%	5.8%	16.4%
Washington	16	4.6%	164	4.8%	192	5.0%	7.4%	20.0%
West Virginia	1	1.1%	5	0.5%	6	0.6%	0.8%	2.5%
Wisconsin	1	0.3%	101	2.9%	106	2.7%	3.1%	8.8%
Wyoming	0	0.0%	6	1.6%	6	1.5%	1.5%	7.0%
U.S. Subtotal	709	5.3%	11,319	6.3%	12,494	6.3%	8.3%	21.9%
Puerto Rico	11	55.0%	197	65.4%	223	64.1%	76.7%	94.7%
Other U.S. Terr.	0	0.0%	4	7.7%	4	6.6%	No Data	
Other Countries	45	26.6%	345	18.3%	490	18.1%	No Data	
Total	765	5.6%	11,865	6.5%	13,211	6.5%	No Data	

Table 3. 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%	19	0.9%	21	0.9%	2.1%	3.3%
Alaska	1	2.4%	7	1.8%	9	2.0%	4.3%	3.8%
Arizona	10	3.2%	206	7.1%	219	6.6%	8.6%	20.7%
Arkansas	1	0.8%	31	1.2%	33	1.2%	3.2%	5.5%
California	49	6.4%	1,098	7.6%	1,205	7.6%	17.4%	28.9%
Colorado	4	1.0%	163	4.5%	173	4.1%	5.7%	11.6%
Connecticut	2	1.0%	82	3.4%	84	3.1%	8.5%	11.9%
Delaware	0	0.0%	8	1.8%	9	1.8%	4.6%	7.2%
Dist of Columbia	2	4.5%	24	6.3%	27	6.2%	5.6%	8.4%
Florida	43	6.1%	1,103	10.6%	1,173	10.3%	11.9%	22.2%
Georgia	2	0.6%	84	1.8%	90	1.7%	5.4%	8.0%
Hawaii	0	0.0%	5	1.0%	5	0.9%	11.9%	2.5%
Idaho	3	5.5%	17	1.9%	23	2.3%	3.8%	8.2%
Illinois	5	1.0%	325	3.8%	344	3.6%	8.4%	13.7%
Indiana	0	0.0%	41	1.3%	45	1.3%	3.1%	4.7%
Iowa	0	0.0%	11	0.9%	11	0.7%	3.4%	4.2%
Kansas	1	0.6%	18	1.0%	19	0.9%	4.6%	7.9%
Kentucky	0	0.0%	13	0.5%	13	0.4%	2.3%	2.8%
Louisiana	1	0.4%	21	0.7%	22	0.7%	2.8%	3.6%
Maine	0	0.0%	8	1.0%	8	0.9%	1.5%	0.8%
Maryland	7	1.9%	101	2.8%	113	2.8%	7.0%	8.5%
Massachusetts	6	1.4%	118	2.4%	127	2.3%	9.5%	9.4%
Michigan	1	0.2%	51	1.0%	54	1.0%	3.3%	3.0%
Minnesota	1	0.3%	49	1.5%	53	1.5%	4.6%	4.0%
Mississippi	2	1.4%	5	0.3%	7	0.4%	1.5%	2.3%
Missouri	4	1.3%	21	0.5%	25	0.6%	2.3%	2.5%
Montana	0	0.0%	4	0.8%	4	0.7%	0.8%	1.7%
Nebraska	0	0.0%	10	0.8%	11	0.7%	4.9%	7.2%
Nevada	2	2.8%	41	4.7%	43	4.5%	11.1%	21.3%
New Hampshire	0	0.0%	9	1.0%	9	0.9%	2.5%	2.4%
New Jersey	12	3.3%	231	3.4%	257	3.5%	12.0%	16.6%
New Mexico	6	8.0%	171	12.9%	181	12.6%	9.6%	26.4%
New York	25	2.6%	936	5.5%	1,003	5.4%	13.2%	14.9%
North Carolina	7	1.8%	183	3.1%	198	3.0%	4.5%	7.8%
North Dakota	0	0.0%	2	0.4%	2	0.3%	2.2%	1.9%
Ohio	3	0.5%	54	0.8%	58	0.8%	2.6%	2.4%
Oklahoma	1	0.7%	30	1.3%	32	1.3%	3.9%	7.4%
Oregon	1	0.7%	112	5.3%	119	5.1%	5.8%	9.4%
Pennsylvania	4	0.7%	119	1.5%	128	1.4%	4.4%	5.2%
Rhode Island	1	1.8%	19	2.7%	20	2.6%	8.4%	12.3%
South Carolina	2	1.3%	40	1.5%	42	1.4%	2.6%	4.6%
South Dakota	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	2.1%	2.1%
Tennessee	1	0.2%	34	1.0%	37	1.0%	2.9%	4.2%
Texas	45	5.3%	1,769	12.6%	1,863	12.2%	13.8%	29.4%
Utah	11	6.3%	48	3.4%	61	3.6%	4.7%	10.8%
Vermont	0	0.0%	3	0.6%	3	0.6%	1.6%	1.2%
Virginia	6	1.6%	91	2.2%	102	2.2%	5.8%	7.5%
Washington	2	0.6%	91	2.7%	101	2.6%	7.4%	8.6%
West Virginia	0	0.0%	3	0.3%	3	0.3%	0.8%	1.1%
Wisconsin	1	0.3%	78	2.3%	82	2.1%	3.1%	4.8%
Wyoming	0	0.0%	5	1.4%	5	1.3%	1.5%	4.7%
U.S. Subtotal	277	2.1%	7,713	4.3%	8,277	4.2%	8.3%	13.5%
Puerto Rico	11	55.0%	196	65.1%	222	63.8%	76.7%	94.5%
Other U.S. Terr.	0	0.0%	3	5.8%	3	4.9%	No Data	
Other Countries	2	1.2%	57	3.0%	77	2.8%	No Data	
Total	290	2.1%	7,969	4.4%	8,579	4.2%	No Data	