

Licensing Division

Staff Report for the Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologist
Advisory Board Meeting
November 2, 2021

Statistics

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS

	TOTAL FY 2020	TOTAL FY 2021	September FY 2022
New Licenses Issued	1,060	1,340	88
Renewed Licenses Issued	6,618	7,822	470
Online Renewals	6,214	7,693	462
% Renewed Online	94%	98%	98%
Total Population	15,941	16,814	16,840

SPEECH INTERNS

	TOTAL FY 2020	TOTAL FY 2021	September FY 2022
New Licenses Issued	733	1,030	80
Renewed Licenses Issued	602	149	15
Online Renewals	80	147	14
% Renewed Online	13%	97%	93%
Total Population	868	1,036	1,055

SPEECH ASSISTANTS

	TOTAL FY 2020	TOTAL FY 2021	September FY 2022
New Licenses Issued	341	543	66
Renewed Licenses Issued	1,708	1,839	119
Online Renewals	995	1,618	114
% Renewed Online	59%	88%	96%
Total Population	4,214	4,393	4,409

AUDIOLOGISTS

	TOTAL FY 2020	TOTAL FY 2021	TOTAL Sept. 2022
New Licenses Issued	89	102	8
Renewed Licenses Issued	624	709	49
Online Renewals	321	680	49
% Renewed Online	51%	96%	100%
Total Population	1,453	1,506	1,508

AUDIOLOGIST INTERNS

	TOTAL FY 2020	TOTAL FY 2021	TOTAL Sept. 2022
New Licenses Issued	44	47	2
Renewed Licenses Issued	44	9	0
Online Renewals	1	4	0
% Renewed Online	2%	44%	0
Total Population	52	51	52

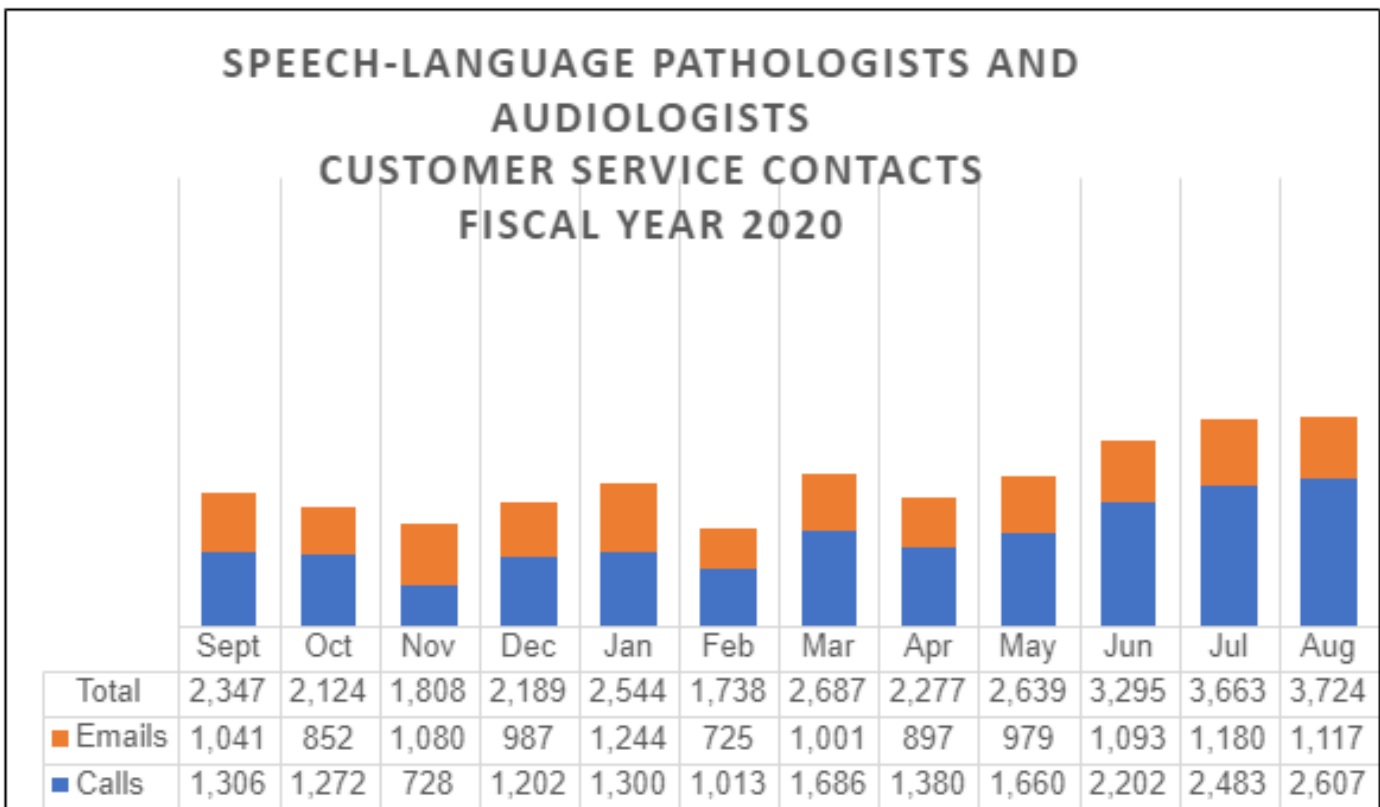
AUDIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS

	TOTAL FY 2020	TOTAL FY 2021	TOTAL Sept. 2022
New Licenses Issued	12	6	1
Renewed Licenses Issued	9	8	2
Online Renewals	1	7	2
% Renewed Online	11%	88%	100%
Total Population	39	34	34

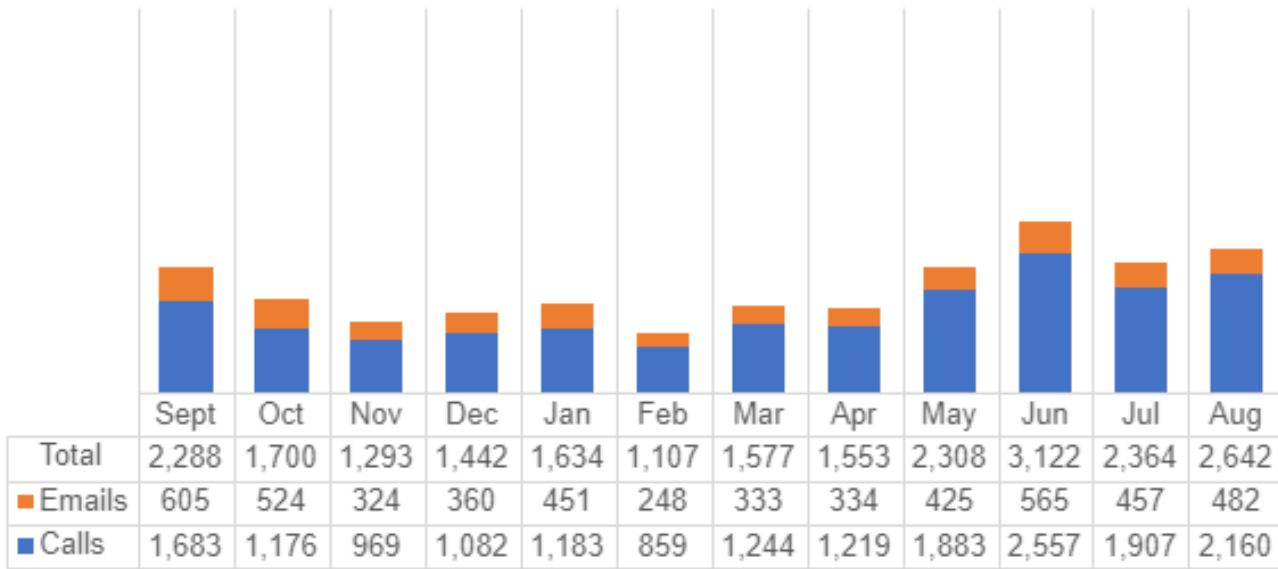
Customer Service

Staff Report for Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists
Advisory Board – 11/02/2021

Statistics



**SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS AND
AUDILOGISTS
CUSTOMER SERVICE CONTACTS
FISCAL YEAR 2021**



Enforcement Division

Staff Report for the Speech-Language Pathologist and Audiologists

November 2, 2021

Personnel Updates

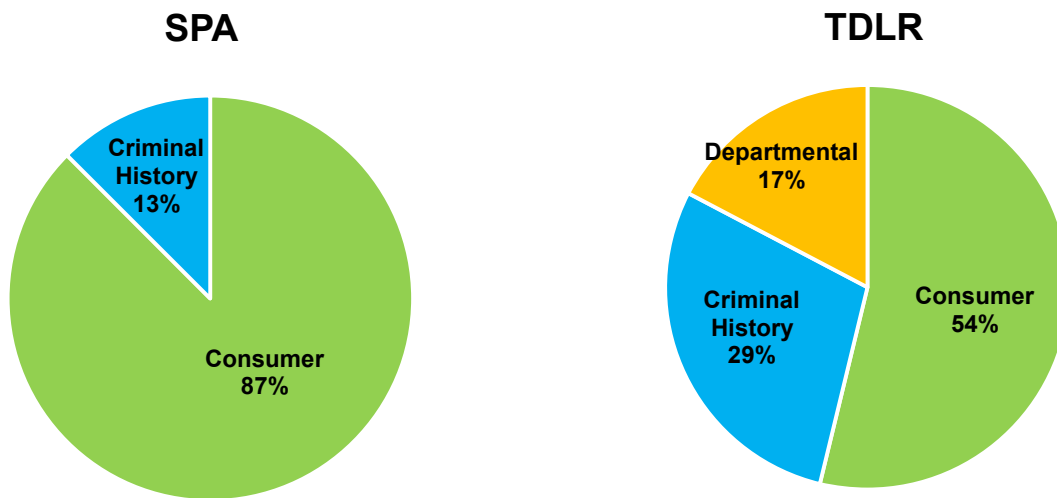
- On September 15, 2021, Kimberly (Kim) Ferreiro Mitchell was promoted to Management Analyst III. Kim has worked for TDLR for 13 ½ years, previously serving as a Legal Assistant III and Legal Assistant II.
- On September 15, 2021, Estella Ramos was promoted to Senior Legal Assistant in our Intake Section. Estella has worked for TDLR for over 6 years, previously serving as an Intake Administrative Assistant and Legal Assistant II.

Statistics

Shown below are the Enforcement Performance Measures and key statistics for the Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (SPA) program and all TDLR programs combined through September of **Fiscal Year 2022:**

Key Statistics	SPA	TDLR
Cases opened	8	948
Cases closed	8	1,110
Average time to close (days)	240.25	241.65
% of cases resolved within 6 months	37.50%	54.86%
% of cases resulting in disciplinary action	25.00%	16.22%
Cases pending at end of September 2021	36	6,472

Source of Cases Opened through September of Fiscal Year 2022



Case Outcomes	SPA	TDLR
Commission Orders	0	0
Default Orders	0	67
Agreed Orders	2	121
Penalties Assessed	\$12,000.00	\$605,625.00
Penalties Collected	\$12,000.00	\$400,975.00
Licenses Revoked (Disciplinary)	0	12
Licenses Suspended	0	2
Licenses Denied/Revoked (Criminal History)	0	20
Cease & Desist Orders	0	3
Informally Resolved	6	913

SPA Alleged Violations at Opening through September of Fiscal Year 2022

Alleged Violation:	Count
Code of ethics violation	2
Criminal History	1

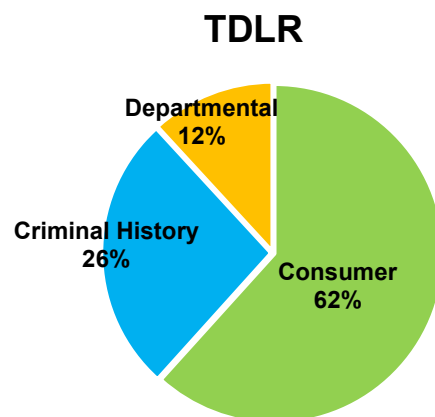
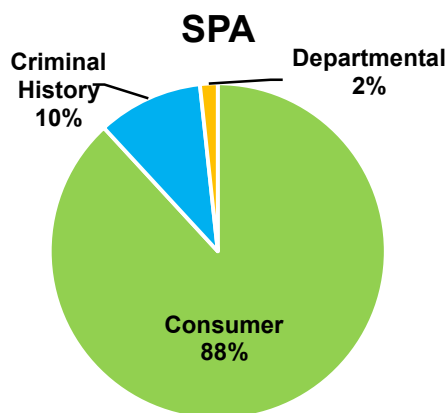
SPA Violations Resulting in Disciplinary Action for Fiscal Year 2022

Violation	Count
Billed for services not provided	2

Shown below are the Enforcement Performance Measures and key statistics for the Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists (SPA) program and all TDLR programs combined for **Fiscal Year 2021**:

Key Statistics	SPA	TDLR
Cases opened	59	10,121
Cases closed	74	9,335
Average time to close (days)	214.61	209.86
% of cases resolved within 6 months	44.59%	60.00%
% of cases resulting in disciplinary action	8.11%	13.41%
Cases pending at the end of Fiscal Year 2021	36	6,627

Source of Cases Opened for Fiscal Year 2021



Case Outcomes	SPA	TDLR
Commission Orders	1	44
Default Orders	1	455
Agreed Orders	4	711
Penalties Assessed	\$7,125.00	\$2,570,716.00
Penalties Collected	\$5,325.00	\$1,140,068.95
Licenses Revoked (Disciplinary)	0	103
Licenses Suspended	0	8
Licenses Denied/Revoked (Criminal History)	1	240
Cease & Desist Orders	0	19
Informally Resolved	68	7,976

TOP SPA Alleged Violations at Opening for Fiscal Year 2021

Alleged Violation:	Count
Code of ethics violation	29
Falsified records	12
Billed for services not provided	7
Criminal History	6
Failed to maintain records	5
Practicing without a license	4
Medical evaluation or waiver violation	2
Lacks honesty, trustworthiness, or integrity	1
Violation involving supervision	1
Failed to comply with an order	1
Violation of disaster ordinance or order	1

TOP SPA Violations Resulting in Disciplinary Action for Fiscal Year 2021

Violation	Count
Criminal History	2
Failed to maintain records	2
Failed to comply with an order	1
Falsified records	1

Case Highlights

- Case Number SPA20210011085 - Michelle Remmenga

On September 21, 2021, the Executive Director signed an Agreed Order imposing a penalty of \$10,500 on the Respondent for seven instances of billing for services which Respondent did not in fact provide. The penalty has been paid in full.

- Case Number SPA20200007527 - Leslie Smith

On August 12, 2021, the Executive Director signed an Agreed Order in this case imposing a penalty of \$1,500 on Respondent for falsifying records. The penalty has been paid in full.

- Case Number SPA20200006062 - Katherine Ann Schroeder

On September 9, 2021, the Executive Director signed an Agreed Order imposing a penalty of \$1,500 on Respondent for one instance of billing for services which the Respondent did not in fact provide. The penalty has been paid in full.



Education and Examination Division

Staff Report for Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologist Advisory Board

November 2, 2021

Statistics

*Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists take a Written National Examination; we don't have those examination statistics.

Jurisprudence Examinations

(As of September 30th, 2021)

FY 2022	Sep	Oct	Nov	Q1	Dec	Jan	Feb	Q2	Mar	Apr	May	Q3	Jun	Jul	Aug	Q4	Total
Audiologists	11	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Pathologists	111	-	-	111	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	111
TOTAL	122	-	-	122	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	122

FY 2021	Sep	Oct	Nov	Q1	Dec	Jan	Feb	Q2	Mar	Apr	May	Q3	Jun	Jul	Aug	Q4	Total
Audiologists	5	8	3	16	4	6	7	17	15	37	29	81	13	10	7	30	144
Pathologists	112	96	91	299	119	118	82	319	115	224	463	802	296	252	253	801	2,221
Total	117	104	94	315	123	124	89	336	130	261	492	883	309	262	260	831	2,365

FY 2020	Sep	Oct	Nov	Q1	Dec	Jan	Feb	Q2	Mar	Apr	May	Q3	Jun	Jul	Aug	Q4	Total
Audiologists	2	6	6	14	3	10	7	20	8	23	38	69	14	6	9	29	132

Pathologists	94	75	88	257	106	105	84	295	105	157	311	573	323	262	191	776	1,901
Total	96	81	94	271	109	115	91	315	113	180	349	642	337	268	200	805	2,033

Updates

The Education and Examination has begun the transition to discontinue the education@tdlr.texas.gov email box to a more secure webform. When sending email inquiries, please use the [Education Webform](https://ga.tdlr.texas.gov:1443/form/education) [<https://ga.tdlr.texas.gov:1443/form/education>].

Regulatory Program Management Staff Report for Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists – November 2, 2021

Current Projects

Staff have been working on bill implementation teams to implement statutory changes from the 87th Regular Legislative Session. Katie is leading the team to implement SB 40 and HB 4. SB 40 allows the Commission to adopt rules, including telehealth rules and rules for remote supervision. HB 4 allows HHSC to adopt rules allowing for reimbursement of some audio-only services, including speech-language pathology services. We will be monitoring HHSC rules to see if they adopt any rules for audio-only services.

Staff assisted with reviewing and drafting responses to public comments received on the current proposed rules.

Staff have been working with our Versa developers to determine the ability to send license notifications upon approval of licenses and changes in supervision.

Notice

Notice regarding the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) proposed rule, Establishing Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids, and the updated draft guidance, Regulatory Requirements for Hearing Aid Devices and Personal Sound Amplification Products.

Outreach

Katie gave a presentation to students at the University of North Texas on October 14 to introduce students graduating with their bachelor's degree to TDLR and licensing.

Katie and Steve had a booth at the Texas Academy of Audiology Conference in Houston on October 28-30. Katie gave a presentation to the group on TDLR and updated rules and recent legislation.