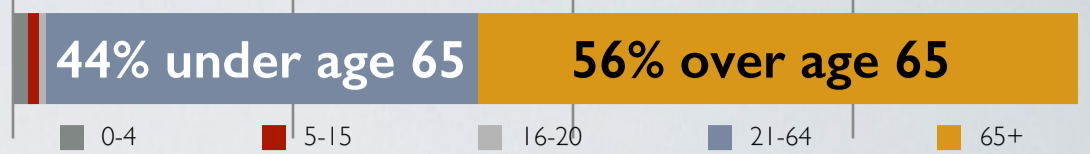


# Oregon Office of Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing Services: Senate Bill 449

186,117 Oregonians with Hearing Loss: Age Range Distribution [1]



## Evidence of Social, Educational & Employment Disparities [1]

### Poverty

- **Twice** as many Deaf citizens living in poverty as the non-disabled population (26.2% compared to 14.1%)

### Highest Educational Attainment

- **Half** the rate of BA/BS degrees among the Deaf community (15.8% compared to 32.1%)

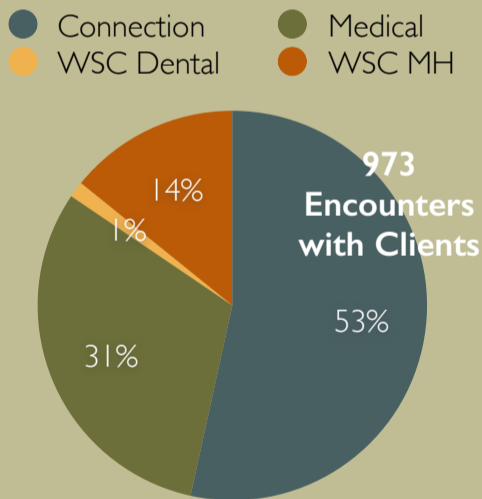
### Employment Rate

- **20%** less employed than non-disabled population (53% compared to 74%)

## Imagine if Services Were Available Statewide.....

### A Case Study of Regional Services currently available

Northwest Human Services' Connection Program **currently** serves Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing residents in **only three counties** in Oregon and on a case-by-case basis, providing **counseling, case management, advocacy, crisis intervention**, and other services. **One** full-time staff member serves these needs. If there were **larger capacity** and more services offered, they **would be utilized**. [2]



**ONE**

Staff Member



Medical Connection  
Mental Health Dental

This represents **only 0.09%** of the Deaf population in Oregon

## Current State of the Deaf Community in Oregon

### Annual Births & Locations [7]

- **100** infants/year with hearing loss
- over **50%** along the I-5 corridor

### K-12 Educational Placement [6]

- **848** Students who receive Special Education services
- **86%** in Mainstreamed classes with interpreters

# It's the Right Thing to DO

[3,4,5]

## Commitment

Deaf, Deaf-Blind and Hard of Hearing population will be included in Oregon's future/growth plans.

## Equity

It's our responsibility to treat and support everyone with the same level of respect and fairness

## Employment

Let's offer the same privilege of dignity and independence as a new age develops.

## 40/40/20 Goal

Provide the highest standard of education and professional training opportunities for our young adults to adopt SB 253

- Currently the Deaf population is 15/X?/32 toward the 40/40/20 goal.

- No good data on associates degree attainment (only those with "some college"- 39%)

## Diversity

Truly embrace individuality/difference as our pioneer state

## Transparency

Reinforce and empower open relationships through our stewardship activity towards one another.

**Now, is the Right Time**

### • Community Needs Assessment Committee Membership

- Oregon Association of the Deaf
- Oregon's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services
- Oregon Department of Aging and Disabilities
- Western Oregon University
- Living Independently for Empowerment (LIFE)

## Invested Community Partners

## References

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2. [Connection Services Deaf and Hard of Hearing Clients Served in 2013]. (2015, January). Unpublished raw data.
3. Fellingner, J., Holzinger, D., & Pollard, R. (2012). Mental health of deaf people. *The Lancet*, 379(9820), 1037-1044. doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(11)61143-4
4. Floria, S. (2009). 2009 Survey of State Commissions, Divisions, and Councils Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing People (Rep.). RI: Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
5. Leigh, I.W., Pollard, R. Q. (2003). Mental health and deaf adults. *Oxford handbook of deaf studies, language, and education* (Vol. 1, pp. 214-226)
6. [Oregon Deaf and Deaf-Blind Student Educational Placement 2013]. (2015, February). Unpublished raw data.
7. [Oregon Early Hearing Detection and Intervention]. (2014, August 22). Unpublished raw data.