



Glennis Matthews

Superintendent

The Learning Center for the Deaf

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Recently Celebrated 50 years! Main Campus in Framingham, MA



"Inspiring Knowledge, Opportunity, Power"

Our Programs

- **Badavas Parent Infant Program:**
 - At-home support and playgroups for early learning from birth to age 3
- **Walden Community Services:**
 - Children's Behavioral Health Initiative, community-based and family support and stabilization services for families with a deaf family member
- **Audiology Clinic:**
 - Comprehensive audiologic, hearing aid and cochlear implant services to the Metro West community and beyond



Our Programs

- **Community ASL Classes**

Dynamic and engaging classes led by Deaf and fluent ASL users

- **Interpreting Services:**

Providing nationally certified/state approved ASL and Deaf interpreters for businesses, medical centers, colleges and universities

- **Public School Partnerships**

Addresses specific needs of deaf/hh students in mainstream educational settings



Our Schools



Marie Philip School (Pre-K to 12)

- Honors and AP courses
- Vocational training courses
- Intensive Classes

Walden School (ages 8-22)

- Nationally-recognized residential therapeutic and educational program
- Highly individualized, trauma-informed care and therapy in home-like setting



Marie Philip and Walden Schools (MPWS)

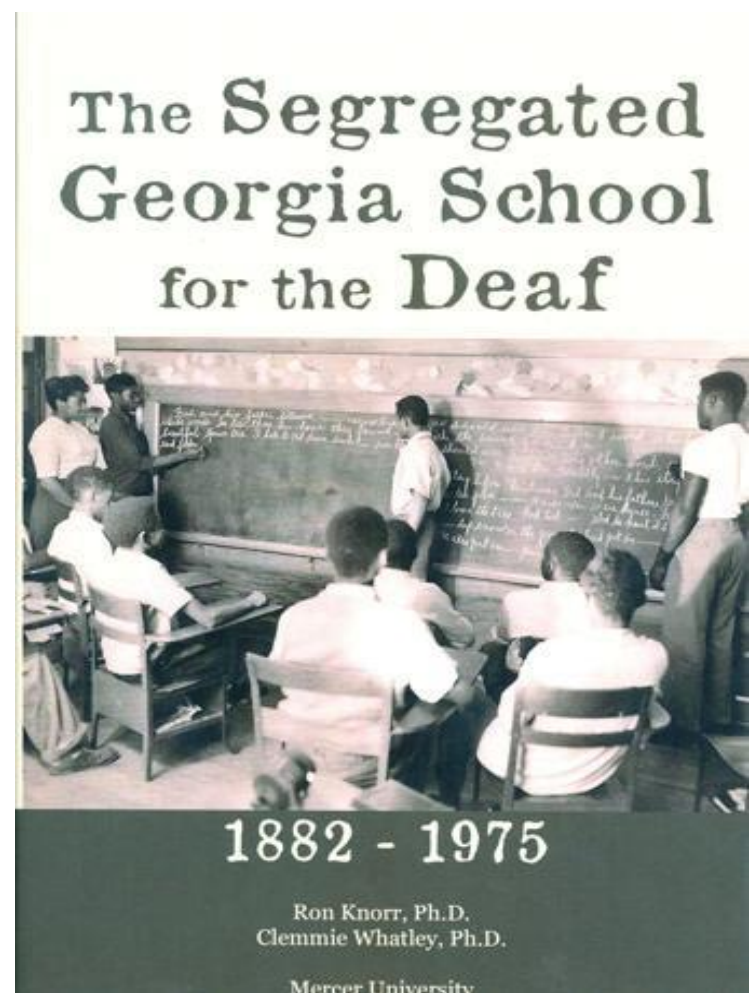
Athletes and Academic Teams

- **Volleyball**
 - 2022 ESDAA Champions!
- **Basketball**
 - Girls – 2022-23 ESDAA and National Champions!
 - Boys – 3rd Place in the ESDAA Championship
- **Soccer**
 - 2022 ESDAA Champions and National Champions!
- **Cheerleading**
 - 2022-23 ESDAA Champions!
- **Academic Bowl**
 - 2022 2nd Place in the National Championship!
- **Special Olympics**
 - Several students won the 2023 state tournament!



How has the history of deaf education influence the education Black deaf received?

Ron Knorr, PhD
Clemmie Whatley, PhD





Where we've been...



- Established in 1846
- First Black deaf was admitted in 1882
- Desegregated in 1975
- Historically Black College and Universities
- Established in 1881



Where we've been...



- Established in 1864
- First Black deaf graduated in 1954 or 1913??
- Historically Black College and Universities
- Established in 1867



Who was the first Black deaf graduate at Gallaudet and when?



Adam Longo
@adamlongoTV · Follow



The first Native-American student to graduate @GallaudetU was ACTUALLY the first black student. The National Deaf Life Museum @DeafMuseumGU brings a spectacular perspective that many in DC don't know much about. Tonight on #OpenMic w/ @reesewaters @wusa9 7pm.



5:22 PM · Dec 14, 2021



10 Reply Copy link

[Read more on Twitter](#)



1913



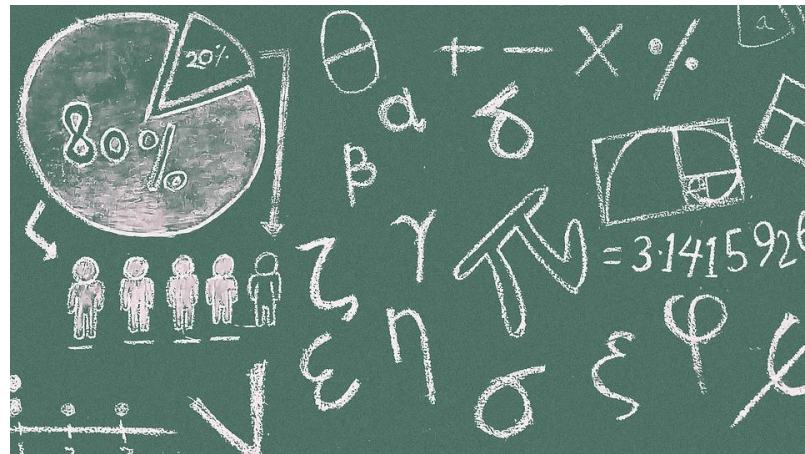
1954



Andrew
Foster

What do we have...

- GSD – 1846; first Black in 1882
- Spelman – 1881
- Howard – 1867
- Gallaudet – 1864; first “known” Black graduated in 1954
- Civil war 1861 – 1865
- Emancipation Proclamation was signed in 1863



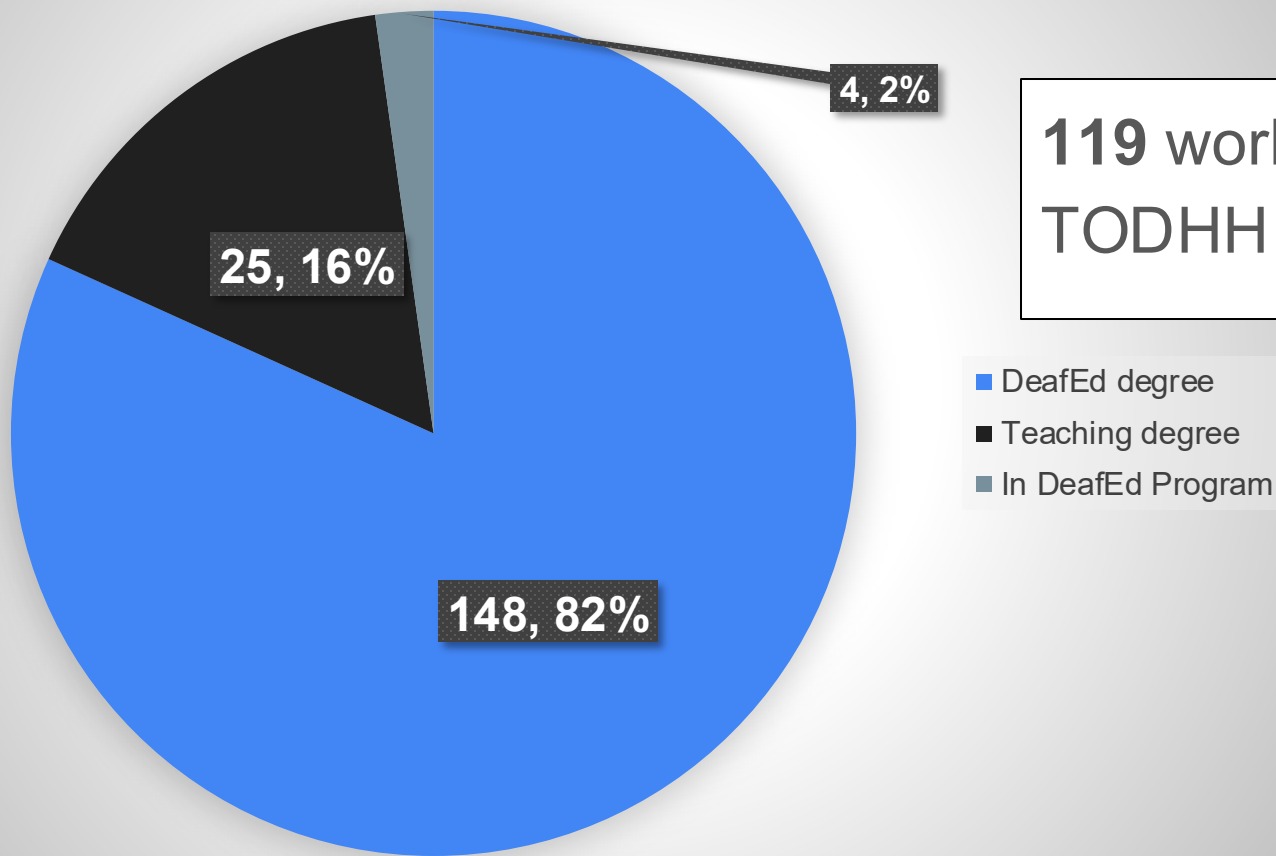
Who are the teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing (TODHH) in Massachusetts?

The founder of Public School Partnership @

- Dr. Kym Meyer, PhD
- Founded Public School Partnership in 2001
- Served as the Director from 2001-2022
- 2021-22 PSP served 600+ DHH students in 80 school districts
- Unpublished dissertation “Massachusetts Teachers of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students: Mixed Methods Workforce Analysis”
- 177 Participants who had a teaching degree

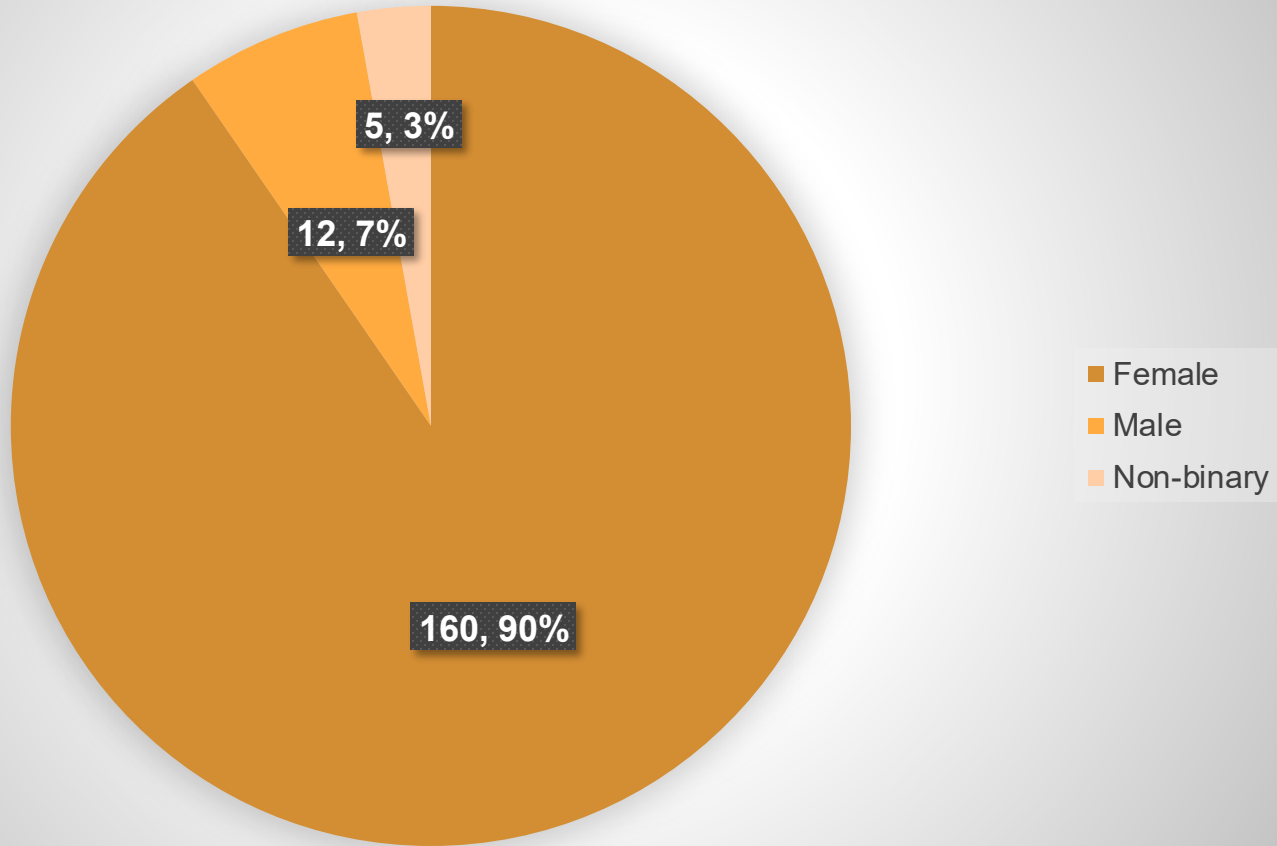


Degrees and work status (n=177)

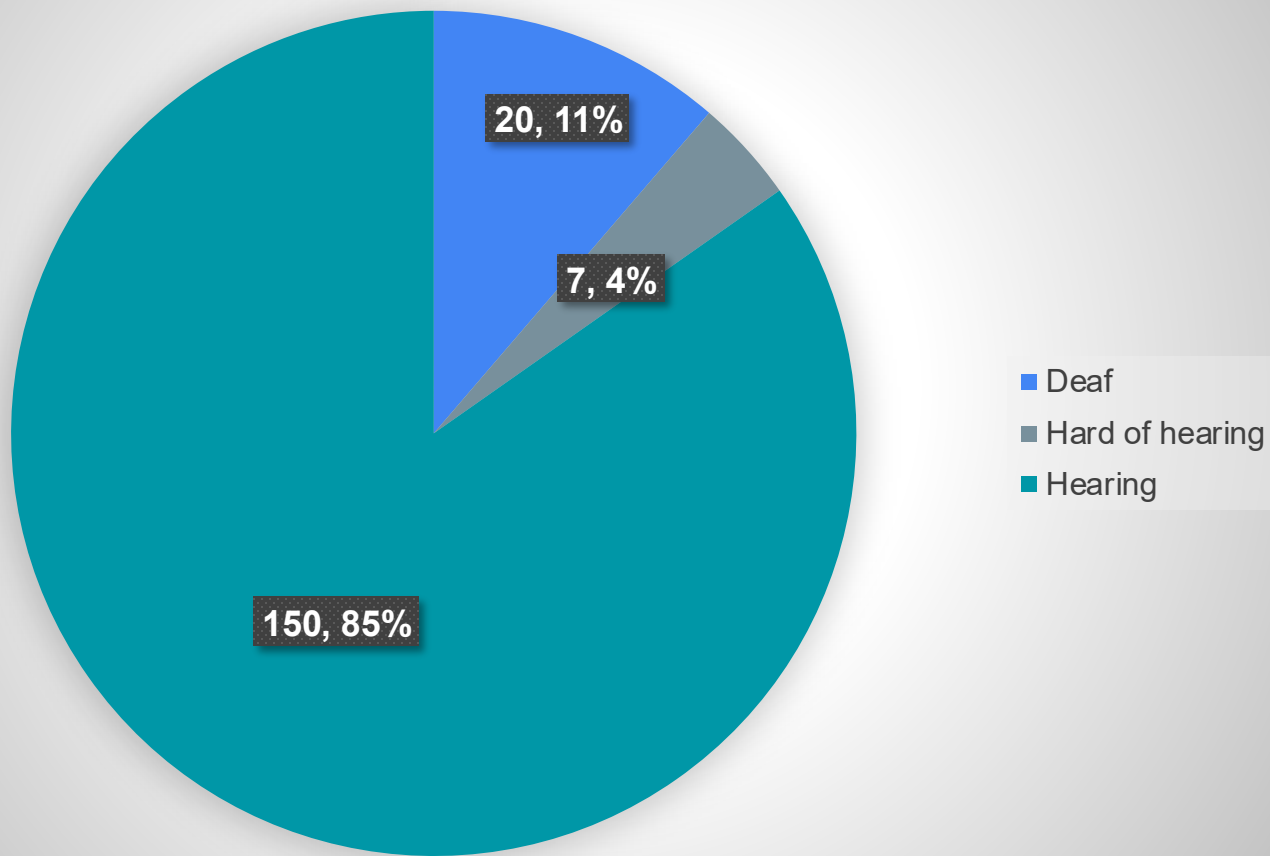


119 working as a
TODHH

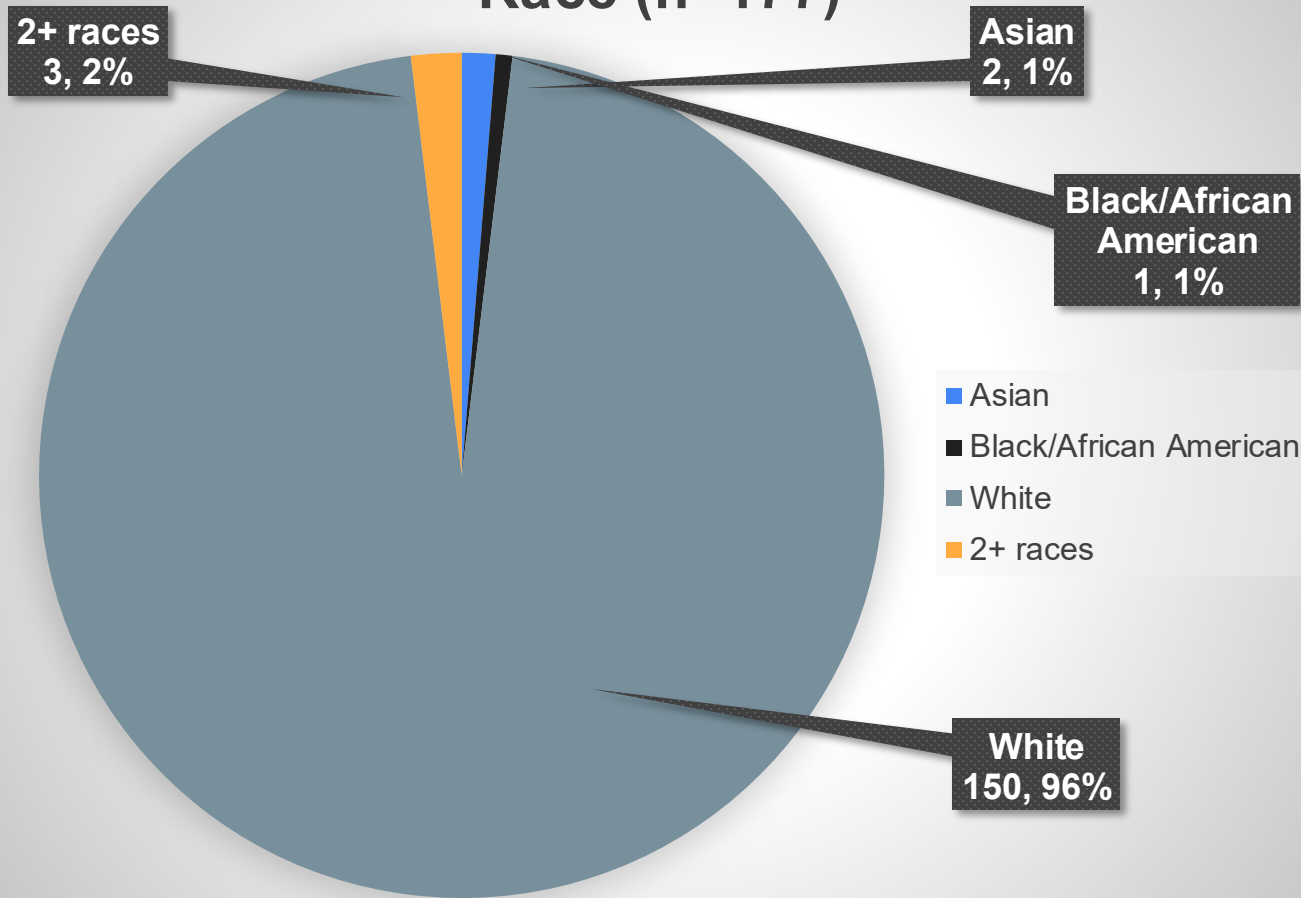
Demographics (n=177)



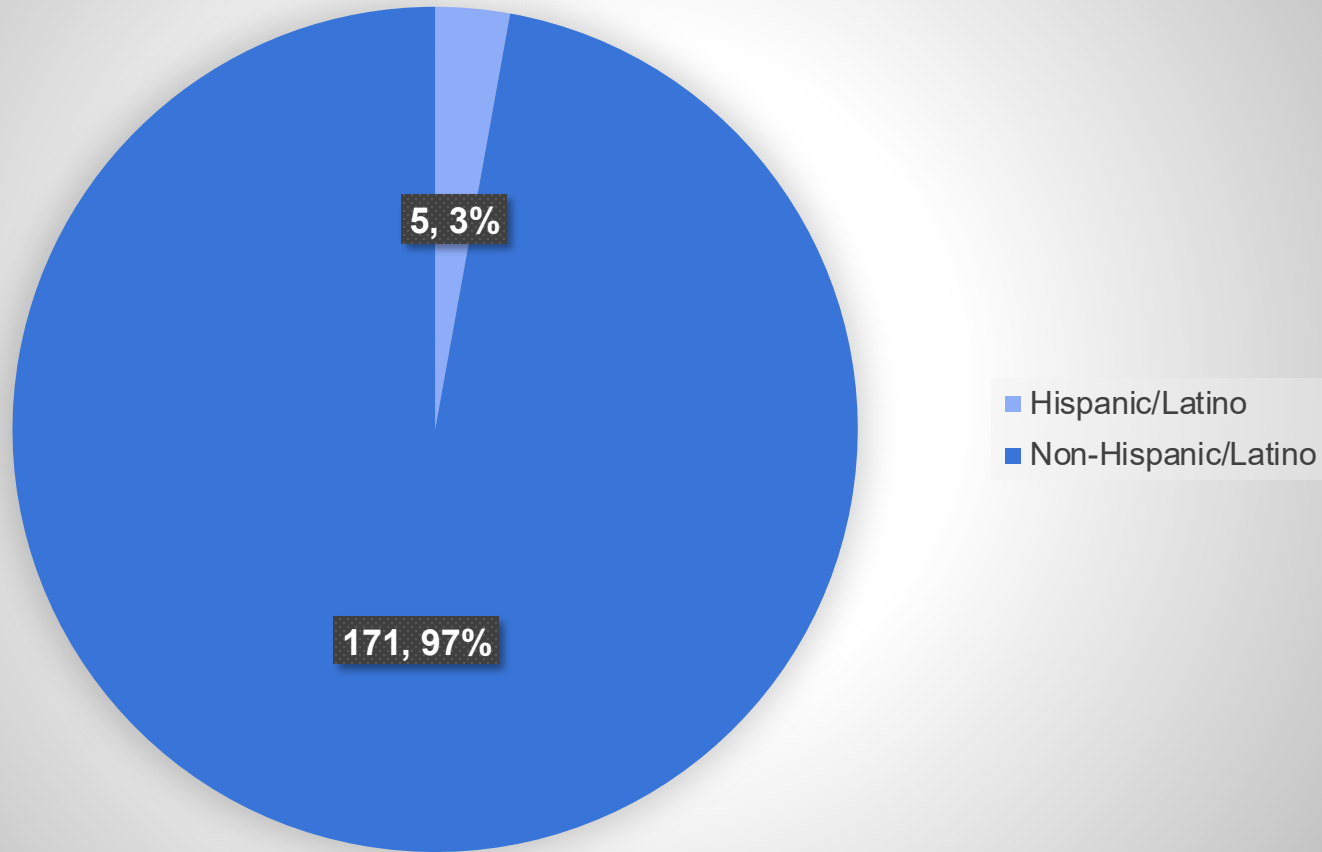
Deafness Status (n=177)



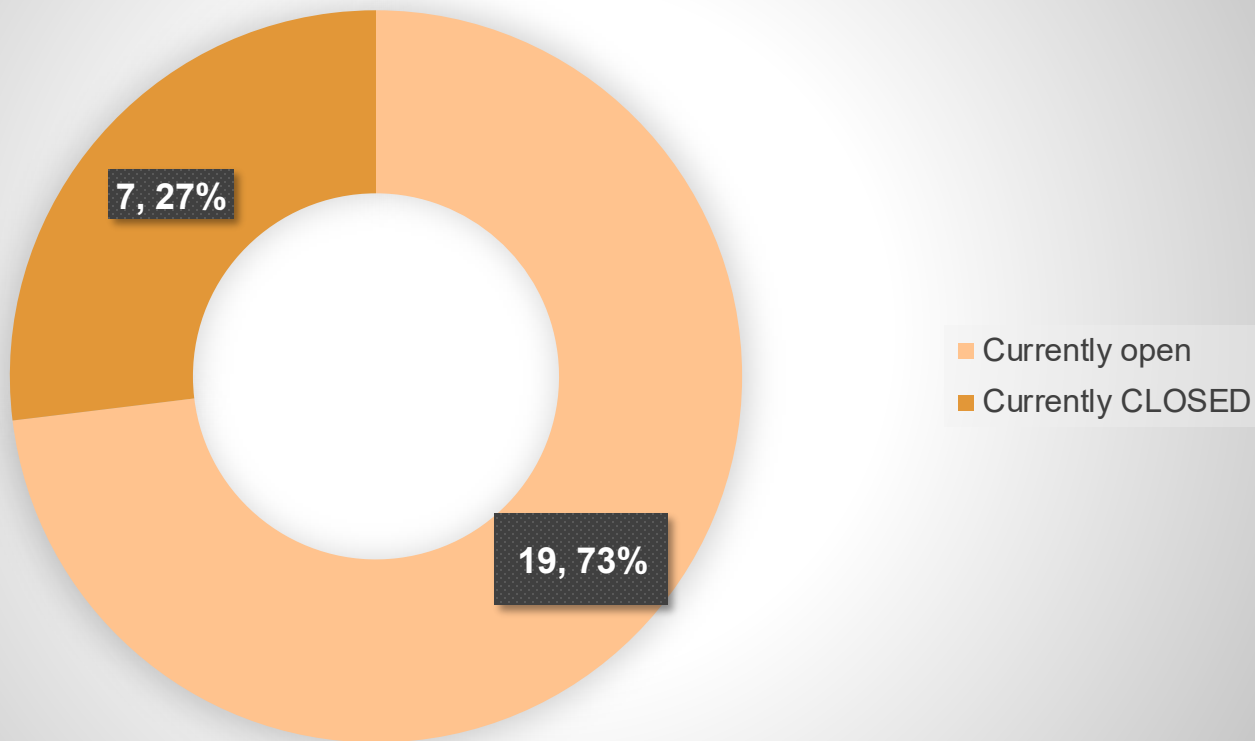
Race (n=177)



Ethnicity (n=177)



Status of their DeafEd Program (n=26)



What's the narrative?

Postsecondary Achievement of Black Deaf People in the United States —2019—



Carrie Lou Garberoglio, Lissa D. Stapleton,
Jeffrey Levi Palmer, Laurene Simms,
Stephanie Cawthon, and Adam Sales



Office of
Special Education Programs
U.S. Department of Education



- Carrie Lou Garberoglio
- Lissa D. Stapleton
- Jeffery Levi Palmer
- Laurene Simms
- Stephanie Cawthon
- Adam Sales

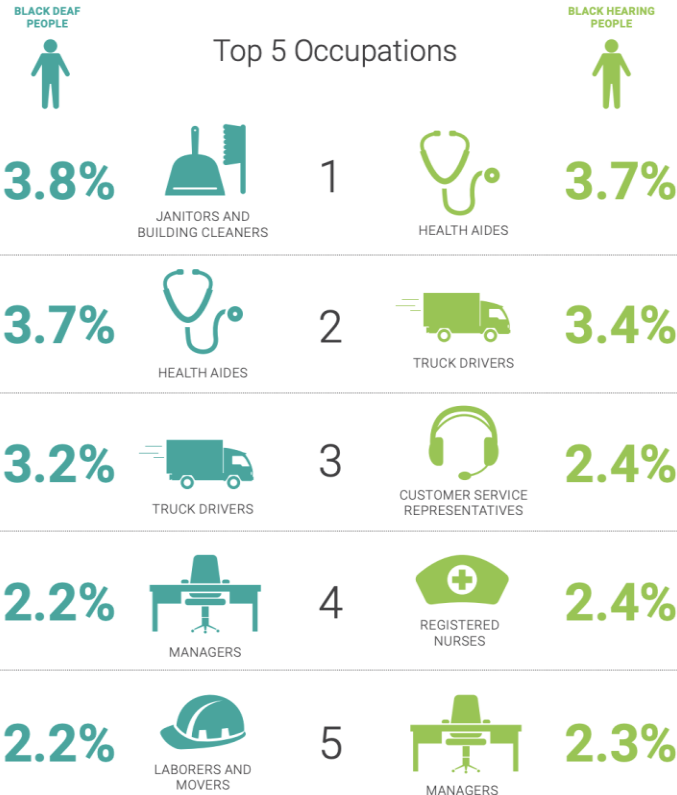
“Data from the American Community Survey (ACS), a national survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau, was used in this report.” (Garberoglio et al., 2019b).



“Inspiring Knowledge, Opportunity, Power”

Figure 8

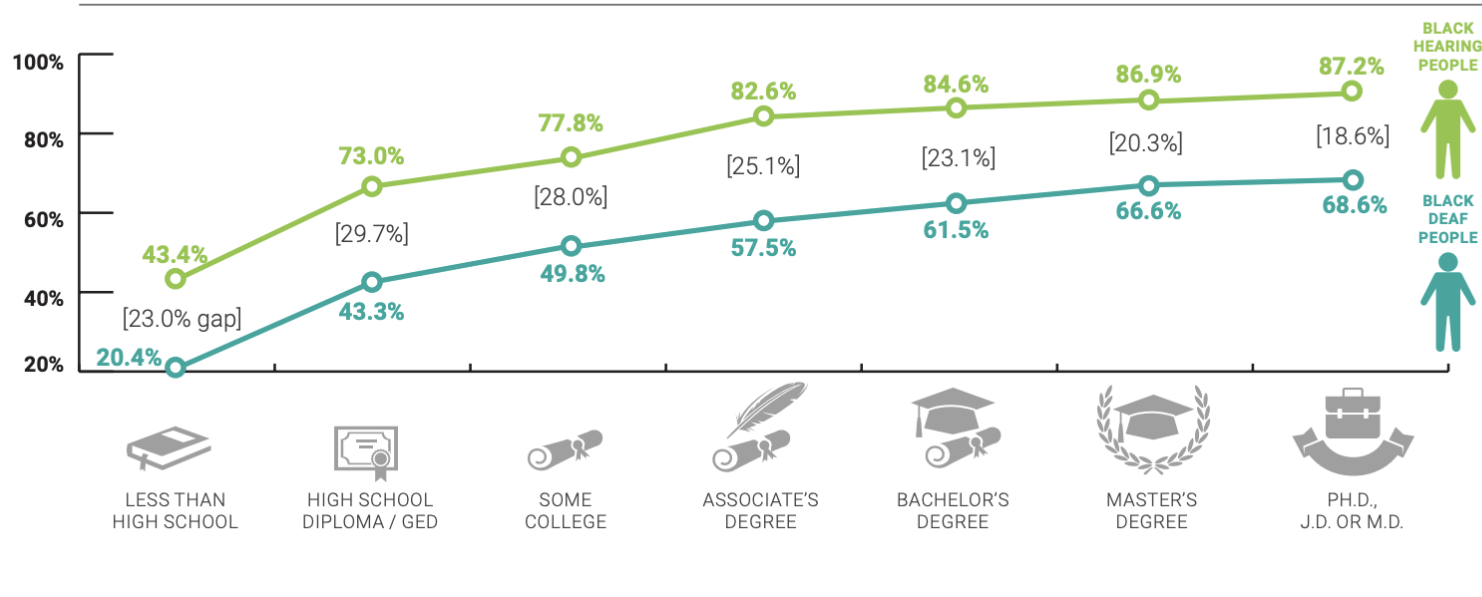
TOP 5 OCCUPATIONS FOR BLACK DEAF AND BLACK HEARING PEOPLE



Top 5 Occupations for Black Deaf and Black Hearing People

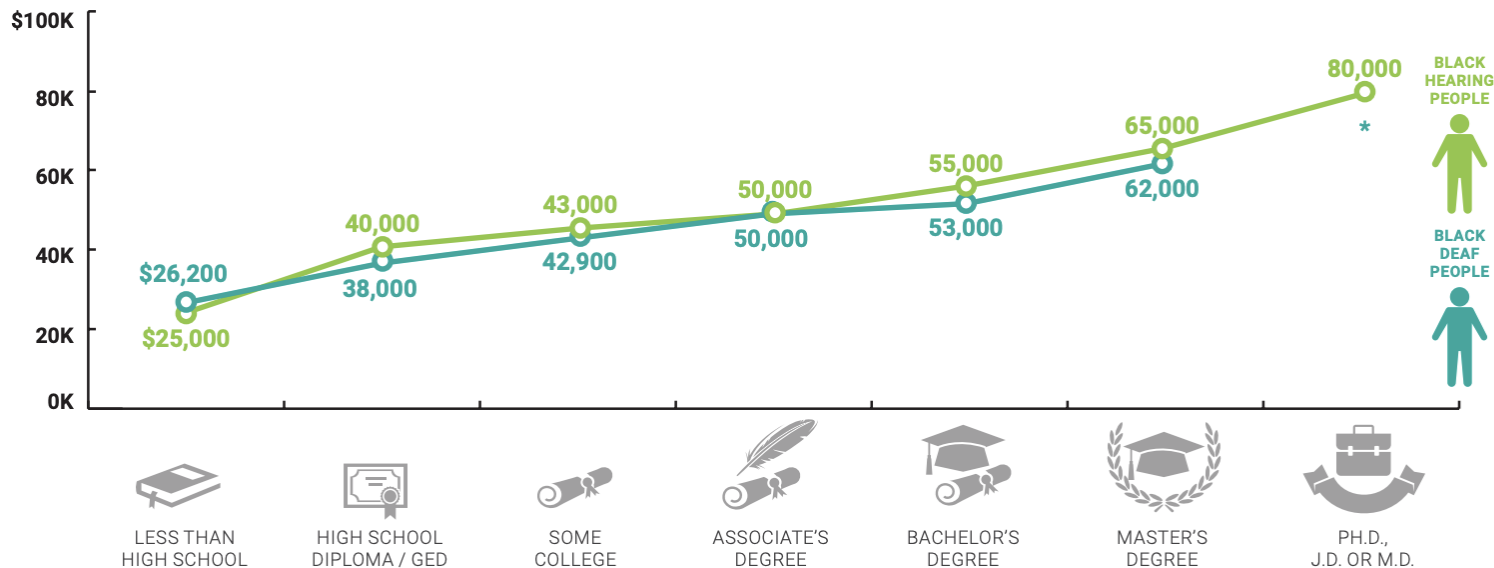
Employment By Education Level

Figure 10
EMPLOYMENT BY EDUCATION LEVEL



Median Earnings By Educational Attainment

Figure 11
MEDIAN EARNINGS BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT



*Sample sizes were too small to report an estimate.

Dr. Kym Meyers' study (2021)

Q1: What are the reasons that bring teachers into the field of deaf education?

"Deaf education has a PR (public relations) issue. No one knows it exists."

Sue, hearing

"If I went to another school that didn't offer ASL, I still would have been a teacher but not of deaf students."

Eve, hearing

"The President (of my college)...said, 'you should go and talk to the director (of the local deaf school) and see what you think...'"

If the university President hadn't mentioned a school for the deaf...?

"I would have never known that deaf education existed"

Ann, hearing

Black Deaf leaders in Education – A look at Massachusetts

- 6 schools or programs for the deaf
 - Horace Mann School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (public school)
 - Willie Ross School for the Deaf
 - Beverly School for the Deaf
 - READS Collaborative
 - CAPS Collaborative
 - The Learning Center for the Deaf
- 2 Black Deaf leaders in Deaf Education
 - The Learning Center for the Deaf

Change the narrative

What if...

- Internal leadership trainings at schools for the deaf
- Deaf Education teacher preparation programs at HBCUs
- Black Deaf Studies in Deaf Education as part of the curriculum

Black Deaf DID!




THE LEARNING CENTER
FOR THE DEAF



THANK YOU!

(2015, November 15). A Past Forgotten: New Book Sheds Light on the Lives of Black Students, Faculty and Staff at the 'Segregated Georgia School for the Deaf'. *Rome News Tribune*.

https://www.northwestgeorgianews.com/rome/lifestyles/rome_life/a-past-forgotten-new-book-sheds-light-on-the-lives-of-black-students-faculty-and/article_c07fa26e-8a3d-11e5-bbf8-53642bbcaa6f.html

Longo, Adam. (2021, December 14). President Abraham Lincoln's Connection to DC's Gallaudet University. *WUSA 9*. <https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/local/gallaudet-university-national-deaf-life-museum/65-03eb84d4-2069-443b-bc2f-de6492e7b53f>

Meyer, K. P. (2021). Massachusetts Teachers of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students: Mixed Methods Workforce Analysis. [Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, University of Massachusetts].

Visionary Leader – May 2014, Andrew Foster. <https://gallaudet.edu/museum/celebrating-150-years/visionary-leader-may-2014-andrew-foster/>



THANK YOU!



(Garberoglio, C. L., Stapleton, L. D., Palmer, J. L., Simms, L., Cawthon, S., & Sales, A. (2019). Postsecondary Achievement of Black Deaf People in the United States. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, National Deaf Center on Postsecondary Outcomes.

