

Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

MISSION

The Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) represents the Governor in furtherance of the State's goal of promoting equal access for all Marylanders by providing expertise that enhances the general welfare of Maryland's deaf and hard of hearing residents.

VISION

All Maryland citizens who are deaf or hard of hearing will have equal and full access to resources, services, and opportunities for participation in all aspects of community life.

KEY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Goal 1. All deaf and hard of hearing citizens will have equal and full access to state programs, resources, and services to fully participate in community life.

Obj. 1.1 Coordinate with federal, State, and local governments regarding policy issues and program development.

Performance Measures	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Act.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
Number of governmental entities involved in coordination of services to the deaf and hard of hearing through contact and/or involvement with ODHH	111	115	131	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Obj. 1.2 Serve as an information clearinghouse on the delivery of services from State agencies to Maryland's deaf and hard of hearing population.

Performance Measures	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Act.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
¹ Maryland Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program, MDH: Number identified with hearing loss	81	75	43	104	N/A	N/A	N/A
Springfield Hospital Center, MDH: Deaf unit annual admissions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Telecommunication Access of Maryland, DoIT: Telephone assessments provided	241	252	450	543	445	N/A	N/A
Maryland School for the Deaf, MSDE: Number of students enrolled	469	445	459	357	378	385	390
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, MSDE: Number of students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) with deaf/hard of hearing designation code (excluding Maryland School for the Deaf students)	593	583	575	158	1,367	1,400	1,450
Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, MSDE: Number of families with an Individualized Family Services Plan (IFSP) with a hearing loss designation code	54	48	58	46	45	44	44
² Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, MSDE: Number of children served through the Hearing Aid Loan Bank	N/A	N/A	16	12	13	14	15

Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Performance Measures	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Act.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
Maryland Department of Disabilities: Instances of information and referral related to deaf/hard of hearing services and resources	23	26	24	23	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maryland Commission on Civil Rights: Number of complaints filed by deaf/hard of hearing constituents	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Department of Human Services: Number of deaf/hard of hearing children and youth in care in the child welfare system	N/A	21	36	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Division of Rehabilitation Services, MSDE: Number of deaf/hard of hearing individuals determined eligible for services	148	221	N/A	269	270	271	272
Division of Rehabilitation Services, MSDE: Number of deaf/hard of hearing individuals served	1,314	1,254	N/A	1,315	1,316	1,317	1,318
deaf/hard of hearing individuals who achieve an employment outcome	85	63	N/A	76	59	60	61
Maryland Deaf Culture Digital Library: Number of website visits	3,415	9,283	20,000	18,868	20,096	22,000	22,500

Goal 2. Maryland citizens will be aware of the needs and issues affecting deaf and hard of hearing individuals.

Obj. 2.1 Maintain levels of information and referrals to private and public sectors each year.

Performance Measures	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Act.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
Instances of information and referral	231	351	311	N/A	560	580	590

Obj. 2.2 Increase awareness of ODHH's activities and initiatives that benefit Maryland residents.

Performance Measures	2021 Act.	2022 Act.	2023 Act.	2024 Act.	2025 Act.	2026 Est.	2027 Est.
Number of email subscribers	1,344	N/A	N/A	N/A	874	900	950
Number of Facebook page followers	5,797	6,179	6,207	247	422	450	465
Number of Instagram followers	1,147	1,172	1,237	1,399	1,465	1,550	1,600
Number of Twitter followers	1,439	1,523	1,237	1,576	1,566	1,570	1,575
² Number of ODHH website visits	29,470	N/A	N/A	N/A	24,509	26,500	27,000
Number of ODHH YouTube video views	35,077	8,211	5,578	51	1,362	1,400	1,500

NOTES

¹ 2025 data is delayed due to ongoing diagnostic processes.

² 2025 data is estimated.