Significant employment growth in this field is attributed to a number of factors. For example, speech-language pathologists will be needed to treat the increased number of speech and language disorders, such as strokes and hearing loss, in the aging baby boom population. Also, an increasing number of pathologists will be needed to work with children with autism, stuttering, etc., to improve their ability to communicate and socialize effectively. In addition, medical advances are improving the survival rate of premature infants and victims of trauma and strokes, many of whom need help from speech-language pathologists.