

## Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers (21-1023)

**Occupation description:** Assess and treat individuals with mental, emotional, or substance abuse problems, including abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and/or other drugs. Activities may include individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, case management, client advocacy, prevention, and education.

### Employment and Job Openings

	Employment			Average annual openings		
	2016 estimate	2026 projection	Percent change	Labor force exits	Occupation transfers	Total
<b>Alaska</b>	428	507	18.5	17	30	55
<b>United States</b>	123,900	147,900	19.3	4,900	8,600	15,890

#### Job outlook

**Alaska:** Alaska's employment growth is strong with moderate employment opportunities. [Read more.](#)

### 2018 Wages ?

	Mean Wage	Wage by Percentile				
	Mean	10th	25th	Median	75th	90th
<b>United States</b>	23.86	13.61	16.64	21.56	28.99	37.94
<b>Alaska</b>	22.32	14.06	16.50	19.70	24.24	34.11
<b>Anchorage/Mat-Su Area</b>	21.43	14.90	17.29	20.63	24.07	29.18
<b>Balance of State</b>	23.77	13.46	15.57	18.25	24.95	41.69

### Labor Force Indicators

#### 2016 Worker Characteristics

Total workers	Nonresident workers	Percent nonresident	Percent age 45 plus	Percent age 50 plus
513	38	7.4	41.8	30.2

#### 2016 Potential Supply

Qualified but working in another occupation	200
Currently employed in a lower paid occupation	88
UI claimants previously working in occupation	37

#### 2016 ALEXsys Employment Data

Number of registrants	288
Number of job position postings	130
Ratio of registrants to job position postings	2.2

## Alaska Licensing Information

Social Worker – [View licensing requirements and number licensed](#)

### Typical Entry-level Education, Experience, and/or On-the-job Training

**Education:** Master's degree

**Work experience:** None

**On-the-job training:** Internship/Residency

### Training Resources

Degree	
<b>Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (JBER)</b>	
Human Factors	MS
Degree	
<b>Iisagvik College (Barrow)</b>	
Allied Health – Human Services Emphasis	AA
Degree	
<b>University of Alaska Anchorage (Anchorage)</b>	
Clinical Social Work Practice	GCRT
Social Work	BSW
Social Work	MSW
Degree	
<b>University of Alaska Anchorage, Prince William Sound (Valdez)</b>	
Disability Services	AAS
Degree	
<b>University of Alaska Fairbanks (Fairbanks)</b>	
Social Work	BA
Degree	
<b>University of Alaska Fairbanks, Bristol Bay (Dillingham)</b>	
Social Work	BA
Degree	
<b>University of Alaska Fairbanks, Chukchi (Kotzebue)</b>	
Social Work	BA

<b>Degree</b>	
<b>University of Alaska Fairbanks, Kuskokwim (Bethel)</b>	
Social Work	BA

<b>Degree</b>	
<b>University of Alaska Fairbanks, Northwest (Nome)</b>	
Social Work	BA

<b>Degree</b>	
<b>Wayland Baptist University (Anchorage)</b>	
Clinical Counseling (MA)	MA
Counseling (MA)	MA
School Counseling (MA)	MA

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Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section  
P.O. Box 115501  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-5501  
Phone: 907.465.4500, Fax: 907.523.9654  
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