

## Mental Health Counselors (21-1014)

**Occupation description:** Counsel with emphasis on prevention. Work with individuals and groups to promote optimum mental and emotional health. May help individuals deal with issues associated with addictions and substance abuse; family, parenting, and marital problems; stress management; self-esteem; and aging. Excludes Social Workers (21-1021 through 21-1029), Psychiatrists (29-1066), and Psychologists (19-3031 through 19-3039).

### Employment and Job Openings

	Employment			Average annual openings		
	2016 estimate	2026 projection	Percent change	Labor force exits	Occupation transfers	Total
Alaska	430	492	14.4	17	30	53
United States	157,700	194,200	23.1	6,500	11,500	21,650

#### Job outlook

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

### Wages ?

Wage data is not available.

### Labor Force Indicators

#### 2016 Worker Characteristics

Total workers	Nonresident workers	Percent nonresident	Percent age 45 plus	Percent age 50 plus
494	60	12.1	48.8	39.0

#### 2016 Potential Supply

Qualified but working in another occupation	106
Currently employed in a lower paid occupation	21
UI claimants previously working in occupation	28

#### 2016 ALEXsys Employment Data

Number of registrants	333
Number of job position postings	115
Ratio of registrants to job position postings	2.9

### Alaska Licensing Information

Professional Counselor – [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**

**Northern Vermont University (Anchorage)**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

**Degree**

**Regional Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor Training (Anchorage)**

Correspondence Courses

Onsite Training

Substance Abuse Training Academy

Certificate

**Degree**

**St. Hermans Theological Seminary (Kodiak)**

Substance Abuse Treatment Training

**Degree**

**TSS - The Safety Specialists (Ketchikan)**

Impact of Legal Marijuana in Communities

Impact of Legal Marijuana in the Workplace

**Degree**

**University of Alaska Anchorage (Anchorage)**

Clinical Social Work Practice

GCRT