



Mountain West Addiction (Substance Abuse) Counselor Workforce Survey

Colorado Survey, Fall, 2003
Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies
University of Nevada, Reno

Section 1

1. Gender

- Male Female Other

2. Age

- 18-20 46-50
 21-25 51-55
 26-30 56-60
 31-35 61-65
 36-40 over 65
 41-45

3. Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- Yes No

4. What is your primary race/ethnic group identification? (check one)

- White/Caucasian
 Asian-American
 Black or African-American
 American Indian
 Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 Alaska Native
 Other (please specify):

5. What is your highest degree earned? (check one)

- No high school diploma or equivalent
 High school diploma or equivalent
 Some college, no degree
 Associate's degree
 Bachelor's degree
 Master's degree
 Specialist degree
 Doctoral degree
 Other (e.g., medical assistant, RN, post-doctoral)

6. Are you currently enrolled in any academic coursework as a student?

- Yes No
If yes, ___ full time, or ___ part time

7. Do you hold a current license or certificate in addiction counseling in Colorado?

- Yes No
If yes, during which year were you initially licensed or certified? _____

8. Please list all relevant and current Colorado professional licenses that you currently hold:

- CAC I LCSW Psychologist
 CAC II LMFT RN
 CAC III LPC Other _____
 LAC LPN

9. Do you currently teach classes or provide workshops related to the addiction field?

- Yes No

10. Do you consider yourself to be "in recovery"?

- Yes No

11. Are you multilingual?

- Yes No
If yes, list your languages other than English:
_____ Speak Read Write
_____ Speak Read Write
_____ Speak Read Write

- Can you communicate using American Sign Language?
 Yes No

12. Do you currently use any tobacco products?

- Yes No
If yes, are you interested in quitting? Yes No

13. Are you a past user of tobacco products?

- Yes No
If yes, how many years since you quit? _____

Section 2
**Addiction
 Counseling Field
 Status**

Please place a "1" in the answer that corresponds to the **most** important reason for the lower status of addiction counselors. Place a "2" and "3" in the answers corresponding to the **second** and **third most** important reasons. You may include your own reasons, provided under "Other" in this ranking.

14. *Do you consider yourself to be someone who has left the addiction counseling field, or has substantially reduced the amount of addiction counseling work that you do (during the last five years)?*

- Yes No

15. *If you answered 'Yes' to the previous question, what are the one or two most important reasons for this change?*

- Lack of adequate salary
- Lack of adequate promotion
- Leaving to take a different job
- Moving to Mental Health field
- Maternity leave
- Retirement
- Other (please list) _____

16. *Which of the following best describes your view of the current status of addiction counselors (from the perspective of most helping professionals)? (check only one)*

- Addiction counselors are thought to have higher status than other helping professionals.
- Addiction counselors are thought to have about the same status as other helping professionals.
- Addiction counselors are thought to have lower status than other helping professionals.

17. *If you answered that addiction counselors have lower status, we are interested in your ideas about why you think this might be the case. (See instruction in left column)*

Compared to other people in the helping professions, addiction counselors, as a group:

- ___ have less formal education or training
- ___ have lower quality formal education or training
- ___ are more likely to work for public agencies rather than in private practice
- ___ are stigmatized by their association with substance abusers
- ___ more often have had a history of substance abuse problems themselves
- ___ have lower credentialing requirements
- ___ are not required to take a test for credentialing
- ___ Other: _____

18. *What are one or two important actions that could be taken by agencies, governments, professional organizations, or the addiction counseling field, to promote the employment and retention of high quality direct-service addiction counselors?*

- ___ Improved benefits
- ___ Increased clinical supervision
- ___ Increase in pay
- ___ Increased training
- ___ Opportunities for advancement/promotion
- ___ Opportunities for professional growth
- ___ Streamline paperwork
- ___ Other: _____

19. *Are you currently employed?*

- Yes (full time) No
- Yes (part time) No (retired)

If you answered 'No', please stop here. Return the survey in the envelope provided, and thank you for your help.

If you answered 'Yes', please continue on the next page.

The next series of questions pertains to the professional position or positions you currently hold.

Space is provided for you to provide details concerning up to **two** separate professional positions. If you are employed in only one position, please skip Section 4 of the survey and go to Section 5.

Section 3
Primary
Employment
Position

20. *What is your primary employment position? (e.g., counseling psychologist, probation/parole officer, marriage and family counselor, clinical psychologist, etc.)*

21. *In this position, do you perform addiction counseling-related duties?*

Yes No

If yes, (a) about how many hours per week? _____

(b) what is your weekly addiction counseling client caseload? _____

22. *In this position, how many hours of clinical supervision do you receive per month?*

None About 2 hours 4 or more hours

1 hour or less About 3 hours

23. *If you receive clinical supervision in this position, does your clinical supervisor have a:*

CAC I

LMFT

CAC II

LPC

CAC III

Psychologist

LAC

No formal credential

LCSW

Other _____

24. *In this position, what is your current annual salary? (check one)*

less than \$14,999

\$30,000 — \$34,999

\$55,000 — \$64,999

\$15,000 — \$19,999

\$35,000 — \$39,999

\$65,000 — \$85,000

\$20,000 — 24,999

\$40,000 — \$44,999

greater than \$85,000

\$25,000 — \$29,999

\$45,000 — \$54,999

25. *If you are NOT self-employed in this position, please indicate which of the following benefits are provided by your employer (check all that apply):*

health insurance

retirement contribution by your employer

sick leave

other benefits (please specify): _____

other paid leave _____

26. *In this position, in which MSO region of the state is the primary geographic area of your employment? (See map on page 7)*

Region 1 Northeast Colorado

Region 4 Southern & Southeast

Region 2 or 7 Denver Metro & Boulder County

Region 5 Southwest Colorado

Region 3 Colorado Springs & Central CO

Region 6 Northwest Colorado

27. *Please indicate the primary or predominant setting of your work in this position:*

private, for-profit setting (includes private practice)

private, nonprofit setting

governmental setting (federal, state, county, or city)

corrections

If you have a **second** employment position, please answer the next set of questions.

Otherwise, move ahead to **Section 5, question 36.**

Section 4
**Second
Employment
Position**

28. *What is your second employment position?*

29. *In this position, do you perform addiction counseling-related duties?*

Yes No

If yes, (a) about how many hours per week? _____

(b) what is your weekly addiction counseling client caseload? _____

30. *In this position, how many hours of clinical supervision do you receive per month?*

None About 2 hours 4 or more hours

1 hour or less About 3 hours

31. *If you receive clinical supervision in this position, does your clinical supervisor have a:*

CAC I

LMFT

CAC II

LPC

CAC III

Psychologist

LAC

No formal credential

LCSW

Other _____

32. *In this position, what is your current annual salary? (check one)*

less than \$14,999 \$30,000 — \$34,999 \$55,000 — \$64,999

\$15,000 — \$19,999 \$35,000 — \$39,999 \$65,000 — \$85,000

\$20,000 — 24,999 \$40,000 — \$44,999 greater than \$85,000

\$25,000 — \$29,999 \$45,000 — \$54,999

33. *If you are NOT self-employed in this position, please indicate which of the following benefits are provided by your employer (check all that apply):*

health insurance retirement contribution by your employer

sick leave other benefits (please specify):

other paid leave _____

34. *In this position, what is the primary geographic area of your employment?*

Region 1 Northeast Colorado Region 4 Southern & Southeast

Region 2 or 7 Denver Metro & Boulder County Region 5 Southwest Colorado

Region 3 Colorado Springs & Central CO Region 6 Northwest Colorado

35. *Please indicate the primary or predominant setting of your work in this position:*

private, for-profit setting (includes private practice)

private, nonprofit setting

governmental setting (federal, state, county, or city)

corrections

Section 5
**Career
Satisfaction**



Thank you for your participation.

Please return this survey in the envelope provided to:

University of Nevada, Reno
CASAT/279
Mountain West ATTC
Reno, NV 89557

36. *If any of your current work involves practicing as an addiction counselor, what are one or two most important sources of satisfaction or dissatisfaction for you in this role?*

Satisfaction

Dissatisfaction

37. *If any of your work in the position or positions described above involves practicing as an addiction counselor, do you plan to be practicing as an addiction counselor five years from now?*

Yes No Not Sure or Undecided

38. *What is the main reason that you answered Question 37 the way you did?*

39. *How many hours of continuing education do you participate in annually?*

None 11 – 15 hours
 1 – 5 hours 16 – 20 hours
 6 – 10 hours more than 20 hours

40. *Are you in favor of the state of Colorado requiring 20 hours of continuing education per year?*

Yes No Not Sure or Undecided

41. *In what areas has ADAD supported you in the field of addiction?*

Annual conference
 Information
 Legislative updates
 Licensing/Certification
 Research forums
 Technical Assistance (training for treatment planning, DACODS)
 Other _____

42. *How can ADAD be more helpful to you and the addiction profession?*

Increase access to online resources
 Increased training opportunities
 Minimize redundancy in paperwork requirements
 Provide technical assistance (e.g., treatment planning)
 Research dissemination
 Other _____