A STUDY OF THE ROLES AND USE OF LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS IN THE UNITED STATES

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the Center for Health Workforce Studies at the University at Albany (CHWS) are conducting a national study to obtain information about the education, job settings, and work activities of licensed social work professionals. This study also examines the roles and experiences of social workers providing services to older adults and to children and their families. Your responses will be confidential and reported only in national, regional, and other tabulations and summaries.

	INIOTE	

- Use a No. 2 pencil or blue or black ink pen only.
- Do not use pens with ink that soaks through the paper.
- Make solid marks that fill the oval completely.
- Make no stray marks on this form.
- Do not fold, tear, or mutilate this form.

I. BACKGROUND	9a. Year of graduation 9b. Years
1. Age:	(e.g. 1992=92) practicing as
○ 25 & under ○ 35–44 ○ 55–64	BSW B.A./B.S. MSW BSW MSW
○ 26-34 ○ 45-54 ○ 65 & over	
2. Gender: O Male O Female	
3. Race/ethnic status: <i>Please mark only one.</i>	22 22 22 22 22
○ Asian/Pacific Islander ○ Native American/	33 33 33 33
○ Black/African-American Alaskan Native	444444444444444444444444444444444444444
O Hispanic/Latino O Other:	5 5 5 5 5 5 6 5
O White (Non-Hispanic)	
4. What formal education programs have you	88888888888
completed. Please mark all that apply.	99 99 99
Social Work Major Other	10. What social work continuing education/training
OO Associate Degree	have you participated in during the last 2
O O Bachelor's Degree	years? Please mark all that apply.
O Master's Degree	○ Courses offering ○ Distance learning
OO Doctoral Degree	academic credit programs
OOther:	 ○ Short courses/workshops ○ Conferences ○ Currentised practices
5. Are you now enrolled in a degree program	○ Certificate programs○ Supervised practice○ Professional association○ On-the-job training
in social work?	programs O Other:
○ None ○ BSW ○ MSW ○ DSW/PhD	O Supervised clinical
	practice O None
6. Please mark <i>all</i> social work certifications you	
currently hold.	11a. In what areas of social work would you like to
○ Case management ○ School social work	pursue further education/training?
○ Children, youth & family ○ Substance abuse/	O Best practices O Professional ethics
O Clinical social work chemical dependency	○ Care management ○ Program developmen
○ Geriatrics○ Other:○ Health care	Clinical practiceSpecialty practice areSubstance abuse
O Independent O None of the above	Continuinty organizing Substance aduse Cultural competency Telehealth
practice/ACSW	O Delivering services in O Trauma/Disaster
	rural communities preparedness
7. Do you hold social work licenses in more than	○ Interdisciplinary practice ○ Other:
one state?	Administration
○ Yes ○ No	○ Medication use ○ None
	Paperwork management
8. Are you licensed to provide chemical	
dependency treatment in your state?	continue Dece 4
○ Yes ○ No	continue Page 1

11b. Unavailable	How would you describe the availability of social work continuing education programs that interest you? Many Choices	18. Which best describes the setting of your primary and secondary social work employment? <i>Please mark one for each category.</i>
·		Primary Secondary
12.	Did your previous training prepare you adequately	O Private solo practice
	for roles you perform as a social worker?	OO Private group practice
-	• •	
	Not at All Very Well	
	ocial work degree program 🔾 🔾 🔾 🔾 🔾	○ Psychiatric hospital
	ost-degree continuing	O Health clinic/Outpatient facility
ı	education/training	○○ Home health agency
ı		OO Behavioral health clinic/outpatient facility
II SO	CIAL WORK DRACTICE	OO Social service agency
п. эО	CIAL WORK PRACTICE	OO Employee assistance program (EAP)
13	What is your employment status?	
13.	Mark all that apply	OO Case management agency—older adults
	Mark all that apply.	OO Case management agency—other
•	FT PT	○ O Nursing home
ı	OO Employed/self employed in a social work	OO Assisted living facility
ı	position	○○ Hospice
ı	OO Employed/self employed in a non-social	○○ Group home—adult
i	work position	○○ School
•	OO Not currently employed	OO Child guidance clinic
-	OO Not currently employed	
11		OO Group homes—children/adolescents
14.	If you do not currently work as a social worker,	○○ Resource center
I	please mark all reasons that apply and proceed	○○ Information and referral service
ı	to Question 47.	○○ Insurance company/HMO
ı	○ Few social work positions available ○ Level of pay	○ ○ Criminal justice agency (e.g. court)
	○ Prefer other type of work ○ Personal	OO Public health agency
	O Convenience of hours reasons	OOther government agency
	O Convenience of locations O Retired	OO Business
•	Other:	OO Higher education
15.	For how many employers do you currently work as a social worker? <i>Include self-employment</i> .	19. What best describes the focus of your social work
ı	$\bigcirc 1$ $\bigcirc 2$ $\bigcirc 3$ $\bigcirc 4$ $\bigcirc 5+$	practice area in your primary and secondary
16	How many hours per week do you perform the	employment? Please mark only one selection for
10.	following and a size of a	each employer.
ı	following roles in <i>all</i> social work employment?	Primary Secondary
ı	Please mark one in each row.	O Addictions
N	ne 1-9 10-19 20-29 30-39 40+	OO Adolescents
	000	
	· ·	OO Aging
	OOOOCommunity organizing	OO Child welfare/family
	OOOOConsultation	○ ○ Community development
)OOO Direct services	○○ Criminal justice
)OOO Planning	○ O Developmental disabilities
	OOOOPolicy development	○○ Higher education
)OOO Research	OO Homeless/displaced persons
)OOOSupervision	OO Income assistance
) O O O Teaching	OO Medical health
	OOOOTraining/Education	OO Mental health
)OOOOther	OOccupational social work
47		○○ School social work
$\Box 1 / .$	What best describes the sector of your primary	○○ Other
ı	and secondary employers? Please mark one for	
ı	each employer.	
l D	rimary Secondary	
r) I	OO Private for-profit (includes private practice)	
Ī	OO Private not-for-profit	
-	→ → riivate HOt-IOI-PIOIIt	
•		
_	OO Federal government	
•	 Federal government State government	
'Page 2	OO Federal government	

20a.	How many total hours do you Total	Primary	Secondary	27. What are your estimated annual gross wages/salary from all social work positions?
	work for pay			○ Less than \$15,000 ○ \$40,000 −\$49,999
	per week in your	00	00	○ \$15,000−\$19,999 ○ \$50,000−\$59,999
	primary and	① ①	11	□ \$20,000 – \$24,999 □ \$60,000 – \$69,999
	secondary social	22	22	<pre>\$25,000-\$29,999</pre> \$70,000-\$79,999
	work jobs?	33	33	□ \$30,000 – \$34,999 □ \$80,000 – \$99,999
		44	44	
		5 5	5 5	00
		66	66	28. What benefits are included in your social work
		77	77	compensation packages? Please mark all that apply.
		88	88	○ Health insurance ○ Tuition reimbursement
00h		99	99	O Dental insurance
20b.	How many	Primary	Secondary	○ Life insurance ○ Other
	Service -	>		O Pension
	do you spend Hours			III. SERVICES TO CLIENTS
	providing	00	00	If you currently have responsibilities related to providing
	direct services to clients in	122	① ① ② ②	direct services to clients within your PRIMARY or
	your primary	33	33	SECONDARY employment settings, proceed with #29. If you
	and secondary	44	44	do not have responsibilities for direct services, go to #42.
	social work	5 5	5 5	29. What % of time do you spend per week on the
	jobs?	66	66	following activities related to delivering services
	Jobst	77	77	to clients? Mark one in each row.
		88	88	
		99	99	0% 1-10% 11-25% 26-50% 51-75% 76+%
				OOOOScreening and Assessments
21.	ZIP code of			OOOOOTreatment Planning
	your primary —			OOOOCrisis Intervention
	work setting:	000	00	OOOO Case Management
	G	1111	11	Counseling
22.	How many years have	222	22	OOOO Individual
	you worked for your	333	3 3	OOOOGroup
	primary employer?	444	4 4	OOO Family
		555	5 5	OOOOCouples
	○ 1–5 ○ 16+	666	66	OOOO Medication Adherence
	○ 6–10	777	77	OOOO Advocacy/Community
00		888		Organizing
23.	Does your primary position	999	99	OOOO Psychotherapy
	require that you hold a			OOOPsychoeducation
	social work license?			OOOOClient Education
	○ Yes ○ No			OOOOSupervision of Staff
Q A	I	•	_:1:	OOOOProgram Development
24 ,	Is your supervisor in your p	rimary po	sition a	OOOOProgram Management
	social worker?	ما ماممانا مرمر		OOOODischarge Planning
	O Yes O No O Not	applicable		OOOOHome Visits
95.	How many other social work	kers are		OOOOOther:
25.	employed in your primary v		ua)	30. What is the approximate size of your current
) 011 octin	_	caseload?
0/				0 1-10 11-15 26-50 51-75 76-100 100%
26.	How would you describe yo			OOOOOPrimary
	compensation package from	n all socia	al work	OOOOOSecondary
	employment?			
L	Very Very imited Limited Adequate Adequate	e		31. What % of your total caseload is female?
	OOO		s/salary	None 1-25% 26-50% 51-75% 75+%
	OOO			0000
				Page 3

What % of your total caseload falls into the following age groups? <i>Please mark one in each row.</i> None 1-10% 11-25% 26-50% 50+% Children (0–12)	37. To what extent has the service delivery system available to support clients changed in the past two years? <i>Please mark one in each row.</i>
OO Adolescents (13–21)	Decreased Increased N/A
OO Adolescents (13-21)	OOOO Number of clients eligible for
○○ Older Adults (55+)	services
2 377 407 6 4 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	OOOO Eligibility requirements for
3. What % of your total caseload falls into the following	clients to receive services
racial/ethnic groups? Please mark one in each row.	○○○○ Range of services available
None 1-5% 6-10% 11-25% 26-50% 51+%	OOOO Number of services available
OOOO Asian/Pacific Islander	○○○○ Services eligible for funding
OOOOBlack/African-American	○○○○ Clients receiving services for
(not Hispanic)	reasons other than personal
OOOO Hispanic/Latino	choice (e.g. court-mandated)
OOOO Native American/	
Alaskan Native	38. Indicate your agreement with the following statement
OOOOWhite (not Hispanic)	Please mark one in each row.
OOOOOOther	
OOOOther	Never Always N/A
1 W/h-4:-4h	OOOO I help improve the quality of life
4. What is the most common source of health coverage	of my clients.
among the clients you serve? Please mark only one.	OOOO I help clients meet their objective
○ Medicaid ○ Private pay	to change their situations.
○ Medicare○ Not insured	OOOO I help clients address a range of
O Private insurance O Don't know	problems, including
	psychological, medical, and
5. How many of your clients have the following	social issues.
conditions? Please mark one in each row.	OOOO.I help clients address one or two
None Few Some Many	key problems that will improve
OOOMental illness	their lives.
OOOAffective conditions	OOOOO I help clients resolve crisis
OOONeurological conditions	situations.
OOODevelopmental disabilities	OOOOO I help families respond to client
	needs.
OOOPhysical disabilities	
OOOSubstance abuse conditions	OOOO I am satisfied with my ability to
OOOAcute medical conditions	help clients navigate through
OOPsychosocial stressors	the social services system.
OOOChronic medical conditions	OOOO I am satisfied with my ability to
OOOCo-occurring conditions	coordinate care between the
	medical and mental health
IV. WORKPLACE ISSUES	community to address the
,	needs of clients.
6. To what extent has the practice of social work	$\bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc $ I can effectively respond to the
changed in the past two years in your primary	number of requests for
employment setting? Please mark one in each row.	assistance made by clients and
ecreased N/A	their families.
OOOO Caseload size	OOOOO I work with community
Severity of client problems	organizations to adapt our
O O O Waiting lists for services	service delivery system.
	Service delivery system. OOOOO I am satisfied with my ability to
DOOOO Levels of reimbursement	
OOOOOOOOOO	address complex and chronic
0	care problems of clients.
)OOOO Staffing levels—social workers	OOOO I am satisfied with the amount of
)OOO Staffing levels—other	time I spend with clients.
O ○ ○ ○ Job security	OOOO I am satisfied with my ability to
D O O O Level of outcome monitoring/oversight	respond to cultural differences
Availability of social work supervision	among the clients I serve.
OOOO Assignment of non-social work tasks	OOOOO I am satisfied with my ability to
O O O O Availability of professional training	influence the design of service
	to better meet client needs.
`ଟ୍ରେଡ 4	to better meet chent needs.

39. Are the majority of the tasks you perform appropriate to your level of training and skills obtained through your	46. Please indicate your agreement with the following:
social work education and post-graduate professional development?	Strongly Strongly Disagree Agree N/A
Below my Above my training training	OOOOOOOOThere is respect/support for social work services within my agency.
40. How satisfied are you with your ability to access services for clients?	guidance from my supervisor.
Please mark one in each row.	OOOOO I receive and/or provide assistance on issues of
Not at All Very N/A Agency services Community resources Appropriate medication Appropriate medical care Appropriate mental health care	ethical practice in the workplace.
41. How satisfied are you with the amount of time available for the following? <i>Please mark one in each row.</i>	47. What are your career plans in the next two years? <i>Please mark all that apply.</i> Remain in current position
Not at All Very N/A OOOOOO Addressing clients' presenting problems	Pursue additional social work degreePursue additional non-social work degreePursue non-degree training in social work
OOOOO Accessing basic services (e.g. housing, food, transportation)	 Seek new opportunity/promotion as a social worker
OOOOO Providing services to clients' families OOOOO Addressing severity of client	 Increase hours working as a social worker Decrease hours working as a social worker
problems OOOOO Addressing breadth of client	Re-enter social work, if not currently a social worker
problems	Leave social work field, but continue working
OOOOO Addressing service delivery issues	○ Retire
OOOOO Providing clinical services to clients OOOOO Conducting investigations	Stop workingOther:
OOOOO Participating in training	Other:
OOOO Performing administrative tasks	
42. Does your agency participate in any of the following? Please mark all that apply. Demonstration programs Program evaluation research	48. What are the five most important factors that would influence a decision to change your
Clinical researchProfessional developmentStudent internshipsprograms for staff	current position? <i>Please mark only 5.</i>
Student internships programs for staffBest practices training	Higher salaryMore interesting work
	 Increased career mobility
43. Are vacancies in social work positions common in your primary setting?	Opportunities for training (adjusting
Yes Somewhat No N/A	Opportunities for training/educationLocation
Common	○ Lifestyle/family concerns
Difficult to fill	Agency mission
44. Does your primary employer: Yes No Know	Peer supportLighter workload
Recruit individuals who do not have social	○ Increased responsibility
degrees to fill social work vacancies	 Quality of supervision
Outsource any social work functions	O Personal reasons
45. Please answer the following about job safety: Yes No	Ethical challengesStress of current job
Are you faced with personal safety issues in your	Better benefits
primary employment practice?	Other:
If yes, do you feel that safety issues are	
appropriately addressed by your employer? O	continue Page 5

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The following two sections examine experiences of social workers who provide services to older adults and/or to children and their families. Please proceed to Section V. Services for Older Adults if you provide	53. How would you characterize the severity of problems of your older adult clients?
any services to individuals 55 years or older. If not, please proceed to Section VI, #63.	None 1-5% 6-10% 11-25% 26-50% 51-75% 76+%
Please complete Section VI. Services for Children and Families if you provide any services to individuals 21 years of age or under.	○○○○○ Mild ○○○○○ Moderate
V. SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS	OOOOO Moderate
v. SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS	
49. What % of your total caseload falls into the following age groups?	54. Do your older adult clients present with multiple problems?
None 1-5% 6-10% 11-25% 26-50% 51-75% 76+%	Never O O Always
• OOOOO Birth to 54	·
■ OOOOO 55–64	55. In providing services to older
■ ○○○○○ 65–74	adults, how often do you:
• 000000.75–84	Never Always
○○○○○ 85 and older	Participate in interdisciplinary activities on behalf of clients
50. For how many years have you provided services	Communicate with families
to older adults and their caregivers?	Use agency resources
■ O Less than 1 O 1–5 O 6–10 O 11–15 O 16+	Use community resources
·	Act as advocate for client
■ 51. Have you participated in education or training	Participate in research
 programs specifically addressing geriatric and/or 	Train social work students
long-term care issues? <i>Please mark all that apply.</i>	56 Hawwayid yay daariba yay ahiitu ta wayida
Courses in social work schoolCourses in other higher education programs	56. How would you describe your ability to provide services for older adult clients and their caregivers?
 Courses in other righer education programs Interdisciplinary seminars, workshops 	Low High N/A Skill Level
Supervised clinical practice	OOOOO Psychosocial assessment
On-the-job training	OOOO Treatment and service planning
Conferences	OOOO Direct service/Interventions
 Seminars/workshops 	OOOO End-of-life/Palliative care
 Certificate programs 	OOOOO Case management
Field placements in agency settingDistance learning	Low High N/A Knowledge Level
O Other:	OOOO Theories of aging
52. Please indicate the frequency of the following	OOOO Cultural differences
presenting problems among your older adult clients:	OOOO Aging policies
Please mark one in each row.	OOOO Psychopharmocology
Never Always	57. Would you like to participate in additional
 ■ ○○○○ Physical disability ■ ○○○○ Disease—Acute 	geriatric/long-term care training?
■ OOOO Disease—Chronic	O Yes O No
■ ○○○ Dementia issues	
■ OOO Mental illness	58. To what extent is training readily available to you that
■ OOOO Substance abuse issues	addresses provision of care to older adults?
• OOOO End-of-life/Palliative care issues	None Few Some Many
• OOOO Grief and bereavement issues	Training for new workersO O O On-the-iob trainingO
 OOOO Residential—placement/housing OOOO Socioeconomic disadvantage 	On-the-job training O O O Workshops O O
■ OOOO Financial issues	Courses
■ ○○○ Psychosocial issues	Conferences
■ ○○○ Developmental disabilities	Distance learning O
• OOO Caregiver issues (care for elderly)	Other
• OOOO Caregiver issues (care by elderly)	
OOOO Abuse/VictimizationOOOO Long-term care financing/planning	
 OOOO Marriage and family counseling 	
• OOO Other:	
• Page ଓ	
	SEDIAL #

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

	 ○ No charge ○ No ruture work with this ○ Increase time ○ Reduce time ○ Unsure 	O Other:
	61. Do you expect opportunities to work with older adults to increase in the future? No	66. Would you like addressing issu
	62. How do you assess the importance of the following in assisting you to improve care provided to older adults? <i>Please mark one in each row.</i>	67. Please indicate presenting probaseload: Pleas
3/8" spine perf	Not at All Very	
8" sper	00000	
8	Training/education	Abuse/Neglect
	Supervision	Adoption/Reuni
	Organizational support for social	Disability
	work services	End of life/Pallia
i	Appropriate caseload size	Family functioning
	Resource centers	Foster care
i	Interagency coordination	Juvenile justice
	Availability of services	Medical condition Mental health co
		School problem
	Manageable paperwork	Socioeconomic
	Adequate staffing	Substance abus
	Improved compensation	Other:
	Better career opportunities	Outet
İ	Other:	

59. Which professions do you routinely work with when providing services to older adults?

60. How do you see yourself working with older adults and their caregivers in the next 5 years?

VI. SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

O....O....O....O....O....O 22+

Mark one in each row.

	64. For how many years have you provided services to children and their families?
Always	\bigcirc Less than 1 \bigcirc 1–5 \bigcirc 6–10 \bigcirc 11–15 \bigcirc 16+
	•
00000000	Have you participated in education or training programs specifically addressing needs of children and families? Please mark all that apply. Courses in social work school Courses in other higher education programs Interdisciplinary seminars, workshops
0	Supervised clinical practiceConferences
	Field placement in agency setting
lults	Distance learningOn-the-job training
S	○ Seminars/workshops •
	Other:
der	66. Would you like to participate in future training addressing issues related to children and families?
vvin a	<u> </u>
wing der	67. Please indicate the frequency of the following presenting problems among the children in your caseload: <i>Please mark one in each row.</i>
Very	•
Very	Abuse/Neglect OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO
00000000000000	Abuse/Neglect Adoption/Reunification
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 s if	Abuse/Neglect Adoption/Reunification

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69. Indicate the four (4) systems with which you interact most frequently on behalf of children: Please mark only four. Courts Foster care Health Income maintenance Legal aid/Attorneys Mental health Police/Criminal justice Protective services School Social/recreational Supplemental services	72. To what extent is training readily available to you that addresses child and family issues? None Much Training for new workers On-the-job training Workshops Courses Conferences Distance learning Other 73. How do you see yourself working with children and their families in the next 5 years?
70. In providing services to children, how frequently do you: <i>Please mark one in each row</i> .	 ○ No change ○ No future work with this ○ Increase time ○ Reduce time ○ Unsure
Never Always Communicate with other	74. Do you expect opportunities to work with children and families to increase in the future? Yes No 75. How do you assess the importance of the following in assisting you to improve care provided to children and their families? Please mark one in each row. Not at All Very Training/education Organizational support for social work services Appropriate caseload size Resource centers Interagency coordination Availability of services More time Manageable paperwork Improved third-party reimbursement. Adequate staffing Improved compensation. Better career opportunities Other:
Thank you for your participation in this important survey!	Center for Health Workforce Studies School of Public Health, University at Albany One University Place, Suite 200

Please put completed questionnaire in enclosed envelope and drop in the mail.

Center for Health Workforce Studies
School of Public Health, University at Albany
One University Place, Suite 200
Rensselaer, NY 12144-3456
(518) 402-0250

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