Mental health and substance abuse social workers
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.

Cognitive and mental requirements
The qualifications that workers need to use judgment, make decisions, interact with others, and adapt to changes in jobs.

Table 1. Percentage of mental health and substance abuse social workers with cognitive and mental requirements, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pace: Pause control</td>
<td>69.8</td>
<td>30.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interaction with general public</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Education, training, and experience requirements
The minimum level of formal education required, credentials necessary, on-the-job training, and prior work experience necessary for average performance in jobs.

In 2022, credentials were required for 93.7 percent of mental health and substance abuse social workers. Prior work experience was required for 79.2 percent and on-the-job training was required for 61.6 percent.

A master's degree was required for 86.6 percent of mental health and substance abuse social workers.

Chart 1. Percentage of mental health and substance abuse social workers by specific preparation time (SVP) level, 2022

Environmental conditions
The various tangible or concrete hazards or difficulties that are in the vicinity of where jobs’ critical tasks are performed.
In 2022, a quiet noise exposure was present for 11.2 percent of mental health and substance abuse social workers, and 88.8 percent were exposed to moderate noise. Personal protective equipment (PPE) was not used by 100.0 percent of workers to mitigate noise exposure.

Physical demands
Refer to the physical activities required to perform tasks in jobs. The presence and, in some cases, duration of these activities are published.
In 2022, reaching at or below the shoulder was required for 55.0 percent of mental health and substance abuse social workers and was not required for 45.0 percent. For 4.5 percent of workers, reaching at or below the shoulder was seldom performed, and for 50.5 percent reaching at or below the shoulder occurred occasionally.
Performing work in low postures was required for 12.5 percent of mental health and substance abuse social workers and was not required for 87.5 percent.
The choice to sit or stand when performing critical tasks was available to 69.4 percent of mental health and substance abuse social workers. On average, workers spent 72.3 percent of the workday sitting and 27.7 percent of the workday standing.