



Addictive Disorders Counseling (Alcohol and Controlled Substances TOP: 2104.40)

February 2022

Prepared by the South Central Coast Center of Excellence for
Labor Market Research

Program Recommendation

This report was compiled by the South Central Coast¹ Center of Excellence to provide regional labor market data for the program recommendation – Alcohol and Controlled Substances. This report can help determine whether demand in the local labor market is not being met by the supply from programs of study (CCC and non-CCC) that align with this occupation group.

Key Findings

- In the South Central Coast region, the number of jobs related to Alcohol and Controlled Substances are expected to **increase** for both selected occupations: **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors** and **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers**.
- Alcohol and Controlled Substances is anticipated to experience a **low risk of automation** for both related occupations.
- In 2020 there were 1,939 regional completions in programs related to the occupations identified as related to Alcohol and Controlled Substances and 325 openings, indicating an **oversupply**.
- Typical entry-level education is a **Bachelor's degree** for Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors, and a **Master's degree with residency** for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers.
- The most **common middle-skill jobs** for TOP 2104.40 are **Social and Human Service Assistants** and **Community Health Workers**.
- Completers of Alcohol and Controlled Substances programs from the 2018-2019 academic year, in the South Central Coast region, had a **median annual wage upon completion** of \$26,036.
- 59% of students are **employed within a year** after completing a program.
- 29% of students **attained a living wage** within a year of completion.
- +33% **change in earnings** for completers.
- 71% of students were **part-time**, 9% **skill builders**, 47% **first-generation**, and 92% **economically disadvantaged**.

¹ The South Central Coast Region consists of San Luis Obispo County, Santa Barbara County, Ventura County, and the following cities from North Los Angeles County: Canyon Country, Castaic, Lake Hughes, Lancaster, Littlerock, Llano, Newhall, Palmdale, Pearblossom, Santa Clarita, Stevenson Ranch, and Valencia.

Occupation Codes and Descriptions

There are two occupations in the standard occupational classification (SOC) system that were requested as aligned with Alcohol and Controlled Substances for this analysis. The occupation titles and descriptions, as well as reported job titles, are included in Exhibit 1.

Exhibit 1 – Occupation, description, and sample job titles

SOC Code	Title	Description	Sample of Reported Job Titles
21-1011	Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	Counsel and advise individuals with alcohol, tobacco, drug, or other problems, such as gambling and eating disorders. May counsel individuals, families, or groups or engage in prevention programs.	Addictions Counselor, Case Manager, Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor (ADAC), Chemical Dependency Counselor (CD Counselor), Chemical Dependency Professional, Clinical Counselor, Counselor, Drug and Alcohol Treatment Specialist (DATS), Prevention Specialist, Substance Abuse Counselor (SA Counselor)
21-1023	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.	Case Manager, Clinical Social Worker, Clinical Therapist, Clinician, Counselor, Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Mental Health Therapist, Social Worker, Substance Abuse Counselor, Therapist

Source: O*NET Online

Current and Future Employment

In the South Central Coast region, the number of jobs related to Alcohol and Controlled Substances are expected to increase for both selected occupations.

Exhibit 2 – Five-year projections for Alcohol and Controlled Substances in the South Central Coast region

SOC	Occupation	2020 Jobs	2025 Jobs	2020-2025 Change	2020-2025 % Change
21-1018 (for 21-1011)	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors (for Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors)	1,515	1,793	278	18%
21-1023	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	940	1,027	87	9%

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Earnings

In the South Central Coast region, the average wage for the listed occupations is \$28.27 per hour.

Exhibit 3 contains hourly wages and annual average earnings for these occupations. Entry-level hourly earnings are represented by the 25th percentile of wages, median hourly earnings are represented by the 50th percentile of wages, and experienced hourly earnings are represented by the 75th percentile of wages, demonstrating various levels of employment.

Exhibit 3 – Earnings for Alcohol and Controlled Substances in the South Central Coast region

SOC	Occupation	Entry-Level Hourly Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings	Experienced Hourly Earnings
21-1018 (for 21-1011)	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, and Mental Health Counselors (for Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors)	\$17.10	\$22.76	\$31.21
21-1023	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	\$28.91	\$40.55	\$49.91

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Employer Job Postings

In this research brief, real-time labor market information is used to provide a more nuanced view of the current job market, as it captures job advertisements for occupations relevant to the field of study. Employer job postings are consulted to understand who is looking within the field, and what they are looking for in potential candidates. To identify job postings related to Alcohol and Controlled Substances the following standard occupational classifications were used:

21-1011	Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors
21-1023	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers

Top Occupations

In 2019, there were 85 employer postings for occupations related to Alcohol and Controlled Substances.

Exhibit 4 – Top occupations in job postings and risk of automation tables

SOC Code	Occupation	Job Postings, Full Year 2019
21-1011	Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	63
21-1023	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	22

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

SOC Code	Occupation	Risk of Automation
21-1011	Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	Low
21-1023	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	Low

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Top Titles

The top job titles for employers posting ads for jobs related to Alcohol and Controlled Substances are listed in Exhibit 5. Substance Abuse Counselor is mentioned as the job title in 13% of all relevant job postings (11 postings).

Exhibit 5 –Job Titles

Title	Job Postings, Full Year 2019
Substance Abuse Counselor	11
Alcohol and Drug Treatment Specialist I/II/III	5
Addiction Medicine Counselor III	4
Addiction Counselor	3
Student Relations Technician	3

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Top Employers

Exhibit 6 lists the major employers hiring professionals in the Alcohol and Controlled Substances field. The top employer posting job ads was Mental Health America of Los Angeles. The top worksite cities in the region for these occupations were Lancaster, Ventura, San Luis Obispo, Lompoc, and Santa Barbara.

Exhibit 6 – Top Employers (n=78)

Employer	Job Postings, Full Year 2019
Mental Health America of Los Angeles	6
CSI Processing	5
County of Ventura	5
Telecare Corporation	5
Kaiser Permanente	4

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Skills

Treatment Planning is the most sought after skill for employers hiring for jobs related to Alcohol and Controlled Substances.

Exhibit 7 –Job Skills (n=81)

Skills	Job Postings, Full Year 2019
Treatment Planning	49
Case Management	37
Mental Health	35
Addiction Treatment	19
Behavioral Health	18
Mental Illness	18
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)	16

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Industry Concentration

Exhibit 8 shows the industries with the most Alcohol and Controlled Substances postings in the South Central Coast. Note: 20% of records have been excluded because they do not include an industry. As a result, the chart below may not be representative of the full sample.

Exhibit 8 – Industries employing the most in the Alcohol and Controlled Substances field, 2019

Industry	Occupation Group Jobs in Industry	% of Occupation Group in Industry
Health Care and Social Assistance	39	57.4%
Public Administration	17	25.0%
Finance and Insurance	7	10.3%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	2	2.9%
Retail Trade	2	2.9%

Source: Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass)

Education and Training

Exhibit 9 shows the typical entry-level education requirement for the occupations of interest, along with the typical on-the-job training needed to attain competency in the occupation.

Exhibit 9 – Education and Training Requirements

SOC	Occupation	Typical entry-level education	Typical on-the-job training
21-1011	Substance Abuse and Behavioral Disorder Counselors	Bachelor's degree	None
21-1023	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers	Master's degree	Internship/residency

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Projections (Educational Attainment)

Regional Completions and Openings

There were 1,939 regional completions (2020) and 325 regional openings (2020) in the South Central Coast region in programs related to the occupations identified as related to Alcohol and Controlled Substances.

Exhibit 10 – Completions and Openings

7 Regional Institutions had Related Programs (2020)	1,939 Regional Completions (2020)	325 Annual Openings (2020)
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Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Related Programs

CIP Code	Program	Completions (2019)
42.0101	Psychology, General	1,674
51.1501	Substance Abuse/Addiction Counseling	100
44.0000	Human Services, General	49
19.0701	Human Development and Family Studies, General	48
42.2813	Applied Psychology	37
42.2814	Applied Behavior Analysis	31

Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI)

Student Outcomes

The CTE LaunchBoard provides student outcome data on the effectiveness of CTE programs. The following student outcome information was collected from current students and exiters of regional Alcohol and Controlled Substances programs (TOP: 2104.40) for the 2018-19 academic year.

- The most **common middle-skill jobs** for TOP 2104.40 are **Social and Human Service Assistants** and **Community Health Workers**.
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Source: CTE LaunchBoard

Sources

O*Net Online, Labor Insight/Jobs (Burning Glass), Economic Modeling Specialists International (EMSI), MIT Living Wage Calculator, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Education Attainment, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Management Information Systems (MIS) Data Mart, CTE LaunchBoard, Statewide CTE Outcomes Survey, Employment Development Department Unemployment Insurance Dataset

Notes

Data included in this analysis represent the labor market demand for relevant positions most closely related to Alcohol and Controlled Substances. Traditional labor market information was used to show current and projected employment based on data trends, as well as annual average awards granted by regional community colleges. Real-time labor market information captures job post advertisements for occupations relevant to the field of study and can signal demand and show what employers are looking for in potential employees, but is not a perfect measure of the number of open positions. All representations have been produced from primary research and/or secondary review of publicly and/or privately available data and/or research reports. The most recent data available at the time of the analysis was examined; however, data sets are updated regularly and may not be consistent with previous reports. Efforts have been made to qualify and validate the accuracy of the data and findings; however, neither the Centers of Excellence for Labor Market Research (COE), COE host district, nor California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office are responsible for the applications or decisions made by individuals and/or organizations based on this study or its recommendations.