

**Occupational Profile**  
**Social Workers, Except Medical & Psych.**  
**OES (Occupational Employment Statistics) CODE: 27305**

Cameron County		Hidalgo/Starr/Willacy Counties	
Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010	Employment 2000	Projected Employment 2010
290	380	310	380
Absolute Change		Absolute Change	
#	%	#	%
90	31.0	70	22.6
Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement	Is License Required?	Growth to Replacement
No	2:1	No	1:1
Hourly Wage 2002		Hourly Wage 2002	
Mean	Median	Mean	Median
\$13.95	\$14.29	\$12.86	\$13.36

**Job Description:**

Social workers often see clients who face a life-threatening disease or a social problem. These problems may include inadequate housing, unemployment, lack of job skills, financial distress, serious illness or disability, substance abuse, unwanted pregnancy, or antisocial behavior. Social workers also assist families that have serious domestic conflicts, including those involving child or spousal abuse. Through direct counseling, social workers help clients identify their concerns, consider effective solutions, and find reliable resources.

**Average Education Required**

Most of these occupations require a four- year bachelor's degree, but some do not.

**Related Occupations**

Through direct counseling or referral to other services, social workers help people solve a range of personal problems. Workers in occupations with similar duties include the [clergy](#), [mental health counselors](#), [counseling psychologists](#), and [human service workers and assistants](#).

**Skills Required**

- Social Perceptiveness -- Being aware of others reactions and understanding why they react the way they do

Industrial Employment Patterns		
Industry Code	Industry	Percent of Employees
9200	State Government, except Education	48.8%
9300	Local Government, except Education	14.0%
8660	Religious Organizations	10.9%
8320	Individual and Family Social Services	8.3%
8360	Residential Care	3.6%

- Service Orientation -- Actively looking for ways to help people
- Speaking -- Talking to others to effectively convey information
- Active Listening -- Listening to what other people are saying and asking questions as appropriate
- Problem Identification -- Identifying the nature of problems
- Information Gathering -- Knowing how to find information and identifying essential information
- Reading Comprehension -- Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents

Coordination -- Adjusting actions in relation to others actions