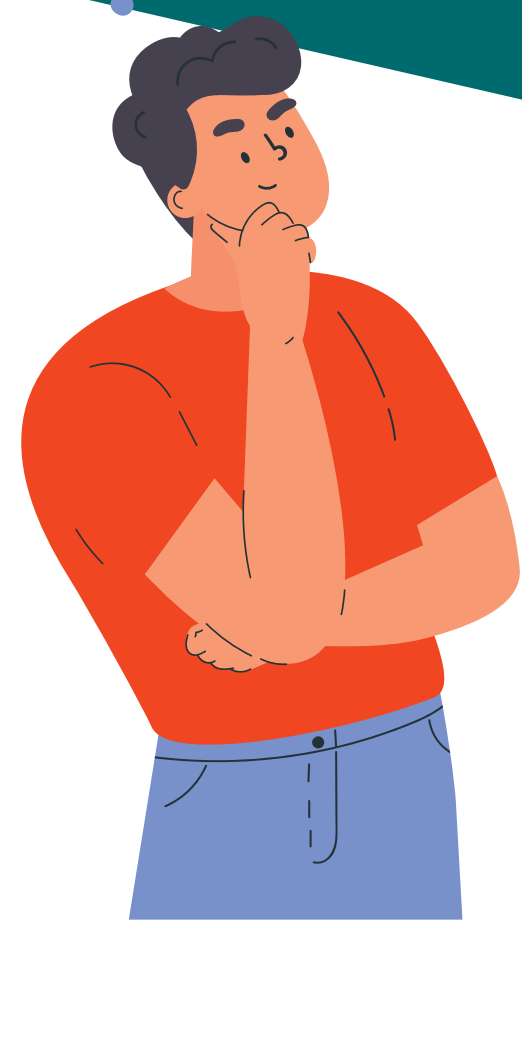


# WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOUR CAREER IN SOCIAL WORK?



## Why did you choose social work?

Relieve People's Suffering  
Fight for Social Justice

Improve Lives and Communities



## FASTEST GROWING SETTINGS



**715,000** social workers in the U.S.

### Projected Growth by Setting **2020-2030**

Child, family and school

**13%**

INCREASE

Health care

**13%**

INCREASE

Mental health and substance use

**15%**

INCREASE

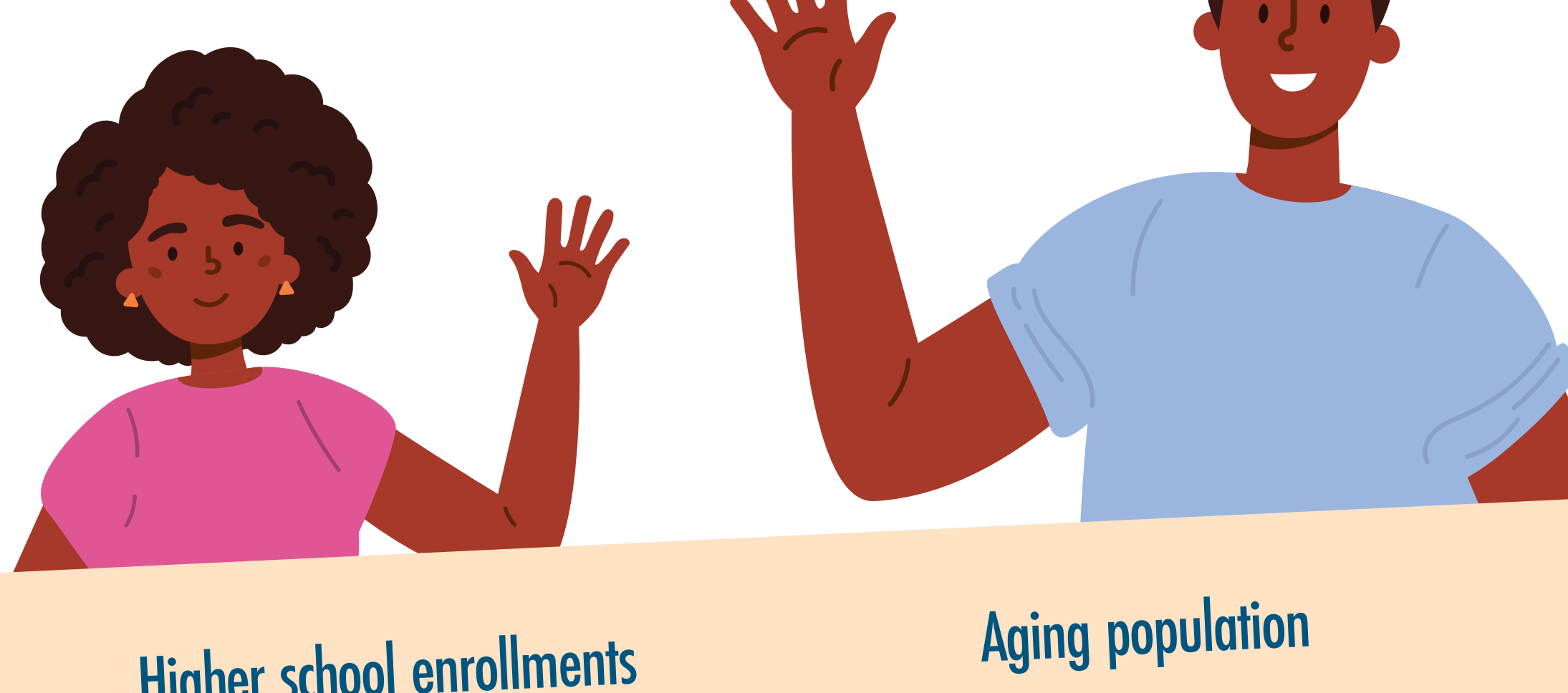
All other settings

**6%**

INCREASE



### Employment opportunities for social workers are rising because of:



Higher school enrollments

Aging population

More people seeking treatment for mental health and substance abuse

More people with substance use offenses are being sent to treatment programs

## 3 EDUCATIONAL DEGREE OPTIONS

A career pivot may require different education or license requirements.

Be sure to enroll in a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).



### Bachelor's in Social Work (BSW)

Required for entry-level non-clinical positions

Includes supervised fieldwork or internship



### Master's in Social Work (MSW)

Typically required for clinical positions

1-2 years to complete

Includes supervised practicum or internship

### Doctorate in Social Work (DSW)

Often required for teaching at university level, high-level programs and systems management positions

Includes advanced training in research, supervision and policy analysis



### State Licenses

Required for clinical positions (and non-clinical positions in some states)

Need MSW and hours of supervised clinical work post-graduation

Must pass licensure exam

\*Some states license those at the bachelor's level; some grandfather those without social work degrees. For more info, see this [Social Work License Map](#).

## 4 FACTORS AFFECTING SOCIAL WORK SALARIES

### Degree

PhD/DSW (highest)

MSW (2nd highest)

### Location

Metropolitan (highest)

Rural (Lowest)

### Size of Caseload

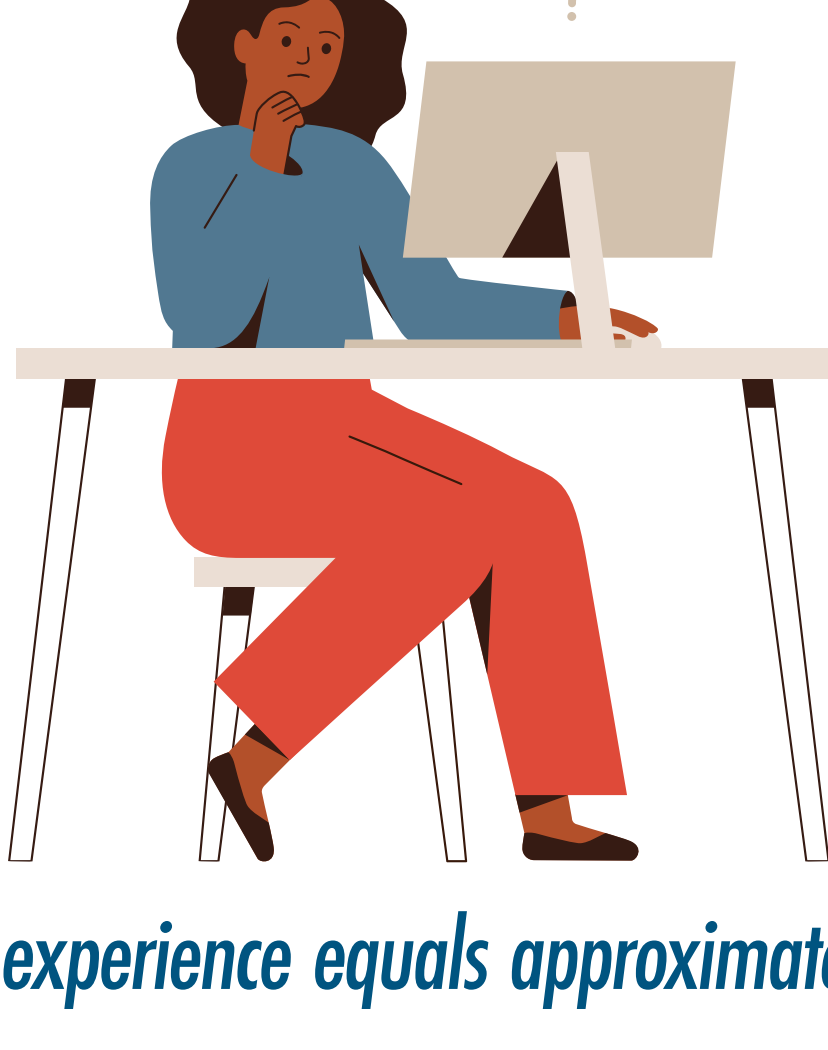
No Caseload (highest)

26-50 (Lowest)

### Sector

Private Practice (highest)

Private Nonprofit (Lowest)

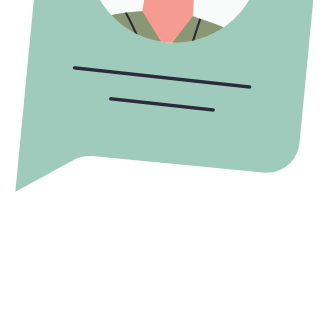


*Each year of experience equals approximately \$420 increase*

## NASW CAREER RESOURCES

NASW's support can help you transition your role throughout your career.

- Continuing Education
- Advanced Credentials
- Career Center — Job Listings
- Specialty Practice Sections
- Networking and Events
- Tips & Tricks for Job Seekers



Learn more about the social work profession.

[socialworkers.org/Careers](https://socialworkers.org/Careers)