



J.6049

IACP Members Survey 2015
TOPLINE RESULTS

Welcome to the 2015 IACP members study. Please answer as fully as you can and we look forward to sharing the findings with you in the future.

IACP Members and their Work

A. What is your gender?

	2013 %	2015 %
Female	78	75
Male	22	25

B. What is your age?

	2013 %	2015 %
Less than 18	-	-
18-25	-	-
26-35	6	6
36-45	20	20
46-55	34	30
56-65	32	36
66-75	9	6
76-85	*	1
85+	-	*

C. County?

	2015 %
Dublin	38
Rest of Leinster	29
Munster	21
Conn./Ulster	12

BASE: 640 Members

26th March 2015

Limited comparative data shown, taken from previous members study fielded in 2013.



Membership Category

Q.1 What is your category of IACP Membership?

	2013 %	2015 %
Accredited Member	52	50
Accredited Supervisor	14	14
Student Member	7	9
Pre-Accredited Member	22	23
Affiliate Member	4	3
Inactive Accredited Member	1	1
Inactive Accredited Supervisor	*	*
Retired Accredited Member	-	*

Q.2 How long have you been a member of IACP?

	2013 %	2015 %
Less than 2 years	14	17
2-5 years	35	32
6-10 years	24	22
11-20 years	24	23
Over 20 years	*	6

Q.3 Which of the following best describes your work situation as a Counsellor/Psychotherapist? **TICK ALL THAT APPLY**

	2013 %	2015 %
Individual Practitioner in Private Practice	67	65
Individual Practitioner in Group Practice	7	7
Employed by Statutory body i.e. HSE	9	7
Employed by a school	6	3
Employed by a Voluntary Agency/Charity	18	18
Volunteer with Voluntary Agency/Charity	24	23
Student	7	8
Other (please specify)	6	6

Q.4 How would you describe your work as a Counsellor/Psychotherapist?

	2015 %
Full time	30
Part time	70

Q.5 About how much time would you ideally like to work as a counsellor/psychotherapist?

	2015 %
Less than 5 hours per week	8
6-10 hours per week	22
Over 10-15 hours per week	22
Over 15-20 hours per week	19
Over 20-25 hours per week	15
Over 25-30 hours per week	8
Over 30-35 hours per week	4
Over 35 hours per week	3



Q.6 Besides Counselling/Psychotherapy, does your work encompass any of the following? **TICK ALL THAT APPLY**

	2013 %	2015 %
Supervisor	25	22
Tutoring	19	17
Mentoring	21	21
Coordinating clients	13	15
Managing a practice	22	20
Writing policy	8	9
Researching	13	14
Giving talks to groups	33	32
Giving career advice	7	6
Youth work	14	13
None of the above	32	36

Q.7 Do you have another Occupation/s outside of Counselling/Psychotherapy?

	2013 %	2015 %
Yes	44	49
No	56	51

Q.7a IF YES (please specify)

Awaiting Data

Q.8 What is the biggest challenge facing you in your work as a Counsellor/Psychotherapist?

Awaiting Data

Q.9 Generally, how do you fund your attendance at Workshop/CPD events?

	2013 %	2015 %
Self funded	91	93
Funded by employer	4	3
Contribution from employer	3	3
Other (please specify)	2	1

Q.10 Is Counselling/Psychotherapy understood by people generally or not in your view?

	%
Totally	*
Largely	19
To some extent	65
Not really	15
Not at all	1



Q.11 How much do you enjoy Counselling/Psychotherapy?

%

Totally	58
Largely	40
To some extent	2
Not really	*
Not at all	*

Information Relating to Clients

Q.12 On average what percentage of your clients are the following?

	Any Clients			
	2013 %	2015 %	Average 2013 %	Average 2015 %
Adults	99	98		81
Couples	50	40		6
Families	20	13		1
Groups	24	18		3
Children	17	11		1
Adolescents	57	46		8

Q.13 On average what percentage of your clients present with the following?

	Any Clients		
	2013 %	2015 %	Average number %
Issues of abuse	93	84	21
Depression	99	97	35
Anxiety	98	97	38
Eating disorders	76	58	7
Bereavement	96	88	19
Addiction/Substance abuse etc	81	72	14
Stress/Panic difficulties	97	93	29
Issues relating to sexuality	79	71	11
Relationship difficulties	97	95	37

Q.14 What proportion of your clients present with suicidal ideation?

None: 11%

Average: 18%

2013 similar.

Q.14a Have you received training in the area of suicide prevention?

	2013 %	2015 %
Yes	77	83
No	23	17



Q.14b IF YES (please specify)

Awaiting Data

Client Fees

Q.15 On average, what do you charge your clients per session (50 mins/1 hour)?

(a) Per session charge	69%
(b) No charge	11%
(c) Contribution/donation	20%

Average per session:

2013: €44.00

2015: €44.36

Q.16 What are your main sources of clients?

	2013 %	2015 %
IACP Referral	18	1
From online directory on IACP website	n.a	3
Word of mouth referral	68	33
Golden Pages	3	*
Telephone referral from IACP	n.a	-
GP referral	40	13
Local advertising	14	4
Referral from other organisation	41	18
Other directories	6	2
Other (please specify)	27	25

Asked differently in 2015: single response.

Q.16a Do you believe that you get clients as a result of IACP referral or from their online directory?

	2015 %
Yes	26
No	74

Q.17 On average, **how many clients** do you see per month?

Mean 2013: 21
Mean 2015: 22

Q.17a What are your average number of **client hours** per month?

Average 2013: 28 hours
Average 2015: 31 hours

Q.18 Do you promote your own services?

	%
Online	30
On radio	1
In local press	8
To local GPs	33
To local pharmacists	12
By other healthcare professionals word of mouth/through friends	42
Other	10
Do not promote	40

Q.19 Do you 'market' yourself enough in your own view?

%



Yes	28
No	72

Q.19a What type of marketing is most successful, from your own point of view?

Awaiting Data

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Workshops & CPD: Workshops & CPD events have been separated into three categories.

Category 1: Practice related events

Category 2: Specific client groups/specific issues

Category 3: About Skill based techniques/approaches in Counselling & Psychotherapy

Category 1: Practice Related Events

Q.20 Using a ranking from 1 to 7 (where 1 is most preferred etc), please indicate which CPD events you would like to see arranged in your region? **(NOW CODE 2ND, 3RD, 4TH ETC)**

	2013	2015		
	1 st Mention %	1 st Mention %	2 nd Mention %	3 rd Mention %
How to set up in Private Practice	20	20	9	9
Counselling/Psychotherapy and the Law	16	15	23	17
Child Protection/Children First Guidelines	26	23	21	19
Marketing/PR	7	9	13	8
Research	6	7	8	11
Information Technology	4	3	6	10
Self-care	21	24	15	20
No subsequent mention	-	-	4	7



Category 2: Specific Client Groups or Specific Issues

Q.21 Using a ranking from 1 to 10 (where 1 is most preferred etc), please indicate which CPD events you would like to see arranged in your region? **(NOW CODE 2ND, 3RD, 4TH ETC)**

	2013	2015		
	1 st Mention %	1 st Mention %	2 nd Mention %	3 rd Mention %
Clients with special needs	9	8	7	8
Counselling older people/supporting carers	9	8	10	13
LGBT	7	9	8	10
Working with couples	16	19	15	11
Suicide in the family (Suicidal client or family responses to suicide)	29	25	21	15
Eating distress	7	8	9	13
Religions/Religious group	-	1	2	2
Foreign Nationals	3	3	4	6
Victims of abuse	18	18	20	14
Members of the Travelling Community	1	1	3	4
No subsequent mention	-	-	1	3

Category 3: Skill based Techniques/Approaches in Counselling & Psychotherapy

Q.22 Using a ranking from 1 to 11 (where 1 is 'most' preferred etc), please indicate which CPD events you would like to see arranged in your region? **(NOW CODE 2ND, 3RD, 4TH ETC)**

	2013	2015		
	1 st Mention %	1 st Mention %	2 nd Mention %	3 rd Mention %
Cognitive behavioural therapy	24	20	10	7
Body work	16	14	15	12
Trauma	19	24	18	15
Systemic family therapy	12	13	13	13
Dream Work	3	4	6	7
Mindfulness	11	9	11	12
Play Therapy	4	4	5	6
Brief Therapy	5	7	9	10
Music Therapy	n/a	1	2	4
Art Therapy	3	2	5	6
Psychodrama	3	3	3	7
No subsequent mention	-	-	2	2

Q.23 Have you visited the IACP website?

	2013 %	2015 %
Yes	97	98
No	3	2

Q.24 How would you rate the IACP website in terms of the following?

		Poor	Barely adequate	Mediocre	Satisfactory	Good	Very good	Excellent
Content/Quality of information	2013%	1	2	6	29	30	29	5
	2015%	2	2	9	30	28	25	5
Online Directory	2013%	3	2	10	24	29	28	5
	2015%	4	2	12	27	27	22	5
Navigation (How easy is it to locate desired information)	2013%	3	2	12	27	29	24	6
	2015%	3	3	13	31	23	22	5
Design	2013%	3	2	9	25	34	25	5
	2015%	2	2	11	31	26	22	5

Q.25 Do you have any suggestions to improve the IACP website?

	2013 %	2015 %
Yes	21	24
No	79	76



Q.25a IF YES (PLEASE SPECIFY)

Awaiting Data

Membership Benefits

Q.26 Do you avail of any of the following?

	Yes %
IACP Group VHI Cover (all members)	1
IACP Group Insurance Scheme benefits (all members)	6
Golden Pages advertising Group Rates in IACP Section (accredited members only)	2
Online director listing/telephone referrals (accredited members only)	27
Free seminars (all members)	47
Regional workshops members reduced rate (all members)	37
IACP Accredited Member	50
Logo (Accredited members only)	16

Professional Accreditation

Q.27 Please rate your satisfaction with each of the following.

		Poor	Barely adequate	Mediocre	Satisfactory	Good	Very good	Excellent
The Accreditation Process for Counsellors/ Psychotherapists at IACP	%	4	2	17	36	23	14	4
The Accreditation Process for Supervisors at IACP	%	4	2	11	43	24	13	3
The Accreditation Process for Courses at IACP	%	5	4	13	40	24	12	3

Q.28 Are there any changes/improvements you would like to see in IACP's Professional Accreditation Process?

	2015 %
Yes	44
No	56



Supervision

Q.29 On average, what do you pay for your supervision (per session)?

	2013 %	2015 %
Less than €50		8
€50-60		22
€60-70		39
Over €70		31
Average	€60.10	€60.51

Q.30 How many supervisors do you currently have?

	2013 %	2015 %
One	76	73
Two	20	24
Three+	5	3

Q.31 Please indicate your satisfaction with the following.

		Poor	Barely adequate	Mediocre	Satisfactory	Good	Very good	Excellent
Your current supervisor	2013%	-	-	-	7	17	33	40
	2015%	*	*	3	8	14	35	40

Organisational Profile

Q.32 Please indicate your satisfaction with the following.

		Poor	Barely adequate	Mediocre	Satisfactory	Good	Very good	Excellent
IACP's National Profile	2013%	-	-	-	24	25	19	6
	2015%	2	5	15	29	28	15	5



At present, IACP use the following methods to promote public awareness and the Organisations profile.

1. Monthly Press Releases (to all types of media)
2. Interviews – National and Regional Papers, Radio and Television
3. Attendance at National and Regional Events
4. Public Surveys
5. Direct Advertising
6. Public Talks
7. Leaflet Distribution

Q.33 Do you think IACP could do something else to promote public awareness and the Organisation profile?

Yes	42%
No	58%

Q.33a IF YES (PLEASE SPECIFY)

Coding in progress

Education

Q.34 Do you think IACP could improve its services and representation for Student Members?

	All 2013 %	All 2015 (648) %	Student Members 2015 (58) %
Yes	26	31	55
No	10	5	10
Don't know	64	64	34

Q.34a IF YES (PLEASE SPECIFY)

Coding in progress

Q.35 What topics would you like to see IACP research (**PLEASE TICK ALL THAT APPLY**)

	2013 %	2015 %
Abuse	34	35
Addiction	29	30
Anxiety	35	40
Attitude towards Counselling/Psychotherapy	58	56
Benefits of Counselling/Psychotherapy	65	62
Bereavement	21	24
Clinical supervision – benefits of etc	45	41
Depression	29	34
Divorce/separation	24	30
Eating distress	25	27
Evaluation of Counselling/Psychotherapy interviewing	56	39
Relationships	27	33
Sexuality	29	34
Stress	26	29
Therapist self-care	55	55
Training	40	39
Use/uptake of Counselling/Psychotherapy	53	53
Other (please specify)	17	7

How I feel about counselling and psychotherapy

Q.36 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about counselling and psychotherapy?

		Agree strongly	Agree generally	Disagree generally	Disagree strongly
I feel that many ordinary people don't understand the area	%	11	63	25	1
I feel that many ordinary people may be nervous or dubious about the area	%	19	70	11	*
I feel that many healthcare professionals don't understand the areas	%	17	52	29	2
I feel that many healthcare professionals may be nervous or dubious about the area	%	14	53	31	2
I would like to see insurers being prepared to fund counselling /psychotherapy	%	60	37	2	1
I would like to see counselling/psychotherapy being regulated by a statutory body	%	61	33	4	2



Q.37 Do you think that counselling/psychotherapy is valued by people in general?

	%
Totally	3
Largely	33
To a limited extent	57
Not really	6
Not at all	*

Q.38 And do you think that counselling/psychotherapy is generally...

		Totally	Largely	To a limited extent	Not really	Not at all
Taken seriously	%	1	38	56	5	*
Considered a valid treatment	%	3	33	57	7	*
Well represented by and within the media	%	*	19	52	26	3

The Future

Q.39 What do you think should be the primary function of the IACP? (CHOOSE ALL THAT APPLY)

Q.39 And which is most important in your view?

	Q.39 Primary Function %	Q.39a Most Important %
Regulatory Body	75	46
Educating Members	69	10
Representative Body	82	28
A Union	17	3
Client Sourcing for Members	51	10
A social network	28	1
Other (state & code)	4	2

Q.40 There is a possibility of Counselling/Psychotherapy being regulated and registered by the State in the future.

(a) Have you heard about this or not?

Yes	90%
No	10%

(b) Are you broadly in favour of this development or opposed to it?

Strongly in favour	71%
Slightly in favour	18%
Slightly against	7%
Totally against	4%

(c) Do you think the regulation and registration by a State body will be good or bad for the status of the profession overall?

Very good	58%
Good	34%
Bad	6%
Very bad	1%



(d) Do you feel that this change will be good for you personally or not?

Very good	46%
Good	46%
Bad	8%
Very bad	*

The IACP and Statutory Regulation

Q.40 If the State introduces a register, a disciplinary process and a code of conduct for all counsellors and practitioners, the role of the IACP may change. Which of the following functions will be important ones for the IACP to continue with?

		Very important	Important	Not important
Organising CPD and member education	%	60	34	6
Functioning as the interface between the profession and the media/the State/health system	%	58	36	6
Representing and articulating the interests of all members	%	69	28	3
Ensuring that counselling/psychotherapy is properly understood by the general public	%	69	28	3
Ensuring that counselling/psychotherapy is properly portrayed by the media	%	68	28	5
Ensuring that a valid, correct and positive impression of counselling/psychotherapy is created in the media and elsewhere	%	67	30	4
Providing a forum for Counsellors/Psychotherapists to meet and share their opinions	%	55	40	5
Ensuring that students and educational bodies can meet with members	%	43	48	9
Reporting on current issues in Counselling/Psychotherapy to the wider membership	%	59	38	3
Lobbying on behalf of the profession (with the HSE, the insurers, the legislators and the regulator.)	%	74	24	2
Collecting funds to ensure that the IACP is sufficiently well funded to continue to represent and promote members concerns	%	24	61	15
Advertising on behalf of the sector	%	34	52	14
Undertaking public attitude research on behalf of the sector	%	37	49	14



Q.41 Is there anything else you feel the IACP should be doing?

Awaiting Data

Q.42 If State Regulation and Registration is introduced, would you still be prepared to pay your IACP membership fee as well as paying your State registration fee?

Yes, fully prepared to pay both	10%
Quite happy to pay both	15%
May or may not pay both	42%
Unlikely to pay both	21%
Will not pay both	13%