

Methodology – Best Addiction Treatment Centers 2020

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July 23rd, 2020

1. Introduction

America's "Best Addiction Treatment Centers 2020" highlights the nation's top facilities based on quality of service, reputation and accreditation relative to in state competition. Facilities in the 20 states with the highest number of addiction treatment centers, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), were included in the survey.

a. States included in the Survey

The following states were included in the analysis:

- Arizona
- California
- Colorado¹
- Florida
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Kentucky
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Washington

¹ Due to the low participation of respondents from Utah, reliable results could not be obtained. As a result, Colorado was added because it has the next highest number of addiction treatment centers.

b. Scope of Centers and States included in the Survey

- Inpatient/residential and long-term addiction treatment centers are included, centers that only offer outpatient or short-term addiction treatment services were excluded.
- The Top 10% of facilities per state were awarded (200 nationwide): This number is based on the amount of facilities within the specific state that meet the aforementioned scope of requirements, and therefore varies among the individual states². The state of California had the most addiction treatment centers awarded with 55, while Colorado is represented with 5 addiction treatment centers.

2. Scoring Model



In order to create the ranking, a score was calculated for every addiction treatment center that was part of the analysis. This total score is based on the reputation and accreditation scores which will be described in this section.

Reputation Score: The Reputation score is based on two subscores, for recommendations and for quality, as shown above. In cooperation with Newsweek, Statista invited thousands of medical experts (therapists, counselor, medical doctors, administration & staff working in addiction treatment facilities) to an online peer-to-

² For states where ranking the top 10% of facilities would result in fewer than 5 facilities, the top 5 facilities were awarded, resulting in a maximum share of 17% per state.

peer survey. Additionally, experts from all over the US could participate in the survey of the Best Addiction Treatment Centers by State on newsweek.com. All data was collected by Newsweek and Statista during the survey period from Mai to July 2020. It was mandatory to perform an email verification and self-recommendation was not possible (e.g. a recommendation of the addiction treatment centers someone worked for was not counted in the evaluation).

Calculation of Recommendations Score

Recommendations

Participants were asked to name up to five of the best addiction treatment centers in their respective home state. They were asked to recommend addiction treatment facilities by considering the quality of care, quality of service, quality of follow-up care and accomodations & amenities.

Entry of recommendations was aided by an autocomplete function, which showed addiction treatment facilities based on the letters entered. It was also possible to recommend any addiction treatment center that was not proposed by the autocomplete list. For the participation in the survey on newsweek.com it was mandatory to perform an email verification. Recommendations for addiction treatment centers that a participant works for (self-recommendations) were excluded from the analysis.

Recommendations received different weights depending on the order in which they were given, with the first recommendation being assigned the highest weight. Recommendations of addiction treatment centers that were stated as the best addiction treatment center in a state received a 33% higher weight than those recommendations that were stated as the fifth best addiction treatment center. A score was assigned to each addiction treatment center based on the number of weighted recommendations. Recommendations constitute 80% of the overall reputation score (as depicted above).

Calculation of Quality Score

Participants were also asked to rank the quality dimensions which influence the quality of rehabilitation facilities. Participants were asked to differentiate between these variables:

- Quality of care (e.g. treatments/ therapies, consultation with doctor/ therapist, psychological support)
- Quality of service (e.g. meals, leisure activities)
- Quality of follow-up care (e.g. support meetings, individual counseling)
- Accommodation & Amenities (e.g. size of room, quality of furnishing)



The quality dimensions were shown to participants in a randomized order in the survey. Based on the reported importance of each quality dimension a quality score was assigned using the following weights: 60% Quality of care, 20% Quality of follow-up care, 10% Quality of service and 10% Accommodation & Amenities.

For each recommended center the participant rated the four quality variables on a scale from 1 (“Very poor”) to 5 (“Excellent”). A quality score was assigned to each addiction treatment center based on the weighted average of these ratings. The Quality Score contributes 20% towards the overall recommendation score (as depicted above).

Accreditation Score: The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides data for addiction treatment centers. Specifically, SAMSHA lists all relevant accreditations that the addiction treatment centers have. The following accreditations are included:

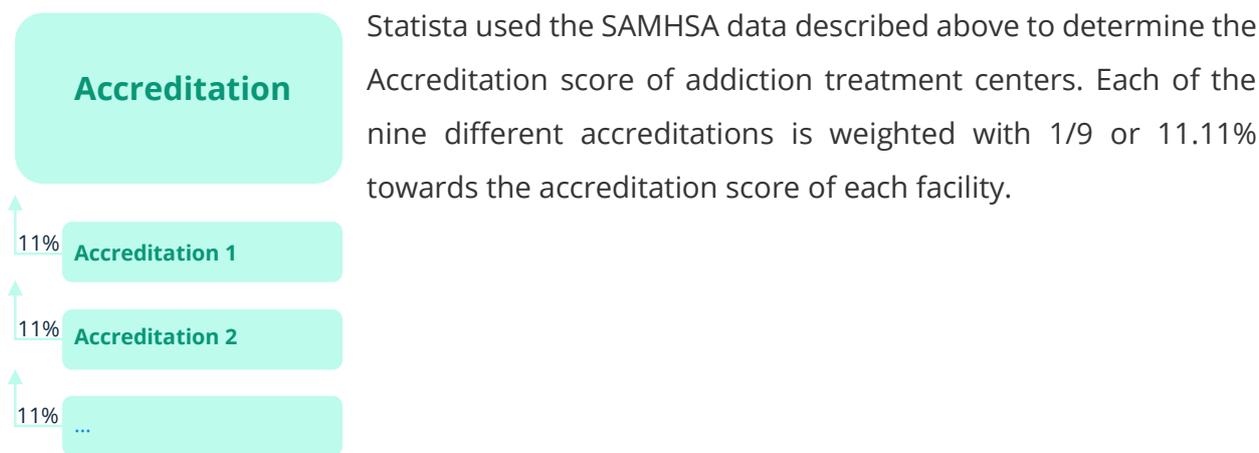
- Accreditation 1: State substance abuse agency
- Accreditation 2: State mental health department
- Accreditation 3: State department of health
- Accreditation 4: Hospital licensing authority
- Accreditation 5: The Joint Commission

- Accreditation 6: Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities
- Accreditation 7: National Committee for Quality Assurance
- Accreditation 8: Council on Accreditation
- Accreditation 9: Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program

All data was up to date through June 30th, 2020. Further information about the accreditations can be found at the websites of the accrediting bodies, e.g.:

<http://www.carf.org/home/>

Calculation of Accreditation Score



Overall Rating and State Rank

The overall rating is the weighted average of the overall reputation score and the accreditation score. The weight for the overall reputation score is 80% while the weight of the SAMHSA based accreditation score is 20% towards the total score of each facility. Subsequently facilities were ranked within their respective state based on their total score achieved.

3. Disclaimer

The ranking is comprised exclusively of addiction treatment centers that are eligible regarding the above-mentioned scope. The ranking was created through an elaborate process. The information provided in this ranking should be considered together with other information about addiction treatment centers or, if possible,

accompanied by a visit to the facility. The quality of addiction treatment centers that are not included in the list is not disputed.