



# Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **FSMTB RELEASES STATE OF THE PROFESSION SURVEY RESULTS**

### **The Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards Finds Educated, Satisfied Professionals**

**Overland Park, KS** – The Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards (FSMTB) is creating a national licensure examination to serve the needs of the regulatory community. To ensure that the examination reflects current practice, a Job Task Analysis (JTA) Survey was developed. Additional Survey questions explored the characteristics and opinions of the respondents. This allows the Federation to produce a definitive, historic report on the State of the Profession.

The Survey was deployed online from October 13 until February 1, 2007. Responses were received from 7,646 massage, bodywork and somatic professionals with approximately equal responses from each geographic region in the United States.

Massage, bodywork and somatic professionals are well educated: 50% attended some college or have an associate's degree; and 43% have a bachelor's degree or higher. About half received 500-749 hours of initial massage education while 35% of the respondents completed more. Almost all attended a certificate (87%) or degree (8%) program. The schools produce extremely satisfied graduates – 92% of the respondents agreed their school/education prepared them to practice.

An astonishing 99% of the respondents agreed with the following statements:

*I am happy to have entered the massage/bodywork/somatic profession.*  
*I am proud to be in the field of massage/bodywork/somatic therapy.*  
*I like being a massage/bodywork/somatic practitioner.*  
*I strongly identify with the massage/bodywork/somatic therapy occupation.*  
*I am enthusiastic about the massage/bodywork/somatic therapy occupation.*

Two thirds of the people had two or more previous occupations before becoming a massage/bodywork/somatic professional. "This may explain why they are incredibly satisfied as a result of finding their chosen profession," commented Patty Glenn, FSMTB President.

The FSMTB will publish detailed results from the JTA on its Web site at [www.fsmtb.org](http://www.fsmtb.org) as data becomes available.

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*The mission of the Federation of State Massage Therapy Boards is to support its Member Boards in their work to ensure that the practice of massage therapy is provided to the public in a safe and effective manner.*