



What is NASW's Practice Research Network?

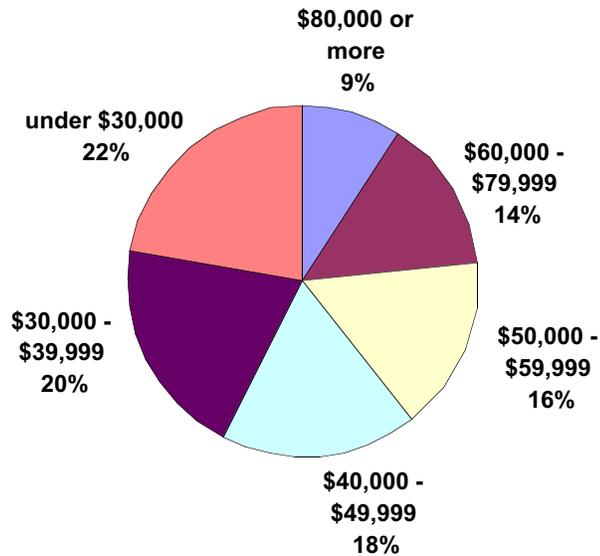
Through funding provided by the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), NASW created the concept of a Practice Research Network (PRN). The goal of the PRN project is to collect data from social work practitioners, and to use the data to develop best practices, inform policy, and improve service delivery. NASW is designing and conducting a series of practice-based research surveys to help meet this goal. The information presented in this Datagram is from the second survey, conducted in 2002. This survey included elements about client and provider demographics, as well as more detailed information about substance abuse treatment provided by social workers. The second PRN survey follows the initial effort in 2000, focusing on clinical social work practice and substance abuse-services issues relevant to the profession.

Practice Research Network Survey 2002

- Conducted during Fall, 2002
- Randomly administered to 2,000 NASW regular members
- Response rate of 78% (n=1,560), making the data highly representative; margin of error of +/- 2.5% at a 95% confidence level

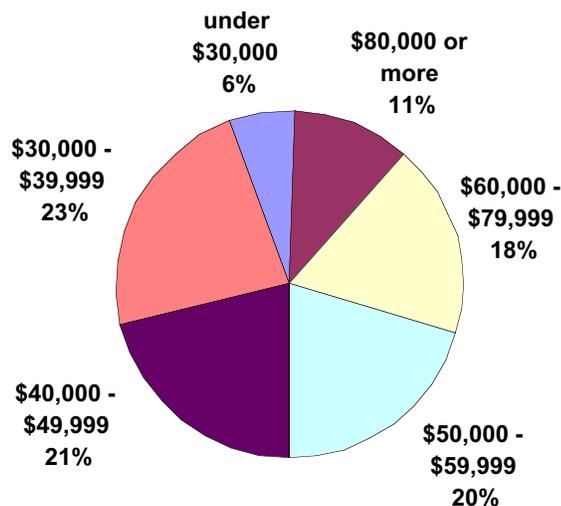
The median annual income in 2001 was \$44,400, which was an increase from the 1999 median income of \$41,290.

2001 Social Work Income



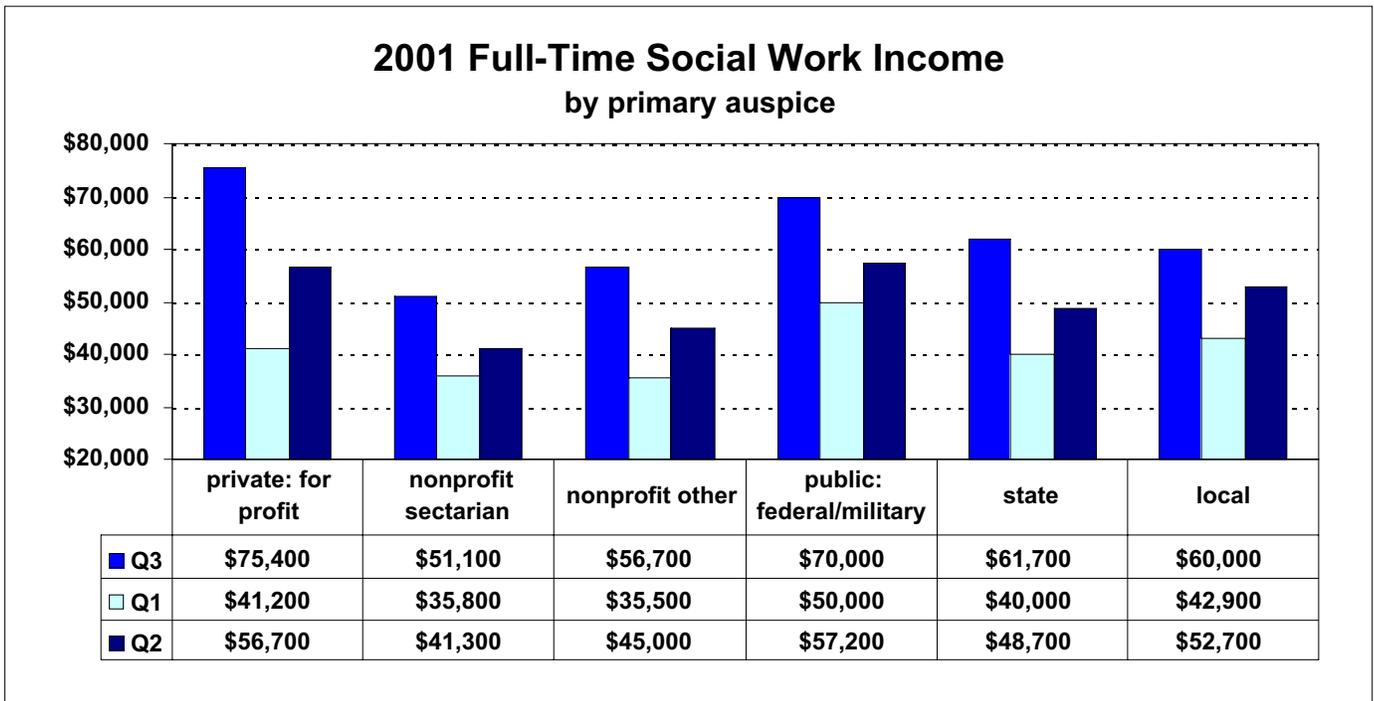
For those employed full time, the median income increased from \$45,660 in 1999 to \$49,500 in 2001.

2001 Social Work Income – Full-Time Employment Only



Primary Auspice & Compensation

Social workers employed in private, for-profit organizations receive a median income of \$56,700. Those in nonprofit sectarian organizations, on the other hand, report a median salary of \$41,300. Among public employment opportunities, the federal government (including the military) is slightly more favorable than either state or local units of government.



Social Work Practice Experience & Compensation

Compensation increases progressively as social workers become more experienced practitioners. Median salary for those with two to four years' experience is \$35,600. For those with 25 years' experience or more, the median salary rises to \$60,000.

