

What is NASW's Practice Research Network?

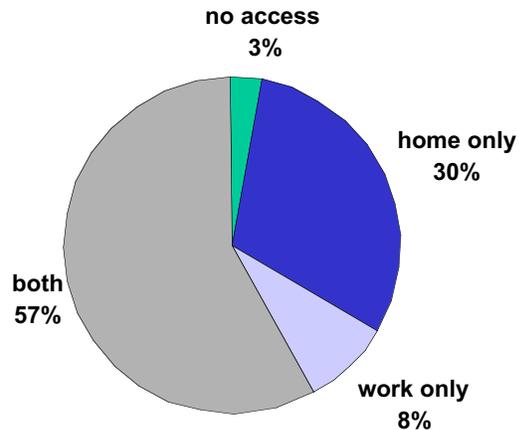
Through funding provided by the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), NASW created the concept of a Practice Research Network (PRN). The goal of the PRN project is to collect data from social work practitioners, and to use 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

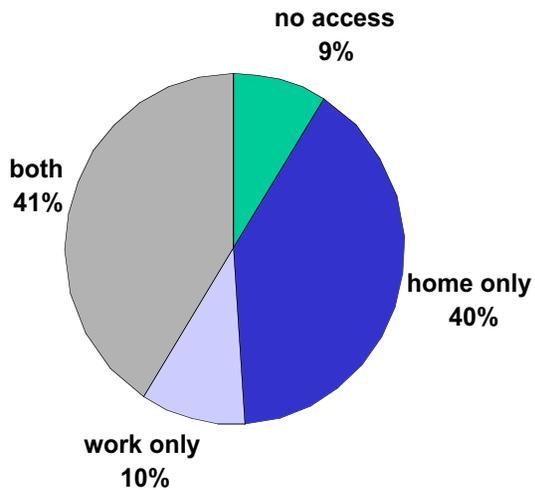
- Conducted during Fall, 2002
- Randomly administered to 2,000 NASW regular members
- Response rate of 78% (n=1,560), making the data highly representative; margin of error of +/- 2.5% at a 95% confidence level

In 2002, 95% of NASW members reported they had access to the Internet.

Internet Access in 2002

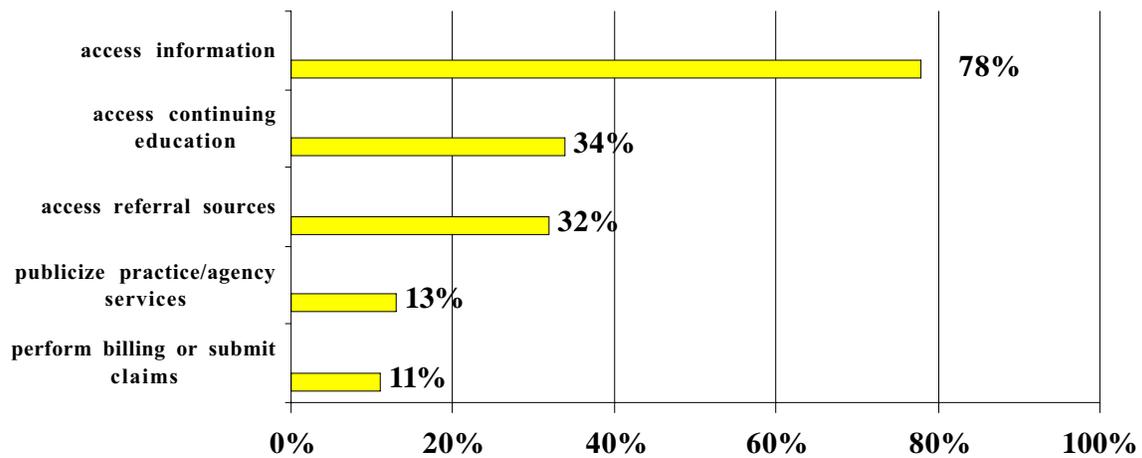


Internet Access in 2000



Although the overall percentage of NASW members with Internet access did not increase significantly, the number of social workers with access both at home and at work increased from 41% in 2000 to 57% in 2002.

Internet Usage by Social Workers as Part of Professional Practice



The above table indicates how NASW regular members reported using the Internet as part of their professional practice. Of those who responded to this particular question, 17% said that they do not use the Internet in their professional practice.

The table below provides information about how social workers use the Internet to provide client services. 57% of respondents do not use the Internet in this capacity.

Internet Usage by Social Workers to Provide Client Services

