



Informing Research and Policy through Social Work Practice

PRN Datagram.....PRN Datagram.....PRN Datagram.....

Demographics
PRN 1, 2, 2000

What is NASW's Practice Research Network?

With funding support from the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, NASW created the concept of a Practice Research Network (PRN). NASW is designing a series of practice-based research surveys that will build the information resources of the social work profession. The first survey included elements about client and provider demographics as well as more detailed information about substance abuse treatment. The goal of the PRN project is to collect data from social work practitioners and use the data to develop best practices, inform policy, and improve service delivery.

PRN Working Group

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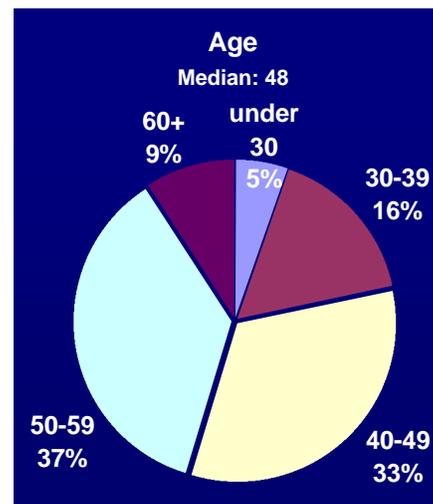
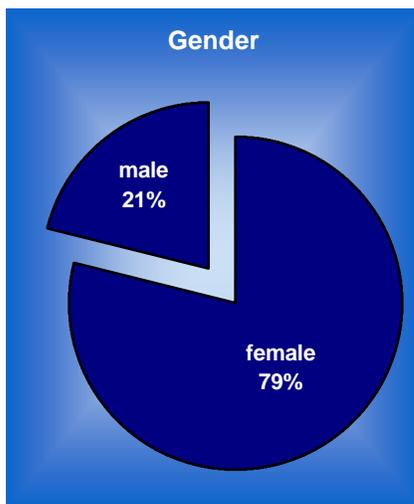
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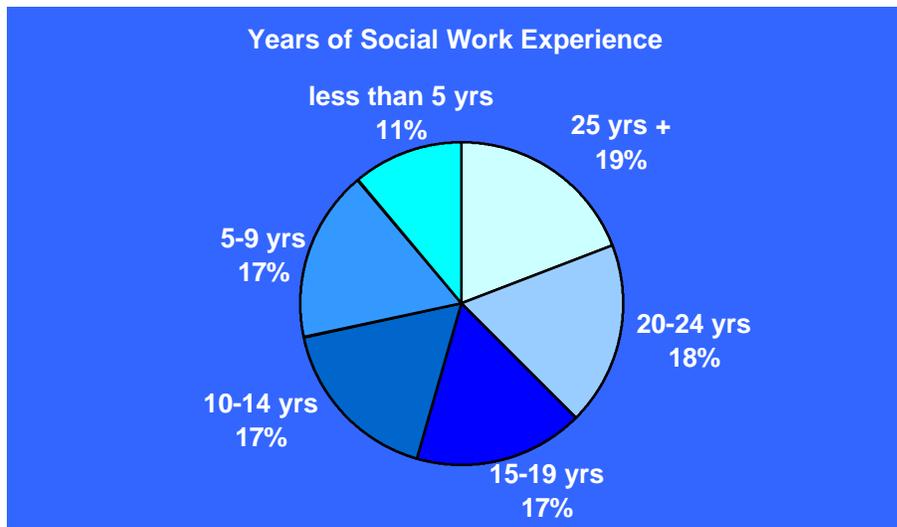
Practice Research Survey 2000

- Conducted in April 2000
- Administered to 2,000 NASW regular members
- Response rate of 81% - making the data highly representative. Margin of error of +/- 2.4% at the 95% confidence level.

A recent survey of NASW members indicates that most NASW regular members are female (79%). The median age is 48, with two-thirds of regular members in the 40 to 59 range; only 9% are 60 years or older, and only 5% are under 30.



For the majority of NASW regular members (91%), the highest social work degree is the master's. Six percent of members hold a doctorate degree in social work, and 3 percent hold a BSW.

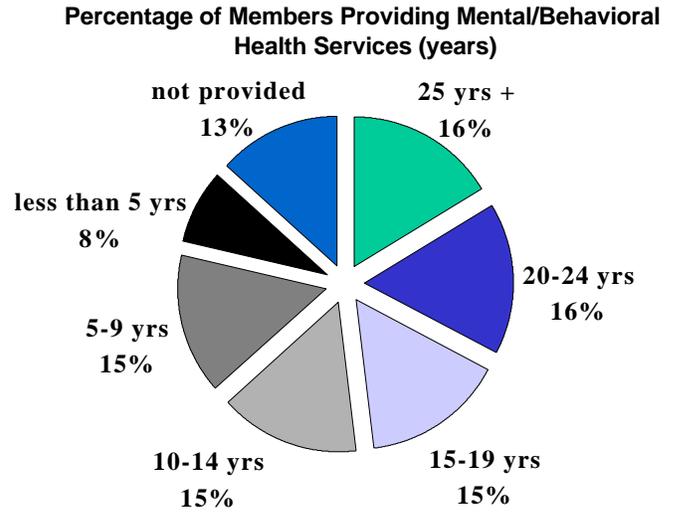


The typical NASW regular member has 16 years of social work experience since earning his/her first social work degree. More than a third (37%) reported 20 or more years of experience and only one in nine (11%) reported fewer than five years in the field.

Mental/Behavioral Health Services

Respondents also were asked the number of years they had been providing mental/behavioral health services. The median response was 15 years, with 32% indicating 20 years or more and 8% indicating fewer than five years. Thirteen percent reported they do not provide such services.

Practically all NASW regular members (93%) currently hold some form of state social work license, certification, or registration. A small percentage of NASW members (6%) hold one or more substance abuse certifications.

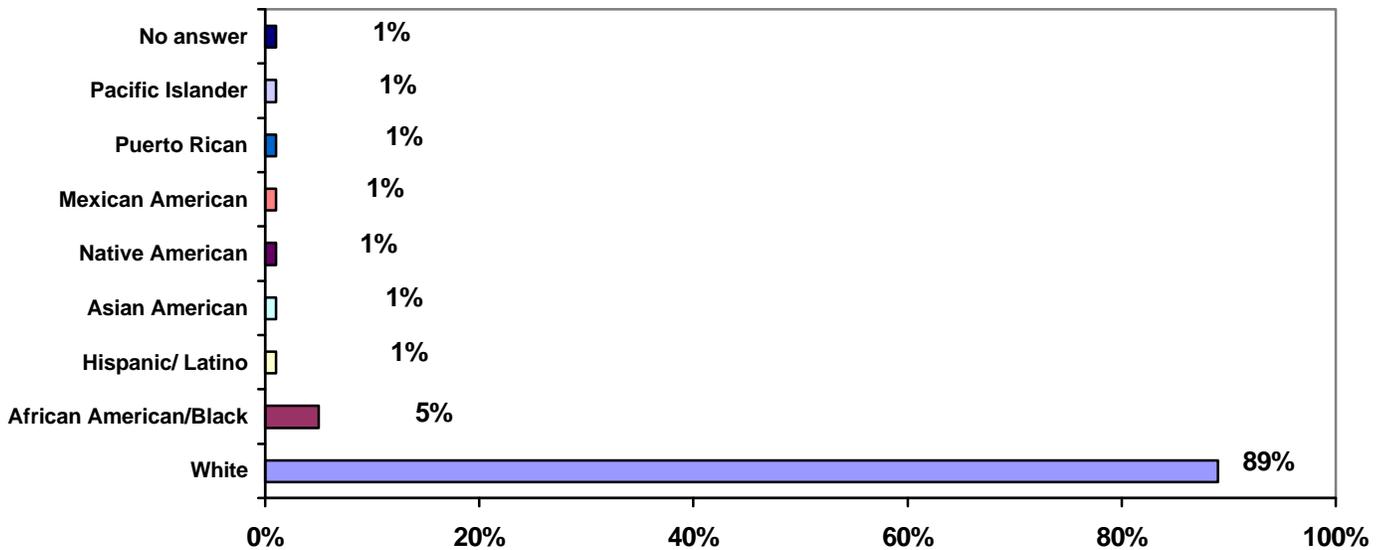


Internet Access

Nearly all regular members (91%) reported having access to the Internet. Forty percent reported having access to the internet at home only, and 41% reported having access to the internet both at home and at work.

Ethnic/Racial Origin

Almost nine in ten regular members (89%) list their racial/ethnic origin as “White/Caucasian”; 5% selected “African American/Black” and no other category was named by more than 1% of respondents.



	White	African American/ Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Asian American	Native American	Mexican American	Puerto Rican	Pacific Islander	No answer
Bar 1	89%	5%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%