



Informing Research and Policy through Social Work Practice

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

Social Work Income
PRN 1, 1, 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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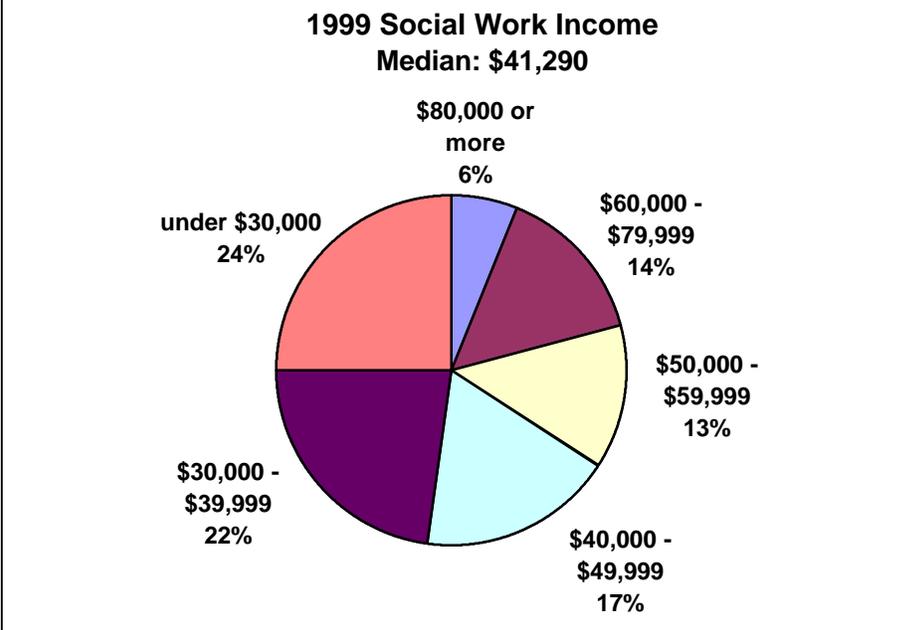
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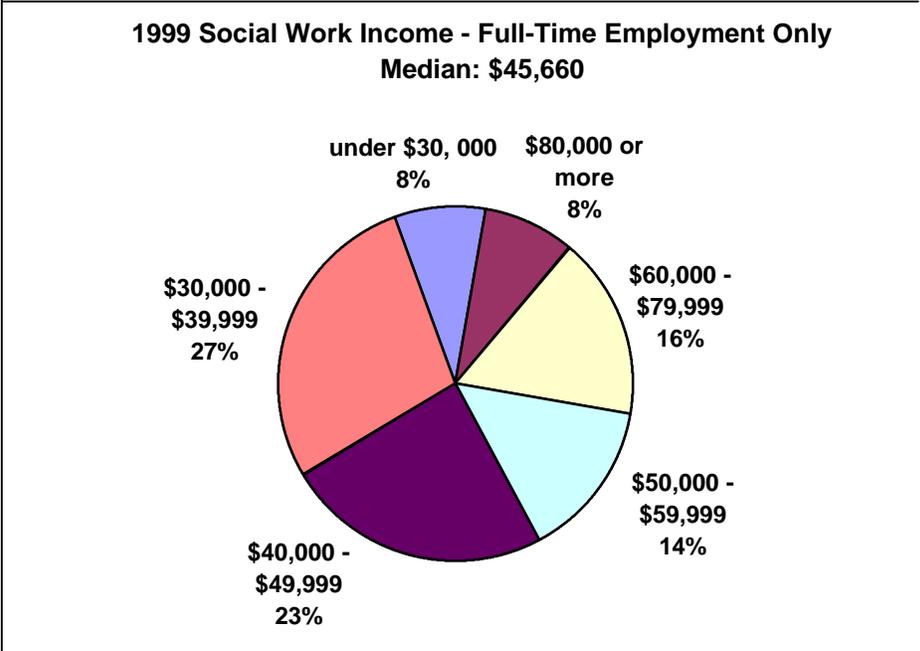
Practice Research Survey 2000

- 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 the 1999 median income from social work employment/self-employment was \$41,290.

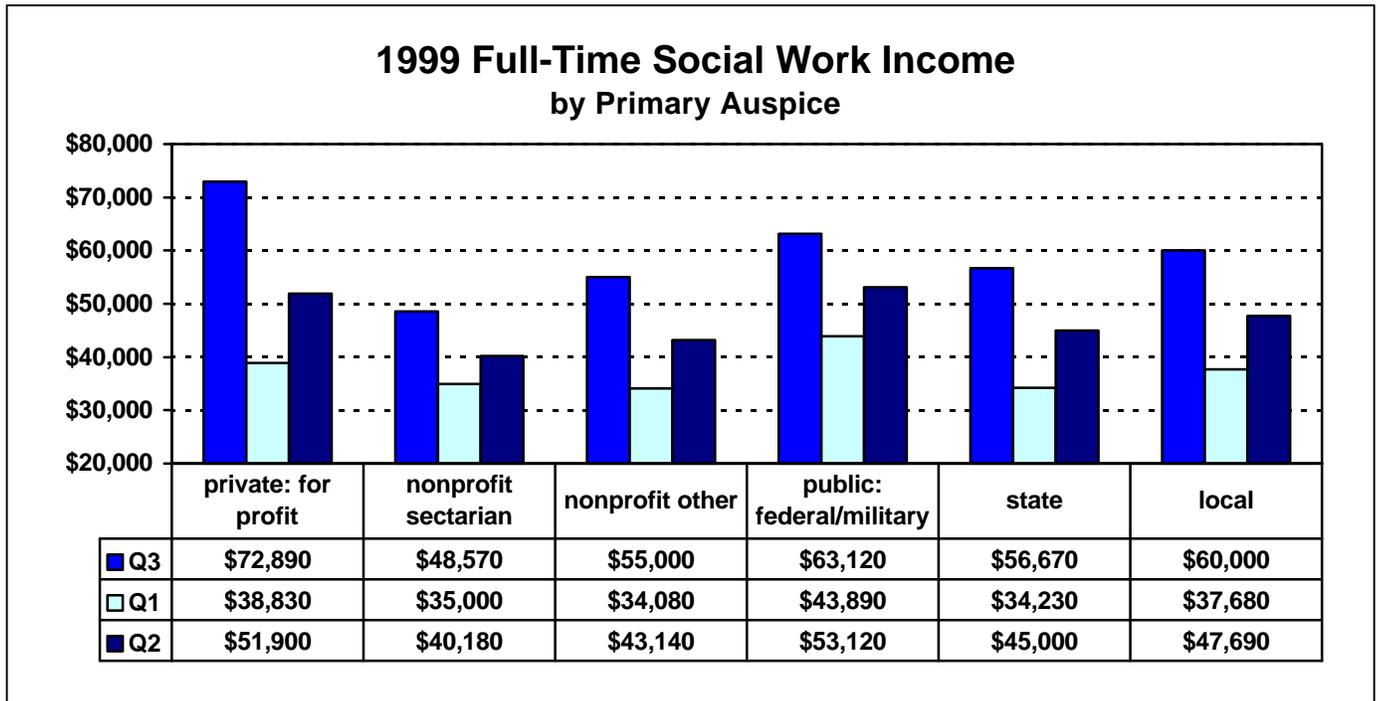


For those employed full time, the median income rises to \$45,660.



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 \$34,440. For those with 25 years' experience, or more, the median salary rises to \$58,400.



Primary Auspice & Compensation

Social workers employed in private for-profit organization receive a median income of \$51,900. Those in nonprofit sectarian organizations, on the other hand, report a median salary of \$40,180. Among public employment opportunities, the federal government (including the military) is slightly more favorable than either state or local units of government.

