

## NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS 2015 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

At every NA World Convention since 1996, NA World Services has distributed demographic surveys. In 2015, the survey was disseminated at the world convention that was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Additionally, this survey was available for members who chose to participate online and via mail and fax. With the high response that we received to the initial online survey, we made this available to our members for six months. There were 22,803 responses. We collect these data to provide information about our fellowship, strengthen our public relations efforts, and learn more about how and where we carry our message of recovery.

### NA Membership

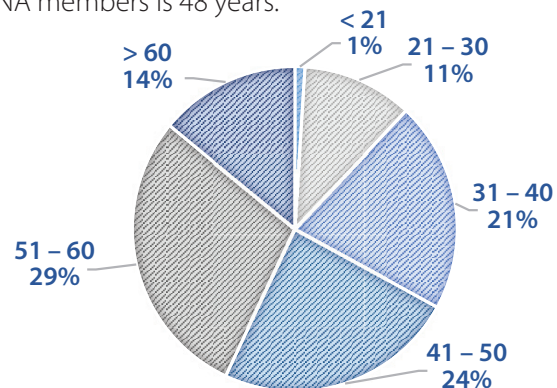
NA is composed of people who come from many races, cultures, age groups, professions, and backgrounds. The only requirement to become an NA member is the desire to stop using drugs. The decision to become a member in the NA Fellowship rests with the individual.

There are no annual dues or fees for membership: We are self-supporting through member contributions and the sales of recovery literature.

NA is a community-based organization that holds nearly 67,000 weekly meetings in 139 countries.\*

### Age

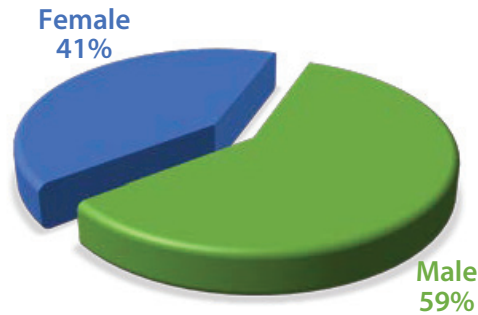
Based on survey responses, the average age of NA members is 48 years.



\* As of April 2016

### Gender

The gender composite changed from 2013. In that survey, 43% were female and 57% were male.



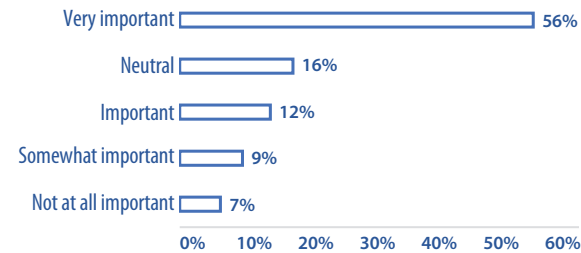
### Ethnicity

The ethnic diversity of our membership, at times, seems to be correlated with geographic location; the 2015 survey was made available at WCNA in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in our international journal *The NA Way Magazine*, and on our website. When we conducted this survey in 2015:

- 74% of respondents were Caucasian;
- 11% were African-American;
- 6% were Hispanic;
- 4% identified as multiracial;
- 3% were Asian;
- 1% was Indigenous, and
- 1% identified as other.

This survey isn't reflective of geographic location; approximately 87% of survey returns were completed online or via mail/fax. In a sense ethnicity was determined by those who did not attend WCNA. This survey did see a slight increase with Asians and members who identified as multiracial.

### Importance of First NA Meeting

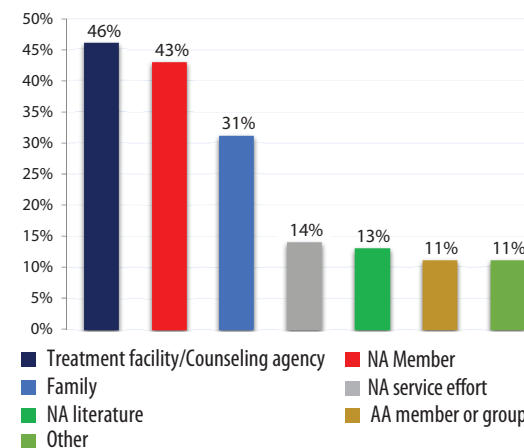


### Influence to Attend First NA Meeting

The 2015 survey indicates that members perceive their first NA meeting as very important. We also asked respondents about their influence to stay in NA and 85% reported identification as a key component. Since NA meetings vary, both in members attending and meeting formats, we encourage people to try different meetings to find that vital identification.

In the graph below, the number one influence to attend NA meetings was a treatment facility or counseling agency. Many members are introduced to NA while participating in treatment and/or counseling. The Informational Pamphlet #29, *An Introduction to NA Meetings*, which explains practices that may be unfamiliar to those at their first meeting or early in recovery could be helpful to persons in early recovery.

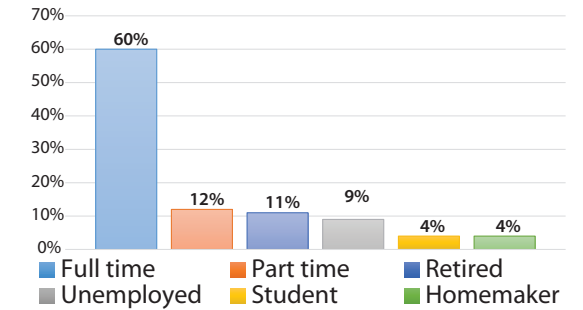
Multiple answers were permitted; only the top seven choices are shown.



### Meeting Attendance

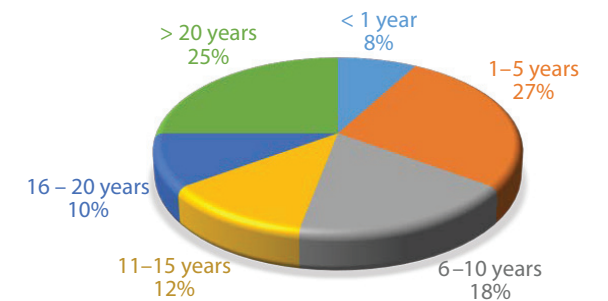
Regular attendance at NA meetings provides the opportunity to experience the NA message of recovery. Members surveyed attend an average of 3.23 meetings per week.

### Employment Status



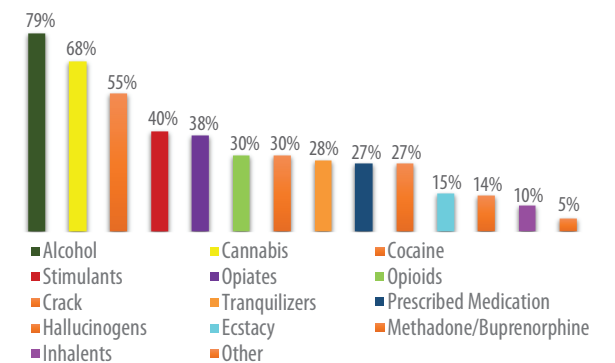
### Years Drug-Free

Based on survey responses, the average length of cleantime in NA is 8.32 years.

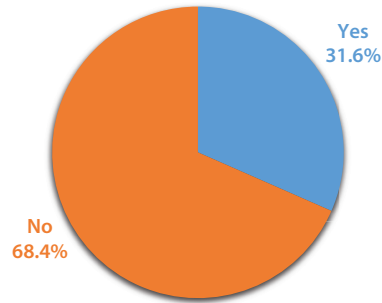


### Drugs Used on a Regular Basis

Multiple answers were allowed.

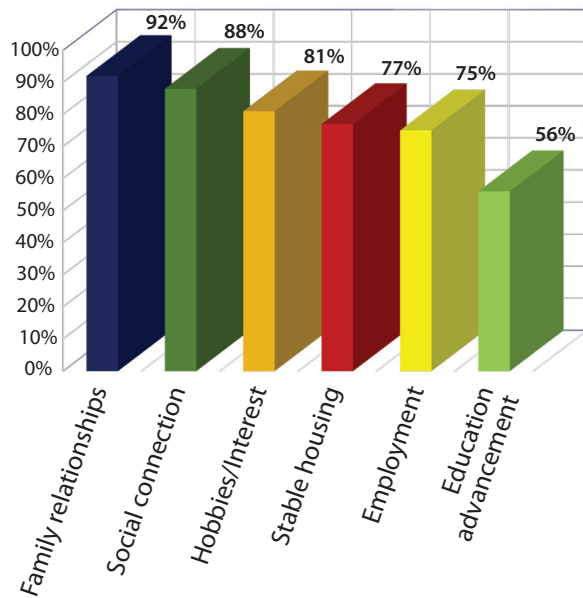


## Attending Other Twelve-Step Fellowships



## Quality-of-Life Improvement Areas

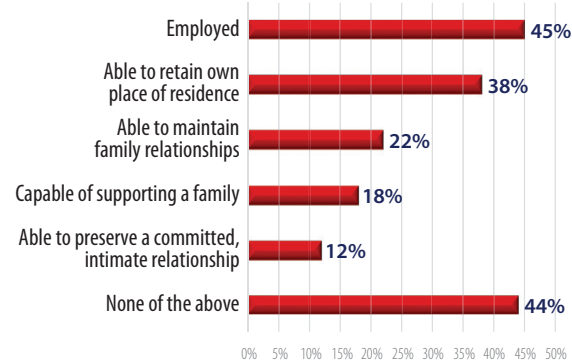
Multiple answers were allowed.



In 2015 the two areas that received overwhelming improvement with NA attendance were family relationships, where 92% of our members stated enrichment, and social connection, which was realized by 88% of the respondents. NA literature states that active addiction is marked by increased isolation and destruction of relationships. Recovery in NA has helped survey respondents to repair the damage in their lives from drug addiction.

## Areas of Life Affected by Drug Use

Multiple answers were allowed.



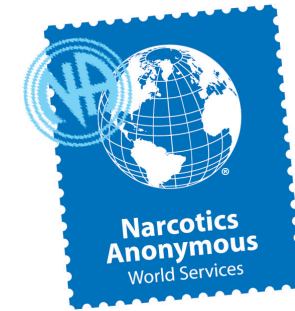
For several years, professionals and members alike wondered whether addicts were able to maintain employment, familial relationships, and housing while using drugs. In the 2015 Membership Survey, the question was posed to the members: 44% of the respondents indicated that all areas of their lives were affected by drug use, and 45 percent stated that they were able to maintain employment. Areas most notably affected by drug use were commitment to intimate relationships and providing for a family.

## About NA

Narcotics Anonymous is a worldwide fellowship of recovering addicts whose primary purpose is to help addicts stop using drugs by utilizing a twelve-step approach. NA is not a religious organization and does not require any particular belief system. It teaches basic spiritual principles such as honesty, open-mindedness, and willingness, to name a few. The specific practical application of these principles is determined by the individual member.

NA members learn from one another how to live drug-free and recover from the effects of addiction. Although not associated with any religion, political group, organization, or institution, NA cooperates with professionals and the public by providing information about the fellowship.

In many communities, Narcotics Anonymous is listed in the white pages of the telephone directory. Another way to obtain local meeting information is by accessing the "NA Meeting Search" link at [www.na.org](http://www.na.org). Questions about NA meetings in other countries or general information about the fellowship can be obtained by contacting NA World Services.



## Membership Survey



Copyright © 2006 – 2016 by  
Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.  
All Rights Reserved

**NA World Services, Inc.**  
PO Box 9999  
Van Nuys, CA 91409-9099 USA  
Tel: +1/818.773.9999 Fax: +1/818.700.0700  
Website: [www.na.org](http://www.na.org)  
Item No. ZPR001001

**Narcotics Anonymous World Services, Inc.**  
PO Box 9999 – Van Nuys, CA 91409 USA  
Tel. +1/818.773.9999 Fax +1/818. 700.0700 Website: [www.na.org](http://www.na.org)

<b>World Service Office—EUROPE</b> B-1050 Brussels, Belgium Tel. +32/2/646-6012	<b>World Service Office—CANADA</b> Mississauga, Ontario Tel. +1 905.507.0100	<b>World Service Office—IRAN</b> Tehran, Iran <a href="http://www.na-iran.org">www.na-iran.org</a>
---	--	--