

# **Narcotics Anonymous**

**A Vital Community Resource**

# Who are we?

Narcotics Anonymous is a nonprofit, international, community-based organization for recovering addicts, which is active in over 139 countries. Narcotics Anonymous (NA) members learn from one another how to live drug-free and recover from the effects of addiction in their lives. If you have considered recommending Narcotics Anonymous to someone who has a drug problem, you may have a few questions about our organization. This presentation is designed to answer those questions.

# Origin of our name - Why “Narcotics?”

- ▶ Commonly used for all illegal substances at the time of our inception in 1953
- ▶ Anyone who wants to stop using drugs may become a member of Narcotics Anonymous. Membership is not limited to addicts using any particular drug. Those who feel they may have a problem with drugs, legal or illegal, including alcohol, are welcome in NA. Recovery in NA focuses on the problem of addiction, not on any particular drug

# What does NA provide?

- ▶ Meetings. There are almost 200 meetings in New Mexico and El Paso. Just walk in. Anonymously.
- ▶ Hot lines 24/7 both statewide and local. You can find meeting information or talk peer-to-peer with another addict in recovery. Also phone meetings.
- ▶ Riograndena.org is our website with detailed information.
- ▶ We take meetings into recovery houses, jails, and prisons.
- ▶ Literature. NA basic texts and other recovery books are for sale at cost. Information pamphlets are free.

# NA Meetings

NA's primary approach to recovery is its belief in the therapeutic value of one addict helping another. Peer-to-peer. Members take part in NA meetings by talking about their experiences and recovery from drug addiction. Experienced members support newer members. NA meetings are informally structured, held in a space rented by the group, and are led by members who take turns opening and closing the meeting.

# No Charge

NA meetings and other services are funded entirely by member contributions and the sale of recovery literature. Financial contributions from non-members are not accepted.

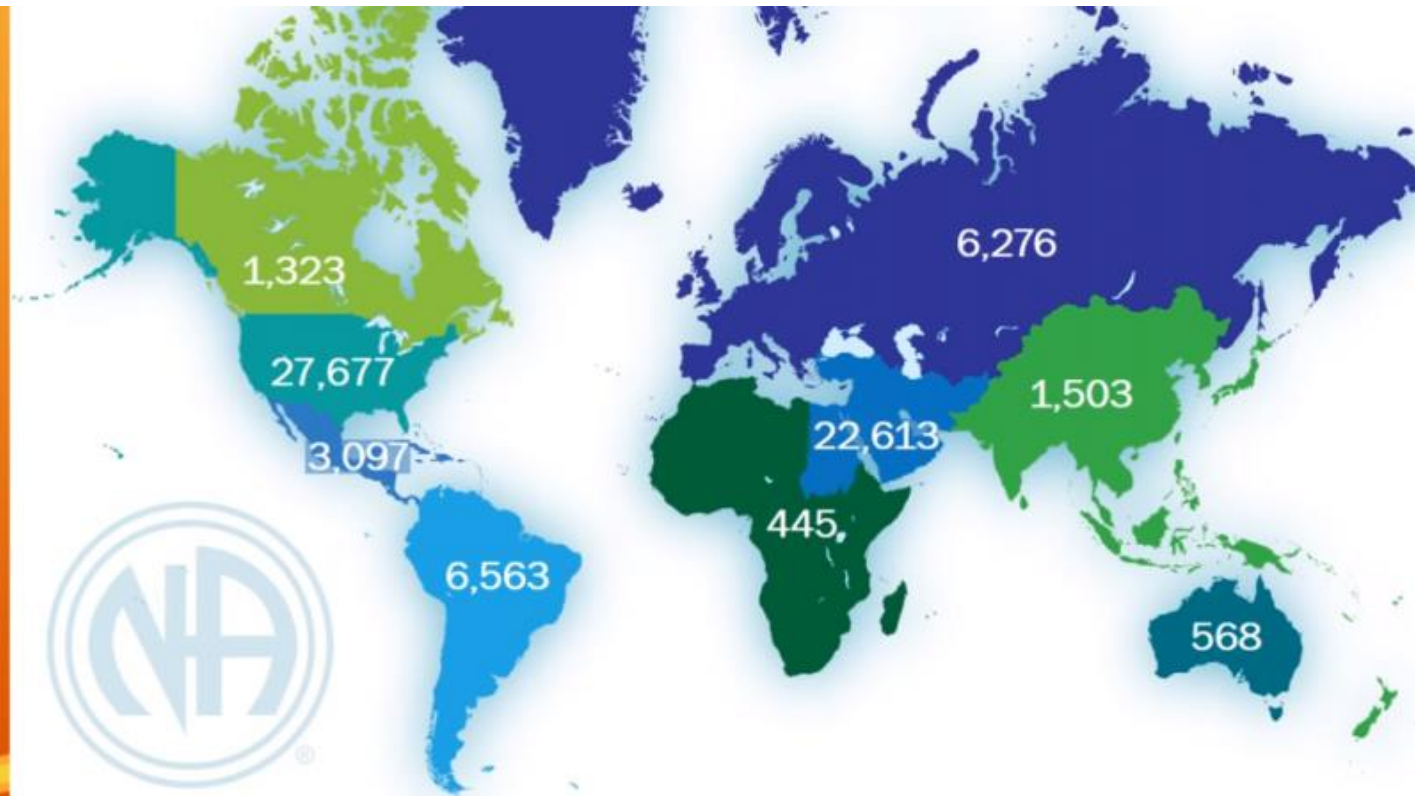
# Does it work?

We started in 1953. Our success is measured by our rate of growth.  
As of 2018 we now provide:

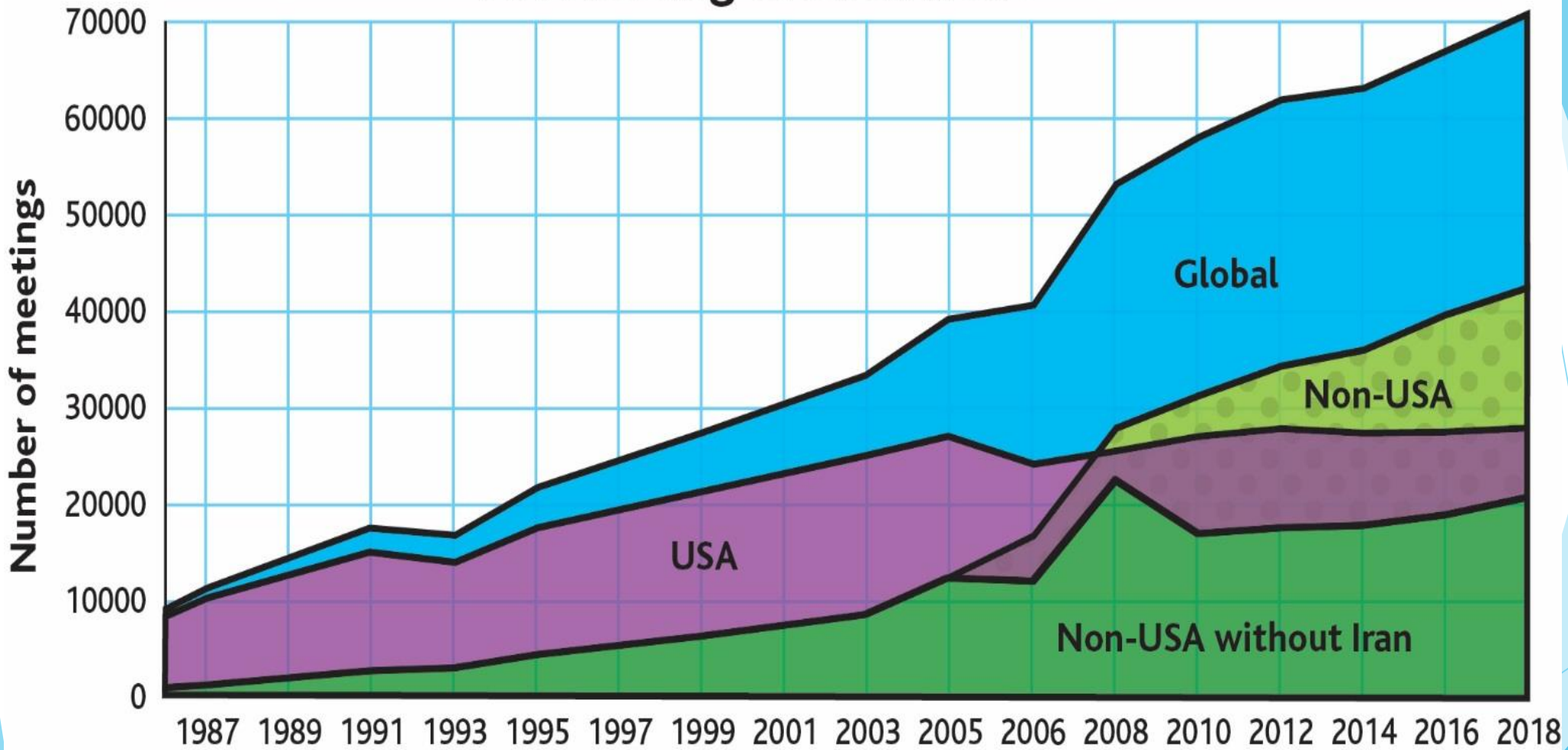
Meetings:  
70,065

Literature  
in 55  
languages

Basic Text  
in 30  
languages



# NA Meeting Growth Trend

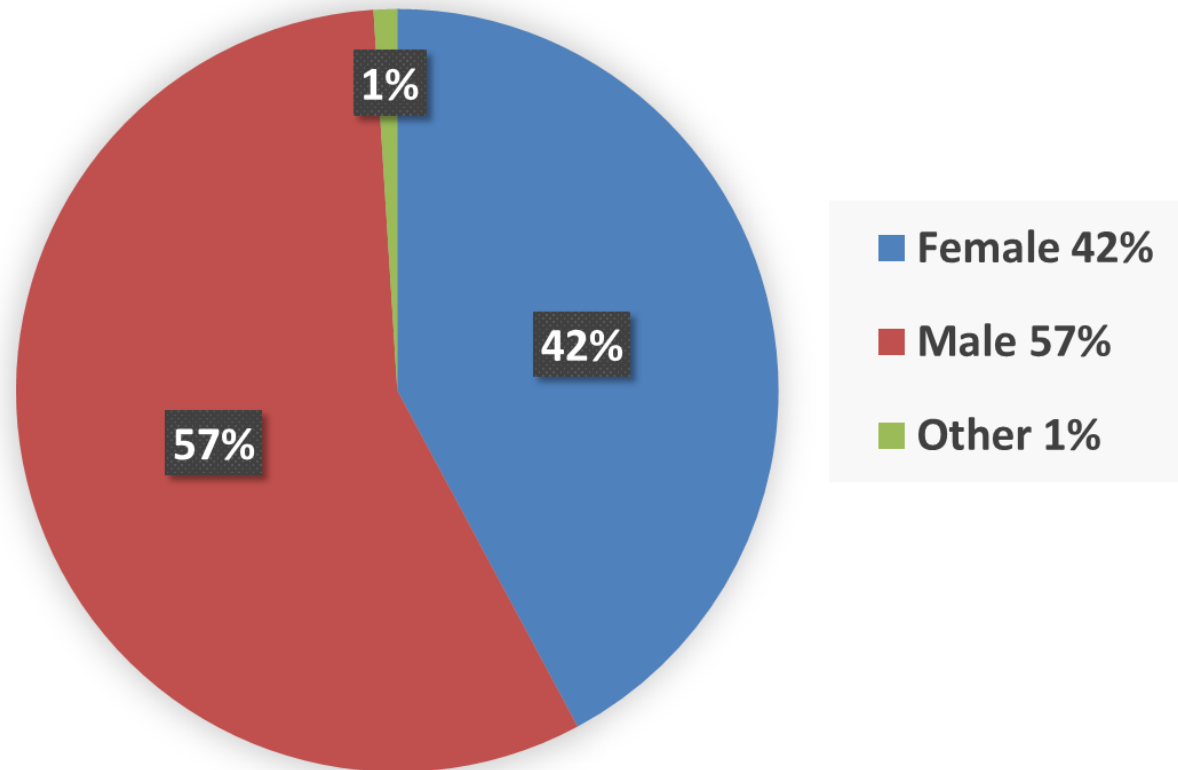




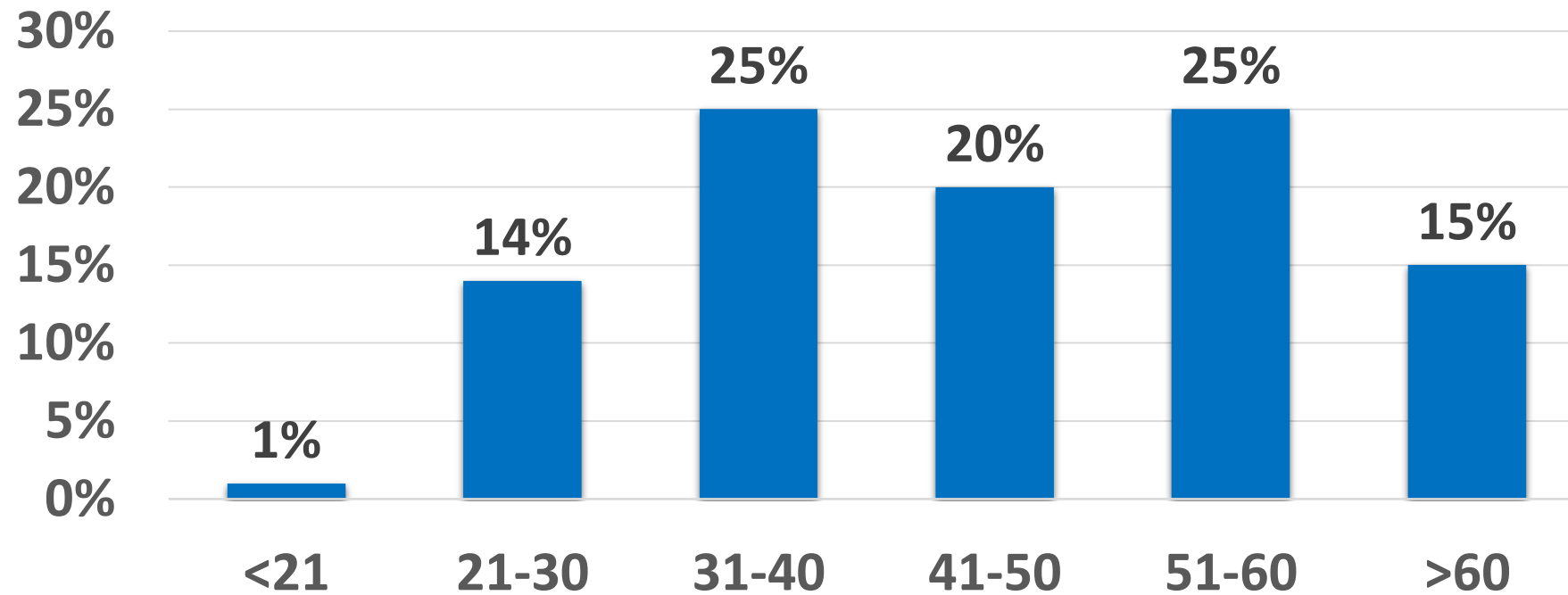
# 2018 Membership Survey

- ◆ Carried out biennially since 1996 – totally voluntary
- ◆ 55% rated first NA meeting Important or Very Important
- ◆ Top three influences to attend first NA meeting:
  1. Another NA member
  2. Treatment / counseling agency
  3. Family
- ◆ Members surveyed averaged 2.19 meetings per week

# Gender

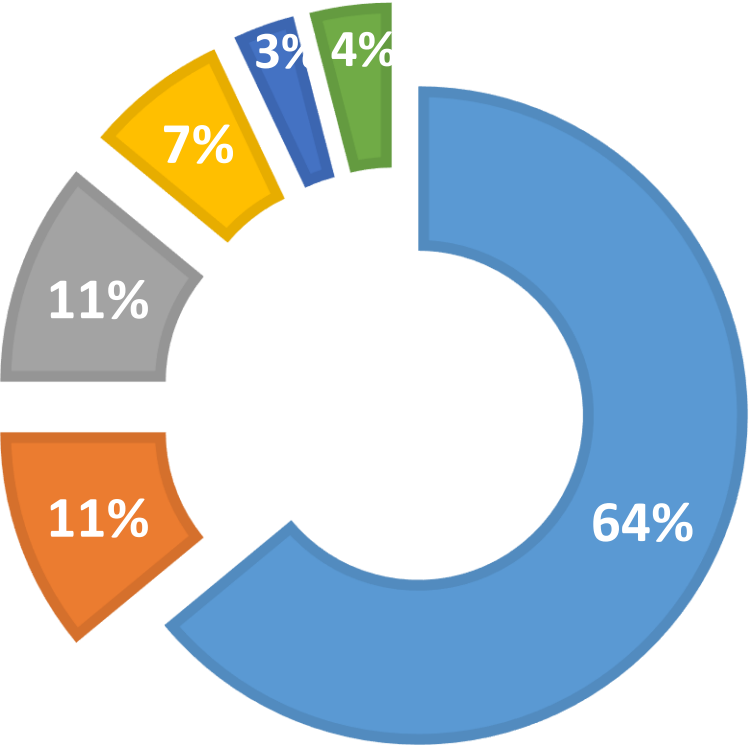


# Age



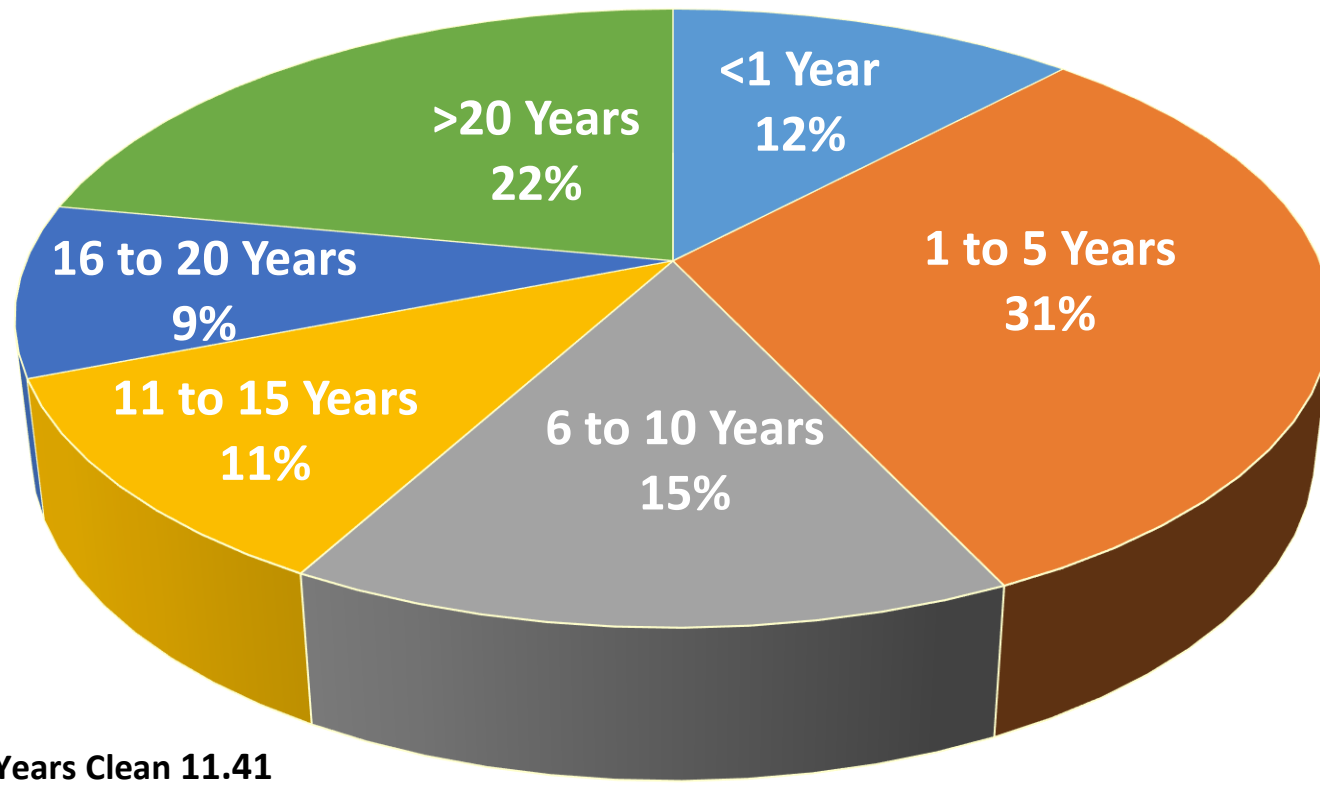
Average Age 45.5

# Employment Status



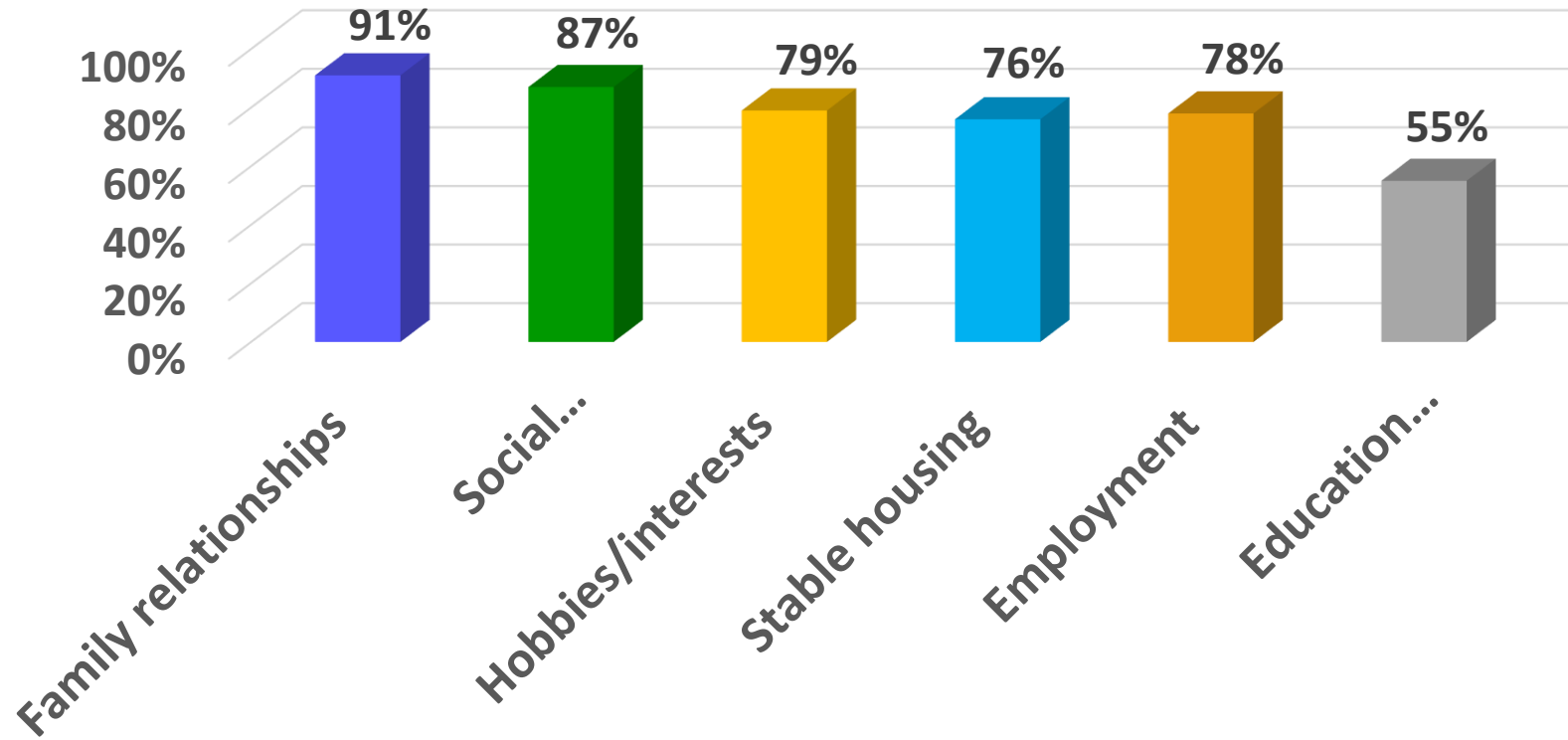
- Full-Time
- Part-Time
- Retired
- Unemployed
- Homemaker
- Student

# Years Drug-Free



**Average Years Clean 11.41**

# Areas of Improvement



# NA Cooperates with Professionals

- ◆ Welcoming your clients to meetings
- ◆ Presentations to professionals and clients
- ◆ Printed material, audio-visual, helplines, websites
- ◆ Subscription to NA newsletters and literature useful for client introduction to NA
- ◆ There is no charge or fee to attend NA recovery meetings or for NA presentations

# Benefits to...

## ▶ The Client:

- ◆ Assists with transition back into the community
- ◆ Can support clients while in treatment and correctional facilities
- ◆ Provides a peer-based support network
- ◆ Drug-free role model reinforcement

## ▶ The Professional:

- ◆ Research indicates: improves program retention
- ◆ Immediate access to aftercare support



# Our Message

Our message is that an addict, any addict, can stop using, lose the desire to use, and find a new way of life.

# One of Several Options

NA is one of several options available. We don't make any claims, we simply wish to be considered as one of the possible resources in the war against addiction.

# Resources and contacts

## ▶ World Services

- ▶ 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)

## ▶ Local Services -

- ▶ Rio Grande Region of Narcotics Anonymous - [Riograndena.org](http://Riograndena.org)
- ▶ Public Relations  
P.O. Box 90207  
Albuquerque, NM 87109
- ▶ Hot line : (800) 925-4186
- ▶ Rio Grande NA PR coordinator  
Tom Kondo  
(408) 857-3438  
[tom@tomkondo.com](mailto:tom@tomkondo.com)

# NA Literature

