

World Service Conference

In 2023, the World Service Conference held its first truly hybrid WSC! While many of us were able to gather in person, almost 40 participants joined us virtually, and the Fellowship at large was able to listen live as well. Thanks to our staff and co-facilitators, the process was mostly smooth and very effective.

Remarkably in a year of scarce resources, the *Conference Agenda Report (CAR)* posted early, with video and PowerPoint summaries available online to help members understand and vote their conscience on the issues. The *CAR*, the Conference Approval Track (CAT), *Conference Report*, and supplemental materials were also made available virtually. The conference participant portal, electronic polling, and regular conference participant webinars improved communication and reduced costs. We are very grateful that 46 communities fully or partially funded their participation. The technology required for a hybrid WSC is expensive, and all the costs to hold the conference—travel, meeting space, A/V, and other services—have risen dramatically in recent years, more than offsetting any savings from self-funding and non-travelling participants. The conference determined that, in the future, all regions ought to self-fund if they are able; funding will be available upon request, but the conference is seeking sustainability in part by returning the responsibility of funding delegates to their regions and zones.

The shutdown has afforded us an opportunity to move forward with ideas and plans that have seemed for many years too bold or too difficult for us to try. In this cycle, the conference is innovating in our practices and in our thinking, voting to

- try a three-year cycle with a mid-cycle virtual meeting, until 2029.
- reboot its strategic planning initiatives, moving toward a more collaborative and coherent decision-making process.
- the *Fellowship Intellectual Property Trust* was revised for the first time. Zonal delegates are now recognized in the *FIPT* as decision makers, and the definition of recovery literature has been clarified. The *FIPT* Operational Rules and Use Policy were also revised.

Also at the conference, NAWS Executive Director Anthony Edmondson announced his retirement at the end of his contract in 2025. We are grateful for all Anthony has done for Narcotics Anonymous over the last four decades. Anthony has been a wise and selfless leader, and has set an example of ethical, forthright, and caring service. Without his clear-eyed, careful planning, we might not have made it through this challenging time. Over the course of this conference cycle, we look forward to Anthony leading us through World Convention of NA (WCNA) 38 in Washington, DC—and a smooth and well-crafted transition to our next phase in Narcotics Anonymous World Services.

(continued next page)

Distribution data in charts and graphs for the 2023 fiscal year (FY 2023)

Context is important when considering the following data. Production is back on the upswing, but it is coming back from the abnormally low numbers that were consequent to the pandemic shutdown. So, even though the numbers are once again moving in the right direction, the disruption still bears on the figures and stymies the kind of trendline analysis we are accustomed to. It will take a few years before this new growth develops into a steady, predictable pattern once more.

Book Distribution since 1983

Book (pub date)	Total distributed	% of total	Average per year
Basic Text (1983)	13,003,551	51.5%	325,089
<i>Just for Today</i> (1991)	3,657,253	14.5%	114,289
<i>Step Working Guides</i> (1998)	3,577,989	14.2%	143,120
<i>It Works: How & Why</i> (1993)	3,179,370	12.6%	105,979
<i>Living Clean</i> (2012)	1,044,695	4.1%	94,972
<i>Sponsorship</i> (2004)	323,014	1.3%	17,001
<i>Guiding Principles</i> (2016)	292,293	1.2%	41,756
<i>Miracles Happen</i> (1998)	115,772	.5%	4,631
<i>A Spiritual Principle a Day</i> (2022)	78,095	.3%	78,095
	25,272,032	100%	924,932



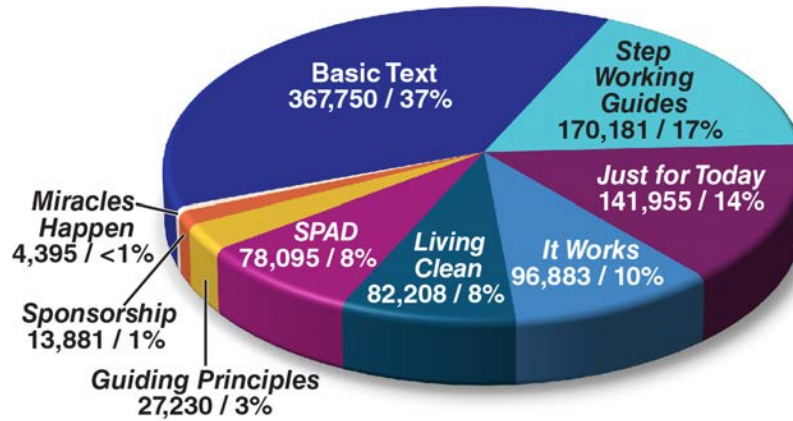
The Basic Text still accounts for the “lion’s share” of our book distribution.

The increased cost of A/V and IT services impacted both the WSC and planning for WCNA 38. We are excited to be holding a world convention for the first time since 2018, but are confronting increased expenses of everything about the event. Now more than ever, WCNA would be impossible without your service. Please register and volunteer! www.na.org/wcna

FY 2022–23 was proof to us that Narcotics Anonymous can weather any storm. While we continue the process of healing and renewal, we can look back on this experience with relief and awe. In Step Twelve, *It Works How and Why* tells us, “Our empathy isn’t abstract, nor is our understanding. Instead, it is born in shared experience. We greet each other with the recognition reserved for survivors of the same nearly fatal catastrophe. This shared experience, more than anything else, contributes to the atmosphere of unconditional love in our meetings.” We are grateful—and we know that the indomitable faith and commitment that has brought us to this point will lead us forward into brighter days ahead.

In gratitude,
Your World Board

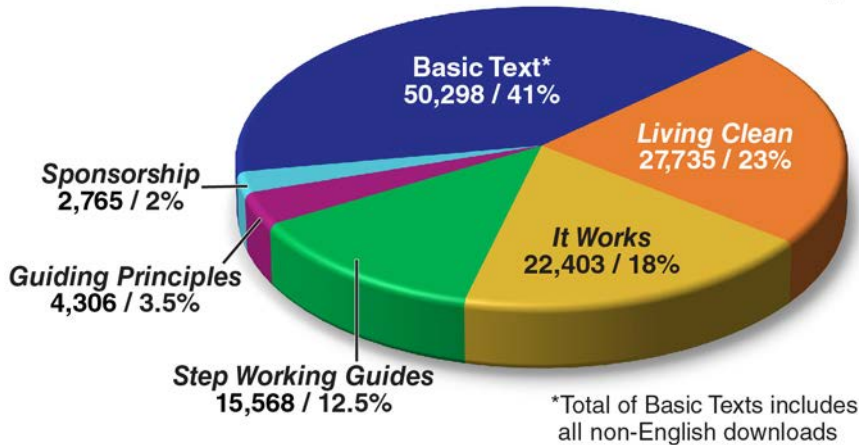
FY 2023 Book Distribution



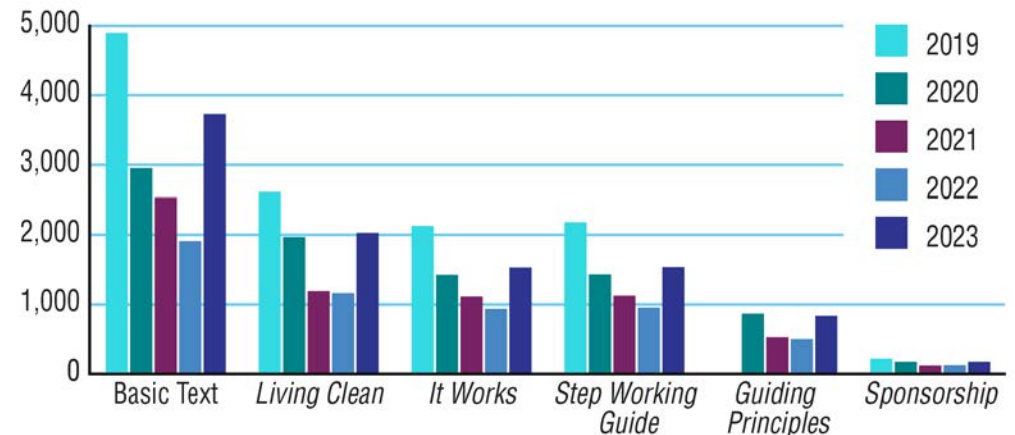
Basic Text Distributed by Language FY 2023



Electronic Book Sales Totals (2012–2023)



Electronic Book Sales 2019–2023

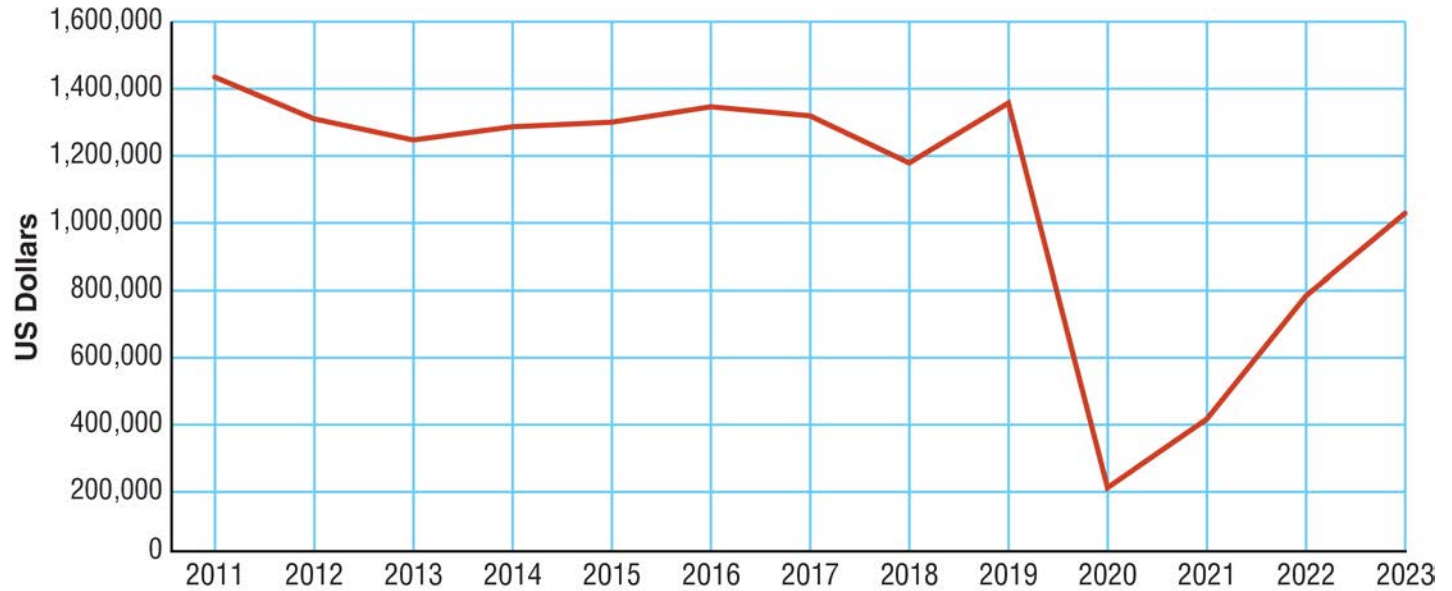


Although NA World Services has posted free electronic versions of IPs and booklets at www.na.org/ips since 2005, many NA members first became aware of this service in 2020, when in-person meetings around the world closed down. Translated IPs, booklets, and audio versions of the Basic Text are added as they become available.

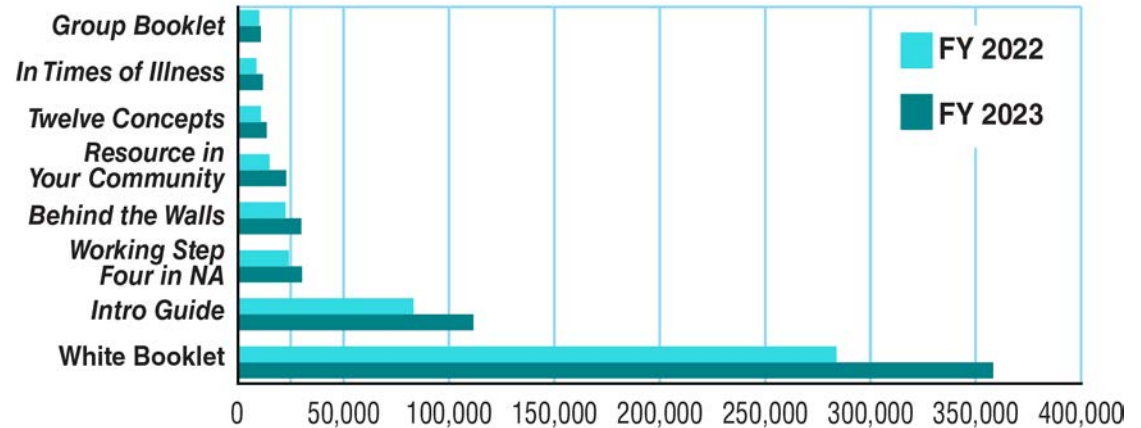
This tilt toward accessing NA literature in these free online formats has been transformative in how the NA message is carried. But it has had an effect on literature sales.

Fortunately, Fellowship contributions have offset that income loss. It is our hope that the mission-driven decision to provide free access to IPs and booklets will continue to be supported by the Fellowship.

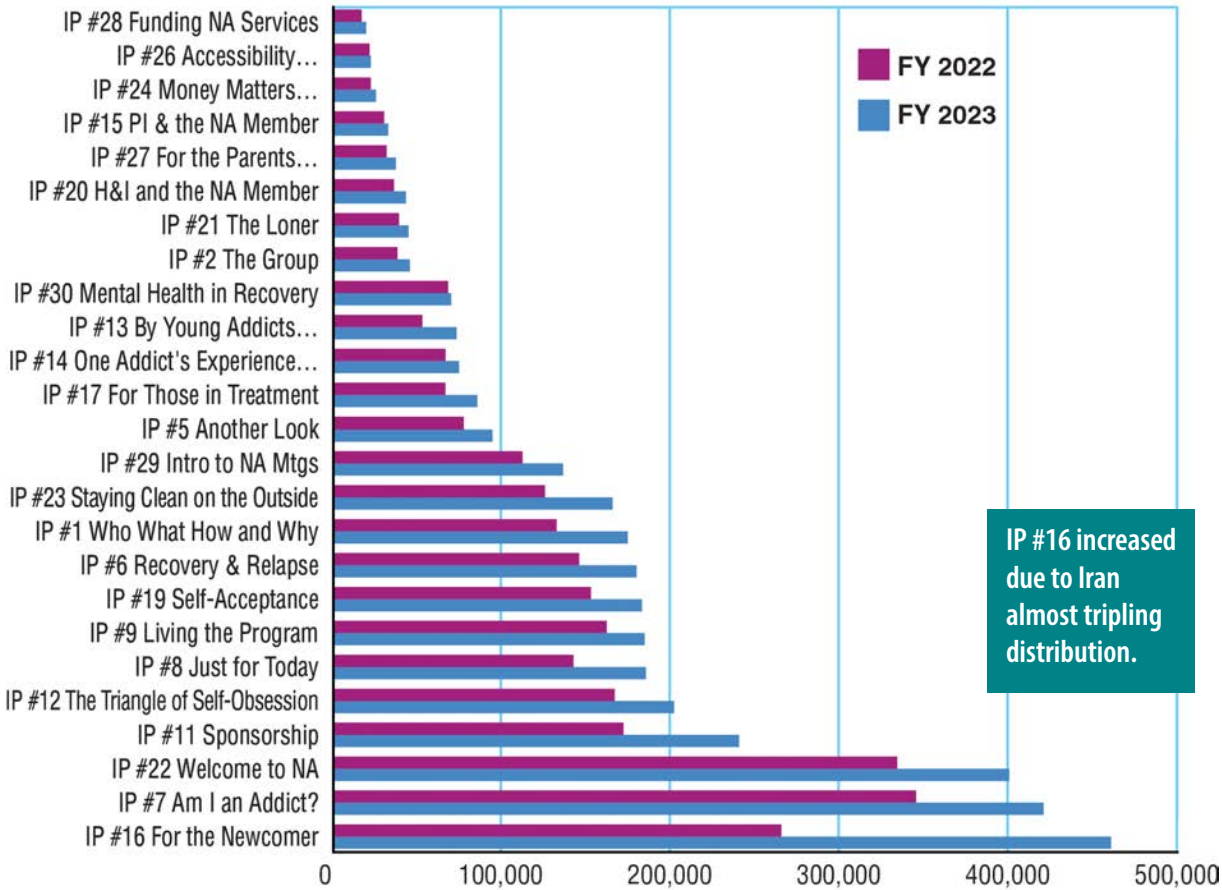
Income from Other Recovery Literature (IPs and Booklets)



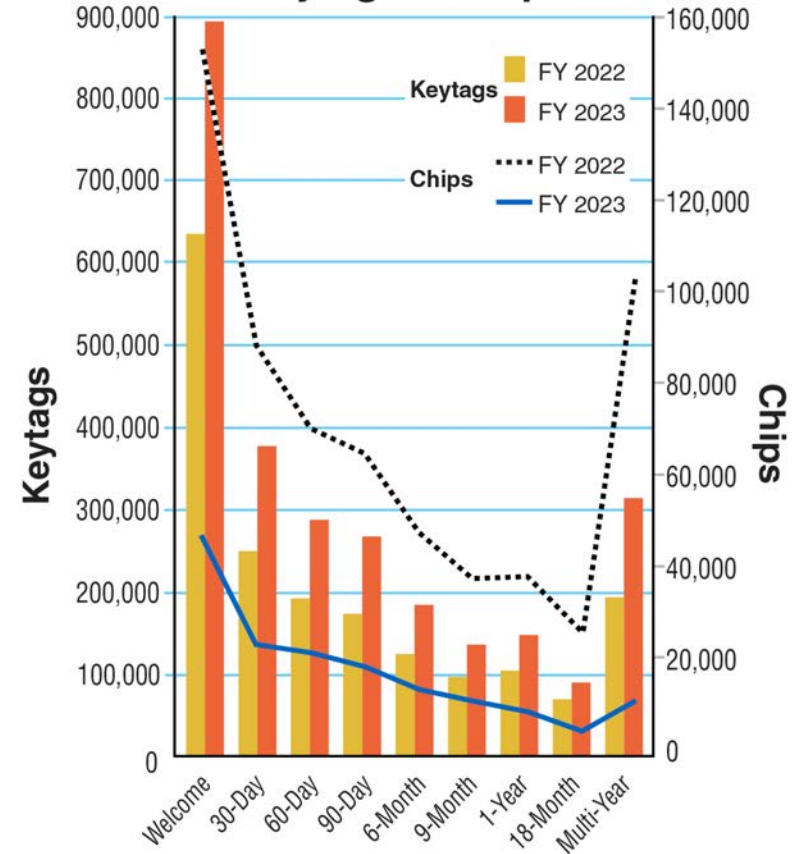
Printed Booklets Distributed in FY 2023



Informational Pamphlets Distributed in Print FY 2023



Keytags & Chips



The large decrease in chip distribution is due to Iran switching back to keytags from chips after supply chain issues were resolved. Keytags are returning to pre-pandemic distribution.

Medallion Distribution

