How many records does PRC pull in the random sample to complete the week's target number of interviews?

Once PRC receives a client's file and performs the necessary quality checks, we pull a random sample large enough to complete that week's needed interviews (in accordance with the sample plan). In order to obtain the correct number of completed interviews, PRC pulls a sample larger than the week's targets because we need to factor in disconnected phone numbers, reaching answering machines, refusals, etc. The most difficult part of our work is getting patients on the phone; once we have them on the phone, 85-90% of them will complete the interview with us.

The guidelines for how many records we pull vary based on the type of unit (i.e. Is this a high volume unit or a low volume unit?), as well as past experience interviewing (i.e. Is this population, NICU or Behavioral Health for example, hard to reach?). For new clients, PRC assumes we will be able to complete one interview for every four records we pull for the sample. If the week's target is eight completed interviews, for example, we would pull a random sample of 32 records.



