



American Drug Testing

Drug-Free Workplace Programs

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DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE ADVISOR

AN ONGOING SERIES TO PROTECT YOUR COMPANY BY HELPING TO KEEP DRUGS OUT OF YOUR WORKPLACE.

Is Your Industry Filled With Drug & Alcohol Abusers?

A new report from SAMHSA demonstrates that worker substance use is a serious problem, with an estimated 9.4 million full-time workers age 18 to 64 (8.2 percent) reporting illicit drug use in the past month. Among full-time workers using these substances, 3.0 million met criteria for illicit drug dependence or abuse. And 10.6 million were dependent on or abused alcohol.

The prevalence of past-month illicit drug use among full-time workers age 18 to 64 was estimated to be 8.2 percent and was highest among workers age 18 to 25 (19.0 percent). Food service workers (17.4 percent) and construction workers (15.1 percent) had higher prevalence of past-month illicit drug use than other occupational groups. The prevalence of past-year alcohol dependence was highest among those age 18 to 25 (18.4 percent) compared with

those age 26 to 34 (12.3 percent), 35 to 49 (7.8 percent), and 50 to 64 (4.0 percent). The

work to educational information about drug and alcohol use, 58.4 percent reported ac-

ported that their employers conducted testing for drug use. Multivariate analysis suggests that illicit drug users are less likely to work for employers who conduct drug testing.

Past-Month Illicit Drug Use among Full-Time Workers Age 18 to 64, by Major Occupational Categories: 2002-2004 Combined



Absenteeism

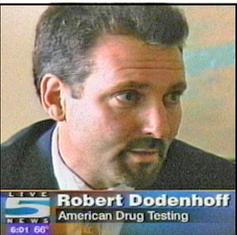
Workers who abuse substances also face additional issues. Illicit drug use and heavy alcohol use are associated with higher levels of absenteeism and frequent job changes, the report says.

For example, nearly twice as many current illicit drug users skipped one or more days of work in the past month compared with workers who did not abuse drugs. Drug users also were far more likely to report missing 2 or more days of work in the past month due to illness or injury compared with workers who did not abuse drugs. Source: SAMSHA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration)

For additional tips, see the "client area" at www.AmericanDrugTesting.net or call 843-747-4111.

The Drug-Free Workplace Advisor

is published by American Drug Testing, a leading drug-free workplace administrator and testing company. Let us help you maintain a drug-free workplace. Call (843) 747-4111.



Robert Dodenhoff, President
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report says that construction workers had the highest prevalence of past-month heavy alcohol use (17.8 percent), followed by workers in installation, maintenance, and repair (14.7 percent).

Drug Testing and Education

According to the report, about 43.8 percent of full-time workers reported having access at

cess to an employee assistance program, and 78.7 percent reported that their workplace had a policy about drug and alcohol use. In general, people who reported past-month illicit drug use were less likely to work for employers that provided these programs. In addition, drug testing programs were fairly prevalent. A total of 48.8 percent of full-time workers re-

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