

A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

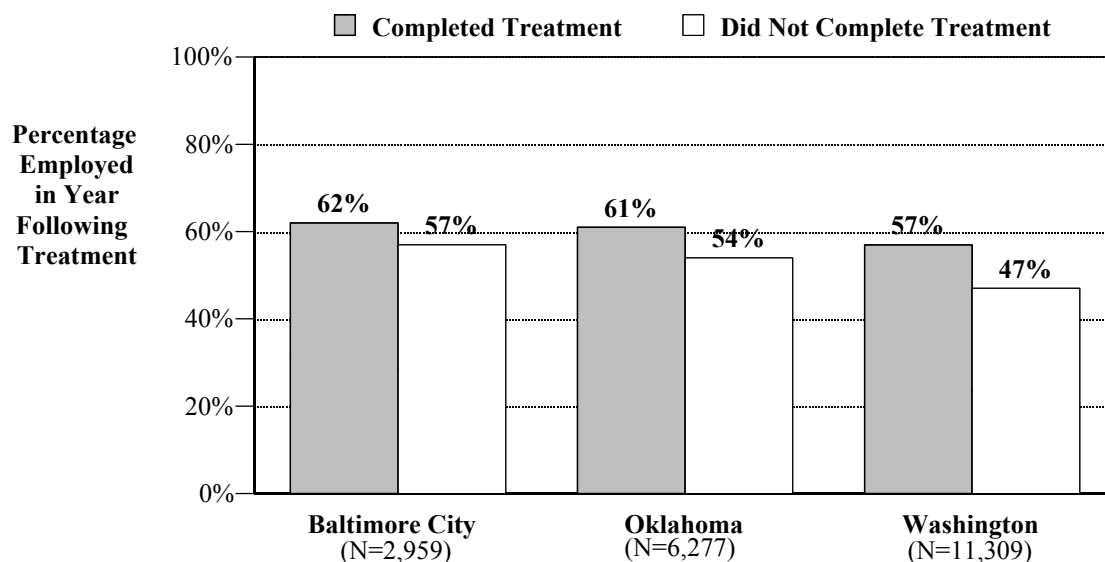
University of Maryland, College Park

Drug Users Who Complete Drug Treatment More Likely to Be Subsequently Employed

Drug users who completed publicly-funded substance abuse treatment were more likely than non-completers to be employed in the year following treatment, according to a study of substance abuse treatment admissions in Baltimore City, Oklahoma, and Washington state. For example, 62% of clients in Baltimore City who completed treatment were employed in the year after treatment, compared to 57% of those who did not complete treatment (see figure). The study also found that even if treatment was not completed, staying in treatment longer than 90 days was also related to being employed in the year following treatment, independent of treatment completion (data not shown). The authors note that “the strength of these findings lies not only in the magnitude and significance of the estimates, but also in the replication of these results across three states with different demographic distributions, drug use patterns, service delivery systems, and labor market characteristics” (p. 16).

Percentage of Drug Users Employed in the Year Following Treatment, by Treatment Completion

(FY 1997-Oklahoma and Washington; FY 1998-Baltimore City)



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from The TOPPS-II Interstate Cooperative Study Group, “Drug Treatment Completion and Post-Discharge Employment in the TOPPS-II Interstate Cooperative Study,” *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment* 25:9-18, 2003. For more information, contact Dr. Amelia Arria. at aarria@cesar.umd.edu.

• 301-405-9770 (voice) • 301-403-8342 (fax) • CESAR@cesar.umd.edu • www.cesar.umd.edu •

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