

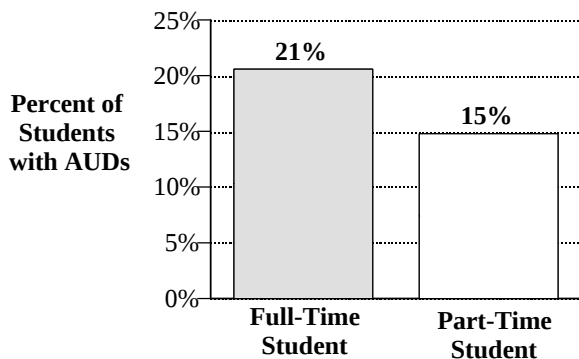
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

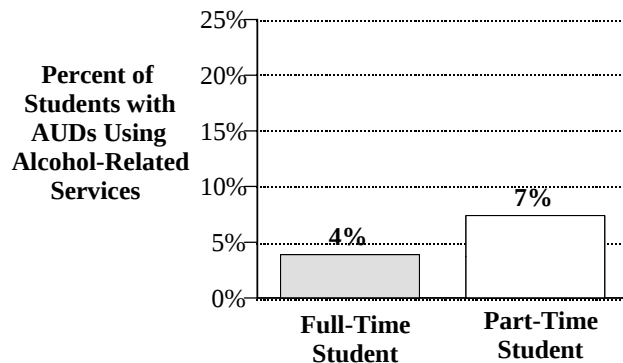
Few College Students with Alcohol Use Disorders Utilize Alcohol-Related Treatment Services

Few college students with alcohol use disorders (AUDs) utilize alcohol treatment services, according to an analysis of data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. One-fifth (21%) of full-time and 15% of part-time college students met the criteria for either alcohol abuse or dependence in the past year. However, relatively few college students with AUDs reported that they had used alcohol-related treatment or counseling services in the past year (see figure below). One reason for not receiving treatment may be a lack of perceived need for services—only 2% of full-time and less than 1% of part-time college students who had an AUD but who did not receive any alcohol services in the past year reported that they felt they needed alcohol-related services during this period (data not shown). Other reasons cited by the students included financial barriers and that they did not know where to get treatment. The authors suggest that “increased availability of and access to community- and college-based alcohol-screening programs may be an effective way to identify individuals with harmful alcohol use behaviors, to offer alcohol-related education, and to refer them to appropriate treatment service programs” (p. 199).

While 15% to 21% of College Students Met the Criteria for Alcohol Use Disorders . . .



Fewer Than 10% of Students with AUDs Utilized Alcohol-Related Treatment and Counseling Services



NOTE: Data are from a sample of 11,337 college-age young adults (ages 18 to 22) who participated in the 2002 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Wu, L.-T., Pilowsky, D.J., Schlenger, W.E., and Hasin, D. “Alcohol Use Disorders and the Use of Treatment Services Among College-Age Young Adults,” *Psychiatric Services* 58(2):192-200, 2007.

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The Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention funded this project under grant BJAG 2005-1206. All points of view in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position of any State agency.