

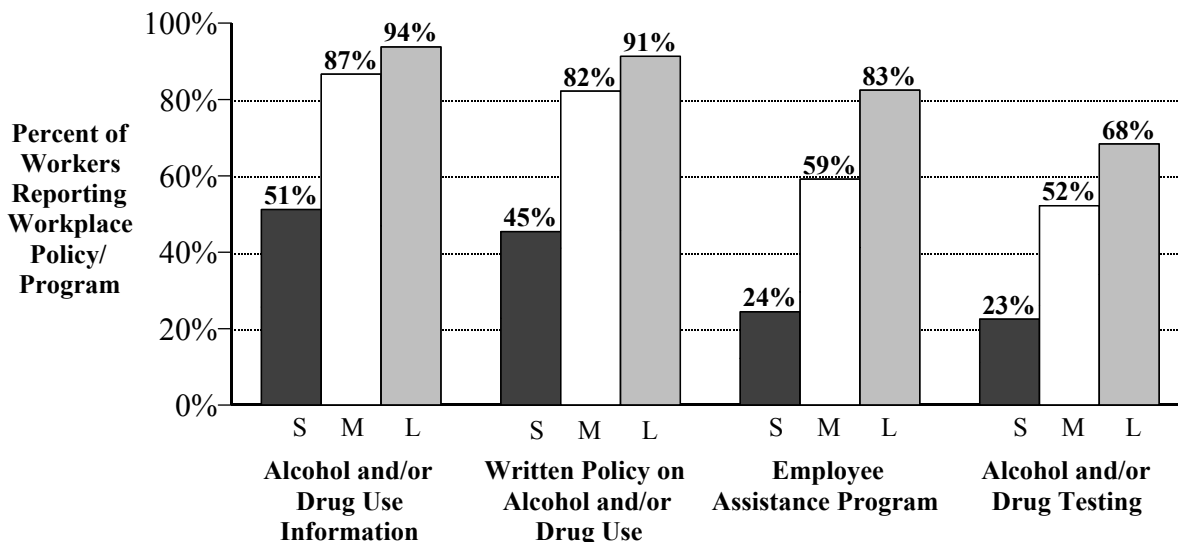
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Small Workplaces Less Likely to Have Drug Use Policies and Programs; Help is Available

According to a report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), small workplaces are less likely than large workplaces to provide programs to prevent and treat employee drug use. About one-half of workers employed in small establishments (1-24 employees) reported that their employer offered information (51%) or a written policy (45%) on alcohol and/or drug use, compared to more than 80% of workers from medium (25-499 employees) and large (500 or more employees) workplaces. Employees of small establishments were also less likely to report the availability of workplace employee assistance or drug testing programs (see figure below). To assist employers in establishing alcohol and drug use policies and programs without incurring large costs, SAMHSA offers a free consulting service in policy development, supervisory training, employee education, employee assistance programs, and drug testing. For more information, contact SAMHSA's workplace helpline at 1-800-WORKPLACE or HELPLINE@SAMHSA.GOV.

Percentage of Full-Time Workers (Ages 18-49) Reporting That Their Workplace Provides Alcohol and Drug Policies and Programs, by Workplace Size,* 1994



*S=small workplaces (<25 employees); M=medium workplaces (25-499 employees); L=large workplaces (≥500 employees)

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies, "An Analysis of Worker Drug Use and Workplace Policies and Programs," Analytic Series: A-2, July 1997.

• 301-403-8329 (voice) • 301-403-8342 (fax) • CESAR@cesar.umd.edu • www.cesar.umd.edu •
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