The Survey

- •Random Survey of 300 employers in New Jersey
- Includes oversample of large companies (100+ employees)
- •Sampling error of +/- 5%
- •Up to 8 call-backs used
- •Reached owners (17%), human resource managers (42%), office managers (20%) and others with knowledge of drug testing programs
- •About 20% unionized (45% of larger companies)





What are companies worried about? - Overall





The Partnership For a Drug-Free New Jersey

What are companies worried about? – Large Businesses







What are companies worried about? – Medium-Sized Businesses







What are companies worried about? – Small Businesses







What are companies worried about? - All







What are companies worried about? – Food and Related







What are companies worried about? – Sales







What are companies worried about? – Production







What are companies worried about? – Healthcare







What are companies worried about?

•Drug and Alcohol abuse is second most important concern (70%), behind "worker safety" (82%)

•Larger companies more worried about drug and alcohol abuse and worker safety

- •Food service companies much more worried about smoking and workers' mental health
- •Sales companies less worried about smoking, drug and alcohol abuse
- •Production companies much less worried about smoking, mental health
- •Healthcare companies are the most worried about physical fitness





Drugs are a problem...







...But not in my company







Prescription Drug and Alcohol abuse also a problem...







...But still not here







Information sources for establishing a drug-free program

•75% of New Jersey businesses currently have a drug-free workplace program

•93% of large businesses – but only 60% of small businesses

•Most adopted it because they were required to, by law or contract (30%), or in order to reduce workplace accidents (30%). Another 12% did so on the recommendation of their insurance carrier.

•But where do they get the information to come up with their program?





Information sources for establishing a drug-free program







Information sources for establishing a drug-free program

•For large companies, legal council is the primary source of information (82%), followed by government agencies (71%)

•Medium-sized companies are most likely to use the internet (72%) and legal council (66%)

•Smaller companies biggest sources of information are the internet (66%) and the Partnership (64%)





What's in the drug-free policy?

- •95% cover use of illegal drugs on the job; 93% cover alcohol use on the job
- •Only half (50%) cover illegal drug use off of the job
- •Only 1 in 3 (34%) cover alcohol abuse off of the job
- •60% cover prescription or OTC drug use

•Policies were also adopted quickly: 2 in 3 were initiated within three months of the decision to implement one. Most of the remainder were in place in less than six months





What's in the drug-free policy?

- •57% offer counseling including 79% of large companies, and 45% of small companies
- •44% offer employee education
- •37% offer written materials
- •36% include management training, but only 24% of small companies
- •36% include an employee assistance program
- •34% offer training for supervisors or managers (mostly less than annually)
- •14% offer substance abuse prevention workshops (again, mostly less than annually)
- •8% offer parent training for employees





How effective have these policies been?

•68% say that it's been "very" or "somewhat" effective at reducing accidents

•67% say that it's been effective in increasing productivity; 60% say that it's been effective at reducing absenteeism

•60% say that it's been "very" or "somewhat" effective at reducing worker's compensation claims

•62% say that it's been effective at increasing morale





Updating the policy

- •About 60% are updated annually: 5% are never updated
- •HR Representatives are involved in the updates about 80% of the time
- •Legal council is involved 59% of the time
- •Union representatives are only involved in 11% of updates; employees are involved 31% of the time
- •Businesses draw on the expertise of other businesses only 11% of the time





What incentives would encourage new policies?







Drug Testing

•1 in 4 small businesses (26%) test for all positions, compared with 55% of large companies

•Another 18% of businesses test for some, but not all positions

- •73% test current employees when a supervisor suspects a problem
- •58% test after a job-related accident
- •57% test upon professional recommendation
- •51% do periodic drug testing
- •50% test when employees return from a leave of absence
- •19% test as part of an annual physical (for non-CDL)





Pre-Employment testing for all applicants







Testing of Current Employees







When an employee fails a drug test...

- •23% fire the employee
- •20% refer the employee to substance abuse counseling
- •17% put the employee on suspension or probation
- •12% ask the employee to resign
- •10% issue a reprimand
- •4% do additional testing





Why not test current employees?







Why not test applicants?







Effectiveness of these programs

•54% of employers with a supervisor training program rate it as "very effective" at reducing substance abuse

•42% say the same about their employee assistance program or substance abuse prevention workshops

•Written materials were considered the least effective – only 28% consider them "very effective"





Additions to the programs

•Most employers with programs aren't interested in adding to their programs in the near future

•Less than 10% of employers were interested in adding any of the programs

•The only exception was written materials – 20% would be interested in adding them in the next 12 months





Conclusions

- •Employers consider drugs to be a problem
- •...but few employers think drugs are a problem among their employees
- •Lack of information as a barrier to new programs
- •Programs rarely updated
- •Those with programs say that they're very effective
- •Role of PDFNJ



