

# Resources

**Dover Coalition for Youth**  
[www.DoverCoalition.org](http://www.DoverCoalition.org)

**United States Department of Labor**  
[www.dol.gov/elaws/drugfree.htm](http://www.dol.gov/elaws/drugfree.htm)

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service  
Administration**  
[workplace.samhsa.gov](http://workplace.samhsa.gov)

**National Drug-Free Workplace Alliance**  
[www.ndwa.org](http://www.ndwa.org)

# The Impact of Substance Abuse on Your Businesses



For more Information or to Get Involved  
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[www.DoverCoalition.org](http://www.DoverCoalition.org)



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# Impact on Business

Substance abuse is an issue that impacts entire communities, especially business. You may see the impact among employees that use substances having higher absenteeism rates or getting injured on the job. Or you might see it among youth in the community who vandalize your property. All of this impacts your bottom line as a business owner.

It is estimated that excessive alcohol consumption resulted in a loss of earnings totaling \$403.9 million from NH businesses in 2011. Over \$27 million of that is attributed to absenteeism costs that are incurred. The implied loss of output by NH businesses resulting from this absenteeism is over \$71 million.<sup>1</sup>

Over 54,000 workers with an alcohol dependency or abuse problem are employed by NH businesses.<sup>1</sup> It is estimated that 8.4% of people employed full-time are current illicit drug users.<sup>2</sup>

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# What You Can Do

The good news is that there are proven strategies to reduce substance abuse and protect your bottom line. A small investment in prevention now will produce significant returns on that investment in the future. It is estimated that every dollar spent on prevention results in seven dollars saved.<sup>3</sup>

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## **Business Solutions:**

Drug-free workplace programs are proven to help employers create cost-effective, safe, and healthy workplaces. These programs often include:

- a written policy
- employee education
- supervisor training
- an employee assistance program
- drug testing.

## **Community Impact:**

It is also important to have programs in the community that work to prevent the onset of substance abuse. The Dover Coalition for Youth serves this role by offering programs that enhance skills of parents, educate and engage youth, and reduce access to drugs. All of this happens through partnerships that insure that youth are getting strong and consistent messages from parents, law enforcement, teachers, coaches and other caring adults in the community.



<sup>1</sup> The High Cost of Excessive Alcohol Consumption in New Hampshire (December 2012). PolEcon Research Report.

<sup>2</sup> National Drug-Free Work Alliance [www.ndwa.org](http://www.ndwa.org)

<sup>3</sup> Substance Abuse Prevention Dollars and Cents: A Cost-Benefit Analysis. US Department of Health and Human Services.