

Workplaces and Substance Use

Oil & Gas, Forestry, and Mining Industries

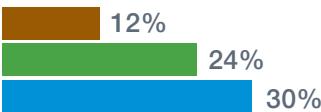


“ [I]t was drugs and alcohol that provided that connection [with co-workers] There was a level of understanding [because] I was engaging in the same behaviour. — Study participant ”

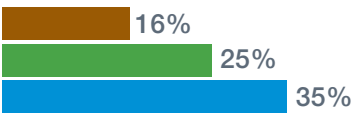
Workplace culture may encourage substance use.

By industry: **General acceptance** of alcohol or cannabis use before or during work differs by substance.

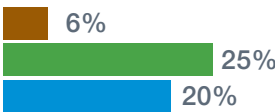
Acceptance of alcohol use In their workplace culture



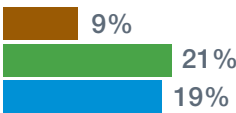
By their close co-workers



Acceptance of cannabis use In their workplace culture

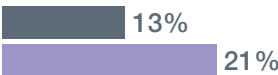


By their close co-workers



By job type: People working in safety-sensitive positions* reported a **greater level of acceptance to consume substances** before or during work.

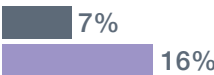
Acceptance of alcohol In their workplace culture



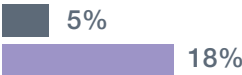
By their close co-workers



Acceptance of cannabis In their workplace culture



By their close co-workers



Workplace cultures that accept substance use immediately before or during work for some oil and gas, forestry, and mining businesses is likely working against employers’ efforts to manage or reduce substance use risks and improve workers’ well-being.



Some businesses have improved approaches to managing substance use risks, such as developing comprehensive policies, training staff, offering accommodations, fostering peer support programs, and setting up mental and substance use health supports.

Contact us at workplace@ccsa.ca for training or for more information and resources such as our [trades toolkit](#).

Background: The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction conducted a national study on workplace policies and practices related to substance use with workers and managers from various industries. The information presented here is from 295 workers and managers from the oil and gas, forestry, and mining industries who participated in a survey and focus groups, and individuals affected by substance use.

Suggested citation: Meister, S., Barker, B., Dassieu, L., Wood, S., Beirness, D., & Cragg, S. (2025). *Substance use and the workplace — workplace culture: Oil and gas, forestry, and mining industries* [Infographic]. Ottawa, Ont.: Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction.

*Safety-sensitive positions pose potential physical risk to self, co-workers, the public or the environment (e.g., heavy equipment operators, medical practitioners); and non-safety-sensitive pose low or no risks (e.g., office staff, retail clerk).