

Study: Illegal drug use declines at work, Rx drugs increase

By Lauren Weber, Wall Street Journal

More workers are just saying no, at least by one measure.

The share of U.S. workers testing positive for drugs has dropped sharply since 1988, according to an analysis of millions of drug tests being released Monday by medical-testing company Quest Diagnostics Inc.

Positive workplace tests for cocaine and marijuana have gone down sharply over the past two decades. Workers may have gotten more sophisticated when it comes to passing drug tests, however, especially for marijuana, as government studies show that its use is rising.

Meanwhile, data suggest that abuse of prescription drugs is a growing worry for employers.

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