

20% in U.S. find workplace hostile or threatening

By Paul Wiseman, AP

The American workplace is grueling, stressful and hostile.

So concludes an in-depth study of 3,066 U.S. workers by the Rand Corp., Harvard Medical School and UCLA. Among the findings:

- Nearly 1 in 5 workers – a share the study calls “disturbingly high” – say they face a hostile or threatening environment at work, which can include sexual harassment and bullying. Workers who have to face customers endure a disproportionate share of abuse.
- Nearly 55 percent say they face “unpleasant and potentially hazardous” conditions.
- Nearly three-quarters say they spend at least a fourth of their time on the job in “intense or repetitive physical” labor.

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