

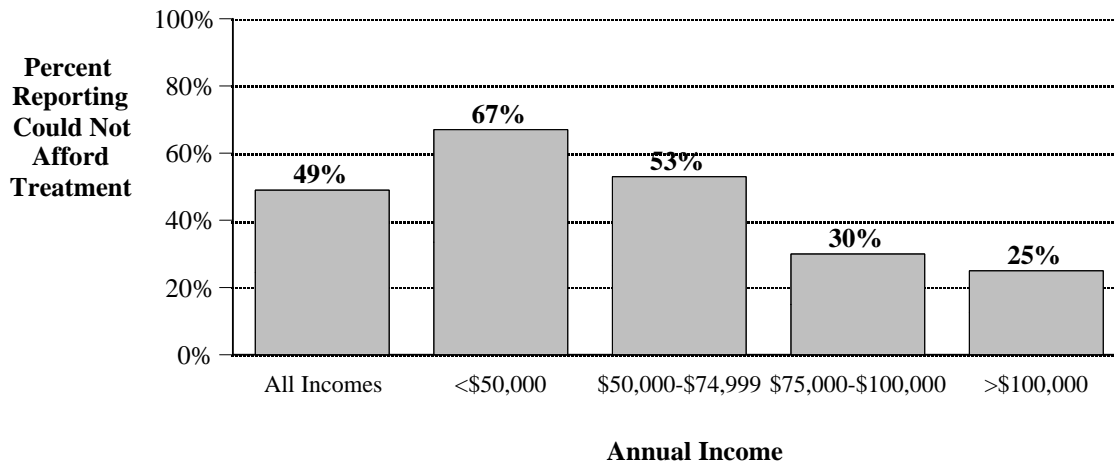
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Americans of All Incomes Say They Could Not Afford Alcohol or Drug Treatment If They Needed It

Nearly half of U.S. adults say that they would not be able to afford alcohol or drug treatment if they or someone in their family needed it, according to a telephone survey conducted this past June. While adults with annual incomes under \$50,000 are most likely to say they would not be able to afford treatment (67%), more affluent adults also perceive an inability to pay for treatment. Thirty percent of those with incomes between \$75,000 and \$100,000 and one-fourth of those with incomes above \$100,000 didn't think they would be able to afford treatment if they needed it. R. Gil Kerlikowske, Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, recently stated that his office will be "working to ensure drug abuse treatment services are incorporated into our national health care reform process."^{1*}

Percentage of U.S. Adult Household Residents Reporting That They Could Not Afford the Costs of Alcohol or Drug Treatment If They or Someone in Their Family Needed It, by Annual Income
(N=1,001 adult U.S. household residents)



NOTE: Data is from a nationwide telephone survey of 1,001 adults ages 18 and older conducted by telephone, using RDD probability sample, May 29 to June 1, 2009. Data were weighted by gender, age, race, and region. The margin of error is ± 3.1 percentage points.

*R. Gil Kerlikowske, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy, *Remarks at Release of the 2009 World Drug Report*, June 24, 2009.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Lake Research Partners, "New Poll Shows Majority of Americans Support Efforts to Make Alcohol and Drug Addiction Treatment More Accessible, Affordable," June 16, 2009 Press Release. Poll conducted by Lake Research Partners for the Closing the Addiction Treatment Gap program, an initiative of the Open Society Institute.

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