

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Drug and Alcohol Management Information System

2018 Results Summary

The contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. Grantees and sub grantees should refer to FTA's statutes and regulations for applicable requirements.

Executive Summary

This annual summary presents the results of mandatory drug and alcohol testing conducted by transit systems and their contractors who receive funds from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Under the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act passed by Congress in 1991, the FTA was required to establish regulations for drug and alcohol testing of transit employees performing safety-sensitive functions. These regulations require that each recipient of FTA funds: (1) implement an anti-drug program to deter and detect the use of prohibited drugs, (2) establish a program to prevent the misuse of alcohol, and (3) report the results of its programs to FTA annually. The 2018 Annual Summary summarizes the reported results of drug and alcohol tests from all such transit systems.

Compliance with FTA's drug and alcohol testing program is a condition of federal assistance. Failure of a recipient to establish and implement a drug and alcohol testing program - either in its own operations or in those of an entity operating on its behalf - may result in the suspension of federal transit funding to the recipient. Because a recipient may not always directly provide transit services, the FTA uses the term "operator" or "employer" to describe those who provide transit services. The direct recipient of FTA funds, however, is the entity legally responsible to the FTA for compliance.

Distribution of Transit Systems and Contractors

The FTA received drug and alcohol MIS reporting forms for calendar year 2018 from 3,376 employers representing 2,041 grantees/subrecipients and 1,335 contractors. A total of 2,172 of all employers reported using a Third-Party Administrator (TPA) or being a member of a consortium. Approximately 73 percent of all employers reported no positive drug test results, and 97 percent of employers reported no alcohol test results \geq 0.04 percent. The number of contractors who had at least one positive drug test result was 36.2 percent, compared to 20.6 percent of grantees/subrecipients. The number of contractors who submitted forms with at least one alcohol test result \geq 0.04 percent was 3.8 percent, compared to 2.4 percent of grantees/subrecipients.

Employers reported a total of 305,551 employees performing safety-sensitive functions: 71.0 percent of these employees are employed at transit systems and 29.0 percent are employed by contractors. The average transit system employs approximately 60 percent more safety-sensitive employees than the average contractor, 106 to 66. The largest number of employees performing safety-sensitive functions are engaged in revenue vehicle operation (68.2 percent), followed by revenue vehicle and equipment maintenance (18.9 percent). Revenue vehicle control/dispatch, CDL/non-revenue vehicle employees, armed security personnel, ferryboat crewmembers combined to make up 12.9 percent of the overall labor force (7.9 percent, 1.4 percent, 2.4 percent and 1.2 percent respectively).

The largest number of contract employees were involved in revenue vehicle operation at 75.4 percent, followed by revenue vehicle and equipment maintenance at 11.9 percent. For rural operators, contractors comprise a relatively small percentage of the total number of FTA-covered employees at 16.9 percent; for urban operators, contractors comprise a significantly higher total at 30.8 percent.

Required Testing Program

Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 40 and 655 require covered employees to undergo DOT testing for five illegal substances and for alcohol, with the use of six different test types. Employers are required to establish a program that provides for testing employees who perform or may perform safety-sensitive functions in the following circumstances: pre-employment, random, reasonable suspicion, post-accident and return-to-duty/follow-up. Part 655.72 requires employers to annually submit the results of its testing program to FTA using the Management Information System form required by 49 CFR 40.25.

Covered Employees and Employers

A covered employee is any person, including an applicant or transferee who performs or will perform a safety-sensitive function for any entity subject to 49 CFR Part 655. A covered employer is a recipient or sub-recipient that receives FTA financial assistance under Chapter 53 of Title 49 in the United States Code (U.S.C.) under section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program, section 5309 Fixed Guideway Capital Investment Grants, section 5311 Formula Grants for Rural Program, and/or section 5339 Bus and Bus Facilities Program. It also includes sub-recipients and contractors of those recipients.

2018 Covered Employees and Employers by FTA Region

FTA Region	Number of Covered Employees	Number of Covered Employers
1	14,230	222
2	60,620	219
3	34,441	205
4	36,651	605
5	44,572	670
6	23,278	277
7	9,832	269
8	10,720	201
9	52,949	476
10	18,258	232
Total	305,551	3,376

2018 Covered Employees by Employee Category

Employee Category	Number of Covered Employees
Revenue Vehicle Operation	208,476
Revenue Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance	57,683
Revenue Vehicle Control/Dispatch	24,121
CDL/Non-Revenue Vehicle	4,378
Armed Security Personnel	7,351
Ferry Boat Crewmember	3,542

2018 FTA Drug Testing Results by Employee Category (All Test Types)

Employee Category	Total Number of Test Results	Verified Negative Results	Verified Positive Results for One or More Drugs	Positive for Marijuana	Positive for Cocaine	Positive for PCP	Positive for Opioids	Positive for Amphetamines	Adulterated Refusals	Substituted Refusals	"Shy Bladder" Refusal with No Medical Explanation	Other Refusals to Submit to Testing	Cancelled Tests
Revenue Vehicle Operation	182,380	177,663	3,768	2,738	516	21	317	267	19	20	56	854	788
Revenue Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance	32,755	32,167	511	355	110	5	40	30	2	0	6	69	96
Revenue Vehicle Dispatch/Control	12,446	12,206	191	135	21	1	19	24	1	1	10	37	54
CDL/Non-Revenue Vehicle	2,421	2,384	29	17	7	0	5	3	1	0	0	7	11
Armed Security Personnel	4,772	4,687	67	62	5	0	1	0	0	0	1	17	19
Ferry Boat Operation	1,781	1,767	14	4	3	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	8
Total	236,555	230,874	4,560	3,311	662	29	384	327	23	21	73	984	976

2018 FTA Drug Testing Results by Test Type (All Employee Categories)

Test Type	Total Number of Test Results	Verified Negative Results	Verified Positive Results for One or More Drugs	Positive for Marijuana	Positive for Cocaine	Positive for PCP	Positive for Opioids	Positive for Amphetamines	Adulterated Refusals	Substituted Refusals	"Shy Bladder" Refusal with No Medical Explanation	Other Refusals to Submit to Testing	Cancelled Tests
Pre-Employment	118,392	114,267	3,325	2,537	368	21	260	234	20	11	30	739	547
Random	97,620	96,476	921	583	203	4	84	72	2	9	38	174	337
Post-Accident	13,121	12,900	188	117	43	1	21	9	1	1	2	29	67
Reasonable Suspicion	774	694	50	24	17	2	6	7	0	0	1	29	6
Return-to-Duty	647	625	20	11	3	0	6	2	0	0	0	2	8
Follow-Up	6,001	5,912	76	39	28	1	7	3	0	0	2	11	11
Total	236,555	230,874	4,580	3,311	662	29	384	327	23	21	73	984	976

2018 FTA Alcohol Testing Results by Employee Category (All Test Types)

Employee Category	Total Number of Screening Test Results	Screening Tests with Results Below 0.02	Screening Tests with Results 0.02 or Greater	Number of Confirmation Test Results	Confirmation Tests with Results 0.02 Through 0.039	Confirmation Tests with Results 0.04 Or Greater	"Shy Lung" Refusal with No Medical Explanation	Other Refusals to Submit to Testing	Cancelled Tests
Revenue Vehicle Operation	66,629	66,328	213	194	64	118	7	81	51
Revenue Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance	16,710	16,622	78	72	19	50	2	8	1
Revenue Vehicle Dispatch/Control	5,044	5,018	22	18	6	12	1	3	8
CDL/Non-Revenue Vehicle	1,153	1,152	1	1	1	0	0	0	2
Armed Security Personnel	2,181	2,174	7	7	2	5	0	0	0
Ferry Boat Operation	902	901	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Total	92,619	92,195	322	293	92	186	10	92	62

2018 FTA Alcohol Testing Results by Test Type (All Employee Categories)

Test Type	Total Number of Screening Test Results	Screening Tests with Results Below 0.02	Screening Tests with Results 0.02 or Greater	Number of Confirmation Test Results	Confirmation Tests with Results 0.02 Through 0.039	Confirmation Tests with Results 0.04 Or Greater	"Shy Lung" Refusal with No Medical Explanation	Other Refusals to Submit to Testing	Cancelled Tests
Pre-Employment	19,564	19,500	31	28	12	14	4	29	19
Random	54,749	54,570	136	123	49	68	6	37	30
Post-Accident	12,301	12,271	17	14	4	10	0	13	9
Reasonable Suspicion	636	508	116	106	18	84	0	12	4
Return-to-Duty	346	345	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Follow-Up	5,023	5,001	21	21	8	10	0	1	0
Total	92,619	92,195	322	293	92	186	10	92	62

2018 Positive Rate and Violation Rate

Positive rate for random drug testing means the number of verified positive results for random drug tests plus the number of refusals of random drug tests, divided by the total number of random drug test results (*i.e.*, positive, negative, and refusals).

Violation rate for random alcohol testing means the number of 0.04 and above random alcohol confirmation test results plus the number of refusals of random alcohol tests, divided by the total number of alcohol random screening tests (including refusals).



49 CFR 655.4

2018 Positive Rate and Violation Rate by FTA Region



