

Drug Of Abuse Testing Services Market - Global Industry Size, Share, Trends, Opportunity & Forecast, Segmented By Drug Class (Alcohol, Cannabis/Marijuana, Cocaine, Opioids, Amphetamine & Methamphetamine, LSD, Others), By Region & Competition, 2021-2031F

<https://marketpublishers.com/r/D5F0390E7A8AEN.html>

Date: January 2026

Pages: 180

Price: US\$ 4,500.00 (Single User License)

ID: D5F0390E7A8AEN

Abstracts

The Global Drug Of Abuse Testing Services Market is projected to expand from USD 5.39 Billion in 2025 to USD 7.46 Billion by 2031, reflecting a CAGR of 5.57%. These services involve the detection and analysis of misused prescription medications or illicit substances in biological specimens such as urine, blood, oral fluid, or hair. The market is fundamentally underpinned by strict government regulations requiring safety in high-risk sectors, a growing corporate focus on preventing workplace accidents, and the necessity to minimize liability linked to impaired employee performance. For instance, during the 2024 International Roadcheck, the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance reported that inspectors placed 63 commercial drivers out of service due to prohibited status in the federal Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse, highlighting the critical role of rigorous testing programs in ensuring operational safety and regulatory compliance.

However, the market faces a significant obstacle due to the increasingly intricate legal environment surrounding cannabis legalization. As various jurisdictions implement differing statutes protecting medical or recreational marijuana use, multinational organizations encounter substantial difficulties in establishing standardized testing protocols that align with both evolving employee privacy rights and safety mandates.

Market Driver

A primary catalyst for market growth is the implementation of stringent workplace drug screening mandates, driven by the need to maintain operational safety and mitigate liability risks. Organizations are strengthening protocols to identify impairment that could lead to accidents, especially within the logistics and transportation sectors. According to Quest Diagnostics' 'Annual Drug Testing Index' from May 2024, the overall drug positivity rate in the U.S. workforce remained at 4.6% in 2023. This sustained elevation necessitates continuous monitoring, a fact further supported by Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration data from May 2024, which showed approximately 176,000 commercial drivers remained in prohibited status within the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse, underscoring the reliance on professional testing services to filter disqualified personnel.

Furthermore, the rising global prevalence of illicit substance consumption expands the demand for toxicology analysis across legal and clinical sectors. As substance use disorders increase, institutions require comprehensive screening panels to enforce sobriety orders and manage treatment plans. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime reported in the 'World Drug Report 2024' (June 2024) that the number of people using drugs globally rose to 292 million in 2022, a 20% increase over the previous decade. This demographic expansion correlates with higher volumes of biological samples processed for opioids, cannabis, and amphetamines, compelling service providers to scale laboratory capabilities to handle the influx of screening requests from law enforcement and medical interventions.

Market Challenge

The increasingly complex legal landscape regarding cannabis legalization presents a direct threat to the growth of the Drug of Abuse Testing Services Market. With various states legalizing medical or recreational marijuana while federal prohibitions persist, employers face a significant compliance dilemma that hinders the implementation of uniform testing protocols. This regulatory fragmentation creates liability risks, leading many organizations to eliminate cannabis testing or relax their screening criteria to avoid litigation and widen their hiring pools. Consequently, the demand for comprehensive testing panels is negatively impacted, reducing the revenue potential for service providers.

This trend is particularly evident in safety-sensitive industries where workforce retention is crucial, yet federal mandates conflict with state laws. According to the American Trucking Associations, the trucking sector struggled with a persistent driver shortage of 60,000 positions in 2024, a deficit exacerbated by strict testing mandates that disqualify

numerous candidates. This labor scarcity forces companies to reconsider the scope of their drug screening programs, thereby stifling the expansion of testing services as the pool of eligible employees shrinks and organizations pivot away from rigorous enforcement to maintain operational levels.

Market Trends

The shift toward oral fluid testing is fundamentally reshaping the market, driven by rising demand for non-invasive, recent-use detection methods and recent federal approvals for regulated sectors. This methodology accelerates integration into corporate screening programs by minimizing sample tampering risks associated with traditional urine collection and mitigating privacy concerns. The efficiency of oral fluid testing is causing a rapid displacement of legacy protocols as organizations seek flexible compliance solutions. According to First Advantage's '2024 Annual Trends Report' (August 2024), the utilization of oral fluid-based screens increased by 74% over the preceding two years, capturing 30% of their total drug screening volume, reflecting a decisive market pivot toward modalities that streamline logistics while maintaining safety standards.

Simultaneously, the expansion of multi-panel screening for synthetic opioids is becoming imperative as the illicit drug supply evolves with dangerous adulterants like fentanyl analogs and xylazine. Standard screening panels are increasingly insufficient, prompting laboratories to develop specialized assays capable of identifying complex poly-substance usage often missed by basic tests. This trend responds to the rising toxicity of drug mixtures, which requires precise toxicological analysis for safety and medical interventions. According to Millennium Health's 'Signals Alert: Xylazine' (July 2024), 16% of fentanyl-positive specimens nationally contained xylazine, with regional positivity rates reaching approximately 40%. Consequently, service providers are rapidly scaling test menus to include these synthetic compounds, ensuring workplace safety programs remain effective against emerging pharmacological threats.

Key Market Players

Quest Diagnostics

LabCorp

Abbott

Thermo Fisher Scientific

Siemens Healthineers

OraSure Technologies

Huer Diagnostics

Kindred Biosciences

Eurofins Scientific

BioReference Laboratories

Report Scope

In this report, the Global Drug Of Abuse Testing Services Market has been segmented into the following categories, in addition to the industry trends which have also been detailed below:

Drug Of Abuse Testing Services Market, By Drug Class

Alcohol

Cannabis/Marijuana

Cocaine

Opioids

Amphetamine & Methamphetamine

LSD

Others

Drug Of Abuse Testing Services Market, By Region

North America

United States

Canada

Mexico

Europe

France

United Kingdom

Italy

Germany

Spain

Asia Pacific

China

India

Japan

Australia

South Korea

South America

Brazil

Argentina

Colombia

Middle East & Africa

South Africa

Saudi Arabia

UAE

Competitive Landscape

Company Profiles: Detailed analysis of the major companies present in the Global Drug Of Abuse Testing Services Market.

Available Customizations:

Global Drug Of Abuse Testing Services Market report with the given market data, TechSci Research offers customizations according to a company's specific needs. The following customization options are available for the report:

Company Information

Detailed analysis and profiling of additional market players (up to five).

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