

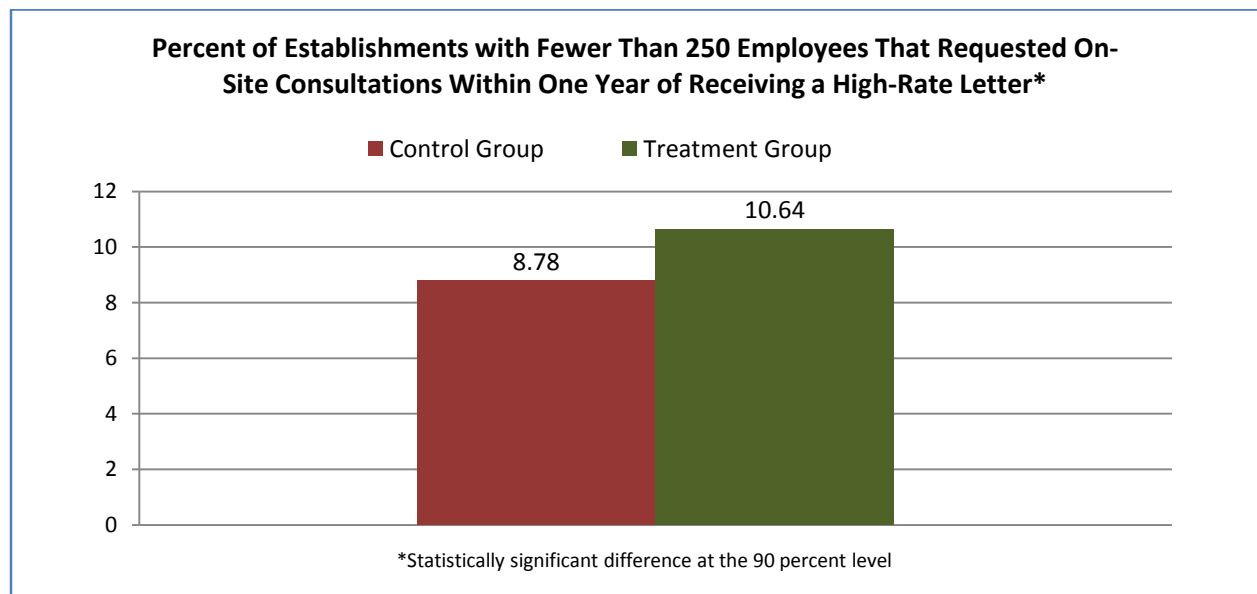
# Letters to Firms Increase their Requests for Free Workplace Health and Safety Consultations

## 1. What's the evidence?

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) sends High Rate Letters (HRL) to work



establishments that have injury and illness rates above the national average. The letters inform employers that they may be selected for an inspection and encourage them to consider injury and illness prevention programs to find and fix workplace hazards before workers are hurt. Those with fewer than 250 employees are offered assistance from OSHA's On-site Consultation (OSC) program. A study was done to find out if these letters result in employer requests for OSC. The study found that **establishments with fewer than 250 employees that received the letter mailed in April 2011 were 21 percent more likely to request a consultation than those that did not get a letter.**



## 2. What's the implication?

These results provide preliminary yet encouraging evidence that the high-rate letters increase requests for OSC consultations. The study reported here is part of a larger evaluation of the OSC program, which will include, among other analyses, changes in injury and illness rates.

## 3. For more information

- Juras, Randall, et al. (2015). [Evaluation of the OSHA On-site Consultation Program \(OSC\): The Effect of High-Rate Letters on OSC Requests](#). Bethesda, MD: Abt Associates. (Evaluation funded by the U.S. Department of Labor).
- [OSHA On-site Consultation Program](#)