

**TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE:
Most Workers in Five Layoffs Received
Services, but Better Outreach Needed on New
Benefits**

**TAA Coalition
February 15, 2006**

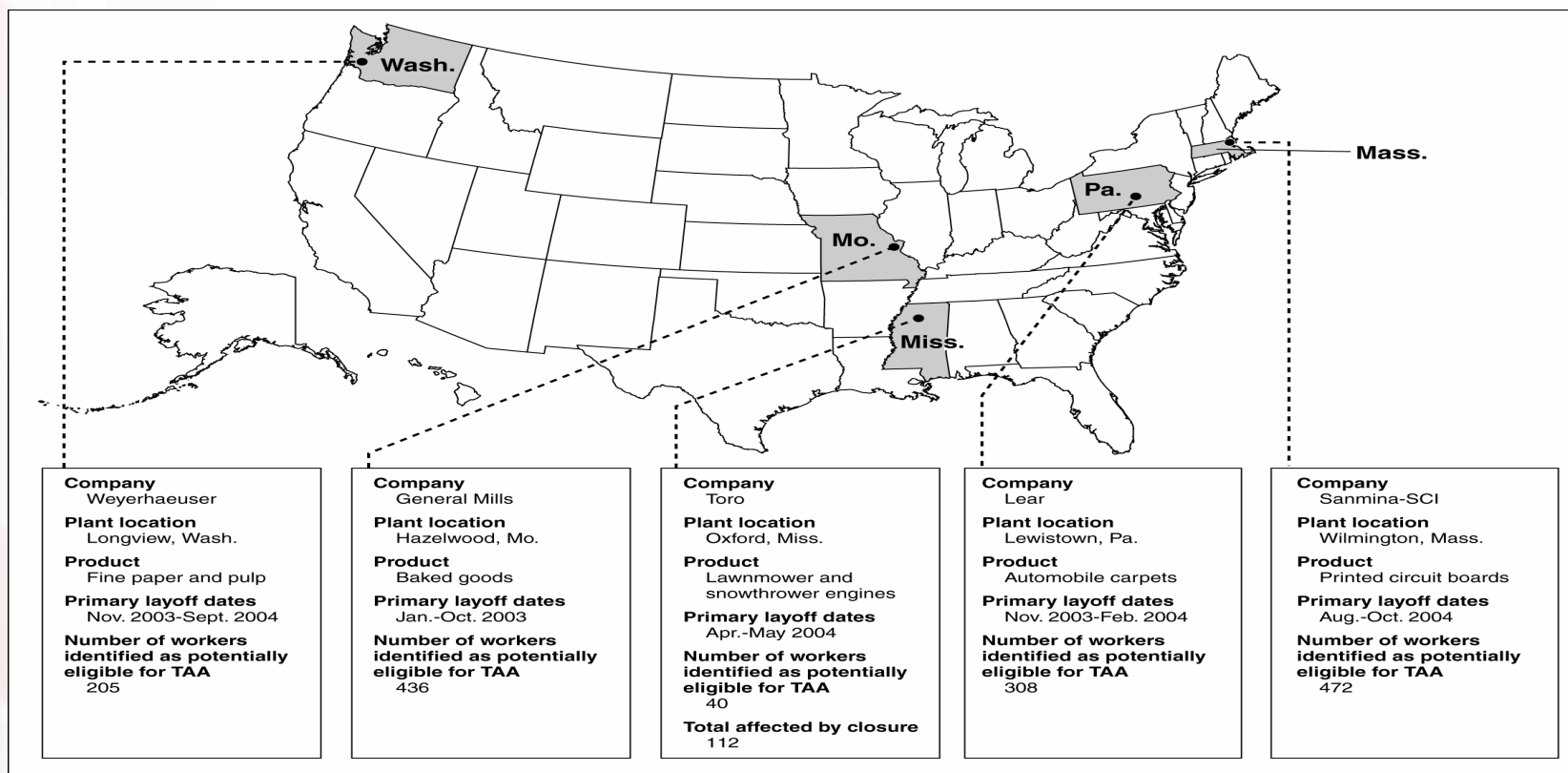
**Sigurd R. Nilsen, Director
Education, Workforce, and Income Security**

What we looked at....

Performed a case study to learn about:

- 1) Use of assistance
- 2) What happened to workers
- 3) Use of HCTC and ATAA

Case Study Sites

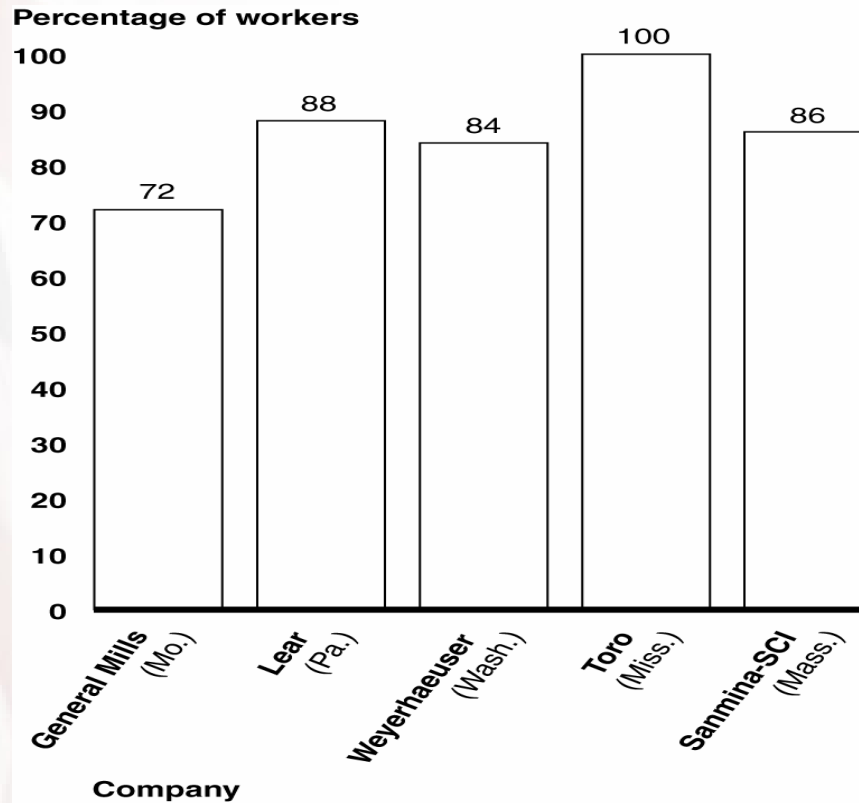


Sources: State officials, U.S. Dept. of Labor, and GAO survey of dislocated workers.

Methodology

- Survey of all workers in each site (response rates 66 – 86%)
- Focus groups of workers in each site
- Analysis of state administrative data on services, demographics, and outcomes
- Interviews with state and local officials, training providers, company officials, and union officials

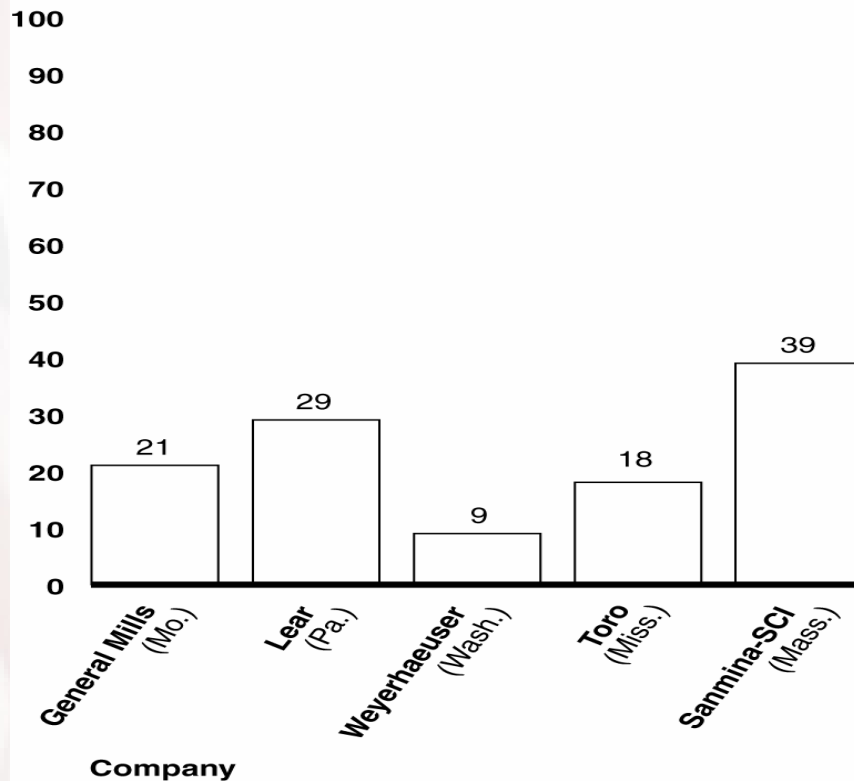
Most dislocated workers visited a one-stop center



Source: GAO survey of dislocated workers.

Training not extensively used

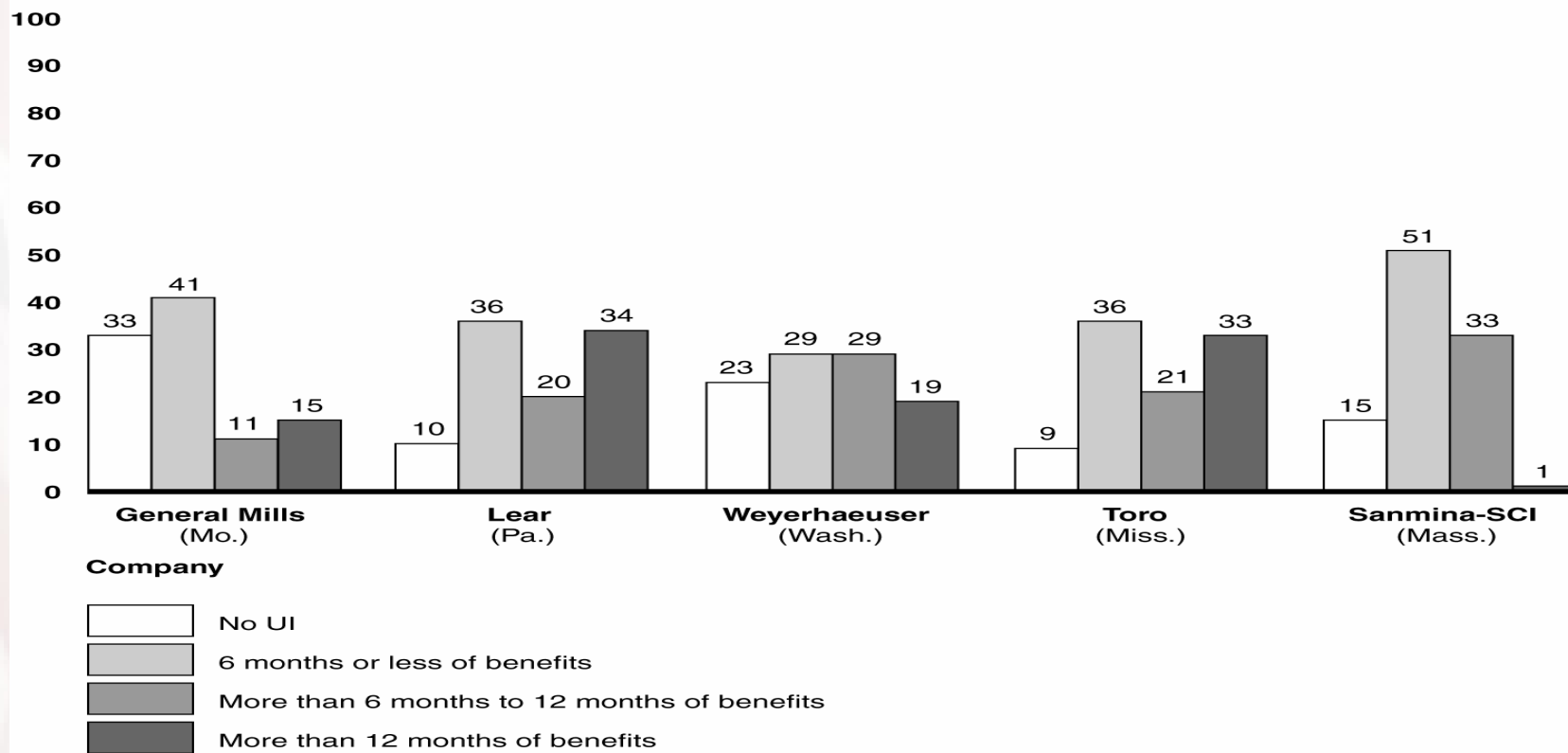
Percentage of workers



Source: GAO survey of dislocated workers.

Use of UI and extended benefits

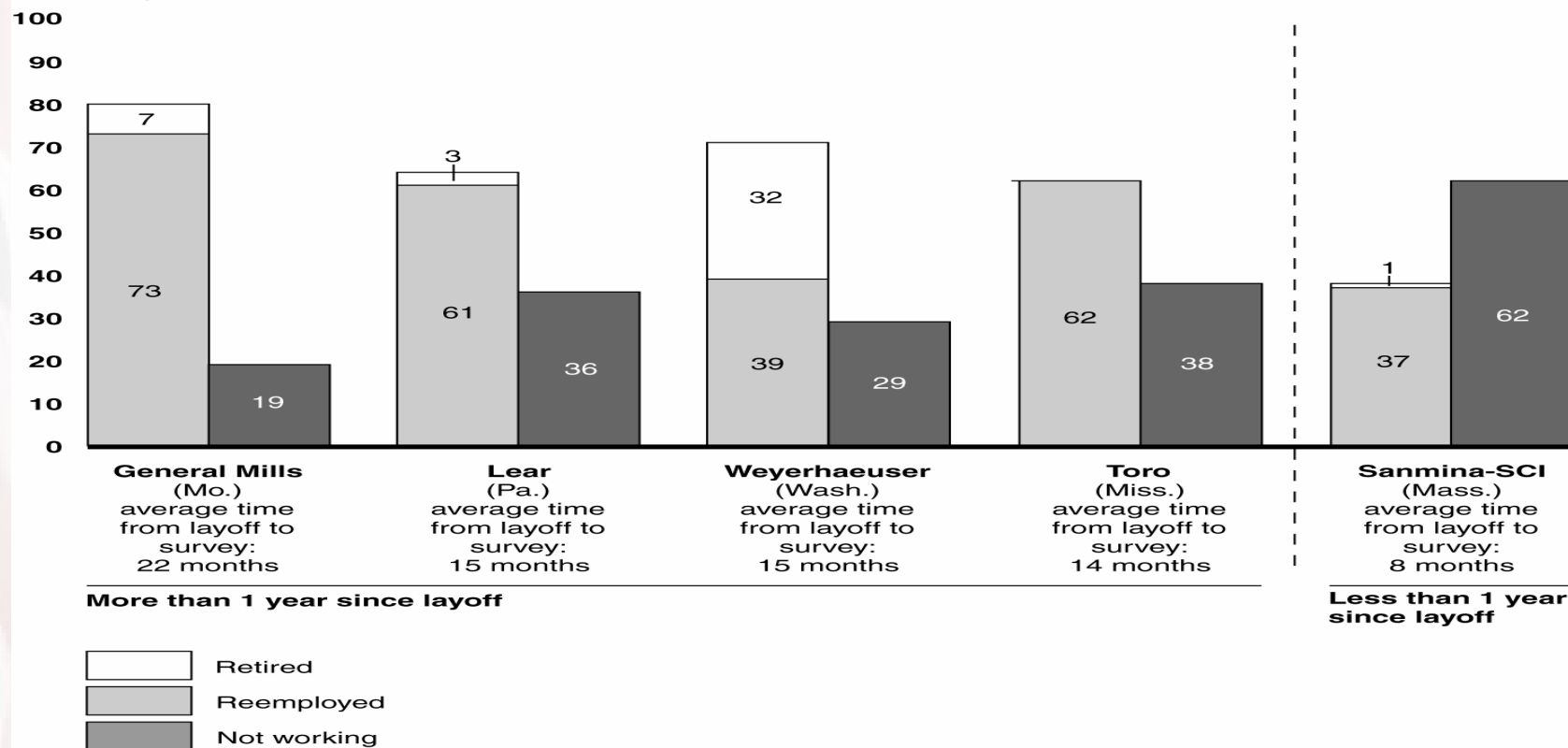
Percentage of workers



Source: GAO survey of dislocated workers.

Most workers at four of five sites had found jobs or retired

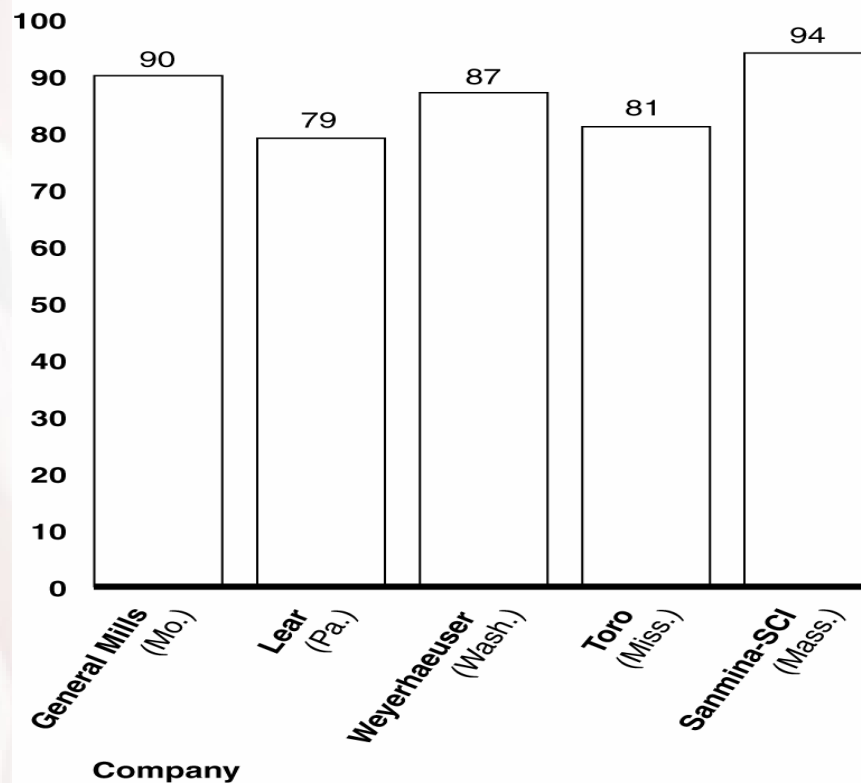
Percentage of workers



Source: GAO survey of dislocated workers.

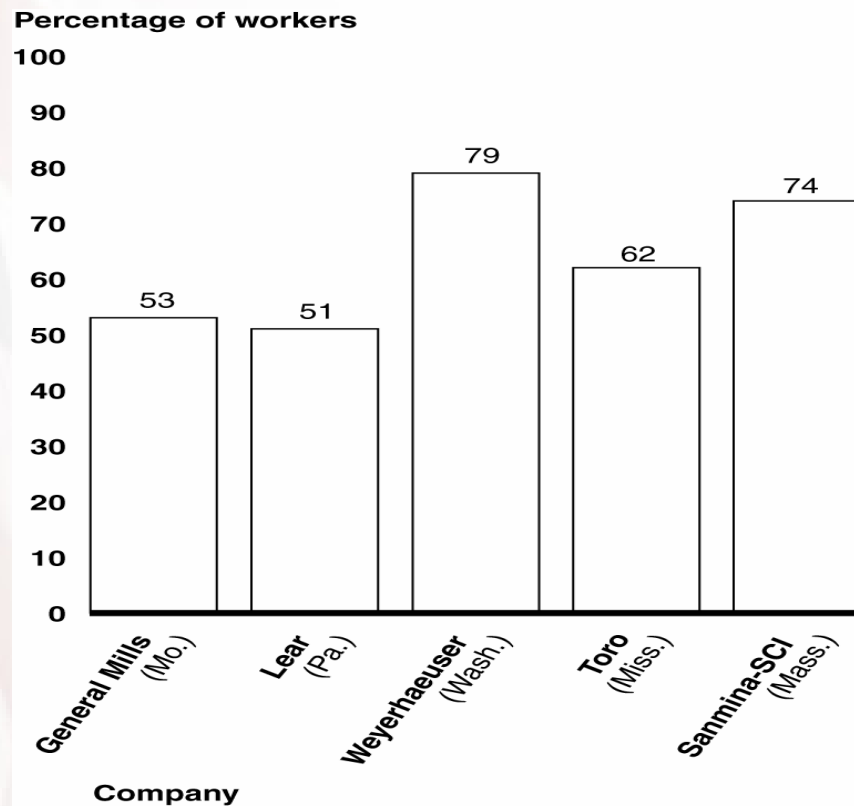
Reemployed workers replaced at least 79 percent of wages on average

Average wage replacement rate



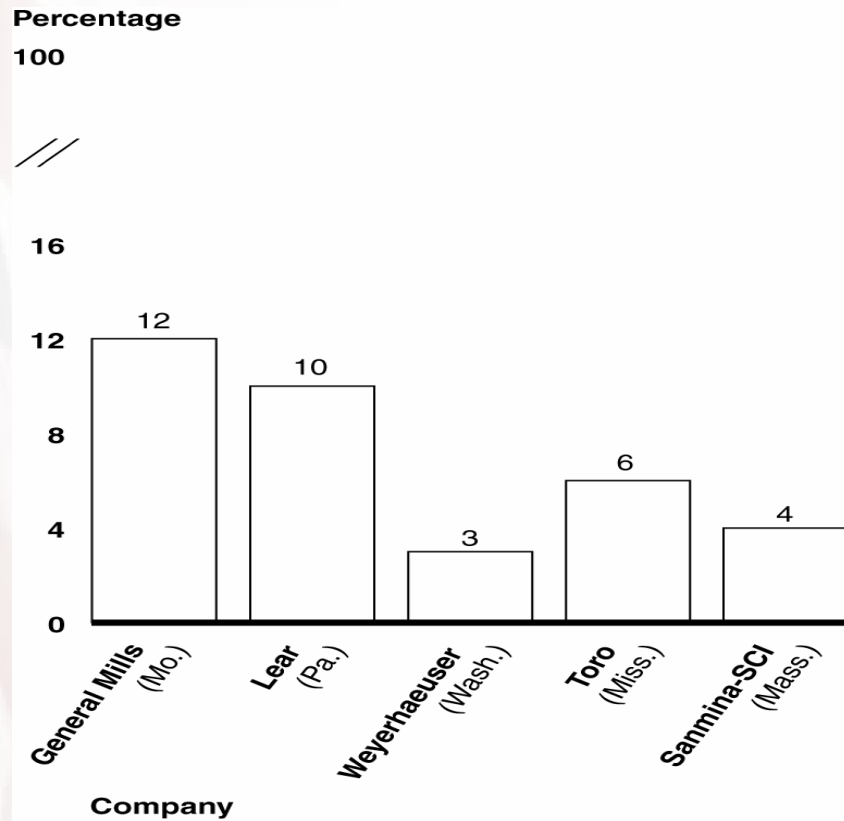
Source: GAO survey of dislocated workers.

More than half of reemployed workers returned to manufacturing



Source: GAO survey of dislocated workers.

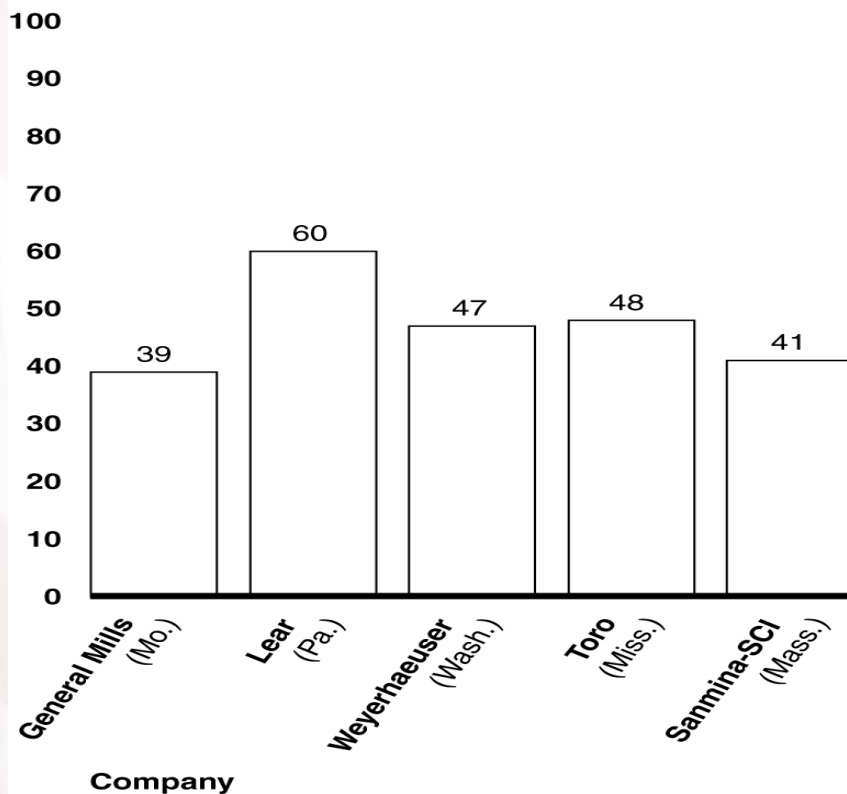
Across sites, HCTC participation was relatively low



Source: GAO survey of dislocated workers.

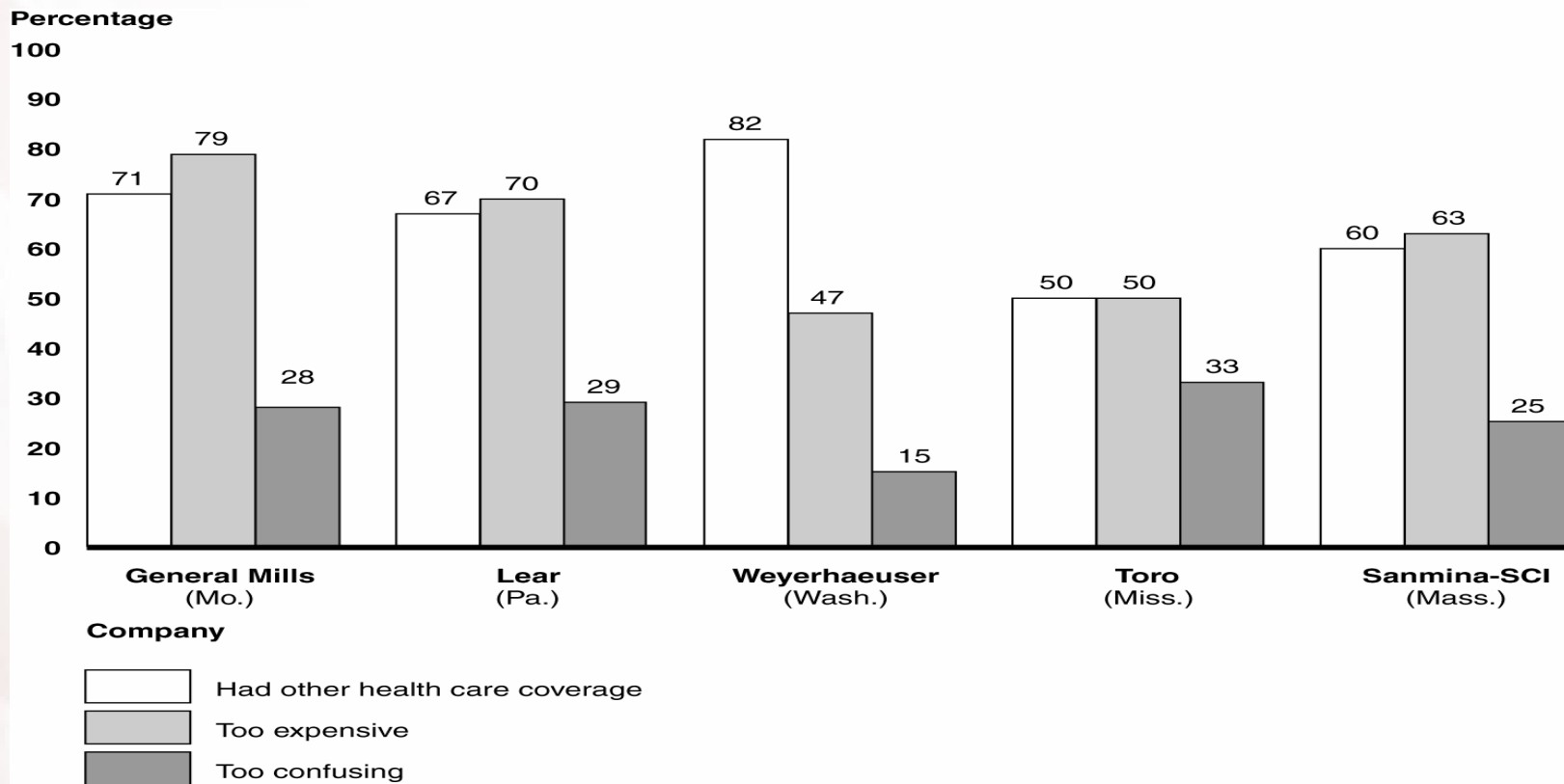
At four sites, fewer than half the workers who visited a one-stop center were aware of HCTC

Percentage of workers



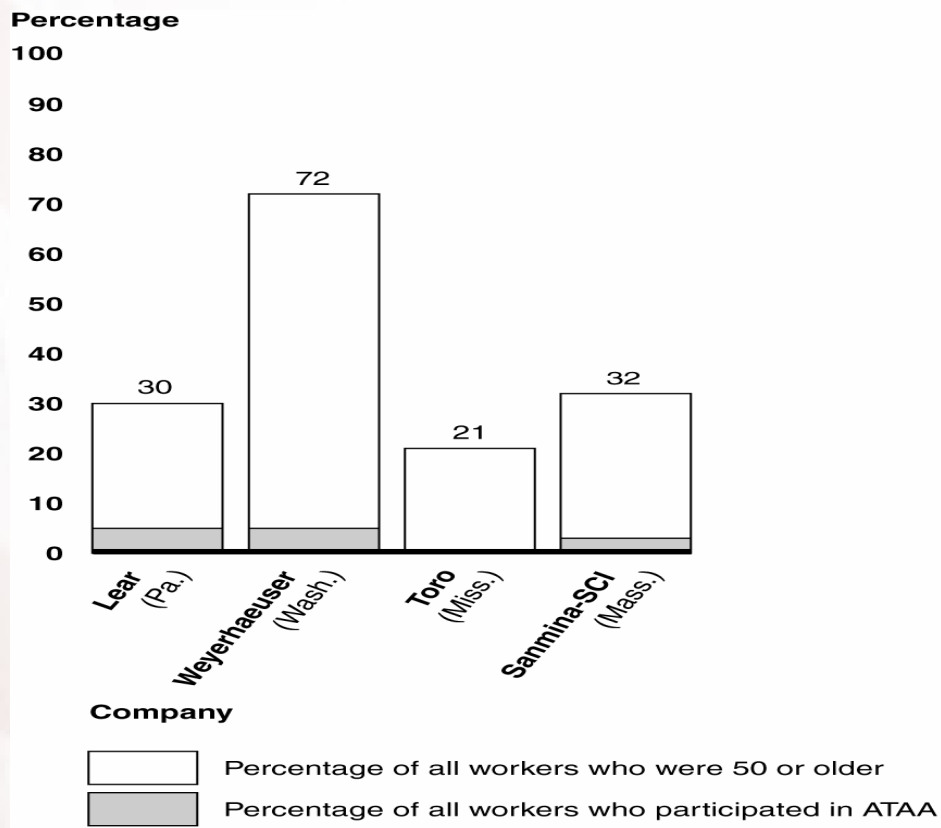
Source: GAO survey of dislocated workers.

Reasons workers who were aware of HCTC did not participate



Source: GAO survey of dislocated workers.

Few workers participated in ATAA



Source: GAO survey of dislocated workers.

Conclusions

- Workers took a variety of paths after being laid off—majority sought some job search assistance, some got training for a new career, a few just looked for jobs on their own.
 - We cannot assess effectiveness of these different approaches; workers may simply choose the services that they think best meet their specific needs.
 - It is difficult to assess the role that HCTC and ATAA may play in workers' transitions to reemployment--relatively large numbers of workers were not aware of these benefits.
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Recommendations

The Secretary of Labor should provide guidance to state and local officials on how to better ensure that workers are aware of two new benefits under the TAA program:

- the Health Coverage Tax Credit, and
- the Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance program.