

## Costs and benefits of substance misuse prevention...

Research weighing the costs and benefits of substance misuse prevention is surprisingly scarce. Studies that have been conducted on this topic, however, demonstrate that investments in prevention provide substantial cost savings down the road.

Listed below are a few key studies (with links) highlighting the cost effectiveness of substance use prevention, either in general or for specific programs and approaches.

Study	Comments
<p>Miller, T. and Hendrie, D. Substance Abuse Prevention Dollars and Cents: A Cost-Benefit Analysis, DHHS Pub. No. (SMA) 07-4298. Rockville, MD: Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2008.</p> <p><a href="https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/cost-benefits-prevention.pdf">https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/cost-benefits-prevention.pdf</a></p>	<p>Probably the most commonly cited study regarding the cost benefits of substance use prevention, even though it was completed over a decade ago</p>
<p>Center for Applied Research Solutions (CARS). The Power of Substance Abuse Prevention: Why Invest in Prevention, 2011.</p> <p><a href="http://www.cars-rp.org/publications/PowerOfPrevention/POP_0101.pdf">http://www.cars-rp.org/publications/PowerOfPrevention/POP_0101.pdf</a></p>	<p>A fairly general overview of the societal costs of substance misuse and a statement regarding the need to invest in prevention.</p>
<p>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (US); Office of the Surgeon General (US). Facing Addiction in America: The Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health [Internet]. Washington (DC): US Department of Health and Human Services; 2016 Nov.</p> <p><a href="https://addiction.surgeongeneral.gov/sites/default/files/surgeon-generals-report.pdf">https://addiction.surgeongeneral.gov/sites/default/files/surgeon-generals-report.pdf</a></p>	<p>Chapter 3 focuses on prevention programs and policies and includes some general statements on the costs and benefits of prevention. This chapter also includes an informative overview on substance misuse prevention, including evidence-based programs and policy approaches.</p>
<p>Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP). Benefit-Cost Results (updated December 2019).</p> <p><a href="https://www.wsipp.wa.gov/BenefitCost">https://www.wsipp.wa.gov/BenefitCost</a></p>	<p>This continuing effort estimates the cost-benefit ratio of specific programs and policies in many different areas. Substance misuse prevention programs are included under "Public Health and Prevention."</p>