

# Study finds funding for substance abuse in Indiana lacking

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An Indiana University study found that Indiana spends more on the health care consequences of substance abuse than on its prevention.

Eric Wright, director of the Center for [Health Policy](#) at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, said that for every dollar Indiana spends on services dealing directly and indirectly with substance abuse, 66 cents are used for health care-related consequences while only 1 cent pays for prevention/intervention initiatives.

When compared with other states in the region, Indiana spends less than most states on substance abuse overall. On average, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky spend \$543 more annually per capita on substance abuse than Indiana.

"Our hope is that this study will raise awareness about the potential [economic value](#) of prevention," Wright said. "While Indiana is more fiscally conservative, the data suggests that the state could save substantially on [health care costs](#) if we dedicated more funding toward substance abuse prevention."

Provided by Indiana University

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