



CHILDHOOD RESILIENCE Spending on Health/Wellness Promotion

INDICATOR

Dollars spent on mental health and substance abuse prevention by state agencies, per resident.

Numerator Dollars spent on programs aimed to support social and emotional development of children and to prevent child abuse and other ACEs

Denominator Residents (Under 18)

DESCRIPTION

This metric is an approximation of the state's fiscal investment in mental health promotion as reported by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, and sorted to include money spent on prevention services, such as health education, temporary cash assistance, abuse and neglect prevention, and programs specifically aimed at reducing ACEs in young children. This includes state dollars only, with no county funding.

IMPORTANCE

Many mental health problems that coalesce in adulthood can be prevented or reduced in severity by prevention, early identification, and referral to services (Van Landeghem, 2007). Furthermore, specific programs funded through health promotion and illness prevention dollars have been shown to improve children's test scores, decrease alcohol and drug use, and reduce teen pregnancy (Aos, 2004).

LIMITATIONS

- Direct outcomes for participants of these programs are not always captured.
- The funding allocation for health and wellness was calculated at the state level, though some state money is provided in block grants to the counties for local allocation towards prevention or treatment. Any county funding directed to health and wellness was estimated.

ADDITIONAL ANALYSES

Wisconsin Analyses

National Analyses

YEAR:		Fiscal Year 2015/2016	
WI	US	Best	Worst
\$250	Not available		
<i>per resident</i>			
PAST YEAR:		Fiscal Year 2014/2015	
WI	US		
\$237			

SOURCE

Aos, Steve, et al. (2004). Benefits and costs of prevention and early intervention programs for youth. Washington State Institute for Public Policy, Olympia, WA. Retrieved from www.wsipp.wa.gov.

Financial information from the Informational Papers 24, 44, 47, 48, 49, 50, 56, 60, Wisconsin Legislative Fiscal Bureau, 2015, accessed through the Office of Children's Mental Health Annual Report to the Legislature, (2017). Population data from Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health, Population Module, <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/wish/population/form.htm>.

Van Landeghem, Karen, and Catherine A. Hess. (2005). Children's Mental Health: An Overview and Key Considerations for Health System Stakeholders. Washington, DC: The National Institute for Health Care Management and Educational Foundation. Retrieved from <http://www.nihcm.org/pdf/CMHReport-FINAL.pdf>.