

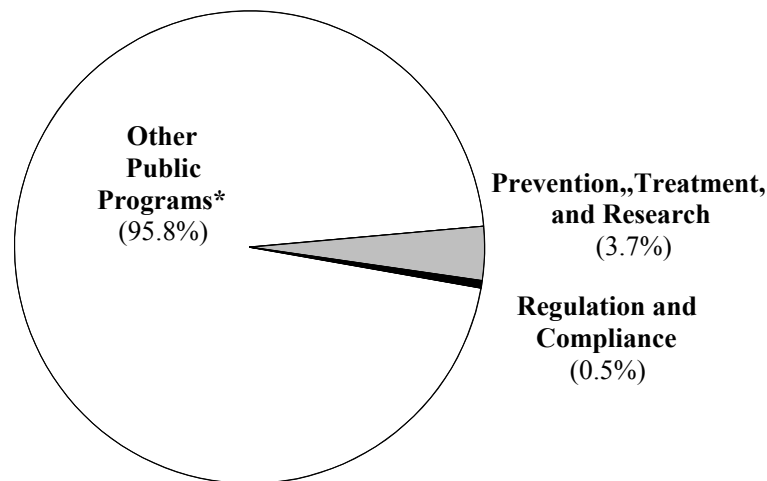
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Less than Four Percent of Substance Abuse Spending by U.S. States Used to Fund Prevention, Treatment, and Research

In 1998, states spent an estimated \$81.3 billion on tobacco, alcohol, illicit and prescription drug abuse and addiction. Less than 4% (\$3 billion) was spent on prevention, treatment, and research. The majority of the states' substance abuse budgets--an estimated \$77.9 billion--was spent on other public programs that are affected by substance abuse*. The authors hope that these findings "will encourage governors and state legislatures to make sensible investments in comprehensive efforts to reduce the use of tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs" (p. iii). A copy of the report is available online at www.casacolumbia.org.

State Substance Abuse Spending, 1998



*The category Other Public Programs includes justice, education, health, child/family assistance, mental health/developmentally disabled, public safety, and state workforce.

NOTE: Data were obtained from a survey of state budget officers from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico conducted in September of 1998. Five states did not participate in the survey; data for these states were estimated using the average per capita substance abuse spending in each program area for the total of the 47 responding jurisdictions.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA), *Shoveling Up: The Impact of Substance Abuse on State Budgets*, January 2001. For more information, contact Alyse Booth of CASA at 212-841-5260.