

The Economic Impacts of Illicit Drug Use and Excessive Alcohol Consumption on the Eastern Shore of Maryland

Presented by:

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Study Objective

- This study quantifies the societal costs of illicit drug use and the Excessive Consumption of Alcohol to each of the counties on the Eastern Shore of Maryland individually, and as a region.
- The study is based on research from the U.S. Department of Justice, National Drug Intelligence Center which examined such costs at the national level.
- In addition to quantifying these costs, the study also examines some potential policy recommendations.

How the Study was Conducted

- Data and Information Sources
 - Federal
 - State
 - Local
- Only public costs are examined, individual private costs (such as private payment of healthcare costs by victims of crime) are not included in the analysis
- Costs are examined on an annual basis. Future costs are not included in the annual estimates
- Intangible costs such as quality of life costs are not included in these estimates
- Methodology 1: National Drug Intelligence Center Approach for Opioids
- Methodology 2: Sacks et al. (2015), American Journal of Preventive Medicine

Key Findings

- The public cost associated with the treatment of illicit drug-related ailments totals over \$242 million on the Eastern Shore.
- The total criminal justice system costs for drug-related offenses on the Eastern Shore is estimated to equal approximately \$49.45 million. Total costs at the county level range between approximately \$2.53 million and \$11.73 million.
- Total property damage costs associated with drug-related crime is estimated to be approximately \$0.9 million with per county estimates between \$136,000 and \$260,000.

Key Findings (continued)

- The total estimated loss of productivity due to drug-related crime victimization on the Eastern Shore is approximately \$550,000 with county totals ranging from \$15,000 to \$140,000.
- The total cost of lost labor participation attributable to illicit drug use on the Eastern Shore is approximately \$520 million with county totals ranging from \$23 million to \$117 million.
- The lost productivity associated with illicit drug use on the Eastern Shore is approximately \$128 million. This figure combines losses due to treatment as well as incarceration.

Key Findings (continued)

- The total cost of excessive alcohol consumption on the Eastern Shore is approximately \$327 million (\$42 million in treatment costs, \$230 million in lost labor and productivity costs, and \$55 million other costs). County costs range from \$8.63 million to \$117.42 million.

Costs of Opioid Disease on the Eastern Shore

(in millions)

Treatment Costs	\$242.29
Labor Participation & Productivity Losses	\$647.73
Crime Related Costs	\$50.94
Total	\$940.96

Costs of Excessive Alcohol Consumption on the Eastern Shore

(in millions)

Health Costs	\$41.85
Lost Productivity	\$229.84
Other Costs	\$55.26
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$326.95</u>

Total Annual Combined Impact

\$1.3 billion (and climbing)

Thank You!



For more information, please contact us at: BEACON@Salisbury.edu