

The Human & Financial Costs of

SUBSTANCE USE IN BARNSTABLE COUNTY

Based on a report by the Barnstable County Regional Substance Abuse Council, March 2015

THE HUMAN COSTS

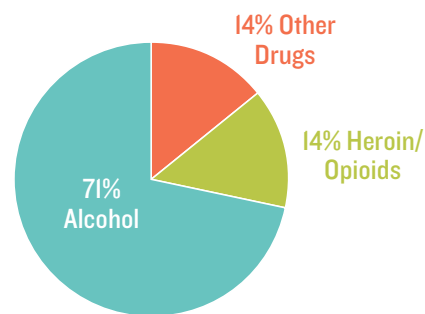
14% of Cape residents live with the chronic condition of substance use disorder.



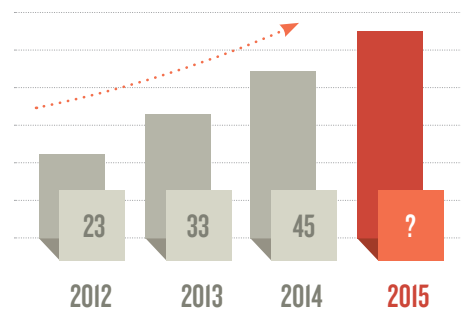
● Alcohol ● Heroin/Opioids ● Marijuana ● Other

7.9% of Cape residents are addicted to alcohol. Alcohol is a persistent and serious problem for the residents of Barnstable County.

Substance use disorder related deaths

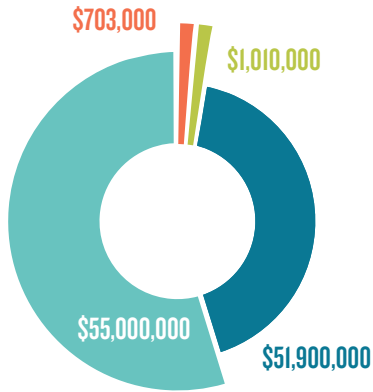


Deaths from heroin and prescription opioid abuse have **more than doubled** since 2012.



Substance use disorder statistics in Barnstable County are comparable to those of Massachusetts, but there are high financial and social costs that we can work together to reduce.

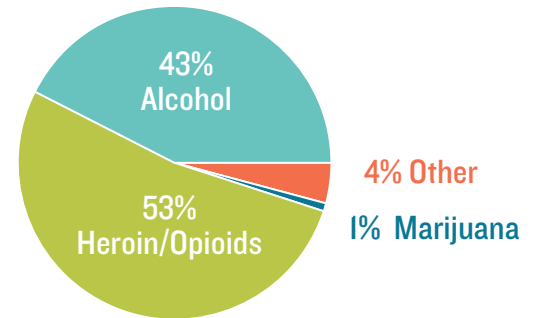
THE FINANCIAL COSTS



In 2013, over **\$110,000,000** was spent fighting substance use disorder in Barnstable County.

- Law Enforcement (52%)
- Treatment/Recovery (47%)
- Prevention (0.9%)
- Harm Reduction (0.6%)

Total Costs by Substance

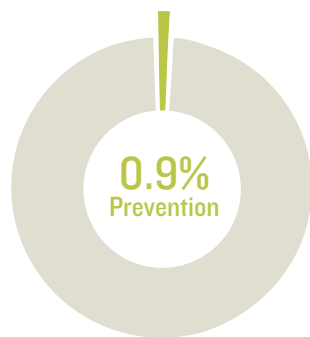


Total costs are likely much higher.

Research suggests that for every \$1 of direct costs, there can be an additional \$3 in productivity costs such as work loss due to premature death, illness, incarceration, and lost days of work.

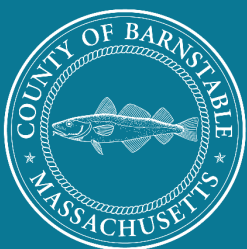
PREVENTION CAN SAVE LIVES AND MONEY

Currently, Barnstable County spends less than 1% on substance use disorder prevention.



Spending more on prevention can reduce the costs of substance use disorder.

\$1 = **\$8**
in Prevention in cost savings



For more information and to get involved go to www.bchumanservices.net or email sac@barnstablecounty.org

Sources:

RSAC. "Analysis of Substance Abuse on Cape Cod: A Baseline Assessment," (February 2015).

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.