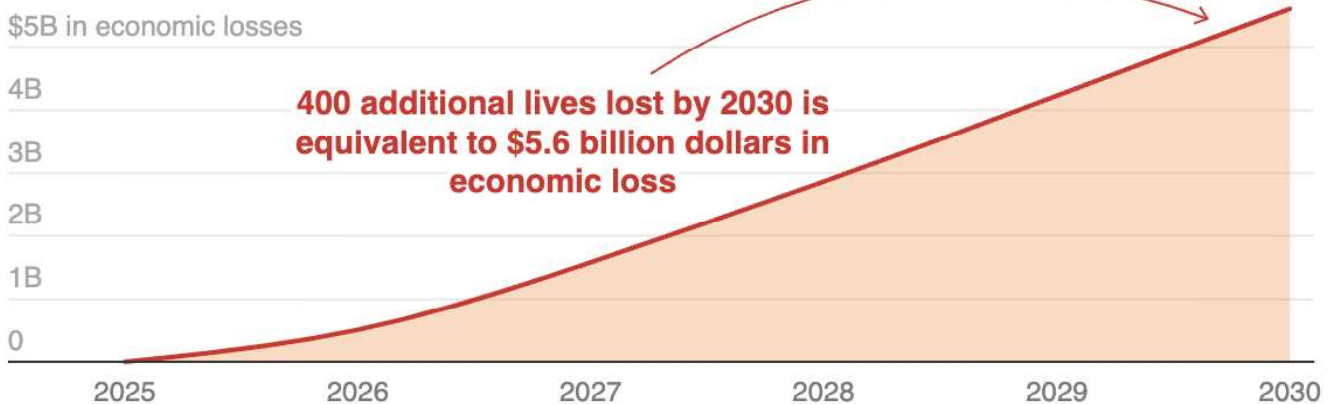


Cutting \$8 Million in life-saving resources for Missourians could lead to \$5.6 Billion in economic loss by 2030 from a dramatic increase in overdose deaths.

Results from a preliminary Missouri overdose modelling analysis indicate an additional 400 deaths by 2030 if a proposed \$8M cut is imposed, totalling over \$5.6 billion in economic loss over five years.

Spend \$8 Million annually, or lose \$5.6 Billion

By cutting \$8M in life-saving naloxone funding in Missouri each year, an additional 400 lives may be lost by 2030, totaling over \$5 billion in economic loss.



Budgetary cuts to Missouri's overdose prevention resources may save money in the short term, but may lead to future costs. The United States Department of Health and Human Services uses an estimate of \$14.1 million per person in 2026 to determine whether the life-saving benefits of safety measures outweigh the costs.¹ Using this estimate, we can estimate the economic impact of changing the availability of a safety measure, such as naloxone, a life-saving overdose reversal drug, that would be affected by this proposed budget cut.

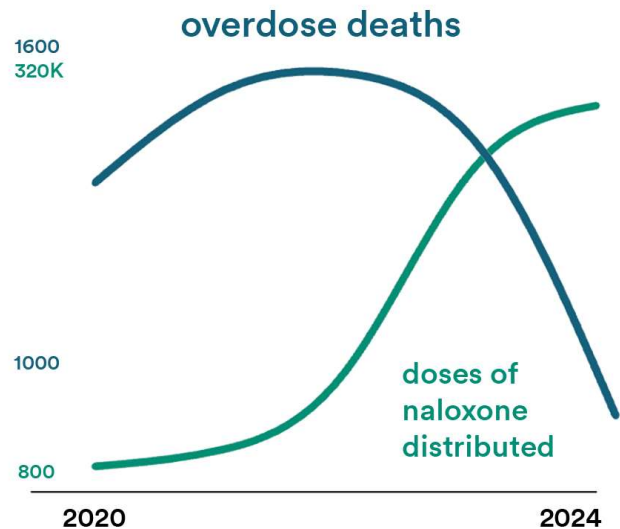
If 400 additional lives are lost by 2030 due to this proposed change, we may see economic losses exceeding \$5 billion. This number is not inclusive of other potential economic losses of the overdose crisis that have been estimated to be over \$8 billion, including job losses, healthcare expenses, and impacts of the illicit drug market.²

¹ HHS Standard Values for Regulatory Analysis, 2026

² Substance abuse costing Missouri \$8.5 billion every year, new estimates reveal, KCTV5, July 25, 2024

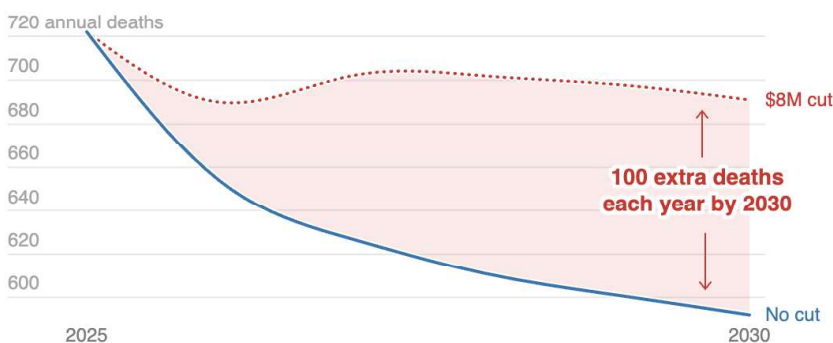
Investments in naloxone have helped drastically reduce opioid deaths in Missouri. Changes to funding could interrupt progress.

Naloxone is a life-saving overdose reversal drug. Opioid Settlement Funds have allowed naloxone to be available and accessible throughout the state, contributing to a decrease in overdose deaths since 2023. Naloxone requires consistent resupply to be effective in reducing overdoses at a statewide level. Much like the state has to continue to invest in defibrillators to reduce death from heart attacks, investments in naloxone need to be maintained to keep tackling the overdose crisis. A fire may be dying down, but any reduction in the water used to fight it can rekindle the flames.



The currently proposed budget cut would reduce the amount of naloxone available across Missouri’s urban and rural communities by 54%, and lead to residents and first responders being much less likely to have naloxone on hand to save a life when someone has overdosed. By continuing to invest in naloxone at stable levels, Missouri is reducing potential future costs. The continued investment in naloxone aligns with statewide priorities, initiatives, and response.³

The \$8 Million budget cut to naloxone may contribute to an extra 100 overdose deaths each year.



Missouri has been nationally recognized for the success of its naloxone program, leading to collaboration interest from other states that use cutting-edge research methods to drive decision-making. Advanced models have been developed that can help us understand the impact of statewide decisions on overdose rates in Missouri.⁴

³ Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Bulletin 03-24-2026 DHSS HAd - Health Risks Associated with Nitazenes

⁴ A descriptive study of drug overdose epidemics, overdose prevention efforts, and opioid settlement fund distribution across six states; International Journal of Drug Policy Volume 147, January 2026