

THE FIRST 100 DAYS (AND BEYOND):

The Trump Administration and Changes to Addiction Policy

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Learning Objectives

- Identify the **structural and organizational changes** proposed by the Trump administration that affect federal agencies, including the implications of consolidating key public health institutions.
- Evaluate the impact of **proposed budget cuts and personnel reductions** on addiction policy implementation, particularly in relation to grant funding, Medicaid, and workforce expertise at agencies like SAMHSA, CDC, and NIH.
- Analyze the **consequences of reduced data collection and terminated research initiatives** on the nation's ability to respond effectively to substance use trends, especially in the context of synthetic drug threats and public health surveillance.

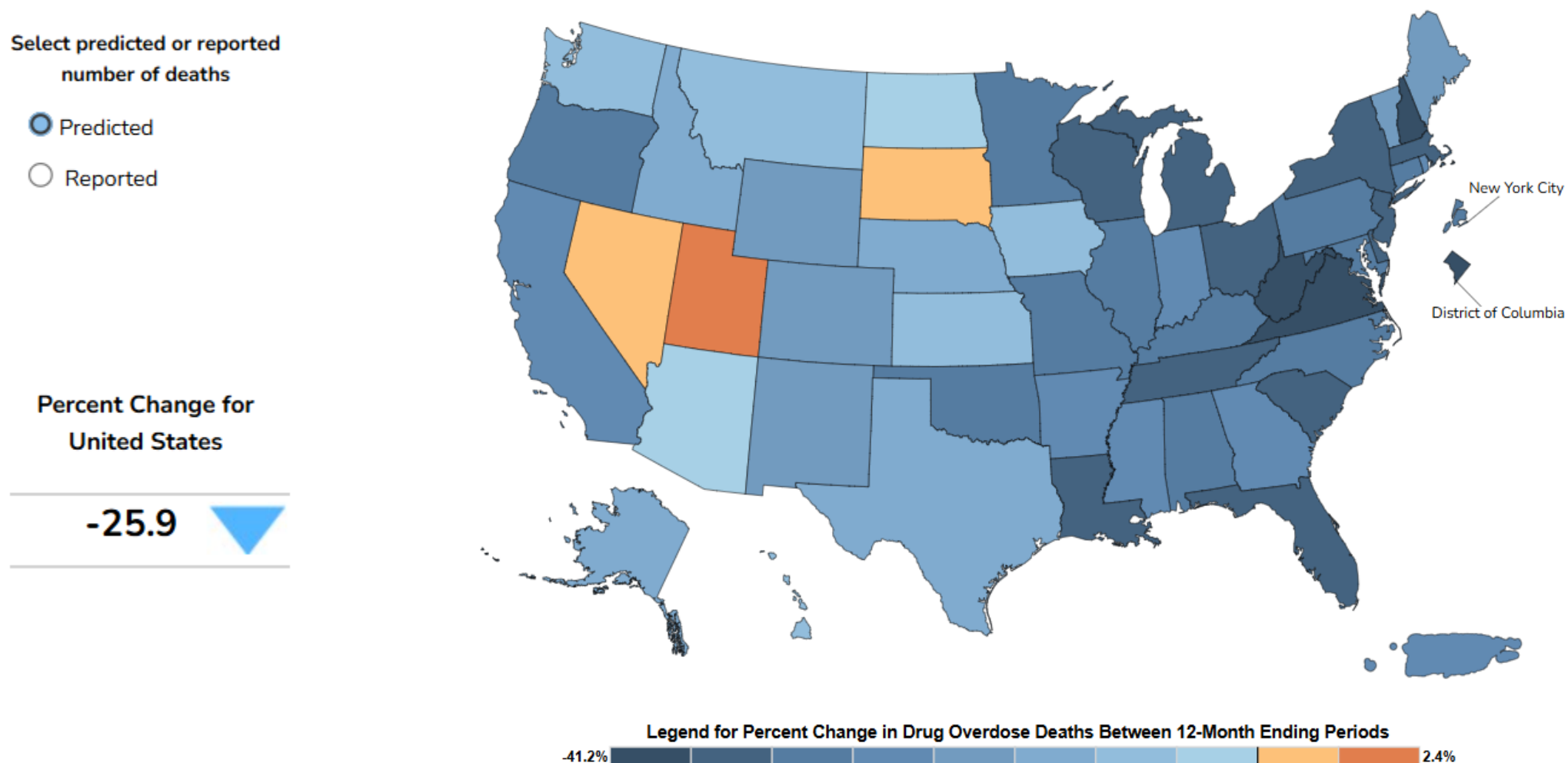
No Conflicts of Interest to Disclose

A North Carolina county wanted new court to stem its opioid crisis. Then came Trump's cuts.



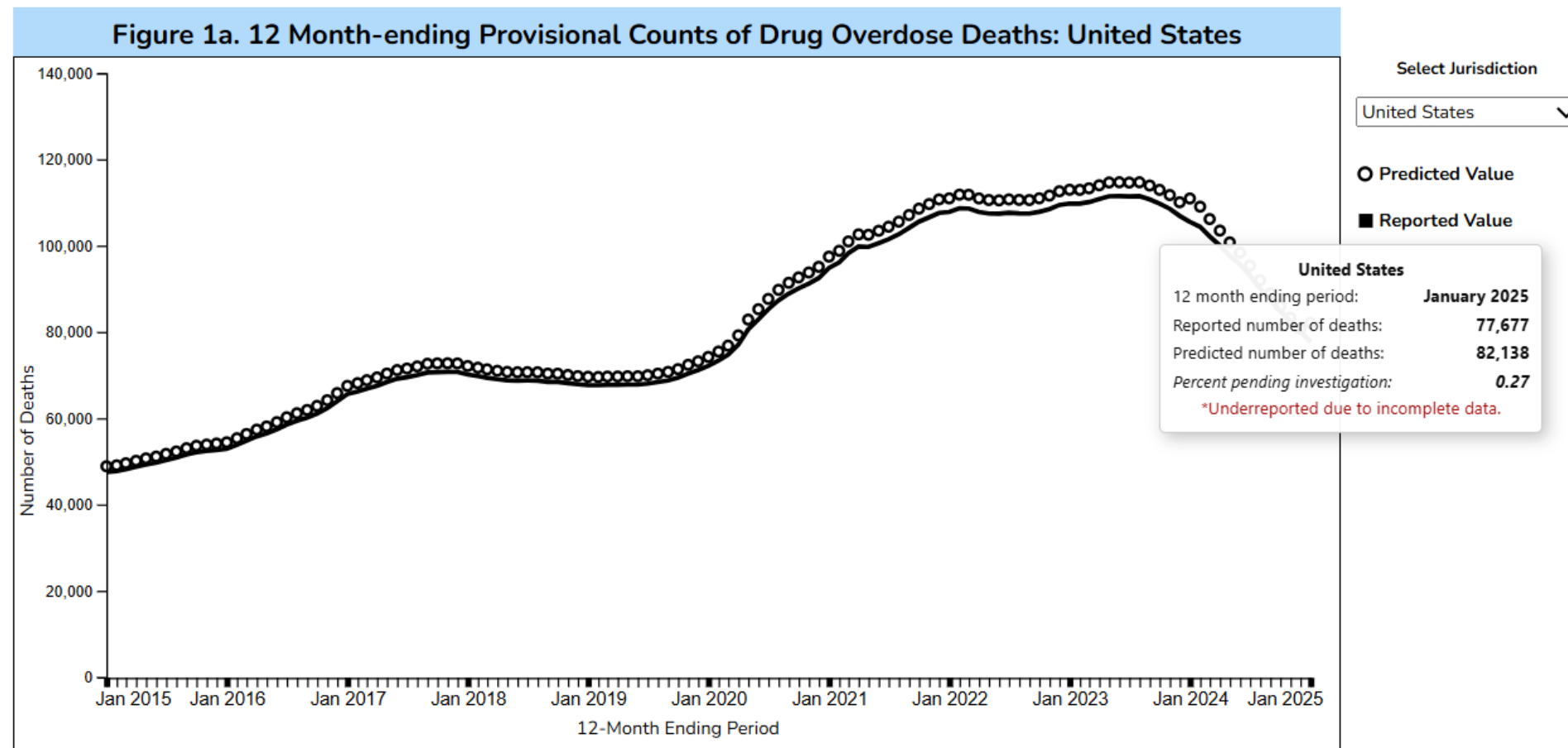
Wilkes County, North Carolina, has been hit hard by the opioid epidemic, but local officials have been open to approaches for making the crisis less deadly. They recently embraced a new strategy: a recovery court offering services, treatment and the potential to avoid prison. But, just as it was preparing to launch, the Justice Department pulled its funding this spring, stalling the effort before a single case could be heard.

Figure 1b. Percent Change in Predicted 12 Month-ending Count of Drug Overdose Deaths, by Jurisdiction: January 2024 to January 2025



12 Month-ending Provisional Number and Percent Change of Drug Overdose Deaths

Based on data available for analysis on: June 1, 2025



November 7, 2024

Looking Ahead: Drug Policy in the Next Trump Administration

Regina LaBelle

Director

With the anticipation of another Trump Administration, a question before us is what this means for the future of addiction and drug policy.

ARTICLES

ONDCP Releases Trump Administration's Statement of Drug Policy Priorities

The White House | April 3, 2025

In the next year, the White House will work across the government to implement the following six priorities:

1. Reduce the Number of Overdose Fatalities, with a Focus on Fentanyl
2. Secure the Global Supply Chain Against Drug Trafficking
3. Stop the Flow of Drugs Across our Borders and into Our Communities
4. Prevent Drug Use Before It Starts
5. Provide Treatment That Leads to Long-Term Recovery
6. Innovate in Research and Data to Support Drug Control Strategies

Structural Changes

ONDCP FUNDING SUMMARY
(\$ in thousands)

Appropriation/Program	FY 2024 Enacted	FY 2025 Enacted	FY 2026 Request
Salaries & Expenses:	\$34,830	\$21,785	\$21,785
Operations	\$21,785	\$21,785	\$21,785
Congressionally Directed Spending*	\$13,045	\$0	\$0
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA)**:	\$298,579	\$298,579	\$0
Grants and Federal Transfers	\$292,579	\$292,579	\$0
HIDTA Auditing Services and Associated Activities	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0
Grants Management System	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Other Federal Drug Control Programs**:	\$136,150	\$136,150	\$0
Drug-Free Communities Support Program (DFC)	\$109,000	\$109,000	\$0
Anti-Doping Activities	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$0
Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Model Acts Program	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$0
World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Membership Dues	\$3,700	\$3,700	\$0
Section 103 of P.L. 114-198	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$0
Total	\$469,559	\$456,514	\$21,785

* FY 2024 Enacted: Funding includes \$21,785,000 for Operations and \$13,045,000 for Congressionally Directed Spending as allocated in the Explanatory Statement of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024.

** For FY 2026, the Budget proposes to transfer the HIDTA program to the Department of Justice. Also, the Budget proposes to transfer the DFC program, the Anti-Doping Activities program, and WADA Dues to the Department of Health and Human Services. These proposals will enable ONDCP to focus resources on its core mission: to reduce



DEPARTMENT of HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES

Fiscal Year
2026

Administration for a
Healthy America

Administration for a Healthy America (AHA)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

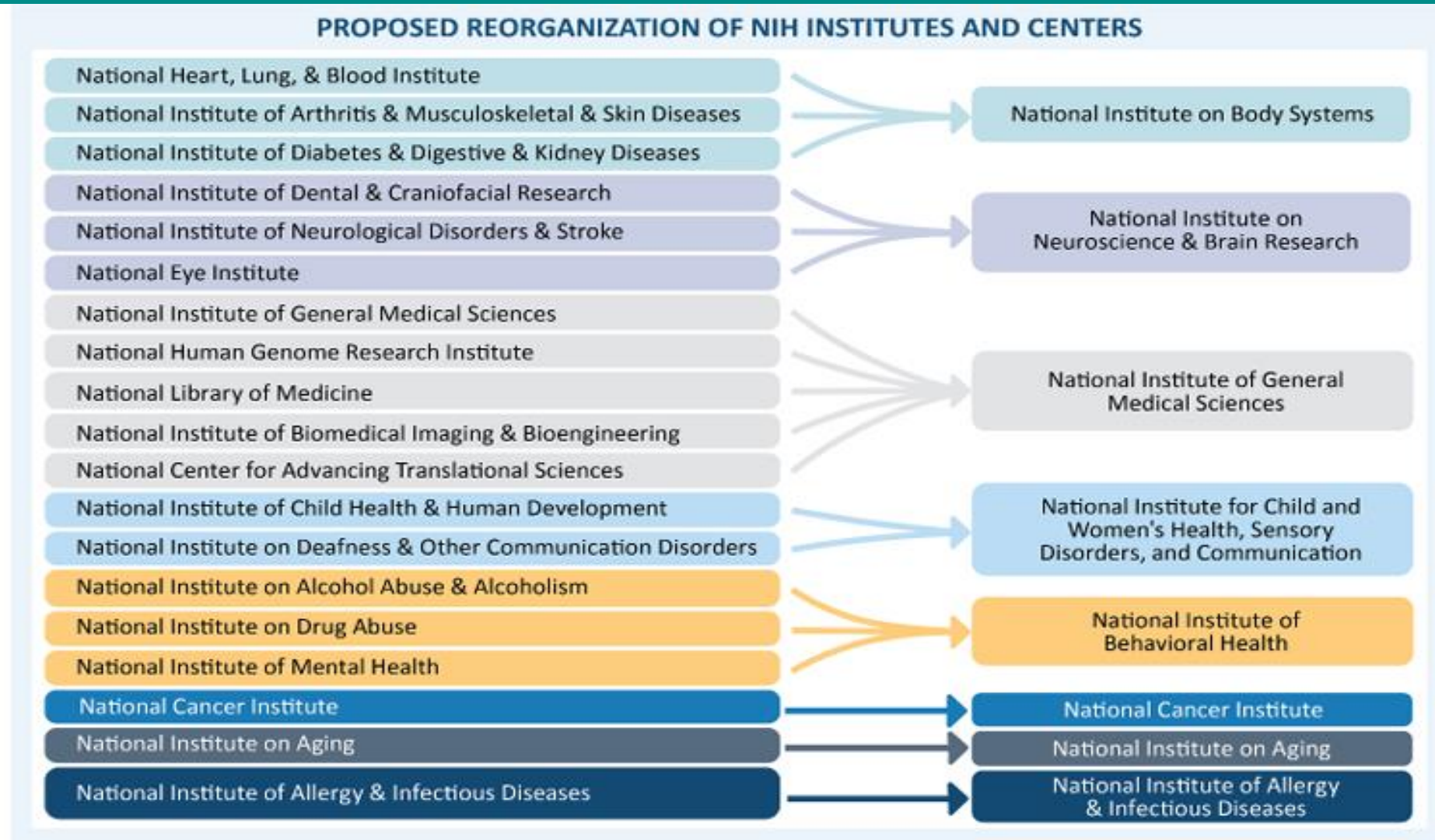
Health Resources and Services
Administration

Agency for Toxic Substances and
Disease Registry

Office of the Assistant Secretary of
Health

National Institute of Environmental
Health Services

Some CDC sub agencies



About NCHS

Proposed move of NCHS to the newly formed HHS Office of Strategy.



For Everyone

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

KEY POINTS

- CDC's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) is the nation's principal health statistics agency.
- Our data provide insights into the health of people across the United States and how their health changes over time.
- Our statistics guide programs and policies to improve the health of the nation.



Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2025). *Fiscal year 2026 justification of estimates for appropriations committees: General departmental management* [PDF]. <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2026-gdm-cj.pdf>

Budgetary and Personnel Changes

Fiscal Changes to Date

American Rescue Plan grants clawed back (\$11B) *(in litigation)*₁

National Institute on Drug Abuse grants slowed

National Institutes of Health grants with DEI terminated (2300) – nearly 1/3 HIV/addiction related 900 grants ordered reinstated by MA court ₂

1. State of Colorado et al. v. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services et al., No. 1:25-cv-00121 (D.R.I. Apr. 1, 2025) [Complaint]. <https://www.ag.ny.gov/sites/default/files/court-filings/colorado-et-al-v-us-department-of-health-and-human-services-et-al-complaint-2025.pdf>

2. Science. (2025, June 26). *Following court order, NIH ceases new terminations of politically sensitive grants*. Science. <https://www.science.org/content/article/following-court-order-nih-ceases-new-terminations-politically-sensitive-grants>

Personnel Changes

20,000 HHS employees lost their jobs, either through early retirement offers or reductions in force (RIFs)

SAMHSA: 10% of its staff has been terminated

CDC: 2,400 lost their jobs – 460 have been reinstated

State of New York et al. v. Kennedy et al., No. 1:25-cv-00196 (M.D.R.I. May 5, 2025) [Complaint]. New York State Attorney General.

<https://ag.ny.gov/sites/default/files/court-filings/state-of-new-york-et-al-v-robert-f-kennedy-jr-et-al-complaint-2025.pdf>

LaBelle, R. M. (2025). The first 100 days: The Trump administration and changes to addiction policy. *Journal of Addiction Medicine*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1097/ADM.0000000000001515>

Proposed Changes

Proposed elimination of PRNS grants, including The STOP Act, Minority Fellowships, First Responder Training (Naloxone), Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment, Communities of Recovery, Treatment Services for Homelessness, Youth Prevention and Recovery, Pregnant and Parenting Women– to name a few.

Indirectly related to substance use – Workforce development programs, CDC injury prevention cuts.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2025). *Fiscal year 2026 congressional justification: Administration for a Healthy America* [PDF]. <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2026-aha-cj.pdf>

Proposed Funding Cuts in Proposed FY26 Budget

Combine:

- State Opioid Response grant (\$1.6B)
- Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, Recovery Grant (SUPTRS) (\$2B), and
- Mental Health Block Grant (\$1B)

Behavioral Health Innovation Block Grant - \$4.1 Billion grant program

Reduction of \$500M

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2025). *Fiscal year 2026 congressional justification: Administration for a Healthy America* [PDF]. <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/fy-2026-aha-cj.pdf>

Proposed Funding Cuts in Proposed FY26 Budget

Combine:

- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- National Institute on Mental Health (NIMH)
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
- National Institute of Behavioral Health – 38.1% budget cut

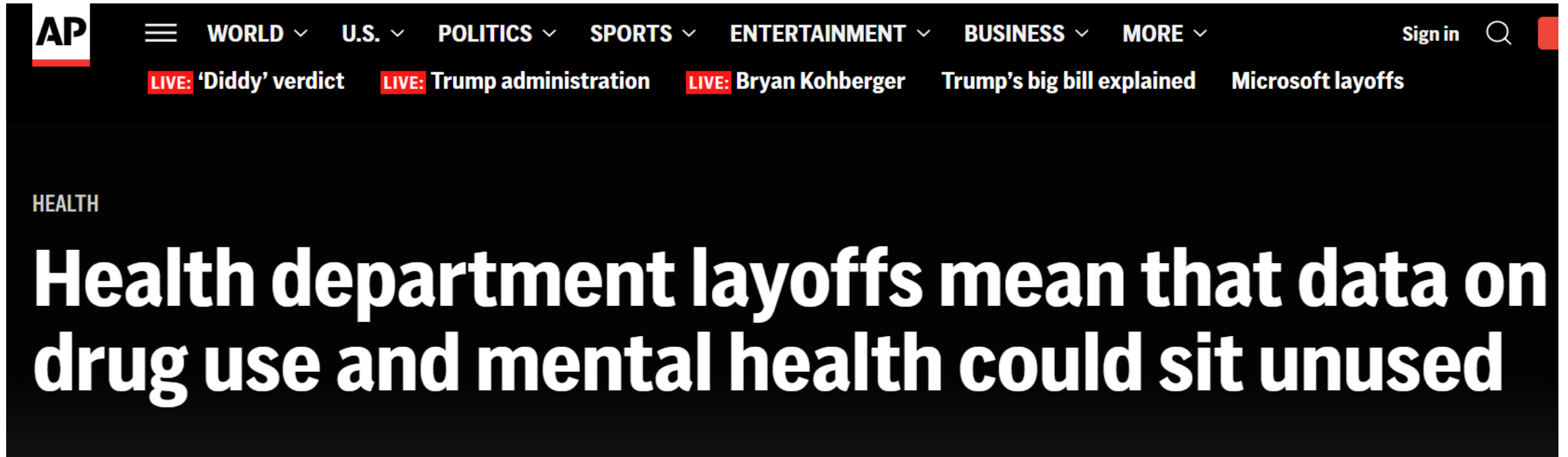
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health. (2025). *Fiscal year 2026 congressional justification* [PDF]. <https://www.nih.gov/about-nih/what-we-do/budget>

Data Collection Changes



DAWN Discontinuing New Data Collection

Effective June 13th, 2025, the Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN), operated by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), will discontinue new data collection as part of a broader effort to align agency activities with agency and administration priorities. DAWN provided information on emergency department visits related to recent substance use and emerging substance use trends across the country. Reports and statistical products using DAWN data will remain available on SAMHSA's website.



Associated Press. (2025, April 2). *Health department layoffs mean that data on drug use and mental health could sit unused*. AP News.
<https://www.apnews.com/article/d863235ec762858ee309f4189c8e8c80>



Impact of the Reconciliation Act on Individuals with Substance Use Disorder

- Per the Congressional Budget Office, 11.8 million people will lose Medicaid coverage
- Estimated 1.6 million people with substance use disorder will lose Medicaid coverage (Center for American Progress)
- Medicaid work requirement for 19-64 year olds in Medicaid expansion states
- Exception to the work requirement for people who are “medically frail”, includes someone with a substance use disorder.

/F– they are in treatment at a “Drug addiction or alcoholic treatment and rehabilitation program” ...a private nonprofit organization or institution, or a publicly operated community mental health center”

Eligibility determination every 6 months, beginning December 2026.

Exception to work requirement is an individual is incarcerated § 71119(a)(xx)(3)(A)(ii)

- Restrictions placed on states to raise revenue – will cause states to limit care

Thank you

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