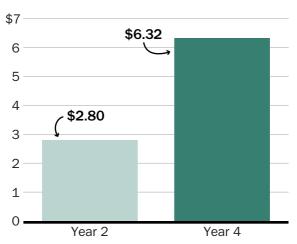
Drug courts more cost-effective than probation

Initially, drug courts are more expensive than regular probation. However, because of the higher recidivism rate for probation, savings occur in the second year. Based on a city of St. Louis cost-benefit analysis, after two years, the state gains \$2.80 for each \$1 spent on drug courts. After four years, the state gains \$6.32 for each \$1 spent on drug courts.

Dollars gained for each dollar spent on drug courts



NOTE: Data is from St. Louis.

Source: MISSOURI DRUG COURTS COORDINATING COMMISSION **HELLE ANDREASSEN/Missourian**