

Ada County Juvenile Court Services

A Report Card to Our Stakeholders
January – December 2013

Our Vision

To be the foremost juvenile justice organization in the USA by proactively working to eliminate juvenile crime and to support and educate our community on juvenile justice

Our Mission

To provide professional services that build, reinforce, and sustain skills to enhance the lives of youth and families

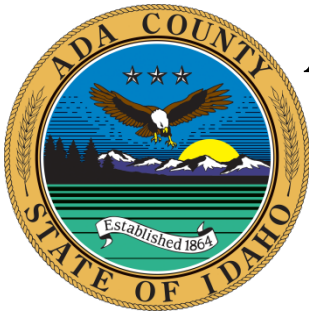
Our Agency Values

Dedication, Diversity, Fairness, Integrity, Trust

Ada County Juvenile Court Services (ACJCS)
Janet M. Wallace, Director

Main Office
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A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

To Our Community

What a great year it was for ACJCS! 2013 brought us new programs, facility improvements and more pride than ever in what we do.

We were excited to get our security gate installed for the Detention facility. Not only do staff now have secure parking, but law enforcement also know they can escort clients between vehicles and the building without risk of escape. Our Detention Officers led over 300 small groups for residents, with subjects such as "Self-Esteem" and "Resume Writing." To top it off, one of our Detention Supervisors implemented a full-scale music program for residents, which is highly successful and enjoyed by all.

Our Programs Division, Community Service program continues to reign supreme. Our juveniles worked over 600 hours in the wildlife preserve, removed or repaired 22.4 miles of fencing, performed 685 hours of trail work in the foothills, and partnered with two children's hospitals on numerous projects. To top it off, the program was named "Volunteer of the Year" at the Veteran's Home. Nor was it a surprise that the Clinical Branch scored two 99% and one 100% on two compliance reviews conducted by the State of Idaho's auditing designee (BPA). We're so proud of the work they do.

Probation's Prevention Program gave 108 Law Related Education presentations, reaching nearly 3,700 sixth and seventh grade students. The program also collaborated with five junior high/middle schools in facilitating 25 groups for 197 at-risk students.

2013 was the 10th anniversary of our annual Scales of Justice Fishing Tournament. This year we hosted 50 juvenile probationers from 7 counties for a day of fishing and mentoring at CJ Strike Reservoir. We were honored to have Idaho Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger Burdick and Navy veteran Joshua Baker as guest speakers.

Employees received over 3,000 hours of training in a multitude of areas. We were fortunate to be able to send staff to 11 conferences and trainings across the state and country. They all returned with valuable knowledge, skills and ideas for making their division and this department even stronger.

We're ready to continue our work in the community, always ensuring we continue to work within the philosophy of The Balanced Approach.

Sincerely

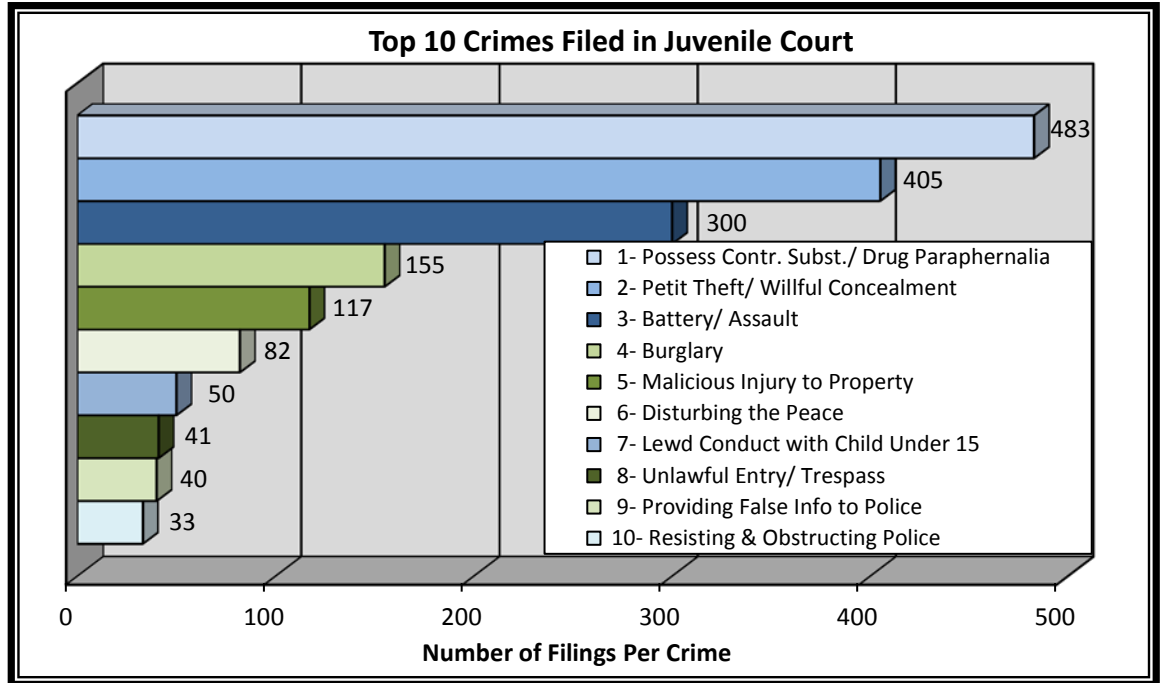
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ACJCS CRIME FACTS

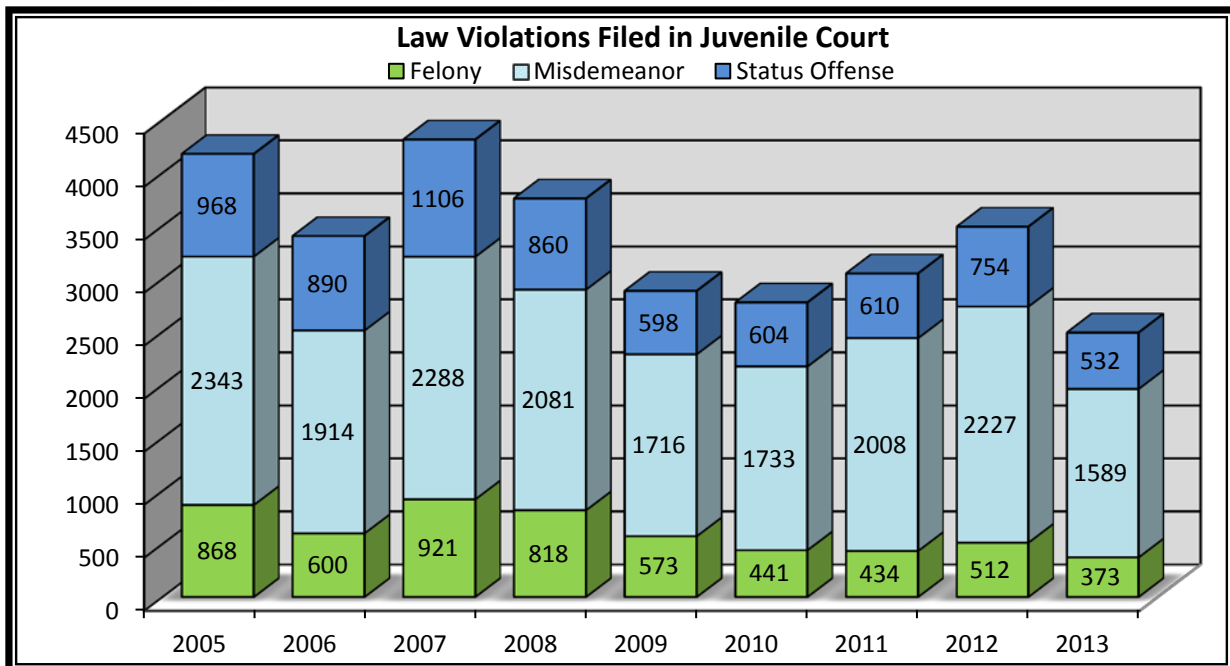
JUVENILE CRIME

In 2013, law enforcement agencies arrested or referred nearly 1,500 juveniles for 3,000 law violations alleged to have been committed in Ada County. The Prosecuting Attorney evaluates each police report and determines whether the case should be dismissed, diverted, or charged (filed) by formal petition.



SEVERITY OF LAW VIOLATIONS

Misdemeanor crimes averaged 64% of all law violations filed in Juvenile Court, followed by status offenses (such as Runaway and Curfew) at 21%, and then by felony crimes at 15%.



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VICTIM SERVICES

Vision Statement: *“Proactively responding to victims of juvenile crime in a manner that is restorative and meaningful.”*

The Victim Impact Program provides informative and restorative services to victims of juvenile crime, including victim advocacy and restitution.



Victim Advocacy = 369 clients
Restitution Services = 401 clients
Restitution Collected = \$90,822

VICTIM ADVOCACY

- Assists victims throughout the court process and keeps them informed and updated on their cases; and accompanies them to court as needed.
- Serves as liaison between victims and the various personnel within the court system.
- Provides elder abuse safeguarding tips to seniors 65+ who are victims of juvenile crime, to help them identify and prevent future abuse.
- Conducts Victim Impact Panels to bridge the gap between juvenile offenders and their community, which helps offenders understand the impact their crime/s have in the community.
- Screens letters of apology from juvenile offenders for appropriateness, empathy, and sincerity to provide for victim closure.

RESTITUTION SERVICES

- Assists victims in filing a restitution claim with the court.
- Victims may receive financial compensation from juvenile offenders to restore what was lost.



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DETENTION SERVICES

DETENTION POPULATION

We admitted 1,086 residents in 2013 (79% male and 21% female), including 135 juveniles held for other jurisdictions. Number of admissions were down 7% from 2012. Daily population decreased, while length of stay rose due to expanded intensive treatment programming.

SCHOOL

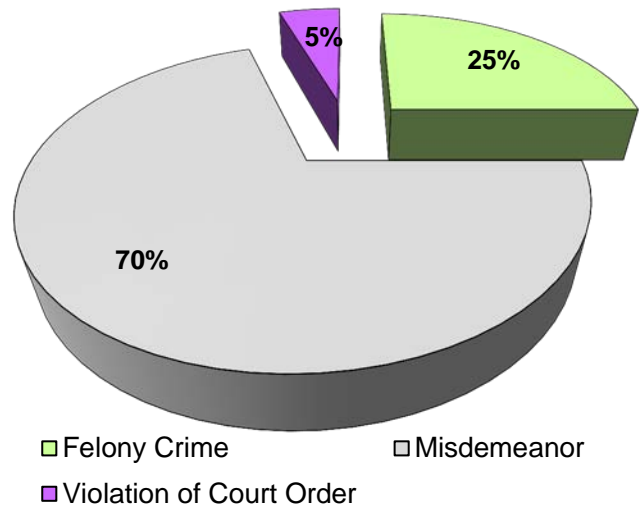
Masters-level teachers from the Boise School District provide instruction to detention residents 5 days a week. From July 2013 through Dec. 2013, residents earned 87 high school credits, passed 14 GED tests, and completed 1 GED.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Our medical department maintained its accreditation with the National Commission on Health Care in 2013.

Residents receive mental health services, health education, counseling, STD and HIV testing, immunizations, and prescription services.

2013 Underlying Offenses for Resident Admissions



FOOD SERVICES

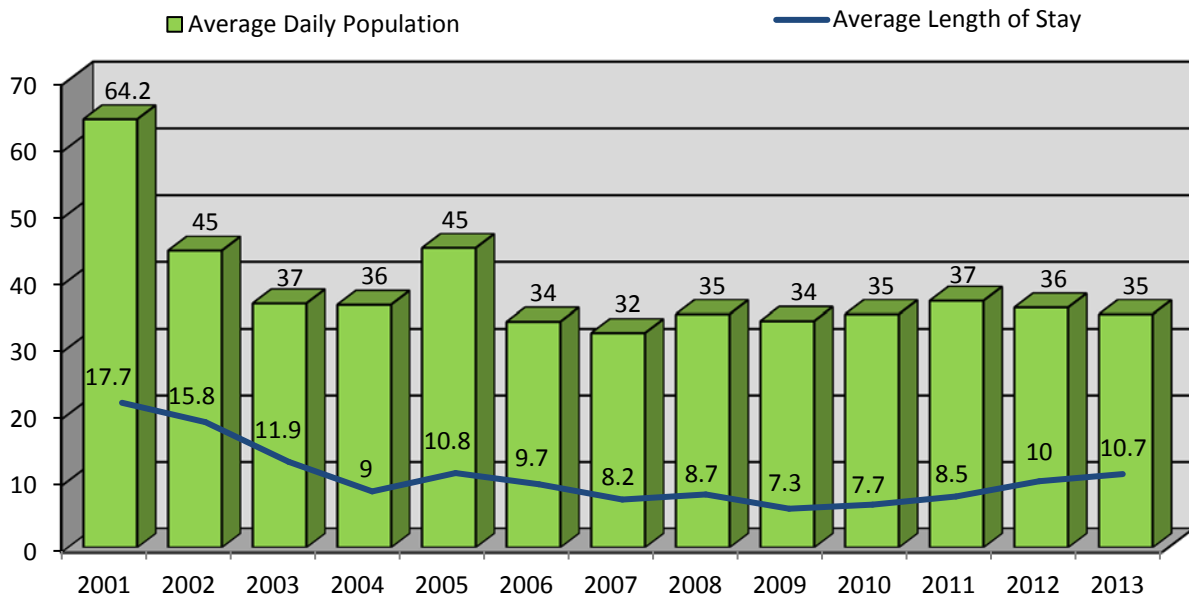
Detention & Program Meals = 35,973
 Detention & Program Snacks = 19,646

Our Food Service Department consistently receives high quality ratings from Central District Health.

SUICIDE RISK

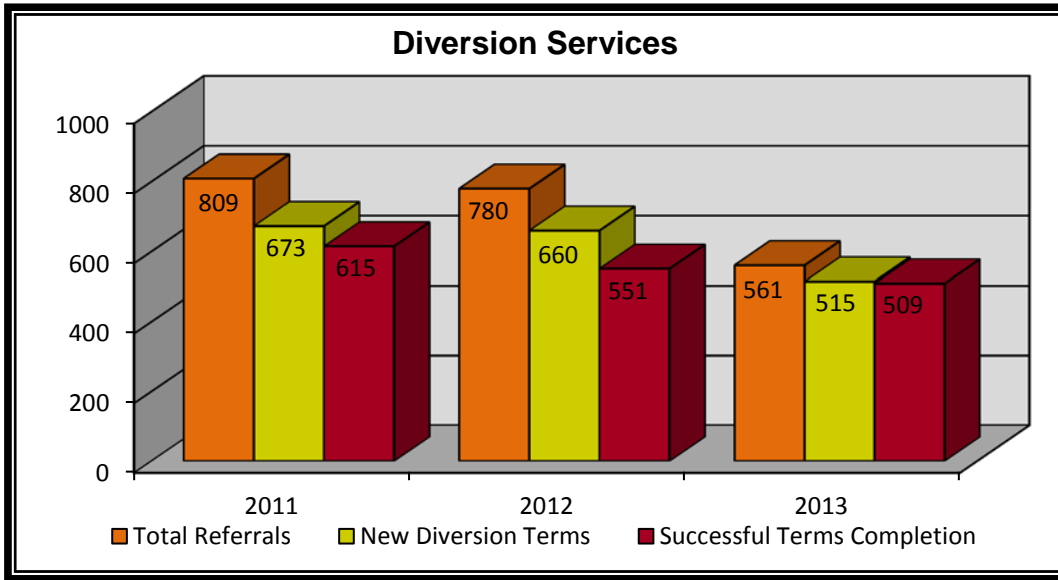
233 residents were assessed "at risk" for suicide when they arrived, but only 6 attempted, and no injuries were reported.

Average Daily Population & Length of Stay in Detention (Days)



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DIVERSION & PROBATION SERVICES



DIVERSION

Participation in Diversion is an option granted by the Prosecuting Attorney to youth referred for low level offenses with no prior referrals. If the youth agrees to and completes conditions outlined in a contract, such as community service work and restitution payment in full, then the referring charge is dismissed.



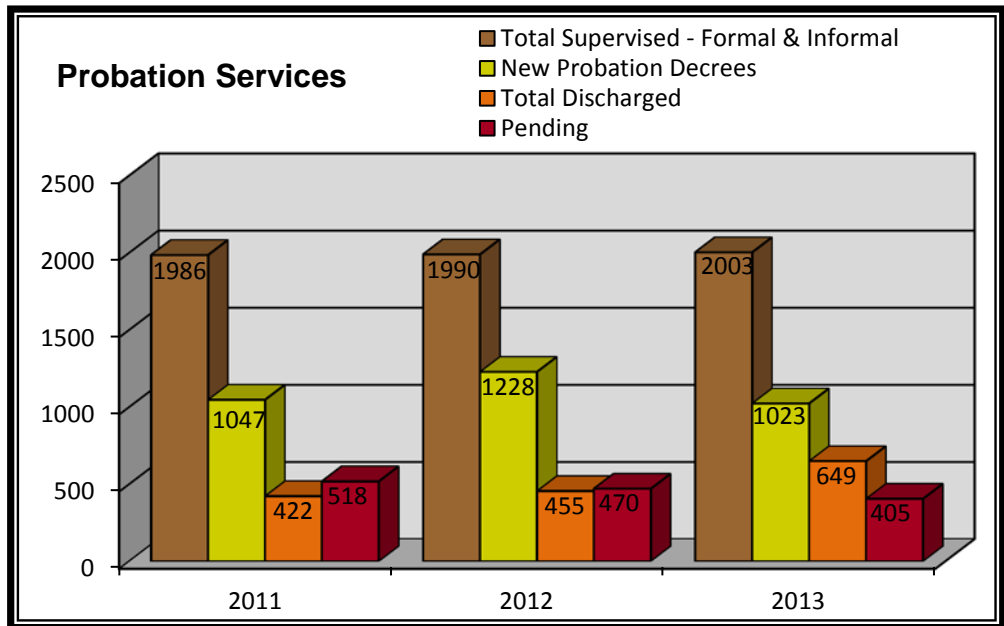
DETENTION ALTERNATIVE MONITORING

Electronic Monitoring and In-Home Detention are examples of the Conditional Release Order (CRO) monitoring program, which provides court-sanctioned alternatives to detention for juveniles not posing serious risk to the community. Our probation officers monitored 627 CROs in 2013.

PROBATION CASELOAD: A SNAPSHOT IN TIME

On 12/31/13, the agency's caseload consisted of 74% males and 26% females, and included:

- 52% on probation in the community
- 17% on diversion referral or on Terms
- 24% pending court hearings
- 8% in state custody



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PROGRAMS & OTHER SERVICES

CLINICAL COUNSELING SERVICES

The Clinical Program is licensed to provide substance abuse and mental health assessments and services for youth involved in juvenile court.

Drug/Alcohol Assessments = 443 clients
 Outpatient Treatment = 71 clients
 Intensive Treatment = 53 clients
 Juvenile Drug Court = 38 clients
 Individual/Family Counseling = 156 clients

WORK IN LIEU OF DETENTION

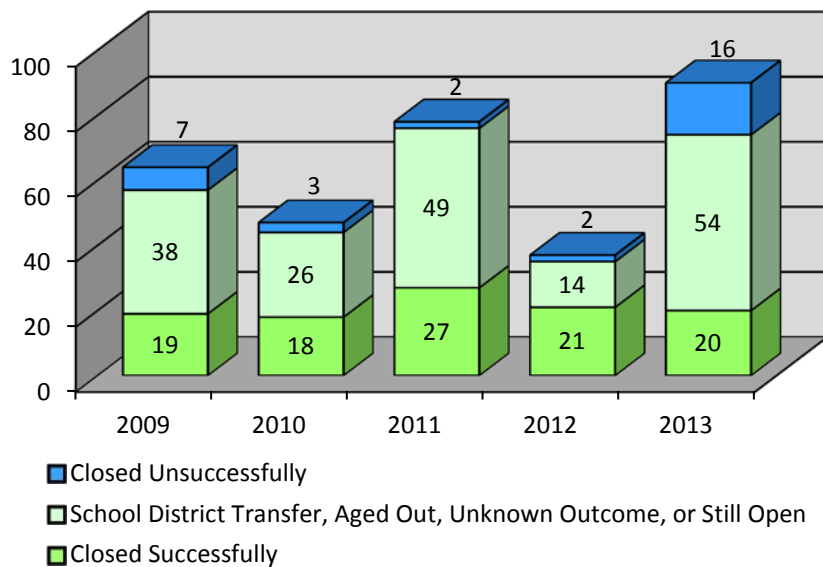
Total Referrals = 189
 Successful Completions = 158
 Total Hours Served = 4,922
 Value of Service = \$35,681

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Total Referrals = 489
 Successful Completions = 427
 Total Hours Served = 9,782
 Value of Service = \$70,920

Juveniles work in the community to make amends for the harm their crimes caused.

Attendance Court Referrals



ATTENDANCE COURT

A prevention program targeting elementary students with chronic school attendance problems. Partnering with the Boise and Meridian school districts, the court develops individual plans and monitors compliance to assist families to improve their child's attendance.

VICTORY ACADEMY

An educational program for suspended or expelled high school students, Victory Academy partners with Boise School District and Idaho Youth Ranch. Students work on self-paced curricula aligned with state and district standards or GED, and participate in collective art and creative writing projects.

Number of Credit-Earning Students = 59
 Number of GED Students = 31
 Credits Earned = 157
 GED Tests Passed = 89
 Successful Transition = 20 students
 Attained GED/HSE/Diploma = 17 students

CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM

Educating at-risk middle school youth about the laws and consequences of juvenile crime, this program operates through partnerships with the Boise and Meridian school districts.

Law Related Education

3,695 students
 (108 presentations)

Small Group Curriculum

197 students
 (25 groups)