

Ada County Juvenile Court Services

A Report Card to Our Stakeholders
January – December 2014

Our Vision

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

Our Mission

Strengthening our community by providing professional services to enhance the lives of youth and families

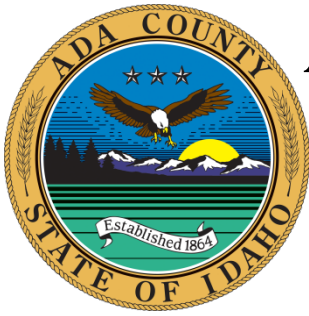
Our Agency Values

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

2014 brought us new employees, great speakers in Detention, great training, and plenty of planning for a bright future.

Our staff was truly impressed with the training they received from Dr. Lisa Boesky on "Trauma Responsive Care," and we hope to have her back in 2015. Employees also received training on gang activity and the impact of Human Trafficking on juveniles. The entire Clinical Staff attended three days of training on Solution Focused Brief "Group" Therapy... training used in their daily work.

After several years of preparation, our Detention Facility received Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) certification following a 3-day audit by a Federal official. We are very proud of this accomplishment and that it occurred during the first year of certifications! This year's Detention garden was terrific. Department staff helped build raised beds, install sprinkler systems and plant fruits, flowers, and vegetables. Detention residents and staff maintained the garden and the kitchen staff utilized the produce. The garden was featured on local TV and on the front page of the local newspaper.

Our Programs Division, Community Service program designed the new Tobacco/Alcohol Program (TAP) to fill the void left by the discontinuation of Youth Court. We're excited to get the program underway early in 2015. The Clinical Branch achieved Dual Diagnosis Capability in Addiction Treatment (DDCAT) status and passed all audits in the highest categories! "Sandwich and a Smile" was a kindness campaign designed and executed by Victory Academy, producing 100 sack lunches for the Corpus Christi Day Center.

We also hired our first Planning and Projects Manager. This individual will help us find applicable grants, work special programming, and serve as a conduit for getting new projects off the ground.

Employees received over 3,000 hours of training in a multitude of areas. We were fortunate to be able to send personnel 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

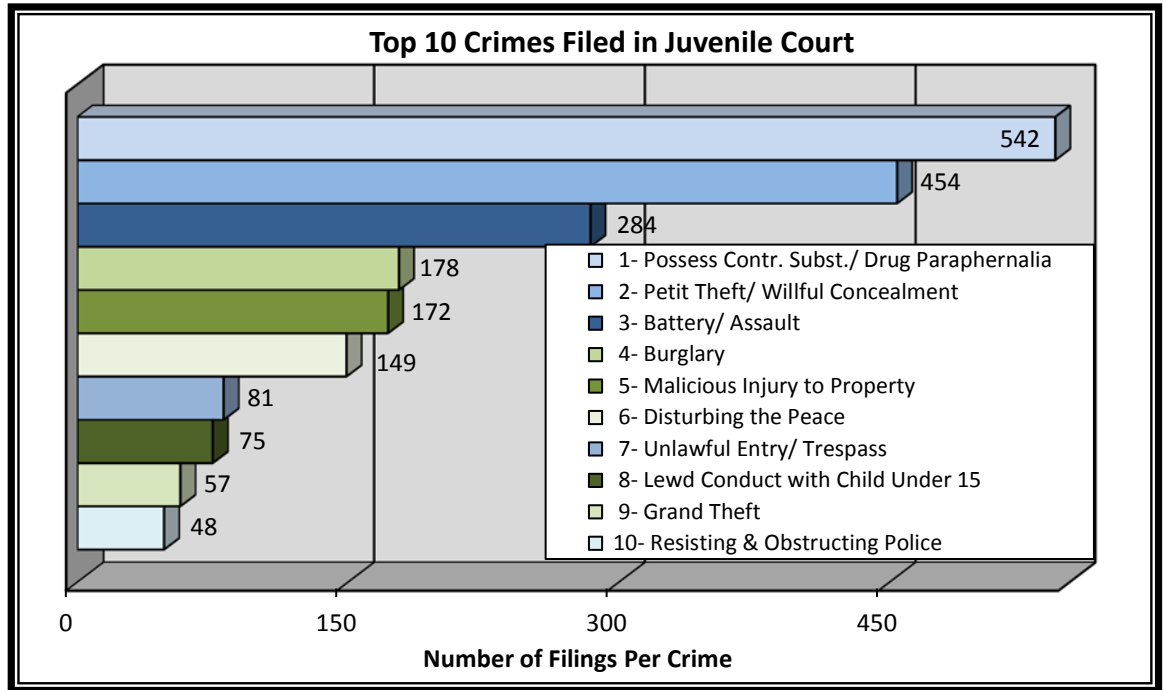
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ACJCS CRIME FACTS

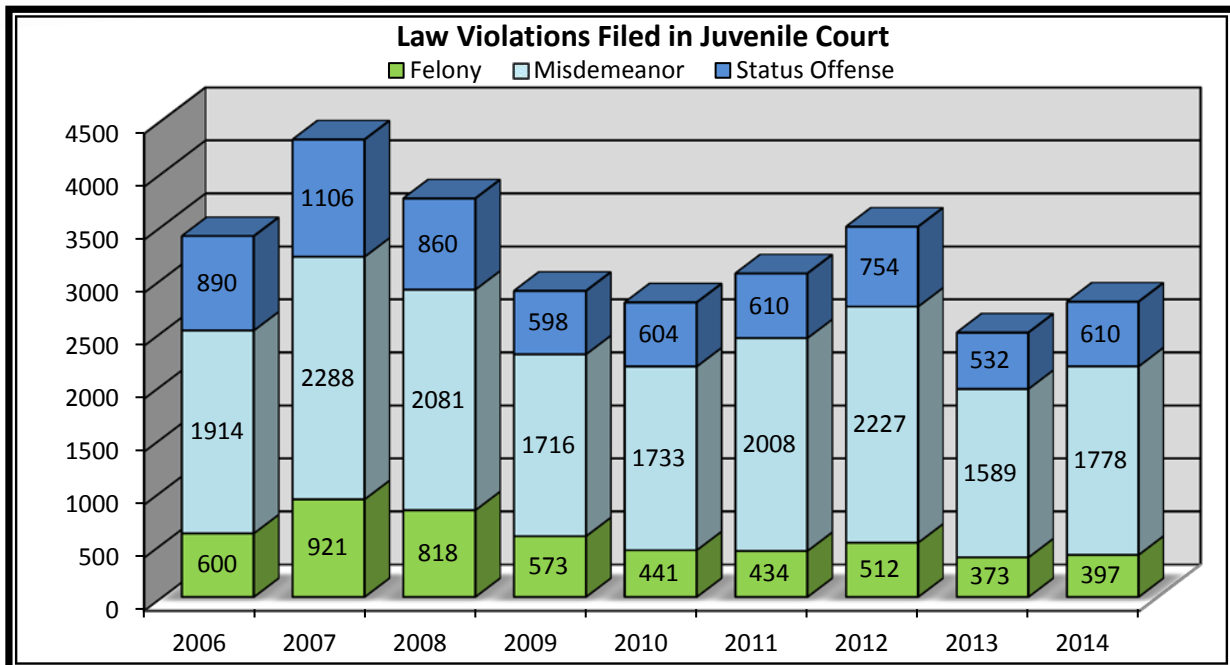
JUVENILE CRIME

In 2014, law enforcement agencies arrested or referred 1,600 juveniles for over 3,300 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 22%, and felony crimes at 14%.



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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 & Restitution

Services = 822 clients

Restitution Collected = \$60,533

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 1,119 residents in 2014 (72% male and 28% female), including 116 juveniles held for other jurisdictions. Number of admissions were up 3% from 2013. Average daily population and average length of stay in detention both decreased from 2013.

SCHOOL

Masters-level teachers from the Boise School District provide instruction to detention residents 5 days a week. Residents earned 201 high school credits in 2014.

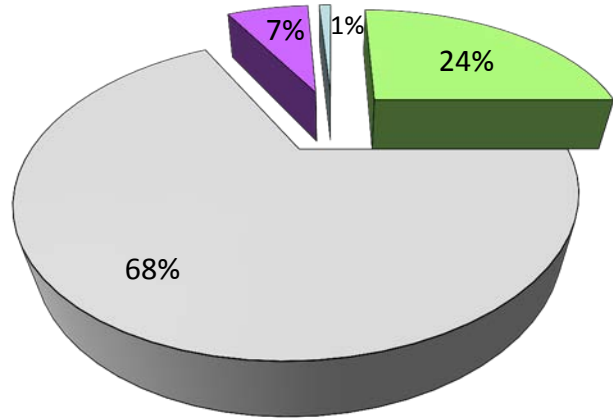
MEDICAL SERVICES

Our medical department maintained its accreditation with the National Commission on Health Care in 2014. Residents receive mental health services, health education, counseling, STD and HIV testing, immunizations, and prescription services.

PREA

Our detention center was certified 100% compliant with the Federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) in 2014.

2014 Underlying Offenses for Resident Admissions



- Felony Crime
- Misdemeanor
- Violation of Court Order
- Status/Out of Area

FOOD SERVICES

Detention & Program Meals = 32,677
 Detention & Program Snacks = 21,356

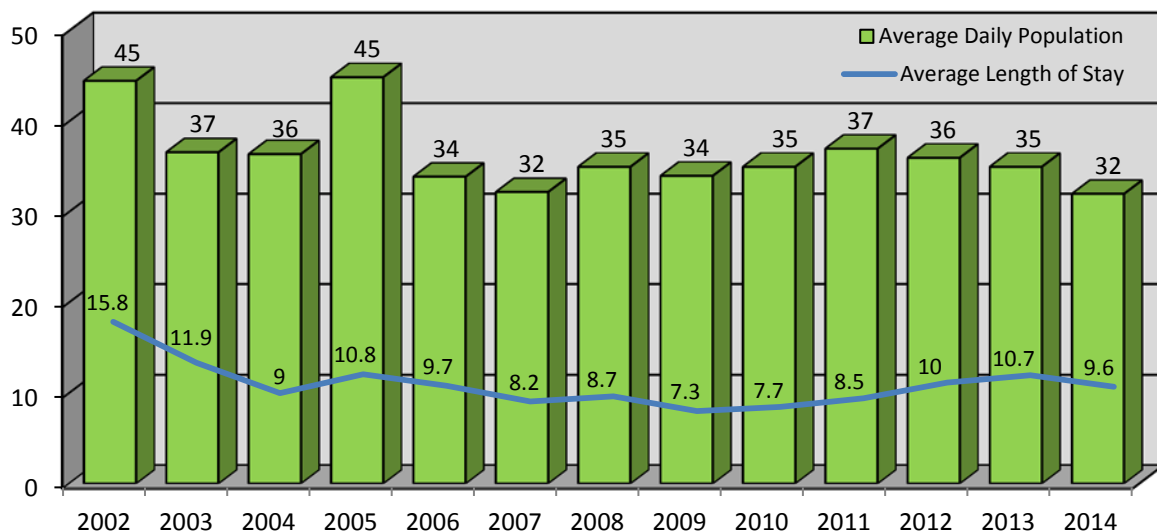
Our Food Service Department consistently receives high quality ratings from Central District Health.

SUICIDE RISK

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

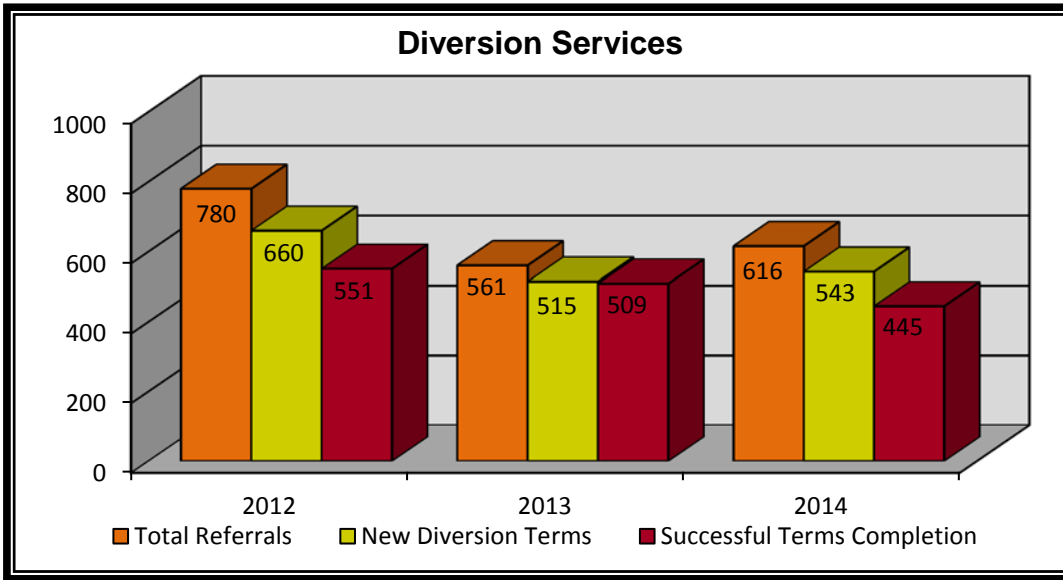
Average Daily Population & Length of Stay in Detention (Days)

Includes youth in Substance Abuse Services programming, typically 60+ 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.



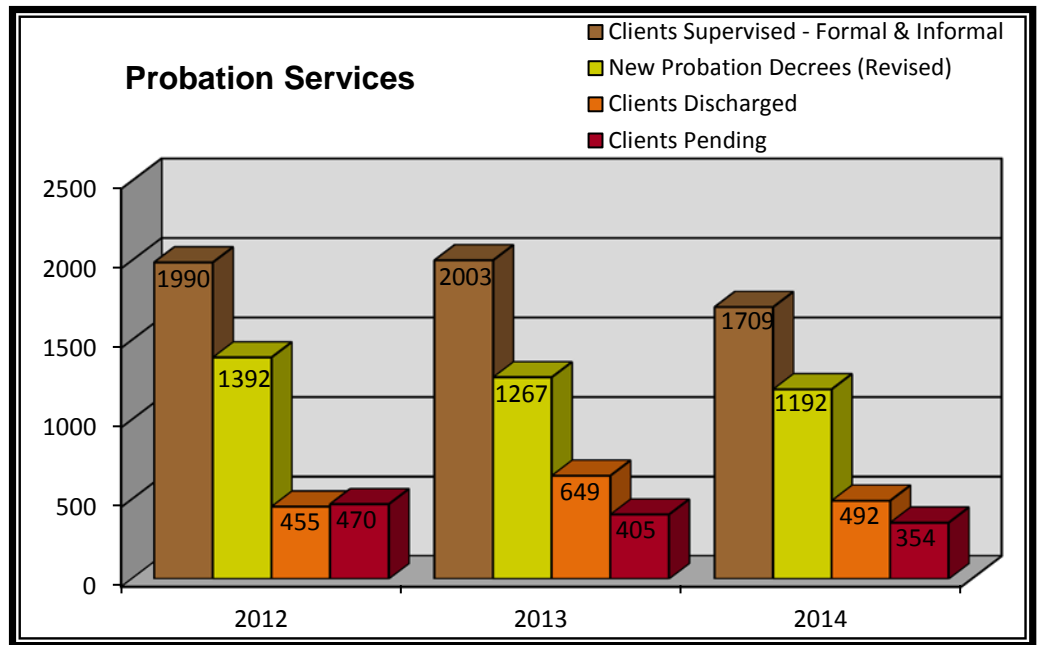
DETENTION ALTERNATIVE MONITORING

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 643 CROs in 2014.

**PROBATION CASELOAD:
A SNAPSHOT IN TIME**

On 12/31/14, the agency's caseload consisted of 70% males and 30% females, and included:

- 53% on probation in the community
- 17% on diversion referral or on Terms
- 24% pending court hearings
- 6% 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 = 422
 Intensive Outpatient Treatment = 19 clients
 Substance Abuse Services = 50 clients
 Juvenile Drug Court = 27 clients
 Individual/Family Counseling = 150 clients
 Trauma Assessments = 16

WORK IN LIEU OF DETENTION

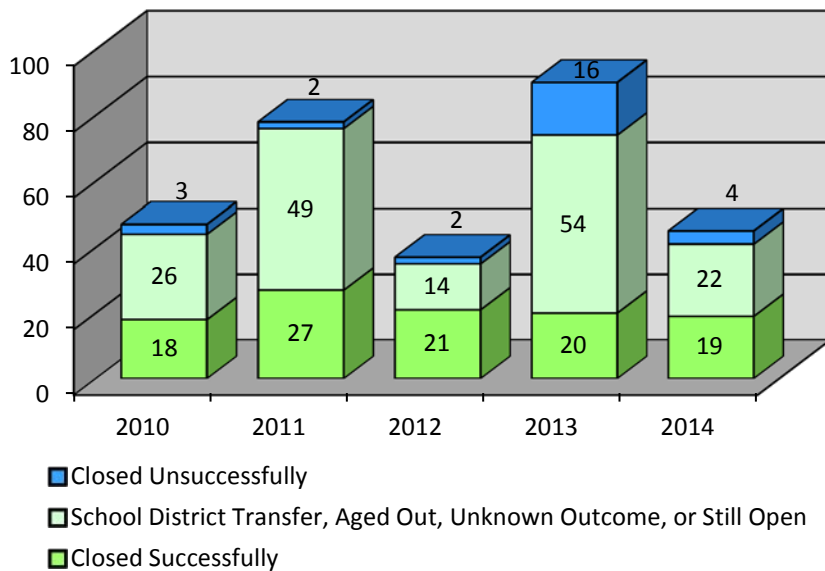
Total Referrals = 215
 Successful Completions = 187
 Total Hours Served = 4,997
 Value of Service = \$36,228

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Total Referrals = 334
 Successful Completions = 285
 Total Hours Served = 6,756
 Value of Service = \$48,981

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 in improving 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, and participate in collective art and creative writing projects.

Number of Credit-Earning Students = 53
 Credits Earned = 135
 Successful Transition = 18 students
 Attained Diploma = 1 student
 Attained GED = 3 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, Kuna, and Meridian school districts.

Law Related Education

3,850 students
 (120 presentations)

Small Group Curriculum

180 students
 (25 groups)