



Ada County Juvenile Court Services (ACJCS)

A Report Card to Our Stakeholders
January – December 2009

Our Vision

To be a community leader collaborating with partners to develop innovative, effective, and efficient processes that:

- Provide juveniles with accountability and opportunity to develop skills needed to become contributing members of society and;
- Provide the community with protection, education and opportunity for restoration.

Our Mission

Earning public trust through positive changes in our youth.

Our Agency Values

Commitment, Diversity, Fairness, Integrity, Trust

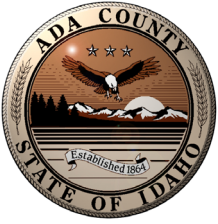
Ada County Juvenile Court Services
Steven C. Dye, Director

Main Office
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A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



April 20, 2010

Dear Concerned Citizen,

In spite of tough economic times, we will continue our mission to earn your trust through positive changes in our youth. To that end, we publish this report card each year to openly share with you our progress, which translates from your hard-earned taxpayer dollars. We recognize that when we prevent an offender from breaking the law again, we also prevent creating another victim within our community. We take this responsibility seriously, and we demonstrate our follow-through each year by providing data in the pages ahead that measure our successes.

The report card is divided into five sections, which coincide with each of our five business areas. Our strategy for each of these areas and for the agency as a whole is guided by a three-tiered model: protecting the community, holding offenders accountable, and developing competencies in offenders that lead to future law-abiding behaviors. In addition to this model is a legislative mandate that we provide equal or greater service to restoring victims of juvenile crime. Together, these principles and the data that support them guide our strategic planning and everyday decision-making. They determine how we conduct our court services, our programming, our detention services, our probation services, and especially our victim services.

In this community and across the nation, we experience first-hand that appropriate and cost-effective allocation of resources remains a critical concern. Bearing this in mind, we continually measure our workload, seek new ways to maximize our services, and maintain our service to the public and clientele in the most effective and efficient way to the taxpayer.

To better serve our customers we maintain a web site that can be found at www.adaweb.net/JuvenileCourt.aspx. Included with detailed information about our agency, we have a link to Questions and Feedback. Please feel free to call or write us with any suggestions you have related to how we might better serve our community.

Warmest Regards,

Steven C. Dye, ACJCS Director

Letter from the Director

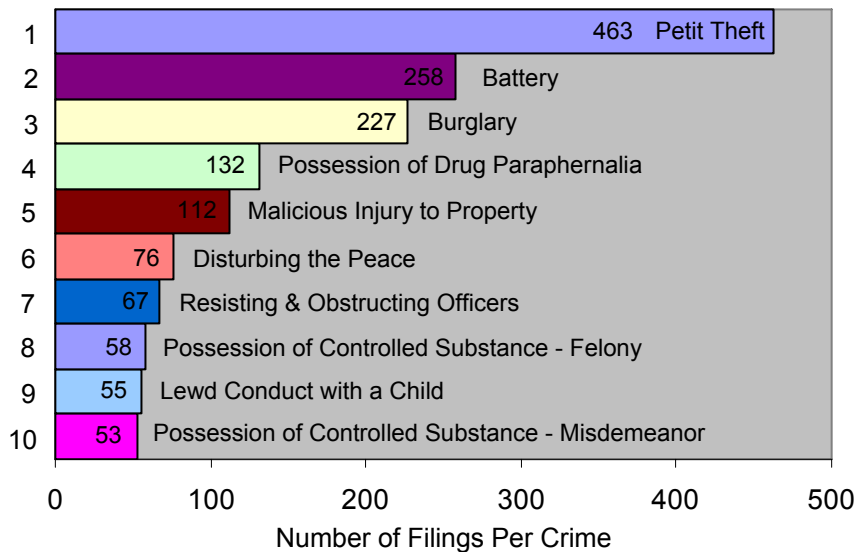
A Report Card to Our Stakeholders

ACJCS CRIME FACTS

JUVENILE CRIME:

In 2009, law enforcement agencies arrested or referred over 2,000 juveniles for more than 3,600 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.

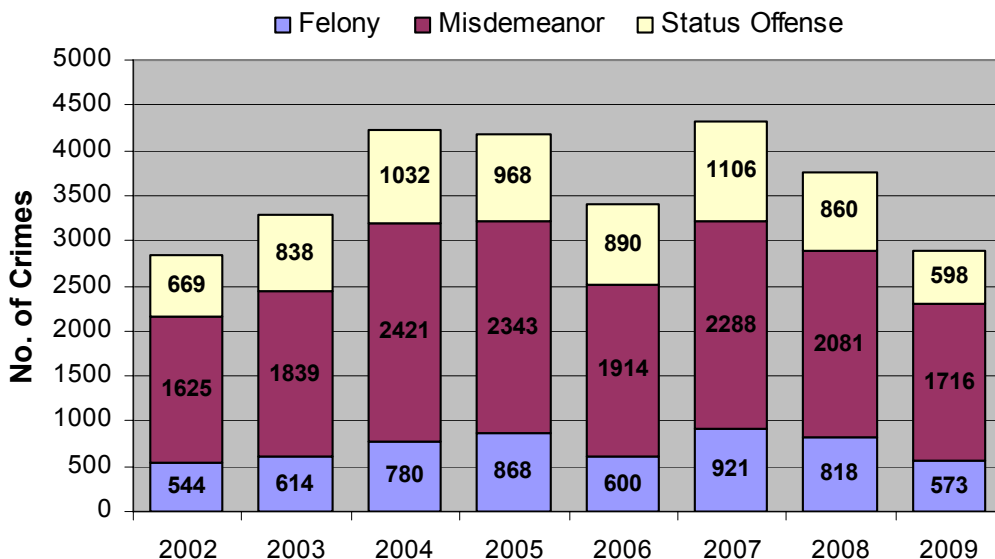
Top 10 Crimes Filed in Juvenile Court



SEVERITY OF LAW VIOLATIONS:

Misdemeanor crimes averaged 59% 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 20%.

Law Violations Filed in Juvenile Court



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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, mediation, and restitution.



Restitution Services = 480
Victim Advocacy = 530
Victim-Offender Mediation = 96
Restitution Collected = \$135,760

VICTIM ADVOCACY:

- Assists victims throughout the court process and keeps victims informed and updated on their case.
- Provides Elder Abuse Safeguarding tips to seniors 55 and up who are victims of juvenile crime, to help them identify and prevent future abuse.
- Conducts a Victim Impact Panel to bridge the gap between juvenile offenders and their community, and helps juvenile offenders understand the impact of the crime they committed on the community.

MEDIATION SERVICES:

- Victim-Offender Mediation provides a way for victims of juvenile crime to express their thoughts and feelings, get answers to unresolved questions, and to come to agreement with offenders in a manner that is both meaningful and restorative to the victims.
- This is a voluntary process that brings the victim and offender together so they may both address the personal nature of the offense.



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.

Victim Services

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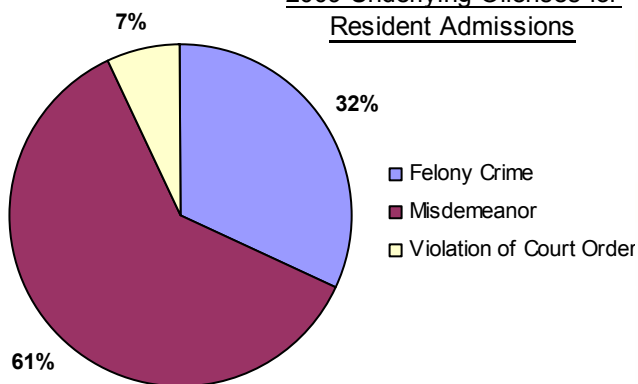
DETENTION SERVICES

DETENTION POPULATION:

We admitted 1,314 residents in 2009 (75% male and 25% female), including 79 juveniles held for other jurisdictions. Number of admissions were similar to those in 2008, while daily population and length of stay decreased considerably.

Masters-level teachers from the Boise School District provide instruction to detention residents 5 days per week. From July 2009 to Jan 2010, residents earned 49 high school credits, passed 1 high school equivalency test, passed 17 GED tests, and 2 juveniles completed GEDs.

2009 Underlying Offenses for Resident Admissions



MEDICAL SERVICES:

Our medical department maintained its accreditation with the National Commission on Health Care in 2009.

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

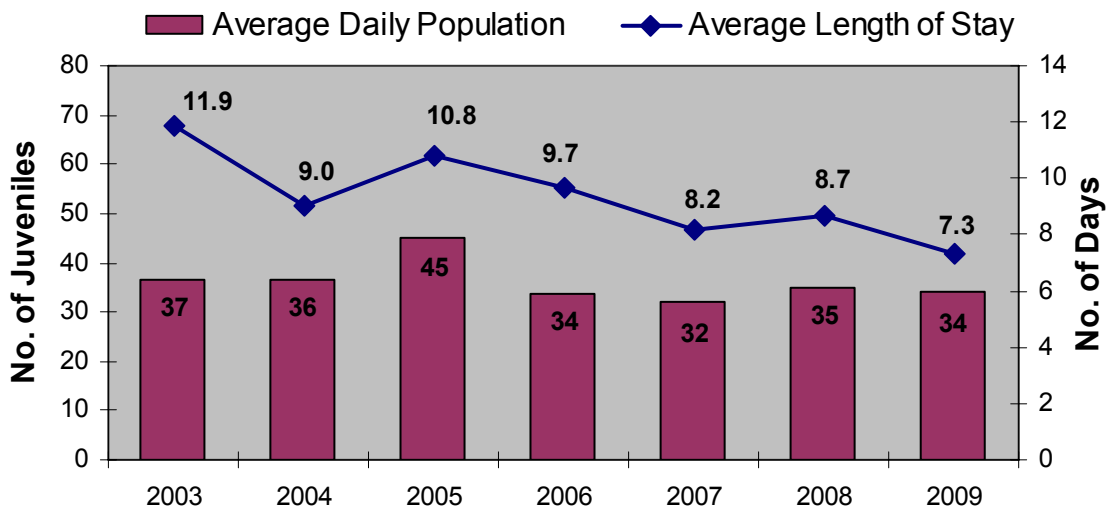
FOOD SERVICES:

Detention & Program Meals = 33,252
 Detention & Program Snacks = 11,392

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

225 residents were assessed "at risk" for suicide when they arrived, but only 1 attempted (no hospitalization required).

Average Daily Population & Length of Stay



Competency
&
Development

Accountability, &

Community
Protection,

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DIVERSION & PROBATION SERVICES

Diversion Services



DIVERSION:

Participation in the Diversion Program is an option sometimes granted by the Prosecuting Attorney to youth typically 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:

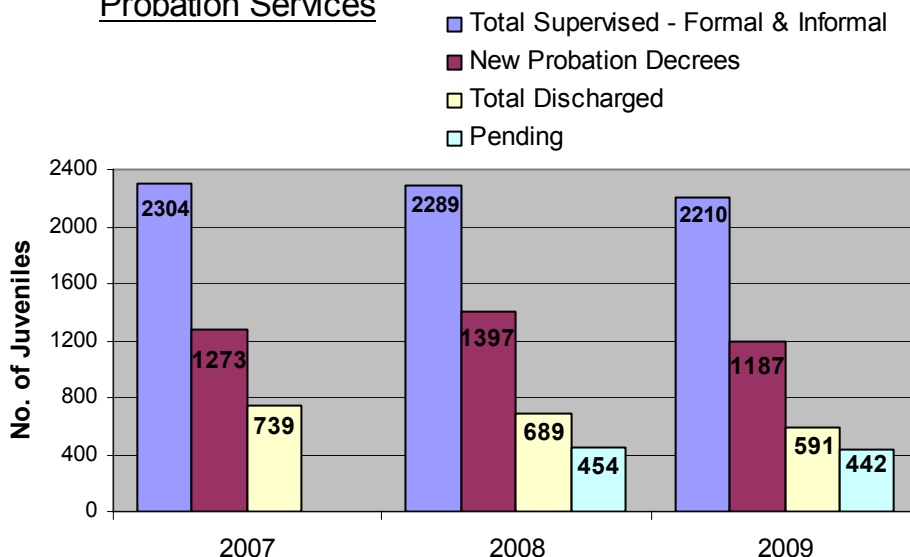
Electronic Monitoring and In-Home Detention are examples of the Detention Release Order (DRO) monitoring program, which provides court-sanctioned alternatives to detention for juveniles not posing serious risk to the community. Our probation officers monitored 837 DROs in 2009.

AGENCY CASELOAD SNAPSHOT IN TIME:

On 12/31/09, the agency's caseload consisted of 70% males and 30% females, and included:

- 59% on probation in the community
- 16% on diversion referral or contract
- 20% pending court hearings
- 5% in state custody

Probation Services



COURT INVESTIGATION & FIELD PROBATION SERVICES:

Probation Officers are responsible for monitoring cases while following the Balanced Approach to restorative justice. Court Investigation Officers conduct comprehensive interviews and assessments of each juvenile who comes into jurisdiction of the court (is pending), and they provide recommendations for court disposition. Field Probation Officers are responsible for supervising youth who have been placed on probation and they monitor compliance with court ordered terms. They also refer youth and parents to programs such as community service, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment, anger management, Life Skills, and educational and vocational programs.

Competency & Development
 Accountability, &
 Community Protection,

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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.

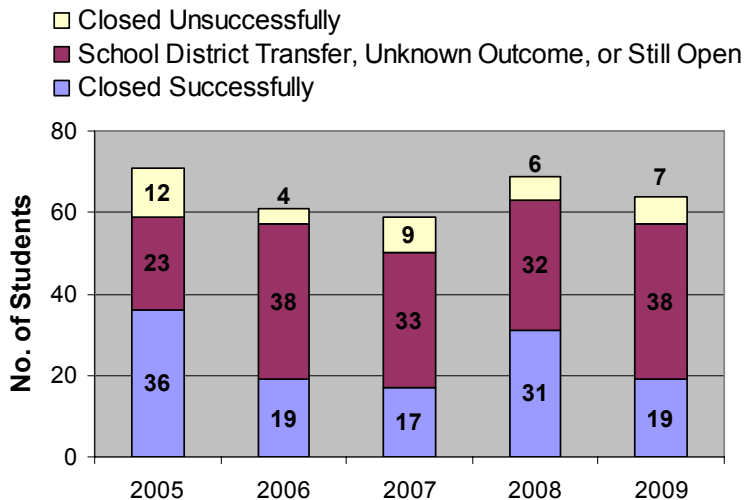
Drug/Alcohol Assessments = 322
 Outpatient Treatment = 30 clients
 Juvenile Drug Court = 50 clients
 Residential Substance Abuse = 30 clients
 Temporary Foster Care = 10 clients
 Individual/Family Counseling = 342 clients

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 Students in 2009 = 62
 Credits Earned = 203
 Successful Transition = 21 students
 Attained GED/Diploma = 11 students

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.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Total Referrals = 1,147
 Successful Completions = 937
 Total Hours Served = 22,640
 Value of Service = \$156,216

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

WORK IN LIEU OF DETENTION:

Total Referrals = 227
 Successful Completions = 204
 Total Hours Served = 6,384
 Value of Service = \$46,284

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

1,365 students
 (69 presentations)

Small Group Curriculum

139 students
 (22 groups)

Competency & Development
 Accountability, &
 Community Protection,