

Part 1 – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

The Office of Performance Evaluations (OPE), created in 1994, is a nonpartisan, independent office that serves the Legislature's information needs by conducting performance evaluations of state agencies and programs. The mission of OPE is to promote confidence and accountability in state government through these evaluations. Findings, conclusions, and recommendations from OPE evaluations are used by the Legislature to make policy and budget decisions and by agencies to improve performance.

Performance evaluations include assessing whether

- agencies or programs are complying with applicable laws and legislative intent;
- services are provided efficiently and cost-effectively; and
- programs and services are achieving intended results.

OPE works under the direction of the bipartisan Joint Legislative Oversight Committee (JLOC). The office has eight full-time positions.

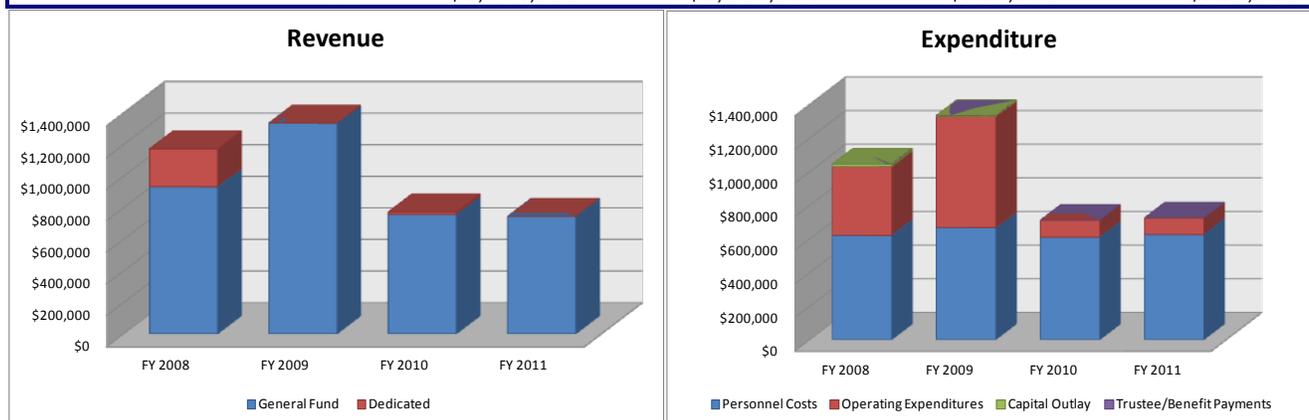
Core Functions/Idaho Code

Authorizing statutes: Idaho Code §§ 67-457 through 67-464

1. Conduct performance evaluations and report each evaluation to JLOC
2. Identify cost savings and opportunities to avoid unnecessary future costs
3. Provide useful recommendations to assist the Legislature in making policy and budget decisions
4. Be responsive to the Legislature's information needs

Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
General Fund	\$931,000	\$1,333,800	\$756,600	\$743,300
Dedicated	<u>\$239,200</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>14,200</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total	\$1,170,200	\$1,333,800	\$770,800	\$743,300
Expenditure	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Personnel Costs	\$618,900	\$665,800	\$609,900	\$624,036
Operating Expenditures	\$411,100	\$660,900	\$100,800	\$99,803
Capital Outlay	\$14,000	\$6,700	\$0	\$
Trustee/Benefit Payments	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total	\$1,044,000	\$1,333,374	\$710,700	\$723,840



Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Number of performance evaluation projects completed	6	3	2	4
Number of follow-up reviews for previous evaluations completed	9	7	1	3

The OPE workload depends on the number and nature of projects assigned each year by JLOC.

Performance Highlights

1. Legislation signed into law relating to OPE findings and recommendations: S1030 amends existing law to grant the State Board of Correction authority to provide or facilitate certain research-based rehabilitative services for incarcerated and community-based offenders.
2. OPE estimated that the state could save approximately \$700,000 if it converted 13 lowest performing, state-operated liquor stores to contract stores.
3. OPE received the 2011 Alva and Gunnar Myrdal Government Evaluation Award from the American Evaluation Association. The award is presented to an individual or organization whose evaluation work is highly influential in governmental contexts.
4. OPE received the 2011 Impact Award from the National Conference of State Legislatures' National Legislative Program Evaluation Society for the report *Increasing Efficiencies in Idaho's Parole Process*.
5. OPE received the 2011 Notable Documents Award from the National Conference of State Legislatures' Legislative Research Librarians for two reports. Both reports were recognized as innovative publications that provided substantive information on contemporary issues of interest to legislatures.
 - *Distribution and Sale of Liquor in Idaho*
 - *Governance of EMS Agencies in Idaho*
6. OPE released its 100th report to the Legislature in March 2011.

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2008	2009	2010	2011	Benchmark
1. Provide useful recommendations to assist the Legislature in making policy and budget decisions. Performance is measured by the number of bills and resolutions introduced or enacted in response to OPE recommendations.	8	29	3	1	n/a
2. Identify cost-savings and opportunities to avoid unnecessary future costs. Performance is measured by estimated cost savings or cost avoidance as a result of OPE recommendations.	None identified	None identified	None identified	None identified	n/a
3. Respond to the Legislature's information needs. Performance is measured by the number of "24-hour" limited reviews completed.	2	2	5	2	n/a
4. Respond to the Legislature's information needs. Performance is measured by the number of evaluation-related presentations made to the Legislature (does not include presentations to JLOC)	5	10	5	5	n/a

Performance Measure Explanatory Note

Performance Measure #2. OPE measures cost-savings and opportunities to avoid unnecessary future costs when conducting follow-up reports of previous evaluations. The dollar amounts are based on actual agency implementation of recommendations.

Benchmarks are not applicable because OPE performance measures are subject to legislative requests, bill or resolution passage, and agency compliance.

For More Information Contact

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