

## Part I – 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 is authorized eight full-time equivalent 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. Make recommendations to agencies for program improvements
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 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
General Fund	\$889,200	\$886,200	\$899,500	\$942,600
Dedicated	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$889,200</b>	<b>\$886,200</b>	<b>\$899,500</b>	<b>\$942,600</b>
Expenditures	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Personnel Costs	\$788,925	\$821,736	\$801,529	\$822,845
Operating Expenditures*	116,665	\$102,659	\$71,426	\$87,326
Capital Outlay	9,842	0	\$4,315	\$1,879
Trustee/Benefit Payments	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$915,432</b>	<b>\$924,395</b>	<b>\$877,270</b>	<b>\$912,050</b>

\* Some operating expenditures were appropriated in prior fiscal year.

### Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Number of performance evaluation projects completed	3	3	4	3
Number of follow-up reviews for previous evaluations completed	2	0	2	1

The OPE workload depends on the number and nature of projects assigned each year by JLOC. Completed reports may be accessed at <https://legislature.idaho.gov/ope/reports/>.

## Red Tape Reduction Act

Each agency shall incorporate into its strategic plan a summary of how it will implement the Red Tape Reduction Act, including any associated goals, objectives, tasks, or performance targets. This information may be included as an addendum.

	As of July 1, 2019	As of July 1, 2020
Number of Chapters	N/A	N/A
Number of Words	N/A	N/A
Number of Restrictions	N/A	N/A

OPE does not have any administrative rules.

## FY 2020 Performance Highlights

OPE released the following evaluation and follow-up reports in fiscal year 2020:

- Non-Emergency Medical Transportation management letter
- Managing Correctional Capacity
- Chained Consumer Price Index
- Residential Care follow-up review

OPE received one award during the fiscal year:

- 2020 Impact Award of the National Conference of State Legislatures, National Legislative Program Evaluation Society, for the report *Southwest Idaho Treatment Center*.

## Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure		FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>Goal 1</b>						
Provide useful recommendations to assist the Legislature in making policy and budget decisions.						
1. Performance is measured by the number of bills and resolutions introduced or enacted in response to OPE recommendations.	actual	7	9	8	2	-----
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>Goal 2</b>						
Respond to the Legislature's information needs.						
2. Performance is measured by the number of "24-hour" limited reviews completed.	actual	1	1	1	1	-----
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
3. Performance is measured by the number of evaluation-related presentations made to the Legislature (does not include presentations to JLOC).	actual	12	5	7	2	-----
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
<b>Goal 3</b>						
Promote confidence and accountability in state government through education and outreach to interested stakeholders and participation in professional associations.						
4. Performance is measured by the number of evaluation-related presentations made outside of the Legislature.	actual	15	19	11	11	-----
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	

## Performance Measure Explanatory Notes

### Bills introduced

- Senate Bill 1274 would have created the Office of Administrative Hearings. In our report *Risk of Bias in Administrative Hearings*, we recommended that the Legislature consider whether to implement a centralized hearing system.
- House Bill 320 would have given the Office of the State Controller statutory authority to implement and fund the Criminal Justice Integrated Data System. In our report *Court-Ordered Fines and Fees*, we found that data collection, monitoring, and reporting of court-ordered financial obligations were insufficient to answer basic questions about collection efforts. The intent of House Bill 320 was to make data available to improve decision-making across the criminal justice system, including collection efforts.

### 24-hour reviews

OPE staff conducted one background review on driver verification cards for undocumented individuals.

### Legislative presentations

Staff made two presentations to legislative committees, not including presentations to JLOC:

- An overview to the Child Protection Oversight Committee of three OPE reports on the child welfare system.
- A summary of the report *Managing Correctional Capacity* at a joint meeting of the House Judiciary, Rules, and Administration committee and the Senate Judiciary and Rules committee.

### Presentations made outside the legislature

Staff made 11 presentations outside of the legislature to the following organizations: American Evaluation Association, a work group organized by the Treasurer discussing retirement policy, the National Legislative Performance Evaluations Society, a delegation of officials from Brazil, and classes at Boise State University, Cornell University, and George Washington University.

#### For More Information Contact

Rakesh Mohan, Director  
Office of Performance Evaluations  
Idaho Legislature  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0055  
Phone : (208) 332-1470  
E-mail : [rmohan@ope.idaho.gov](mailto:rmohan@ope.idaho.gov)  
Website : [www.legislature.idaho.gov/ope](http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/ope)