

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 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
General Fund	\$886,200	\$899,500	\$942,600	\$950,200
Dedicated	0	0	0	0
Total	\$886,200	\$899,500	\$942,600	\$950,200
Expenditures	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Personnel Costs	\$821,736	\$801,529	\$822,845	\$777,612
Operating Expenditures*	\$102,659	\$71,426	\$87,326	\$76,228
Capital Outlay	0	\$4,315	\$1,879	\$7,175
Trustee/Benefit Payments	0	0	0	0
Total	\$924,395	\$877,270	\$912,050	\$861,015

* 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 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Number of performance evaluation projects completed	3	4	3	6
Number of follow-up reviews for previous evaluations completed	0	2	1	0

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/>.

FY 2021 Performance Highlights

OPE released the following evaluation reports in fiscal year 2021:

- Preparedness of Idahoans to Retire: Deciding the State's Role
- State Response to Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias
- County Revenues
- Driving Authority for Unauthorized Immigrants
- Designing a Review of Tax Preferences
- Investments in Postsecondary Education

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure		FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Goal 1						
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	9	8	2	4	
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Goal 2						
Respond to the Legislature's information needs.						
2. Performance is measured by the number of "24-hour" limited reviews completed.	actual	1	1	1	0	
	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	5	7	2	2	
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Goal 3						
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	19	11	11	4	
	target	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	

Performance Measure Explanatory Notes

Bills introduced

- Senate Bill 1173 was signed by Governor Little on March 15th, 2021 and budgeted \$275,000 for an Alzheimer's disease program coordinator based on recommendations from our evaluation *State Response to Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias*.
- House Bill 73 addressed the need for uniform accounting, budgeting, and financial reporting procedures for local governments. This need was identified in two evaluations: *The Impact of State Mandates on County Governments* and *County Revenues*.
- House Bill 180 defined itself in its statement of purpose as a response to our evaluation *Preparedness of Idahoans to Retire: Deciding the State's Role*. The bill would have established a voluntary retirement program for Idahoans without a workplace retirement plan.
- Senate Concurrent Resolution 107 would have established an interim committee to research a system for issuance of driver authorization cards in response to our report *Driving Authority for Unauthorized Immigrants*.

Legislative presentations

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

- A presentation of findings from our evaluation *Preparedness of Idahoans to Retire: Deciding the State's Role* to the Senate Commerce and Human Resources Committee
- A presentation of findings from our evaluation *Preparedness of Idahoans to Retire: Deciding the State's Role* to the House Business Committee
- A presentation of findings from our evaluation *State Response to Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias* to the Senate Health and Welfare Committee

Presentations made outside the legislature

Staff made 4 presentations outside of the legislature to the following organizations: Dementia Capability Conference, Idaho Caregiver Alliance, International EvalYouth Virtual Conference, and Arizona Evaluation Network Annual Conference.

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
Website : www.legislature.idaho.gov/ope