



# Ada County, Idaho

*A Report to Our Citizens 2015*



## Introduction

Ada County is nationally recognized for its quality of life. Our mild climate, natural surroundings, cultural amenities and low crime rate are second to none. “Ada County”, as a branch of local government, has a key role in preserving and enhancing the life-style we all enjoy.

This report is designed to provide an overview of how your county government has performed over the past few years. Also included is a breakdown of county finances and a look ahead at future initiatives and developments.

## Profile of the Government

Ada County is the most populous county in Idaho, as well as the center for commerce and industry. Boise City is the county seat of Ada County and home to the State Capitol. Other incorporated cities within its boundaries are Eagle, Garden City, Kuna, Meridian and Star.

A three member elected commission with overlapping terms governs the County. Responsibilities of the County Commissioners include passing ordinances, adopting the budget, and appointing the heads of various departments. Other elected officials within the County include the Assessor, Clerk of the District Court, Coroner, Prosecutor, Sheriff and Treasurer.

Essential services provided by the county include police protection, prosecution and defense services, emergency disaster preparedness, general administrative services, court services, election services, property assessment and tax collections, code enforcement, parks and recreation, and health and welfare. In addition, emergency medical services, sanitation, fair activities, and billing services are provided as business type activities, with user fees providing revenue to pay operating expenses.

## Selected Demographics\*

	2013	2014
Population	416,464	426,236
Per Capita Income	\$42,395	\$43,738
Unemployment Rate	5.7%	3.4%
Percent of Total Workforce in Government	13%	15%
Ada County Full Time Equivalent Employees	1,693	1,697

\*Data for 2015 not yet available.

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## Mission

“To provide effective and efficient services and programs essential to our community’s quality of life.”

## Vision

“... demonstrate fiscal responsibility and professional excellence and to be recognized for providing innovative and proactive solutions for our communities through open and accessible government.”

## Philosophy

“Built on a foundation of our values — humanity, excellence, integrity, trust, and stewardship — we serve as leaders in our community.”

# How We Have Progressed

## Fiscal year 2015 (Oct 1, 2014 - Sept 30, 2015)



### What the County Does for You: Selected County Services

Below is data on selected County services provided in the three previous fiscal years. The amount of the services provided will vary depending on demand and/or resources available. For more information on what the County does for you please visit [www.adacounty.id.gov](http://www.adacounty.id.gov)

### 2015 Accomplishments

- **Ada County Sesquicentennial** – Ada County observed its Sesquicentennial with a celebration reception held at the Ada County Courthouse. During the celebration, the Commissioners unveiled a new bronze plaque in honor of Ada Riggs, for whom the county was named 150 years ago.
- **Courthouse Lease Payoff** –The payoff of the courthouse facility is a major milestone for Ada County, completing the largest public-private partnership in Idaho history, which was achieved through a collaborative process that required no increase of property taxes to the citizens, as promised nearly 20 years ago. Having made the purchase in fiscal year 2015 saved Ada County tax payers approximately \$6 million in future interest by eliminating future lease payments.
- **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Certification** - The Ada County Juvenile Court Services Detention Center has received certification from the Federal Government for compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) standards for juvenile detention centers. PREA certification requires that a facility demonstrate compliance with every applicable federal regulation regarding juvenile detention facilities, starting with a zero tolerance for sexual abuse and sexual harassment.

Governmental Activities	2013	2014	2015	Projected	Met?
<b>General Government</b>					
Number of recorded documents	148,428	107,584	116,341	> last year	✓
Primary election participation* (calendar year)	-	44,149	-	> 43,958	✓
General election participation* (calendar year)	-	131,038	-	> 122,175	✓
Residential building permits issued (outside cities)	431	396	404	> last year	✓
Commercial building permits issued (outside cities)	5	20	17	> last year	×
Motor vehicles registered (calendar year)	333,918	345,203		> last year	✓
Driver's licenses in force (calendar year)	292,728	298,696		> last year	✓
<b>Weed / Pest / Mosquito</b>					
Acres sprayed for weed control	3,980	2,542	2,466	> last year	×
Acres sprayed for pest control	14,145	7,611	9,357	> last year	✓
Acres sprayed for mosquito abatement	105,262	78,865	98,584	> last year	✓
<b>Ada County Sheriff's Office</b> (Calendar Year, 2015 through September)					
% of 911 calls answered in 10 sec	94%	93%	89%	> 90%	×
# of crimes per 1000 population	27.5	29.1	27.6	< 27.5	×
Average patrol response time to critical emergencies (min:sec)	5:27	5:05	5:23	< 5 min	×
<b>Indigent Services</b>					
Number of indigent cases processed	2,590	2,177	1,983	< 2,590	✓
<b>Barber Park</b>					
Number of visitors	159,136	154,491	165,845	> last year	✓
<b>Business Type Activities</b>					
Number of EMS responses	23,365	24,328	25,981	> last year	✓
Western Idaho Fair attendance	222,461	223,335	233,140	> last year	✓

The measures reported on this page were included based on the information provided by various county departments except those denoted with an \* which were provided by the Secretary of State.

What would you like to see reported on in this page? Please let us know by contacting Anthony Lock-Smith at [alocksmith@adaweb.net](mailto:alocksmith@adaweb.net).

[www.adacounty.id.gov](http://www.adacounty.id.gov)

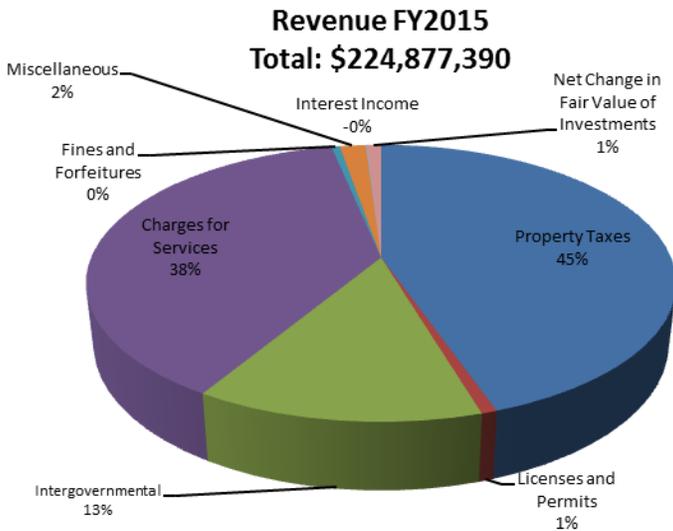
# Our Finances

## Revenues and Expenses

### What are the costs for servicing the citizens and how are those costs paid?

Government services are provided to enhance the quality of citizens' lives. These services generally are financed through taxes and intergovernmental revenues, while business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties. Most all the services provided by Ada County are mandated by Federal or State government via statute or constitutional provision. Ada County's fiscal year begins on October 1.

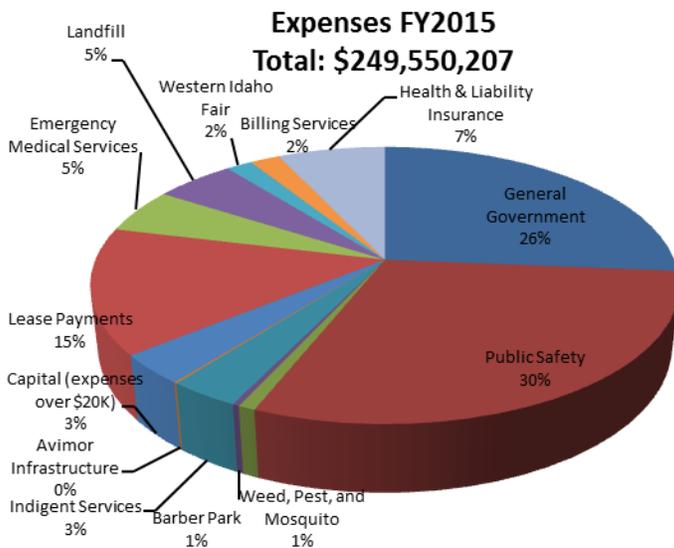
### Revenue



Revenue Type	Fiscal Year 14	Fiscal Year 15
Property Taxes	\$93,524,438	\$100,635,447
Licenses and Permits	1,408,659	1,631,087
Intergovernmental*	28,134,183	29,883,876
Charges for Services	81,987,656	85,826,494
Fines and Forfeitures	1,370,067	1,220,426
Miscellaneous	3,117,674	3,844,823
Interest Income	2,053,975	(210,719)
Net Change in Fair Value of Investments	(322,100)	2,045,956
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$211,274,552</b>	<b>224,877,390</b>

\*Revenue received from other governmental agencies in the form of shared revenues or grants.

### Expenditures



Expense	Fiscal Year 14	Fiscal Year 15
General Government*	\$62,959,158	\$65,622,107
Public Safety	73,853,150	74,332,774
Weed, Pest, and Mosquito	1,965,653	2,013,518
Barber Park/Recreation	748,768	790,690
Indigent Services/Public Health	9,429,769	8,307,923
Avimor Infrastructure	0	321,213
Capital (expenses over \$20K)	3,054,923	8,599,680
Lease Payments	5,046,213	36,676,598
Emergency Medical Services	12,945,637	13,171,107
Landfill	9,226,874	12,965,617
Western Idaho Fair	4,198,713	4,283,300
Billing Services	4,624,633	4,876,529
Health & Liability Insurance	21,961,175	17,616,073
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$210,014,666</b>	<b>249,577,129</b>

\*Includes the following departments, Clerk of the Court, Treasurer, Assessor, Motor Vehicle, Operations, Information Technology, Development Services, Administrative Services, Appraisal, Land Records and District Court.

### Independent Audit

An independent audit of the County's finances was conducted, resulting in a clean opinion. Complete financial information can be found at [www.adacounty.id.gov](http://www.adacounty.id.gov)

# What's Next

## Key Initiatives in 2016



**Christopher D. Rich**  
Clerk of the District Court  
Ex-officio Auditor & Recorder

Ada County Courthouse  
200 W. Front Street #1196  
Boise, ID 83702-7300  
208.287.6879

[www.adacounty.id.gov](http://www.adacounty.id.gov)

### We want to hear from you

Do you like this report? Would you like to see other information? Please let us know by contacting Anthony Lock-Smith at [alocksmith@adaweb.net](mailto:alocksmith@adaweb.net). For more information on our services, visit our website at [www.adacounty.id.gov](http://www.adacounty.id.gov)

### Government

- **27th Pay Period**-One of the largest expenditures in the FY16 budget is \$4M for an extra pay period. This anomaly happens every 11 years because employees are paid on a biweekly basis.
- **IT Asset Replacement**-In FY16 there is \$1.3M budgeted towards deferred maintenance on the county's computer infrastructure. This maintenance will replace end of life network switches, servers, and storage. It will also help restore data in case of a disaster.

### Judicial

- **Paperless E-Court System**-Due to a partnership between the Idaho Supreme Court and Tyler Technologies Inc. the way the courts do business in Ada County is changing. We are shifting from a legacy paper-based system to a modern electronic online judicial system by implementing integrat-

ed court management solutions and access tools. Ada County will be the second county in the state to adopt the new system which will take place in FY16.

- **Drug Court**- Over the years, the staffing for the Ada County Drug Court has grown to meet increased participation without an increase in facility size. A larger staff and the need to service 270 Drug Court Participants with daily counseling sessions and random UA testing is more than our current facility can handle. A new larger facility is needed to better facilitate the Drug Court process. Thankfully, the Drug Court is 100% self funded through participant fees and state reimbursements. \$2.8M of savings will be used to purchase a new building.

### Public Safety

- **Jail Security System**- The Sheriff is responsible for housing 876 inmates daily. The jail's security system, which

controls all the doors, emergency alert buttons and cameras is approaching end of life. The cost to complete the repairs that started in FY15 is \$575,000.

- **Dispatch Center**- Ada County dispatch provides 9-1-1 response to the County's 425,000 residents through the Sheriff's Office, the Boise, Meridian, and Garden City Police departments, six fire districts and Ada County Paramedics. The current dispatch center is 40 years old and encompasses a mere 1,500 square feet. The space is over-utilized and over crowded. Not only is dispatch out of space, its IT infrastructure is maximized and could potentially fail from an overload. The FY16 budget is the next step in a multi-year process to assure that when Ada County Residents call 9-1-1 they do not get a busy signal. The FY16 budget has \$5M budgeted for building construction and dispatch equipment.



Ada County Courthouse

