



Ada County, Idaho

A Report to Our Citizens 2013



Introduction

Ada County is a great place to live, work, and raise a family. Our neighbors, mild climate and natural surroundings contribute to a quality of life that is second to none. Ada County, as a branch of 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*

	2011	2012
Population	400,842	409,061
Per Capita Income	\$39,928	\$40,741
Unemployment Rate	8.0%	6.3%
Percent of Total Workforce in Government	15%	15%
Ada County Full Time Equivalent Employees	1,589	1,654

*Data for 2013 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 2013 (Oct 1, 2012 - Sept 30, 2013)



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

2013 Accomplishments

- Emergency Aerial Spraying for West Nile Virus** –Due to an increasing number of infected mosquitos being found in northern Ada County, an aerial spray application was applied over approximately 23,000 acres in August 2013. “Although we haven’t seen any human cases in Ada County yet this year, we can’t wait until people are getting sick or worse to take action,” said Brian Wilbur, Director of Ada County Weed, Pest & Mosquito Abatement.
- Joint Powers Agreement** –The Ada County-City EMS System Joint Powers Agreement was signed and implemented by all agencies providing Emergency Medical Services within the borders of Ada County. This agreement created the framework to create a single EMS system across all of the partnering agencies including County, Cities, and Fire Districts. The operation of this agreement has resulted in an unprecedented level of co-operation and collaboration in the delivery of service to citizens.
- Certificate of Excellence in Assessment** –The International Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) awarded the Ada County Assessors Office with a certificate of Excellence in Assessment Administration. The certificate recognizes governmental units that integrate best practices in the workplace.
- Greater Transparency** - In an effort to keep the public informed, the Board of Ada County Commissioners is making audio recording of open meetings and public hearings available on the county website.

Governmental Activities	2011	2012	2013	Projected	Met?
General Government					
Number of recorded documents	110,723	131,044	148,428	> last year	✓
Primary election participation* (calendar year)	-	33,644	-	> 43,958	✓
General election participation* (calendar year)	-	184,040	-	> 122,175	✓
Residential building permits issued (outside cities)	160	308	431	> last year	✓
Commercial building permits issued (outside cities)	13	12	5	> last year	×
Motor vehicles registered (calendar year)	317,490	361,810	N/A	> last year	✓
Driver's licenses in force (calendar year)	280,056	285,790	N/A	> last year	✓
Weed / Pest / Mosquito					
Acres sprayed for weed control	4,535	3,601	3,980	> last year	✓
Acres sprayed for pest control	51,927	37,022	14,145	> last year	×
Acres sprayed for mosquito abatement	54,258	56,651	105,262	> last year	✓
Ada County Sheriff's Office					
% of 911 calls answered in 10 sec	91%	94%	94%	> 90%	✓
Traffic crashes in ACSO jurisdiction	803	789	956	< last year	×
Average patrol response time to critical emergencies (min:sec)	5:14	4:42	5:27	< 5 min	×
Indigent Services					
Number of indigent cases processed	2,699	2,605	2,590	< 2,866	✓
Barber Park					
Number of visitors	110,800	111,399	159,136	> last year	✓
Business Type Activities					
Number of EMS responses	22,370	22,132	23,365	> last year	✓
Cubic yards of trash deposited at landfill (in1000's)	1,195	1,177	1,198	> 1,174	✓
Western Idaho Fair attendance	224,731	233,523	222,461	> 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.

www.adacounty.id.gov

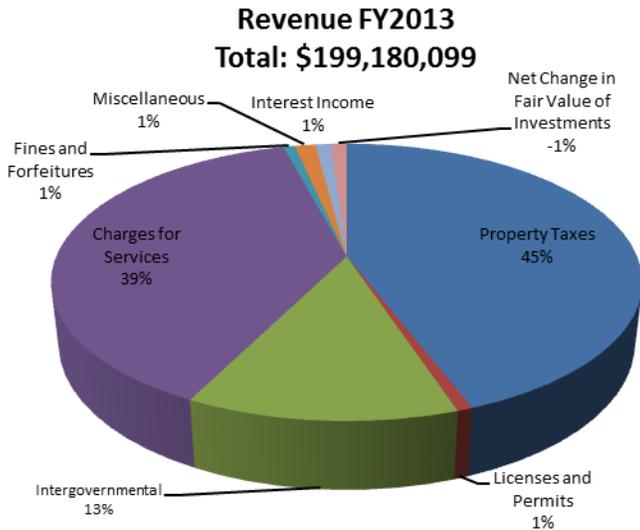
Our Finances

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. Mandated services are the primary responsibility of government as they are required by Federal or State government via statute or constitutional provision. Ada County's fiscal year begins on October 1.

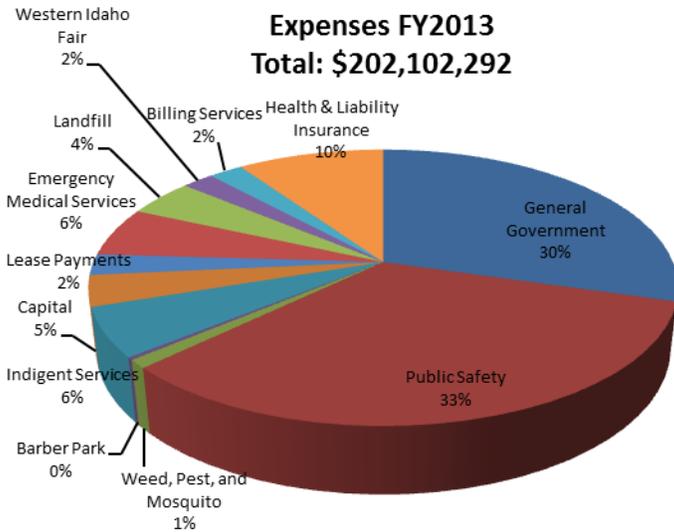
Revenue



Revenue Type	Fiscal Year 12	Fiscal Year 13
Property Taxes	\$88,932,948	\$89,822,592
Licenses and Permits	1,451,436	1,459,086
Intergovernmental*	24,458,217	25,462,948
Charges for Services	74,591,178	78,116,275
Fines and Forfeitures	1,365,628	1,513,577
Miscellaneous	3,266,916	2,743,066
Interest Income	2,283,734	2,119,774
Net Change in Fair Value of Investments	94,899	(2,057,219)
Total	\$196,444,956	\$199,180,099

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

Expenditures



Expense	Fiscal Year 12	Fiscal Year 13
General Government*	\$55,684,557	\$59,656,125
Public Safety	64,698,759	67,345,531
Weed, Pest, and Mosquito	1,972,854	1,995,693
Barber Park/Recreation	578,605	601,178
Indigent Services/Public Health	10,458,699	11,599,625
Capital (expenses over \$20K)	8,850,103	7,321,002
Lease Payments	4,708,022	4,936,736
Emergency Medical Services	11,474,269	11,685,492
Landfill	5,543,888	8,854,411
Western Idaho Fair	3,841,347	4,153,565
Billing Services	4,276,903	4,510,682
Health & Liability Insurance	20,270,687	19,442,252
Total	\$192,358,693	\$202,102,292

*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

What's Next

Key Initiatives in 2014



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

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. For more information on our services, visit our website at www.adacounty.id.gov



Judicial

- **New Judges** - In 2013, the Idaho Legislature approved a Supreme Court request to fund and assign three additional judges to Ada County. More judges means more clerks, prosecutors, public defenders, sheriff's personnel and law clerks. Office remodels will be required in several areas of the courthouse to accommodate the new personnel required for the newly assigned judges. The project is expected to be completed by June 2014 at an expected cost of \$500,000.

Government

- **Paperless Initiative** - The Recorder's office is beginning the undertaking of a paperless initiative in Ada County. This initiative will inventory all the paper records in the county and begin the process of digitizing them to save space, improve efficiency and save money. The project includes new recording software to

replace a home-grown system that is over 20 years old, and a document management system.

Health and Human Services

- **EMS Seeking National Accreditation** - The Committee on the Accreditation of Ambulance Services is the "gold standard" nationally for certifying that an EMS agency meets the highest standards in their operations and the delivery of patient care.
- **Emergency Preparedness** - County wide effort to establish procedures and regulations in the case of a natural disaster or emergency in order to maintain vital county functions.

Sanitation

- **Hidden Hollow Closure** - The Ada County Landfill will be partially closing the Hidden Hollow Cell. The forty year old cell has already been 50%

capped, and only 60 acres remain to be covered. The full closure of the cell will take some time, and will be spread out over the next ten years. Currently, the North Ravine Cell is in operation and is the main cell for disposing waste. The partial closure of the Hidden Hollow Cell will cost \$2.5 million and is expected to be completed by September 2014.

- **Hydrogen Sulfide Scrubber** - In an effort to reduce the amount of odor coming from the landfill, a Hydrogen Sulfide Scrubber will be constructed to clean landfill gas emissions. In addition, the scrubber will allow the County to increase the amount of landfill gas that can be extracted and in turn sold to produce energy. It is estimated that the addition of the scrubber will lead to a 40% increase in the amount of gas collected. The project will cost \$3 million and is expected to be operational by July 2014.



Ada County Courthouse