Confinement of Juvenile Offenders

Follow-up report highlights **March 2017**

The Department of Juvenile Corrections and the courts have addressed the recommendations that were still in process after our February 2016 follow-up.

Commitment

Courts updated Judicial Rule 19

The courts updated Judicial Rule 19, which contains criteria that must be met before a juvenile can be committed to the Department of Juvenile Corrections. The changes place more focus on community safety.

> An ambiguous criterion—community programming being either unavailable or inappropriate—has been removed.
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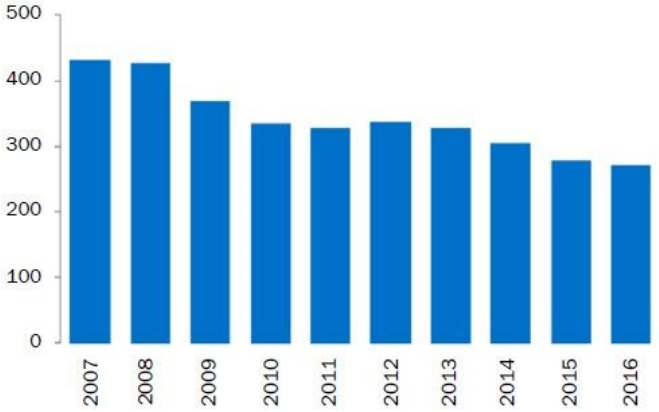
> The new rule requires that underlying facts relied on to determine that a community-based alternative was not appropriate must be part of the court record.

The average daily population of committed juveniles has decreased.



Diversion

The Department of Juvenile Corrections (DJC) has provided statewide training on best practices in diversion.

The Idaho Supreme Court is developing a case flow management plan that includes evidence-based best practices for youth.

The court commissioned independent system reviews that recommended the use of a validated screening tool to inform prosecutors' decisions.

Prevention and early intervention

The departments of Juvenile Corrections and Health and Welfare have created a data-sharing web service to facilitate timely assessments.

The Department of Education allocates funds for its Safe and Drug Free Schools program.

$4 million per year

Reintegration

With funding from a federal grant, a task force established a statewide strategic plan and recommended strategies to DJC's leadership team.

DJC is implementing three projects:

Video visitation—Technology allows family visits when distance and travel is an issue.

Family group decision making—Engages families further in reintegration plans.

Collaboration with the Department of Labor—Labor staff will initiate services before reintegration to allow for a smoother transition to employment.

View the report: www.legislature.idaho.gov/ope/

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