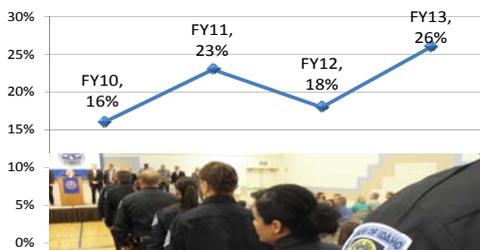


## OFFICER TURNOVER ON THE RISE

Correctional Officer Turnover



**BOISE**—The turnover rate for correctional officers jumped to 26% in fiscal year 2013. The 8% increase represents serious staffing and safety challenges. Strategies to reduce entry training from five weeks to four weeks and enhanced recruitment efforts are in development.

Turnover challenges continue this fiscal year. In September, 36 new officers were in pre-service training and 70 positions were open. The last time IDOC experienced this level of turnover in the officer ranks was in 2008.

## CONTRACTS UPDATE

**BOISE**—Vendors are finalizing bids for the nearly \$28 million health care contract for Idaho inmates. The bids are due in September with the contract award set for October. The Board of Correction voted to expand contract coverage to include all facilities in Idaho.

The contract unit is developing the request for proposals for the Idaho Correctional Center. The issue date is set for November 30.

## SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER EXPANDED

**BOISE**—House Bill 648 went into effect this year, opening the door for **all** Idaho felony offenders to be assessed for drug, alcohol and mental health needs before sentencing. The change provides a opportunity to divert people from prison into treatment. It also means an increased need for services.

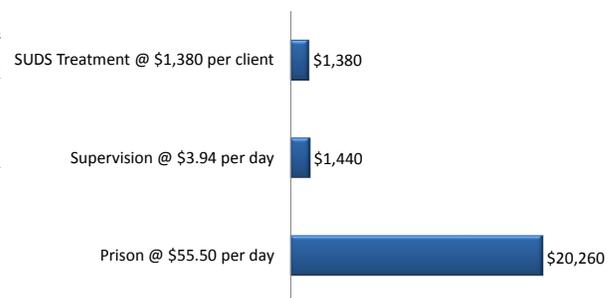
In FY13, the Department served nearly 4,000 offenders with allotted SUDS funding. The expanded law will increase demand by **approximately 1,100 offenders** this fiscal year.

A few quick facts:

- ⇒ 85% of assessed offenders have a substance use disorder.
- ⇒ Over 50% have a mental health need.



Idaho Department of Correction  
FY13 Average Costs



## HARVEST SEASON ARRIVES

**SOUTH IDAHO CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION**—The potato harvest is underway at the minimum prison facility south of Boise and promises to be one of the best ever.

This is the fourth year the prison, local businesses, and the Idaho Food Bank have partnered to grow fresh produce for local families. So far this year, offenders have harvested 19,962 pounds of beans and corn for the Idaho Food Bank.



ICIO's inmate fire crew at the Myrtle Fire. Greg Huen photos

## INMATE CREWS FIGHT FIRES

OROFINO—Fire crews at three Idaho prisons were among those responding to fires this summer.

Warden Steve Little, South Idaho Correctional Institution, briefed the Board of Correction on fire crews during its August meeting. He said the hard work gives inmates a sense of pride and accomplishment.

Inmate crews help fight many large fires.

SICI's fire crew responded to the Little Queens fire near Atlanta and Hill Top fire near Lucky Peak. Orofino's prison crew responded to the Myrtle and Elk Fires, and St. Anthony's crew responded to the Beaver Creek Fire near Hailey.



ICIO's inmate fire crew at the Elk Fire.

### D.C. REGULATIONS IMPACT IDAHO



Decisions made in Washington, D.C. will impact Idaho's corrections budget. New Federal Communication Commission rules on prison phone rates and final PREA standards will both have impact.

### PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT, A DECADE LATER

Congress passed the Prison Rape Elimination Act in September 2003 to eliminate prison rape through a zero-tolerance policy. PREA Standards were finalized in May 2013.

Idaho received federal grant money to develop a policy and the supporting education, prevention and response needed to establish zero tolerance. The state had its first conviction under the new law in 2009.

PREA funds helped Idaho add cameras to eliminate blind spots in prisons. The efforts increased security and safety for staff and inmates.

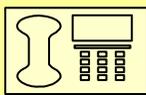
The next phase of PREA could be the most costly. The final standards require audits in all prisons every three years. Costs for independent federally trained auditors could be substantial, possibly \$100,000 or more for each cycle of audits.

The new standards also include the following:

- ⇒ Youthful offenders (under 18) must be fully isolated from adult offenders
- ⇒ Follow-up counseling for inmates must be done outside the prison system
- ⇒ Jails housing state or federal inmates must comply with all PREA Standards

In addition to the cost of implementing the standards, agencies can lose 5% of Bureau of Justice Assistance grant funding. For Idaho prisons that equals \$80,000.

Idaho will submit a letter on the current state of compliance. In the meantime, the Department continues defining how to address the new requirements in the most pro-active, least cost-intensive manner.



### FCC-DOC Comparison

<u>FCC</u>	<u>IDOC</u>
Debit .21/min	\$3.40/30 minutes
Prepaid .21/min	\$3.60 per call (long distance add .80/min)
Collect .25/min	\$3.80 per call (long distance add .85/min)

### FCC DECISION

New this summer, the FCC proposed rules to cap phone rates for inmates. The draft rules allow no commissions on interstate phone calls and cap call rates at 25 cents per minute.

The Department collects \$1.4 million in phone revenue annually. Placed in the Inmate Management Fund, the funds are used to pay for services that benefit inmates.