

Child Abuse in Idaho

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Jon Benoit Ramsey
Idaho was 2nd in the Nation
No statewide prevention effort

Statistics are reported by the US Department of Health and Human services and reported in "Child Maltreatment"
www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/publications/cmreports.htm

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Definitions

- Substantiated claims: Investigations conclude that the allegation of maltreatment or risk of maltreatment was supported or founded by State law or State policy.
- Indicated: Maltreatment cannot be substantiated under State law or policy, but there was reason to suspect that the child may have been maltreated or was at risk of maltreatment.

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Example: 2003 Referrals

- In 2003 13,520 referrals of child maltreatment
- 6,264 were investigated
- 975 were substantiated
- None were indicated
- 5,289 were unsubstantiated
- 6 were closed with no finding

Example: 2003 CPS Investigations

- 9,458 children were the subject of an investigation (of 6,264 referrals)
- 1,527 were substantiated
- 7,931 were unsubstantiated
- No reports of indicated cases, intentionally false allegations, or closed with no findings

National Statistics

During the past 3 years, the rate of victimization and the number of victims have been decreasing.

- 2001: 12.5 per thousand children or 905,000 victims
- 2004: 11.9 or 872,000 victims

Since 2001, the rate and number of children who received an investigation have been increasing.

- 2001: 43.2 children per thousand children or 3,136,000 children who received an investigation
- 2004: 47.8 or 3,503,000 children

National Statistics

- 64.5 percent of child victims experienced neglect (including medical neglect)
- 17.5 percent were physically abused
- 9.7 percent were sexually abused
- 7.0 percent were emotionally or psychologically maltreated.
- 1,490 children died of abuse or neglect—a rate of 2.03 children per 100,000 in the national population,
- Comparable with the rate of 2.00 children per 100,000 in the national population for 2003.

Idaho Statistics - 1999

- Child Population: 350,464
- Total victims: 2,928
- Physical: 848 (29%)
- Neglect: 1,448 (49.5%)
- Medical Neglect: 77 (2.6%)
- Sexual: 383 (13.1%)
- Psychological: 10 (0.3%)
- Other: 49 (1.7%)
- Total Maltreatments: 2,928 (100%)
- Total Fatalities: 4 (per 100,000 children = 1.14)

1999 Interpretation

- Numbers alone (48 states reporting)
 - Idaho ranks 39th (2,928 abused)
 - California is first with 130,510 abused
 - New Hampshire is lowest with 926 abused
- Total abuse/child population (47 states)
 - Idaho ranks 32nd (0.84%)
 - Alaska is first with 6,032 abused (population of 196,825 = 3.06%)
 - Pennsylvania is lowest with 5,076 abused (population of 2,852,520 = 0.18%)

Idaho Perpetrators - 1999

- Parent: 1,657
- Other Relative: 89
- Foster Parent: 7
- Residential Facility Staff: 5
- Child Care/Day Provider: 20
- Non caretaker: 126
- Missing or unknown: 1,024
- Total: 2,928

Idaho Statistics - 2000

- Child Population: 369,030
- Total victims: 3,171
- Physical: 693 (21.9%)
- Neglect: 1,471 (46.4%)
- Medical Neglect: 356 (11.2%)
- Sexual: 346 (10.9%)
- Psychological: 45 (1.4%)
- Other: 20 (.6%)
- Unknown: 240 (7.6%)
- Total Maltreatments: 3,171 (100%)
- Total Fatalities: 1 (per 100,000 children = .27)

2000 Interpretation

- Numbers alone (48 states reporting)
 - Idaho ranks 41st (3,171 abused)
 - California is first with 129,678 abused
 - New Hampshire is lowest with 842 abused
- Total abuse/child population (46 states)
 - Idaho ranks 35th (0.86%)
 - Alaska is first with 6,957 abused (population of 190,717 = 3.65%)
 - Pennsylvania is 50th with 5,002 abused (population of 2,922,221 = 0.17%)

Idaho Statistics - 2001

- Child Population: 375,000
- Total victims: 3,557
- Physical: 709 (19.9%)
- Neglect: 2,201 (61.9%)
- Medical Neglect: 70 (2.0%)
- Sexual: 295 (8.3%)
- Psychological: 117 (3.3%)
- Other: 324 (9.1%)
- Total Maltreatments: 3,716 (104.5%)
- Child Fatalities: 4 (per 100,000 children = 1.04)

2001 Interpretation

- Numbers alone (50 states reporting)
 - Idaho ranks 40th (3,557 abused)
 - California is first with 128,251 abused
 - Wyoming is lowest with 990 abused
- Total abuse/child population (50 states)
 - Idaho ranks 26th (.95%)
 - Alaska is first with 15,947 abused (population of 193,000 = 8.26%)
 - Pennsylvania is lowest with 4,784 abused (population of 2,912,000 = 0.16%)

Idaho Perpetrators - 2001

- Parent: 3,561
- Other Relative: 210
- Foster Parent: 9
- Residential Facility Staff: 2
- Child Care/Day Provider: 9
- Unmarried Partner of Parent: 81
- Legal Guardian: 14
- Other: 37
- Missing or unknown: 193
- Total: 4,116
- Difference: 559

Idaho Statistics - 2002

- Child Population: 370,439
- Total victims: 1,947
- Physical: 384 (19.7%)
- Neglect: 1,312 (67.4%)
- Medical Neglect: 44 (2.3%)
- Sexual: 154 (7.9%)
- Psychological: 15 (0.8%)
- Other: 153 (7.9%)
- Total Maltreatments: 2,062 (105.9%)
- Total Fatalities: 2 (per 100,000 children = .54)

2002 Interpretation

- Numbers alone (50 states reporting)
 - Idaho ranks 44th (1,947 abused)
 - California is first with 132,181 abused
 - Wyoming is lowest with 692 abused
- Total abuse/child population (49 states)
 - Idaho ranks 43rd (0.53%)
 - Alaska is first with 7,950 abused (population of 192,428 = 4.13%)
 - Pennsylvania is lowest with 5,057 abused (population of 2,863,452 = 0.18%)

Idaho Perpetrators - 2002

- Parent: 2,029
- Other Relative: 82
- Foster Parent: 12
- Residential Facility Staff: 0
- Child Care/Day Provider: 4
- Unmarried Partner of Parent: 65
- Legal Guardian: 6
- Other: 11
- Missing or unknown: 103
- Total: 2,312
- Difference: 365

Idaho Statistics - 2003

- Child Population: 372,037
- Total victims: 1,527
- Physical 258 (16.9%)
- Neglect 1,070 (70.1%)
- Medical Neglect 30 (2.0%)
- Sexual 117 (7.7%)
- Psychological 7 (0.5%)
- Other 143 (9.4%)
- Total Maltreatments: 1,625 (106.4%)
- Total Fatalities: 2 (per 100,000 children = .54)

2003 Interpretation

- Numbers alone (49 states reporting)
 - Idaho ranks 43rd (1,527 abused)
 - Florida is first with 138,499 abused (California did not report)
 - Wyoming is lowest with 786 abused
- Total abuse/child population (47 states)
 - Idaho ranks 40th (0.41%)
 - Alaska is first with 7,901 abused (population of 189,289 = 4.17%)
 - Pennsylvania is lowest with 4,571 abused (population of 2,830,694 = 0.16%)

Idaho Perpetrators - 2003

- Parent: 1,735
- Other Relative: 63
- Foster Parent: 3
- Child Care/Day Provider: 2
- Unmarried Partner of Parent: 54
- Legal Guardian: 8
- Friends or Neighbors: 6
- Other: 3
- Missing or unknown: 8
- Total: 1,885
- Difference: 358

Idaho Statistics - 2004

- Child Population: 372,411
- Total victims: 1,856
- Physical 350 (18.9%)
- Neglect 1,293 (69.7%)
- Medical Neglect 28 (1.5%)
- Sexual 117 (6.3%)
- Psychological 10 (0.5%)
- Other 160 (8.6%)
- Total Maltreatments: 1,958 (105.5%)
- Total Fatalities: 4 (per 100,000 children = 1.07)

2004 Interpretation

- Numbers alone (49 states reporting)
 - Idaho ranks 42nd (1,856 abused)
 - California is first with 98,201 abused (New York is Second – 74,483, Florida: 57,230)
 - Wyoming is lowest with 678 abused
- Total abuse/child population (49 states)
 - Idaho ranks 43rd (0.50%)
 - Florida is first with 129,914 abused (population of 4,003,290 = 3.25%)
 - Pennsylvania is lowest with 4,647 abused (population of 2,837,009 = 0.16%)

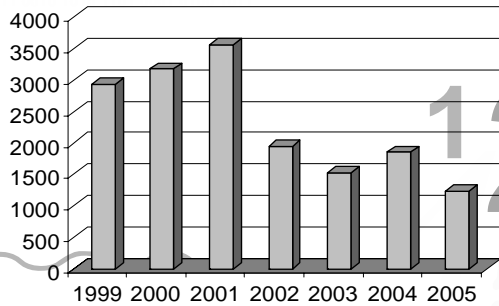
Idaho Perpetrators - 2004

- Parent: 2,195
- Other Relative: 63
- Foster Parent: 12
- Child Care/Day Provider: 2
- Unmarried Partner of Parent: 65
- Legal Guardian: 11
- Friends or Neighbors: 11
- Other: 4
- Missing or unknown: 2
- Total: 2,377
- Difference: 521

Idaho Statistics - 2005

- Total referrals: 7,773
- Physical: 1,925
- Neglect: 3,799
- Sexual: 1,319
- Other: 711
- Substantiated: 1,235
- Idaho has seen a decrease in referrals
- But an increase in substantiated referrals

Trends in the data Substantiated cases in Idaho



Trends in the data Over the past six years...

- Neglect has been the number one type of abuse
- The percentage of neglect cases has risen
- The percentage of physical abuse cases has steadily declined (except in the last year)
- The percentage of sexual abuse cases has steadily declined
- Idaho has remained somewhat steady in its comparative ranking
- Parents have been the number one perpetrator

Concerns

- Why the drop in numbers between 2001 and 2002?
- What programs exist that work to prevent child abuse?
- Are they effective?
- Are there any unmet needs or gaps in services?

Idaho's Heart

- Two meetings were held to determine the needs of the state
- Results:
 - Large number of at-risk families missing out on services
 - Lack of coordination between services and agencies
 - Idaho's Heart was formed in September, 2004
- Mission:
 - To determine gaps in services
 - To provide support and expand services
 - To do whatever it takes to prevent child abuse in Idaho

Idaho's Heart (cont.)

- Follow research and statistics – determine best practices and spread the word
- Bring best practices into areas lacking services
- Provide training, technical assistance, and administration services
- Increase funding
- Provide networking opportunities and increase public awareness

ICAP Coalition

- Seven “councils” in all seven regions of Idaho
 - Formerly the “Light of Hope” Coalition in Ada county – started in 2001
 - Over 20 members: individuals, agencies, and organizations
 - Come together on a regular basis to discuss
 - Child abuse trends and statistics
 - Methods to increase public awareness
 - Methods to increase member visibility
 - Coordination of April events
- Network

211 Idaho CareLine

- Referral service available by phone (2-1-1) and the internet (www.idahocareline.org)
- Free, statewide, bilingual
- Available Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Experienced a three-fold increase in child abuse prevention/referral calls from 2003 (66) to 2004 (183) statewide during April alone
- Calls in 2005 were similar to 2004 (168)

CASI Foundation for Children

- A private, non-profit, non-denominational, fully licensed agency providing International and Domestic (US) Adoption Services
- Creates families through adoption and improving the quality of life for orphaned children worldwide
- CASI has representatives in each region of Idaho
- United 225 families with orphaned children in 2002-2003
- Approximately 250 families received professional social services to process their adoptions

Drug Free Idaho/PAYADA

- PAYADA is committed to increasing the number of drug-free youth by sponsoring alcohol and other drug education; sharing information; providing positive activities; and building partnerships to create a stronger community
- Serves approximately 27,000 youth and 500 parents
 - education classes
 - community events
 - positive alternative activities
 - newsletter distribution

Family Advocate Program

- A private, independent non-profit agency
- The parent agency for two programs:
 - *Families First* is a voluntary home-based parent education program – serves approximately 450 children and families each year
 - The *CASA* (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Program provides the court with trained volunteers who act as Guardians ad Litem (a volunteer matched to an abused or neglected child in the foster care system)
 - serves over 600 children in District IV alone (Ada, Elmore, Boise, and Valley counties)
 - with assistance from almost 300 volunteers

Idaho Youth Ranch

- Provides troubled children and families a bridge to a valued, responsible, and productive future
- Family counseling, adoptions, the Ranch, education, emergency shelter, girls & boys homes, life skills, and community partnerships
- The Idaho Youth Ranch served 1,468 youth and families last year
- Referral and profile information
 - 49% emotionally abused
 - 40% physically abused
 - 24% sexually abused
 - 10% abuse/neglect

LCS Northwest

- A nonprofit human services agency serving communities throughout Washington, Oregon and Idaho
- Rising S.T.A.A.R.s (Students Taking An Active Role) programs in area schools throughout Ada, Canyon, Gem, Washington and Boise Counties
- Assist low-income families to prevent and stop child abuse and neglect
- This past school year, Rising S.T.A.A.R.s after-school program provided thousands of service hours to more than 350 children

Sane Solutions

- A part of Terry Reilly Health Services
- A community based treatment program dedicated to assessing and healing the trauma experienced by victims of physical and sexual abuse and their families
- Also provides offender treatment to prevent further offenses
- Average 150 - 225 child victims and 230 - 500 adults/year depending upon funding
- Nearly 800 adult and just over 200 juvenile sexual offenders utilized the program in the last year
- 75% of the counseling for victims is free of charge, 23% have Medicaid and 2% have private insurance/victims compensation.

St. Luke's Children's Hospital

- Professional staff and services to care for the special needs of children
- Unique services include
 - 24-hour emergency center designed and staffed just for kids
 - intensive care units for newborns and children
 - child life specialists to help young patients adjust to the hospital
 - an outpatient specialty center to provide multidisciplinary services to children with special needs
- Special CARES unit provides forensic interviews for child abuse and neglect cases
- St. Luke's treated more than 50,000 children; providing services to more than 200 families each day
- CARES evaluated more than 600 children for suspected child abuse and neglect

TV Grandparents as Parents

- According to the 1990-2000 census, the percentage of grandparents raising grandchildren in Idaho has increased by 78.9%
- Idaho ranks third in the nation
- There are 19 Grandparents as Parents support groups throughout the state
- Grandparents find themselves raising their grandchildren for a variety of reasons: substance abuse, death of a parent, child abuse and neglect, teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, unemployment, mental illness, family violence, incarceration, poverty and divorce
- It is estimated that 98% of the children in Idaho being raised by grandparents have suffered some type of abuse (not all are through the court system)

Women's and Children's Alliance

- Since 1980, the Women's & Children's Alliance (WCA) has been in the forefront of providing services to women and their children escaping violent circumstances
- Provides services to children experiencing child abuse/neglect and/or witnessing domestic violence
- 488 children lived in the shelters. (Average about 40 children per month who live in the shelter)
- 593 children received counseling services as either residential or community clients

Coalition Success Stories

- Meetings have expanded from four months to year-long communication
- A Statewide PSA has been donated by Cable One
- Blue ribbon cards have become more sophisticated with two-color designs and expanded in number and scope
- Awareness activities have expanded
- The Celebration of Children and Families now coincides with El Dia de Los Ninos/Children's Day

The Future of Child Abuse Prevention

- Idaho's Heart is dedicated to seeing the following accomplishments during the next year:
 - Expand the Coalition into all seven regions of Idaho
 - Crisis nursery in Boise
 - Project Safe Place
 - Statewide Newsletter
 - Interactive website

Thank you!

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