REPORT TO THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE



THE PROSECUTION OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

JULY 1, 2000 - JUNE 30, 2001

Joint Submission by The Office of the Governor Dirk Kempthorne, Governor

and

The Office of the Attorney General Alan G. Lance, Attorney General

January, 2002



DIRK KEMPTHORNE GOVERNOR

January 20, 2002

To the Idaho Legislature and the Citizens of Idaho:

Re: The Prosecution of Child Sexual Abuse

The latest reported findings on child sexual abuse do not bode well for 2002.

Despite a decline of reported cases from last year, there were 386 filed cases of child sexual abuse by adult and juvenile offenders in Idaho courts in 2001. This is an increase from the 364 reported in 2000.

Child sexual abuse must be taken seriously by all of us. These incidents must be reported and swiftly prosecuted. It is only through an unwavering commitment by all of the stakeholders, including the state and local jurisdictions, that real progress can be achieved in extinguishing this horrible crime.

The information provided in this report will provide valuable insight to the decision makers involved in dealing with child sexual abuse. I look forward to working with the Attorney General and the Legislature in improving the outlook and ending child sexual abuse in Idaho.

Sincerely,

DIRK KEMPTHORNE

Governor



STATE OF IDAHO

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ALAN G. LANCE

January 20, 2002

TO: Idaho's Legislature and the Citizens of Idaho

RE: Prosecution of Child Sexual Abuse

Despite the best enforcement efforts of police and prosecutors, the problem of child sexual abuse continues at approximately the same level experienced over the past ten years. There were 386 cases of child sexual abuse filed by prosecutors in Idaho between July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2001. In 265 cases, the defendant was an adult. In another 121 cases, juveniles were the victims, and other juveniles were the perpetrators of the crime.

The number of cases brought during 2000-2001 approximates the 372 cases filed for the year ending June 30, 1992. Case totals have fluctuated in the years in between. For example, in 1996 there were fewer cases and in the years 1993 and 1999 many more cases were prosecuted in our criminal justice system.

Perhaps the most startling statistic is that in 36% of all cases, the offense occurred in the child-victim's residence. Another 21% occurred in the offender's residence. Tragically, in three out of four cases of child sexual abuse the perpetrator of the crime was either an acquaintance, friend of the family or a relative.

What these statistics show is that parents are generally the best line of defense in protecting their children from this heinous crime. In most cases, the perpetrator stands in a relationship of trust with the child-victim and exploits that relationship. Parents should know who their children are spending time with and should be vigilant in assuring that those adults or older children who build a relationship of trust with their child do not then seek to exploit that position of trust.

I commend to you the reading of this report on the prosecution of child sexual abuse within the state of Idaho for the period of July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001.

With best regards,

ALAN G. LANCE Attorney General

AGL:wat:km

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

>386 CASES WERE FILED (265 ADULT CASES, 121 JUVENILE CASES) IN DISTRICT AND JUVENILE COURTS IN FY01. THIS REPRESENTS AN INCREASE OF 22 CASES FROM THE FY00 REPORT.

>VICTIM GENDER WAS PREDOMINANTLY FEMALE FOR BOTH ADULT AND JUVENILE PERPETRATORS.

>48% OF THE VICTIMS OF ADULT DEFENDANTS WERE BETWEEN 12 AND 15 YEARS OLD AND 25% WERE 11 OR UNDER.

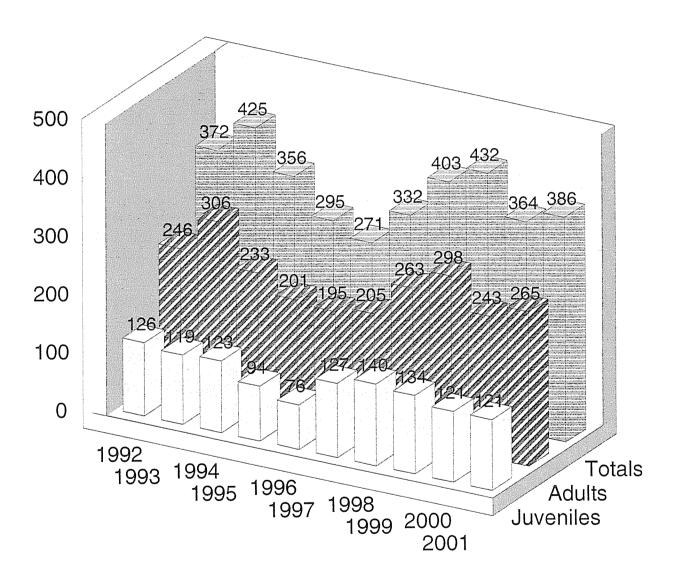
>69% OF VICTIMS OF JUVENILE SEX OFFENDERS WERE UNDER 11 YEARS OF AGE.

> 46% OF THE ADULT ABUSERS WERE ACQUAINTANCES OF THEIR VICTIMS, 10% NATURAL PARENTS, 9% OTHER RELATIVES, 7% WERE STEP- PARENTS, AND 3% WERE STRANGERS.

>33% OF THE JUVENILE ABUSERS WERE ACQUAINTANCES OF THEIR VICTIMS OR THEIR PARENTS AND 30% WERE RELATIVES (NON-PARENTS). NO STRANGERS WERE CHARGED WITH ABUSE.

>WHERE ADULT DISPOSITION WAS KNOWN, THE IMMEDIATE SENTENCE FOR THOSE CONVICTED WAS 45% PROBATION; 25% PRISON; 30% RETAINED JURISDICTION. THIS REPRESENTS A DECREASE IN PRISON SENTENCES AND AN INCREASE IN PROBATION SENTENCES.

Total Charges, Prosecutions and Petitions for 1992 to 2001 in Idaho



FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

RESEARCH TEAM

The research team consisted of Professor Ted Hopfenbeck, Coordinator of Data Collection; Dr. Steven Patrick, Coordinator of Data Analysis and Co-Principal Investigator; and Robert L. Marsh, Ph.D., Project Director and Co-Principal Investigator. Mary C. Schoeler and Michelle Morrison served as Research Associates.

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INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

REPORT TO THE IDAHO LEGISLATURE

THE PROSECUTION OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IN IDAHO

JULY 1, 2000 - JUNE 30, 2001

INTRODUCTION

House Bill 362, passed in 1989 (adding section 67-1405 to the Idaho Code), expanded the Attorney General's duties to require preparation of an annual report to be submitted to the legislature reporting the incidence of felony child sex abuse charges filed in adult and juvenile courts in the state. A research team from the Department of Criminal Justice at Boise State University worked in conjunction with the Offices of the Governor and the Attorney General to collect data and prepare the report to comply with this legislation. Specifically, data was collected on child sex abuse cases filed from district and juvenile court files throughout the state for the period of July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001. The data were analyzed by the research team and submitted to the Attorney General's and Governor's offices for review. Governor Dirk Kempthorne and Attorney General Alan G. Lance submitted the completed report to the legislative leadership.

PREVIOUS RESEARCH

A number of annual reports and one special report have preceded this study. The approach (methodology) of the data collection in the earlier reports has varied widely but the past eight reports have utilized a consistent data collection procedure. The following synopsis provides an overview of previous reports and the data collection procedures.

FIRST REPORT: January 1, 1988-December 31, 1989

The first report covered a two-year period from January 1, 1988 - December 31, 1989, and analyzed data collected by site visitation to all 44 counties under the direction of the Governor's Office. This report included sexual abuse information available from the agencies that dealt with various aspects of child sexual abuse. The Department of Law Enforcement provided information on investigation of known cases and the Department of Corrections focused on disposition of offenders under its jurisdiction. The Department of Health and Welfare reported the impact of child sex abuse on families and children.

No single department of state government was able to provide a complete accounting for each child abuse case as it was processed through the system. One of the recommendations of the first report was to develop a statewide system to record incidence, track case filings, and disposition of child sex abuse cases.

SECOND REPORT: July 1, 1989-June 30, 1990

This report covered child sexual abuse crimes from July 1, 1989, to June 30, 1990, utilizing data from state agencies. This time, however, an attempt was made to collect data directly from district court records and county prosecuting attorneys.

This report was based on a review on-site of courthouse case files of the state's six largest counties and nearby smaller communities. The survey, together with telephone and mail contact with the remaining counties, provided access to a database sizeable enough to produce a document for the legislative report.

As in the first report, the 1990 study concentrated on child sexual abuse from the perspective of the criminal justice system. It assessed cases from prosecution to

sentencing and disposition. The report provided information on plea bargaining arrangements, suspended sentences, offender evaluations and punishment alternatives.

SPECIAL REPORT: Sex Crimes Against Children

In July 1991, the Department of Health and Welfare issued a special report entitled **Sex Crimes Against Children**. This report analyzed complex issues of child sexual abuse from the vantagepoint of the largest state agency, the Department of Health and Welfare. The report examined nearly 1,900 reported cases of sex abuse from July 1, 1989, to June 30, 1990. It traced cases from initial report to investigation by caseworkers, referral to law enforcement, and disposition by the prosecutor and the courts.

Each county in the state was visited and data were collected on sex crimes committed against children by reviewing district court records of individual counties. The report analyzed the number and types of crimes prosecuted or filed for the year.

THIRD REPORT: July 1, 1990-June 30, 1991

This report provided information on adult and juvenile offenders. The incidence of juvenile sex abuse crimes had not been reported as a separate category in previous reports. A complete section was devoted to juvenile sex crimes for the first time. Offender age data, the relationship of the offenders to victims, demographic data on victims, and system processing information were collected on-site in each county for adults and juveniles. The data collected from court clerk records were verified with prosecuting attorneys in each jurisdiction.

FOURTH REPORT: July 1, 1991-June 30, 1992

This report provided information on adult and juvenile offenders as provided by the Clerk of the Court in each county and verified with the county prosecutor. The research staff reviewed case files on-site to determine offender age, the relationship of the offenders to victims, criminal history, demographic data on victims, and case processing information. Pre-sentence and sex offender evaluations that were completed on the offenders were also reviewed. Rates of case filings were standardized for the first time based on county population. Data on Pre-sentence and Sex Offender Evaluation were collected to determine if they were used in sentencing decisions.

FIFTH REPORT: July 1, 1992 - June 30, 1993

Court records were reviewed for juveniles and adults throughout the state in order to complete this report. Data were collected on the same variables as the previous report to insure consistency. Rates were reported in a standardized format based on county population.

SIXTH REPORT: July 1, 1993 - June 30, 1994

Court records were reviewed throughout the state for adults and juveniles accused of child sex abuse. Data were collected consistent with the reports from the previous two years. In addition to reporting standardized rates, comparisons were made of reported incidence in the most and least populated counties.

SEVENTH REPORT: July 1, 1994 - June 30, 1995

Court records were reviewed throughout the state for adult and juvenile cases filed.

Data were collected on variables consistent with the previous three years.

EIGHTH REPORT: July 1,1995 - June 30, 1996

The data collection procedures and methodology were consistent with the previous four reports. Data were collected on site for all counties reporting cases during FY96.

NINTH REPORT: July 1, 1996 – June 30, 1997

Data collection procedures by the Boise State research team were consistent with the previous reports. The researchers visited all counties and data were collected on site for all counties reporting cases in FY97.

TENTH REPORT: July 1, 1997 – June 30, 1998

Data collection procedures by the research team were consistent with past reports. The researchers visited all counties reporting cases and data were collected on site for the FY98 report.

ELEVENTH REPORT: July 1, 1998-June 30, 1999

Data collection and analysis procedures were consistent with the previous years that the Boise State Research Team has produced this report.

TWELVETH REPORT: July 1, 1999-June 30, 2000

The data collection and analysis procedures were comparable with the previous reports. There were 386 cases (265 adult and 121 juvenile) cases reported.

METHODOLOGY/DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

This is the thirteenth report on child sex abuse prosecutions submitted to the Legislature. This report includes data on adult and child sex abuse cases filed in FY01 (July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001). Actual review of court records for this report was initiated in July 2001, and continued through late November but with some very important differences.

For the past eight years the Chief Justice of the Idaho Supreme Court provided a letter of introduction for the research staff to review the PreSentence Investigation

Reports (PSR) to collect the data for the statutory legislative report on The <u>Prosecution of Child Sex Abuse</u>. This letter allowed the research team to confidentially review the files to provide descriptive data for the legislative report. This report has historically provided aggregate and summary data to the legislature <u>without any identifiers of any kind as to the identity of the sex offenders</u>. Based on the past practices of the research team, the advice of both the Governor's and Attorney General's Office all of the material was handled in a confidential manner. Last year's change in interpretation of rules by the supreme court continues to hinder data collection procedures of the research team. Furthermore, this decision affected the comprehensiveness of the statutory report provided to the Legislative leadership by the Governor's and Attorney General's Offices.

A compromise procedure was worked out between the Executive and Judicial Branches of state government for this report to collect information contained in the Pre Sentence Report for this fiscal year. Information that could not be accessed by the research staff in the field was referred to the Records Office at the Department of Correction and its staff attempted to provide the missing data. While this was an improvement over the last report it still does not provide the comprehensiveness of the previous reports.

All counties were contacted by mail by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court explaining the yearly data collection on cases filed in district court for adults and magistrate court for juveniles for the annual legislative report. The research team made follow-up phone calls from the Department of Criminal Justice at Boise State University before data collection began. Facsimiles were sent to all county prosecutors requesting the case numbers of all cases filed during the study period. The information was collected by on-site visits to all counties reporting child sex abuse cases (adult and juvenile). Members of the research staff consulted by telephone with any county requesting assistance in identifying child sex abuse cases. A total of 36 counties that reported cases were visited. Eight counties reported no cases filed for FY01. The

research team reviewed files identified and supplied by the Court Clerk or the Prosecutor. County Clerks were asked to have the files on all felony and juvenile cases filed between July 1, 2000, and June 30, 2001, available for review. The research team reviewed only cases formally filed (district court for adults and petitions filed in magistrate court for juveniles) in FY01.

This study covered the following charges: Attempted Rape (IC §§ 18-301, 18-306), Sexual Abuse (IC § 18-1506), Ritualized Abuse (IC § 18-1506A), Sexual Exploitation of a Child (IC § 18-1507), Possession of Sexually Exploitative Materials (IC § 18-1507A), Lewd and Lascivious Conduct (IC § 18-1508), Sexual Battery (IC § 18-1508A), Rape (IC § 18-6101), Male Rape (IC § 18-6108), Incest (IC § 18-6602), Crimes Against Nature (IC §§ 18-6605 and 18-6606), Forcible Sexual Penetration with a Foreign Object (IC § 18-6608), and Sex Offender Registration (IC §§ 18-8304 and 18-8311).

Counties tracked the cases utilizing different systems throughout the state. Many counties utilized the ISTARS system available through the Administrative Offices of the Idaho Supreme Court. (The system has not been standardized across all counties because of funding issues.) Some counties enter ISTARS data at the outset while others entered the case into the system at the final disposition. The Ada County Prosecutor's Office maintained a separate computerized system that tracked each case filed in both the adult and juvenile courts. Other counties maintained a separate manual system of the pertinent cases. On site data collection was done directly from the files provided to the researchers. The research team relied on the individual system that each county utilized to track cases that were filed. After initial identification of the cases, confirmation letters/facsimiles were sent to respective county prosecutors providing a list of identified cases from their county and requesting any corrections. Every possible attempt was made to insure that all cases were included in this study. Since the state has not designed a standard statewide tracking system, a few cases may have been unreported.

After case information was collected in the field, the research team also requested updated dispositional information on pending cases. Counties that provided dispositional information by facsimile through November 30, 2001 are included in this analysis. Cases that had not reached the dispositional stage were left in the "pending" category. Only cases filed in the district court for adults and petitions filed in magistrate court for juveniles and identified by the clerks or county prosecutors of that county were included in this report. Cases handled informally when charges were not filed were not included.

The absence of a uniform method of tracking cases and retrieving the data remains a serious issue beyond the scope of the present project. Recommendations have been made by the researchers to alleviate problems of data collection by developing a standardized tracking system.

The lack of access to PreSentence Reports seriously inhibits the ability of the research team to provide comprehensive demographic data on adults and juveniles prosecuted for child sex abuse. Although the assistance in collecting the Pre Sentence data by the Department of Corrections for those convicted constitutes an improvement over last year's report, the data in this report is not as comprehensive as the previous reports.

ADULT CASES

ANALYSIS OF ADULT CASES FILED-CHARTS 1A - 20A

(FY01: July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001)

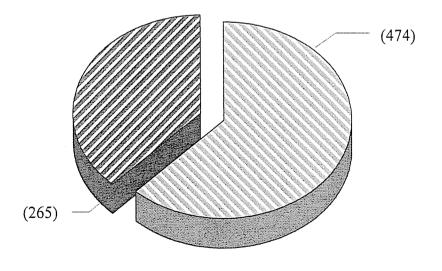
The information from the adult cases is included in Charts 1A-20A and immediately follows the discussion of adult defendants. A total of 265 adult cases were filed in district court during the twelve-month period of July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001.

Adult Defendants: Chart 1A - Total Cases and Charges Filed

A total of 474 charges were filed in the 265 cases in FY01 for child sex offense felonies in Idaho. This represents a decrease of 33 cases from the FY00 report. There was an average of 1.79 charges filed in each case.

Chart 1A: Adult Defendants

Total Cases and Charges Filed

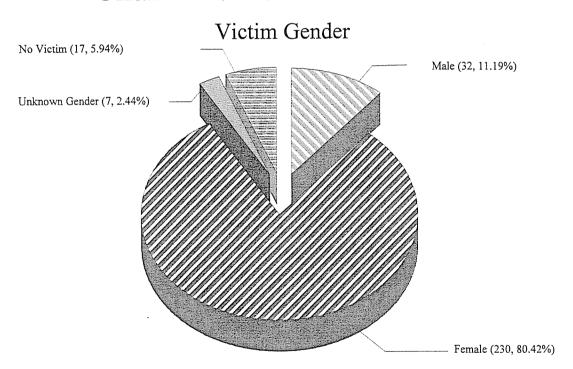


FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

Adult Defendants: Chart 2A - Victim Gender

There were a total of 286 victims in this survey. Victim gender was predominantly female representing 80% (N=230) of the victims. Reported female victimization was approximately the same in this study period as victim gender reported in the past seven surveys. Male victims represented 11% (N=32) of all victims in this survey. The gender distribution was approximately the same as the FY92, FY93, FY94 and the FY97 studies. The information on victim gender was not available to the research team in 7 (3%) cases.

Chart 2A: Adult Defendants

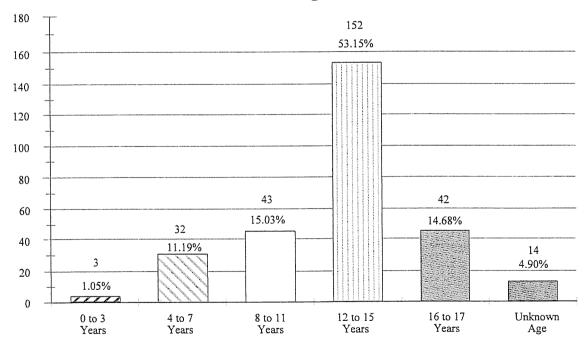


FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

Adult Defendants: Chart 3A - Victim Age

Approximately 1%, (N=3) of the victims were under three years of age. Children from four to seven years of age represented 10% (N=32) of the victims. A total of 13.5% (N=43) were from eight to eleven years old. A total of 48% (N=152) of the victims were between the ages of twelve and fifteen. Thirteen percent of the victims (N=42) were between the ages of sixteen and seventeen and age was unknown for 14 (4%) of the victims. The percentage of victims under the age of three dropped from 2% to 1% during the last two reports. Victims from age four to seven dropped 13% to 10% from previous reports.

Chart 3A: Adult Defendants Victim Age



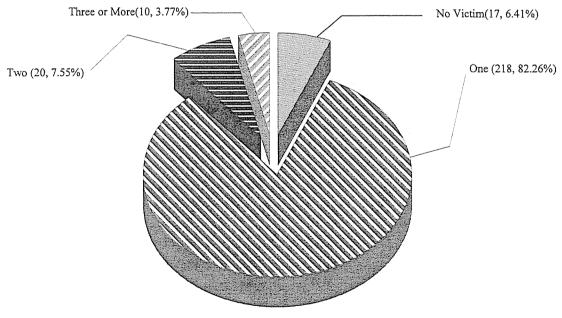
FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

Adult Defendants: Chart 4A - Number of Victims Per Case

Data presented in this chart represents the number of reported victims per case filed. Defendants in 83% (N=220) of the cases were charged with a crime against only one victim. There were two victims reported in 7.5% (N=20) of the cases. In 10 cases (4%) there were three or more victims. The number of cases with single victims increased slightly from FY00 and those charged for sex crimes against two or more

Chart 4A: Adult Defendants

Number of Victims per Case



FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

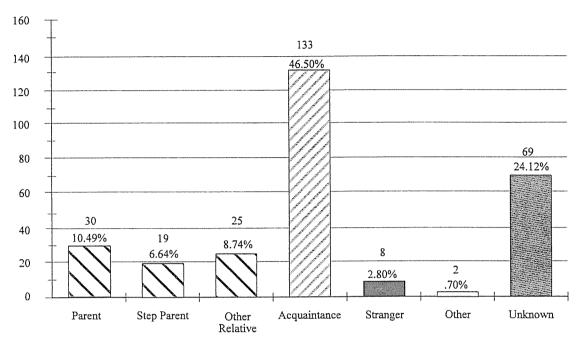
victims decreased from the previous report.

Adult Defendants: Chart 5A - Victim Relationship

Chart 5A indicates the relationship between the 286 victims and the 265 adult defendants (representing 474 charges). The data indicate that 10% (N=30) of the children were victimized by their actual parents and 6.6% (N=19) of the victims were abused by stepparents. Other family members were charged with child sexual abuse for 8.7% (N=25) of the victims. Acquaintances were identified as the abusers in 46.5% (N=133) of the victims. Eight strangers (2.8%) were accused of child sexual abuse. (This represents a decline of stranger victimizations from 5% to 2.8 % from the last report.) The relationship was unknown for 24% (N=69).

Of the 286 victims, the relationship between the victim and the accused was known for 217 victims. Twenty-six percent (N=74) of the victims were abused by parents, relatives or stepparents. Forty-six percent (N=133) were victimized by acquaintances. Seventy-two percent (N=207) of the victims fit these two categories and 2.8% (N=8) were strangers. Most adults charged with child sexual abuse offenses knew their victims. The parents and children generally had reason to know and/or trust the defendant because the child or the child's parents knew the defendant. This parallels the findings in the FY92, FY93, FY94, FY95, FY96, FY97, FY98, FY99 and FY00 studies. THE FINDINGS FROM THIS SURVEY HAVE BEEN CONSISTENT FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS. CHILDREN ARE MUCH MORE LIKELY TO BE VICTIMS OF PERSONS THEY KNOW (AND THEIR PARENTS KNOW). IT IS ASSUMED THAT THIS TYPE OF PERPETRATOR HAS LEGITIMATE ACCESS TO THE CHILD.

Chart 5A: Adult Defendants Relationship to Victims



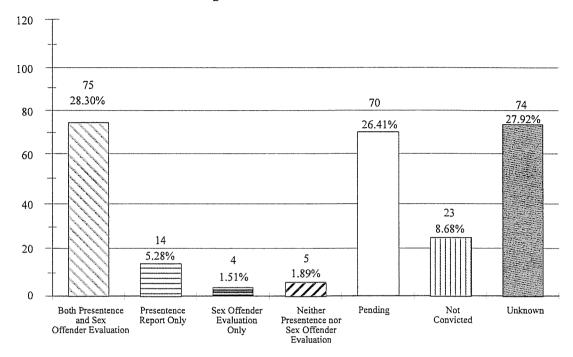
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Adult Defendants: Chart 6A - Pre-sentence/Sex Offender Evaluation

Chart 6A shows the number of convicted perpetrators that had a Pre-sentence Report and/or Sex Offender Evaluation completed before sentencing. Both Pre-sentence and Sex Offender Evaluations were prepared in 75 (28%) of the cases. The survey indicated that 14 (14%) of the defendants had a Pre-sentence Report only before sentencing. There were 5 (1.9%) defendants with neither. Four (1.5%) had a Sex Offender Evaluation only. The remaining cases were in Pending, or in the Unknown categories. This survey indicates that there was an increase of 15% of cases that had both

Chart 6A: Adult Defendants

Presentence Report and Sex Offender Evaluation



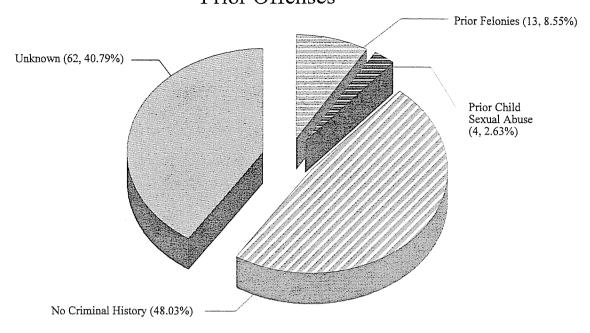
FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

a Sex Offender Evaluation and a Pre-Sentence completed from the report three years ago. This still remains low and is showing no improvement.

Adult Defendants: Chart 7A - Prior Convictions

Chart 7A shows prior convictions of adults charged with a child sex abuse crime during this study period. The data in this chart represents those whose case has reached the dispositional stage. Thirteen (5%) of the 265 adults charged during the study period had prior felonies. Four (1.5%) of the 265 adults charged had prior child sex abuse charges. Twenty-seven percent of the adult defendants had no criminal history.

Chart 7A: Adult Defendants Prior Offenses



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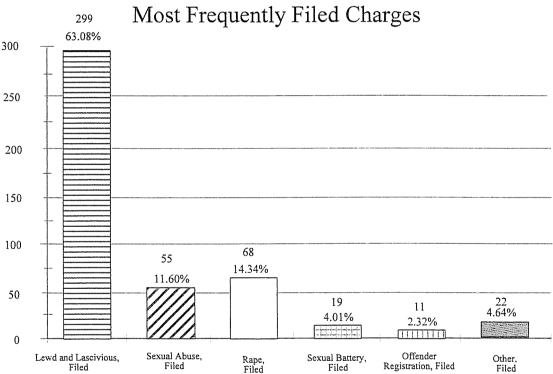
Adult Defendants: Chart 8A - Type of Charges Filed

Chart 8A shows the breakdown of the 474 criminal charges filed against adults. Lewd and Lascivious Conduct (IC§18-1508) charges were most frequently filed representing 2 charges or 63% of the total. (The indicates an increase of 11% for the L & L charge over last year.) Rape (IC§18-6101) charges were filed 68 times (14%) during FY01. The charge of Sexual Abuse (IC§18-1506) resulted in 55 charges or 12% of the total number of charges filed. Sexual Battery (IC§18-1508A) was filed in 4% (N=19) of the cases. Offender registration charges were filed in 11 cases or 2.3%.

These data were collected to determine which charges were most frequently used against child sex abusers. This is the ninth year this information has been collected. A

detailed analysis of case files for the last nine years indicates exceedingly wide variability in the types of sex abuse behavior and the actual charge filed. The Lewd and Lascivious statute continues to be used to prosecute cases ranging from fondling to actual copulation. Most charging decisions continue to reflect a decision in favor of filing the most serious charge possible, not necessarily the most accurate charge. This creates problems in developing treatment programs and education/prevention programs that require accurate data on criminal history.

Chart 8A: Adult Defendants



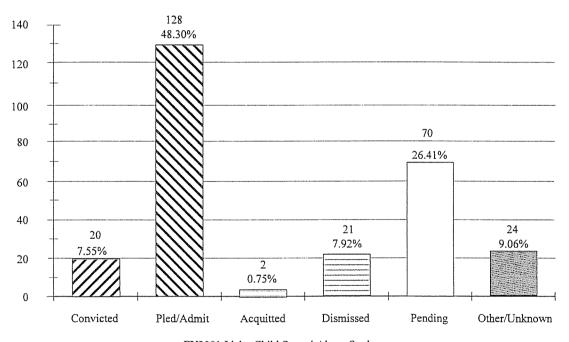
FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

Adult Defendants: Chart 9A - Dispositional Information

Forty-eight percent (N=85) of the defendants charged plead guilty and were convicted. Twenty (7.5%) were convicted by trial. Cases are pending for 26.7% (N=71). Defendants were acquitted (or the charges dismissed) for 8.6% (N=23) of the cases. Generally, the outcomes in the FY01 study were consistent with previous studies.

Chart 9A: Adult Defendants

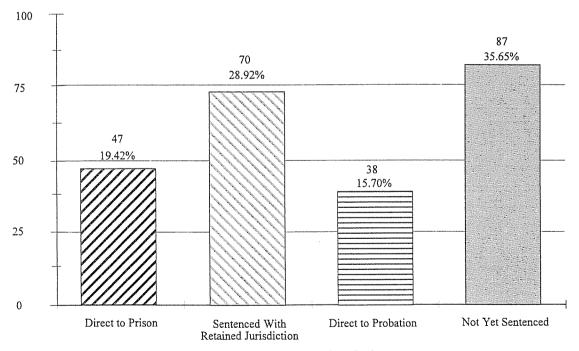
Dispositional Information



Adult Defendants: Chart 10A - Sentencing Information

Chart 10A shows the sentencing outcomes for the adult defendants in this study. The sentencing decision is known for 155 of the cases. (The additional defendants are awaiting trial, awaiting sentencing, or the charges were dismissed.) Probation Only was the disposition in 45% (N=70) of the known cases. Judges gave a Retained Jurisdiction sentence in 30% (N=47) of the cases. Twenty-five percent (N=38) of convicted defendants were sent directly to prison without a Retained sentence. This year's study indicates an increase in the use of Probation Only, an increase in the use of the Retained Sentence and a decline in the use of Prison.

Chart 10A: Adult Defendants Outcomes for Convicted Offenders



FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

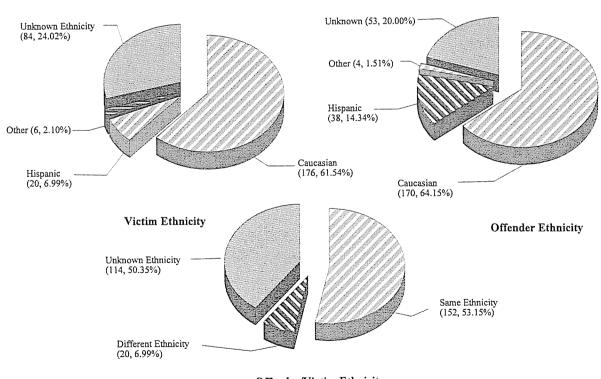
Adult Defendants: Chart 11A - Offender/Victim Ethnicity

Information was collected on ethnicity of the accused offender and the victim. Victim ethnicity was overwhelmingly Caucasian for 176 (62%) victims. Hispanic victims represented only 20 (7%) of the victims. Victim ethnicity could not be determined in 84 (29%) cases.

Offender ethnicity data indicated that 64% (N=170) of the total were Caucasian and 14% (N=30) were Hispanic. The remainders were recorded as unknown or other.

One hundred fifty-two (53%) of the victims were abused by a member of their own ethnic group. Twenty (7%) were victimized by a member of a different ethnic group and the ethnicity relationship was unknown for 114 (40%) of the remaining victims.

Chart 11A: Adult Defendants

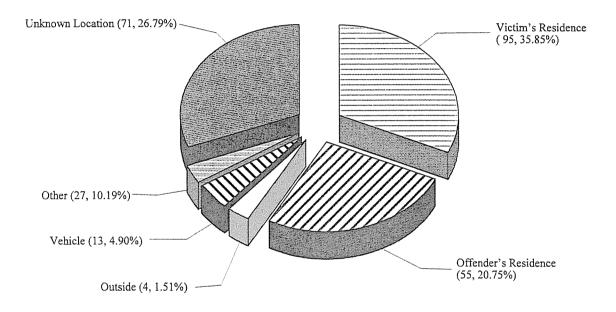


Adult Defendants: Chart 12A - Location of Child Sexual Abuse

Ninety-five (36%) of the alleged offenses occurred in the victim's residence. Fifty-five (21%) occurred in the offender's residence. Ninety-two (31%) of the locations could not be determined from court or police records. Thirteen (5%) occurred in a vehicle and 4 (1.5%) occurred outside. This was consistent with the findings in FY00.

Chart 12A: Adult Defendants

Location of Child Sexual Abuse



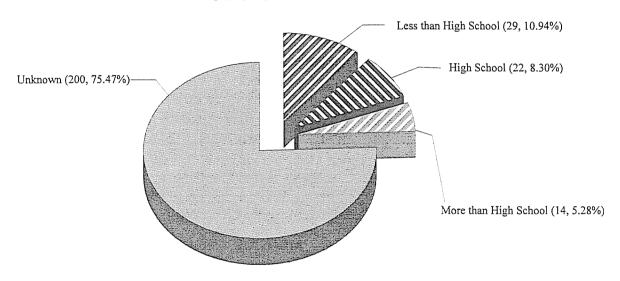
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Adult Defendants: Chart 13A - Educational Level

The collection of educational data in particular was negatively impacted by the lack of access to Pre-sentence Reports. Data was available for only 65 defendants cases. Eleven percent (N=29) had not completed high school. Eight percent (N=22) had completed high school and 5% (N=14) had some education beyond high school (college or vocational/technical). Information was not available for 200 or 75% of the cases.

Chart 13A: Adult Defendants

Offender Education



FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

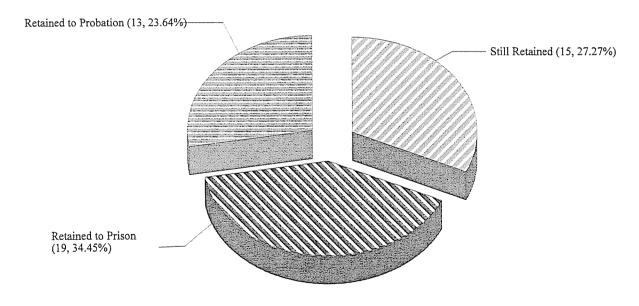
Adult Defendants: Chart 14A - Outcomes of Retained Jurisdiction

This survey marks the fifth year of the analysis of the Retained Jurisdiction Sentence (Idaho Criminal Code, Section 2601).

There were 47 persons that were sentenced under this statute as of November 30, 2001, representing persons charged in FY01. Of that number, 15 (32%) were still completing their period of incarceration and evaluation in the Department of Corrections. It was not known if they would be released on Probation or complete their sentence in prison. Nineteen (40%) were sent to prison to complete their sentence and 13 (28%) were released on Probation. The figures for FY01 represent a dramatic increase in those Retained sentence offenders sent to prison after their evaluation period.

Chart 14A: Adult Defendants

Outcomes of Retained Jurisdiction



FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

Adult Defendants: Chart 15A - Offender Occupation

Defendant occupation data was available and collected for only 78 of the 265 adult defendants. Six percent (N=17) of the 283 were unemployed, 9% (N=24) worked at unskilled jobs, 8.6% (N=23) worked in skilled labor occupations, 3% (N=8) were classified as white collar workers, 1% (N=3) were in professional fields, 1% (N=3) were students, and occupation was unclear for the remaining defendants.

Chart 15A: Adult Defendants

Offender Occupation 187 200 (70.57%)150 100 50 24 23 17 (9.06%)(8.68%)8 (6.41%)3 3 (3.02%)(1.13%)(1.13%)Professional Student No Job Service Unknown Unskilled Skilled Labor Labor

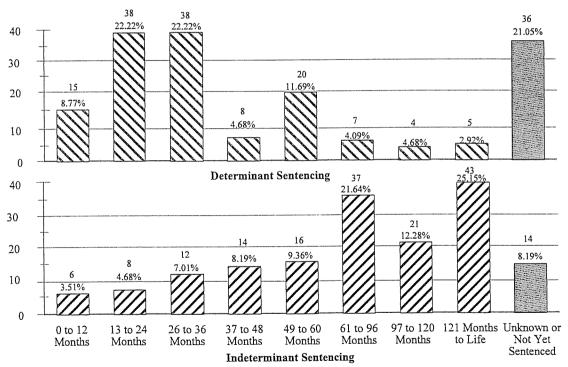
FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

Adults: Chart 16A Analysis of Determinate/Indeterminate Sentences

Data was collected on the 135 defendants sentenced and the length of their sentence when the report was completed. These data include persons sent directly to prison, those sent directly to probation, and those on a Retained status. Sixty-seven percent (N=91) received a fixed or determinate sentence of 36 months or less. Twenty-one percent (N=28) received a determinate sentence of 37 to 60 months. Twelve percent (N=16) received determinate sentences of 61 months to life.

Nineteen percent (N=26) received an indeterminate sentence of 36 months or less. Twenty-two percent (N=30) received 37 to 60 months and seventy-five percent (N=101) received 61 months to life.

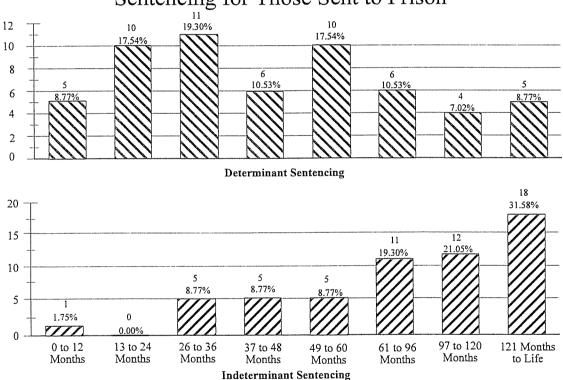
Chart 16A: Adult Defendants Sentencing for All Convicted Defendants



Adult Defendants: Chart 17A Part One/Part Two - Sentencing for Those Sent to Prison

The data in this chart refers to convicted perpetrators sent to prison and <u>not given a Retained Jurisdiction sentence</u>. These data are based on the 57 persons sent to prison. The analysis indicates that the majority of defendants (56%, N=32)) sent to prison had determinate sentences of 48 months or less. Eighty percent (N=46) had an indeterminate sentence coupled with the determinate sentence of 49 months to Life.

Chart 17A: Adult Defendants Sentencing for Those Sent to Prison

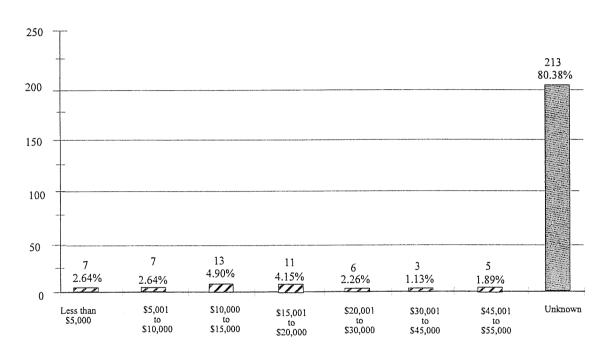


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Adult Defendants: Chart 18A - Income

Income data was available for only 52 of the cases. This information was negatively impacted by the lack of access to PreSentence information. The defendants in the majority of the cases (N=38 or 73%) earned \$15,000 or less annually. The remainder earned more than \$15,000 annually. Income data were not available on the majority of the offenders.

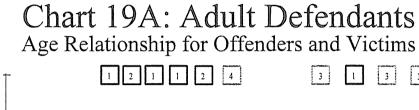
Chart 18A: Adult Defendants Offender Income

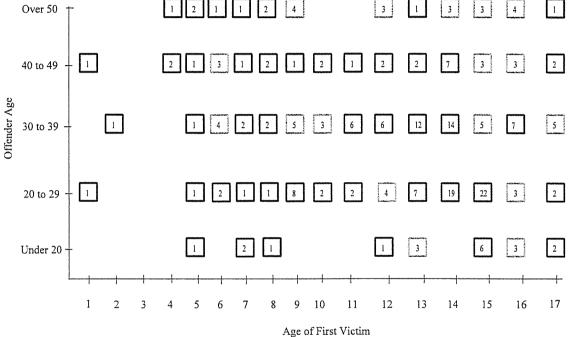


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Adult Defendants: Chart 19A - Age Relationship Offenders and Victims

This chart shows the relationship between age of perpetrators and their first victim. It provides a graphic representation that shows a preponderance of perpetrators in their 20's and 30's were involved with teenage victims.



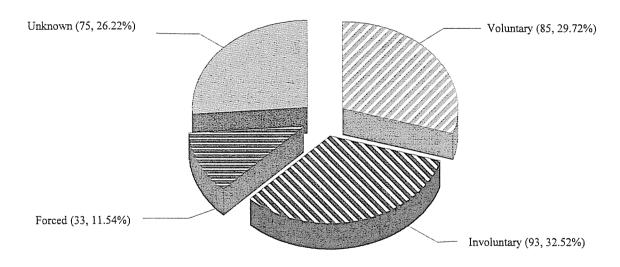


Adult Defendants: Chart 20A-Voluntary vs. Use of Force in Sexual Act

This chart represents data collected for the third year for this report. The researchers collected data on whether force was used in commission of the sexual act with the victim. Of the 286 victims, the force relationship could not be determined in 26% (N=75) of the cases. In the remainder, 11.5% (N=33) of the defendants used force on their victims. In 29% (N=85) the sexual act did not involve the use of force as determined from the data in the defendant's file. In 32.5% (N=93) of the cases, the act was involuntary.

Chart 20A: Adult Defendants

Forced, Involuntary or Voluntary Abuse



FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

JUVENILE CASES

ANALYSIS OF JUVENILE CASES FILED-CHARTS 1J-14J

(FY01: July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001)

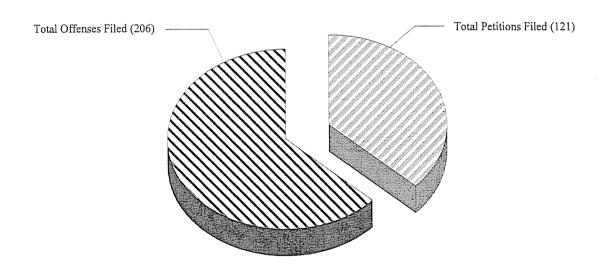
The information from the juvenile cases is included in Charts 1J-12J and immediately follows the discussion of juveniles charged with child sex offenses. A total of 121 juveniles had 206 petitions filed against them during the twelve-month period of July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001.

Juvenile Offenders: Chart 1J - Total Petitions and Charges Filed

Chart 1J indicates that 121 petitions were filed against juveniles representing 206 charges. In this report period there was an average of 1.7 charges in each petition.

Chart 1J: Juvenile Offenders

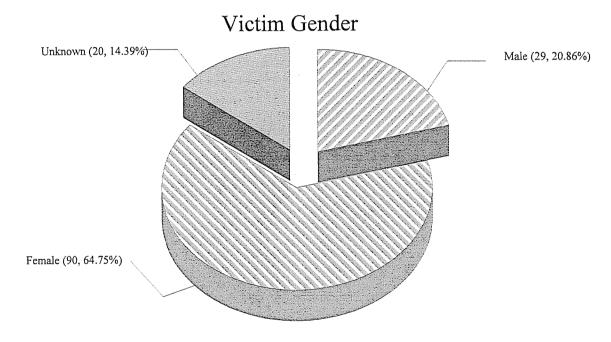
Total Cases and Petitions Filed



Juvenile Offenders: Chart 2J - Victim Gender

There were 139 victims listed in the juvenile petitions. Victim gender was predominantly female representing 64.7% (N=90) of the total number of known victims. (Females represented 80% of the victims for adult offenders.) Male victims represented 21% (N=29) of the total for juveniles. Female victimization has continued to increase in the past three reports. The information on victim gender was not available to the research team in 14% (N=20) cases.

Chart 2J: Juvenile Offenders

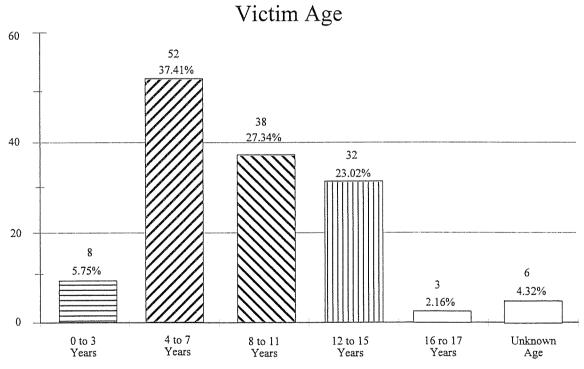


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Juvenile Offenders: Chart 3J - Victim Age

For the 121 juvenile cases reported (with petitions filed) during the study period, the age of the victims was known for 133 of the 139 victims. Victims under three years of age comprised 5.7% (N=8) of the total study population. Victims from four to seven years comprised 37% (N=52) of the study population. Children eight to eleven years were victims in 27% (N=38) of the cases. Another 23% (N=32) were from twelve to fifteen years of age and the remaining 2% (N=3) were sixteen or older. Age was unknown for 4% (N=6) of the victims.

Chart 3J: Juvenile Offenders



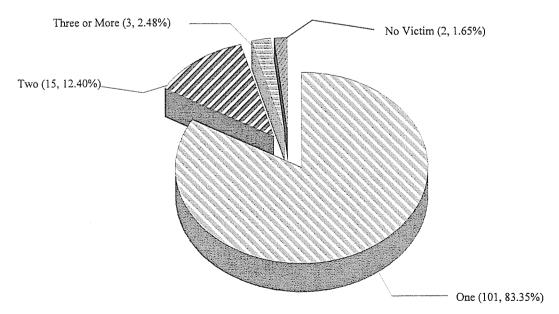
The number victims under seven years remain the same as last year's report. Forty-three percent (N=60) of the victims were seven years old or <u>younger</u>. <u>Seventy percent</u> of the victims were under eleven during this study period. This parallels the findings in the report last year. It is important to note that perpetrators continue to focus on the younger and more vulnerable children.

Juvenile Offenders: Chart 4J - Number of Victims Per Case

The number of victims was known for all 121 juveniles petitioned. One hundred one of the juveniles had been charged with violations against a single victim. There were two victims in 12% (N=15) of the cases and three or more victims in 2% (N=3) of the cases.

Chart 4J: Juvenile Offenders

Number of Victims per Case



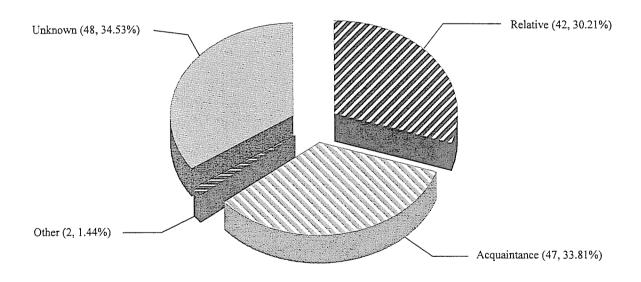
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Juvenile Offenders: Chart 5J - Victim Relationship

Chart 5J shows the relationship between the 139 victims and the 121 petitioned juveniles. Relatives (non-parents) were charged with offenses for 30% (N=42) of the victims. Acquaintances were identified as the abuser for 33% (N=47) of the victims. The relationship could not be determined for 34.5% (N=48) of the victims.

Most juveniles charged with child sexual abuse <u>knew</u> or had some familiarity with their victims. The parents and/or children generally had reason to trust the offender because the child or their family knew the offender.

Chart 5J: Juvenile Offenders Relationship to Victims

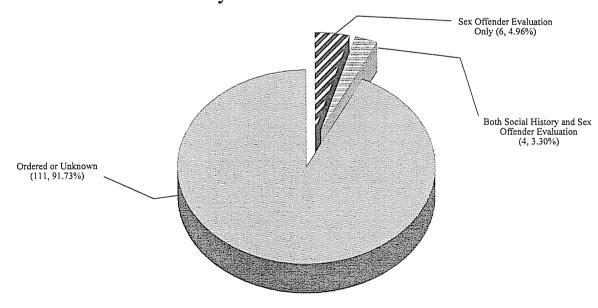


THE SURVEYS FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS HAVE INDICATED THAT ONLY THREE STRANGERS HAVE MOLESTED CHILDREN WHERE VICTIM RELATIONSHIP WAS KNOWN. THIS IS A DRAMATIC INDICATION THAT CHILDREN ARE AT RISK FROM PERSONS THEY KNOW (OR THEIR PARENTS KNOW) AND WHO HAVE SOME LEGITIMATE ACCESS TO THE CHILDREN.

Juvenile Offenders: Chart 6J - Social History/Sex Offender Evaluation

The data in Chart 6J show the number of adjudicated juveniles that had a Social History or Sex Offender Evaluation completed before disposition. This information is not available because of the lack of access to juvenile records by the research team.

Chart 6J: Juvenile Offenders Social History and Sex Offender Evaluation

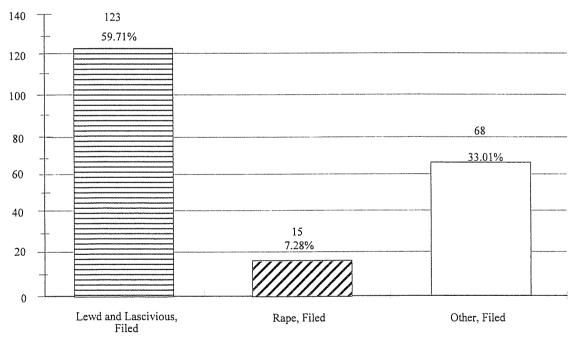


Juvenile Offenders: Chart 7J - Types of Charges

Chart 7J shows the types of petitions (charges) filed against juveniles. Lewd and Lascivious Conduct (IC §18-1508) petitions were most frequently filed representing 123 (60%) of the total charges. Rape (IC §18-6101) charges were filed 15 times (7%) during the year.

These data were collected to determine which charges were most frequently used against juvenile child sex abusers. As with adults, there was an exceedingly wide variability in the types of sex abuse behavior and the actual charge filed. The Lewd and

Chart 7J: Juvenile Offenders Most Frequently Filed Petitions



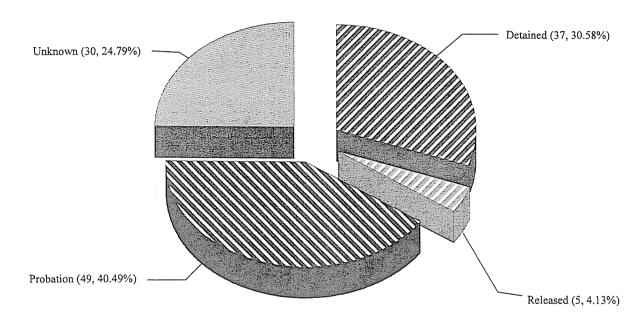
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Lascivious statute was used most frequently.

Juvenile Offenders: Chart 8J - Dispositional Information

Chart 8J shows dispositional information on juveniles. Thirty-seven (45%) were Detained under the YRA and 49 (25%) were released under supervision. Five (4%) were

Chart 8J: Juvenile Offenders Dispositional Information



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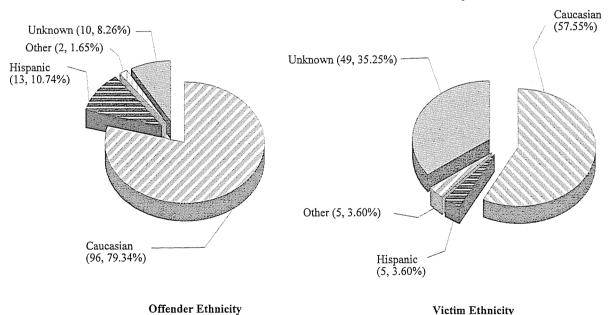
released. Thirty cases are pending.

Juvenile Offenders: Chart 9J - Victim and Offender Ethnicity

The petitioned Offender's ethnicity was overwhelmingly Caucasian representing 79% (N=96) of the offenders. Eleven percent (N=13) were recorded as Hispanic. Two percent (N=2) were listed as Other and the remaining ten (8%) had no race recorded in their files.

Victims, where ethnicity was known, were primarily Caucasian representing 57% (N=69) of the children abused. Only five (4%) of the victims were Hispanic but the large number of victims whose ethnicity was unknown limits any conclusion that might be drawn.

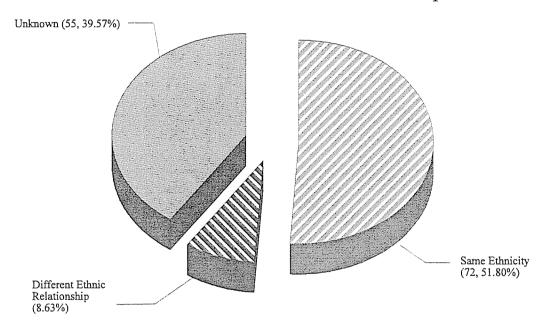
Chart 9J: Juvenile Offenders Victim and Offender Ethnicity



Juvenile Offenders: Chart 10J - Offender/Victim Ethnicity

Seventy-two (51%) of the juveniles petitioned into court committed the sexual offense on a child of the same ethnic status. Twelve (8.5%) of the cases were between juveniles of a different ethnic group and ethnic relationship was unknown in 57 (40%) of the cases.

Chart 10J: Juvenile Offenders Victim/Offender Ethnic Relationship

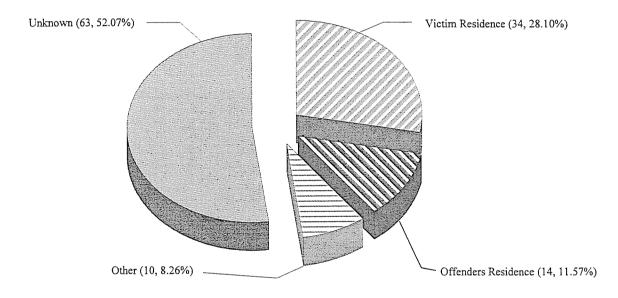


Juvenile Offenders: Chart 11J - Location of Child Sexual Abuse

Thirty-four (28%) of the juveniles committed their offense in the victim's residence. Fourteen (11.5%) committed the offense in their residence. Location was unknown for 63 (52%) juveniles.

Chart 11J: Juvenile Offenders

Location of Child Sexual Abuse



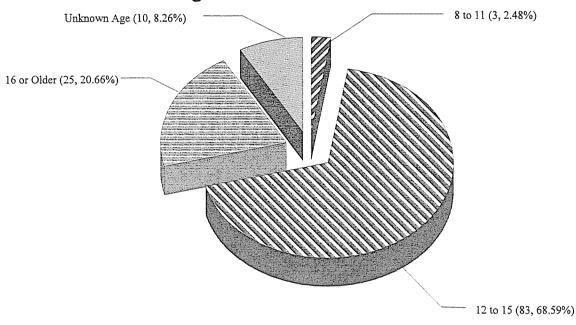
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Juvenile Offenders: Chart 12J - Age of Offenders

Chart 12J shows the ages of juvenile perpetrators. The most frequently occurring age was juveniles fourteen years old, representing 21% (N=25) closely followed by 13 year olds with 15% (N=18). Perpetrators eight to eleven represented 3% of the total.

Chart 12J: Juvenile Offenders

Age of Juvenile Offenders

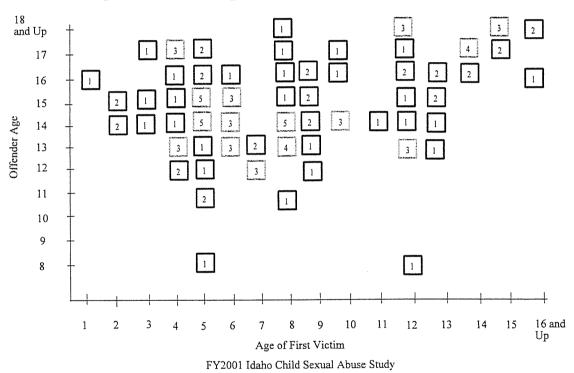


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Juvenile Offenders: Chart 13J - Age Relationship: Offenders and Victims

Chart 13J graphically shows the age relationship between victims and perpetrators. This demonstrates that a significant number of teenage perpetrators choose very young victims, primarily ten years old or younger. Fourteen-year-olds were the most frequently occurring age of offenders.

Chart 13J: Juvenile Offenders Age Relationship for Offenders and Victims

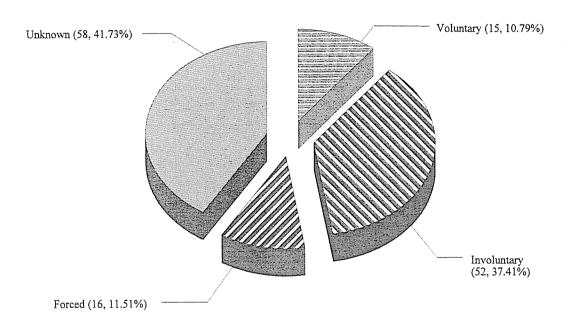


Juvenile Offenders: Chart 14J - Forced or Voluntary Sexual Abuse

This chart reflects data collected from court files on the forced versus voluntary nature of the abuse. In sixteen (11.3%) cases the sexual act was forced. In fifteen (10.6%) there was no evidence that force was used. In fifty-two (36.8%) it was involuntary and it was unknown in fifty-eight (41%) of the reported cases.

Chart 14J: Juvenile Offenders

Forced or Voluntary Sexual Abuse



FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

STATEWIDE CASE ANALYSIS

STATEWIDE CASE ANALYSIS

This year's report includes an analysis of data standardized to the population in each of the 44 Idaho counties based on the 2000 U.S. Census. The standardization of prosecution by population allows for valid comparisons of incidence prosecutions across the state and the criminal justice response. The data is reported per 10,000 persons. Smaller counties are corrected to conform to this reporting standard and the comparisons (rates) are accurate throughout the state.

There were 265 adult cases and 121 juvenile petitions of child sexual abuse filed in district and juvenile courts during FY99 (July 1, 2000-June 30, 2001). The total number of cases filed in the period covered by this report was 386. There were 364 cases filed in FY00; 432 cases in FY99; 403 cases in FY98; 332 cases in FY97; 271 cases in FY96; 295 cases in FY95; 356 cases in FY94; 372 cases in FY92 and 425 cases reported in the FY93 study.

Incidence of Case Filings by County-Table 1

The overall incidence of child sex abuse is reported by county and type of offender (adult or juvenile) for every county in Idaho. This information was taken from the records provided to the research team by the county clerk's office and the county prosecutor in Idaho's 44 counties.

Case filings were standardized and a rate calculated based on the most recent census data. The rate for adults was calculated and is reported for each county in the column Adult/Rate. The rate for juveniles was calculated and is reported for each county in the column Juvenile/Rate. A total rate for each county was calculated and the combined adult and juvenile rate is reported in the column Total/Rate. (Seven counties, Adams, Butte, Camas, Clark, Fremont, Lincoln, and Teton reported no cases and their rates are reported as zero.)

The Total (mean) Rate of the child sex abuse court cases filed by county for the study period was 2.85/10,000. The standard deviation was 2.32/10,000. Over 95% of the counties fall within a range of plus or minus two standard deviations ($2.32 \times 2=4.64$) from the average of 2.85 cases per 10,000. This means that 95% of Idaho counties reported from zero (0) to 7.49/10,000 child sex abuse cases filed during the study period.

The average rate for adults (Adult/Rate) in each county was 2.07/10,000 with a standard deviation of 1.69/10,000. The total rate for juveniles (Juvenile/Rate) was .78/10,000 with a standard deviation of 1.15/10,000.

Table One: Case Filings By County

County	Population	Total	Adults	Juveniles	Rate/Adults	Rate/Juveniles	Rate/Total
Ada	300,904	87	48	39	1.60	1.30	2.89
Adams	3,476	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bannock	75,565	38	30	8	3.97	1.06	5.03
Bear Lake	6,411	1	1	Ö	1.56	0.00	1.56
Benewah	9,171	1	Ö	1	0.00	1.09	1.09
Bingham	41,735	18	11	7	2.64	1.68	4.31
Blaine	18,991	2	2	, O	1.05	0.00	1.05
Boise	6,670	4	3	1	4.50	1.50	6.00
Bonner	36,835	7	3	4	0.81	1.09	1.90
Bonneville	82,522	31	22	9	2.67	1.09	3.76
	9,871	2	2	0	2.03	0.00	2.03
Boundary	2,899	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Butte	2,699	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Camus		37	26	11	1.98	0.00	2.81
Canyon	131,441		20		2.74		2.74
Caribou	7,304	2		0	1.87	0.00	
Cassia	21,416	4	4	0		0.00	1.87
Clark	1,022	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clearwater	8,930	4	4		4.48	0.00	4.48
Custer	4,342	4	2	2	4.61	4.61	9.21
Elmore	29,130	5	5	0	1.72	0.00	1.72
Franklin	11,329	6	5	1	4.41	0.88	5.30
Fremont	11,819	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gem	15,181	3	3	0	1.98	0.00	1.98
Gooding	14,155	6	5	1	3.53	0.71	4.24
Idaho	15,511	7	7	0	4.51	0.00	4.51
Jefferson	19,155	3	2	1	1.04	0.52	1.57
Jerome	18,342	11	7	4	3.82	2.18	6.00
Kootenai	108,685	26	26	0	2.39	0.00	2.39
Latah	34,935	3	3	0	0.86	0.00	0.86
Lemhi	7,806	2	0	2	0.00	2.56	2.56
Lewis	3,747	1	1	0	2.67	0.00	2.67
Lincoln	4,044	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madison	27,467	3	3	0	1.09	0.00	1.09
Minidoka	20,174	1	0	1	0.00	0.50	0.50
Nez Perce	37,410	5	2	3	0.53	0.80	1.34
Oneida	4,125	3	1	2	2.42	4.85	7.27
Owyhee	10,644	3	3	0	2.82	0.00	2.82
Payette	20,578	4	4	0	1.94	0.00	1.94
Power	7,538	1	1	0	1.33	0.00	1.33
Shoshone	13,771	9	7	2	5.08	1.45	6.54
Teton	5,999	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Twin Falls	64,284	32	12	20	1.87	3.11	4.98
Valley	7,651	6	5	1	6.54	1.31	7.84
Washington	9,977	5	4	1	4.01	1.00	5.01
Averages	29408	8.80	6.05	2.75	2.07	0.78	2.85
Standard Deviation					1.69	1.15	2.33

Rates for All Counties, 1992 – 2001: Table 2

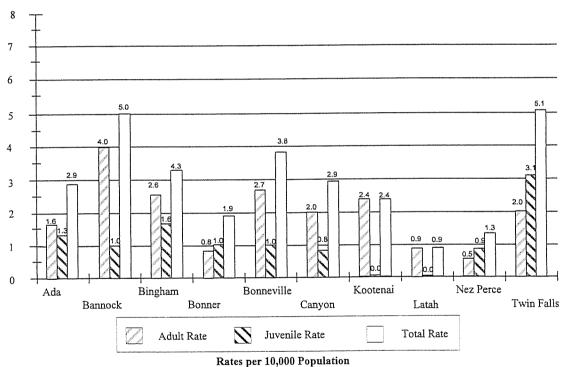
Table 2 shows the rates for all 44 counties in Idaho from 1992 to 2001. This provides an accurate account of the range of the case-filing rate over a ten-year period.

County	Rate 92	Rate 93	Rate 94	Rate 95	Rate 96	Rate 97	Rate 98	Rate 99	Rate 00	Rate 01	Avg 92-01	SD 92-01
Ada	3.84	5.54	4.18	3.35	2.33	3.21	3.74	4.91	4.23	2.89	3.82	0.90
Adams	6.15	6.15	9.22	3.07	6.15	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	3.07	3.37
Bannock	5	5.6	2.88	2.57	4.09	5.45	4.39	4.70	5.3	5.03	4.50	0.99
Bear Lake	1.64	4.93	4.93	1.64	4.93	8.22	1.64	6.57	4.93	1.56	4.10	2.25
Benewah	1.26	6.3	3.78	1.26	0	7.56	1.26	3.78	3.78	1.09	3.01	2.35
Bingham	5.32	5.06	3.73	4.26	2.66	3.19	2.93	5.06	3.73	4.31	4.03	0.89
Blaine	2.95	0	2.21	5.9	5.17	4.43	4.43	5.90	2.21	1.05	3.43	1.95
Boise	19.95	2.85	0	0	8.55	2.85	5.7	2.58	2.85	6.00	5.13	5.54
Bonner	4.13	5.26	1.5	4.51	1.5	4.13	4.51	3.76	2.63	1.90	3.38	1.31
Bonneville	4.29	2.35	4.29	1.66	1.66	3.46	3.6	1.80	3.32	3.76	3.02	1.00
Boundary	7.2	4.8	2.4	6	0	2.4	6	4.80	3.6	2.03	3.92	2.11
Butte	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	6.85	0.00	0.69 5.50	2.06 9.12
Camas	0	0	0	0	0	27.51	0	13.76		0.00	3.98	1.56
Canyon	2.78	5.66	3	4	2.78	2.55	6.99	6.11 1.44	3.11	2.81 2.74	2.57	3.62
Caribou	1.44		12.93	0	0	1.44	2.87	0.51	2.05	1.87	2.37	1.48
Cassia	3.07	3.58	2.56	2.05	0	5.12 0	0.51	0.00	13.12		2.13	5.25
Clark	0	13.12	0 7.05	0	2.35	3.53	7.05	2.35	1.18	4.48	4.33	2.88
Clearwater	1.18	10.58	7.05	3.53 2.42	2.33	3.33 4.84	7.03	7.26		9.21	2.37	
Custer	0 6.13	0 2.83	2.36	4.72	3.3	4.72		0.94		1.72	2.81	1.82
Elmore	1.07	4.29	2.30 3.22	4.72	4.29			3.22				
Franklin	5.49		3.22	0.91	0.91	10.75	0.91	4.57		0.00		
Fremont Gem	1.69		3.38	3.38	8.44		5.91	3.38		1.98		
Gooding	3.44		4.3	1.72								
Idaho	2.18		5.08	4.35			1.45			4.51	2.48	
Jefferson	4.23		7.25	1.81	3.63						3.85	2.16
Jerome	5.28			3.96		5.95		1.98				
Kootenai	3.3		1.86			1.58		7.16	2.72	2.39	2.66	1.63
Latah	4.57				1.63	1.96			3.27	0.86	1.95	1.11
Lemhi	1.45		5.8	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	0	2.56	2.00	1.46
Lewis	0	0	0	14.22	2.84	0	2.84	0.00	0	2.67		
Lincoln	6.05	6.05	0	0	0	9.07		18.14		0.00		
Madison	0.84	0.84	0.84	2.96	1.27	2.96	5.07	4.22				
Minidoka	5.17	2.58	0	0	7.75	1.55						
Nez Perce	5.33	2.96	1.48	0.59	2.96	2.67	3.26					
Oneida	2.86	5.73	0	0	2.86	0						
Owyhee	7.15	4.77										
Payette	7.91	3.04										
Power	1.14											
Shoshone	1.44											
Teton	0											
Twin Falls												
Valley	11.46											
Washingto												
Averages	3.74											
SD	3.52	2 3.51	3.63	2.68	2.48	3 4.47	7 2.43	3.56	2.85	2.3256	2 3.15	0.00

Filing Rates in the Most Populated Counties-Chart 1T

Chart 1T shows the incidence of child sex abuse in the 10 most heavily populated counties. County population varies in these 10 counties from a high of 302,904 in Ada County to 36,835 in Bonner. Total/Rate varies from a high of 5.13/10,000 in Twin Falls County to a low of .86/10,000 in Latah County. Twin Falls county falls within two standard deviations of the Total (mean) Rate of 7.49/10,000. This indicates that all of the 10 most populated counties are grouped around the average incidence for the state.

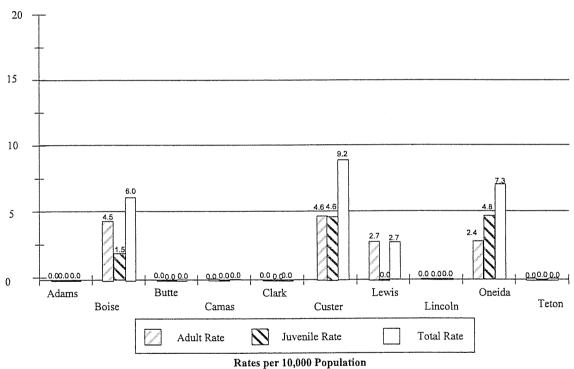
Chart 1T - 10 Largest Counties



Filing Rates in the Least Populated Counties-Chart 2T

Chart 2T shows the incidence of child sex abuse in the 10 least populated counties. The Total/Rate varied from a low of 0.0 in a number of the small counties to a high of 9.21 in Custer County. Most small counties reported no prosecutions but Custer is above the state average of 2.85/10,000. Furthermore, their incidence is outside the range of two standard deviations (0-7.49). The small population of the county exacerbate the incidence.

Chart 2T - 10 Smallest Counties

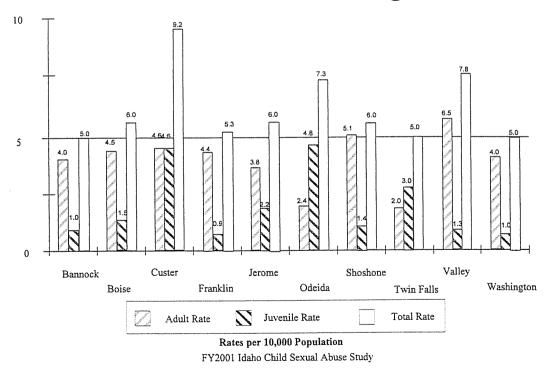


Ten Counties: Highest Rates of Child Sex Abuse Cases-Chart 3T

Chart 3T shows the counties with the highest incidence of cases filed for child sex abuse. The rate is shown for Adults, Juveniles and the Total/Rate per 10,000. The figures are standardized based on 2000 census data allowing for valid comparisons among the counties regardless of population density. In the current FY01 report, Washington County (9,977) reported the lowest Total/Rate for the ten counties with 5.01/10,000. Custer County (4,342) reported the highest rate with 9.21/10,000.

Again, as mentioned in the previous reports, the small population of many Idaho counties skews the findings. The dynamics of this type of crime as well as the age of the victims may account for under-reporting. The higher reported numbers may also indicate more aggressive enforcement efforts and prosecution. Trend analysis over time is providing a clearer picture of incidence by county and the justice system response.

Chart 3T - 10 Counties with Highest Rates



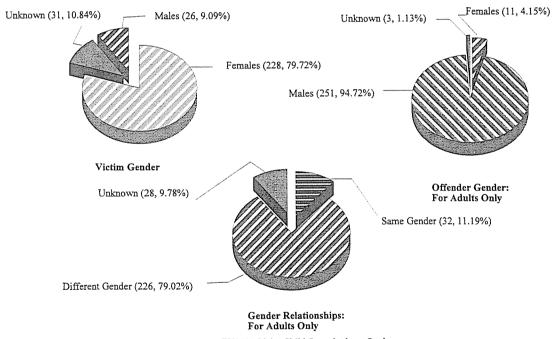
Gender and Gender Relationships-Chart 4T

This chart examines offender-victim relationships. Females were the most predominant victims representing the vast majority of all identified.

The offenders were overwhelmingly male. Female perpetrators represented 4% (N=11) of the total.

The analysis of gender relationships between the accused and the victim indicated that 71% (N=373) represented different genders. In 19% (N=99) a sexual act occurred between the same gender and it was unknown for those remaining.

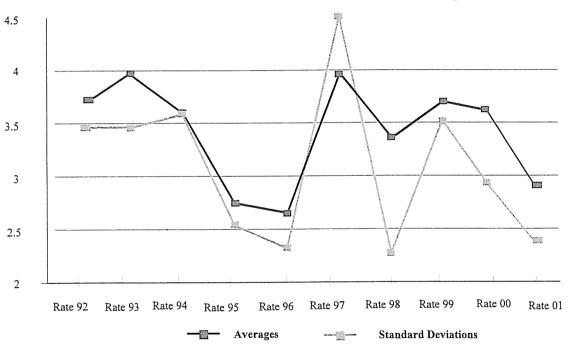
Chart 4T - Gender and Gender Relationships



Rates / Standard Deviations of Child Sex Abuse Prosecutions-Chart 5T

This chart shows the trends in child sex abuse prosecutions and the standard deviation from the average rate from 1992 to 2001. The current reported rate in FY01 appears to be closer to the prosecution rates in FY95 and FY96. The decline in the rate in FY00 and FY01 are probably related to the new census data which shows a significant increase in state population. Since the incidence of child sex abuse is standardized to population the decline appears to be related to the update population figures that were available from the 2000 Census.

Chart 5T - 1992 to 2000
Rates and Standard Deviations of Child Sexual Abuse Charges for Idaho



Rates per 10,000 Population FY2001 Idaho Child Sexual Abuse Study

TREND ANALYSIS

TREND ANALYSIS

Trends In Incidence and Prosecution of Child Sex Abuse - Table 2

Table 2 shows the reported rate of prosecution over an ten-year period for both adults and juveniles. This provides a more accurate picture of the variation of prosecution over time. Based on the ten-year rates (per 10,000 population) of prosecution, most counties that reported higher rates in a particular reporting year regressed toward the state averages in subsequent reporting periods. The average ten-year rate was 3.15/10,000 prosecutions per year throughout the state.

Table 2 and Chart 5T show the trend analysis of prosecutions in this state over an ten-year period. The highest number of adult prosecutions and juvenile petitions occurred in FY97. After relative stable rates from FY92-FY94 the prosecution rates declined for two years and then increased in FY97. The rate remained stable from FY98-FY00. The rate dropped in this year and approaches the rates of FY95-FY96. Data collection and analysis in the 44 counties have provided few clues to this phenomenon. Increased reporting, aggressive prosecution, evaluation, and punishment/treatment of offenders may contribute positively to reducing incidence. Also, increased education of both parents and children may positively impact prevention strategies. This annual survey remains a useful tool to continue to monitor the trend over time.

The increased attention of the state to child sex abuse crime may have sensitized parents to taking precautions with their children as well as made children aware of appropriate and inappropriate touching.

Still it is important to note that a trend in this type of crime emerges slowly and a decline in a one or two year period may be the normal variation that would be expected.

CONCLUSION

CONCLUSION

The data in this report summarizes child sex abuse prosecutions in Idaho in FY01 as stipulated by the Idaho Legislature. Data was collected throughout Idaho by a Research Team from the Department of Criminal Justice at Boise State University in accordance with the guidelines specified by the Governor's and Attorney General's Offices. Data was collected on-site in all counties reporting prosecutions. The number of actual cases was sent to the prosecuting attorney in each jurisdiction for verification. All corrections that were sent to the project team by late November 2001 were included in this analysis.

This report marks the ninth year that data has been standardized for cross county comparisons. This type of analysis provides policy makers at the local and state levels with accurate comparative data to determine the counties with higher incidence.

A total of 386 cases of child sexual abuse were prosecuted during the study period FY01. Of that number, 265 were adults and 121 were juveniles. The Total (Mean) Rate of cases filed by county (standardized to census data) was 2.85/10,000.

The average Total Rate (Adult/Rate) for adult child sex abuse felony filings was 2.07/10,000. The average Total Rate (Juvenile/Rate) for juvenile child sex abuse petitions filed was .78/10,000. The Adult and Juvenile rates have decreased from FY00.

The data in this study further indicated that child sexual abuse occurs most frequently between the victim and an acquaintance or relative. This has significant implications for policy makers in preventing child sexual abuse and treating those persons convicted of this type of crime.

Any conclusions about this information should be guarded because of the nature of child sexual abuse and the low incidence of reporting. This research is determining incidence over time. A standardized data collection system statewide would greatly facilitate comprehensive data collection.