

# Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections – Education Program

To provide quality educational services to all students served by the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections

## Student Achievement

Student performance is measured on the Idaho Standards Achievement Test (ISAT). The numbers below are the percentage of students making gains between the spring and fall testing in 2006/2007. The “# in sample” is the number of students taking both spring and fall tests; while the “# improved” represents the number of students whose scores improved on the second testing date. The final column on the chart below is the percentage of students participating in both testing cycles who scored higher on the second test. The higher the score on the first test, the less likely the student was to make progress on the ISAT. Almost all students with lower scores made progress on the second test.

2006-2007 Scores	# in Sample	# Improved	Percentage
Reading	79	46	58%
Language	67	48	77%
Math	48	40	83%

## Need for Expanded Vocational Programming

Factors indicate that many students in the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections’ (IDJC) three facilities would be best served educationally by an expanded vocational program. First, an increasing number of students are entering the IDJC’s educational programs with a diploma or GED. Second, the age of students being served is rising. Projections, based on the likelihood of a student successfully completing a diploma in a public high school, indicate that between 50-60% of the students residing in the IDJC’s three institutions would be better served in a vocational, rather than an academic, program.

## GED Testing 2007

If it is not practical for a student to earn a high school diploma, GED testing is available. The chart below shows the total tests taken in each facility and the number of tests passed. The percentage passed is listed in the last column.

Facility	# Taken	# Passed	Success %
St. Anthony	149	143	96%
Lewiston	32	32	100%
Nampa	60	60	100%

## Education Program Completions

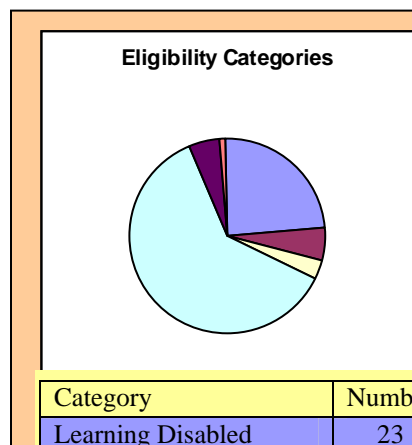
The final chart in this column gives totals of GED/HSEs and high school diplomas earned at the IDJC institutions.



2007

Facility	GED/HSE	Diploma
St. Anthony	29	16
Lewiston	8	6
Nampa	15	5

## Special Education



Ninety-Six of the students in the IDJC’s three facilities are special education eligible. This is 44% of the total population of 217.

Category	Number	Percentage
Learning Disabled	23	24
Cognitively Impaired	5	5
Language Impaired	3	3
Emotionally Disturbed	59	64
Health Impaired	5	5
Autistic	1	1

Research data from across the United States is inconsistent in determining the percentage of juveniles in juvenile correctional centers (JCCs) who have verified educational disabilities. Various studies have indicated that the national percentage of juveniles in JCCs who are eligible for special education services is between 35 to 87 percent.

Forty-four percent of the IDJC’s population was identified as qualifying for special education services on December 1, 2007. The IDJC’s percentage is significantly higher (between 10-11%) than the national average for local education agencies of nine percent.

Almost 90% of the juveniles in the three state facilities qualify for Title I services. Based on the IDJC criteria, this means that about 90% of the students scored at or below 40% in at least one subject area on an individualized achievement test or scored below the proficiency level in one or more subjects on the ISAT. This leaves only 11% of the population in the IDJC’s three facilities who would not receive support outside of the general education classroom.

## Solutions Unit at JCC–Nampa

The Solutions program, a co-occurring unit for juveniles who have a diagnosed mental health disorder and a diagnosed substance use disorder, is scheduled to open during FY09. It is anticipated that 45-55% of the juveniles will have emotional diagnoses that will qualify them for special education services under the category of emotionally disturbed.