

Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

KEY FINDINGS

2025 Rates

15.2

Total alcohol/drug offense rate per 1,000 residents
(down 9% from 2024)

9.6%

of person/property crime offenders were under the influence of drugs or alcohol (down 1% from 2024)

9.5

Total alcohol/drug arrest rate per 1,000 residents
(down 9% from 2024)

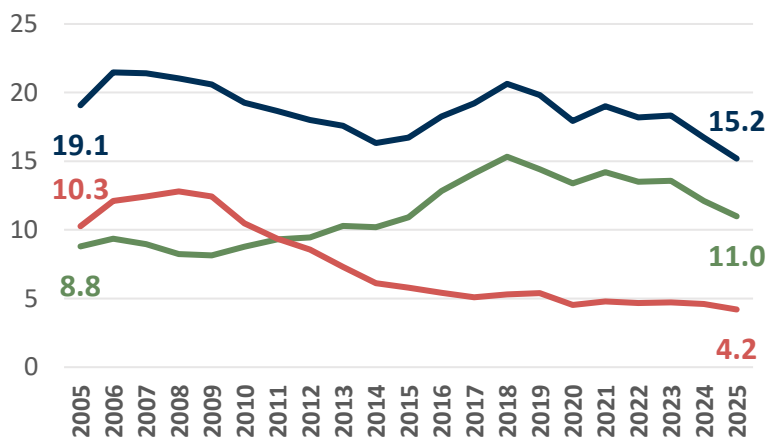
In 2025, the overall crime rate in Idaho, as measured by offenses reported to the Idaho Incident-Based Reporting System (IIBRS), was at its lowest in at least 21 years. The overall offense rate in 2025 was 43.8 offenses per 1,000 residents. The rate of society crimes, which includes drug offenses, was 11.8 offenses per 1,000 residents. Additionally, drug offenses accounted for about a quarter (25%) of all offenses reported in 2025. This research brief takes a closer look at substance-related crime in Idaho during 2025.

Offense Trends

Drug and Alcohol Offense Rates

Between 2005 and 2025, the total rate of drug and alcohol offenses decreased by about 20% (from 19.1 offenses per 1,000 residents in 2005 to 15.2 in 2025; see Figure 1). However, there are diverging trends in drug offenses (drug/narcotic violations, drug equipment violations) versus alcohol offenses (driving under the influence, or DUI¹; drunkenness; liquor law violations). The drug offense rate increased about 25% between 2005 and 2025 (from 8.8 to 11.0), while the alcohol offense rate decreased 59% (from 10.3 to 4.2).

Figure 1. The total drug and alcohol offense rate per 1,000 residents decreased 20.4% between 2005 and 2025 due to a 24.8% increase in the drug offense rate occurring simultaneously with a 59.1% decrease in the alcohol offense rate.



¹ DUI is considered an alcohol offense for the purposes of this report. IIBRS does not distinguish between alcohol and drug DUI incidents.

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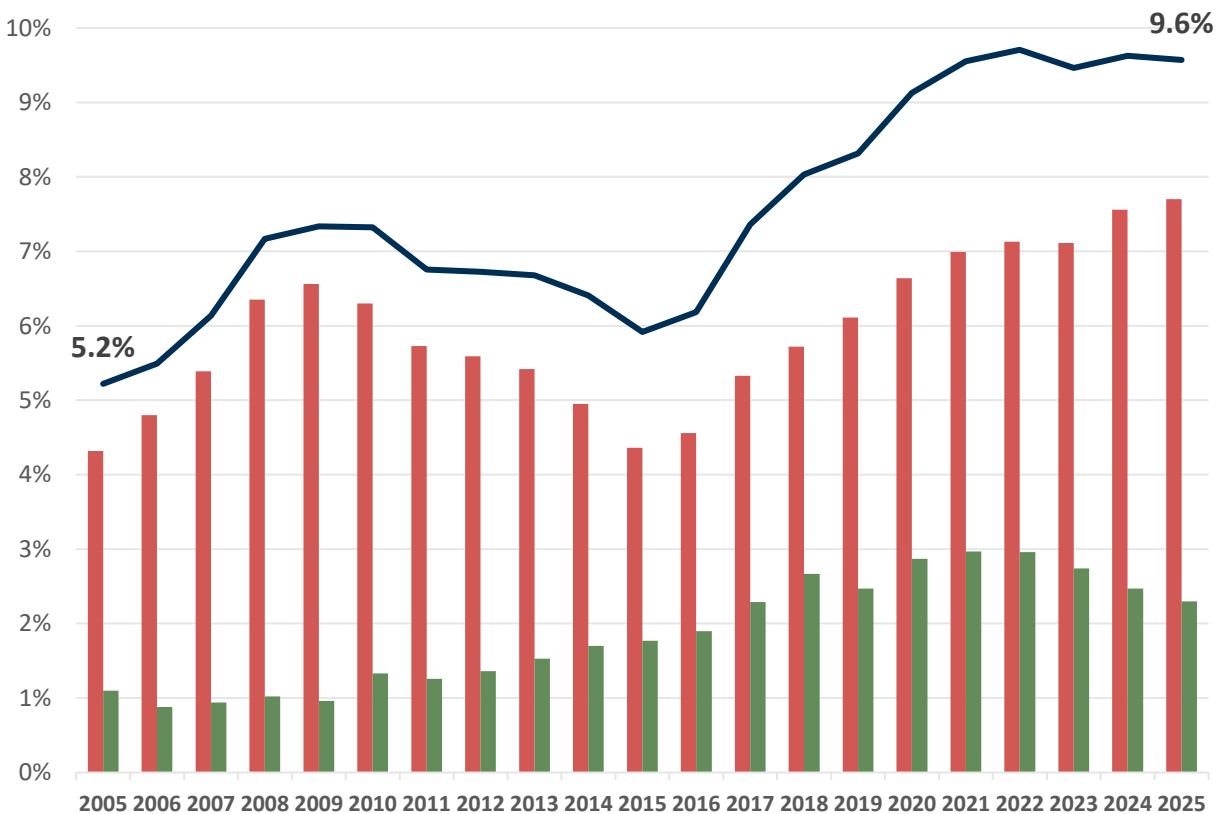
Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Drug and Alcohol use During Person and Property Offenses

The percentage of offenders suspected of using drugs and/or alcohol during the commission of person and property crimes increased about four percentage points between 2005 and 2025. In 2025, 3,882 person/property crime offenders were suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol, which was about 10% of all person/property crime offenders (see Figure 2). Alcohol use during the commission of person and property crime remains more common than drug use. In 2025, 7.7% of offenders were suspected of being under the influence of alcohol, compared to 2.3% of offenders suspected of drug use.²

Figure 2. The share of total person/property crime offenders under the influence of drugs/alcohol was 9.6% in 2025. The share under the influence of drugs was about 2% while the share under the influence of alcohol was about 8%.



Substance use is more common during the commission of person crimes than property crimes. In 2025, 18.5% of person crime offenders were suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol, compared to just 3.8% of property crime offenders (see Figure 3). The share of both person and property crime offenders who were suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol has also increased slightly over the past two decades.

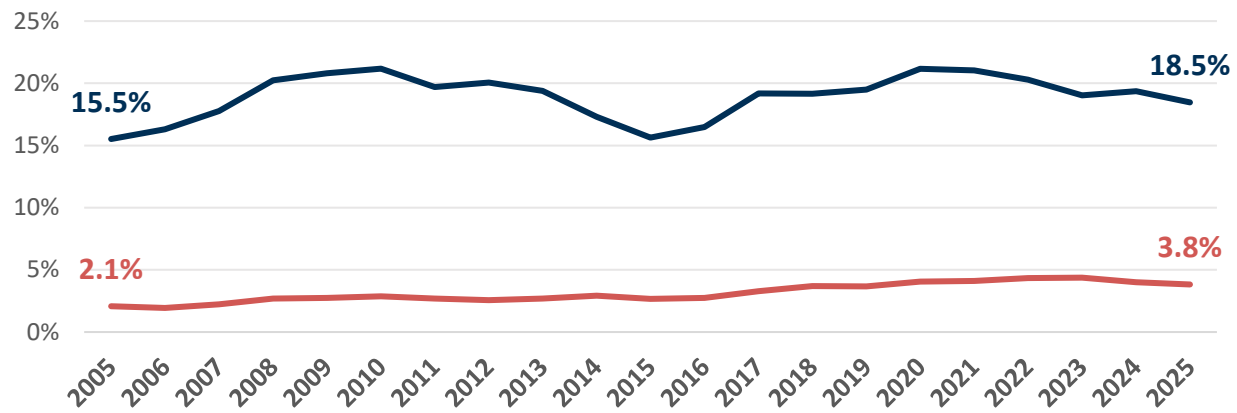
² IIBRS allows for the possibility that an offender may be suspected of being under the influence of both alcohol and drugs during the commission of a crime. Therefore, the sum of the two categories may be higher than the total percentages reported here.

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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

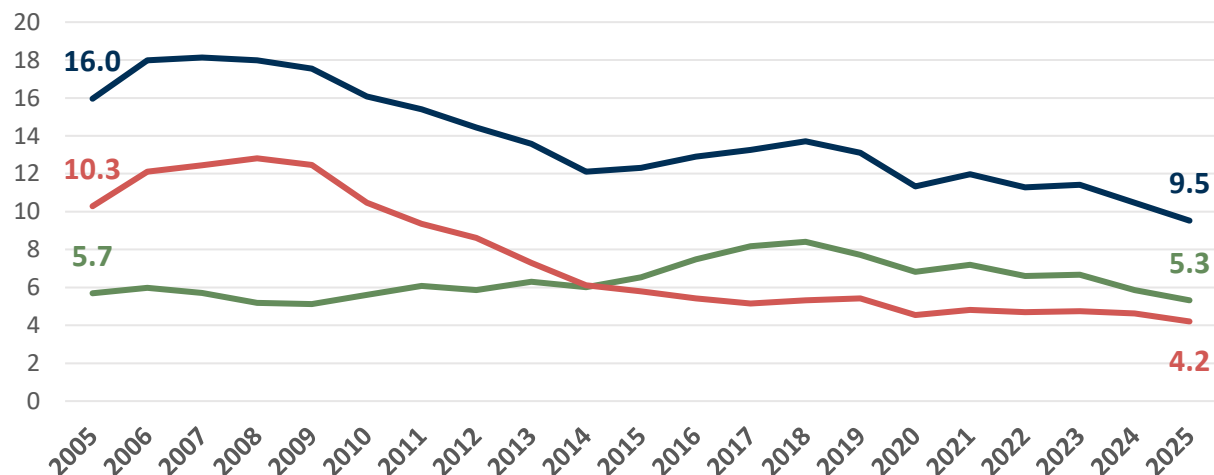
Figure 3. The share of **person crime offenders** under the influence of drugs or alcohol was substantially and consistently higher than the share of **property crime offenders** under the influence of drugs or alcohol from 2005 to 2025.



Drug and Alcohol Arrest Rates³

The total drug and alcohol arrest rate⁴ reached 9.5 in 2025 (see Figure 4). Interestingly, 2015 marked the first year since at least 2005 in which the alcohol arrest rate dropped below the drug arrest rate, a pattern that persisted through 2025.

Figure 4. The **total drug and alcohol arrest rate** was 9.5 per 1,000 in 2025. In 2025, the **drug arrest rate** was 5.3 per 1,000 while the **alcohol arrest rate** was 4.2 per 1,000.



³ This section focuses on state-level trends. For 2025 arrest rates at the county level, see pages 8 – 21.

⁴ In this section, a drug or alcohol arrest is defined as an arrest for one of the offenses listed on page 1 as recorded in the IIBRS Arrestee Segment. While the IIBRS Offense Segment allows for up to 10 offenses to be recorded per criminal incident, only one arrest offense per arrestee can be recorded. Although some offenders may be arrested for other crimes (e.g., person or property crimes) who also committed a drug or alcohol offense, this definition focuses on offenders who were arrested due primarily to the drug or alcohol offense.

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Arrestee Demographics

The age of the average drug/alcohol arrestee followed a trend of continuing to shift up in 2025. In 2005, the average age of arrestees was 27. By 2016, it had increased to 29 years, and by 2025, the average age rose further to about 35 years. In 2025, the largest share of arrestees fell within the 25–34 age group (26%), followed by those ages 35–44 (22.8%) and 18–24 (21.5%), while youth under 18 and adults 55 and older accounted for much smaller proportions (see figure 5).

The percentage of drug/alcohol arrestees that were female was about 28% in 2025, while 72% were male (see Figure 6).

In 2025, White (non-Hispanic) individuals made up the largest share of drug/alcohol arrestees at 50.2%, followed by Hispanic individuals at 16.6% (see Figure 7 on page 5). All other groups each accounted for relatively small proportions, while 11.1% of arrestees had their race or ethnicity recorded as unknown.

Figure 5. In 2025, the largest share of arrestees fell within the 25 – 34 age group (26%).

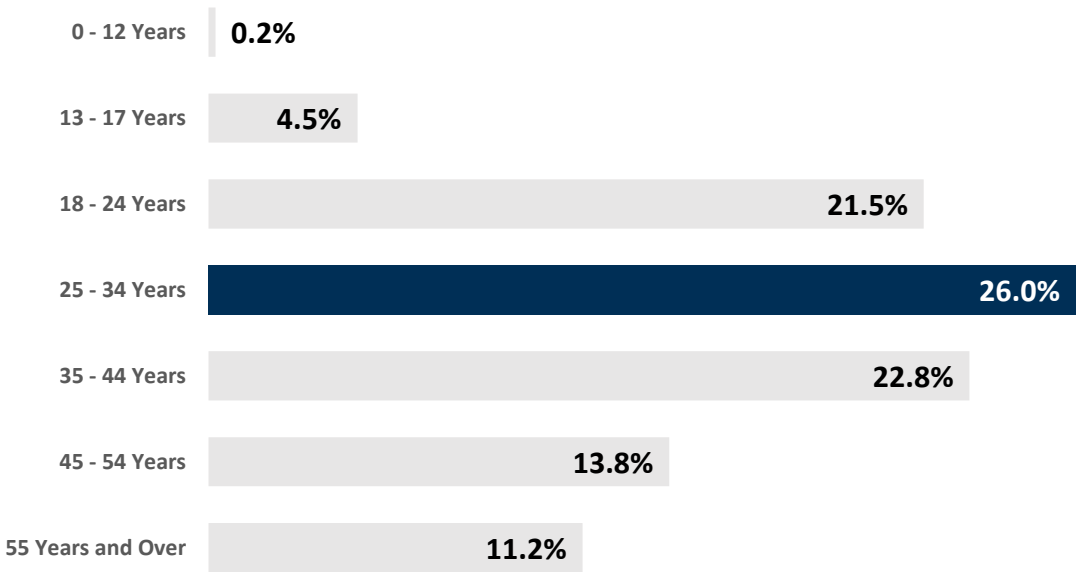


Figure 6. The percentage of drug/alcohol arrestees that were female in 2025 was about 28%, and about 72% of drug/alcohol arrestees were male.



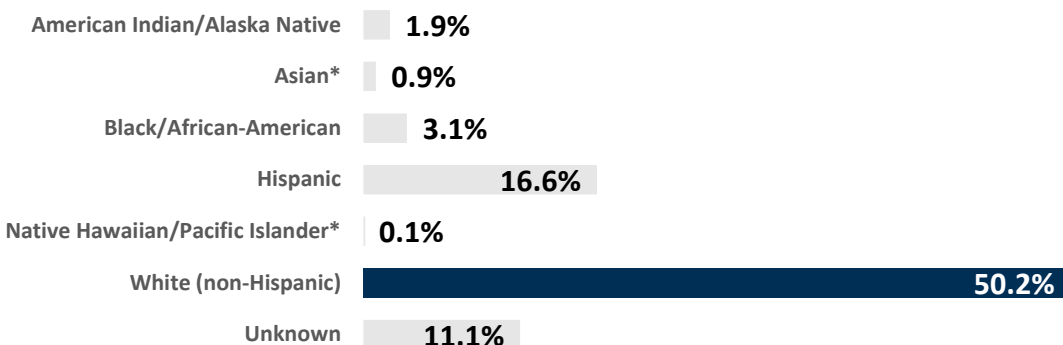
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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 7. In 2025, the largest percentage of drug/alcohol arrestees were *White and non-Hispanic (50%)*, followed by *Hispanic (17%)*.

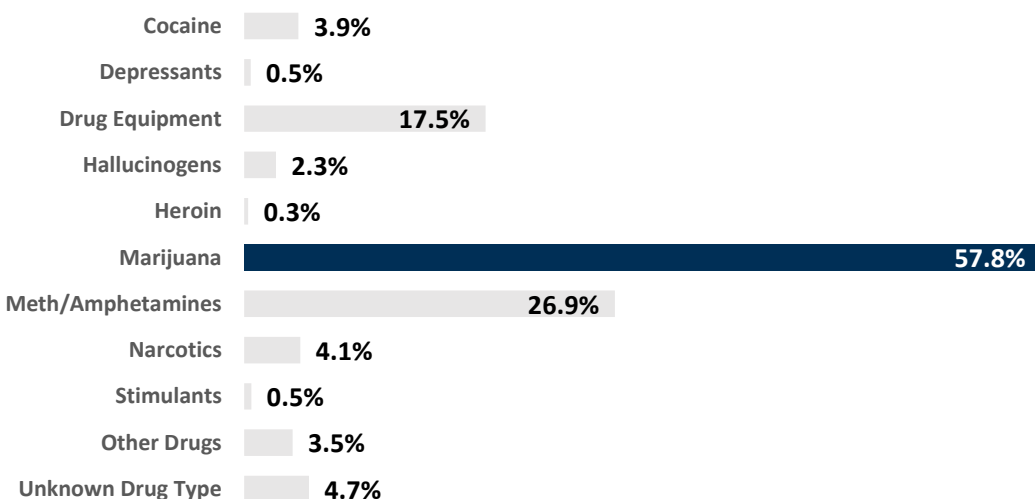


*NOTE: Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander was not added to NIBRS until 2013. Before 2013, arrestees that fell into this race/ethnicity category were categorized as Asian.

Drugs Seized During Drug Arrests⁵

Marijuana was the most frequently seized substance during drug arrests in 2025, seized in 57.8% of arrests. Meth/amphetamines were the second most common at 26.9%. Items classified as drug equipment were seized in 17.5% of arrests, while all remaining drug types were seized at much lower rates. Overall, the distribution highlights that marijuana and meth/amphetamines accounted for most drug seizures during arrests in 2025.

Figure 8. In 2025, *marijuana was the most seized substance during drug-related arrests, seized in 58% of arrests. Meth/amphetamines were the next most frequent at 27%.*



⁵ Up to three drug seizures can be recorded per arrest. If more than three types were seized, the two drugs with the largest seizure amounts are recorded, and the third is listed as “more than three types”. Here, “more than three types” is included in the “unknown drug type” category.

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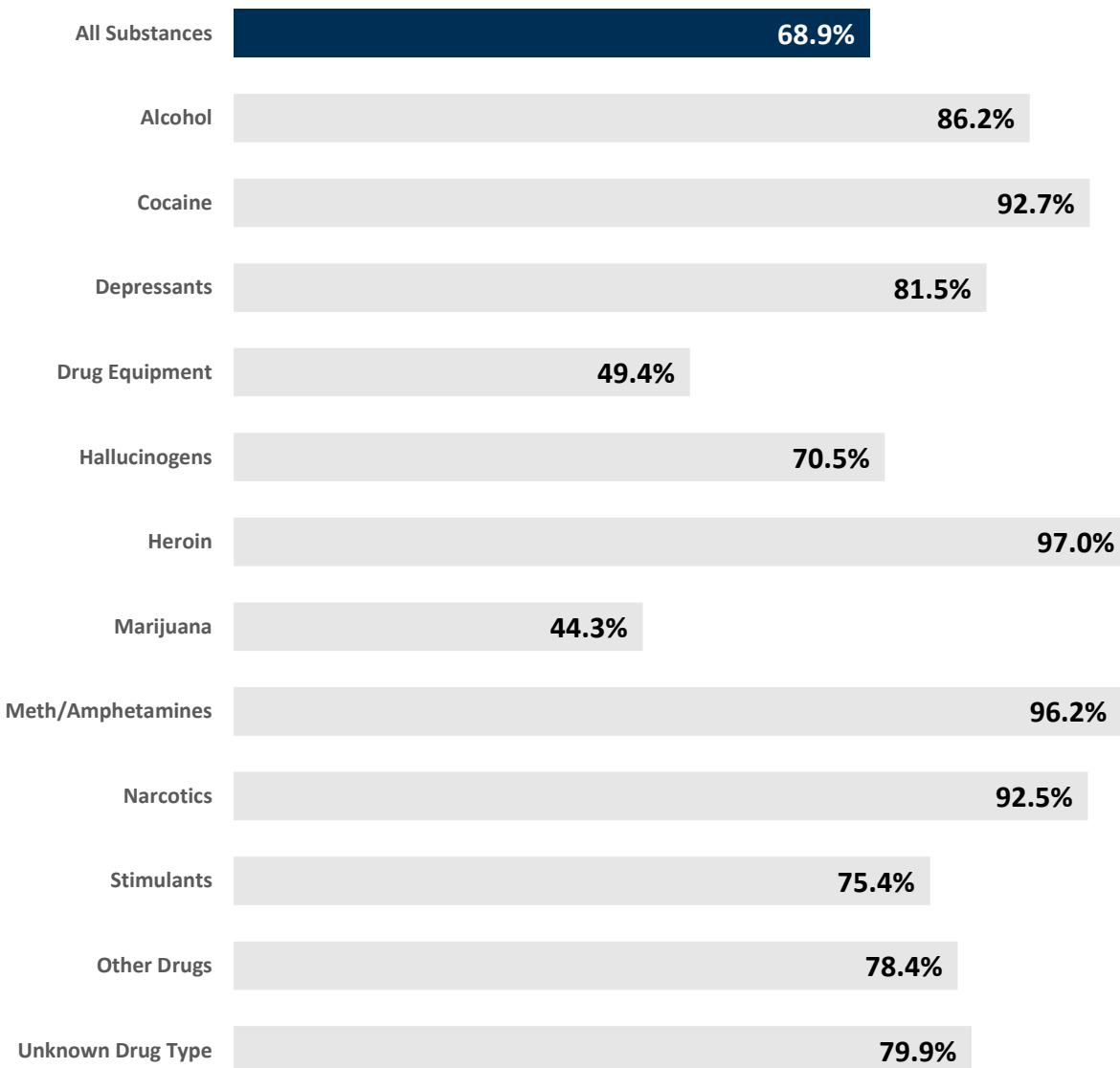
Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Arrest Type

Almost 69% of drug and alcohol arrestees were subject to physical arrest in 2025 (meaning they were taken to jail, as opposed to being cited and released), but that number varies by type of substance (see Figure 9). The lowest physical arrest rates in 2025 were for marijuana (44%) and arrests where drug equipment was seized (49%); substances with the highest rates were heroin (97%) and meth/amphetamines (96%).

Figure 9. The percentage of drug/alcohol arrestees that were subject to physical arrest in 2025 was about 69%, but the physical arrest rate varies by type of substance.



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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Conclusion

Idaho's 2025 data show continued changes in substance-related offences and enforcement activity. The overall offense rate reached its lowest level in at least 21 years, yet drug and alcohol offenses still made up a significant portion of the crime reported in the state. These offenses accounted for 25% of all incidents law enforcement responded to in 2025. The drug offense rate in 2025 was 11.0 offenses per 1,000 residents, which reflects a nearly 25% increase since 2005. At the same time, alcohol offenses continued to decline, falling to 4.2 per 1,000 residents. Substance use during the commission of person and property crimes increased slightly between 2005 and 2025. In 2025, 3,882 person/property offenders, about 10%, were suspected of being under the influence. Alcohol use remained more common than drug use, and person crime offenders were much more likely to be suspected of substance use than property crime offenders.

Arrest patterns in 2025 further illustrate how substance-related crime has shifted. The combined drug and alcohol arrest rate reached 9.5 per 1,000 residents, with drug arrests continuing to exceed alcohol arrests. The average age of arrestees increased to about 35 years, and most individuals arrested for drug or alcohol offenses were between 25 and 44 years old. Marijuana and meth/amphetamines were the most frequently seized substances, and about 69% of arrestees were subject to physical arrest, although the rate varied based on the substance involved.

Additional localized information is available in the 2025 arrest rate maps on pages 8 through 21 of this brief and on the Crime in Idaho Data Dashboard on the Idaho Statistical Analysis Center website. These resources can help identify potential areas of concern, monitor changes over time, and support planning around community responses to drug and alcohol crime. Overall, the 2025 findings highlight evolving patterns in substance use, enforcement, and offender characteristics that remain central to discussions about public safety and policy in Idaho.

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Contact Us

Idaho Statistical Analysis Center
Pass-Through Grants & Research
Idaho State Police

 isp.idaho.gov/pgr/isac

 pgr@isp.idaho.gov

Thomas Strauss, MPA
ISAC Director & Principal Research Analyst

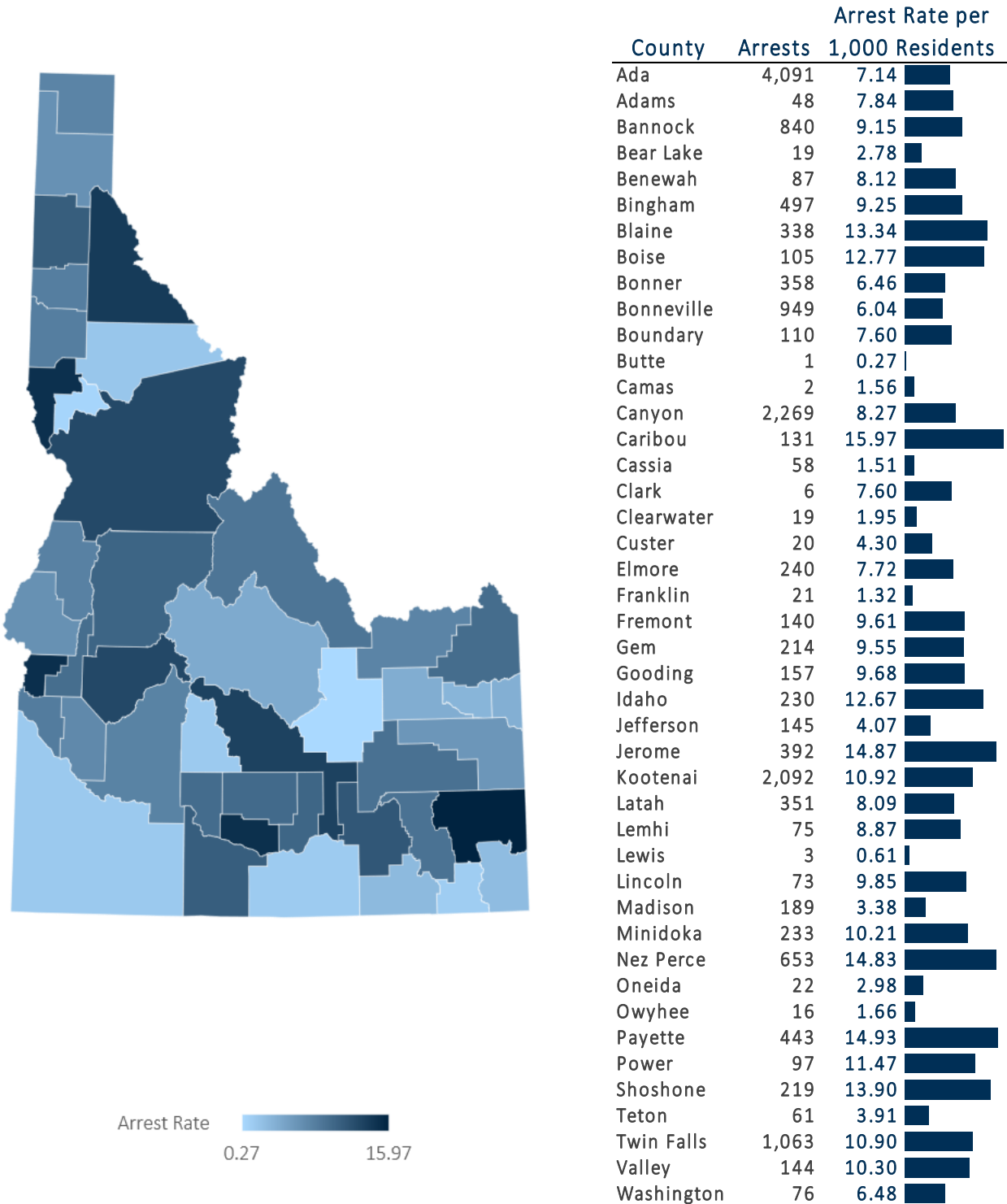
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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 10. 2025 County Arrest Rates – All Substances

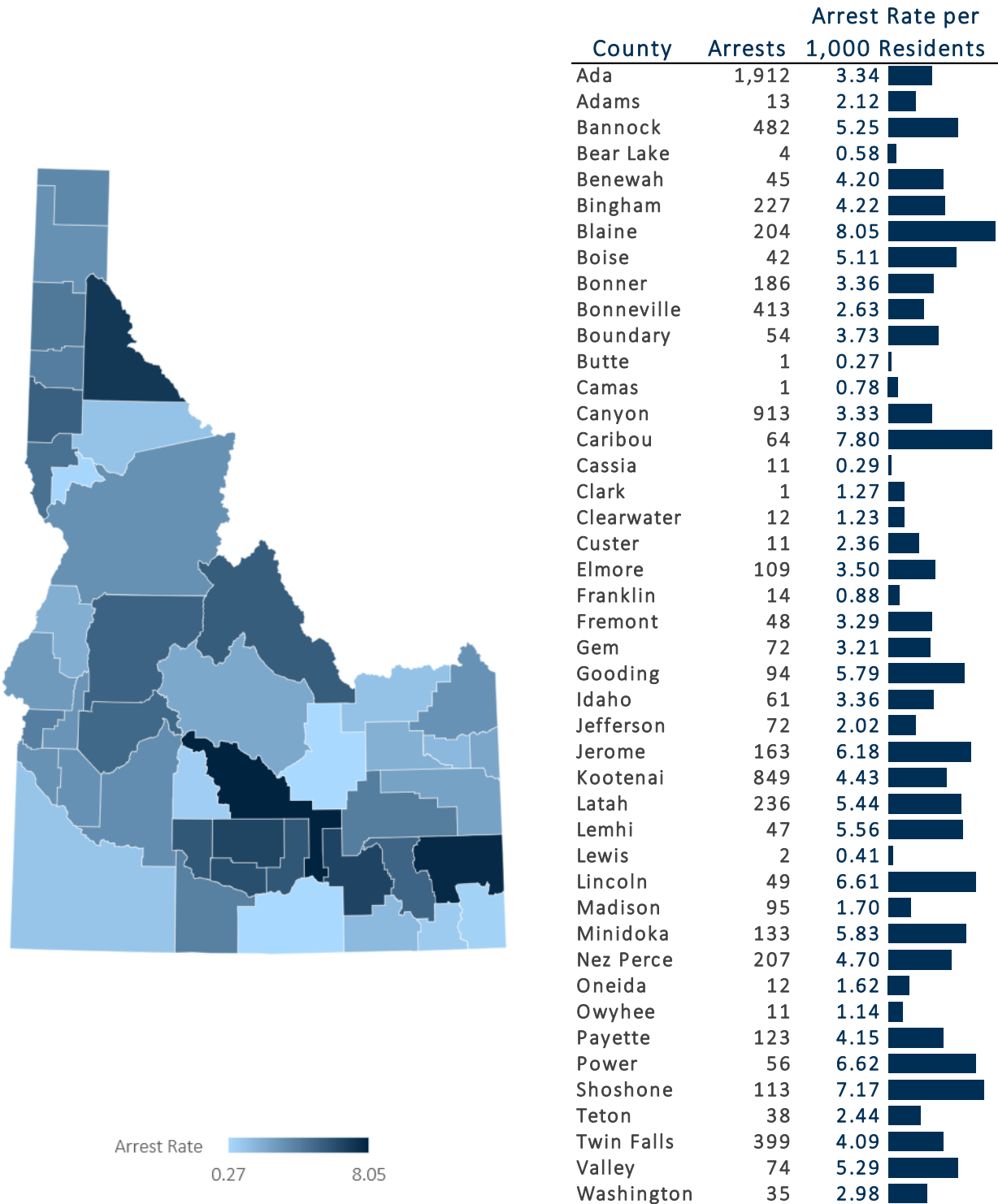


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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 11. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Alcohol

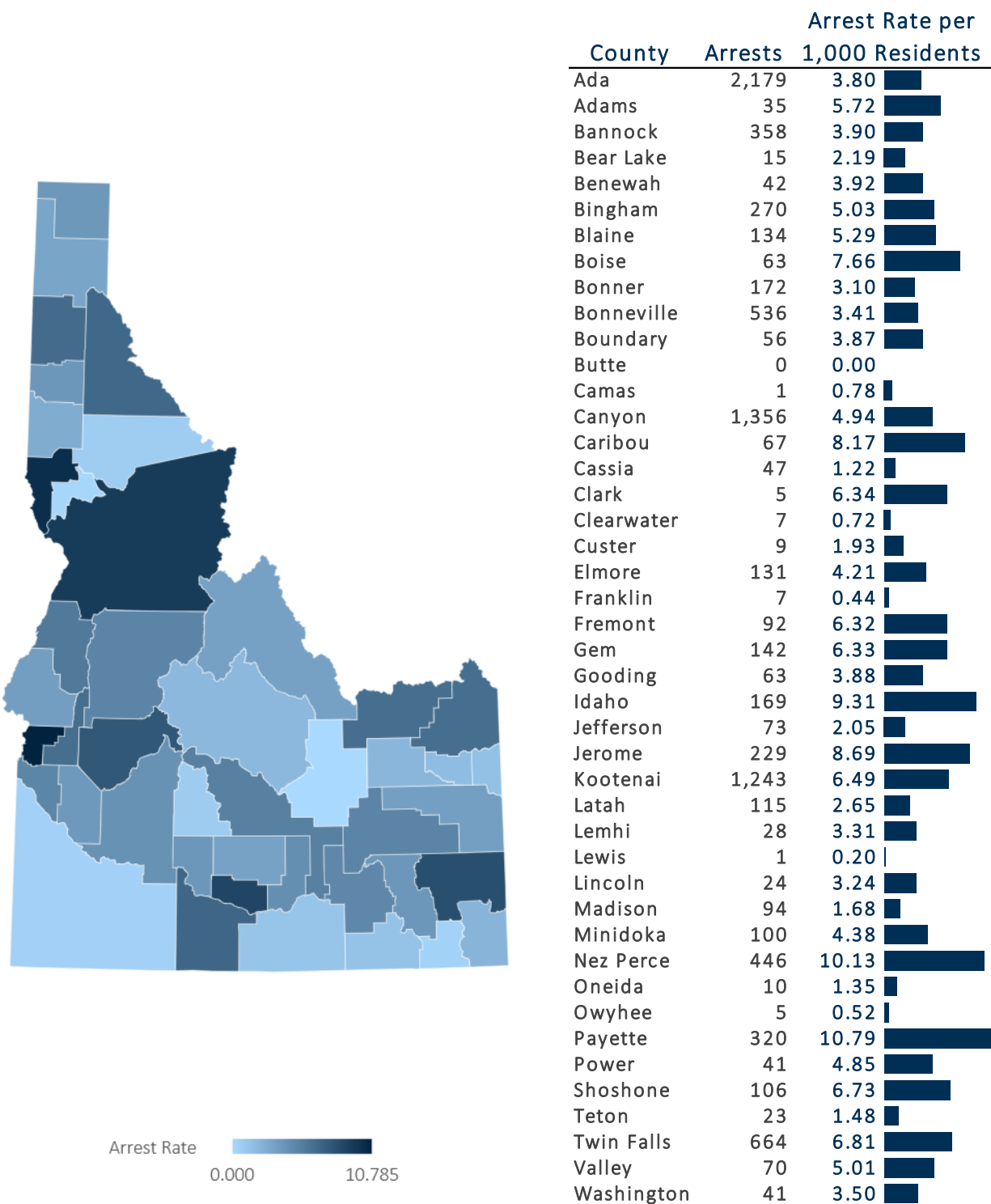


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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 12. 2025 County Arrest Rates – All Drugs

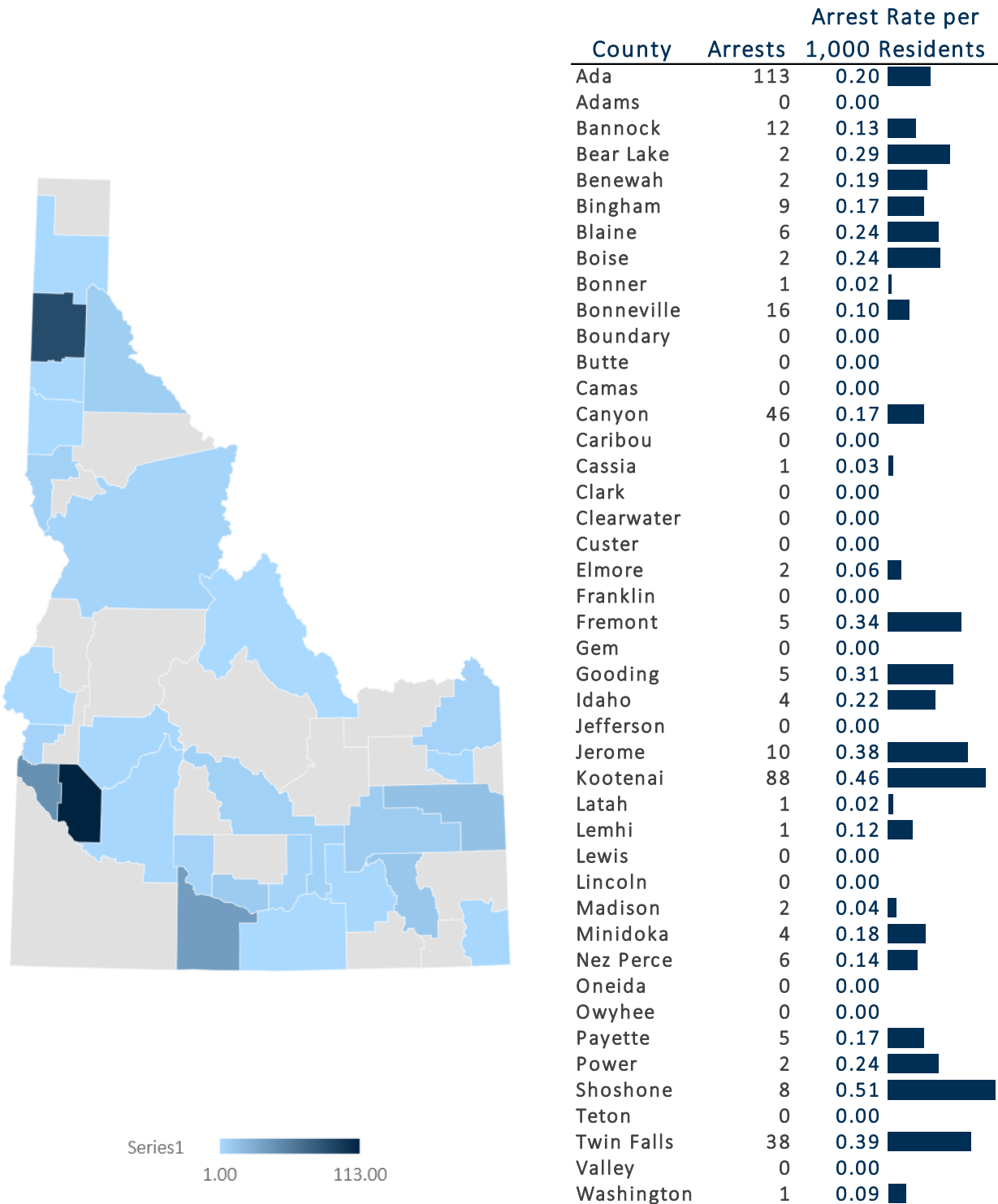


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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 13. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Cocaine

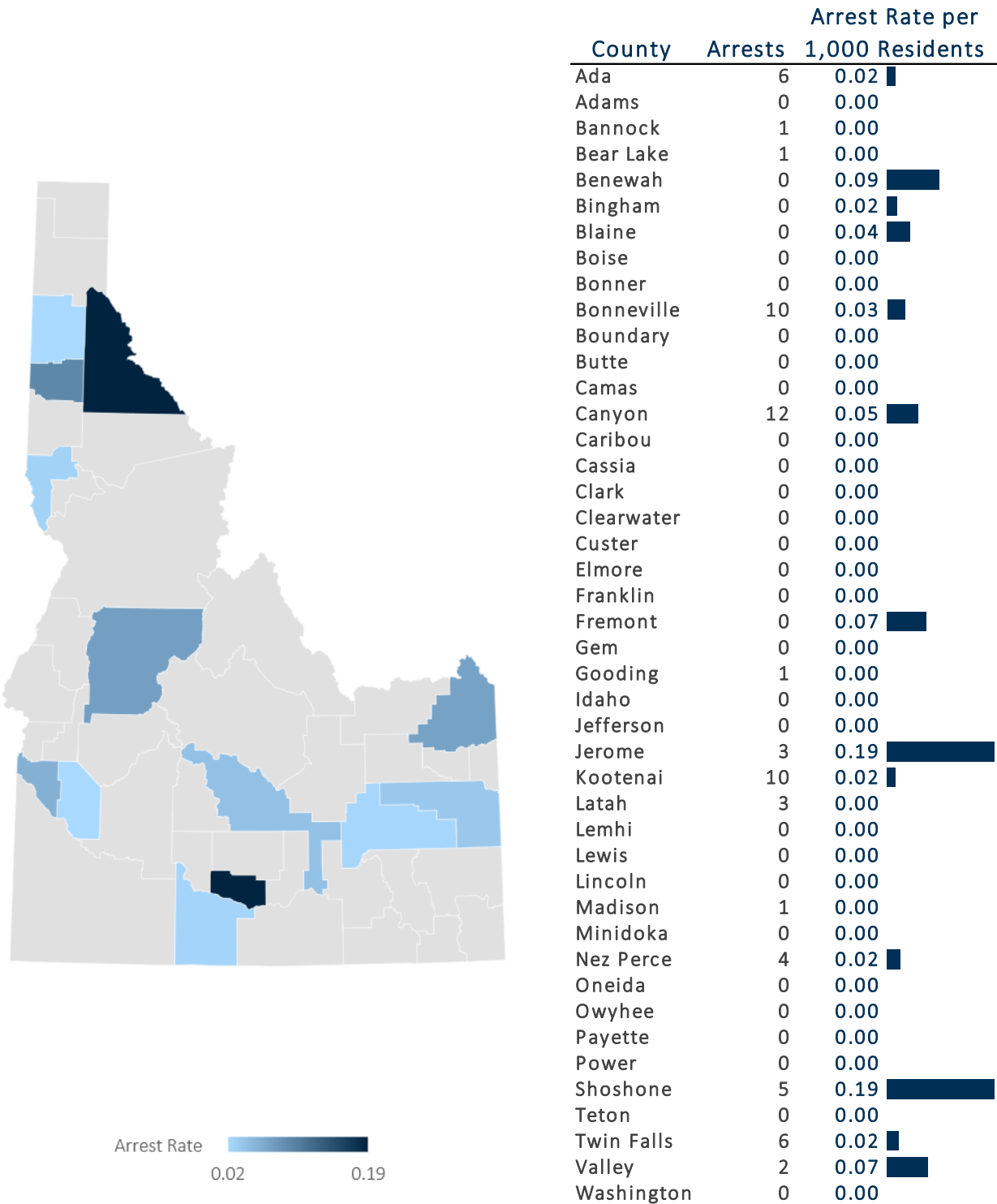


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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 14. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Depressants

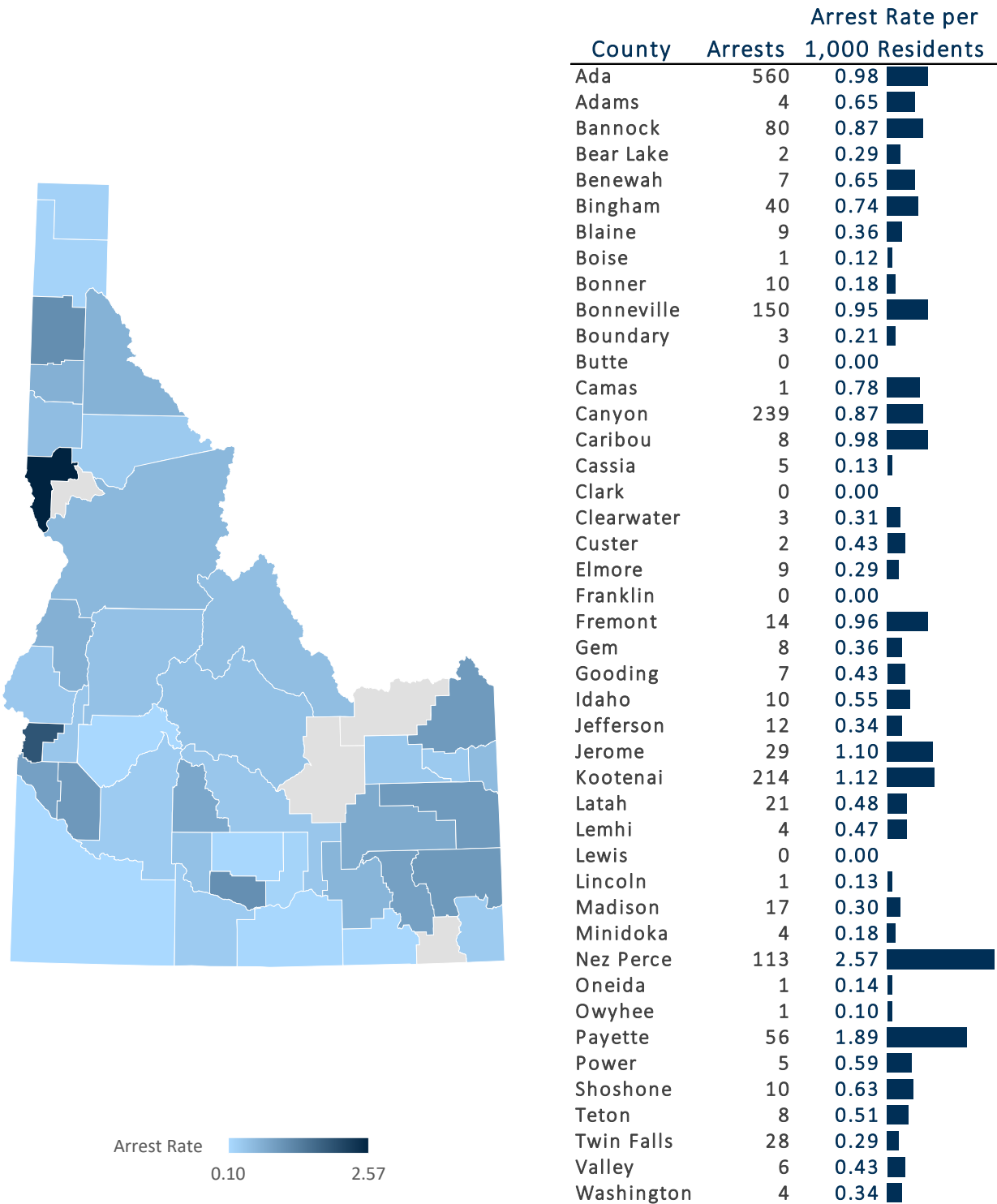


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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 15. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Drug Equipment

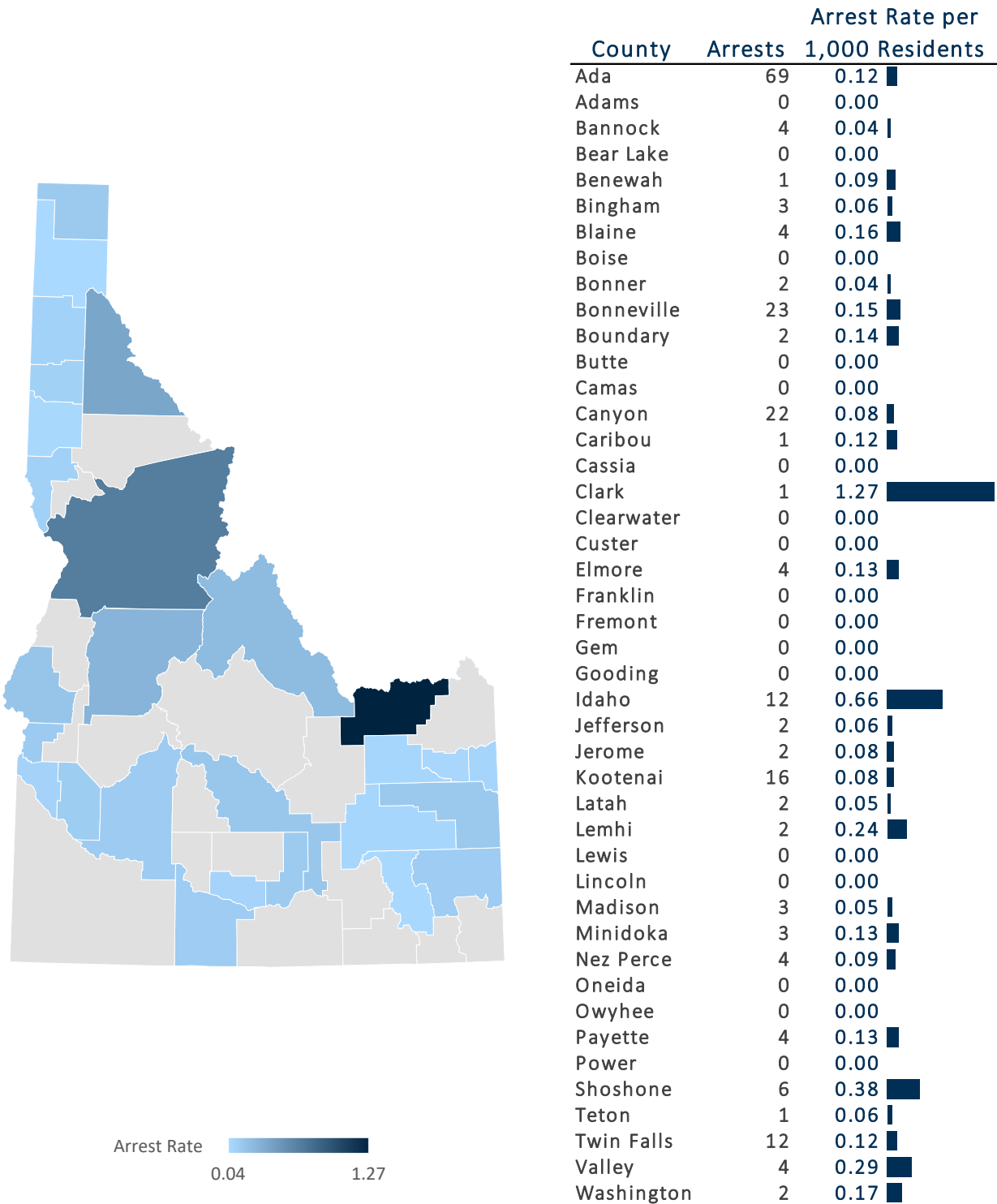


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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 16. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Hallucinogens

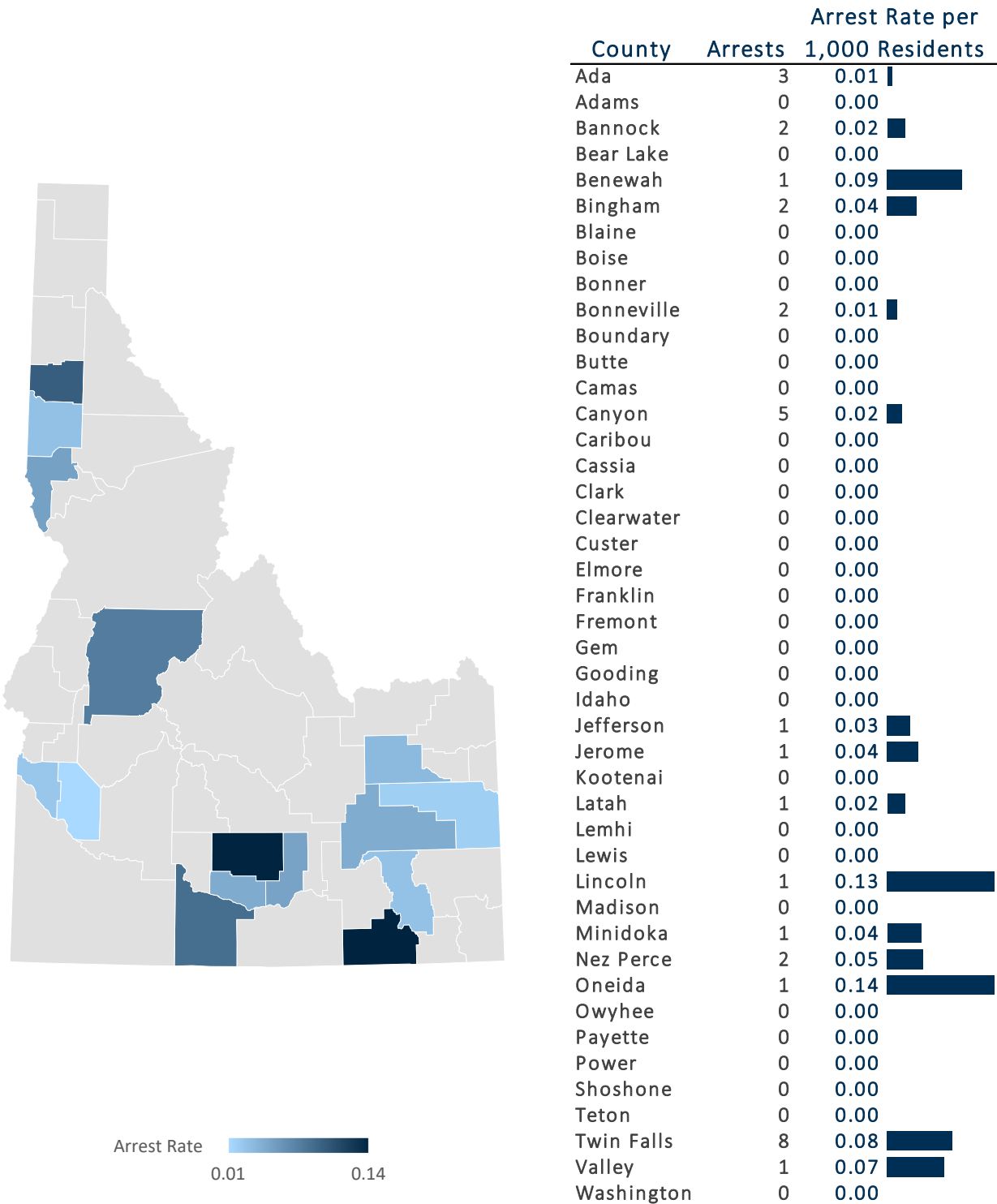


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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 17. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Heroin

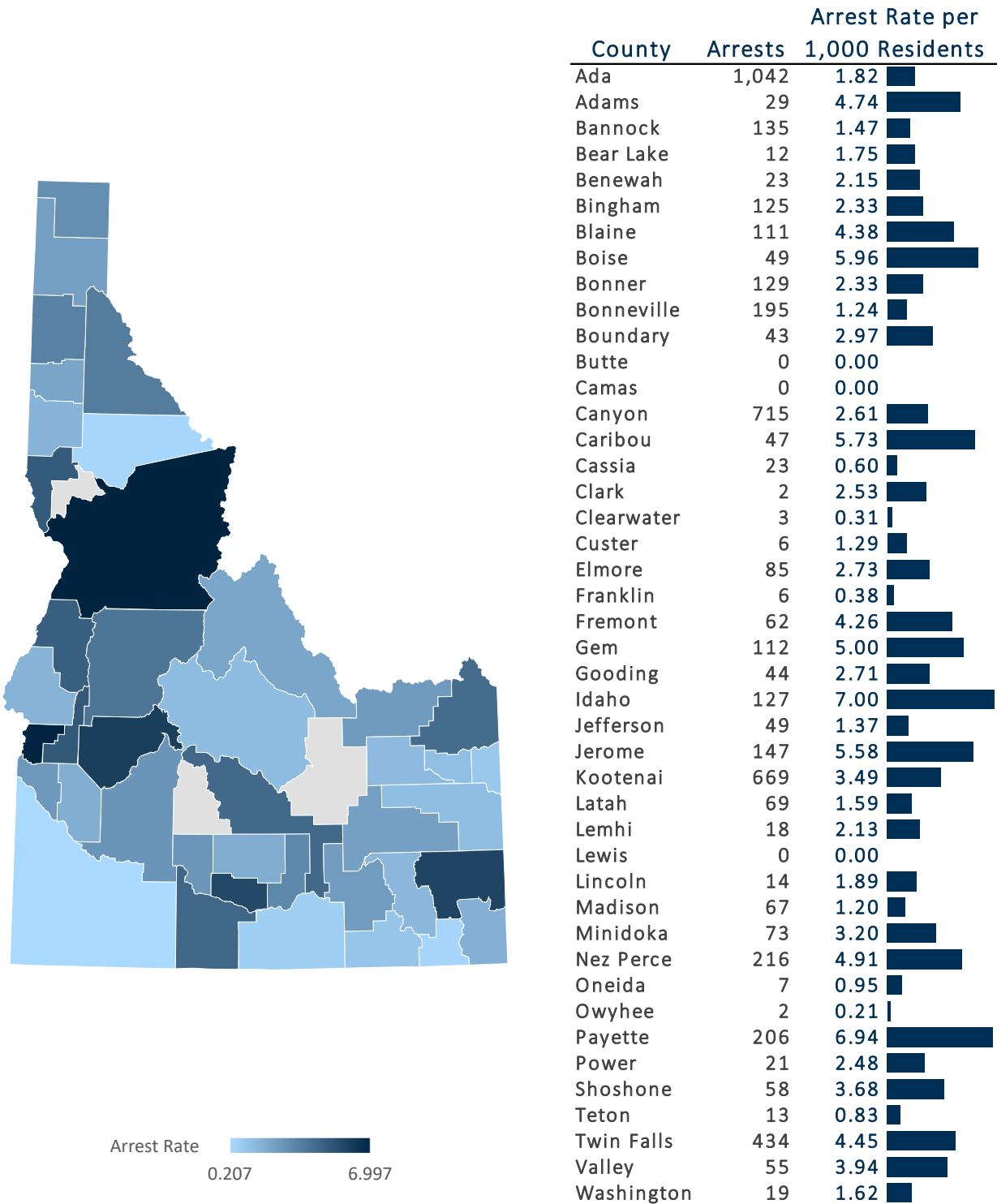


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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 18. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Marijuana

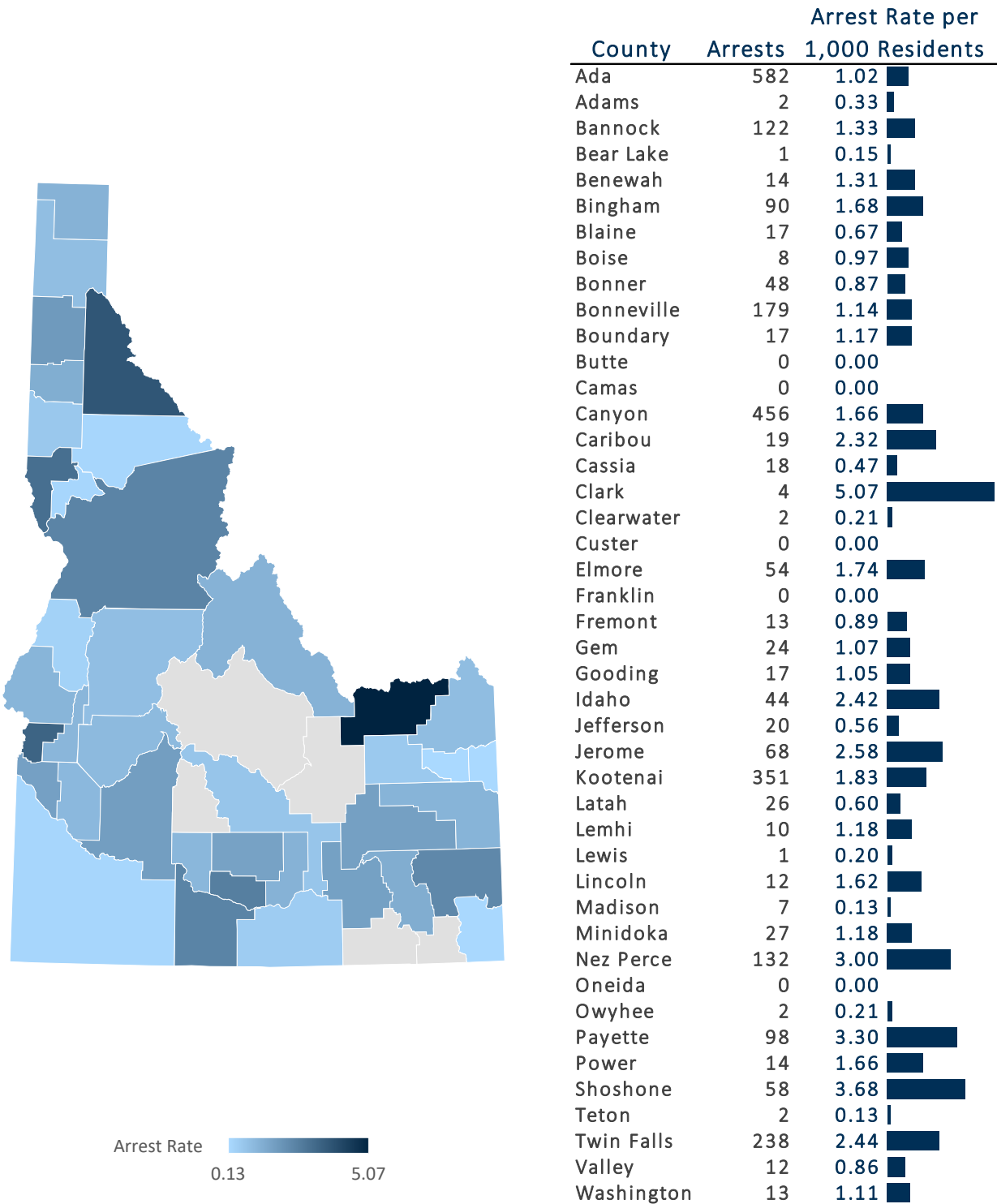


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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 19. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Meth/Amphetamines



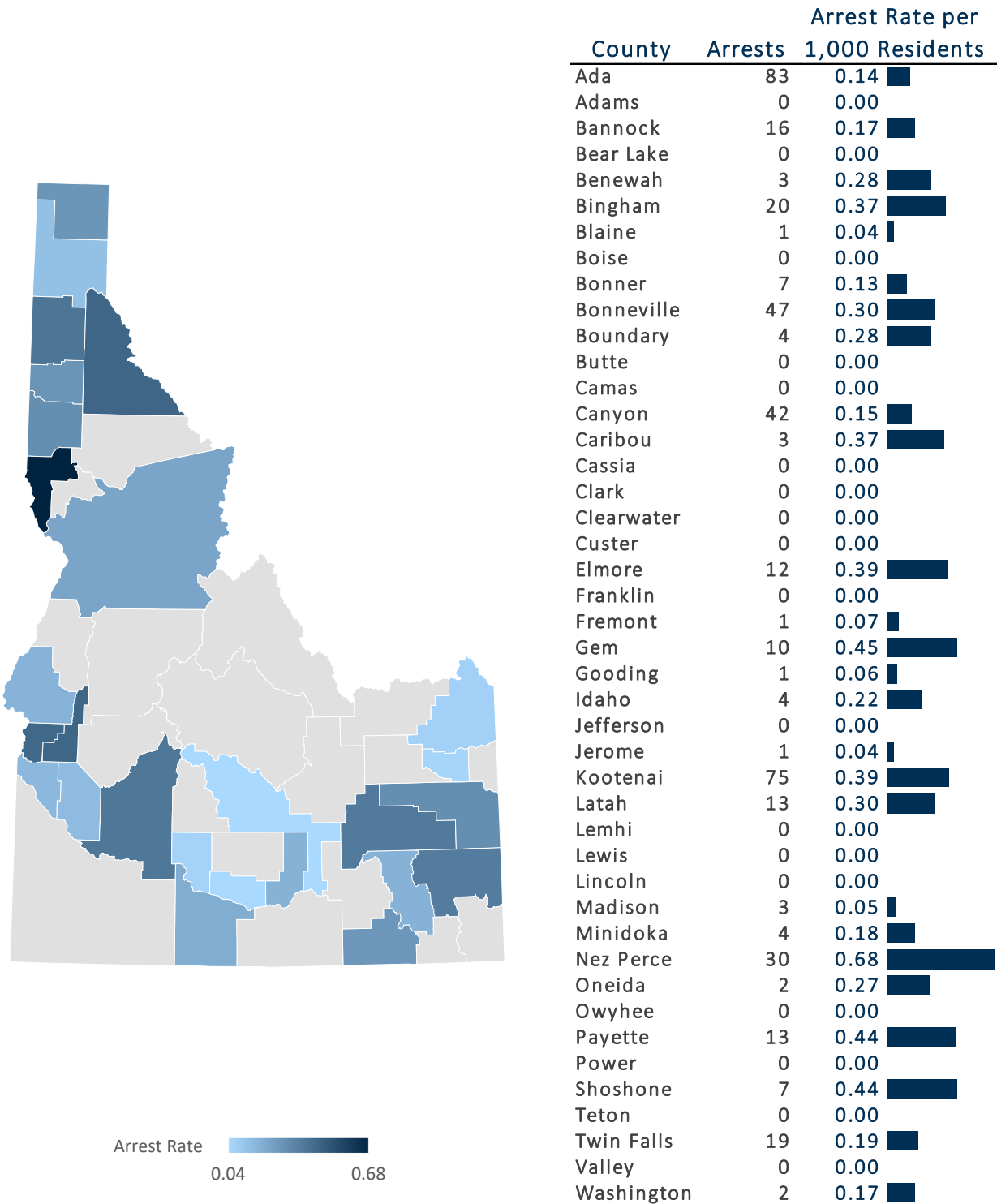
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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 20. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Narcotics

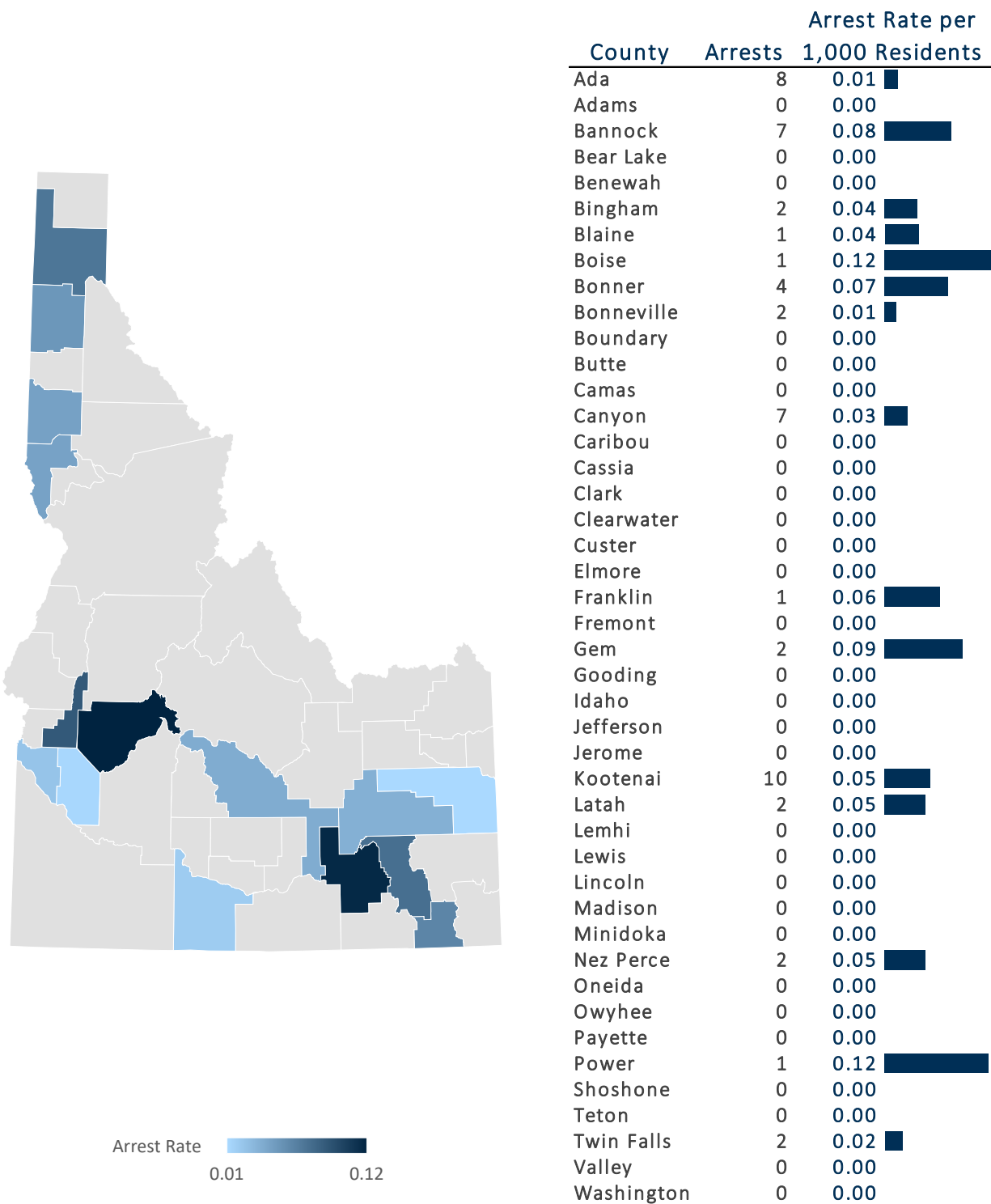


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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 21. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Stimulants

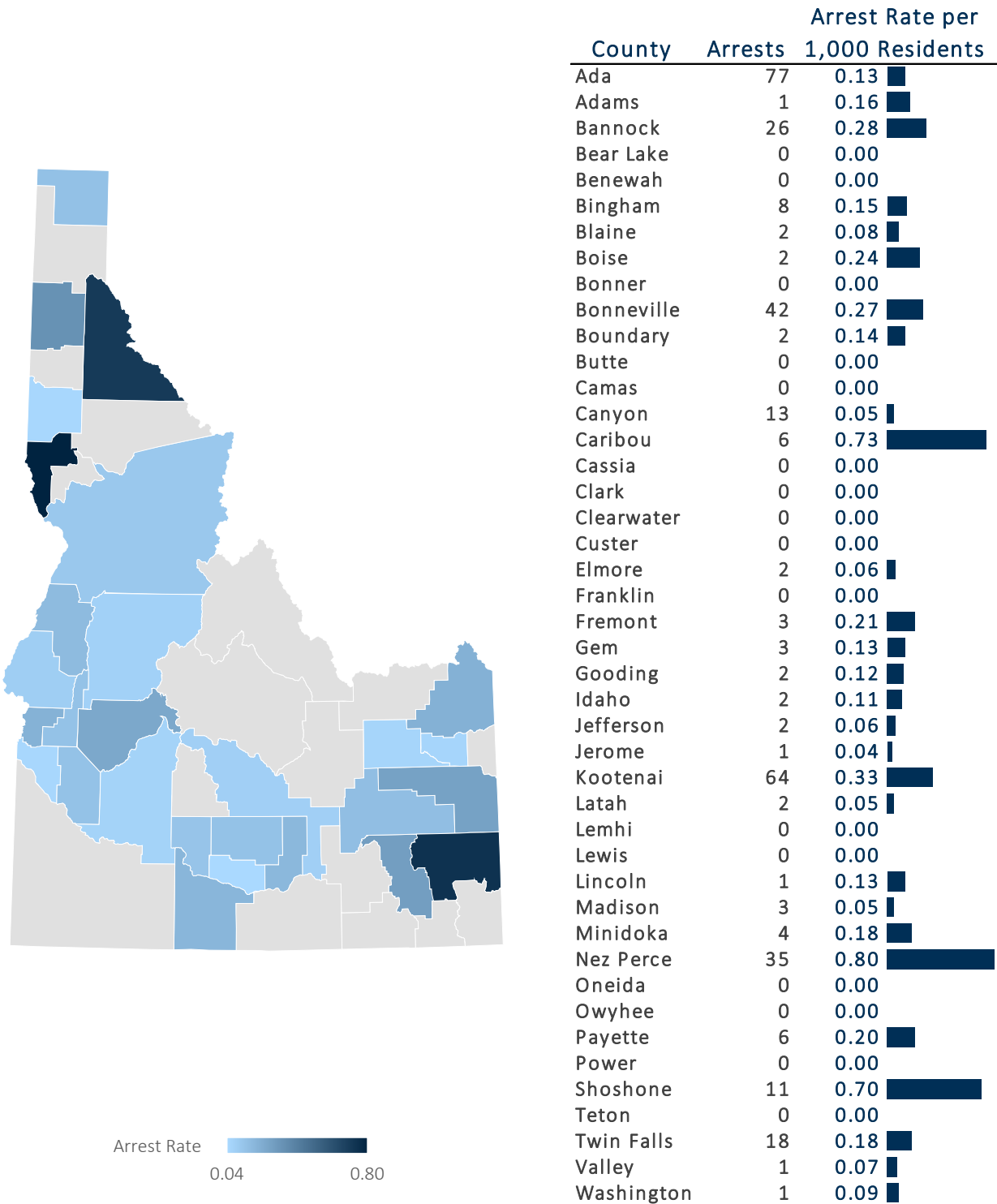


Research Brief

Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 22. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Other Drugs



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Drug & Alcohol Related Crime Trends, 2025

September 2026

Figure 23. 2025 County Arrest Rates – Unknown Drug Type

