

Youth Court at a Glance

Office of the Court Administrator

January 1, 2009—December 31, 2009

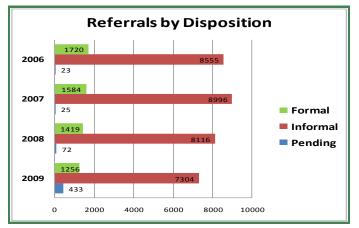
Juvenile Justice System Overview

Juveniles usually enter the juvenile justice system through contact with law enforcement, although they may be referred to juvenile probation by other agencies and parents. Juvenile probation is an integral part of the Youth Court and is overseen by the Youth Court judge within each of the 22 Judicial Districts. Most referrals to the Youth Court's juvenile probation office are in the form of a ticket accompanied by a report from law enforcement. Juvenile probation officers may handle any referral except traffic and fish and game violations, which fall under the jurisdiction of the Justice, Municipal, City, and District Courts.

Youth referred to probation must appear in front of the juvenile probation officer with a parent or guardian to answer to the allegations against them. Most youth will never see the Youth Court judge and will work solely through the Youth Court juvenile probation officer to resolve the ticket in what is referred to as the informal process. If the referral is forwarded to the county attorney and a petition is filed on the alleged charges, the youth will appear before the Youth Court judge in what is referred to as the formal process. Approximately 20% of the youth referred to juvenile probation each year are handled formally. The formal process may result in the youth being placed in a secure youth correctional facility. Only a Youth Court Judge may sentence a youth to the Department of Corrections. In 2009, 87 youth (less than 2%) were formally sentenced to the Department for placement in a youth correctional facility.

Youth Court Referrals and Dispositions (2006-2009)

Youth Court Caseload Summary	2009	2008	2007	2006
Unduplicated Juveniles	5653	6222	6715	6532
Referrals	8994	9607	10604	10297
Offenses	11630	12576	13751	13256



A single youth may have multiple referrals and each referral may include multiple offenses. The "unduplicated" juvenile count represents the first referral for a youth in a given year.

Demographics of Youth Served

2009

<u>Gender</u>

Male:	5,975	67%	
Female:	2,962	33%	
Race			

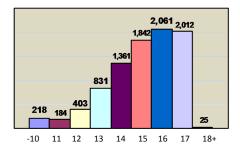
Caucasian:	7,168	80%
Native American:	1,270	14%
Hispanic:	257	3%
Black:	167	2%
Other:	75	1%

Family Household Income

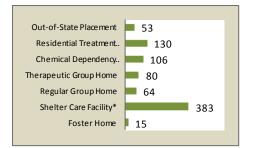
Below \$20,000	3,714
\$20,000-\$40,000	3,523
Above \$40,000	1,700

Youth in an educational program:	88%	
Youth not attending school:	10%	
Youth graduated/completed GED:	2%	

Age at time of Offense



Out of Home Placements

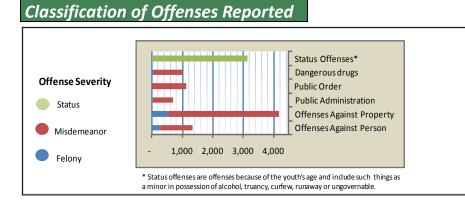


*Shelter care, the most common placement, is a very short term placement while Youth Court is assessing the youth and family situation.

Youth Served by Judicial District

School

Judicial				
District	2009	2008	2007	2006
1	493	511	528	420
2	308	323	305	303
3	86	61	90	108
4	656	714	775	808
5	72	112	88	93
6	136	151	138	118
7	145	123	136	131
8	725	860	863	946
9	161	121	141	102
10	81	83	96	100
11	593	690	752	739
12	175	190	253	230
13	623	735	893	768
14	27	34	30	54
15	45	55	42	49
16	236	247	246	182
17	124	148	145	118
18	298	331	327	326
19	107	112	159	174
20	217	264	269	311
21	227	244	271	298
22	118	113	169	154
State Total	5653	6222	6716	6532

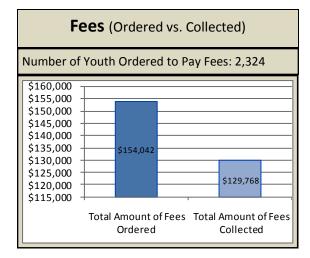


Five most frequently charged offenses

Theft - Misdemeanor	1,515
Disorderly Conduct	1,022
Runaway Juvenile	868
Criminal Mischief	789
Assault-Misdemeanor	607

Restoring Justice to Victims and Holding Offenders Accountable

2009



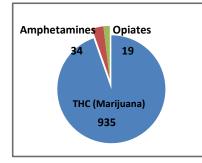
Days Spent Under Supervision

(Closed Cases in 2009)

Days	Youth
0-30 days	2,809
31-90 days	1,263
90+ days	2,031

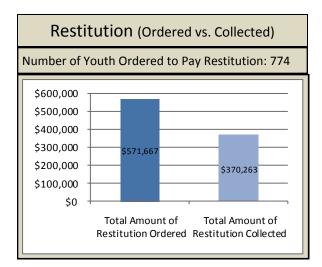
Drug Monitoring			
Number of Youth ordered to Submit to Drug Testing:			
Total Number of Tests Administered:	3,449		
Total Number of Youth Testing Positive: 495			
A single youth may have tested positive multiple times.			

Youth ordered to submit to drug testing are tested randomly, unless there is suspicion to believe the youth has recently been using drugs. Youth going through drug court may be required to test more often as required by the judge.



Top Three Drugs Detected

- 1. THC (Marijuana) 935
- 2. Amphetamines-34
- 3. Opiates-19



Community Service			
Total Number of Hours Ordered: 59,513			
Total Number of Hours Completed:	50,723		

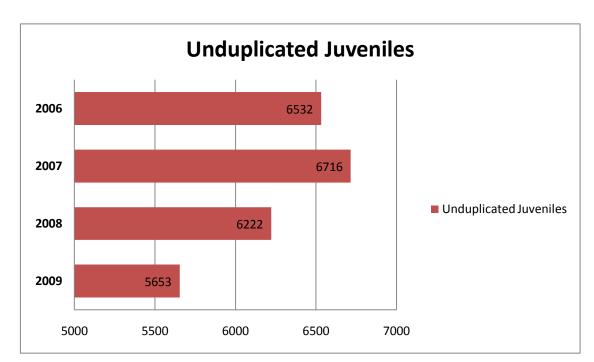


Contact Information

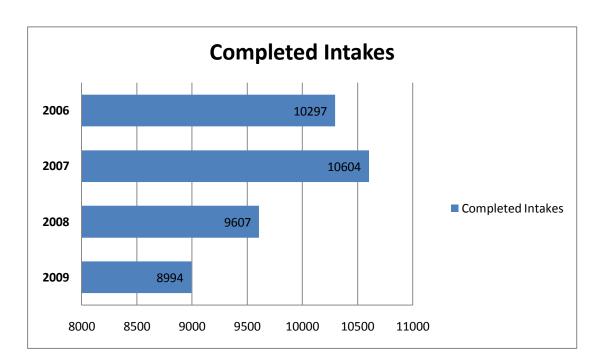
For additional information contact:

Robert Peake, Chief Youth Services Office of the Court Administrator (406) 841-2961 rpeake@mt.gov

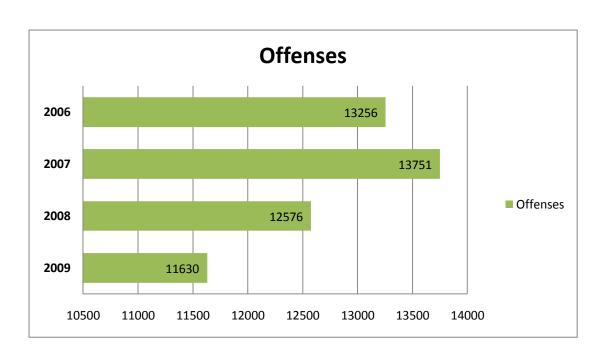
DISTRICT	UNDUPLICATED JUVENILES			
	2009	2008	2007	2006
1	493	511	528	420
2	308	323	305	303
3	86	61	90	108
4	656	714	775	808
5	72	112	88	93
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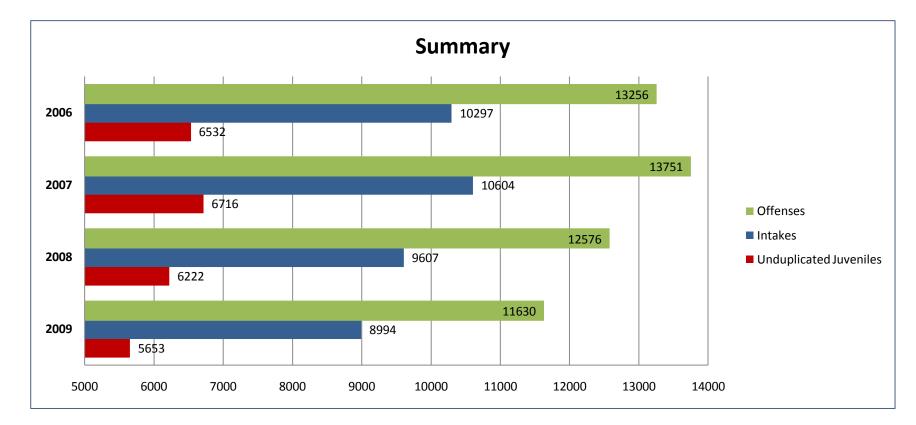


DISTRICT	COMPLETED INTAKES			
	2009	2008	2007	2006
1	771	773	816	656
2	456	549	460	454
3	128	80	111	123
4	1402	1308	1429	1503
5	98	131	100	106
6	209	205	197	148
7	212	163	187	180
8	1309	1470	1707	1909
9	244	158	189	134
10	102	118	142	153
11	1003	1116	1305	1238
12	263	308	417	337
13	865	971	1176	961
14	39	45	42	64
15	54	62	61	61
16	341	410	374	238
17	184	213	190	177
18	406	517	482	539
19	138	148	209	233
20	305	387	409	471
21	333	347	380	421
22	132	128	221	191
	8994	9607	10604	10297



DISTRICT	OFFENSES					
	2009	2008	2007	2006		
1	972	950	992	780		
2	552	695	563	562		
3	154	92	135	158		
4	1741	1580	1724	1875		
5	155	190	137	147		
6	271	287	277	203		
7	250	197	230	232		
8	1627	1926	2206	2479		
9	311	224	292	217		
10	126	154	226	197		
11	1316	1470	1677	1615		
12	366	458	585	452		
13	1138	1232	1429	1120		
14	61	61	61	85		
15	65	87	80	85		
16	469	567	539	320		
17	295	281	238	288		
18	517	742	632 713			
19	178	183	308 304			
20	422	520	583	636		
21	440	471	491	547		
22	204	209	346	241		
	11630	12576	13751	13256		





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