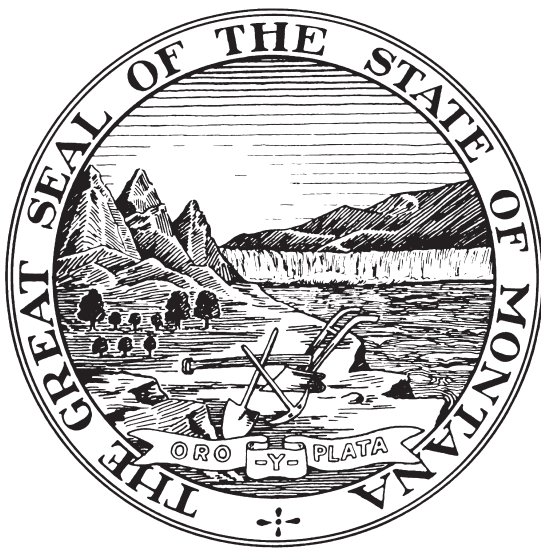


MONTANA JUDICIAL BRANCH

Youth Court At-A-Glance

January 2008 Through December 2008



MONTANA SUPREME COURT
Office of the Court Administrator
301 South Park Ave., STE 328
Helena, Montana 59620
(406) 841-2950



THE FACES OF CHANGE



MONTANA JUDICIAL BRANCH

Youth Court At-A-Glance *January 2008 through December 2008*

Thank you for showing your interest in Montana's youth and their futures by taking the time to learn more about our Youth Court system and the youths, families and communities it serves. The information contained in this brief Youth Court At-A-Glance will help you understand how the juvenile justice system works in Montana and, ultimately, will help us improve the system to meet our overall goal of preparing youths at risk to become productive adults.

Mike

Mike McGrath
Chief Justice



JUVENILE JUSTICE OVERVIEW

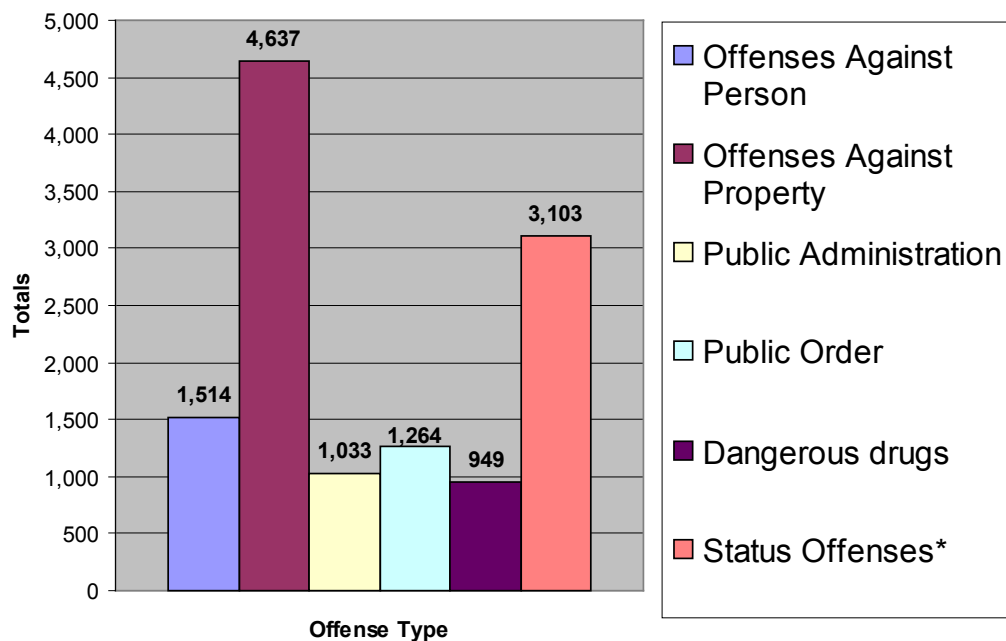
Juveniles usually enter the juvenile justice system through contact with law enforcement, although they may be referred to juvenile probation by other agencies and parents. Juvenile probation is an integral part of the Youth Court and is overseen by the Youth Court judge within each of the 22 Judicial 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.

REFERRALS TO MONTANA'S YOUTH COURTS

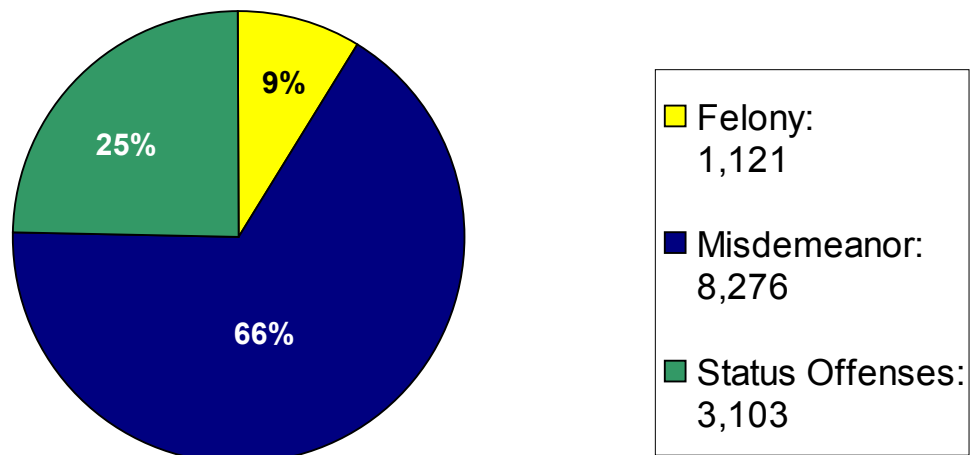
Youth Referred to Youth Court	6,185
Referrals (a youth may have multiple referrals)	9,572
Offenses (a referral may have multiple offenses)	12,500

OFFENSE CATEGORIES

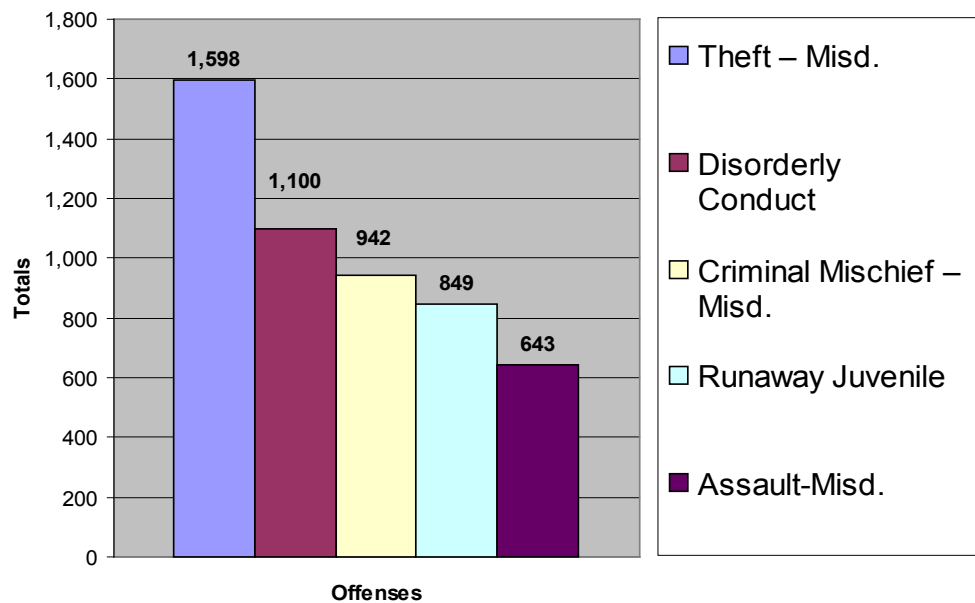


* These are matters that are offenses because of the youth's age and include such things as a minor in possession of alcohol, truancy, curfew or a run away violation.

OFFENSE CLASSIFICATIONS



FIVE MOST FREQUENT OFFENSES ASSOCIATED WITH REFERRALS TO JUVENILE PROBATION

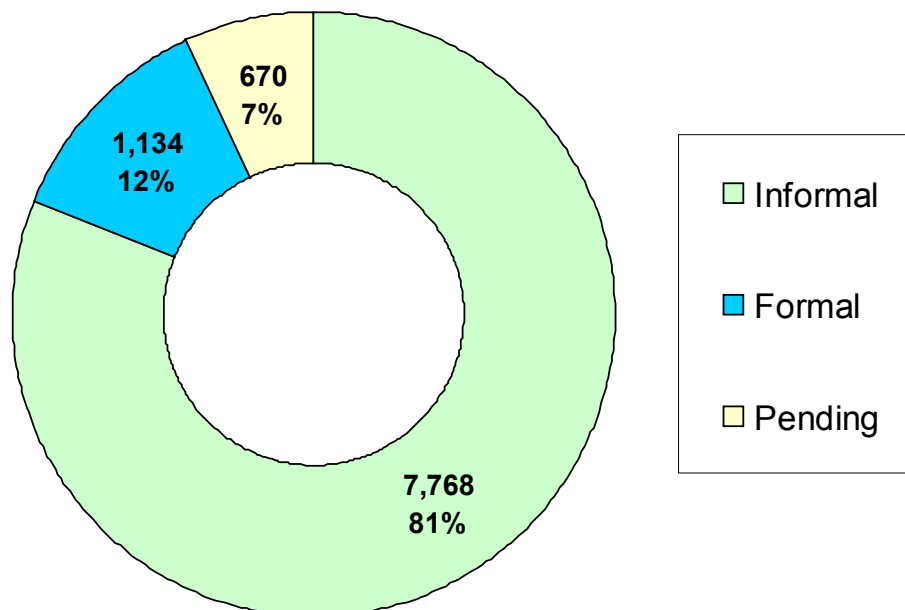


Ten districts out of the 22 handle minor in possession tickets. In the other districts, courts of limited jurisdiction handle the offenses.

TYPE OF DISPOSITION USED (INFORMAL VS. FORMAL)

Informal-
Formal-
Pending-

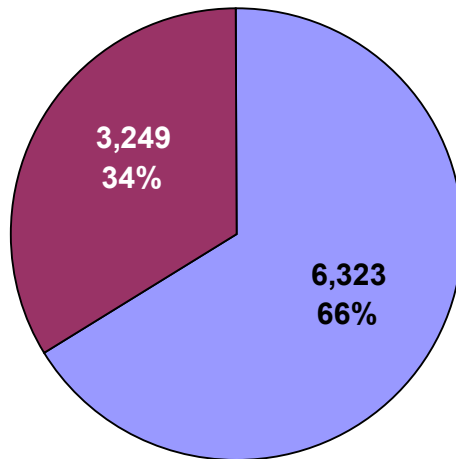
Handled by juvenile probation officer
Youth appears before Youth Court judge
Awaiting action from the county attorney's office, requires further investigation by law enforcement, or a ticket has been issued and juvenile probation is waiting to see the youth and parent(s).



REFERRAL CHARACTERISTICS

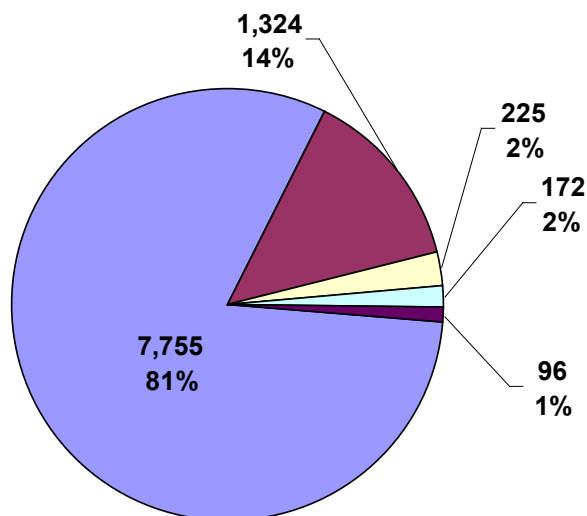
YOUTH DEMOGRAPHICS

GENDER



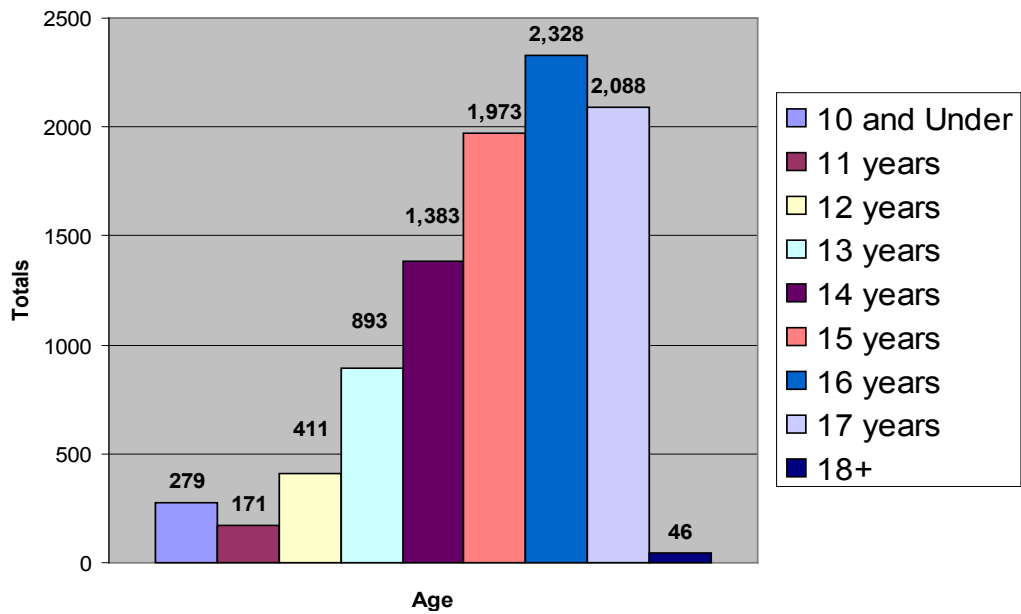
Male
Female

RACE

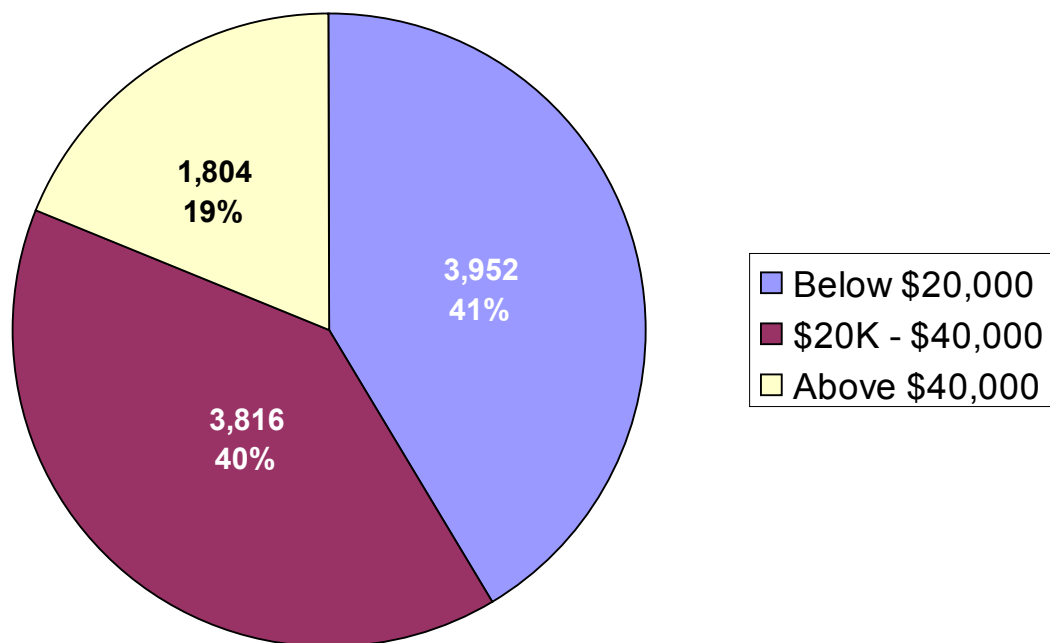


Caucasian
Native American
Hispanic
Black
Other

AGE AT TIME OF OFFENSE



FAMILY'S HOUSEHOLD INCOME



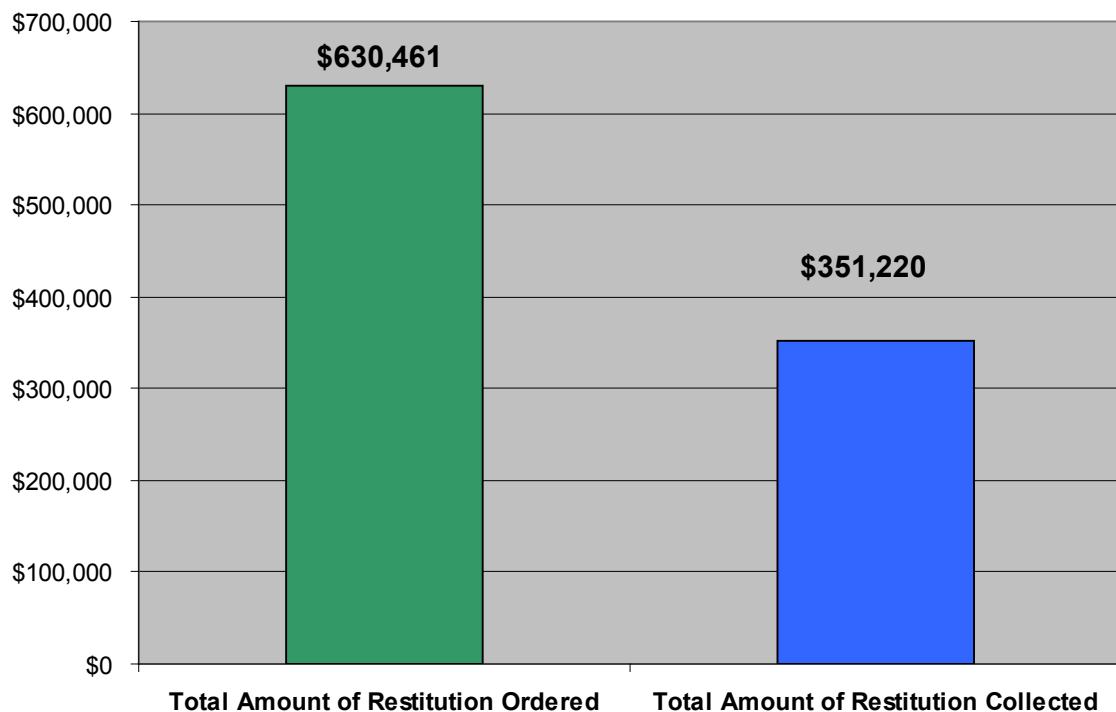
RESTORING JUSTICE TO VICTIMS AND HOLDING OFFENDERS ACCOUNTABLE

TIME SPENT ON SUPERVISION- CLOSED CASES

0-30 days	3,078
31-90 days	1,318
+90 days	1,798

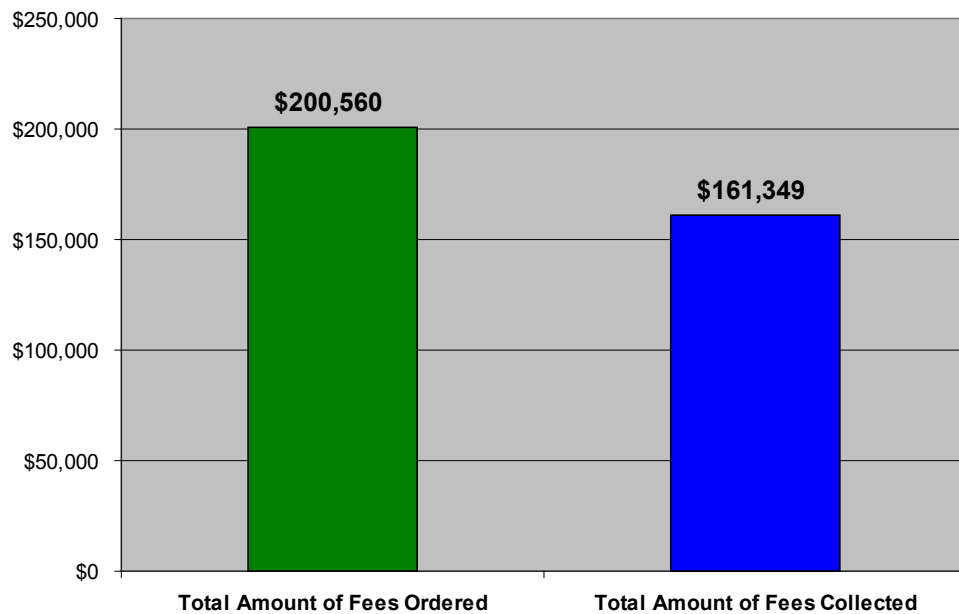
RESTITUTION

Number of Youth Ordered to Pay Restitution: 904



FEES

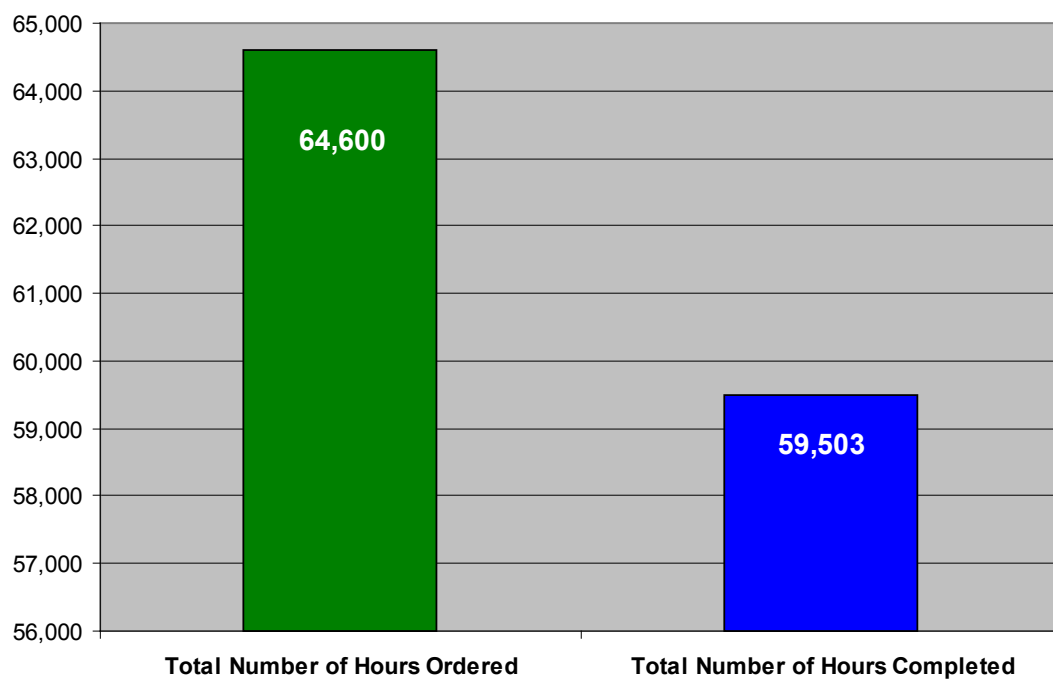
Number of Youth Ordered to Pay Fees: 2,678



Fees used to offset cost of drug testing, workers' compensation, and other services.

COMMUNITY WORK SERVICE HOURS

Total Number of Youth Ordered to Complete Community Service: 2,290



RESISTANCE TO DRUGS

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

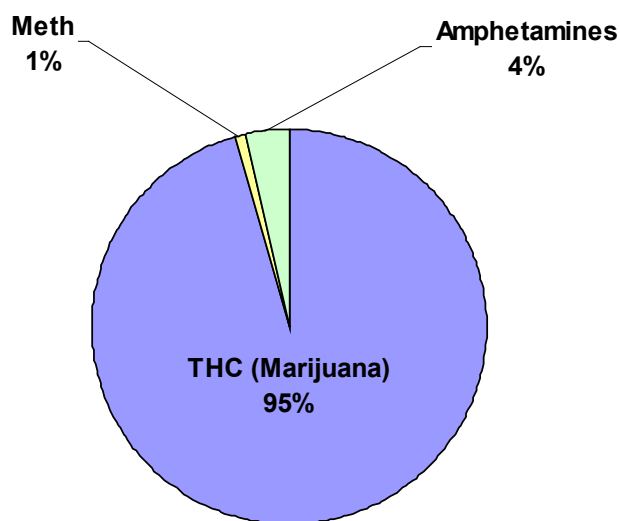
Total Number of Youth Drug Tested: 1,040

Total Number of Tests Administered: 3,378

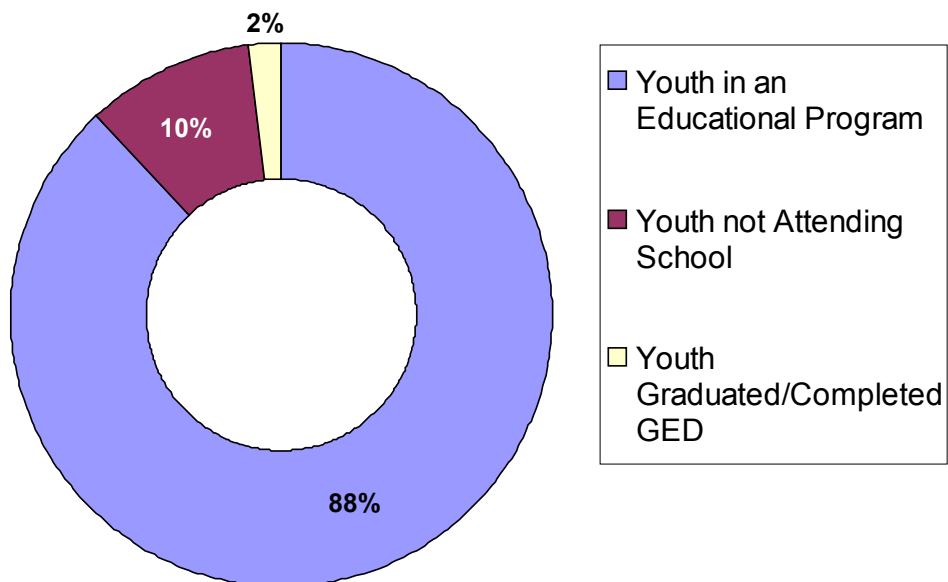
Total Number of Youth Testing Positive: 497

* A single youth may have tested positive multiple times

TOP THREE DRUGS USED

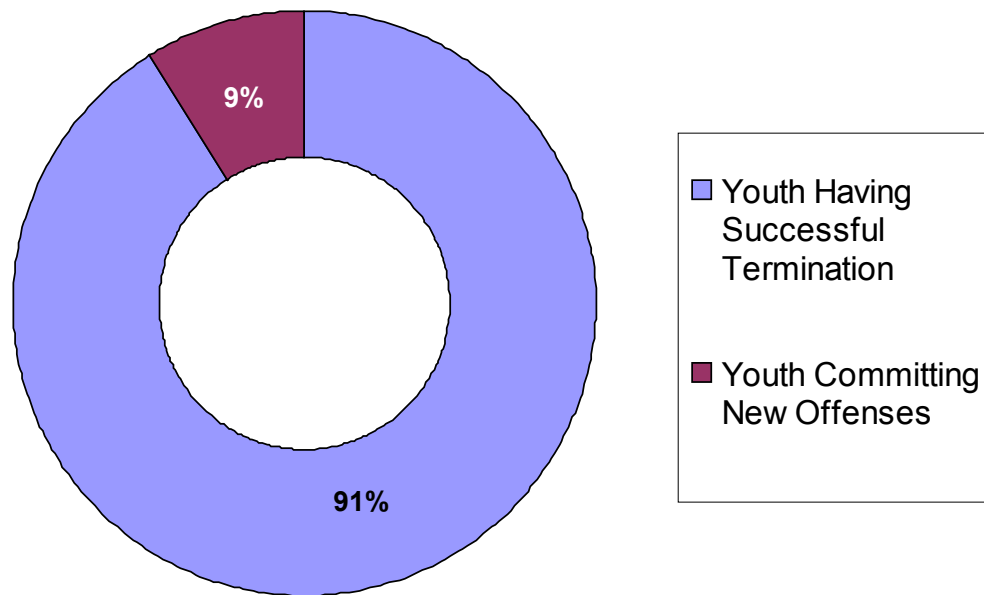


SCHOOL PARTICIPATION (UNDUPLICATED YOUTH)



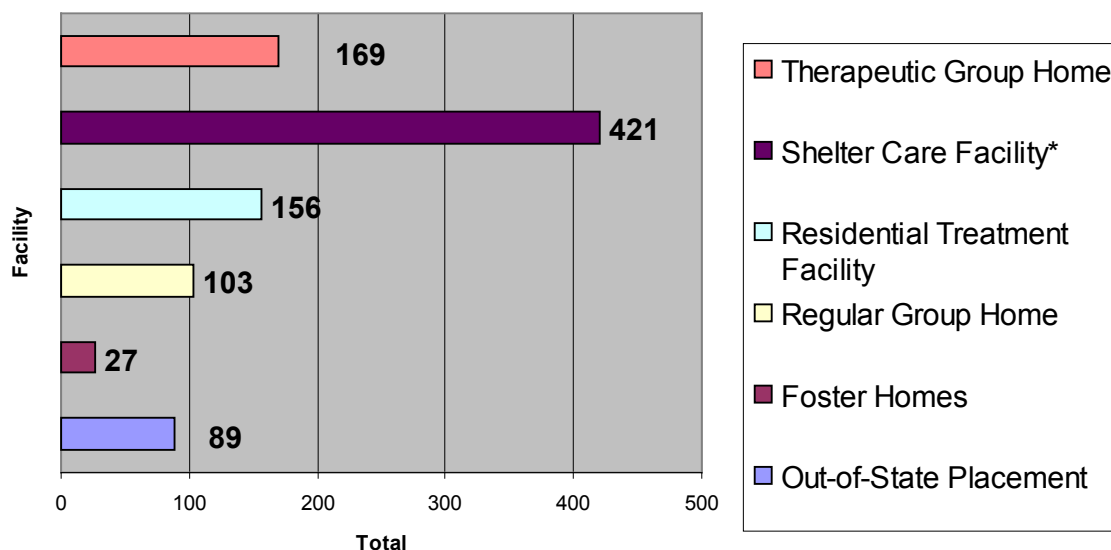
RECIDIVISM WHILE UNDER SUPERVISION

Recidivism is defined as a youth committing another offense while under supervision.



OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENTS

Out of 9,572 referrals to Youth Court, 1,080 resulted in out-of-home placements. Please note that a single youth may be placed multiple times.



*Shelter care, the most common placement, is a very short-term placement used when Youth Court is assessing the youth and family's situation.

DETENTION

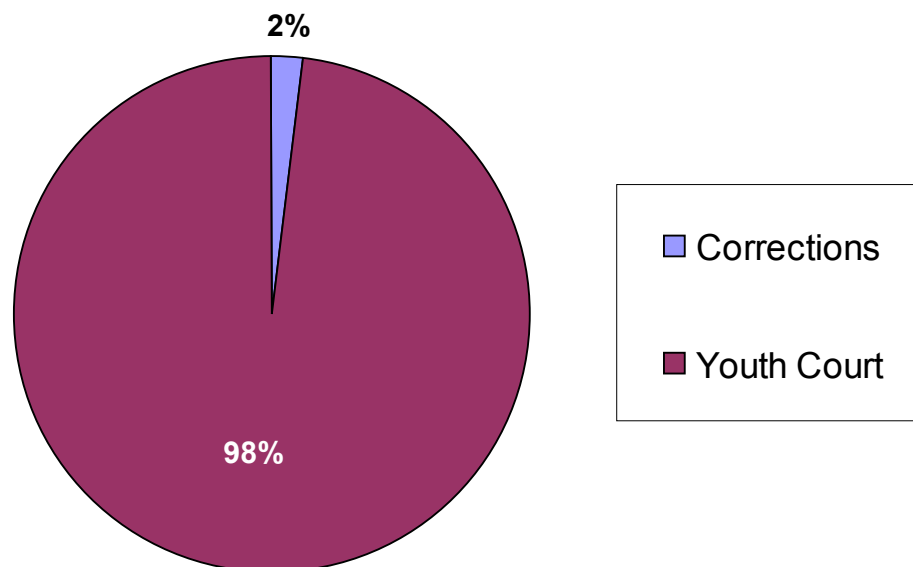
Number of Youth Placed in Detention at Time of Arrest: 1,238

Youth detention facilities, which are physically restricting youth facilities designed to prevent a youth from departing at will are mostly funded and operated by counties. Local law enforcement officers make the decision to detain at the time of arrest.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS COMMITMENTS

Only a Youth Court judge may sentence a youth to the Department of Corrections. Less than 2% of all youth referred to juvenile probation are sentenced to the Department of Corrections.

Of the 6,185 youth referred to Youth Court, 71 were committed to the Department of Corrections for placement in a youth correctional facility.



YOUTH COURT CONTACTS BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

#1 Counties – Lewis and Clark, Broadwater
District Court Judges – Dorothy McCarter, Jeffrey M. Sherlock, Kathy Seeley
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Sharon Tregidga
Contact Number – 447-8228

#2 County – Silver Bow
District Court Judges – Kurt Krueger, Brad Newman
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Glen Granger
Contact Number – 497-6375

#3 Counties – Deer Lodge, Powell, Granite
District Court Judge – Ray Dayton
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Marylyn Shovlin
Contact Number – 563-4030

#4 Counties – Missoula, Mineral
District Court Judges – Douglas Harkin, John W. Larson, Edward P. McLean, Dusty Deschamps
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Glen Welch
Contact Number – 258-4735

#5 Counties – Beaverhead, Jefferson, Madison
District Court Judge – Loren Tucker
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Tom Ramirez
Contact Number – 683-3760

#6 Counties – Park, Sweet Grass
District Court Judge – William Nels Swandal
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Sue Chvilicek
Contact Number – 222-4162

#7 Counties – Dawson, Richland, McCone, Wibaux, Prairie
District Court Judges – Katherine Irigoin, Richard A. Simonton
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Steven Bailey
Contact Number – 377-4675

#8 County – Cascade
District Court Judges – Julie Macek, Thomas M. McKittrick, Kenneth R. Neill, Dirk M. Sandefur
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Tim Calahan
Contact Number – 454-6880

#9 Counties – Glacier, Pondera, Teton, Toole
District Court Judge – Laurie McKinnon
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Tasha Stiner
Contact Number – 873-5063

#10 Counties – Fergus, Judith Basin, Petroleum
District Court Judge – E. Wayne Phillips
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Mike Otto
Contact Number – 538-9242

#11 County – Flathead
District Court Judges – Katherine R. Curtis, Ted O. Lympus, Stewart Stadler
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Nick Nyman
Contact Number – 758-5541

#12 Counties – Hill, Chouteau, Liberty
District Court Judge – David Rice
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Kevin Buerkle
Contact Number – 265-5481

#13 County – Yellowstone
District Court Judges – Ingrid Gustafson, G. Todd Baugh, Russell C. Fagg, Gregory R. Todd, Susan P. Watters
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Dave Ward
Contact Number – 256-2838

#14 Counties – Golden Valley, Meagher, Musselshell, Wheatland
District Court Judge – Randal I. Spaulding
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Sally Palmer
Contact Number – 323-1714

YOUTH COURT CONTACTS BY JUDICIAL DISTRICT

#15 Counties – Roosevelt, Sheridan, Daniels
District Court Judge – David Cybulski
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Butch Olsen
Contact Number – 653-6263

#16 Counties – Carter, Custer, Fallon, Garfield,
Powder River, Rosebud, Treasure
District Court Judges – Joe L. Hegel, Gary L. Day
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Matt Phillips
Contact Number – 874-3418

#17 Counties – Blaine, Phillips, Valley
District Court Judge – John C. McKeon
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Clark Kelly
Contact Number – 654-2087

#18 County – Gallatin
District Court Judges – Michael Salvagni, Holly
Brown, John Brown
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Gwen Massey
Contact Number – 582-2180

#19 County – Lincoln
District Court Judge – Michael C. Prezeau
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Kindra Hageness
Contact Number – 293-7781

#20 Counties – Lake, Sanders
District Court Judges – C.B. McNeil, Deborah
Kim Christopher
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Barb Monaco
Contact Number – 883-7264

#21 County – Ravalli
District Court Judges – Jeffrey H. Langton, James
A. Haynes
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Clint Arneson
Contact Number – 375-6805

#22 Counties – Big Horn, Carbon, Stillwater
District Court Judge – Blair Jones
Chief Juvenile Probation Officer – Jack Lane
Contact Number – 665-9815