

Statistical Tables and Analysis

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Introduction

For a proper understanding of this section, reference should be made to *A Case Restated for the Third Time* (p. 9 in the third annual report), where the court structure and the classification of offences are explained. It may also be helpful to refer back to the first annual report under the rubric *Statistical Tables* (pp. 128-46) for some of the underlying assumptions and general principles which govern the compilation of the statistical data. It should be borne in mind that an unknown number of crimes committed by children are not reflected in this report. This is because these crimes are either not reported or not detected.

Explanatory Notes

Reference Period

The statistics in this report focus on the financial year 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999. Where possible, data from the previous financial year are provided for comparison.

Data collection

The data were collected from all criminal courts in Queensland either by extraction from the computerised Case Register System (CRS) for the Magistrates Courts and Criminal Register System (CRS) for the District and Supreme Courts or by manual returns provided by those Courts without access to a CRS system.

Symbols used in tables

— nil
.. not applicable

Definitions

Caution

an official warning given at police discretion to juveniles as an alternative to charging.

charge

a formal accusation of an offence.

child

see juvenile.

Childrens Court of Queensland

an intermediate court created to deal with juveniles charged with serious offences. It is presided over by a Childrens Court judge.

committal

referral of a case from a Magistrates Court to a higher court for trial or sentence.

community conferencing

a sentencing or diversionary method of dealing with young offenders involving principles of restorative justice.

defendant

a juvenile charged with a criminal offence. A juvenile is counted as a defendant more than once if disposed more than once during the reference period.

disposal

the ultimate finalisation and clearing of all matters to do with a defendant (for instance by a guilty finding and sentence, discharge or withdrawal, but not by transfer to another court).

District Court of Queensland

a court constituted by a District Court judge (see *Right of Election* , p. 9; 4th annual report).

<i>ex officio indictment</i>	an indictment filed by the Attorney-General committing an accused person for trial without a committal.
<i>Guilty finding</i>	a determination by the court or as a result of a guilty plea that a defendant is legally responsible for an offence.
<i>juvenile</i>	a person who has not turned 17 years. (A person who has attained 17 years of age may be dealt with as a juvenile if the offence with which he is charged was committed before he attained 17 years of age.)
<i>Magistrates Court</i>	a court of summary jurisdiction constituted by a stipendiary magistrate or, in some circumstances, by two justices of the peace.
<i>offence</i>	an act or omission which renders the person doing the act or making the omission liable to punishment.
<i>offence type</i>	a category within a classification describing the nature of the offence; the Queensland Classification of Offences mainly is used in this report.
<i>offender</i>	a juvenile who has been found or has pleaded guilty of an offence.
<i>penalty</i>	a term of imprisonment or detention, fine or other payment, community service or supervision, surrender of licence or other imposition ordered by the court as part of the punishment of an offender after a guilty finding.
	<i>detention order</i> a custodial penalty placing a juvenile in a youth detention centre.
	<i>immediate release order</i> suspension by the sentencing court of a detention order against a juvenile offender conditional on participation in a program of up to three months.
	<i>community service order</i> a supervision penalty requiring an offender to perform a specified number of hours of unpaid community work.
	<i>probation order</i> a penalty allowing freedom under supervision for a specified period, conditional upon compliance with the terms of the order.
	<i>fine</i> a monetary penalty requiring an offender to make a payment of a specified sum to the Crown.
	<i>compensation</i> a monetary penalty requiring an offender to make a payment by way of redress for loss or injury to person or property (includes restitution).
	<i>good behaviour order</i> a penalty where an offender agrees to be of good behaviour for a specified period and where a breach thereof may be taken into account if the juvenile reoffends during the period of the order.
	<i>disqualification of licence</i> a penalty revoking an offender's driver's licence for a specified time.
	<i>reprimand</i> a formal reproof given by the court to a juvenile offender upon a guilty finding. Included in the statistics in this publication are other penalties (such as orders to return property and forfeiture of property or drug utensils) not included elsewhere.

<i>sentence</i>	the determination by a court of the punishment to be imposed on a person who has been found guilty or has pleaded guilty.
<i>Serious offence</i>	an offence that, if committed by an adult, would make the adult liable to imprisonment for life or for 14 years or more (<i>Juvenile Justice Act 1992</i> , s. 8).
<i>Supreme Court of Queensland</i>	the highest court in the Queensland judicial system (with unlimited jurisdiction and dealing with murder, attempted murder, manslaughter and the most serious drug offences).
<i>Trial (criminal)</i>	a hearing (in a District or Supreme Court) before a judge sitting with a jury or (in the Childrens Court of Queensland) by a judge alone to determine the guilt of a defendant charged with an offence.
<u>Data Issues</u>	
<i>Recording of ages</i>	Where possible, age has been calculated from the date of birth of the defendant to the date the offence occurred.
<i>Most serious penalty</i>	Offenders may receive more than one type of penalty. Tables in this report show the number of offenders by their most serious penalty. For example, a person ordered to be detained and also placed on probation is placed in the "Detention" row only, because it is the more serious penalty.
<i>Percentage totals</i>	In tables in this report constituent percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding to one decimal place.
<i>Classification of offences</i>	<p>This report shows the classification of charges by "Offence type". The offence classification used is based on the Queensland Classification of Offences and is only partially compatible with the Australian National Classification of Offences (ANCO). Offences are first classified into one of eight categories shown broadly in order of seriousness. Most of these categories are further broken down into offence types.</p> <p>Detailed tables contain figures for all offence types. Summary tables in the body of the text give figures for all categories at the higher level and those at the lower level that are of significant interest.</p> <p>"Other offences" contains those that cannot be classified elsewhere. The most common offence types in this category are the various drug offences and good behaviour offences such as <i>drunkenness, offensive behavior and enforcement of orders</i>.</p>
<i>Burglary and housebreaking and other breaking and entering</i>	While the detailed tables contain separate figures of counts of defendants and charges for these offence types, they have been combined in the summary tables, as there is uncertainty about the accuracy of recording offences into these types. The numbers obtained for burglary and housebreaking are smaller in relation to other breaking and entering than expected. The likely explanation is recording error when court results were transcribed to statistical returns.

***Serious offences
disposed at
Magistrates Court***

Methods of disposal at Magistrates Courts include dismissal and withdrawal of charges. Therefore, the data will show serious offences disposed at Magistrates Court level where dismissal or withdrawal has occurred.

Cautions

Only one caution is counted for each different offence type on a crime report. Thus a person cautioned for three property damage offences will only be counted once for that offence type, and a person cautioned for one burglary offence and one property damage offence will be counted twice, once for each offence type.

The total number of cautions recorded is therefore less than the total number of offences for which offenders were cautioned.

Court delays

Court delays in Magistrates Courts have been calculated by examining returns from the following court locations: Brisbane, Beenleigh, Ipswich, Southport, Maroochydore, Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville and Cairns. These courts accounted for about 59.9 per cent of all defendants in these courts statewide.

Delays in District and Supreme Courts have been assessed for the courts at Brisbane only, which deal with 56.7 per cent of all defendants statewide.

Delays in the Childrens Court of Queensland have been calculated as the time from presentation of the initiating document (a bench charge sheet or indictment) to the date of finalisation. A longer measure of the delay in the Childrens Court of Queensland, the District Court or the Supreme Court would result if calculated from the date of committal.

The delay in each case has been calculated as the time from presentation of the initiating document (bench charge sheet or indictment) to finalisation. A longer measure of the delay in the Childrens Court of Queensland, the District Court or the Supreme Court would result if calculated from the date of committal.

Imprisonment

As a general rule, there is no power of imprisonment as opposed to detention under the *Juvenile Justice Act 1992*. In rare cases, however, the power of imprisonment exists. For example, if a person commits a crime as a child, absconds and is arrested pursuant to a warrant after attaining the age of 18, the court is empowered in an appropriate case to impose imprisonment by way of penalty (see *Juvenile Justice Act 1992*, s. 105).

Summary

***Juvenile defendants
by court level***

The number of juveniles whose cases were disposed in all Queensland courts increased by 7.9 per cent, from 7,404 in 1997-98 to 7,988 in 1998-99. The increase of 10.0 per cent in defendants before the Magistrates Court (from 6,382 to 7,022) was partly offset by an 11.1 per cent reduction in the number of defendants before the Childrens Court of Queensland (from 135 to 120).

In 1998-99, Magistrates Courts disposed 87.9 per cent of juvenile defendants, the Childrens Court of Queensland 1.5 percent, the District Court 10.5 per cent and the Supreme Court 0.1 per cent.

Juvenile defendants by court level of final disposal^(a), Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Court level	1997-98		1998-99		Change
	No.	%	No.	%	%
Magistrates	6,382	86.2	7,022	87.9	10.0
Childrens Court of Queensland	135	1.8	120	1.5	-11.1
District	876	11.8	839	10.5	-4.2
Supreme	11	0.1	7	0.1	-
Total	7,404	100.0	7,988	100.0	7.9

(a) A defendant is disposed when all the charges against him are proved or dismissed or withdrawn. Juveniles committed from a Magistrates Court are disposed at a higher court and are counted here only at that level.

Males represented 84.0 per cent of all defendants in 1998-99. Some 38.4 per cent of defendants were 16 years of age with a further 25.6 per cent aged 15 years. (For more detail refer to Table 18.)

Charges against juveniles by court level

Charges against juveniles decreased by 8.3 per cent from 24,652 in 1997-98 to 22,598 in 1998-99. There was an increase in the Magistrates Courts (1.3%) but a decrease in the District and Supreme Courts (36.2%). The number of charges disposed in the Childrens Court of Queensland remained virtually static at 788 compared with 791 in the previous year.

The offence category with the largest number of charges was *theft, breaking and entering, etc.* with 11,852 charges in 1998-99, down 17.2 per cent from 14,315 in 1997-98. Within *theft, breaking and entering, etc.*, *breaking and entering* had the largest number of charges with 4,799, down 22.0 per cent from 6,152 in 1997-98. (For more detail refer to Table 1.)

Charges against juveniles by court level of final disposal^(a), Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Court level	1997-98		1998-99		Change
	No.	%	No.	%	%
Magistrates	17,572	71.3	17,795	78.7	1.3
Childrens Court of Queensland	791	3.2	788	3.5	-0.4
District	6,250	25.4	3,994	17.7	-36.1
Supreme	39	0.2	21	0.1	-46.2
Total	24,652	100.0	22,598	100.0	-8.3

(a) Charges against juveniles committed from a Magistrates Court are disposed at a higher court and are counted here only at that level.

Penalties received by juvenile offenders

Of the 7,988 defendants in 1998-99, 7,007 (87.7%) were either found guilty or pleaded guilty, 981 or 12.3 per cent lower than in 1997-98.

Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Penalty ^(a)	1997-98		1998-99		Change %
	No.	%	No.	%	
Detention	327	5.0	290	4.1	-11.3
Immediate release	207	3.2	240	3.4	15.9
Community service	1,397	21.3	1,461	20.9	4.6
Probation	1,165	17.8	1,230	17.6	5.6
Fine	484	7.4	591	8.4	22.1
Compensation	212	3.2	146	2.1	-31.1
Good behaviour order	1,084	16.6	1,142	16.3	5.4
Disqualification of licence	12	0.2	12	0.2	-
Reprimand ^(b)	1,659	25.2	1,895	27.0	14.2
Total	6,547	100.0	7,007	100.0	7.0

(a) In decreasing order of seriousness.

(b) Including other penalties such as return property and forfeiture of property or drug utensils.

Of those found guilty in 1998-99, 290 (or 4.1%) were sentenced to detention, and a further 240 (or 3.4%) received an immediate release order.

Reprimands were ordered for 1,895 juveniles (or 27.0%). The next largest group of 1,461 (20.9%) received community service as their most serious penalty and 1,230 (17.6%) received probation.

Cautions

Data provided by the Queensland Police Service showed that, 11,266 juvenile offenders were administered cautions in 1998-99 compared with 13,698 in 1997-98, a decrease of 17.8 per cent.

Juvenile offenders proceeded against by caution^(a) by offence type, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Offence type ^(b)	1997-98	1998-99	Change %
Homicide, etc.	-	-	..
Assaults (inc. Sexual offences), etc	778	766	-1.5
Robbery & extortion	33	37	12.1
Fraud & misappropriation	431	259	-39.9
Theft, breaking & entering, etc.	7,452	6,017	-19.3
[Unlawful use of motor vehicle]	377	309	-18.0
[Other stealing]	5,102	4,151	-18.6
[Receiving, unlawful possession]	356	279	-21.6
[Breaking & entering] ^(c)	1,617	1,278	-21.0
Property Damage	1,551	1,380	-11.0
Driving, traffic & related offences	30	34	13.3
Other offences	3,423	2,773	-19.0
[Drug offences] ^(d)	2,321	1,715	-26.1
Total	13,698	11,266	-17.8

(a) A person is counted as an offender more than once if he has been cautioned for more than one type of offence, or for offences against more than one victim, or for offences during more than one incident.

(b) Only selected offence types are shown [in brackets] at the more detailed level.

(c) Breaking and entering = *burglary and housebreaking + other breaking and entering*

(d) Drug offences = possession or use of drugs + dealing and trafficking in drugs + manufacturing and growing drugs + other drug offences

Source: Queensland Police Service

In 1998-99, 11,266 juvenile offenders were administered cautions compared to 22,598 charges against juveniles that were disposed in court.

The majority of cautions were administered for *theft, breaking and entering, etc.*, 6,017 (or 53.4% of all cautions) in 1998-99 and 7,452 (54.4%) in 1997-98. *Other stealing* (4,151 or 36.8% of all cautions) and *breaking and entering* (1,278 or 11.3% of all cautions) were the main components within this category.

A large number of juveniles were also proceeded against by caution for *property damage* (1,380 or 12.2% of all cautions) and *drug offences* (1,715 or 15.2% of all cautions).

There were decreases in the number of cautions administered to juveniles across all the main offence types, with the exception of *drug offences* (up 2.2%). The largest decreases from 1997-98 occurred for *fraud and misappropriation* (down 39.9%), *receiving, unlawful possession* (down 21.6%) and *breaking and entering* (down 21.0%).

Offences before the courts

Childrens Court of Queensland

The Childrens Court of Queensland, comprising courts at Brisbane, Ipswich, Southport, Rockhampton, Townsville and Cairns, disposed 788 charges against 120 defendants in 1998-99, a decrease of 11.1 per cent from the 1997-98 level (135 juveniles).

Defendants in the Childrens Court of Queensland

Decreases were recorded across almost all age groups.

Childrens Court of Queensland: Juvenile defendants disposed by age, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Age	1997-98	1998-99	Change %
10	1	-	-100.0
11	1	2	100.0
12	1	2	100.0
13	7	8	14.3
14	19	18	-5.3
15	33	24	-27.3
16	44	42	-4.5
17 & over ^(a)	29	24	-17.2
Total	135	120	-11.1

(a) A person may be dealt with as a juvenile if the offence with which he is charged was committed before he attained 17 years of age.

Charges against juveniles in the Childrens Court of Queensland

The Childrens Court of Queensland dealt with 788 charges in 1998-99, compared with 791 in 1997-98.

Childrens Court of Queensland: Charges against juveniles disposed by offence type, Queensland, 1996-97 and 1997-98

Offence type ^(a)	1997-98	1998-99	Change %
Homicide, etc.	-	1	..
Assaults (inc Sexual offences), etc.	47	54	14.9
[Major assault]	21	33	57.1
[Minor assault]	14	9	-35.7
Robbery & extortion	19	32	68.4
Fraud & misappropriation	3	4	33.3
Theft, breaking & entering, etc.	617	595	-3.6
[Unlawful use of motor vehicle]	98	127	29.6
[Other stealing]	198	79	-60.1
[Receiving, unlawful possession]	15	10	-33.3
[Breaking & entering] ^(b)	306	379	23.9
Property Damage	60	78	30.0
Driving, traffic & related offences	18	3	-83.3
Other offences	27	21	-22.2
[Drug offences] ^(c)	4	2	-50.0
Total	791	788	-0.4

(a) Only selected offence types are shown [in brackets] at the more detailed level. For more detail refer to Table 1 1.

(b) Breaking and entering = *burglary and housebreaking + other breaking and entering*.

(c) Drug offences = *possession or use of drugs + dealing and trafficking in drugs + manufacturing and growing drugs + other drug offences*.

Theft, breaking and entering etc. accounted for the largest number of charges in 1997-98 and 1998-99 representing more than 75 per cent of the total Childrens Court of Queensland charges in both years.

A further dissection of *theft, breaking and entering, etc.* in 1998-99 indicated that the offence type with the most charges was *breaking and entering* with 379 (or 48.1 % of all charges) followed by *unlawful use of motor vehicle* with 127 (or 16.1 %).

Penalties received by juvenile offenders before the Childrens Court of Queensland

Of the 120 juveniles before the Childrens Court of Queensland in 1998-99, 111 or 92.5 per cent were found guilty or pleaded guilty. Of these, 21 juvenile offenders (or 18.9%) received detention as their most serious penalty, with a further 13 (11.7%) receiving an immediate release order. Other penalties included community service (51 or 45.9%), probation (23 or 20.7%) and good behaviour orders (2 or 1.8%). One juvenile offender received a reprimand, compared with 12 in 1997-98.

Decreases were recorded for most penalty types, due mostly to the overall decrease in juveniles appearing in the Childrens Court of Queensland. The exception was community service with 51, which was 13 or 34.2% higher than the previous year.

Juvenile defendants in Magistrates Courts

In 1998-99, 7,913 juvenile defendants were finalised in Magistrates Courts in Queensland, an increase of 488 (or 6.6%) from 1997-98. Of these, 891 were committed to a higher court for trial or sentence and 7,022 were disposed, either by a guilty finding (6,174 or 87.9%) or by discharge (848 or 12.1%).

Magistrates Courts: Juvenile defendants by method of finalisation, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Method of Finalisation	1997-98	1998-99	Change %
Committed	1,043	891	-14.6
Disposed	6,382	7,022	10.0
Found guilty	5,661	6,174	9.1
Discharged ^(a)	721	848	17.6
Total	7,425	7,913	6.6

(a) Where all charges against the defendant were dismissed or withdrawn.

The difference between the 891 defendants committed to the higher court and the 966 disposed in the Childrens, District and Supreme Courts in 1998-99 is accounted for by ex officio indictments and committals to the higher court made in 1997-98 and being disposed in 1998-99. Figures are also influenced by committals made in 1998-99 being disposed in 1998-2000.

Charges against juveniles in Magistrates Courts

The number of charges against juveniles in Magistrates Courts decreased by 1198 (or 5.3%) from 22,764 in 1997-98 to 21,566 in 1998-99. Of these charges, 17,795 (82.5%) were disposed in the Magistrates Courts and the remaining 3,771 (17.5%) were committed to a higher court for trial or sentence. The number of charges committed decreased by 1,421 (27.4%) from 1997-98 to 1998-99.

Magistrates Courts: Charges against juveniles by method of finalisation, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Method of Finalisation	1997-98	1998-99	Change %
Committed	5,192	3,771	-27.4
Disposed	17,572	17,795	1.3
Total	22,764	21,566	-5.3

Charges against juveniles disposed in Magistrates Courts

In 1998-99, 17,795 charges were disposed in the Magistrates Courts, an increase of 1.3 per cent over the 1997-98 figure (17,572).

The largest number of charges disposed in 1997-98 were for *theft, breaking and entering, etc.*, with 8,774 charges or 49.3 per cent of the total. This proportion is similar to that for the previous year (51.5% or 9,054 charges).

Other offences, with 3,822 charges or 21.5 per cent of the total, were the category with the next highest number of charges. Of these, 1,100 charges or 28.8 per cent were *drug offences*.

Magistrates Courts: Charges against juveniles disposed by offence type, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Offence type ^(a)	1997-98	1998-99	Change %
Homicide, etc.	1	4	300.0
Assaults (inc Sexual offences), etc.	1,291	1,472	14.0
[Major assault]	317	315	-0.6
[Minor assault]	872	1,018	16.7
Robbery & extortion	35	70	100.0
Fraud & misappropriation	606	610	0.7
Theft, breaking & entering, etc.	9,054	8,744	-3.4
[Unlawful use of motor vehicle]	1,057	1,459	38.0
[Other stealing]	3,815	3,520	-7.7
[Receiving, unlawful possession]	680	688	1.2
[Breaking & entering] ^(b)	3,502	3,077	-12.1
Property Damage	1,571	1,197	-23.8
Driving, traffic & related offences	1,338	1,876	40.2
Other offences	3,676	3,822	4.0
[Drug offences] ^(c)	1,153	1,100	-4.6
Total	17,572	17,795	1.3

- (a) Only selected offence types are shown [in brackets] at the more detailed level. For more detail refer to Table 7.
- (b) Breaking and entering = *burglary and housebreaking + other breaking and entering*.
- (c) Drug offences = *possession or use of drugs + dealing and trafficking in drugs + manufacturing and growing drugs + other drug offences*.

Of charges disposed in Magistrates Courts, offence types with the largest increases from 1997-98 to 1998-99 were *robbery and extortion*, 70 (up 100.0%), *driving traffic and related offences*, 1,876 (up 40.2%), *unlawful use of motor vehicle*, 1,459 (up 38.0%) and *minor assault*, 1,018 (up 16.7%). On the other hand, there were decreases for *property damage*, 1,197 (down 23.8%) and *breaking and entering*, 3,077 (down 12.1 %).

Penalties received by juvenile offenders before Magistrates Courts

In 1998-99, 6,174 juveniles were found guilty or pleaded guilty in Magistrates Courts. Of these, 161 offenders (or 2.6% of the total) received detention as their most serious penalty, with a further 127 (2.1 %) receiving an immediate release order. Other categories included community service (1,165 or 18.9%), probation (990 or 16.0%) and good behaviour orders (1,121 or 18.2%). A total of 1,865 (or 30.2%) were reprimanded.

Magistrates Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Penalty ^(a)	1997-98	1998-99	Change %
Detention	179	161	-10.1
Immediate release	96	127	32.3
Community service	1,097	1,165	6.2
Probation	935	990	5.9
Fine	474	589	24.3
Compensation	204	144	-29.4
Good behaviour order	1,047	1,121	7.1
Disqualification of licence	12	12	..
Reprimand ^(b)	1,617	1,865	15.3
Total	5,661	6,174	9.1

(a) In decreasing order of seriousness.

(b) Including other penalties such as return property and forfeiture of property or drug utensils.

District and Supreme Courts

In 1998-99, District and Supreme Courts disposed 4,015 charges against 846 juveniles. This represented a decrease of 36.2 per cent in the number of charges from 1997-98, while the number of defendants only decreased by 4.6 per cent.

The Supreme Court comprised a small proportion of the charges and defendants in both years. In 1998-99, there were 21 charges against 7 defendants disposed in the Supreme Court, compared with 3,994 charges against 839 defendants disposed in the District Court.

Defendants in District and Supreme Courts

In 1998-99, 53.2 per cent of juvenile defendants before the District and Supreme Courts were aged 15 or 16 years, with a further 27.7 per cent aged 17 or over. In 1997-98, the proportion of 15 and 16 year olds was higher (56.3%).

District and Supreme Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Age	1997-98	1998-99	Change %
10	1	3	200.0
11	9	11	22.2
12	10	13	30.0
13	32	48	50.0
14	108	86	-20.4
15	217	173	-20.3
16	282	277	-1.8
17 & over ^(a)	227	234	3.1
Unknown	1	1	..
Total	887	846	-4.6

(a) A person may be dealt with as a juvenile if the offence with which he is charged was committed before he attained 17 years of age.

Charges against juveniles in District and Supreme Courts

Of the 4,015 charges before District and Supreme Courts, *theft, breaking and entering, etc.* accounted for the largest number with 2,513 charges or 62.6 per cent of the total. A further dissection of *theft, breaking and entering, etc.* indicated that the largest number of charges was for *breaking and entering* (1,343) followed by *other stealing* (576) and *unlawful use of a motor vehicle* (503).

Assaults (inc sexual offences), etc was the second largest category with 494 charges, followed by *other offences*, (392) and property damage (327).

District and Supreme Courts: Charges against juveniles disposed by offence type, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Offence type ^(a)	1997-98	1998-99	Change %
Homicide, etc.	7	4	-42.9
Assaults (inc Sexual offences), etc.	426	494	16.0
[Major assault]	243	209	-14.0
[Minor assault]	97	108	11.3
Robbery & extortion	217	204	-6.0
Fraud & misappropriation	90	39	-56.7
Theft, breaking & entering, etc.	4,644	2,513	-45.9
[Unlawful use of motor vehicle]	692	503	-27.3
[Other stealing]	1,462	576	-60.6
[Receiving, unlawful possession]	146	91	-37.7
[Breaking & entering] ^(b)	2,344	1,343	-42.7
Property Damage	609	327	-46.3
Driving, traffic & related offences	40	42	5.0
Other offences	256	392	53.1
[Drug offences] ^(c)	20	24	20.0
Total	6,289	4,015	-36.2

(a) Only selected offence types are shown [in brackets] at the more detailed level. For more detail refer to Table 15.

(b) Breaking and entering = *burglary and housebreaking + other breaking and entering*.

(c) Drug offences = *possession or use of drugs + dealing and trafficking in drugs + manufacturing and growing drugs + other drug offences*.

Penalties received by juvenile offenders before District and Supreme Courts

Of the 846 juveniles before the District and Supreme Courts in 1998-99, 722 (85.3%) were found guilty or had pleaded guilty. Of these, 108 (or 15.0%) received detention as their most serious penalty, 100 (13.9%) received an immediate release order, 245 (33.9%) received community service and 217 (30.1%) received probation.

District and Supreme Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Penalty ^(a)	1997-98	1998-99	Change %
Detention	125	108	-13.6
Immediate release	100	100	..
Community service	262	245	-6.5
Probation	206	217	5.3
Fine	2	2	..
Compensation	5	2	-60.0
Good behaviour order	29	19	-34.5
Disqualification of licence	-	-	..
Reprimand ^(b)	30	29	-3.3
Total	759	722	-4.9

(a) In decreasing order of seriousness.

(b) Including other penalties such as return property and forfeiture of property or drug utensils.

Court delays

The District and Supreme Courts in Brisbane and several of the larger Magistrates Courts record outcomes electronically. These electronic records and the records of cases in the Childrens Court of Queensland in Brisbane were used to determine the length of time between presentation of the bench charge sheet or indictment and the date of finalisation.

The information showed that the majority of cases against juveniles in 1998-99 (80.9%) were finalised within three months.

Court delays^(a) by court level, 1998-99

Court level	<=3 months %	3-6 months %	6-9 months %	9-12 months %	>12 months %	Total ^(b) %
Magistrates	82.4	9.9	3.4	2.8	1.5	100.0
Childrens Court Of Queensland	94.1	5.9	-	-	-	100.0
District and Supreme	53.0	16.1	10.6	6.1	14.2	100.0
All courts	80.9	10.2	3.7	3.0	2.2	100.0

(a) Number of charges (in Magistrates Courts) or indictments (in other courts) by length of time to finalise.

(b) Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Compliance with court orders

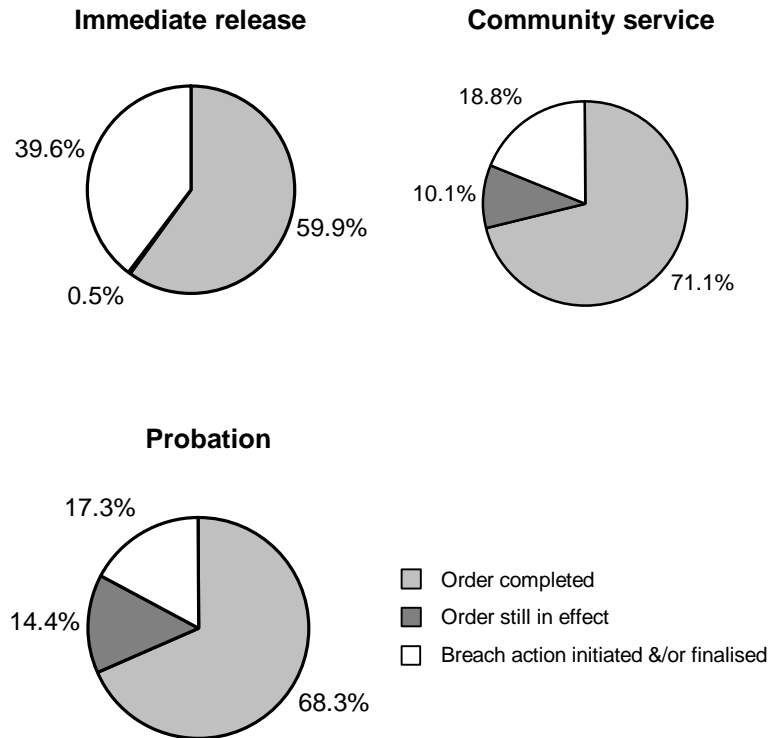
The Juvenile Justice Program, Department of Families, Youth and Community Care supervises juveniles on community correction orders (i.e. probation, immediate release and community service orders). The following information has been extracted from their Client Information System for the years 1997-98 and 1998-99.

In 1997-98 there were 3,694 admissions to these types of orders. Of these, 2,002 (54.2%) were probation, 1,485 (40.2%) were community service orders and 207 (5.6%) were immediate release orders.

Orders breached

Probation and immediate release orders can be breached either by the juvenile re-offending during the period of the order or by not meeting other conditions of the order.

Admissions to orders against juveniles in 1997-98: Type of order by completion status at 30 June 1999, Queensland



Source: *Client Information System, Department of Families, Youth and Community Care*

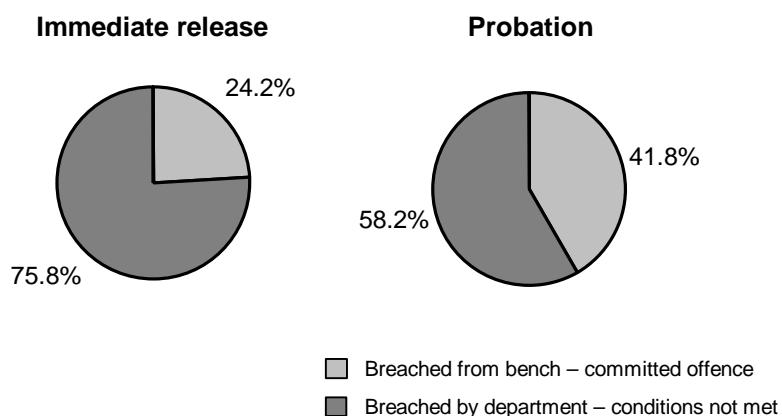
The majority of orders made in 1997-98 had been complied with and completed by 30 June 1999, with community service orders having the highest compliance rate (71.1%). The largest non-compliance rate (where a breach action had been initiated and/or finalised) was for immediate release orders (39.6%), compared with 18.8 per cent for community service orders and 17.3 per cent for probation orders.

In 1997-98, 14.4 per cent of probation orders were still in effect 12 months after the end of the financial year in which the order was made. In August 1996 the length of time within which community service orders could be completed was increased from six to twelve months, and at 30 June 1999 a proportion of 1997-98 orders (10.1%) were still in effect. Longer periods may also be due to subsequent variations to the original order, including extension of orders or those, which are not administratively closed after the specified date. Immediate release orders are a maximum of three months in duration.

Reason for breach

About two-fifths of appearances for breach of probation in 1998-99 were due to re-offending during the period of the order (41.8%), compared with 61.1% in 1997-98. Of appearances for breach of an immediate release order, under one quarter were breached due to re-offending (24.2%). This was a large decrease from 1997-98, when 56.8 per cent of appearances were due to re-offending.

Appearances of juveniles for breach of court order by type of order by type of breach, 1998-99



Source: *Children in Court database, Department of Families, Youth and Community Care*

Victims of juvenile offenders

The Queensland Police Service provided information about the victims of juvenile offenders. Data was extracted from the statistical system for incidents where at least one of the offenders was under the age of 17 years. The incidents were restricted to those involving an offence against the person and where the age and sex of the victim were recorded and the age of the offender was known. (There were 284 victims in 1998-99 whose details were unknown.)

Of the 1,343 victims of incidents where details were available, 908 (or 67.6%) were aged under 20 years. There were 549 (or 40.9%) aged 14 years or under and 359 (26.7%) aged 15 to 19 years. Only 1.9 per cent of victims was aged 55 years or over.

Victims aged under 20 years accounted for 93.1 per cent of all victims of sexual offences, 73.0 per cent of serious assault, and 59.0 per cent of robbery.

Some 58.5 per cent of victims were male. These males comprised 60.8 per cent of victims of assault and 77.3 per cent of victims of robbery. Most female victims were victims of assault (66.9%), sexual offences (15.8%) or robbery (8.7%).

The age profile for both male and female victims is similar. Males predominated in all age groups except children under 10 years and adults aged between 35 and 44.

Community conferencing

Community conferencing was introduced into Queensland with the 1996 amendments to the *Juvenile Justice Act 1992*. A community conference is a meeting between an offender and the victim of his or her offence. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the offence and negotiate an agreement satisfactory to both parties. The young person's parents or caregivers usually attend the conference. Support people for the victim may also attend.

In the 1998-99 year there were 123 children conferenced in the pilot programs. Ten young people were conferenced at Palm Island, 55 were conferenced at both the Ipswich and Logan programs. The majority of conferences were in relation to police diversionary referrals. There were five Indefinite Court Referrals and 4 Pre-sentence Court Referrals. Agreements were reached in all conferences. Of children conferenced in south east Queensland, 81 per cent were males and 12 per cent were identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.

From any conference there may be several outcomes. Conference outcomes in the 1998-99 included verbal apologies (77%), written apologies (45%), commitments not to re-offend (30%), direct restitution (22%), work for the victim (14%) and voluntary work in the community (16%).

Offences for which juvenile offenders were proceeded against by community conference, by offence type, south east Queensland, 1998-99

Offence type ^(a)	Ipswich	Logan	Total
Assaults (inc. sexual offences), etc.	18	3	21
[Major assault]	13	3	16
[Minor assault]	5	-	5
[Other violation of persons]	-	-	-
Robbery and extortion	3	4	7
[Robbery]	3	4	7
Fraud and Misappropriation	3	2	5
[Embezzlement]	1	1	2
[Fraud & forgery]	2	1	3
Theft, breaking & entering, etc.	34	55	89
[Unlawful use of motor vehicle]	3	12	15
[Other stealing]	23	25	48
[Receiving, unlawful possession]	2	-	2
[Breaking & entering] ^(b)	6	18	24
Property damage	14	25	39
[Arson]	-	2	2
[Other property damage]	14	23	37
Driving, traffic & related offences	2	4	6
[Dangerous/negligent driving]	-	1	1
[Licence offences]	1	1	2
[Other offences]	1	2	3
Other offences (inc drug offences)	9	8	17
[Possession or use of drugs]	-	1	1
[Dealing & trafficking in drugs]	-	1	1
[Other drug offences]	-	1	1
[Offensive behaviour]	1	-	1
[Trespassing & vagrancy]	3	2	5
[Weapons offences]	3	3	6
[Liquor offences]	2	-	2
Total	83	101	184

Source: *Juvenile Justice Program, Department of Families Youth and Community Care*

Detailed Tables

Summary, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-9

Table 1 All Courts: Charges against juveniles disposed by offence type and court

Magistrates Courts (committals), Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Table 2 Juvenile defendants and charges committed for sentence or trial by court location

Magistrates Courts (disposals), Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Table 3 Juvenile defendants disposed by age and sex

Figure 1 Juvenile defendants disposed by age

Table 4 Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty and sex

Figure 2 Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty

District and Supreme Courts, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Table 5 Juvenile defendants disposed by age and sex

Figure 3 Juvenile defendants disposed by age

Table 6 Juvenile defendants and charges disposed by court location

Table 7 Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty and sex

Figure 4 Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty

All Courts, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Table 8 Juvenile defendants disposed by age and sex

Figure 5 Juvenile defendants disposed by age

Table 1 Magistrates Courts: Charges against juveniles disposed by offence type and court, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Offence type	1997-98				1998-99			
	Magistrates Courts (a)	Childrens Court of Qld	District & Supreme Courts	Total	Magistrates Courts (a)	Childrens Court of Qld	District & Supreme Courts	Total
Homicide, etc.	1	-	7	8	4	1	4	9
Murder	-	-	5	5	-	-	1	1
Attempted Murder	1	-	2	3	4	-	1	5
Manslaughter (excluding driving)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Manslaughter (driving)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dangerous driving causing death	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Conspiracy to murder	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assaults (inc sexual offences) etc.	1,291	47	426	1,764	1,472	54	494	2,020
Major assault	317	21	243	581	315	33	209	557
Minor assault	872	14	97	983	1,018	9	108	1,135
Rape	6	-	15	21	10	-	20	30
Other sexual offences	47	9	42	98	69	9	140	218
Other violation of persons	49	3	29	81	60	3	17	80
Robbery & extortion	35	19	217	271	70	32	204	306
Robbery	35	19	217	271	70	32	204	306
Extortion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fraud & misappropriation	606	3	90	699	610	4	39	653
Embezzlement	17	1	6	24	22	-	3	25
False pretences	204	1	71	276	124	-	-	124
Fraud & forgery	385	1	13	399	464	4	36	504
Theft, breaking & entering, etc.	9,054	617	4,644	14,315	8,744	595	2,513	11,852
Unlawful use of motor vehicle	1,057	98	692	1,847	1,459	127	503	2,089
Other stealing	3,815	198	1,462	5,475	3,520	79	576	4,175
Receiving, unlawful possession	680	15	146	841	688	10	91	789
Burglary & housebreaking ^(b)	882	123	1,269	2,274	896	228	649	1,773
Other breaking & entering ^(b)	2,620	183	1,075	3,878	2,181	151	694	3,026
Property damage	1,571	60	609	2,240	1,197	78	327	1,602
Arson	11	6	37	54	10	8	36	54
Other property damage	1,560	54	572	2,186	1,187	70	291	1,548
Driving, traffic & related offences	1,338	18	40	1,396	1,876	3	42	1,921
Drink driving	130	1	1	132	154	-	3	157
Dangerous / negligent driving	108	2	31	141	119	3	23	145
Licence offences	475	3	8	486	619	-	10	629
State Transport, Main Roads Act	108	1	-	109	256	-	2	258
Other traffic offences	516	11	-	527	725	-	4	729
Other driving offences	1	-	-	1	3	-	-	3
Other Offences	3,676	27	256	3,959	3,822	21	392	4,235
Possession or use of drugs	555	1	7	563	554	1	7	562
Dealing & trafficking in drugs	58	1	9	68	40	-	11	51
Manufacturing & growing drugs	50	-	1	51	33	-	1	34
Other drug offences	490	2	3	495	473	1	5	479
Drunkenness	212	2	-	214	200	-	-	200
Offensive behaviour	737	7	5	749	705	-	7	712
Trespassing & vagrancy	266	-	1	267	303	-	7	310
Weapons offences	104	-	2	106	186	-	7	193
Environmental offences	9	-	1	10	5	-	-	5
Liquor offences	99	1	-	100	163	-	1	164
Enforcement of orders	921	13	136	1,070	978	11	174	1,163
Other	175	-	91	266	182	8	172	362
Total	17,572	791	6,289	24,652	17,795	788	4,015	22,598

- (a) Charges are disposed at Magistrates Court level by conviction, dismissal or withdrawal, but not by committal.
(b) See the note in 'Data issues' at the beginning of the statistics section.

Table 2

Magistrates Courts: Juvenile defendants and charges committed for sentence or trial by court location, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Statistical division and court location ^(a)	1997-98			1998-99			Percentage change	
	Defendants	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants	Charges
Brisbane								
Brisbane City								
Brisbane Childrens Court	179	833	4.65	139	702	5.05	-22.3	-15.7
Holland Park	42	203	4.83	26	127	4.88	-38.1	-37.4
Inala	48	234	4.88	45	254	5.64	-6.3	8.5
Sandgate	13	79	6.08	14	58	4.14	7.7	-26.6
Wynnum	22	58	2.64	20	85	4.25	-9.1	46.6
Remainder of Brisbane								
Beenleigh	83	465	5.60	66	287	4.35	-20.5	-38.3
Caboolture	37	304	8.22	24	102	4.25	-35.1	-66.4
Cleveland	7	26	3.71	12	42	3.50	71.4	61.5
Ipswich	121	492	4.07	56	90	1.61	-53.7	-81.7
Petrie	9	42	4.67	2	3	1.50	-77.8	-92.9
Redcliffe	11	36	3.27	12	44	3.67	9.1	22.2
Moreton								
Beaudesert	1	6	6.00	1	1	1.00	-	-83.3
Gatton	3	11	3.67	5	8	1.60	66.7	-27.3
Maroochydore	27	67	2.48	29	148	5.10	7.4	120.9
Noosa	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Southport	46	308	6.70	39	93	2.38	-15.2	-69.8
Toogoolawah	1	1	1.00	1	1	1.00	-	-
Wide Bay – Burnett								
Bundaberg	13	30	2.31	15	42	2.80	15.4	40.0
Childers	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Gayndah	2	3	1.50	1	1	1.00	-50.0	-66.7
Gympie	4	11	2.75	3	5	1.67	-25.0	-54.5
Hervey Bay	19	141	7.42	31	98	3.16	63.2	-30.5
Kingaroy	2	2	1.00	-	-	..	-100.0	-100.0
Maryborough	12	29	2.42	14	56	4.00	16.7	93.1
Murgon	26	259	9.96	16	60	3.75	-38.5	-76.8
Nanango	1	2	2.00	1	1	1.00	-	-50.0
Darling Downs								
Chinchilla	9	68	7.56	-	-	..	-100.0	-100.0
Dalby	10	39	3.90	5	19	3.80	-50.0	-51.3
Goondiwindi	2	4	2.00	-	-	..	-100.0	-100.0
Oakey	-	-	..	2	20	10.00	..	..
Pittsworth	1	1	1.00	-	-	..	-100.0	-100.0
Stanthorpe	1	2	2.00	3	13	4.33	200.0	550.0
Toowoomba	19	46	2.42	22	84	3.82	15.8	82.6
Warwick	10	25	2.50	3	9	3.00	-70.0	-64.0
South West								
Charleville	6	8	1.33	6	9	1.50	-	12.5
Cunnamulla	3	5	1.67	2	2	1.00	-33.3	-60.0
Quilpie	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Roma	9	17	1.89	5	14	2.80	-44.4	-17.6
St George	3	17	5.67	8	29	3.63	166.7	70.6

Fitzroy								
Blackwater	2	7	3.50	2	9	4.50	-	28.6
Emerald	2	2	1.00	1	1	1.00	-50.0	-50.0
Gladstone	8	14	1.75	8	24	3.00	-	71.4
Rockhampton	15	94	6.27	30	94	3.13	100.0	-
Woorabinda	2	4	2.00	10	38	3.80	400.0	850.0
Yeppoon	2	2	1.00	-	-	..	-100.0	-100.0

Table 2 Continued

Central West								
Barcaldine	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Longreach	2	6	3.00	-	-	..	-100.0	-100.0
Mackay								
Clermont	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Mackay	15	41	2.73	23	43	1.87	53.3	4.9
Moranbah	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Prosperpine	1	4	4.00	2	3	1.50	100.0	-25.0
Northern								
Ayr	2	18	9.00	3	14	4.67	50.0	-22.2
Bowen	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Charters Towers	7	15	2.14	6	19	3.17	-14.3	26.7
Ingham	2	4	2.00	2	5	2.50	-	25.0
Townsville	81	711	8.78	88	622	7.07	8.6	-12.5
Far North								
Atherton	3	12	4.00	4	9	2.25	33.3	-25.0
Aurukun	15	95	6.33	2	6	3.00	-86.7	-93.7
Cairns	39	134	3.44	47	289	6.15	20.5	115.7
Cooktown	-	-	..	1	5	5.00	..	..
Innisfail	6	43	7.17	1	1	1.00	-83.3	-97.7
Lockhart River	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Mareeba	9	24	2.67	2	2	1.00	-77.8	-91.7
Mossman	1	1	1.00	2	4	2.00	100.0	300.0
Thursday Island	-	-	..	3	9	3.00	..	..
Tully	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Weipa	3	8	2.67	1	5	5.00	-66.7	-37.5
Yarrabah	3	13	4.33	-	-	..	-100.0	-100.0
North West								
Camooweal	1	2	2.00	-	-	..	-100.0	-100.0
Cloncurry	1	2	2.00	1	2	2.00	-	-
Hughenden	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Kowanyama	1	1	1.00	3	10	3.33	200.0	900.0
Mornington Island	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Mount Isa	14	50	3.57	18	44	2.44	28.6	-12.0
Normanton	4	11	2.75	2	5	2.50	-50.0	-54.5
Pompuraaw	-	-	..	1	1	1.00	..	..
Total	1,043	5,192	4.98	891	3,771	4.23	-14.6	-27.4

(a) Magistrates courts not shown did not commit any juveniles during the relevant years.

Table 3 Magistrates Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age and sex, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Age	1997-98			1998-99			Percentage change		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
10	18	3	21	34		34	88.9	-100.0	61.9
11	74	5	79	98	10	108	32.4	100.0	36.7
12	175	23	198	175	34	209	-	47.8	5.6
13	416	88	504	411	94	505	-1.2	6.8	0.2
14	847	189	1,036	796	210	1,006	-6.0	11.1	-2.9
15	1,348	287	1,635	1,515	335	1,850	12.4	16.7	13.1
16	2,052	367	2,419	2,334	411	2,745	13.7	12.0	13.5
17+	406	64	470	489	75	564	20.4	17.2	20.0
Unknown	15	5	20	1	-	1	-93.3	-100.0	-95.0
Total	5,351	1,031	6,382	5,853	1,169	7,022	9.4	13.4	10.0

Figure 1 Magistrates Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Not available see paper copy

Table 4**Magistrates Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty and sex, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99**

Penalty ^(a)	1997-98			1998-99			Percentage change		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Detention	160	19	179	135	26	161	-15.6	36.8	-10.1
Immediate release	87	9	96	107	20	127	23	122.2	32.3
Community service	958	139	1,097	1,038	127	1,165	8.4	-8.6	6.2
Probation	780	155	935	813	177	990	4.2	14.2	5.9
Fine	408	66	474	526	63	589	28.9	-4.5	24.3
Compensation	164	40	204	132	12	144	-19.5	-70.0	-29.4
Good behaviour order	855	192	1,047	888	233	1,121	3.9	21.4	7.1
Disqualification of licence	9	3	12	10	2	12	11.1	-33.3	-
Reprimand ^(b)	1,286	331	1,617	1,478	387	1,865	14.9	16.9	15.3
Total	4,707	954	5,661	5,127	1,047	6,174	8.9	9.7	9.1

(a) In decreasing order of seriousness

(b) Including other penalties such as return property and forfeiture of property or drug utensils.

Figure 2**Magistrates Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99****Not available see paper copy**

Table 5**District and Supreme Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age and sex, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99**

Age	1997-98			1998-99			Percentage change		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
10	1	-	1	3	-	3	200.0	..	200.0
11	8	1	9	11	-	11	37.5	-100.0	22.2
12	10	-	10	13	-	13	30.0	..	30.0
13	27	5	32	42	6	48	55.6	20.0	50.0
14	86	22	108	76	10	86	-11.6	-54.5	-20.4
15	191	26	217	147	26	173	-23.0	-	-20.3
16	248	34	282	239	38	277	-3.6	11.8	-1.8
17+	205	22	227	213	21	234	3.9	-4.5	3.1
Unknown	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	..	-
Total	777	110	887	745	101	846	-4.1	-8.2	-4.6

Figure 3**District and Supreme Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99**

Not available see paper copy

Table 6

District and Supreme Courts: Juvenile defendants and charges disposed by court location, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Statistical division and Court location ^(a)	1997-98			1998-99			Percentage change	
	Defendants	Charges	Charges per Defendant	Defendants	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants	Charges
Brisbane								
Brisbane Supreme	8	32	4.00	6	18	3	-25.0	-43.8
Brisbane	495	4,132	8.35	383	1,744	4.55	-22.6	-57.8
Beenleigh	14	162	11.57	40	383	9.58	185.7	136.4
1pswich	52	238	4.58	55	242	4.4	5.8	1.7
Moreton								
Maroochydore	15	93	6.20	39	192	4.92	160.0	106.5
Southport	21	243	11.57	17	53	3.12	-19.0	-78.2
Wide Bay - Burnett								
Bundaberg	19	72	3.79	12	26	2.17	-36.8	-63.9
Gympie	2	2	1.00	3	10	3.33	50.0	400.0
Kingaroy	30	193	6.43	38	195	5.13	26.7	1.0
Maryborough	29	107	3.69	17	50	2.94	-41.4	-53.3
Darling Downs								
Chinchilla	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Dalby	5	14	2.80	8	31	3.88	60.0	121.4
Goondiwindi	1	1	1.00	7	32	4.57	600.0	3,100.0
Stanthorpe	-	-	..	4	11	2.75	..	..
Toowoomba	18	29	1.61	18	85	4.72	-	193.1
Warwick	5	14	2.80	3	3	1.00	-40.0	-78.6
South West								
Charleville	4	10	2.50	5	18	3.6	25.0	80.0
Roma	4	9	2.25	8	32	4	100.0	255.6
Fitzroy								
Emerald	2	5	2.50	3	4	1.33	50.0	-20.0
Gladstone	27	107	3.96	29	160	5.52	7.4	49.5
Rockhampton	24	126	5.25	15	39	2.6	-37.5	-69
Mackay								
Clermont	-	-	..	-	-	..	..	..
Mackay	34	159	4.68	23	49	2.13	-32.4	-69.2
Northern								
Bowen	1	16	16	2	3	1.5	100.0	-81.3
Charters Towers	4	4	1	1	2	2	-75.0	-50.0
Townsville Supreme	2	6	3	1	3	3	-50.0	-50.0
Townsville	21	208	9.9	38	345	9.08	81.0	65.9
Far North								
Cairns Supreme Court	1	1	1	-	-	..	-100.0	-100.0
Cairns	24	172	7.17	38	195	5.13	58.3	13.4
Innisfail	1	2	2	-	-	..	-100.0	-100.0
North West								
Hughenden	-	-	..	1	2	2.00	..	..
Mount Isa	24	132	5.5	32	88	2.75	33.3	-33.3
Total	887	6,289	7.09	846	4,015	4.75	-4.6	-36.2

(a) District Courts unless otherwise indicated. Courts not shown did not dispose any juveniles during the relevant years.

Table 7**District and Supreme Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty and sex, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99**

Penalty(a)	1997-98			1998-99			Percentage change		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Detention	116	9	125	101	7	108	-12.9	-22.2	-13.6
Immediate release	92	8	100	85	15	100	-7.6	87.5	-
Community service	237	25	262	223	22	245	-5.9	-12	-6.5
Probation	167	39	206	185	32	217	10.8	-17.9	5.3
Fine	2	-	2	1	1	2	-50	..	-
Compensation	4	1	5	2	-	2	-50	-100	-60
Good behaviour order	28	1	29	13	6	19	-53.6	500	-34.5
Disqualification of licence	-	-	-	-	-	-	..	..	..
Reprimand(b)	28	2	30	22	7	29	-21.4	250	-3.3
Total	674	85	759	632	90	722	-6.2	5.9	-4.9

(a) In decreasing order of seriousness.

(b) Including other penalties such as return property and forfeiture of property or drug utensils.

Figure 4**District and Supreme Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99****Not available see paper copy**

Table 8 All Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age and sex, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

Age	1997-98			1998-99			Percentage change		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
10	20	3	23	37	-	37	85.0	-100.0	60.90
11	83	6	89	111	10	121	33.7	66.7	36.00
12	186	23	209	190	34	224	2.2	47.8	7.20
13	450	93	543	461	100	561	2.4	7.5	3.30
14	948	215	1,163	887	223	1110	-6.4	3.7	-4.60
15	1,571	314	1,885	1,684	363	2047	7.2	15.6	8.60
16	2,340	405	2,745	2,610	454	3064	11.5	12.1	11.60
17+	639	87	726	725	97	822	13.5	11.5	13.20
Unknown	16	5	21	2	-	2	-87.5	-100.0	-90.50
Total	6,253	1,151	7,404	6,707	1,281	7,988	7.3	11.3	7.9

Figure 5 All Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age, Queensland, 1997-98 and 1998-99

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