



QUEENSLAND
COURTS

Childrens Court of Queensland

Annual Report 2010–2011







**DISTRICT COURT OF
QUEENSLAND**
CHAMBERS OF THE CHIEF JUDGE

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Thursday, 27 October 2011

The Hon Paul Lucas MP
Attorney-General,
Minister for Local Government and
Special Minister for State
GPO Box 15009
Brisbane Queensland 4002

Dear Attorney,

In accordance with the requirements of s 24 of the *Childrens Court Act 1992*, I am pleased to present the Eighteenth Annual Report of the Childrens Court of Queensland for 2010-2011.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Shanahan'.

Judge M.J. Shanahan
PRESIDENT, Children's Court of Queensland

Contents

General	4
Youth Justice Trends Summary	4
Seventeen Year Olds	5
Thanks	6
Juvenile Justice Trends - Summary	7
Introduction	8
Explanatory Notes	8
Definitions	9
Data Issues	10
Summary	12
Offences before the courts	14
Childrens Court of Queensland	14
Magistrates Courts	15
Supreme and District Courts	17
Compliance with court orders	18
Victims of juvenile offenders	19
Youth Justice Conferencing	19
Detailed Tables	21

General

On 10 February 2011 I was appointed President of the Childrens Court of Queensland after the resignation of Her Honour Judge Dick SC upon her appointment as an Acting Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland. Judge Dick was a very active and effective President.

In July 2010 Judge Dick attended the meeting of the South Pacific Council of Youth and Childrens Courts in Sydney. In the Fifteenth Annual Report, Judge Dick identified the importance of the Council, whose charter is to support the development of youth justice and child protection systems and the maintenance of law in the region. The Council is supported in its activities by UNICEF, AusAID, NZAID and the Pacific Islands Forum. The 2011 meeting is to be held in Vanuatu.

In July 2010, Judge Dick was consulted in relation to a review of the forms under the *Youth Justice Act 1992* (Qld). In November 2010, Judge Dick was consulted in relation to new forms required as a result of the *Child Protection and Other Acts Amendment Act 2010* (Qld).

On 10 March 2011 I met with Jenny Lang, Acting Assistant Director-General, and Natalie Parker, Acting Child Safety Director, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, to discuss amendments to the Childrens Court Rules and Forms as well as other issues including an update on the way in which 17 year olds are dealt with in the criminal justice system (see below). In July 2011 I approved the relevant forms.

In June 2011 a separate category of Childrens Court judgements (both Judges' and Magistrates' decisions) was added to the Queensland Courts website. This will improve accessibility to the Court's decisions, particularly with respect to sentence reviews and child safety decisions. At the same time a new system was introduced to advise the Chief Magistrate, in a timely way, of sentence review decisions of the Childrens Court of Queensland under Div 9, Part 6 of the Act for dissemination to Magistrates.

The year under review also saw the first two matters decided under the *Surrogacy Act 2010* (Qld), the impact of which Judge Dick described in the Seventeenth Annual Report.

Youth Justice Trends Summary

There was an overall decrease of 8.6 per cent in the number of young people coming before the courts in the 2010/2011 financial year from the year before. The fivefold increase in the Supreme Court is a factor of the small number of young people dealt with by that court. The actual numbers increased from 2 persons in 2009/2010 to 11 in 2010/2011.

The amount of detention orders that were issued by all courts decreased by 4.5 per cent, and the use of Immediate/Conditional release orders increased by 8.6 per cent. There was also a substantial decrease (12.9 per cent) in the number of charges laid against young people.

Cautions administered by Queensland Police decreased by 11.9 per cent.

There was a decrease of 6 per cent in the number of matters referred for Youth Justice Conferencing. This may well be a factor of the overall drop in persons charged. There were still a substantial number of conferences held (2,387). Many of these were diversionary referrals made by Queensland Police. Again, as noted by Judge Dick in last year's report, it is pleasing that the police are using this form of diversion from the criminal justice system in appropriate cases.

After a slight rise in the figures for the number of charges preferred against young people in 2009/2010, the current figures again show a decrease. They do not support articles recently published arguing that juvenile crime is on the increase.

It is, however, a concern that a significant proportion of juvenile offending relates to assault offences. Assault

victims accounted for 56.7 per cent of all victims of juvenile offenders. It is the large number of assault offences committed by juveniles which is of most concern.

Seventeen Year Olds

In November 2010 Judge Dick was consulted about a proposal that the *Youth Justice Act 1992* be amended so that 17 year olds are dealt with under the provisions of that Act rather than as adults. She responded that there would be no appreciable impact on the workings of the Childrens Court of Queensland on the basis that 17 year olds in relevant matters were already dealt with in the District Court of Queensland and that there would be a corresponding decrease in the workload of the District Court. As all Childrens Court judges hold dual commissions as District Court judges, there would be no impact on the work of the two courts as a whole.

When the *Juvenile Justice Act 1992* (Qld) was introduced, it contained s 6(1) which provided that the Governor-in-Council could, by regulation, fix a day after which a person will be a child for the purposes of the Act if the person has not turned 18 years of age. The Explanatory Notes to the Bill indicated that the Government was “committed to increasing the upper age limit to the age of majority”. The Notes went on to state that because there were significant resource implications associated with including 17 year old persons in the juvenile justice system, it was “not possible to give effect to this commitment immediately”.

Section 6(1) is maintained in the current *Youth Justice Act 1992*. The regulation has never been made.

In both the Tenth and Twelfth Annual Reports, the President, Judge O’Brien recommended that the age of a child for the purposes of the Act should be increased to eighteen. He wrote,

“In Queensland, young people are not lawfully permitted to vote or drink alcohol until they reach the age of eighteen yet, at the age of seventeen, their offending exposes them to the full sanction of the

adult criminal laws. There are, I believe, real concerns involved with the potential incarceration of seventeen year olds with more seasoned and mature adult offenders. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child considers a person as a child until he/she reaches the age of eighteen and other Australian States have adopted a similar approach.”

In the Twelfth Annual Report he noted that Queensland remained the only major jurisdiction in Australia which adheres to an age limit of seventeen for juvenile offenders and again urged that the matter receive careful consideration.

In *R v Loveridge* [2011] QCA 32 the Court of Appeal considered an application for leave to appeal against a sentence of three years imprisonment with parole fixed after eight months, imposed on a seventeen year old who pleaded guilty to an offence of armed robbery. By a majority, the Court of Appeal refused the application. In her dissenting judgement McMurdo P had this to say,

[1] This appeal highlights the difficulty facing Queensland judges when sentencing 17 year olds for serious criminal offences.

....

[5] At 17, under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (“the Convention”) he is a child. Australia signed the Convention on 22 August 1990 and ratified it on 17 December 1990. Under the Convention, the best interests of the child must be a primary consideration in all actions taken concerning the child, including when dealing with a child for criminal offences. Further, every child deprived of liberty is to be separated from adults unless it is considered in the child’s best interests not to do so.

[6] These principles are given effect in general terms in the *Youth Justice Act 1992* (Qld), but they apply only to the sentencing of a “child” as defined in that Act, that is, “a person who has not turned 17 years”. This definition of “child” contrasts with that under most other Queensland legislation where a child is “an individual who is under 18”. Queensland is now the only Australian jurisdiction where 17 year old

offenders are dealt with, contrary to the Convention, in the adult criminal justice system and so can be sent to adult correctional facilities. In all other Australian States and Territories, offenders under the age of 18 are sentenced within the youth justice system and are placed in youth detention centres. This Queensland anomaly has been criticised by commentators who argue that Queensland is in breach of its obligations under the Convention.

- [7] The Committee on the Rights of the Child has also expressed concerns about this anomaly in the Queensland criminal justice system. It has recommended that 17 year olds should be removed from the Queensland adult criminal justice system and that Queensland should bring its system of juvenile criminal justice into line with the Convention and other related United Nations standards. The Committee has provided further guidance on children and the juvenile justice system in its General Comments. These include a reminder to State parties that every person under 18 should be dealt with in the juvenile criminal justice system and a recommendation that States should change laws to ensure the application of the rules of juvenile criminal justice to individuals under the age of 18. (Footnotes omitted).

Exposing seventeen year olds to the dangers of an adult prison is, in my view, unacceptable. Prospects of rehabilitation must also be diminished because of contact with adult offenders. In all other legal respects in Queensland the age of majority is eighteen. The comments made by the President of the Court of Appeal have substantial force. In terms of consistency with other Australian jurisdictions, compliance with international obligations and the negative impacts of requiring a seventeen year old to be held in an adult prison, I urge that the original commitment detailed during the introduction of the Act in 1992 be given effect.

Thanks

I would like to thank all Judges of the Childrens Court for their assistance in managing the workload of the court. During 2010/2011 Judge Baulch in Townsville and Judge Long in Maroochydoore were appointed judges of the Childrens Court. In addition, Acting Judge Farr was also appointed an Acting Judge of the Childrens Court.

I also thank the Magistrates and, in particular, Ms Dowse, the Childrens Court Magistrate in Brisbane, for their work in this area. The Magistrates perform over 90 per cent of the judicial work in the Youth Justice System.

I also thank the court and registry staff for the contribution they make to the smooth operation of the system.

It is also appropriate to recognise the dedication of others involved in the Youth Justice System including staff in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (Qld), Legal Aid Queensland, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service, the Youth Advocacy Centre and other youth advocacy workers and officers from the Department of Communities and the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

Finally, I wish to thank the staff of the Treasury Department for their assistance in the preparation of this report.

Michael Shanahan

President

Childrens Court of Queensland

Juvenile Justice Trends - Summary

- Following an increase from 2008-09 to 2009-10, there was an overall decrease of 8.6 per cent in the number of juveniles whose cases were disposed in Queensland from 7,164 in 2009-10 to 6,547 in 2010-11.
 - There was a 9.7 per cent decrease in the number of young people coming before the Childrens Court of Queensland and a 20.0 per cent decrease in those appearing before the District Court. However the number of juveniles dealt with by the Supreme Court rose by almost five times, resulting in an overall decrease across the higher courts of 8.3 per cent.
 - The Magistrate's Courts disposed of 93.4 per cent of juvenile cases in 2010-11.
 - Overall males accounted for 75.6 per cent, while 15 to 16 year olds represented 58.1 per cent of juvenile defendants. Young people appearing before the Supreme and District Courts were aged 16 years or older in 93.5 per cent of cases.
 - The number of detention orders issued by all courts decreased by 4.5 per cent. Immediate/conditional release orders increased 8.6 per cent from 278 to 302. These most serious of penalties were awarded in only 8.0 per cent of cases. Detention orders in the Childrens Court of Queensland decreased 20.0 per cent from 20 to 16, immediate/conditional release orders remained the same between 2009-10 and 2010-11.
 - There was an overall decrease in the number of charges against young people, from 21,900 to 19,077 (12.9 per cent) between 2009-10 and 2010-11 respectively.
 - As in the previous year, theft and related offences and unlawful entry with intent offences accounted for 47.7 per cent of all charges against juveniles. These offences saw a combined decrease of 11.8 per cent since 2009-10.
- In 2010-11, the Department of Communities Youth Justice Conferencing services received a total of 2,860 referrals, a decrease of 190 or 6 per cent from the previous financial year. During the 2010-11 period, a total of 2,387 referrals were conferenced. Queensland courts made 1,169 (41 per cent) indefinite and 442 (15 per cent) before sentence referrals whilst 1,248 (44 per cent) diversionary referrals were made by Queensland Police.
- Cautions administered by Queensland Police decreased this year by 11.9 per cent, from 15,229 to 13,414.
 - As in previous years, the majority of victims of juvenile offenders were aged under 20 years of age (60.2 per cent of those where age was recorded) and only 4.6 per cent were aged 50 years or over. Assault victims accounted for 65.7 per cent of all victims of juvenile offenders, with 26.0 per cent of those victims aged between 25 and 39 years.

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 is 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.

There has been a change in the scope of the court statistics, and caution should be used in comparing the data in this report to those published in previous reports. Defendants appearing for resentencing due to breach of juvenile justice orders have been excluded from the data, as such breaches are not criminal offences according to the *Youth Justice Act 1992*. However, breaches of justice orders from other legislation have been included (for example those related to escaping custody, breach of bail or Domestic Violence Protection Orders).

Explanatory Notes

Reference period

The statistics in this report focus on the financial year 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011. Where possible, data from the previous financial year are provided for comparison.

Data collection

Statistical information used in this report has been collected and prepared by the Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR), Queensland Treasury, from operational data collected by court staff in all criminal courts in Queensland; juvenile caution and victims data from the Queensland Police Service; and youth justice conferencing data from the Department of Communities.

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.
Court of Appeal	the Supreme Court sitting in judgement on an appeal.
defendant	a juvenile charged with a criminal offence. A juvenile is counted as a defendant more than once if disposed of 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 <i>Right of Election</i> , p. 9; 4th annual report).
ex officio indictment	an indictment presented to a higher court by the Director of Prosecutions without a committal.
guilty finding	a determination by the court or as a result of a guilty plea that a defendant is legally responsible for an offence.
juvenile	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 or she is charged was committed before the age of 17 years.)
Magistrates Court	a court of summary jurisdiction constituted by a magistrate or, in some circumstances, by two justices of the peace.
offence	an act or omission which renders the person doing the act or making the omission liable to punishment.
offence type	a category within a classification describing the nature of the offence; the Queensland extension of the Australian Standard Offence Code is used in this report.
offender	a juvenile who has been found, or has pleaded, guilty of an offence.
penalty	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.

Penalties include:

- *detention order* a custodial penalty placing a juvenile in a youth detention centre.
- *conditional release order* suspension by the sentencing court of a detention order against a juvenile offender conditional on participation in a program of up to three months.
- intensive supervision order is a sentencing option for young people who have been found guilty of an offence that if committed by an adult would make them liable to imprisonment
- *community service order* a supervision penalty requiring an offender to perform a specified number of hours of unpaid community work.
- *probation order* a penalty allowing freedom under supervision for a specified period, conditional upon compliance with the terms of the order.
- *fine* a monetary penalty requiring an offender to make a payment of a specified sum to the Crown.
- *good behaviour order* a penalty where an offender is ordered to be of good behaviour for a specified period and where a breach thereof may be taken into account if the juvenile re-offends during the period of the order.
- *reprimand* a formal reproof given by the court to a juvenile offender upon a guilty finding.

sentence the determination by a court of the punishment to be imposed on a person who has been found guilty or has pleaded guilty.

serious offence an offence that, if committed by an adult, would make the adult liable to imprisonment for life or for 14 years or more (*Youth Justice Act 1992, s. 8*).

Supreme Court of Queensland the highest court in the Queensland judicial system (with unlimited jurisdiction and dealing with murder, attempted murder, manslaughter and the most serious drug offences).

trial (criminal) 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.

Youth Justice Conferencing a diversionary option based on restorative justice principles whereby firstly the police can divert young offenders from the court system, and then the court can either divert or order a pre-sentence conference or indefinite referral as a method of dealing with a charge. The victim of an offence has the right to veto any conference.

Data Issues

There has been a change in the scope of the court statistics in recent years, and caution should be used in comparing the data in this report to those published in early reports.

Breach of juvenile justice orders A juvenile found to have breached the conditions of a juvenile justice order (ie conditional release, probation, community service and good behaviour orders) will appear in court for re-sentencing for the offence for which the order was originally made (*Youth Justice Act 1992* sections 129, 135, 154 and 185). Therefore, as such breaches are not criminal offences, juveniles appearing for re-sentencing have been excluded from the data in this report.

In 2010–11, 331 defendants appeared in Queensland courts for breach of juvenile justice orders compared to 6,547 appearing for criminal offences.

Breach of justice orders which are criminal offences have been included in the court statistics (for example those related to escaping custody, breach of bail or Domestic Violence Protection Orders).

Recording of ages	Where possible, age has been calculated from the date of birth of the defendant to the date of finalisation.
Most serious penalty	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.
Percentage totals	In tables in this report constituent percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding to one decimal place.
Classification of offences	<p>This report shows the classification of charges by “offence type”. The offence classification used is based on the Australian Standard Offence Classification, Queensland Extension (QASOC) 2008. Offences are first classified into one of sixteen divisions using QASOC 2008, then the National Offence Index (09) is applied to establish an order of seriousness. These divisions are further broken down into offence types.</p> <p>The Australian Standard Offence Classification, Queensland Extension (QASOC) 2000 was revised during the 2008-09 period. This report contains offence data using the Australian Standard Offence Classification, Queensland Extension (QASOC) 2008.</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>Miscellaneous offences contains those that involve the breach of statutory rules or regulation that are not explicitly dealt with in any other division, for example harassment, public health and safety offences, or commercial regulations.</p>
Cautions	<p>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.</p> <p>The total number of cautions recorded is therefore less than the total number of offences for which offenders were cautioned.</p>
Imprisonment	As a general rule, there is no power of imprisonment as opposed to detention under the <i>Youth Justice Act 1992</i> . 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 warrant after attaining the age of 18, the court is empowered in an appropriate case to impose imprisonment by way of penalty (see <i>Youth Justice Act 1992</i> , s.105).

Summary

Juvenile defendants by court level

There were 6,547 juveniles whose cases were disposed in all Queensland courts in 2010–11, a decrease of 8.6 per cent from 7,164 in 2009–10. Overall the number of juvenile defendants in the District Court decreased by 20.0 per cent. The number of juvenile defendants in the Supreme Court increased by almost five times. The number of defendants in the Childrens Court of Queensland and Magistrates Courts decreased by 9.7 per cent and 8.6 per cent respectively.

In 2010–11, Magistrates Courts disposed 93.4 per cent of juvenile defendants, the Childrens Court of Queensland 6.1 per cent, the District Court 0.3 per cent and the Supreme Court 0.2 per cent.

Juvenile defendants by court level of final disposal^(a), Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Court level	2009–10 ^(b)		2010–11		Change
	No.	%	No.	%	%
Magistrates	6,695	93.5	6,117	93.4	-8.6
Childrens Court of Queensland	442	6.2	399	6.1	-9.7
District	25	0.4	20	0.3	-20.0
Supreme	2	0.03	11	0.2	450.0
Total	7,164	100.1	6,547	100.0	-8.6

(a) A defendant is disposed when all the charges against him or her 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. Similarly, those defendants who are indefinitely referred to Youth Justice Conferencing are not counted here.

(b) Revised.

Following the pattern of previous years, males accounted for 75.6 per cent of all finalised defendants in 2010–11. Fifteen to sixteen year olds represented 58.1 per cent of juvenile defendants, with a further 15.3 per cent aged 14 years. (For more detail refer to Table 8.)

Charges against juveniles by court level

The number of defendants in the District Court decreased 20.0 per cent in 2010–11, charges heard also decreased by 77.1 per cent. The number of charges per defendant in the District Court decreased from 4.9 to 1.4. The number of defendants in the Supreme Court increased by almost five times, charges heard also increased by almost eight times. Both defendant and charge numbers decreased in the Childrens Court of Queensland and Magistrates Courts in 2010–11.

The offence categories with the largest number of charges were theft (except motor vehicles) with 3,017 charges (17.1 per cent), unlawful entry with intent with 2,912 charges (16.6 per cent), property damage 2,133 charges (12.1 per cent), public order offences 1,948 charges (11.1 per cent) and road traffic offences with 1,553 charges (8.8 per cent). In total, these five offences represented over half of all charges against juveniles (65.7 per cent). (For more detail refer to Table 1.)

Charges against juveniles by court level of final disposal^(a), Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Court level	2009–10 ^(b)		2010–11		Change
	No.	%	No.	%	%
Magistrates	19,700	90.0	17,445	91.5	-11.5
Childrens Court of Queensland	2,074	9.5	1,569	8.2	-24.4
District	122	0.6	28	0.2	-77.1
Supreme	4	0.02	35	0.2	775.0
Total	21,900	100.1	19,077	100.1	-12.9

(a) Charges against juveniles committed from a Magistrates Court are disposed at a higher court and are counted here only at that level. Similarly, those defendants who are indefinitely referred to Youth Justice Conferencing are not counted here.

(b) Revised.

Penalties received by juvenile offenders

In 2010–11, 81.7 per cent (5,350) of the 6,547 juvenile defendants in Queensland's courts were either found guilty or pleaded guilty.

Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Penalty ^(a)	2009–10 ^(b)	2010–11	Change %
Detention ^(c)	132	126	-4.5
Immediate/ Conditional release ^(d)	278	302	8.6
Community service	887	936	5.5
Probation	1,044	956	-8.4
Fine	159	143	-10.1
Compensation	75	67	-10.7
Good behaviour	1,107	896	-19.1
Disqualification of licence	61	48	-21.3
Reprimand ^(e)	2,005	1,876	-6.4
Total	5,748	5,350	-6.9

(a) In decreasing order of seriousness.

(b) Revised.

(c) Includes imprisonment and intensive supervision orders.

(d) Includes suspended imprisonment.

(e) Includes other minor penalties such as convicted not punished.

Of those found guilty in 2010–11, 126 (or 2.4 per cent) were sentenced to detention, and a further 302 (or 5.6 per cent) received immediate/conditional release orders.

Reprimands and other minor penalties were ordered for 1,876 juveniles (35.1 per cent). The next largest group of 956 received probation orders (17.9 per cent) as their most serious penalty, followed by 936 (17.5 per cent) receiving community service orders and 896 receiving good behaviour orders (16.7 per cent).

Cautions

Data provided by the Queensland Police Service showed that 13,414 juvenile offenders were given cautions in 2010–11, a decrease of 11.9 per cent from 2009–10. In comparison 6,547 juvenile defendants were disposed in court in the last year.

As in 2009–10, the greatest number of cautions were administered for theft and related offences (5,512 or 41.1 per cent of all cautions) in 2010–11. Another 2,462 juveniles received cautions for other offences (18.4 per cent) and 1,765 for property damage (13.2 per cent).

Juvenile offenders proceeded against by caution^(a) by offence type, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Offence type ^(b)	2009–10 ^(c)	2010–11	Change %
Acts intended to cause injury	873	788	-9.7
Sexual assault & related offences	305	252	-17.4
Robbery & extortion	39	50	28.2
Unlawful entry with intent	1,765	1,403	-20.5
Theft & related offences	6,474	5,512	-14.9
<i>[Motor vehicle theft]</i>	1,295	858	-33.7
<i>[Other theft]</i>	4,873	4,374	-10.2
<i>[Receiving & handling]</i>	306	280	-8.5
Deception & related offences	101	128	26.7
Illicit drug offences	1,033	1,037	0.4
Property damage	1,875	1,765	-5.9
Road traffic offences	18	17	-5.6
Other offences ^(d)	2,746	2,462	-10.3
Total	15,229	13,414	-11.9

(a) A person is counted as an offender more than once if he or she 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) Revised.

(d) Other offences = *Dangerous or negligent acts + abduction & related offences + weapons & explosives offences + public order offences + justice & government offences + miscellaneous offences and inadequate data.*

Offences before the courts

Childrens Court of Queensland

The Childrens Court of Queensland disposed 1,569 charges against 399 defendants in 2010–11, a decrease of 9.7 per cent defendants since 2009–10.

Defendants in the Childrens Court of Queensland

The majority of defendants in 2010–11 were aged 15 years or older (354 or 88.7 per cent), with 47.9 per cent of all defendants aged 17 years or older, appearing for offences committed before the age of 17. Only 11.3 per cent of defendants were aged less than 15 years.

Childrens Court of Queensland: Juvenile defendants disposed by age, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Age	2009–10 ^(a)	2010–11	Change %
11	—	1	..
12	2	5	150.0
13	12	13	8.3
14	42	26	-38.1
15	96	61	-36.5
16	109	102	-6.4
17 & over ^(b)	180	191	6.1
Unknown	1	0	-100.0
Total	442	399	-9.7

(a) Revised

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

Charges against juveniles in the Childrens Court of Queensland

The Childrens Court of Queensland dealt with 1,569 charges in 2010–11, a decrease of 24.3 per cent from the previous year. The average number of charges per

defendant decreased from 4.7 in 2009–10 to 3.9 in 2010–11.

Childrens Court of Queensland: Charges against juveniles disposed(a) by offence type, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Offence type ^(b)	2009–10 ^(c)	2010–11	Change %
Acts intended to cause injury	218	200	-8.3
Sexual assault & related offences	198	184	-7.1
Robbery & extortion	260	224	-13.8
Unlawful entry with intent	533	345	-35.3
Theft & related offences	457	327	-28.4
<i>[Motor vehicle theft]</i>	51	23	-54.9
<i>[Other theft]</i>	378	278	-26.5
<i>[Receiving & handling]</i>	28	26	-7.1
Deception & related offences	18	23	27.8
Illicit drug offences	6	10	66.7
Property damage	220	156	-291.8
Road traffic offences	33	20	-39.4
Other offences ^(d)	131	80	-38.9
Total	2,074	1,569	-24.3

(a) Defendants who are indefinitely referred to Youth Justice Conferencing are not counted here.

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

(c) Revised.

(d) Other offences = Dangerous or negligent acts + abduction & related offences + weapons & explosive offences + public order offences + justice & government offences + miscellaneous offences.

Unlawful entry with intent accounted for 22.0 per cent of all charges, a decrease since 2009–10. Theft and related offences accounted for 20.8 per cent of all charges, with other theft representing 85.0 per cent of these offences.

Penalties received by juvenile offenders before the Childrens Court of Queensland

Of the 399 juveniles before the Childrens Court of Queensland in 2010–11, 315 (78.9 per cent) were found guilty or pleaded guilty. Of these, 16 juvenile offenders (5.1 per cent) received a custodial sentence as their most serious penalty, with a further 84 (26.7 per cent) receiving an immediate/conditional release sentence. The most common penalties were probation (36.8 per cent) and immediate/conditional release (26.7 per cent).

Childrens Court of Queensland: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Penalty ^(a)	2009–10 ^(b)	2010–11	Change %
Detention ^(c)	20	16	-20.0
Immediate/ Conditional release ^(d)	84	84	0
Community service	87	76	-12.6
Probation	145	116	-20.0
Fine	—	3	..
Compensation	—	2	..
Good behaviour	13	7	-46.2
Reprimand ^(e)	7	11	57.1
Total	356	315	-11.5

(a) In decreasing order of seriousness.

(b) Revised.

(c) Includes imprisonment and intensive supervision orders.

(d) Includes wholly suspended imprisonment.

(e) Includes other minor penalties such as convicted not punished.

Magistrates Courts

Juvenile defendants in Magistrates Courts

In 2010–11, 6,117 juvenile defendants were dealt with in Magistrates Courts in Queensland, a decrease of 8.6 per cent from 6,695 in the previous year. Of these, 331 were committed to a higher court for trial or sentence and 5,786 were disposed, either by a guilty finding (5,015 or 86.7 per cent) or by discharge (771 or 13.3 per cent).

Magistrates Courts: Juvenile defendants by method of finalisation, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Method of finalisation	2009–10 ^(a)	2010–11	Change %
Committed	451	331	-26.6
Disposed ^(b)	6,244	5,786	-7.3
<i>Found guilty</i>	5,374	5,015	-6.7
<i>Discharged^(c)</i>	870	771	-11.4
Total	6,695	6,117	-8.6

(a) Revised.

(b) Defendants who are indefinitely referred to Youth Justice Conferencing are not counted here.

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

The difference between the 331 defendants committed to the higher court and the 430 disposed in the Childrens Court of Queensland, District and Supreme Courts in 2010–11 is accounted for by ex officio indictments and matters committed to the higher court in 2009–10 and being disposed in 2010–11.

Charges against juveniles in Magistrates Courts

Of the 17,445 charges against juveniles in 2010–11, 15,964 (91.5 per cent) were disposed in the Magistrates Courts, while 1,481 (8.5 per cent) were committed to a higher court for trial or sentence.

Magistrates Courts: Charges against juveniles by method of finalisation, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Method of finalisation	2009–10 ^(a)	2010–11	Change %
Committed	1,642	1,481	-9.8
Disposed ^(b)	18,058	15,964	-11.6
Total	19,700	17,445	-11.4

(a) Revised.

(b) Charges of defendants who are indefinitely referred to Youth Justice Conferencing are not counted here.

Charges against juveniles disposed in Magistrates Courts

In 2010–11 15,964 charges were disposed in the Magistrates Courts.

The largest number of charges disposed were for theft and related offences (5,151 or 32.3 per cent), followed by Other offences (3,141 or 19.7 per cent) and unlawful entry with intent (2,565 or 16.1 per cent).

In total, these three offence types accounted for 68.0 per cent of all charges disposed in the Magistrates Court.

Magistrates Courts: Charges against juveniles disposed by offence type, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Offence type ^(a)	2009–10 ^(b)	2010–11	Change %
Homicide & related offences	2	1	-50.0
Acts intended to cause injury	995	852	-14.4
Sexual assault & related offences	158	79	-50.0
Robbery & extortion	142	105	-26.1
Unlawful entry with intent	2,905	2,565	-11.7
Theft & related offences	5,573	5,151	-7.6
[Motor vehicle theft]	958	768	-19.8
[Other theft]	3,972	3,783	-4.8
[Receiving & handling]	643	600	-6.7
Deception & related offences	171	147	-14.0
Illicit drug offences	441	410	-7.0
Property damage	1,953	1,980	1.4
Road traffic offences	1,775	1,533	-13.6
Other offences ^(c)	3,943	3,141	-20.3
Total	18,058	15,964	-11.6

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

(b) Revised.

(c) Other offences = *Dangerous or negligent acts + abduction & related offences + weapons & explosive offences + public order offences + justice & government offences + miscellaneous offences.*

(d) *Excludes committals.*

Penalties received by juvenile offenders before Magistrates Courts

Of the 6,117 juvenile defendants disposed in Magistrates Court in 2010–11, 5,015 (82.0 per cent) were found guilty or pleaded guilty. Of these, 105 offenders (2.1 per cent) received a custodial sentence as their most serious penalty, with a further 216 (4.3 per cent) receiving immediate/conditional release orders. Over one third of

juveniles (1,864 or 37.2 per cent) received a reprimand, 888 (17.7 per cent) received a good behaviour order, 855 (17.0 per cent) received a community service order and 834 (16.6 per cent) received probation as their most serious penalty.

Magistrates Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Penalty ^(a)	2009–10 ^(b)	2010–11	Change %
Detention ^(c)	112	105	-6.3
Immediate/conditional release ^(d)	188	216	14.9
Community service	791	855	8.1
Probation	897	834	-7.0
Fine	159	140	-11.9
Compensation	75	65	-13.3
Good behaviour	1,093	888	-18.8
Disqualification of licence	61	48	-21.3
Reprimand ^(e)	1,998	1,864	-6.7
Total	5,374	5,015	-6.7

(a) In decreasing order of seriousness.

(b) Revised.

(c) Includes imprisonment orders and intensive supervision orders.

(d) Includes wholly suspended imprisonment.

(e) Includes other minor penalties such as convicted not punished.

Supreme and District Courts

In 2010–11, Supreme and District Courts disposed 63 charges against 31 juveniles. This was an increase of 14.8 per cent in the number of defendants from 2009–10. In comparison, defendants dealt with in the Childrens Court of Queensland showed a decrease.

In 2010–11, there were 35 charges against 11 defendants disposed in the Supreme Court, compared with 28 charges against 20 defendants disposed in the District Court.

The average number of charges per defendant in the Supreme and District Courts decreased from 4.7 in 2009–10 to 2.0 in 2010–11.

Defendants in Supreme and District Courts

In 2010–11, 71.0 per cent of juvenile defendants before the Supreme and District Courts were aged 17 years and older, with a further 22.6 per cent aged 16 years. (For more detail refer to Table 5.)

Supreme and District Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Age	2009–10 ^(a)	2010–11	Change %
15	1	2	100.0
16	6	7	16.7
17 & over ^(b)	20	22	10.0
Total	27	31	14.8

(a) Revised.

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

Charges against juveniles in Supreme and District Courts

Of the 63 charges before Supreme and District Courts, acts intended to cause injury accounted for the largest number with 31 charges (49.2 per cent), while homicide & related offences accounted for nine charges (14.3 per cent), and illicit drug offences accounted for eight charges or 12.7 per cent of the total.

Supreme and District Courts: Charges against juveniles disposed by offence type, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Offence type ^(a)	2009–10 ^(b)	2010–11	Change %
Homicide & related offences	3	9	200.0
Acts intended to cause injury	28	31	10.7
Sexual assault & related offences	28	4	-85.7
Robbery & extortion	8	7	-12.5
Unlawful entry with intent	33	2	-93.9
Theft & related offences	15	1	-93.3
[Motor vehicle theft]	—	—	..
[Other theft]	14	—	-100
[Receiving & handling]	1	1	..
Deception & related offences	—	1	..
Illicit drug offences	—	8	..
Property damage	5	—	-100.0
Road traffic offences	1	—	-100.0
Other offences ^(c)	5	—	-100.0
Total	126	63	-50.0

- (a) Only selected offence types are shown [in brackets] at the more detailed level. For more detail refer to Table 1.
- (b) Revised.
- (c) Other offences = *Dangerous or negligent acts + abduction & related offences + weapons & explosive offences + public order offences + justice & government offences + miscellaneous offences.*

Penalties received by juvenile offenders before Supreme and District Courts

Of the 31 juveniles before the District and Supreme Courts in 2010–11, 20 (64.5 per cent) were found guilty or pleaded guilty. Of these, 5 (25.0 per cent) received detention as their most serious penalty, 6 (30.0 per cent) received probation and 5 (25.0 per cent) received a community service order.

Supreme and District Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Penalty ^(a)	2009–10 ^(b)	2010–11	Change %
Detention ^(c)	—	5	..
Immediate/conditional release ^(d)	6	2	-66.7
Community service	9	5	-44.4
Probation	2	6	200.0
Good behaviour	1	1	..
Reprimand ^(e)	—	1	..
Total	18	20	11.1

- (a) In decreasing order of seriousness.
- (b) Revised.
- (c) Includes imprisonment orders and intensive supervision orders.
- (d) Includes wholly suspended imprisonment.
- (e) Includes other minor penalties such as convicted not punished.

Compliance with court orders

The Juvenile Justice Program, Department of Communities, supervises juveniles on community correction orders (i.e. probation, conditional release, community service and intensive supervision orders). The following information has been extracted from the Families and Youth Justice Database.

In 2009–10 there were 2,740 admissions to these types of orders. Of these, 1,589 (58.0 per cent) were probation, 935 (34.1 per cent) were community service orders, 208 (7.6 per cent) were conditional release orders and eight (0.3 per cent) were intensive supervision orders.

Orders breached

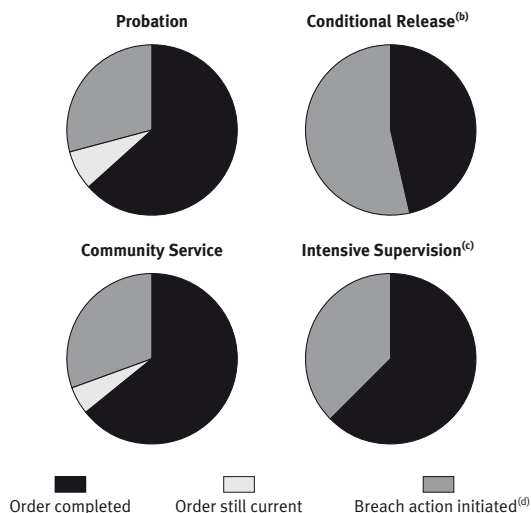
Orders can be breached either by the juvenile re-offending during the period of the order or by not meeting other conditions of the order.

The majority (62.5 per cent) of orders made in 2009–10 had been complied with and completed by 30 June 2011.

Of community service orders from 2009–10, 5.1 per cent were still in effect 12 months after the end of that year, and of probation orders 7.6 per cent were still in effect.

Probation orders may be up to three years in length. The length of time within which community service orders should be completed is twelve months. Longer periods may be due to subsequent variations to the original order, including extension of orders and those which are not administratively closed after the specified date. Immediate release orders are a maximum of three months in duration.

Admissions to orders against juveniles in 2009–10: Type of order by completion status at 30 June 2011, Queensland^(a)



- (a) Admissions orders are counted once for each type of order made in the same court on the same day. Admissions to combined orders are counted under the main order category - a probation/community service order is counted as a probation order, a probation/detention order is counted as a probation order and a community service order/probation order is counted as a community service order. As such, data reported in these categories may not align with other admissions data.
- (b) Formerly “Immediate Release Orders”.
- (c) Intensive Supervision Orders (ISOs) are a sentencing option for young people aged between 10 and 12 years where the court considers that the child, unless subject to an intensive period of supervision and support in the community, is likely to commit further offences. ISOs can only be ordered in cases where the young person has been found guilty of an offence that if committed by an adult would make the adult liable to imprisonment.
- (d) If an order has had a breach action initiated, it will not be counted as being completed or still current, even if the order had been completed or was still current (at 30 June 2011) as a result of the action.

Source: *Families and Youth Justice Database Department of Communities, data current as at September 2011.*

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 identified was under the age of 17 years. The incidents extracted 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.

Of the 3,922 victims of juvenile offenders in 2010–11, the majority were under the age of 20 years (60.2 per cent of those where age was recorded), with 33.0 per cent aged 10 to 14 years and 20.1 per cent aged 15 to 19 years. Only 4.6 per cent of victims were aged 50 years or over.

Assault victims accounted for 65.7 per cent of all victims of juvenile offenders, with 26.0 per cent of those victims aged between 25 and 39 years and a further 25.3 per cent aged between 10 and 14 years.

Victims aged 10 to 14 years accounted for 60.2 per cent of victims of sexual offences by juvenile offenders, and a further 27.1 per cent were under 10 years of age.

For offences committed by juveniles, 57.2 per cent of victims were male. Males comprised 78.1 per cent of robbery victims and 58.2 per cent of assault victims, while females comprised 50.2 per cent of sexual assault victims and 41.5 per cent of assault victims.

Youth Justice Conferencing

In 2010-11, the Department of Communities Youth Justice Conferencing services received a total of 2,860 referrals, a decrease of 190 or 6 per cent from the previous financial year. During the 2010-11 period, a total of 2,387 referrals were conferenced.

Queensland courts made 1,169 (41 per cent) indefinite and 442 (15 per cent) before sentence referrals whilst 1,248 (44 per cent) diversionary referrals were made by Queensland Police¹.

¹ For one referral to conference, the referral source was not available.

Indigenous young people accounted for 32 per cent (919) of all referrals received, a 4 per cent decrease from the previous year.

There are 12 Indigenous Conference Support Officer positions to assist youth justice conferencing staff in engaging with Indigenous people, victims, families and communities in a culturally appropriate manner to improve conference outcomes for Indigenous clients.

Of the 2,387 referrals conferenced, 95 per cent resulted in agreement being reached in a conference, consistent with 2009-10. In addition:

- 99 per cent of conference participants indicated that they thought that the conference was fair
- 99 per cent of conference participants were satisfied with the agreement made in the conference
- 98 per cent would tell a friend in the same position to go to a conference.

Offences for which young people were conferenced, by offence type, 2009–10 and 2010–11.

Offence type ^(a)	2009–10	2010–11	Change %
Homicide	2	—	-100.0
<i>[Driving causing death]</i>	2	—	-100.0
Assaults ^(b) .	815	777	-4.7
<i>[Major assault]</i>	305	237	-22.3
<i>[Minor assault]</i>	346	383	10.7
<i>[Other violations of persons]</i>	164	157	-4.3
Sexual Offences	131	132	0.8
<i>[Rape]</i>	16	24	50.0
<i>[Other sexual offences]</i>	115	108	-6.1
Robbery & extortion	64	65	1.6
Fraud and Misappropriation	228	151	-33.8
Theft, breaking & entering, etc.	2,853	3,030	6.2
<i>[Theft /Unlawful Use of MV]</i>	629	721	14.6

Offence type ^(a)	2009–10	2010–11	Change %
<i>[Other theft]</i>	1,136	1,179	3.8
<i>[Receiving, unlawful possession]</i>	110	137	24.5
<i>[Breaking and entering]^(c)</i>	978	993	1.5
Property damage	1,372	848	-38.2
<i>[Arson]</i>	32	31	-3.1
<i>[Other property damage]</i>	1,340	817	-39.0
Driving, traffic & related offences	387	401	3.6
<i>[Licence offences]</i>	203	189	-6.9
<i>[Driving under the influence]</i>	36	41	13.9
<i>[Dangerous or negligent driving]</i>	27	38	40.7
<i>[Other traffic offences]</i>	121	133	9.9
Drug offences	161	171	6.2
<i>[Possession or use of drugs]</i>	69	74	7.2
<i>[Other drug offences]^(d)</i>	92	97	5.4
Public nuisance offences	253	259	2.4
<i>[Trespassing and vagrancy]</i>	230	241	4.8
<i>[Offensive behaviour]</i>	23	18	-21.7
Other offences ^(e)	446	318	-28.7
Total	6,712	6,152	-8.3

Note: All data reported valid as at 2 August 2011

(a) Queensland Offence Classification. Only selected offence types are shown [in brackets] at the more detailed level.

(b) *Major assault* includes = Assault occasioning bodily harm + Assault occasioning bodily harm in company + other. *Minor assault* includes = Common assault + Resist and Obstruct police + other.

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

(d) Other drug offences = *Dealing & trafficking in drugs + Manufacturing & growing drugs + Other drug offences.*

(e) Other offences = Drunkenness + weapons offences + Enforcement of orders + Liquor offences + Gambling + Other.

Source: Youth Justice Conferencing-Files, Department of Communities

Detailed Tables

Summary, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

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

Magistrates Courts (committals), Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

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

Magistrates Courts (disposals), Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

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, 2009–10 and 2010–11

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, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Table 8 Juvenile defendants disposed by age and sex

Figure 5 Juvenile defendants disposed by age

Table 1

All Courts: Charges against juveniles disposed by offence type and court type, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Offence type	2009–10 ^(b)				2010–11			
	Magistrates Courts ^(a)	Childrens Court of Qld	District & Supreme Courts	Total	Magistrates Courts ^(a)	Childrens Court of Qld	District & Supreme Courts	Total
Homicide & related offences	2	—	3	5	1	—	9	10
Murder	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	4
Conspiracy to murder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Attempted murder	2	—	1	3	1	—	2	3
Manslaughter and driving causing death	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	3
Acts intended to cause injury	995	218	28	1,241	852	200	31	1,083
Assault	980	216	28	1,224	845	200	31	1,076
Acts intended to cause injury, nec	15	2	—	17	7	—	—	7
Sexual assault & related offences	158	198	28	384	79	184	4	267
Sexual assault	130	159	28	317	72	169	4	245
Non-assaultive sexual offences	28	39	—	67	7	15	—	22
Dangerous or negligent acts	191	22	—	213	137	11	—	148
Dangerous operation of a vehicle	119	12	—	131	67	6	—	73
Other dangerous or negligent acts	72	10	—	82	70	5	—	75
Abduction & related offences	54	9	—	63	42	8	—	50
Deprivation of Liberty	9	3	—	12	6	3	—	9
Harrasment and Threatening Behaviour	45	6	—	51	36	5	—	41
Robbery & extortion	142	260	8	410	105	224	7	336

Offence type	2009–10 ^(b)				2010–11			
	Magistrates Courts ^(a)	Childrens Court of Qld	District & Supreme Courts	Total	Magistrates Courts ^(a)	Childrens Court of Qld	District & Supreme Courts	Total
Robbery	140	259	8	407	103	222	7	332
Blackmail & extortion	2	1	—	3	2	2	—	4
Unlawful entry with intent	2,905	533	33	3,471	2,565	345	2	2,912
Theft & related offences^(c)	5,573	457	15	6,045	5,151	327	1	5,479
Motor vehicle theft & related offences	958	51	—	1,009	768	23	—	791
Other theft & related offences	815	177	14	1,006	911	133	—	1,044
Receiving or handling proceeds of crime	643	28	1	672	600	26	1	627
Theft (except motor vehicles)	3,157	201	—	3,358	2,872	145	—	3,017
Deception & related offences	171	18	—	189	147	23	1	171
Obtain benefit by deception	88	12	—	100	64	16	—	80
Forgery & counterfeiting	20	1	—	21	3	—	—	3
Deceptive business/ government practice	5	—	—	5	1	—	—	1
Other fraud and deception offences	58	5	—	63	79	7	1	87
Illicit drug offences	441	6	—	447	410	10	8	428
Import or export illicit drugs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deal or traffic in illicit drugs	17	—	—	17	15	—	5	20
Manufacture or cultivate illicit drugs	13	—	—	13	16	1	—	17

Offence type	2009–10 ^(b)				2010–11			
	Magistrates Courts ^(a)	Childrens Court of Qld	District & Supreme Courts	Total	Magistrates Courts ^(a)	Childrens Court of Qld	District & Supreme Courts	Total
Possess &/or use illicit drugs	184	1	—	185	176	4	1	181
Other illicit drug offences	227	5	—	232	203	5	2	210
Weapons & explosives offences	166	8	—	174	117	3	—	120
Prohibited weapons/explosives offences	18	—	—	18	7	—	—	7
Regulated weapons/explosives offences	148	8	—	156	110	3	—	113
Property damage	1,953	220	5	2,178	1,980	156	—	2,136
Property damage	1,951	220	5	2,176	1,977	156	—	2,133
Environmental pollution	2	—	—	2	3	—	—	3
Public order offences	2,414	56	4	2,474	1,919	29	—	1,948
Road traffic offences	1,775	33	1	1,809	1,533	20	—	1,553
Justice & government offences	1,088	36	1	1,125	913	29	—	942
Breach of justice order ^(d)	30	—	—	30	8	—	—	8
Offences against government operations	24	5	—	29	23	—	—	23
Offences against justice procedures	1,034	31	1	1,066	882	29	—	911
Miscellaneous offences	30	—	—	30	13	—	—	13
Total	18,058	2,074	126	20,258	15,964	1,569	63	17,596

(a) Charges are disposed at Magistrates Court level by conviction, dismissal or withdrawal, but not by committal or referral to Youth Justice Conference.

(b) Revised

(c) Total includes offences not further disaggregated.

(d) Includes offences such as breach of bail, breach of Domestic Violence Protection Order, and escape custody.

Table 2

Magistrates courts: Juvenile charges committed for sentence or trial by court location, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Statistical division and court location ^(b)	2009–10 ^(a)			2010–11			Percentage change	
	Defendants ^(c)	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants ^(c)	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants ^(c)	Charges
Brisbane								
Brisbane City								
Brisbane Childrens Court	67	163	2.43	46	514	11.17	-31.3	215.3
Holland Park	4	4	1.00	3	13	4.33	-25.0	225.0
Richlands	41	190	4.63	33	147	4.45	-19.5	-22.6
Sandgate	7	10	1.43	5	5	1.00	-28.6	-50.0
Wynnum	3	6	2.00	4	11	2.75	33.3	83.3
Remainder of Brisbane								
Beenleigh	52	256	4.92	32	84	2.63	-38.5	-67.2
Caboolture	25	248	9.92	19	41	2.16	-24.0	-83.5
Cleveland	5	12	2.40	1	1	1.00	-80.0	-91.7
Ipswich	34	172	5.06	34	140	4.12	—	-18.6
Pine Rivers	7	37	5.29	11	128	11.64	57.1	245.9
Redcliffe	3	8	2.67	2	9	4.50	-33.3	12.5
Moreton								
Beaudesert	3	9	3.00	1	1	1.00	-66.7	-88.9
Caloundra	2	2	1.00	1	2	2.00	-50.0	—
Maroochydore	5	13	2.60	10	21	2.10	100.0	61.5
Noosa	1	1	1.00	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Southport	25	51	2.04	17	41	2.41	-32.0	-19.6
Wide Bay – Burnett								
Bundaberg	7	19	2.71	2	12	6.00	-71.4	-36.8
Gympie	2	2	1.00	4	4	1.00	100.0	100.0
Hervey Bay	20	61	3.05	10	30	3.00	-50.0	-50.8
Kingaroy	2	7	3.50	1	3	3.00	-50.0	-57.1
Maryborough	6	11	1.83	1	2	2.00	-83.3	-81.8
Murgon	3	14	4.67	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0

Statistical division and court location ^(b)	2009–10 ^(a)			2010–11			Percentage change	
	Defendants ^(c)	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants ^(c)	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants ^(c)	Charges
Nanango	3	9	3.00	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Darling Downs								
Dalby	3	8	2.67	1	4	4.00	-66.7	-50.0
Toowoomba	10	18	1.80	17	44	2.59	70.0	144.4
Warwick	1	10	10.00	1	1	1.00	—	-90.0
South West								
Charleville	1	1	1.00	1	9	9.00	—	800.0
Cunnamulla	1	2	2.00	2	5	2.50	100.0	150.0
Goondiwindi	2	19	9.50	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Roma	3	7	2.33	6	12	2.00	100.0	71.4
Fitzroy								
Emerald	—	2	..	—	—	..	..	-100.0
Gladstone	3	5	1.67	1	4	4.00	-66.7	-20.0
Rockhampton	14	42	3.00	4	10	2.50	-71.4	-76.2
Central West								
Mackay	4	13	3.25	2	10	5.00	-50.0	-23.1
Proserpine	1	3	3.00	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Northern								
Ayr	2	3	1.50	2	2	1.00	—	-33.3
Bowen	—	—	..	—	2	..	..	..
Charters Towers	1	4	4.00	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Great Palm Island	—	2	..	1	1	1.00	..	-50.0
Townsville	14	26	1.86	9	31	3.44	-35.7	19.2
Far North								
Aurukun	2	3	1.50	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Badu Island	—	2	..	—	—	..	..	-100.0
Bamaga	1	1	1.00	2	3	1.50	100.0	200.0
Boigu Island	—	—	..	3	11	3.67	..	..
Cairns	40	128	3.20	26	68	2.62	-35.0	-46.9
Cooktown	1	2	2.00	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Darney Island	—	—	..	1	3	3.00	..	..

Statistical division and court location ^(b)	2009–10 ^(a)			2010–11			Percentage change	
	Defendants ^(c)	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants ^(c)	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants ^(c)	Charges
Innisfail	—	—	..	1	3	3.00	..	..
Kowanyama	—	—	..	1	2	2.00	..	..
Mareeba	6	10	1.67	1	1	1.00	-83.3	-90.0
Normanton	2	2	1.00	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Thursday Island	2	6	3.00	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Tully	1	1	1.00	1	2	2.00	—	100.0
Yarrabah	8	16	2.00	8	38	4.75	—	137.5
North West								
Cloncurry	1	1	1.00	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Mount Isa	—	—	..	3	6	2.00	..	..
Total	451	1,642	3.64	331	1,481	4.47	-26.6	-9.8

(a) Revised

(b) Magistrates courts not shown did not commit any juveniles during the relevant year(s).

(c) Defendants here include those whose appearance resulted in a committal to a higher court for sentence or trial, regardless of whether or not this was their most serious outcome.

Table 3

Magistrates Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age and sex, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Age	2009–10 ^(a)			2010–11			Percentage change		
	Male	Female	Total ^(b)	Male	Female	Total ^(b)	Male	Female	Total
10	5	2	7	13	3	16	160.0	50.0	128.6
11	58	15	73	45	20	65	-22.4	33.3	-11.0
12	137	37	174	142	48	190	3.6	29.7	9.2
13	376	152	528	356	109	465	-5.3	-28.3	-11.9
14	740	291	1,031	675	250	925	-8.8	-14.1	-10.3
15	1,083	397	1,480	1,035	387	1,422	-4.4	-2.5	-3.9
16	1,697	498	2,195	1,531	488	2,020	-9.8	-2.0	-8.0
17+	613	140	754	541	140	681	-11.7	—	-9.7
Unknown	1	1	2	—	2	2	-100.0	100.0	—
Total	4,710	1,533	6,244	4,338	1,447	5,786	-7.9	-5.6	-7.3

(a) Revised.

(b) Includes persons with sex not recorded (1 in 2009-10 and 1 in 2010-11).

Figure 1

Magistrates Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

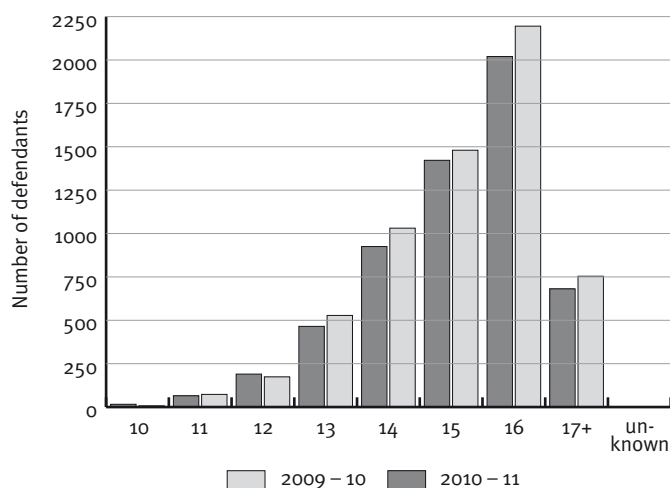


Table 4

Magistrates Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty and sex, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Penalty ^(a)	2009–10 ^(b)			2010–11			Percentage change		
	Male	Female	Total ^(c)	Male	Female	Total ^(c)	Male	Female	Total
Detention ^(d)	104	8	112	102	3	105	-1.9	-62.5	-6.3
Immediate/conditional release ^(e)	170	18	188	191	25	216	12.4	38.9	14.9
Community service	669	122	791	710	145	855	6.1	18.9	8.1
Probation	677	220	897	608	226	834	-10.2	2.7	-7.0
Fine	139	20	159	120	20	140	-13.7	—	-11.9
Compensation	57	18	75	54	11	65	-5.3	-38.9	-13.3
Good behaviour order	796	297	1,093	665	223	888	-16.5	-24.9	-18.8
Disqualification of licence	51	10	61	37	11	48	-27.5	10.0	-21.3
Reprimand ^(f)	1,422	576	1,998	1,300	563	1,864	-8.6	-2.3	-6.7
Total	4,085	1,289	5,374	3,787	1,227	5,015	-7.3	-4.8	-6.7

- (a) In decreasing order of seriousness.
- (b) Revised.
- (c) Includes offenders with sex not recorded (1 in 2010-11).
- (d) Includes intensive supervision, imprisonment and intensive correction order.
- (e) Includes immediate release orders and conditional release orders
- (f) Includes other minor penalties such as convicted not punished.

Figure 2

Magistrates Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

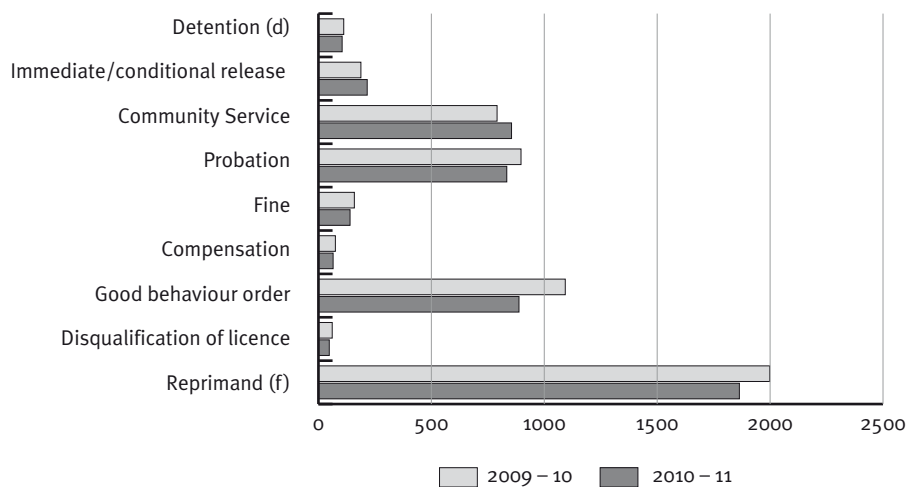


Table 5

Supreme and District Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age and sex, Queensland, 2009-10 and 2010-11

Age	2009-10 ^(a)			2010-11			Percentage change		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
15	1	—	1	2	—	2	100.0	..	100.0
16	6	—	6	7	—	7	16.7	..	16.7
17+	20	—	20	20	2	22	—	..	10.0
Total	27	—	27	29	2	31	7.4	..	14.8

(a) Revised.

Figure 3

Supreme and District Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age, Queensland, 2009-10 and 2010-11

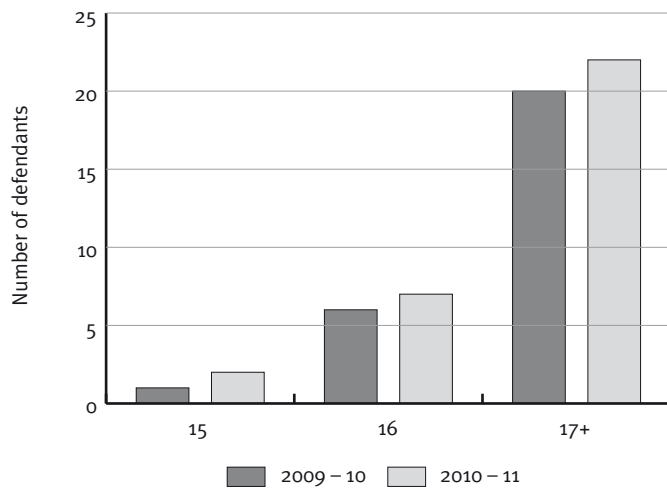


Table 6

Supreme and District Courts: Juvenile defendants and charges disposed by court location, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Statistical division and court location ^(b)	2009–10 ^(a)			2010–11			Percentage change	
	Defendants	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants	Charges	Charges per defendant	Defendants	Charges
Brisbane								
Brisbane Supreme	1	2	2.00	9	26	2.89	800.0	1,200.0
Brisbane	11	77	7.00	3	7	2.33	-72.7	-90.9
Ipswich	3	12	4.00	2	2	1.00	-33.3	-83.3
Remainder of Brisbane								
Beenleigh	—	—	..	4	4	1.00	..	..
Moreton								
Maroochydore	—	—	..	4	6	1.50	..	..
Southport	2	3	1.50	5	7	1.40	150.0	133.3
Wide Bay – Burnett								
Maryborough Supreme	1	2	2.00	1	4	4.00	—	100.0
Darling Downs								
Warwick	1	2	2.00	1	1	1.00	—	-50.0
Fitzroy								
Rockhampton	—	—	..	1	1	1.00	..	..
Northern								
Townsville Supreme	—	—	..	1	5	..	..	..
Townsville	2	3	1.50	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
North West								
Mount Isa	6	25	4.17	—	—	..	-100.0	-100.0
Total	27	126	4.67	31	63	2.03	14.8	-50.0

(a) Revised.

(b) District Courts unless otherwise indicated. Courts not shown did not dispose any juveniles during the relevant year(s).

Table 7

Supreme and District Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty and sex, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Penalty ^(a)	2009–10 ^(b)			2010–11			Percentage change		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Detention	—	—	—	5	—	5	..	..	..
Immediate/ conditional release	6	—	6	2	—	2	-66.7	..	-66.7
Community service	9	—	9	4	1	5	-55.6	..	-44.4
Probation	2	—	2	6	—	6	200.0	..	200.0
Good behaviour order	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	..	—
Reprimand	—	—	—	1	—	1	..	..	..
Total	18	—	18	19	1	20	5.6	..	11.1

(a) In decreasing order of seriousness.

(b) Revised.

Figure 4

Supreme and District Courts: Juvenile offenders by most serious penalty, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

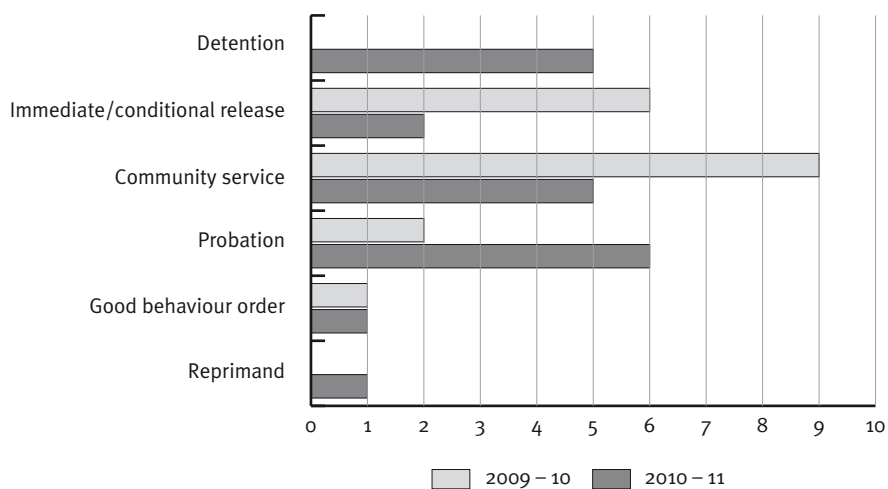


Table 8

All Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age and sex, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11

Age	2009–10 ^(a)			2010–11			Percentage change		
	Male	Female	Total ^(b)	Male	Female	Total ^(b)	Male	Female	Total
10	5	2	7	13	3	16	160.0	50.0	128.6
11	58	15	73	46	20	66	-20.7	33.3	-9.6
12	139	37	176	145	50	195	4.3	35.1	10.8
13	388	152	540	369	109	478	-4.9	-28.3	-11.5
14	777	296	1,073	695	256	951	-10.6	-13.5	-11.4
15	1,167	410	1,577	1,087	398	1,485	-6.9	-2.9	-5.8
16	1,792	518	2,310	1,622	506	2,129	-9.5	-2.3	-7.8
17+	786	167	954	721	173	894	-8.3	3.6	-6.3
Unknown	2	1	3	—	2	2	-100.0	100.0	-33.3
Total^(c)	5,114	1,598	6,713	4,698	1,517	6,216	-8.1	-5.1	-7.4

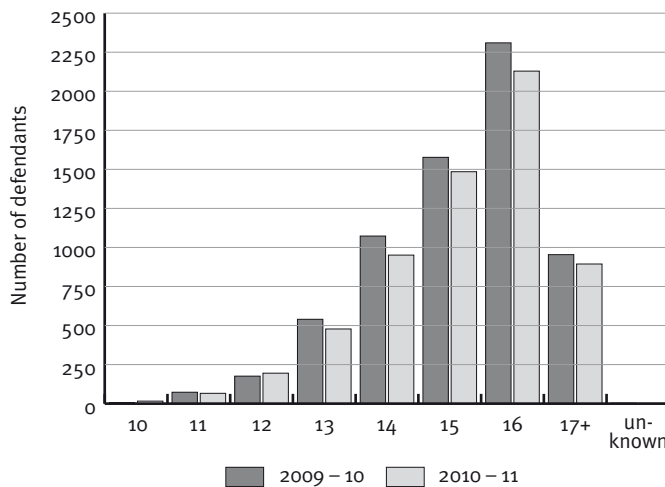
(a) Revised

(b) Includes persons with sex not recorded (1 in 2009-10 and 1 in 2010-11).

(c) Includes charges disposed at Magistrates Court level by conviction, dismissal or withdrawal, but not by committal or referral to conference.

Figure 5

All Courts: Juvenile defendants disposed by age, Queensland, 2009–10 and 2010–11



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