



Utah State Courts



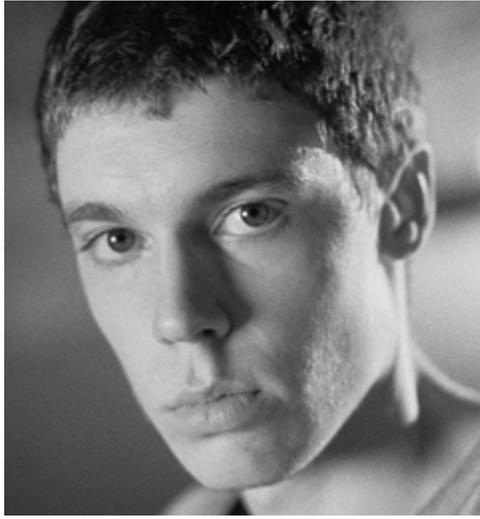
JUVENILE COURT REPORT CARD TO THE COMMUNITY 2011

When citizens are asked what they would like the juvenile justice system to accomplish, the message is clear. Citizens expect the justice system to further community safety, hold offenders accountable, and protect the constitutional rights of juveniles, while at the same time providing justice to victims. They also expect juvenile offenders to stop criminal behavior and become responsible and productive citizens.

Taxpayers invest significant resources in the justice system and should expect a sound return on this investment. The purpose of this report card is to provide taxpayers with an update on how Utah's juvenile justice system is performing. The Juvenile Court has established benchmarks, which are listed in this report, to inform the community on its progress in furthering safety, restoring justice for victims, and reducing the risk of re-offending.

The Juvenile Court can and should be held accountable for its performance on these measures. The highest level of public safety, however, is achieved not only through the sound use of tax dollars, but through public involvement. Working together we can build a safer and more just community.

DELINQUENCY REFERRALS



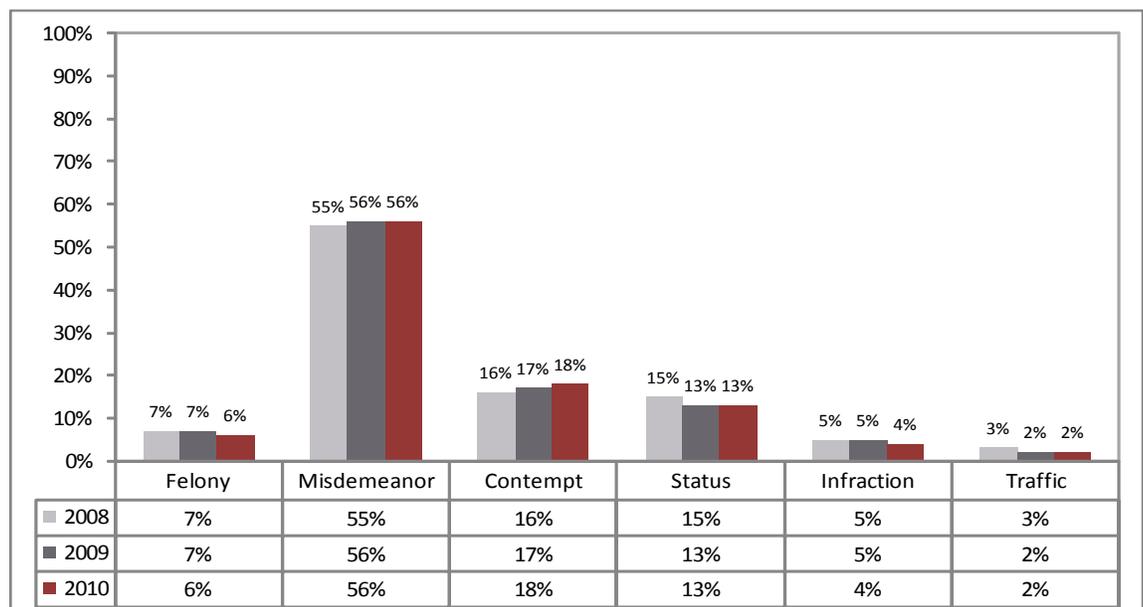
Delinquency referrals are an important measure of juvenile crime. When a juvenile commits an offense in the community, he or she may be referred to the Juvenile Court by a number of different agencies, such as the local police department or school. The type of crime determines the severity of the referral to the Juvenile Court.

There are six major severity categories for delinquency referrals: felonies, misdemeanors, contempt of court, status, infraction, and traffic offenses. Felony-level offenses, such as burglary or robbery, are the most severe. These offenses are defined as those punishable with more than one year in prison, if committed by an adult. Misdemeanor-

level offenses, such as theft or shoplifting, are less severe offenses that would be punishable with up to one year in jail and/or a fine, if committed by an adult. Status offenses, such as truancy or alcohol possession, are offenses that would not be a violation of the law but for the age of the offender. Infractions, such as disorderly conduct or criminal trespass, are lesser offenses that are not punishable by imprisonment. Certain traffic offenses are also referred to the Juvenile Court when committed by a juvenile. For more information on the classification of offenses, please see the Utah Code.

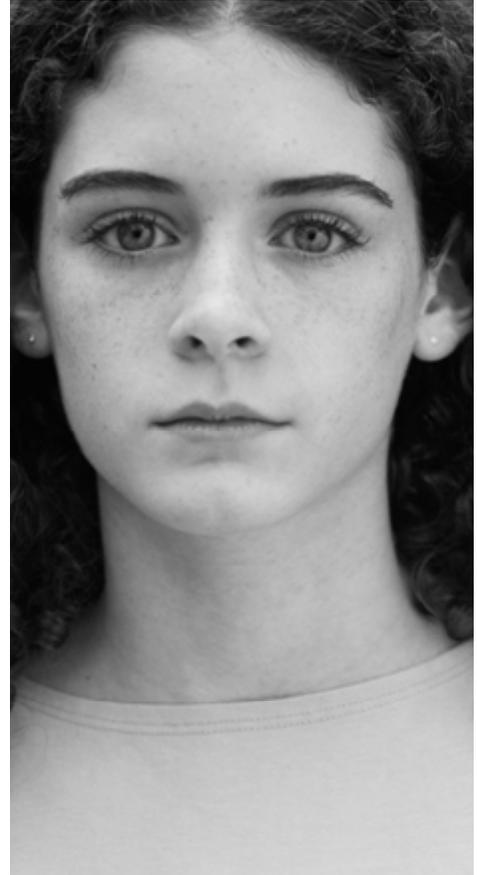
Most delinquency cases referred to the Juvenile Court in 2010 were misdemeanor offenses or contempt offenses. Misdemeanor offenses accounted for 56 percent of delinquency referrals, and contempt offenses accounted for 18 percent of delinquency referrals. Felonies, the most severe type of offense, accounted for 6 percent of delinquency referrals.

DELINQUENCY REFERRALS

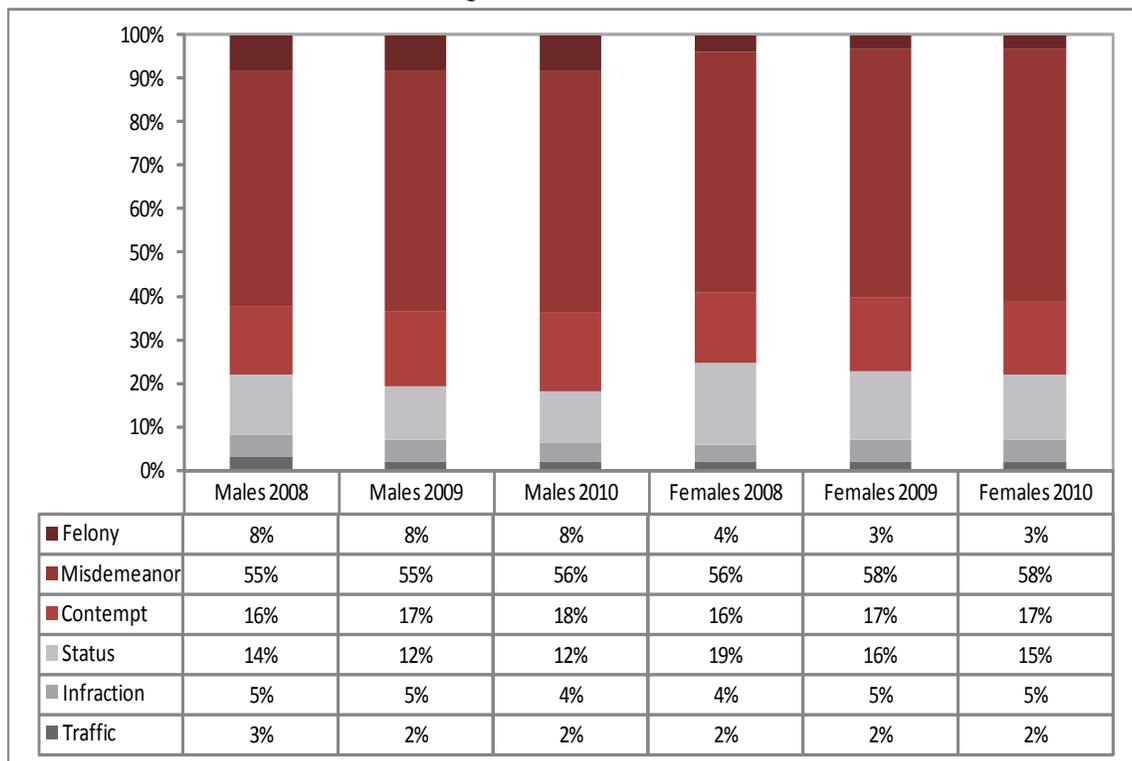


Delinquency referral rates vary for male and female juveniles. A higher percentage of referrals for females are for status offenses. While 12 percent of referrals for males are for status offenses, 15 percent of referrals for females are for status offenses. In contrast, a higher percentage referrals for males are for felony offenses. Eight percent of referrals for males are for felony offenses while 3 percent of referrals for females are for felony offenses.

When examining cross year trends, the percent of male referrals for contempt increased slightly from 17 percent to 18 percent between 2009 and 2010. The percent of male referrals for misdemeanors also increased from 55 percent to 56 percent. However, the percent of male referrals for infractions and the percent of female referrals for status offenses both declined slightly.



DELINQUENCY REFERRALS BY GENDER



Note: Due to rounding, totals may not equal 100 percent.

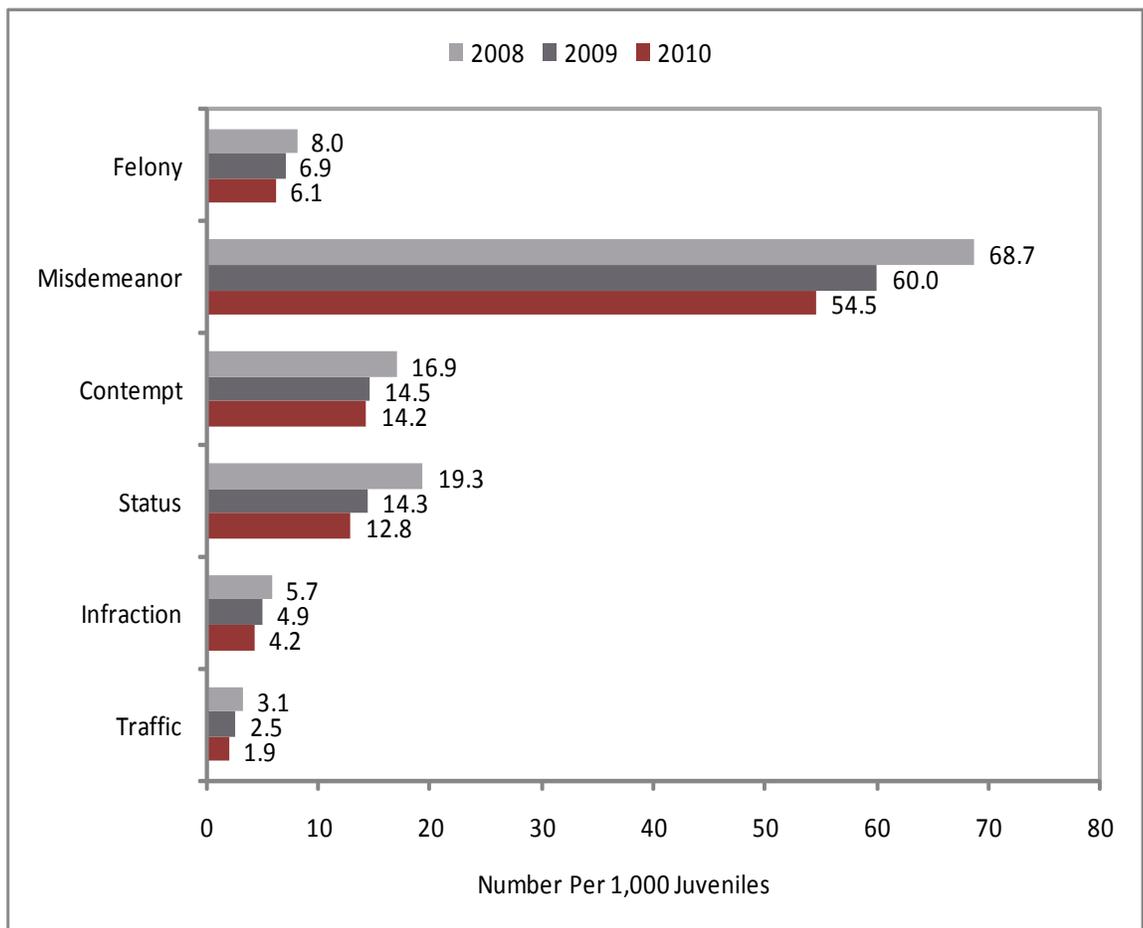
JUVENILE CRIME

Another key indicator of juvenile delinquency is the per capita rate of delinquency referrals. The per capita referral rate examines the number of delinquency referrals for youth 10 to 17 years of age per 1,000 members of the Utah population 10 to 17 years of age. This measure compares juvenile crime referral trends across years while controlling for changes in the juvenile population size.



The per capita rate of felony referrals in 2010 was 6.1 per 1,000 youth, which was lower than the rate in 2009 of 6.9 felony referrals per 1,000 youth. The per capita rate of misdemeanor, contempt, status, infraction, and traffic referrals also declined between 2009 and 2010.

PER CAPITA REFERRAL RATES

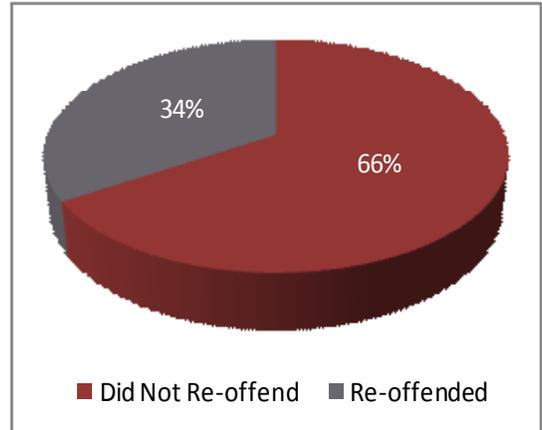


LAW ABIDING BEHAVIOR

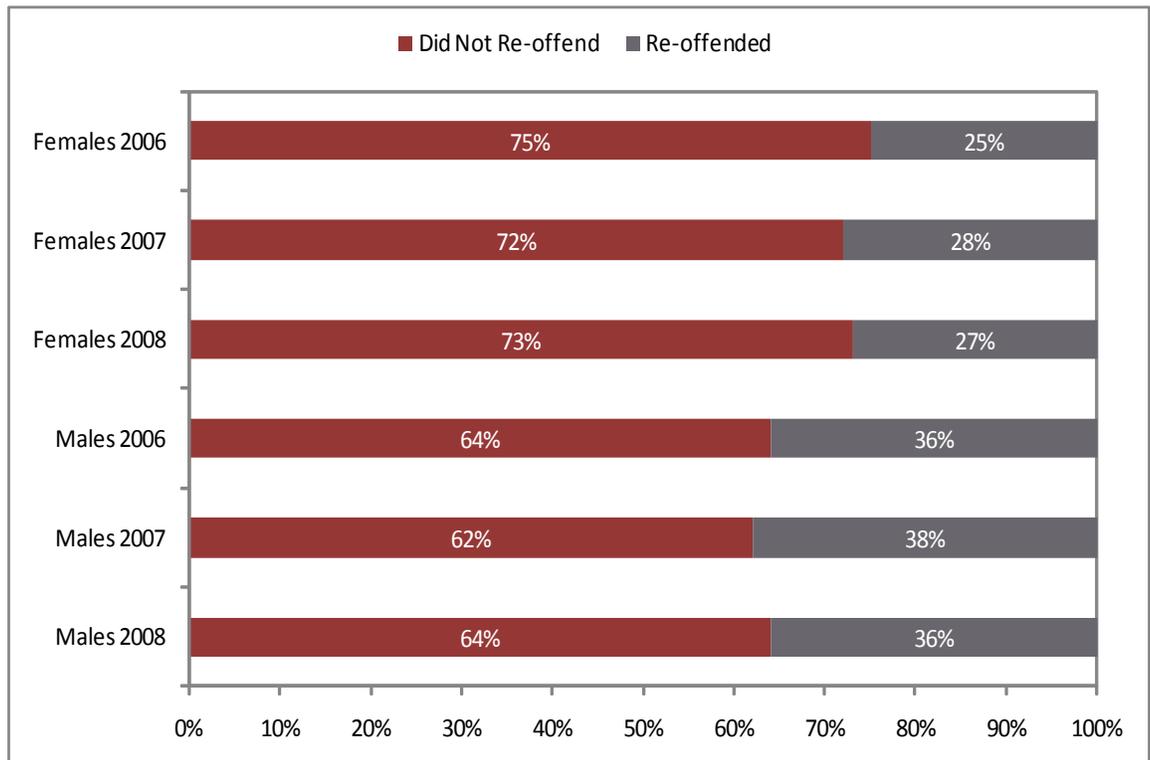
Whether or not a youth re-offends after being involved with the Juvenile Court is a valuable gauge of juvenile crime. In 2007, 65 percent of youth involved with the juvenile court for a misdemeanor or a felony did not re-offend while 35 percent re-offended. In 2008, the percent of youth who re-offended decreased slightly to 34 percent while 66 percent did not re-offend.

Females reoffended at lower rates than males in 2008. Twenty-seven percent of females re-offended and 36 percent of males re-offended in 2008. This represented a decrease for both genders. In 2007, 28 percent of females and 38 percent of males re-offended.

Felony-level and misdemeanor-level findings or admissions of guilt in 2008 were used as the baseline for this measure. Re-offense was defined as a new felony-level or misdemeanor-level finding or admission of guilt within one year of the original adjudication date. An additional one year follow-up period was required for the processing and adjudication of all new offenses occurring within the re-offense time period. Technical violations were not included in this measure.



RE-OFFENSE RATES BY GENDER



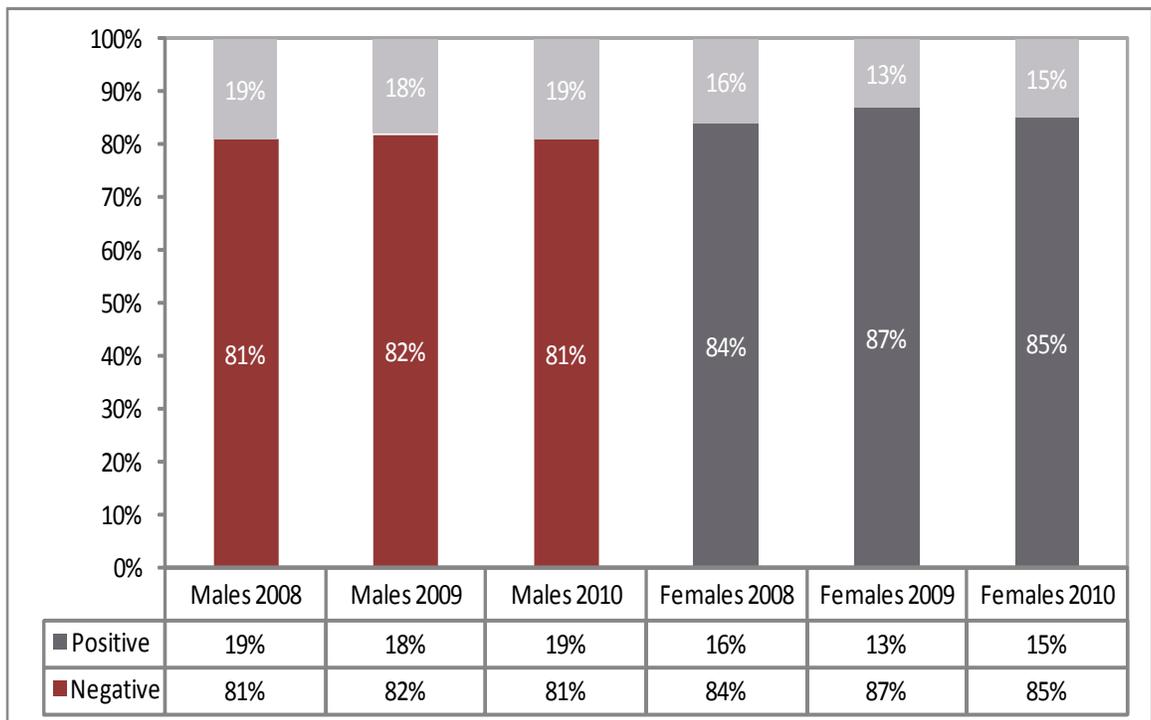
DRUG TESTING

A juvenile offender's resistance to drug use helps the court determine the progress these youth are making toward law abiding behavior. In 2010, 18 percent of drug test results were positive and 82 percent were negative. This was a slight increase from 2009 when 17 percent of drug test results were positive and 83 percent were negative.



A higher percentage of drug tests administered to males were positive than drug tests administered to females. In 2010, 85 percent of drug test results for females were negative while 81 percent of drug test results for males were negative. However, both males and females showed a slight increase in the percent of positive drug tests between 2009 and 2010. From 2009 to 2010, the percentage of positive drug tests increased from 18 percent to 19 percent for males and from 13 percent to 15 percent for females.

DRUG TEST RESULTS BY GENDER



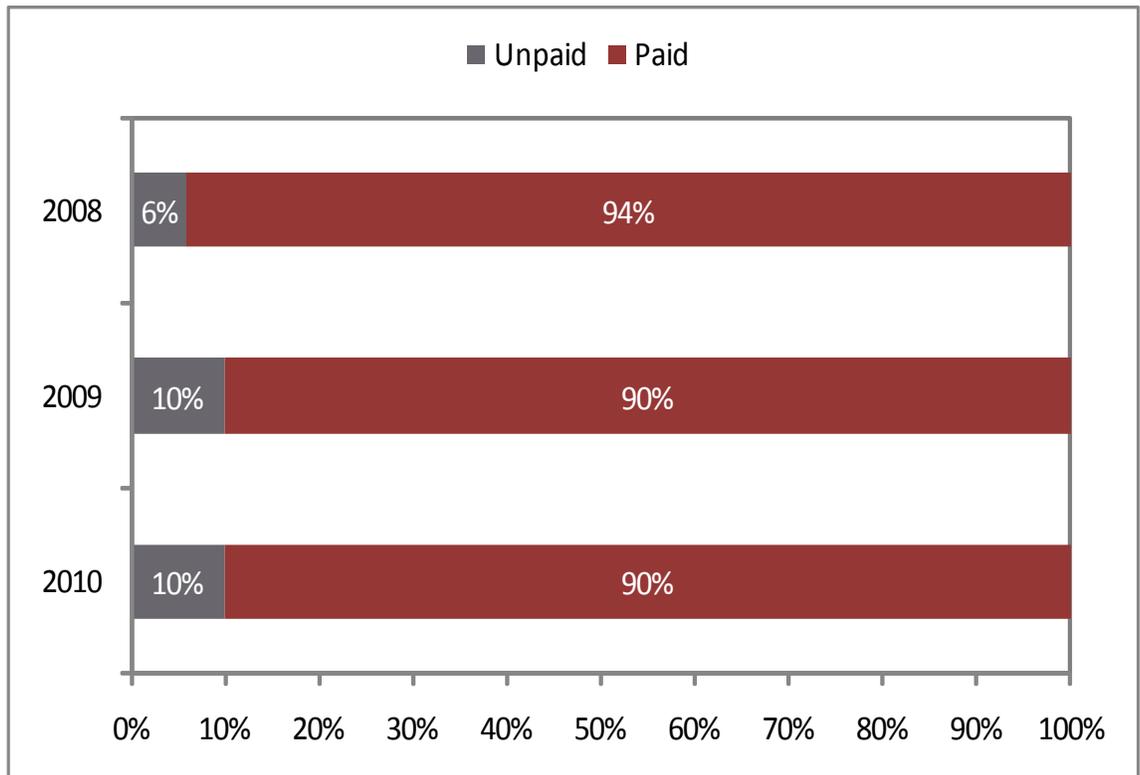
RESTITUTION PAID

Ensuring that offenders pay restitution to the victims they have harmed is an important goal of the Juvenile Court. The payment of restitution is a priority that takes precedence over the payment of all other types of fees or fines ordered by the court.

In 2010, offenders paid 90 percent of the restitution due. This did not represent a change from 2009, when 90 percent of restitution was also paid.



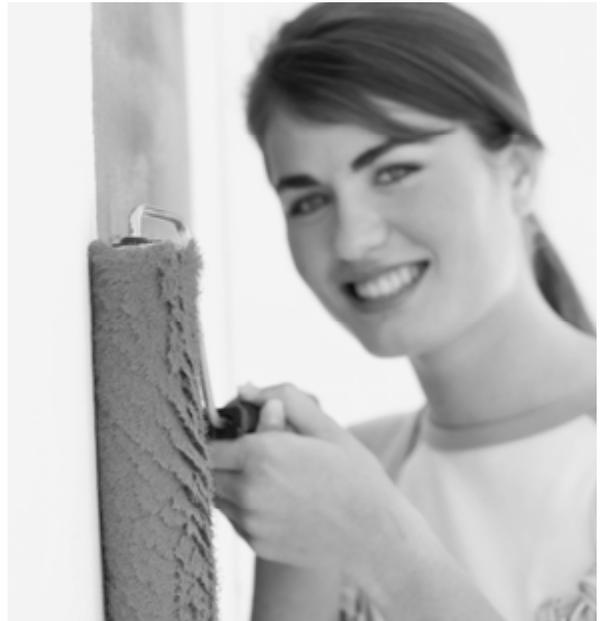
PERCENT OF RESTITUTION PAID



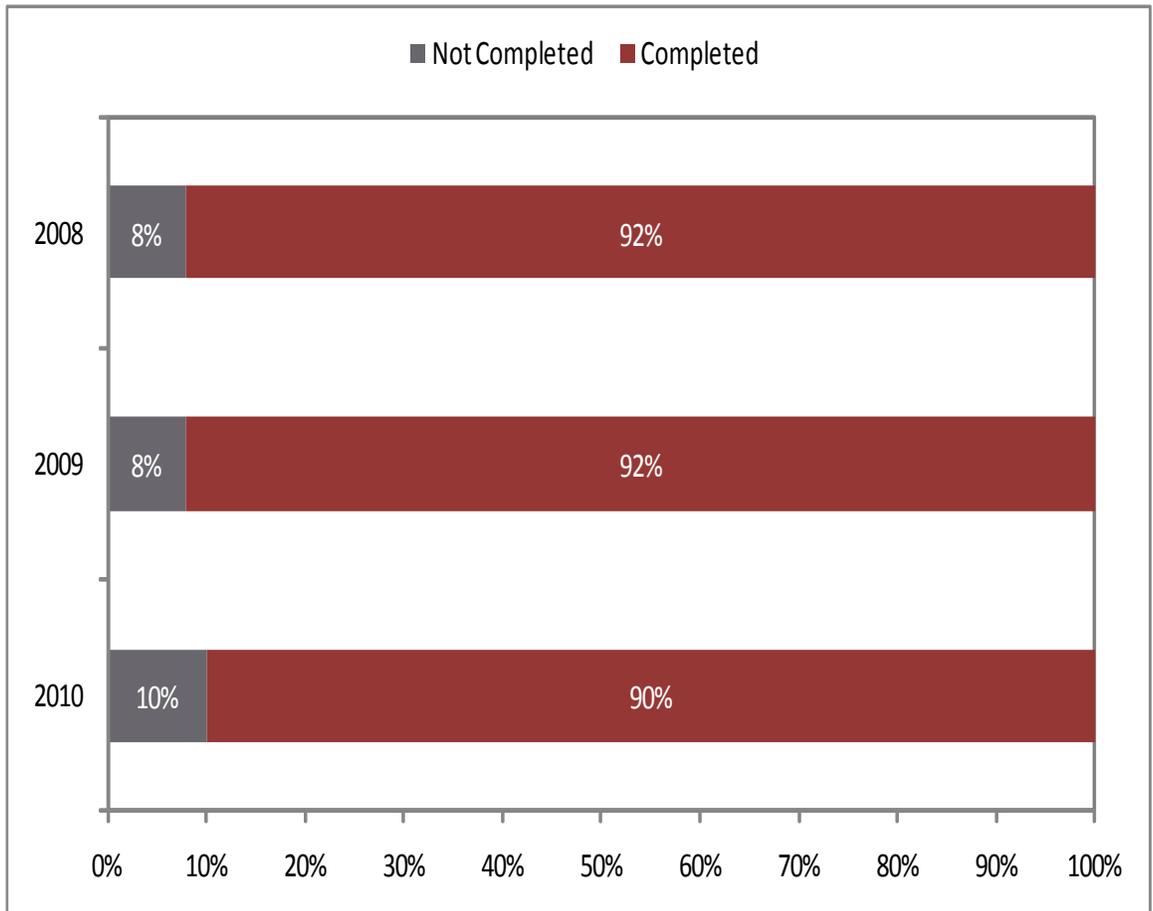
COMMUNITY SERVICE

Like the payment of restitution, the performance of community service hours is an important way of holding delinquent youth accountable.

In 2010, offenders performed more than 245,000 hours of community service, which represents more than \$980,000 in taxpayer benefits. Of the community service hours due in 2010, 90 percent were completed. This was a slight decline from 2009.



COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS



A safe home and safe community for all



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