

Juvenile Justice NSW

Background	110
Corporate Priorities	110
Key Programs	111
Advisory Groups	113
Research	113
Young People in the Juvenile Justice System	115
Youth Justice Conferencing	120
Young People in the Community	124
Young People in Custody	128
Court Logistics Unit	135
Classification and Placement Unit	135
Serious Young Offenders Review Panel	135
Quality Assurance	136
Environmental Sustainability	136

Background

Who we are

Juvenile Justice NSW is responsible for administering youth justice conferences and for supervising young people who receive community-based orders or custodial sentences from the courts.

Juvenile Justice NSW (referred to as Juvenile Justice) operates under the terms of the *Children (Detention Centres) Act 1987*, the *Children (Community Service Orders) Act 1987*, the *Young Offenders Act 1997* and the *Children (Interstate Transfer of Offenders) Act 1988*.

What we do

Our work includes:

- supervising young people sentenced to community-based or custodial orders
- supporting young people meeting the conditions of bail
- supervising young people on conditional bail
- supervising young people remanded in custody pending court matters
- preparing reports for consideration by the courts in determining sentences
- administering the Youth Justice Conferencing scheme
- supervising the Youth Conduct Order program.

We also provide funding to a number of community organisations to assist young offenders and their families.

Our clients

While supervising young offenders, in the community and in custody, Juvenile Justice helps these young people with programs that provide them with the opportunity to choose positive alternatives to offending behaviour. These services aim to reduce the risk of young people re-offending and to assist them in addressing underlying issues and behaviours.

Corporate Priorities

Juvenile Justice is a key partner in preventing and reducing juvenile re-offending under the *NSW 2021* plan:

Key initiatives to help young offenders reduce their re-offending behaviour by increasing completion rates for key intervention programs include:

- Intensive Supervision Program (ISP), which targets serious repeat juvenile offenders and works with them in their homes, schools and communities to help them deal with the multiple factors that contribute to their offending
- DthinaYuwali, a specialist drug and alcohol counselling program designed to help young Aboriginal offenders tackle their alcohol and drug use, thereby working to negate this key influence in the commission of youth crime
- Our Journey to Respect, a group work program for young Aboriginal male offenders that aims to reduce the incidence of inter-generational violence
- Changing Habits and Reaching Targets (CHART), an offending behaviour program for young people on supervised orders. CHART uses assessment, case reviews and supervision to respond to a young offender's needs, motivations and learning style
- Alcohol and other drug programs, including group and individual programs modelled on evidence-based principles to address the needs of young people whose pattern of alcohol and other drug use is related to their offending behaviour.

Key Programs

Juvenile Justice operates a number of rehabilitation programs.

DthinaYuwali

DthinaYuwali is a group work program developed by Juvenile Justice's Aboriginal staff for Aboriginal young people with substance-related offending. Since the program started in April 2009, 102 staff have been trained.

DthinaYuwali continues to be delivered in Juvenile Justice Centres and Juvenile Justice Community Services locations with promising results. In 2011/12, an evaluation of the program began as part of the National Indigenous Law and Justice Framework. In 2012/13, work will continue to consolidate DthinaYuwali, while obtaining valuable information from the evaluation concerning outcomes, impacts and elements useful in Aboriginal programming.

Love BiTES

The Love BiTES program has been adapted and developed as a Juvenile Justice model in partnership with the National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN). Love BiTES is a domestic violence and sexual assault prevention program for young people based on best-practice standards and recommended by the Australian Domestic Violence and Family Violence Clearinghouse.

Juvenile Justice co-delivers training with NAPCAN to Juvenile Justice staff, with all but one small area of the state now trained in the program. The program is delivered to young people in both Juvenile Justice Centres and Juvenile Justice Community Services locations.

Our Journey to Respect

The Our Journey to Respect program was developed in 2000 in partnership with Gilgai Aboriginal Centre. The program was originally developed as an intergenerational violence prevention program aimed at reducing the incidence of violence against older people.

In 2011/12, the program was revised as a tertiary violence prevention package, aimed at motivating young people to make changes to violent behaviours; educating young people about behaviours that are a crime; and providing skill development/practised learning in non-violent strategies.

Intensive Supervision Program

The Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) in NSW, which has operated since May 2008, is based on the multi-systemic therapy model (MST). The ISP is specifically aimed at juveniles who commit serious and/or repeat offences. It addresses a range of issues, including aggression, substance abuse, financial problems, housing needs, family conflict and negative peer pressure. The program seeks to empower caregivers to address systemic factors that lead to or maintain offending.

The program has been established in Newcastle and Western Sydney. An ISP team consists of four trained clinicians, a clinical supervisor and an Aboriginal team advisor who work systemically with each young person on an individual, family and community level. The Aboriginal team advisors work with clinicians, families and community agencies to ensure interventions are best matched to the needs and strengths of Aboriginal clients, families and communities.

The team meets with young offenders and their families in their home to provide caregivers with the skills and resources to independently address anti-social behaviour as well as support their child to successfully adjust to family, peer, school and neighbourhood demands. The teams also work with school teachers, principals, and the NSW Police Force to develop positive inter-agency links that help families and juveniles access appropriate services.

In 2011/12, 48 (87 per cent) of the 55 families enrolled, successfully completed the ISP. Reasons for unsuccessful completion included the family moving out of the area, or the young person going into custody for a sustained period. In addition, 15 (94 per cent) of the 16 Aboriginal families enrolled completed the program. The program also served families with a Pacific Island, New Zealand, Asian, South American or European background.

An internal review of the program indicated that, after participating, 80 per cent of caregivers had parenting skills necessary to handle future problems, 83 per cent had improved family relations and 70 per cent had an improved network of supports. The program is currently being evaluated by the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR).

Key Programs (continued)

CHART

Changing Habits and Reaching Targets (CHART) is a 12 module evidence-based program that uses a problem solving and cognitive-behavioural approach to address clients' criminogenic needs and 'distorted thoughts'. CHART helps clients to recognise the factors that have contributed to their offending. It also increases their capacity to make more pro-social decisions, by developing and rehearsing relapse prevention techniques.

In 2011/12, CHART was embedded as Juvenile Justice's preferred case management approach, providing intervention to juvenile offenders at all levels of assessed risk. However, it does not replace referral to other endorsed Juvenile Justice programs. Additional CHART specific resources were developed for frontline staff and supervisors.

Cognitive Self Change Program

To meet the challenge of high-risk young offenders, Juvenile Justice is implementing the Cognitive Self Change program (CSC). This group-based program teaches participants to monitor their own thinking, identify what underpins their violence and crime, develop alternative thinking while avoiding crime, and to practise this new thinking until they can use it in real-life situations.

The initial community pilot began in Fairfield in the first half of 2010 and additional community groups have started at Blacktown, Gosford and Campbelltown. A modified version of CSC is used as part of the Warby program in the Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre.

In 2011/12, preliminary results from the first 56 young people referred to CSC show their rate of offending is significantly lower than the year prior to their current supervision order. Further evaluation is planned.

Alcohol and Other Drug Programs

Juvenile Justice has developed a strategic Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) treatment pathway for juveniles who present with substance misuse-related criminal behaviour. The pathway, which involves both the client and their family, consists of three stages: education, motivation, and comprehensive skill building and goal attainment.

Juvenile Justice developed the first two stages of the treatment pathway, drug education and motivational programs, and approached the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) at the University of NSW to develop the third and most comprehensive stage of treatment. In 2011/12, this led to the X Roads (CrossRoads) program being launched by the Juvenile Justice Chief Executive at the NDARC Annual Symposium.

In 2011/12, training in the three stages of the AOD Treatment Pathways was also progressively rolled out.

Sex Offender Program

Between 2009 and 2012, the Sex Offender Program (SOP) has undergone an extensive redevelopment. The latest version is based around an individual functional analysis for each client, leading to an individualised counselling plan outlining the various needs of the young person and the strategies the counsellor will use. The program has an increased focus on family work, alongside the traditional individual counselling.

Violent Offender Program

Similar to the Sex Offender Program, an individualised model for intervening with violent offenders was in development in 2011/12. It is based around an individualised functional analysis and counselling plan. This program is in draft form and is expected to be finalised in 2012/13. It will integrate with other interventions for this client group, such as Cognitive Self Change and CHART.

Advisory Groups

Australasian Juvenile Justice Administrators

Australasian Juvenile Justice Administrators (AJJA) is a sub-group under the newly formed Children, Youth and Community Services Policy Research Working Group. AJJA, which comprises Australian and New Zealand juvenile justice administrators, works collaboratively to lead and influence the development of youth justice systems.

From July 2010 to July 2012, Juvenile Justice NSW was the Chair of AJJA. In July 2012, the role was handed over to the Australian Capital Territory for the next two years.

In 2011/12, AJJA continued to develop a national approach and benchmarks for youth justice administration, including national standards and guidelines for states and territories to model. It also helped to develop performance indicators through the Steering Committee for the Report on Government Services and commissioned national research projects to contribute to building the evidence base for effective youth justice interventions.

Official visitors

The Juvenile Justice Official Visitor Scheme provides independent monitoring and evaluation of Juvenile Justice Centres. Established under the *Children (Detention Centres) Act 1987*, the scheme ensures the protection of rights, improves advocacy and enhances other forms of assistance related to the oversight, welfare and treatment of young people in custody.

The Minister for Justice appoints one official visitor to each Juvenile Justice Centre. Visits are conducted fortnightly, and reports are given to the Minister each quarter which evaluate standards of care and the performance of each centre in relation to detainees' security, welfare and rehabilitation.

Chaplains

The Civil Chaplains Advisory Committee (CCAC) co-ordinates the full-time and part-time chaplains engaged by Juvenile Justice to provide religious and spiritual support and counsel to young people in custody. This includes non-Christian faiths such as Islam and Buddhism.

Research

The Research and Evaluation Steering Committee reviews and approves all research conducted in Juvenile Justice. The Committee consists of senior members of Juvenile Justice as well as external members from NSW Health including Justice Health, the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) and Corrective Services NSW. Juvenile Justice is actively involved in research projects with external agencies. Key initiatives include:

Project	Description
Stand as One – SHINE for Kids Mentoring	Dr Danielle Tracey from the University of Western Sydney is evaluating the effectiveness of the SHINE for Kids "Stand as One" mentoring program. The project also seeks to understand the experience of young people and mentors involved in the program through the transition from custody to community.
Collaborative Family Work in Youth Justice: A model for reducing recidivism in young offenders	This project is being conducted by Dr Chris Trotter from Monash University. The project is evaluating the effects of collaborative family work (Act Now, Together Strong program) on juvenile offenders and their families.
Detainee Behaviour Intervention Framework (DBIF) Evaluation	This project was undertaken by Ann Dadich from the University of Western Sydney. The first phase of the project aims to understand the organisational contexts in which the DBIF is implemented. Overall, the entire project will seek to understand the elements of the DBIF that effectively contribute to better management of detainees.
Youth Justice Conferencing (YJC) Evaluation	This project is being undertaken by BOCSAR. The project aims to assess the cost-effectiveness of YJC in reducing juvenile recidivism; describe the forms of restitution typically provided by young offenders appearing before YJC; gauge levels of satisfaction of YJC participants; assess the impact of the <i>Young Offender's Act</i> on Indigenous over-representation; and assess the efficiency of YJCs as a means of dealing with criminal matters compared with court.

Research (continued)

<p>Residential Break and Enter: Methods and Determinants</p>	<p>This project is being undertaken by the Department of Attorney General and Justice. The study will provide a report to the NSW Residential Break and Enter Working Group with recommendations on preventing residential break and enter offences. The project aims to confirm previous market research regarding stolen goods, and to identify deterrents and attractors for the offenders in choosing targets.</p>
<p>Investigating the reasons young people breach bail conditions</p>	<p>This internal Juvenile Justice research project aims to investigate why young people are breaching their bail. The project involved interviewing young people remanded for breach of bail only, discussing their understanding of their conditions, difficulties with complying and reasons for breaching their conditions.</p>
<p>Case Management in NSW Juvenile Justice: Client Perspectives</p>	<p>This project is being conducted by PhD student, Shelley Turner, with Monash University. The research aims to examine and describe clients' understanding and experiences of case management in the Juvenile Justice system to contribute to and improve effective case management theory and practice.</p>
<p>Effective methods of challenging pro-criminal attitudes and behaviour of juvenile offenders</p>	<p>This project is being conducted by PhD student, Phillipa Evans, with Monash University. The project explores the specific skills workers employ in confronting anti-social attitudes in juvenile offenders in the context of a supervision relationship. This research will further explore which styles of challenging are more effective with different client groups.</p>
<p>An analysis of supervision skills used by Juvenile Justice workers</p>	<p>Dr Chris Trotter from Monash University is evaluating the use of pro-social modelling techniques by Juvenile Justice officers and counsellors during supervision sessions with young people serving community-based orders.</p>
<p>Understanding low risk offenders who re-offend and high risk offenders who desist</p>	<p>This project is being conducted by Charles Sturt University. The project is reviewing the accuracy of the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory – Australian Adaptation and seeking to understand false negatives and false positive risk predications.</p>
<p>Indigenous interactions with the justice system: A focus on re-offence and desistance</p>	<p>This project is being conducted by Kate Sullivan from ANU and is investigating why Aboriginal regular offenders stop offending, with a view to identifying what has made a difference.</p>
<p>A case study of the life and learning outcomes of the Australian Children's Music Foundation's (ACMF) music programs implemented in five juvenile justice centres in Australia</p>	<p>This project is being conducted by Professor Barrett from University of Queensland, to evaluate the ACMF Music program. The project also seeks to: identify extra-musical outcomes of participation; explore positive impacts of the program; and determine the degree to which participation in the ACMF music program can influence recidivism rates in juvenile offender populations.</p>

Young People in the Juvenile Justice System

Young people under 18 who are involved in crime represent a relatively small proportion of the State's population. Records of the NSW Children's Court and Juvenile Justice show that, in 2011, for every 1,000 people aged 10 to 17 residing in NSW:

- 12 had a criminal matter finalised in the Children's Court
- 10.4 were convicted and/or sentenced in these finalised matters
- 5.8 were given sentences requiring Juvenile Justice to supervise them in their community
- 0.9 were sentenced to detention.

Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, DAGJ/JJ SIS, and ABS

The factors that lead to young people becoming involved in crime are complex and varied, but often relate to the difficulties young people experience in other aspects of their lives. This can include alcohol and substance abuse, mental health issues, poor parental supervision, difficulties in school and

employment, negative peer associations, poor personal and social skills, homelessness, neglect and abuse.

In 2011/12, Juvenile Justice focussed on developing and delivering strategies to help young people address their offending and anti-social behaviour and successfully re-integrate into their community. A range of programs and interventions within the community and custodial environments were provided, including counselling, group work programs that focus on alcohol and other drug issues, programs for violent offenders, and programs for Aboriginal young people.

Young offenders were also assisted by initiatives provided through a range of partnerships, including education programs within Juvenile Justice Centres, post-release support and employment skilling programs, disability support, health and mental health support, and legal services.

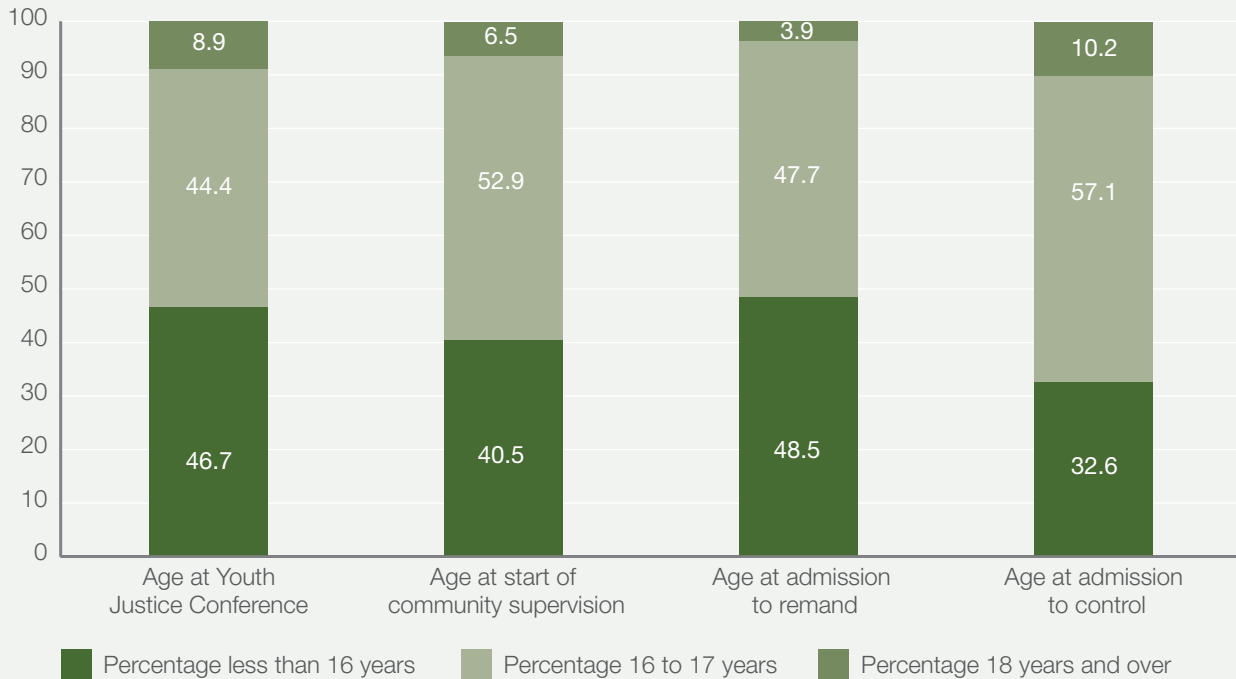
In 2011/12, key priority areas included the over-representation of young Aboriginal offenders and young offenders under 14 years.



Education and work programs are offered for detainees in custody: detainees undertaking ground work in a juvenile justice centre.

Young People in the Juvenile Justice System (continued)

Age characteristics of offenders in Juvenile Justice in 2011–2012

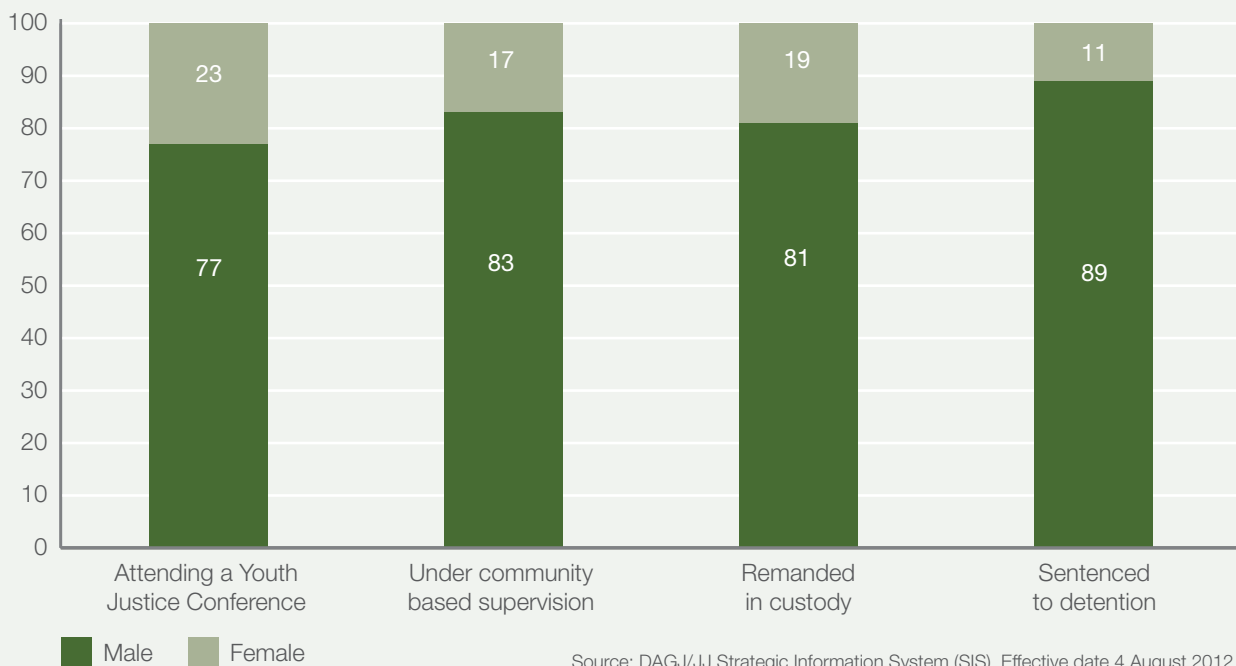


Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

Gender of young offenders

Young people in custody and on community service orders in NSW are predominantly young males. In 2011/12, young women made up just over 10 per cent of juveniles in custody on detention.

Gender of offenders in Juvenile Justice in 2011–2012



Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

Young People in the Juvenile Justice System (continued)

Youth Level of Service Inventory

The Youth Level of Service Inventory (YLSI) tool determines the risk of juveniles re-offending. Prior current offences are static factors and are therefore excluded from the reduction calculations below. In 2011/12, 64 per cent of clients had a reduced YLSI when they left Juvenile Justice supervision.

Young people exiting from Juvenile Justice

	2006/07 %	2007/08 %	2008/09 %	2009/10 %	2010/11 %	2011/12 %
Living in safe and appropriate accommodation	83	87	91	91	92	92
Participating in education and training or employment	61	62	61	62	67	67
Participating in community activities	32	41	40	41	39	45

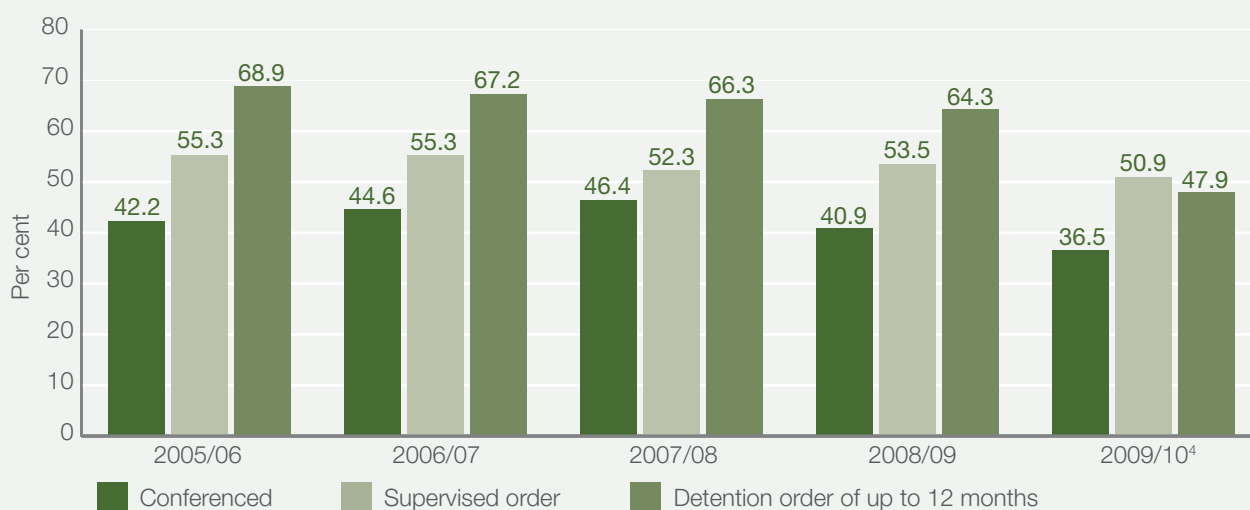
Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 16 July 2011.

	2006/07 %	2007/08 %	2008/09 %	2009/10 %	2010/11 %	2011/12 %
All clients showing a reduction in their YLSI score on exit from JJ supervision	61	66	69	68	67	64
Medium to high YLSI rankings that are reduced on exit from JJ supervision	47	45	51	48	46	44

Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS) and DAGJ/JJ RPELive Database. Extracted 4 August 2012. As this is taken from a live database, figures are subject to change.

Juvenile re-offending by business stream for 12 months

The figures below are provided by the Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, which is responsible for the reporting of crime statistics in NSW and has a database to calculate re-offending rates. It is also responsible for collecting all court data. The trend shows a gradual reduction in re-offending across all business streams.



Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research

1. The graph above counts the number of juvenile offenders receiving a subsequent conviction or conference within 12 months of the index appearance.
2. For young people with non-custodial sentences, their follow-up period starts on the date of finalisation of their index appearance.
3. For young people with custodial sentences, their follow-up period starts at the end of their fixed sentence.
4. The data collection period for follow-up data concluded on 30 June 2011. For Detention Orders made after 29 June 2009, the full follow-up period may not have expired by this time. There are 547 such cases. Thus, the re-offending rate for Detention Orders for 2009/10 is provisional.

Young People in the Juvenile Justice System (continued)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people

Juvenile Justice faces diverse and complex challenges in supporting Aboriginal young offenders, who consistently comprise almost half of Juvenile Justice's client base. The social, educational, health and justice outcomes for the Aboriginal population are significantly lower than for the non-Aboriginal population. Therefore, one of Juvenile Justice's key priorities is to improve our ability to respond to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategic Plan 2011–2013 (the Plan) sets the direction to reduce re-offending. Initiatives in the Plan include:

- actively recruiting and retaining Aboriginal staff and providing non-Indigenous staff with appropriate cultural knowledge to work effectively with Aboriginal young people
- delivering programs and interventions to reduce the risk, severity and frequency of re-offending of Aboriginal young men and women
- supporting Aboriginal young people while they are on bail to help them re-integrate into the community and extending youth justice conferencing where appropriate
- building a culturally competent Juvenile Justice workforce
- working in partnership with Aboriginal communities
- ensuring that community office staff support local Aboriginal communities and agencies as they encourage Aboriginal young offenders to take responsibility for their own lives and steer them away from a life of crime.

The Plan focuses on producing better outcomes for clients in detention and in the community through a series of strategies across five key result areas:

1. Reducing re-offending by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people
2. Increasing the proportion of eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who participate in youth justice conferencing
3. Working effectively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and agencies
4. Developing effective models of interventions with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people
5. Building a culturally competent and respectful Juvenile Justice workforce.

These five areas focus on strengthening our knowledge and capacity to develop a responsive and effective juvenile justice system, which supports our clients and respects Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, families and communities.

Juvenile Justice also works closely with other agencies to address the needs of young offenders and the community, including Aboriginal Affairs NSW, which is currently developing a new Aboriginal Affairs policy for NSW.

In 2011/12, Juvenile Justice finalised the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Respect Framework (the Framework). The Framework, which will be released in September 2012, will ensure services and programs respond to the needs of Aboriginal clients and staff. In particular, it will develop cultural standards and practices for program development and service delivery.

Aboriginal Strategic Advisory Committee

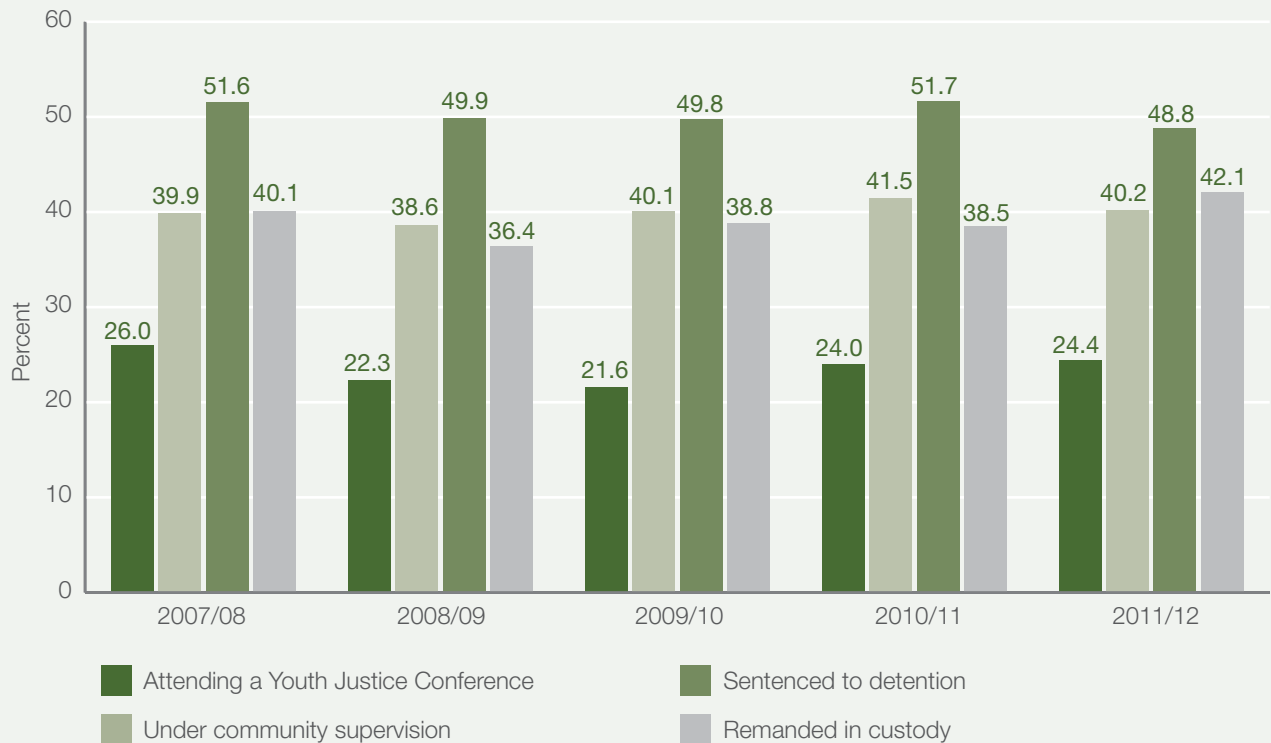
The Aboriginal Strategic Advisory Committee gives Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff the opportunity to provide the Chief Executive with guidance on Aboriginal issues. The Committee also helps build a stronger evidence base about what works and how services can deliver better outcomes for Aboriginal clients.

In 2011/12, major activities included:

- the 2011 Aboriginal Staff Conference, giving Aboriginal staff a forum to explore how Juvenile Justice can strengthen its service delivery and programs to support Aboriginal young people, staff and the community
- developing the 'Good Practice Guide' to support better engagement with Aboriginal clients
- developing the Aboriginal Mentoring Strategy
- providing cultural advice on policy and programs.

Young People in the Juvenile Justice System (continued)

Percentage of admissions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people to Juvenile Justice



Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

“... one of Juvenile Justice’s key priorities is to improve our ability to respond to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.”

Youth Justice Conferencing

Juvenile Justice is responsible for administering Youth Justice Conferences under Part 5 of the *Young Offenders Act 1997*. Referrals for Youth Justice Conferences are made by police and the courts under the Act. If accepted, a conference is arranged and it determines a legally binding outcome.

Youth Justice Conferences are a community-based approach to dealing with young people who have committed a crime. Conferences are a formal legal process based on the principles of restorative justice. They bring young offenders, their families and supporters face-to-face with victims and their support people. Together, they agree on a suitable outcome that can include an apology, reasonable reparation to victims, and steps to reconnect the young person with their community in order to help them desist from further offending.

Conferences are available when young people have committed offences that the police, court or Director of Public Prosecutions determine are too serious to receive a warning or caution, or they have exceeded their maximum number of cautions. Youth Justice Conferences aim to help young offenders take responsibility for their own behaviour and encourage discussion between those affected by the offending behaviour and those who have committed it.

In 2011/12, 1,897 referrals for a Youth Justice Conference were made, with 1,499 resulting in a conference. Of these conferences, 87.5 per cent of young offenders completed the required tasks in their outcome plans.

“Youth Justice Conferences aim to help young offenders take responsibility for their own behaviour and encourage discussion between those affected by the offending behaviour and those who have committed it.”



Two large murals were designed and painted on the walls at Riverina Juvenile Justice Centre depicting sporting activities and an Australian outback theme. The murals, which were created by staff and detainees, took six weeks to complete.

Youth Justice Conferencing (continued)

Key service measures for 2011/12

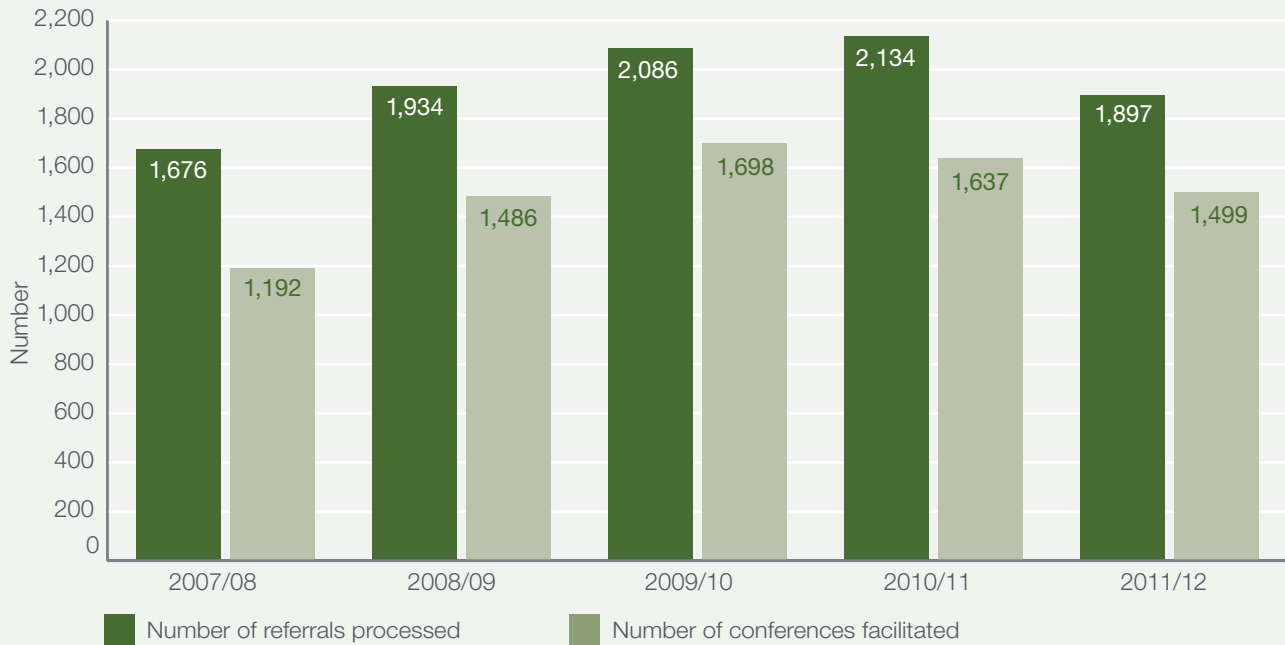
	Number	Per cent
Referrals to a Youth Justice Conference:		
Total	1,897	
Police	866	46%
Courts	1,031	54%
Percentage of referrals to a Youth Justice Conference for 'victimless' offences		5.9%
Referrals resulting in a conference:		
Number of referrals processed	1,897	
Number of referrals resulting in a Youth Justice Conference	1,644	
Conferences facilitated	1,499	
Percentage of all referrals resulting in a Youth Justice Conference		86.7%
Participation in conferences:		
Number of young people participating in Youth Justice Conferences	1,423	
Total number of participants in Youth Justice Conferences	7,534	
Percentage of victims or representatives in conferences held with identifiable victims		69%
Outcomes:		
Number of outcome plans agreed on and approved for referrals received in 2011/12	1,447 from 1,462 outcome plans	99%
Number of occasions where the referring court did not approve the outcome plan	7	
Number of occasions where young offender and victim were not able to agree to an outcome plan	8	
Percentage of finalised outcome plans that were successfully completed by 30 June 2012		87.5%
Offences and young people:		
Number of offences referred to a Youth Justice Conference	3,498	
Number of young people referred to a Youth Justice Conference	1,589	

Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

Note: The Young Offenders Regulation 2004 allows six months for the completion of outcome plans, although the Director General does have discretion to allow additional time if circumstances are exceptional.

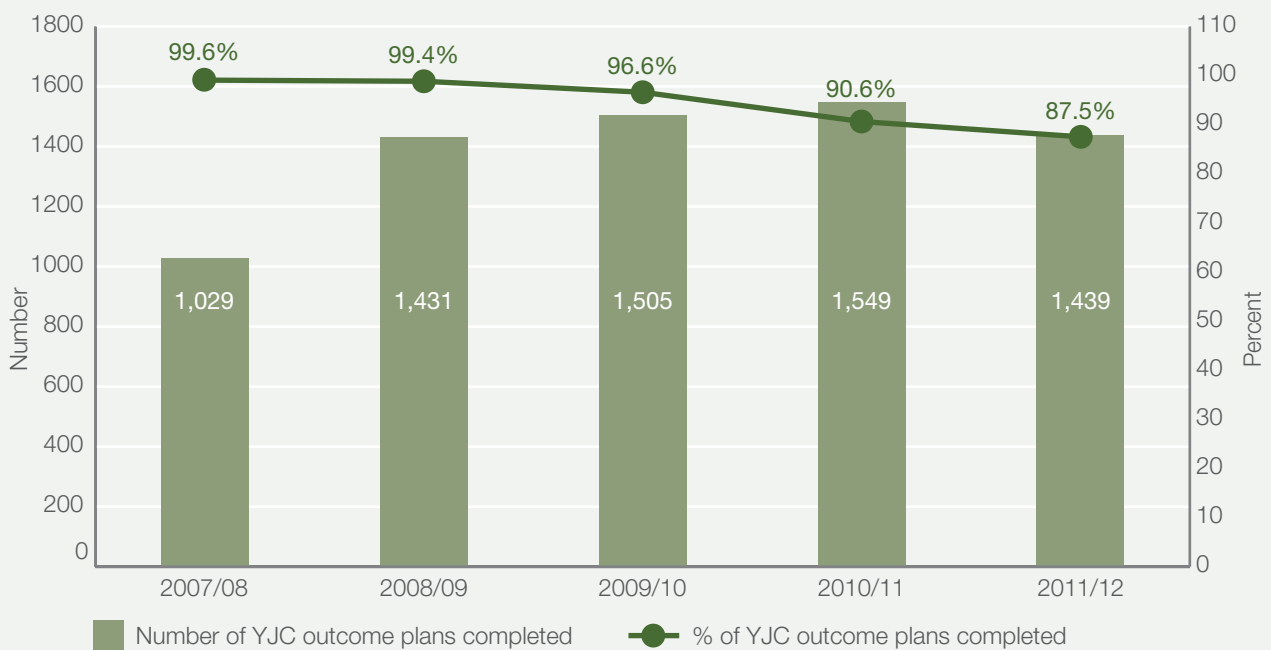
Youth Justice Conferencing (continued)

Youth Justice Conferencing referrals and conferences



Source: DAG/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

Number and percentage of Youth Justice Conference (YJC) outcome plans completed



Source: DAG/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

Note: In recent years strict compliance of outcome tasks have resulted in a lower percentage of outcome plan completions.

Youth Justice Conferencing (continued)

Achievements

The process for supervising convenors and their hourly rate of remuneration were reviewed this year. These reviews resulted in the implementation of a new convenor supervision policy and procedures, as well as improved support and guidance for convenors.

Convenor selection and training

Youth Justice Conference Convenors are statutory office holders appointed by the Chief Executive or a delegate. They are recruited from the community and provided with four days of training to be eligible for initial and continuing appointment. All trainees are assessed before being recommended for appointment.

In 2011/12, 58 appointees completed a four-day conference convenor training program, making them eligible for appointment as Conference Convenors in NSW.

Evaluation of youth justice conferencing

In 2011/12, the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) evaluated youth justice conferencing, publishing findings on the following topics:

- The use of police cautions and Youth Justice Conferences in NSW in 2010
- Youth Justice Conferences versus Children's Court: A comparison of time to finalisation
- Youth Justice Conferences: Participant profile and conference characteristics
- Restorative Justice Initiatives: Public Opinion and Support in NSW
- Youth Justice Conferences versus Children's Court: A comparison of re-offending.

The evaluations revealed:

- the nature of the offences dealt with under the *Young Offenders Act 1997* demonstrated compliance with the philosophy of the Act
- police referrals for Youth Justice Conferences had the shortest time to finalisation
- widespread public support for restorative justice initiatives
- the re-offending rates for young people dealt with by court or conference were equivalent.

BOCSAR is currently assessing the cost effectiveness of youth justice conferencing and measuring the level of satisfaction of Youth Justice Conference participants.



Youth Justice Conferencing Art Apology Program

In 2011/12, Juvenile Justice provided funding to Aboriginal Community Justice Groups at Lismore and Yamba/Maclean to establish the Youth Justice Conferencing Art Apology Project. As part of their outcome plans, participants are mentored by an emerging Aboriginal artist.

The young person meets with the artist for several sessions to create an artwork as an apology to the victim of their offence, and one for their parent/carer as an acknowledgment of the effect their offending behaviour has on the family. While creating the artworks, the artist engages the young person in discussions about cultural identity and pride, as well as discussing triggers for offending behaviour and strategies to address these.

Sixteen young people have completed the program, with positive feedback from victims. One victim commented: "Receiving this painting has really helped me to forgive him. If there is anything I can do to help this program continue, please let me know."

On Track Community Programs have now funded the program for a further 12 months, expanding it to include youth justice conferencing clients in the Grafton area.

Young People in the Community

Community supervision

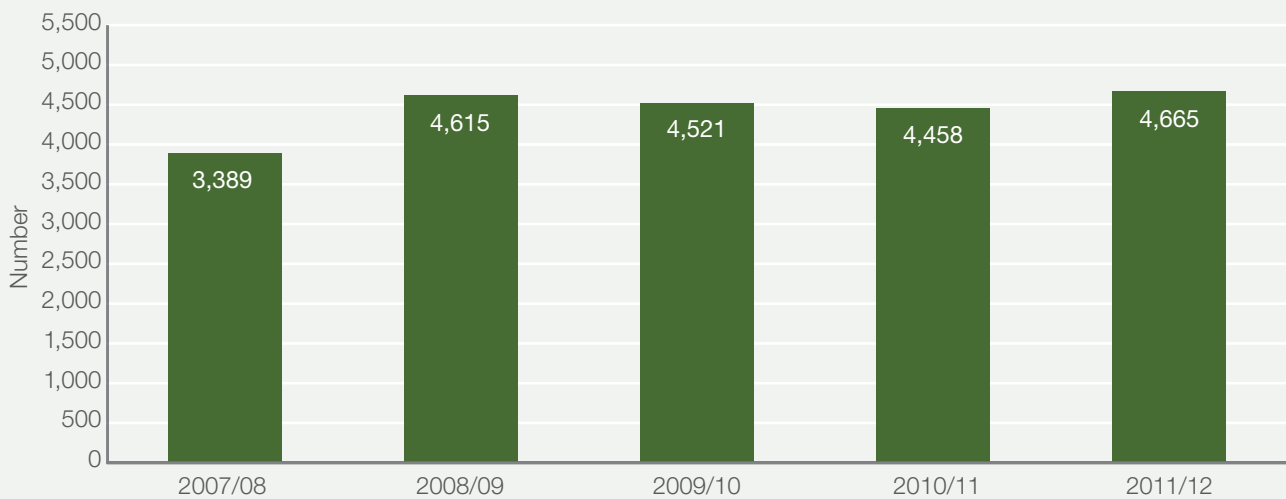
Key service measures for 2011/12

	Number
Number of background reports and assessments completed for young offenders appearing at court	5,538
Number of community-based orders commencing	4,665
Number of individual young offenders commencing supervision in the community	2,435
Number of hours of community service work allocated to young offenders	27,666

Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

Number and percentage of community-based orders started and completed

Number of community-based orders started



Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

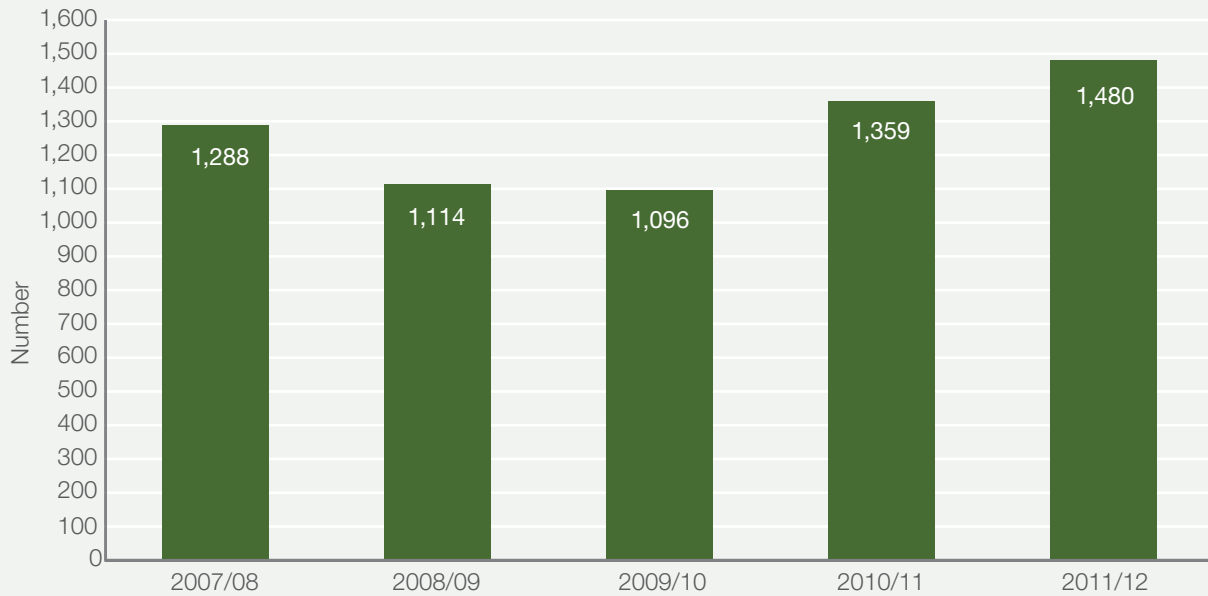
Number and percentage of community-based orders completed



Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

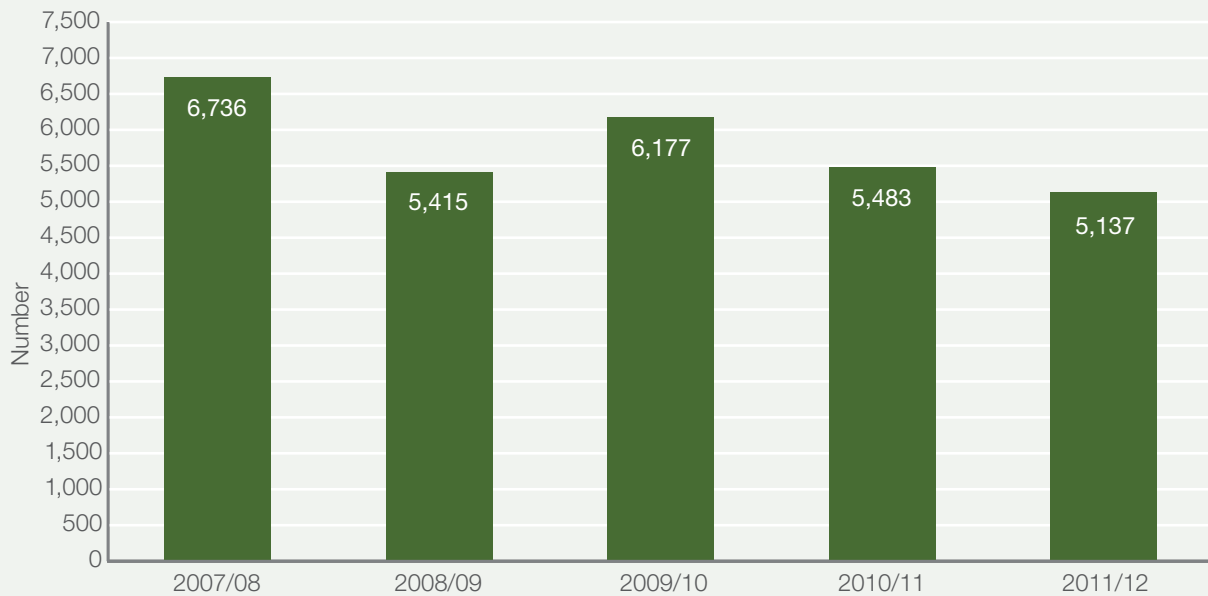
Young People in the Community (continued)

Number of bail supervisions



Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

Number of remand interventions



Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

Note: A decrease in remand admissions reduced remand interventions.

Note: Remand interventions are conducted by Juvenile Justice staff to assist young people in custody on remand to get bail.

Young People in the Community (continued)

Bail Assistance Line

In 2009/10, the Bail Assistance Line (BAL) was established as part of the Keep Them Safe Strategy, following Justice Wood's Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection Services in NSW. The BAL was piloted in Dubbo in June 2010, followed by western and south-western Sydney in August 2010, and Hunter/Newcastle in November 2010.

In partnership with the NSW Police Force, the Department of Family and Community Services and non-government organisations, the after-hours service assists when young people cannot meet bail conditions because of travel, accommodation or lack of supervision, with the aim of preventing them from entering custody.

In 2011/12, the BAL consolidated operations to concentrate on providing alternatives to custody within the Sydney and Hunter/Newcastle metropolitan areas, doubling the number of beds in the latter region over the period.

In 2011/12, the BAL received 118 calls in relation to accommodation, transport and bail conditions for young offenders. These referrals were predominantly from the NSW Police Force, Juvenile Justice staff, courts and the Department of Family and Community Services. Of these referrals, 34 young offenders received assistance from the BAL in the form of either an accommodation placement or transport.

Youth Conduct Orders

The Youth Conduct Orders (YCO) pilot is an intensive multi-agency case management model addressing underlying issues that may contribute to young people's offending behaviour. It has been operating since July 2009. The pilot covers Campbelltown, Liverpool, Macquarie Fields, Mt Druitt, Blacktown and New England Police Local Area Commands.

In 2011/12, amendments to the *Children (Criminal Proceedings) Act 1987*, which commenced in February 2011, increased the number of young people referred for a YCO. To embed the legislative changes and enable the project to reach its full capacity, the pilot was extended to accept referrals up to 25 February 2013.

Community Clean Up Orders

Since May 2010, Juvenile Justice has administered Community Clean Up Orders as part of the Government's strategy on graffiti vandalism.

Community Clean Up Orders assist young people to pay their fines by participating in cleaning up graffiti, as well as participating in a graffiti prevention program.

In 2011/12, Juvenile Justice and Police-Citizens Youth Club (PCYC) started the De-Tag graffiti prevention program, as part of a Community Clean Up Order. De-Tag is an educational tool that engages young people in discussions on topics related to graffiti.



Juvenile offenders spent over 9,000 hours cleaning up graffiti in their communities in 2011/12.

Young People in the Community (continued)

Community partnerships

In 2011/12, Juvenile Justice participated in numerous community partnerships to support its goals. They included:

- **Fairfield** Juvenile Justice Community Service (JJCS) office was involved in the Cultural Collections and Juvenile Justice Study – a collaborative effort between the Australian Museum, researchers at RMIT University, Juvenile Justice and Legal Aid NSW. As part of this research project, Pacific Islander clients visited the Pacific Island Cultural Collection at the Australian Museum to study the impact of culture, family and community on young people in the justice system who are of Pacific Islander heritage. The project aimed to achieve a meaningful connection between the young people and their heritage which would serve to ground them and move them away from crime. Fairfield JJCS office also runs Pacific Youth and Parent Workshops in partnership with Woodville Community Services, Relationships Australia and MTC Work Solutions.
- **Petersham** JJCS office, in collaboration with North Sydney and Hornsby Ku-ring-gai PCYCs, piloted the nine week life skills programs *Skill'd 4 Life* and *Skill Me Now*, targeting low-risk offenders and allowing staff to address criminogenic needs in a safe group environment. The course was funded by PCYC and is co-facilitated by Police Youth Liaison Officers and Juvenile Justice Counsellors. Modules address practical community re-integration support needs, such as education, employment and health. In addition, each week a different topic is addressed, including alcohol and other drugs, cyber bullying, driving skills, legal issues and nutrition and fitness.
- **Petersham** and **Sydney** JJCS offices, in partnership with Sydney TAFE Institute, Randwick College, delivered an Indigenous carpentry and building program. The program adopted a community engagement model and provided participants with an educational and employment pathway into building and construction. Nine young people attended and successfully graduated from the four week course, with a number of them accessing employment or traineeship opportunities in the building industry as a direct result of their participation.
- **Campbelltown** JJCS office developed a community service order program with Wurrumbidgee Sanctuary at Bargo aimed at Aboriginal clients. The program aims to help reconnect Aboriginal young people with the land and their culture by helping to maintain the pristine Bargo Brush, including planting koala-friendly tree species, participating in track maintenance and assisting with animal feeding.
- Juvenile Justice **Western Region** partnered with the Aboriginal Services Division of the Department of Attorney General and Justice in an Action Plan aimed at reducing the number of Aboriginal young people on remand in Western NSW. The Action Plan has joint and individual strategies for both agencies to achieve the Plan's goals. Specifically, the two areas work together with young people in rural, remote and primarily Indigenous communities to share information and knowledge about their communities and families. This information is then provided to the Courts to consider when determining bail.
- **Riverina** Juvenile Justice Centre engaged with Anglicare (Riverina) to participate in the Ignite Mentoring Program. Ignite recruits community mentors to act as positive role models for young men currently in the Juvenile Justice system. Program mentors engage with youth eligible for leave from the Juvenile Justice Centre by showing them a life outside their own community and introducing them to new experiences and perspectives.

Girl Power at Armidale JJCS

In 2011/12, the Girl Power program at Armidale JJCS involved 11 female clients and multiple community partners, including Armidale PCYC, the local Aboriginal Medical Service, NSW Police Force Domestic Violence Liaison Officers, small businesses, job agencies, home school liaison officers and sexual health experts.

Designed as an early intervention initiative, the program increased participants' awareness of mental health issues, substance abuse impacts, domestic violence, employment and education and healthy relationships. This holistic approach focused on criminogenic factors, as well as educating the girls about factors that could adversely affect their development and health.

Young People in Custody

There are nine Juvenile Justice Centres across NSW, including Emu Plains and Broken Hill, which are annexed to larger centres at St Marys and Dubbo NSW.

All custodial facilities provide:

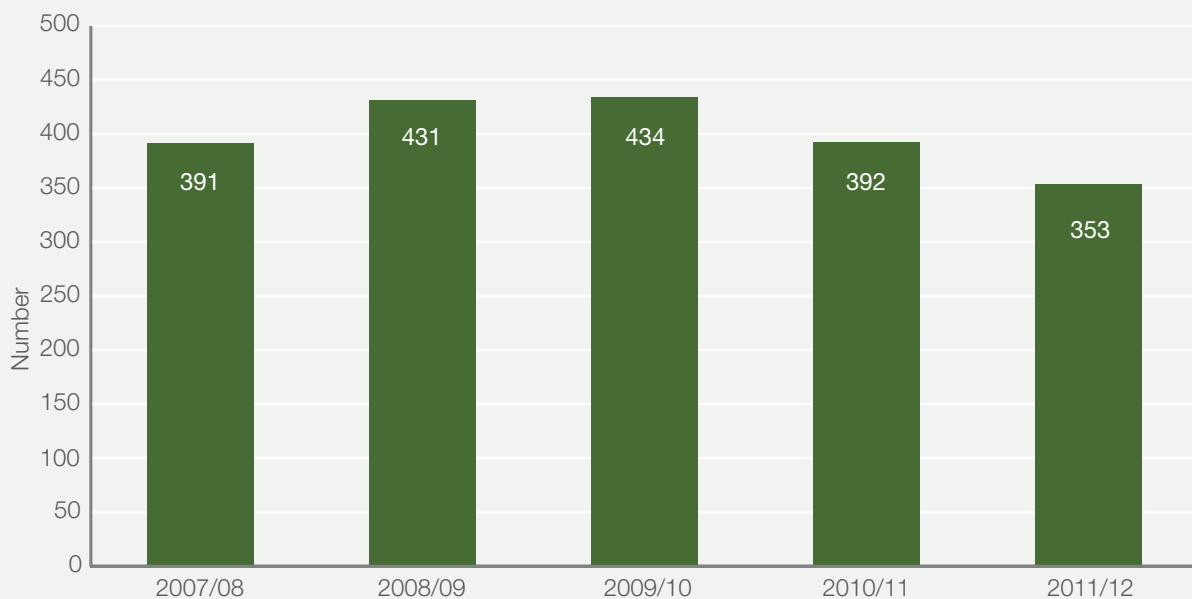
- safe and secure accommodation for young people remanded in custody or sentenced to a period of custody by the courts
- counselling and programs to enable young people to address their offending behaviour and other related issues, such as drug and/or alcohol abuse
- a full range of health services provided by Justice Health
- educational and vocational programs in partnership with the Department of Education and Communities
- individual case management, to identify and address the needs of young people in custody and to plan their community re-integration.

Key service measures for 2011/12 – young people in custody

	Number

Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

Average daily number of young people in custody



Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

Young People in Custody (continued)

Rate of safety/security breaches per 1,000 admissions

Rate of safety or security breaches per 1,000 admissions:	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Number of deaths in custody	0	0	0	0	0
Self-harm incidents	22	43	36	25	43
Assaults on staff	12	11	10	6	4
Detainee on detainee assaults	78	58	68	53	60
Escapes from secure perimeter	0	1	1	0	0
Security breaches ¹	5.8	9.1	9.7	13.3	17.1

Source: DAGJ/JJ RPELive Database. Extracted 10 August 2012. As this is taken from a live database, figures are subject to change.

1. This is the rate of incidents involving telephone threats, unauthorised entry, refuse direction and disturbances per 1000 admissions to custody. Previously reported was the rate of participants of all security breach incidents per 1000 admissions to custody.

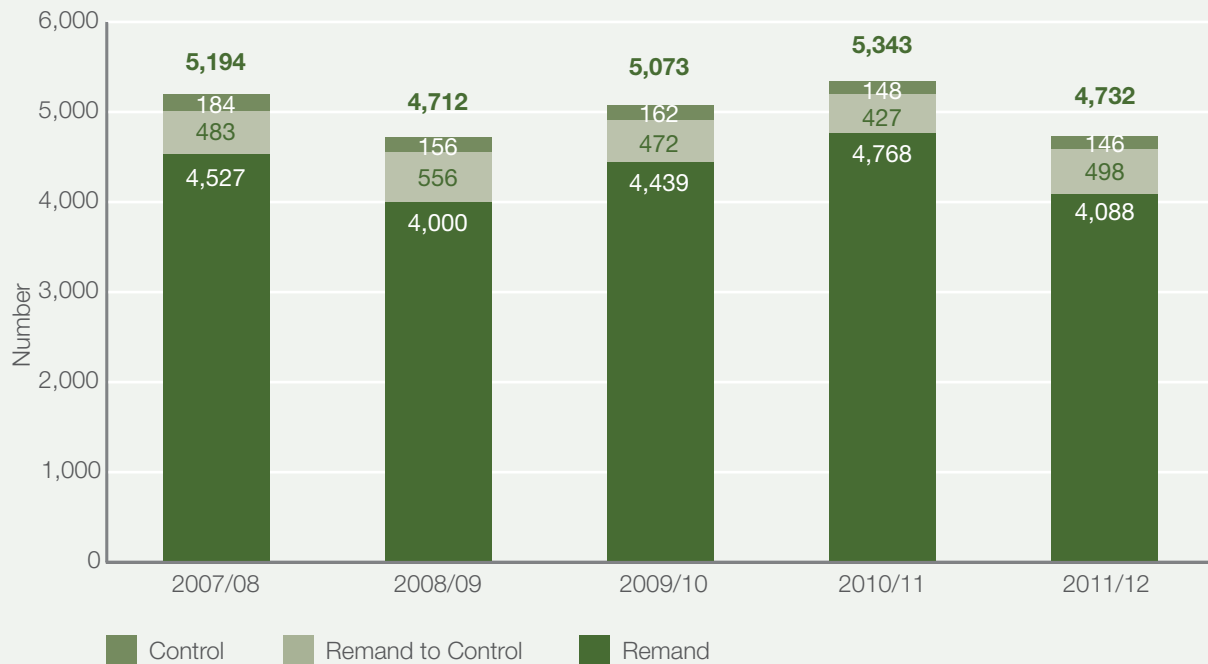
Average weekly number of young people in custody by legal status – 2011/12



Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.

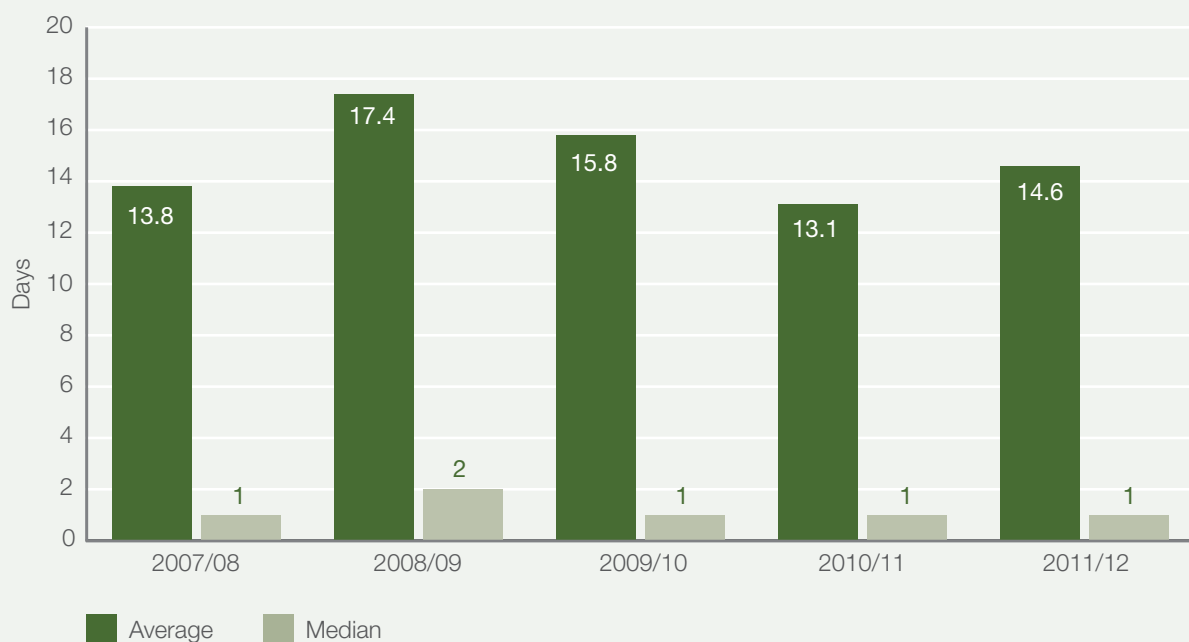
Young People in Custody (continued)

Admissions to Juvenile Justice Centres



Source: DAG/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012.
Remand to Control are admissions on remand which become control orders during a continuous period of custody.

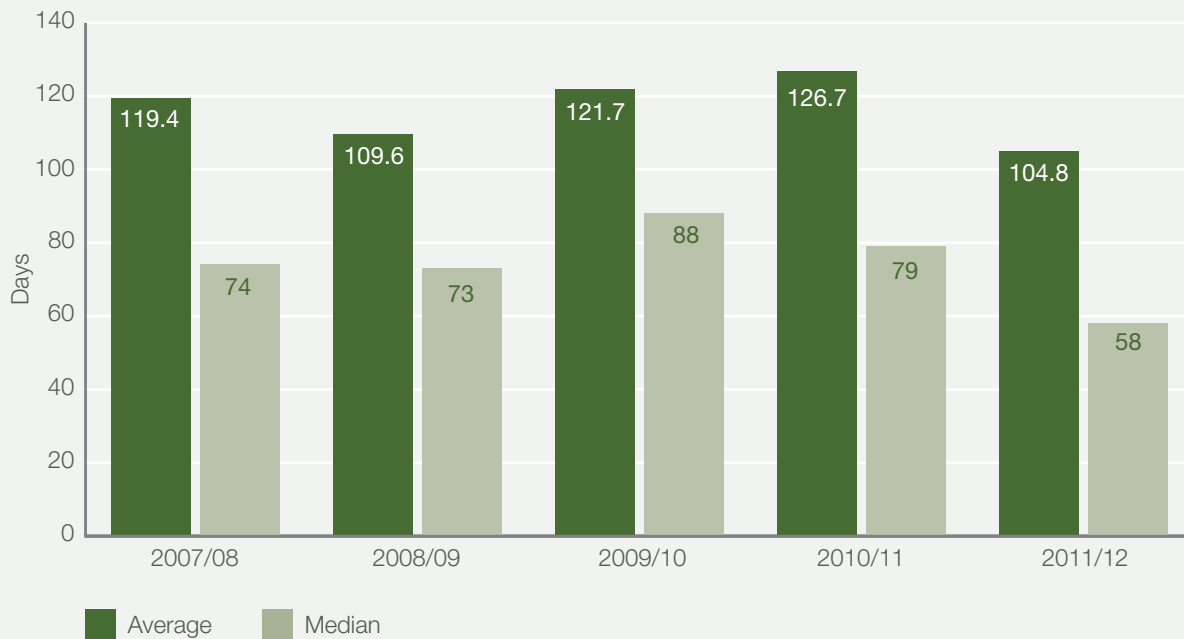
Length of stay for young people in custody on remand (in days)



Source: DAG/JJ RPELive Database. Extracted 13 Aug 12. As this is taken from a live database, figures are subject to change. This counts all remand discharges in the counting period and calculates the length of stay in days from admission date. For remand stays that become control stays the sentence date is used as the end date of the remand period.

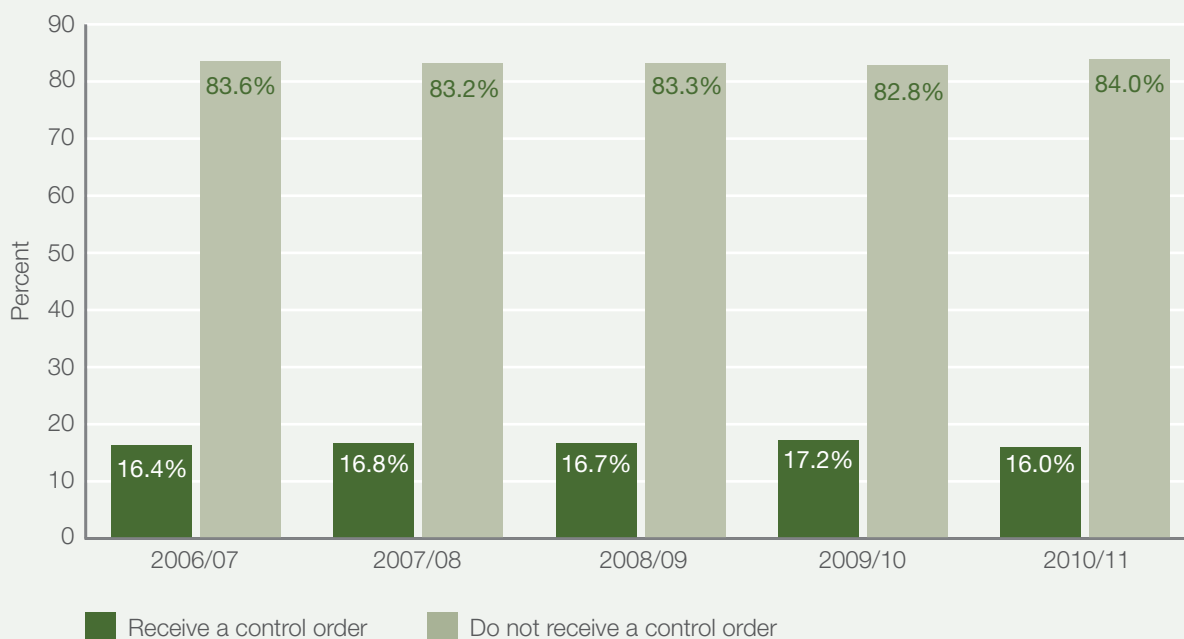
Young People in Custody (continued)

Length of stay for young people in custody on control



Source: DAGJ/JJ RPELive Database. Extracted 13 Aug 12. As this is taken from a live database, figures are subject to change. This counts all control discharges in the counting period and calculates the length of stay in days from admission date. For remand stays that become control stays the sentence date is used as the start date of the control period.

Proportion of young people with a remand episode who received, or do not receive a control order within 12 months



Source: DAGJ/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 4 August 2012. This counts a young person's first remand admission to custody in the counting period and then counts any subsequent control admission within 12 months. 2011/12 figures will not be available until end of June 2013.

Young People in Custody (continued)

Behaviour intervention

In 2011/12, the Detainee Behaviour Intervention Framework had been implemented across all centres, providing staff working in custodial environments with a framework for effectively managing detainee behaviour.

In 2011/12, Juvenile Justice's Operations Unit and Client Information Management System team began developing an electronic behaviour module. This will ensure the strategies and interventions undertaken to address behavioural concerns are documented consistently and effectively. The new module includes Incentive Scheme and Misbehaviour Reporting. Detainee Risk Management Plans will soon also be available online.

The Incentive Scheme includes a weekly client assessment meeting with each detainee, allowing detainees to be involved in developing individual strategies to address their Case Plan goals. By engaging detainees and providing the opportunity to reflect on behaviours and consequences, detainees identify achievable weekly casework targets and behaviour goals. The Incentive Scheme provides consistency in detainee case management interventions, by standardising incentives for detainees who meet casework targets and behaviour goals.

Education and training

The Department of Education and Communities (DEC) administers education and training units in eight of the nine Juvenile Justice Centres (JJC) including:

- **Emu Plains** – an annexe of the Cobham JJC in St Marys. Through agreement between Juvenile Justice and DEC, the Putland Education and Training Unit (ETU) at Cobham JJC has established an additional classroom to provide educational services at Emu Plains.
- **Broken Hill** – an annexe of the Orana JJC in Dubbo. At Broken Hill JJC educational services are coordinated by Lincoln ETU at Orana JJC, by agreement between Juvenile Justice and DEC.
- **Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre** – DEC and Juvenile Justice are working with detainees in the pre-release Waratah Unit, co-ordinating work experience, paid employment and TAFE program opportunities aimed at allowing successful re-integration back into the community.

As a result, young people preparing for discharge have access to TAFE-accredited pre-employment programs.

At each centre, meetings between centre staff and the ETU are held regularly to plan, assess risk and coordinate educational, vocational and centre programs. Sharing information enables a cohesive approach to providing interventions and managing detainees.

Enrolment in education

	2011 ¹	2012 ²
Total Education and Training Unit enrolments	1,786	1,109
TAFE enrolments	1,266	596
Enrolled in School Certificate (renamed Record of School Achievement (ROSA) in 2012)		207
Enrolled in Higher School Certificate (full credential)		39
Enrolled in Higher School Certificate single subjects		64
School Certificate completions	137	N/A
Higher School Certificate completions	3	N/A
Higher School Certificate single subject completions	40	N/A

Notes:

1 Figures for complete school year January to December 2011.

2 Figures for young people enrolled in courses up to 30 June 2012. Completion figures not available until school year completed.

Young People in Custody (continued)

Health services

Justice for Health is responsible for health and medical services for young people in Juvenile Justice Centres, with all Juvenile Justice Centre medical clinics operating seven days a week. The clinics are managed by Justice Health and staffed by registered nurses, who provide a range of health services and coordinate visits from general practitioners, dentists and psychiatrists.

Pre-release planning for young offenders includes ensuring they are connected to community health and medical services before their release date. This may involve referring young offenders to the Community Integration Team to facilitate access to services.

Work and Development Orders

Work and Development Orders (WDO) are a State Debt Recovery Office initiative, allowing young people to satisfy debt due to outstanding fines through voluntary work, or approved courses or treatment.

In 2011/12, Juvenile Justice became an approved sponsor for WDO, enabling young people in custody to be screened for outstanding fines during the custodial induction period. Juvenile Justice then assesses the eligibility and suitability of a WDO and develops an action plan to enable young people to satisfy their debt.

Client Information Management System

In 2011/12, the Client Information Management System (CIMS) was enhanced to include Incentive Scheme and Misbehaviour Reporting. Detainee Risk Management Plans will also be available online in July 2012.

All detainee misbehaviours are now reported in CIMS, providing transparency regarding the application of punishments and approval processes. Detainees who pose a significant risk to themselves or others and are unable to respond to the Incentive Scheme may be placed on an individual Detainee Risk Management Plan. Recording all Detainee Risk Management Plans and approvals online ensures all detainees are managed appropriately, with the least restrictive interventions.

Centre achievements

In 2011/12, Juvenile Justice Centre achievements included:

- Cobham and Juniperina Juvenile Justice Centres holding JJC Expos to engage detainees with external service providers. A number of agencies were invited to provide information and help clients address their immediate needs, including health and career prospects. Metropolitan Region Aboriginal Project Officers are currently preparing the next expo, which will be at Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre. Expos are intended to become annual events.
- Cobham Juvenile Justice Centre holding a Career Day in partnership with Whitelion, to provide detainees with job seeking skills and an opportunity to gain insight into potential career options. Workshops included a horticulture and landscaping session with Eden Gardens Landscaping Company and financial literacy workshops presented by Westpac Bank. In addition, Whitelion helped detainees with resume writing and other job-seeking skills, such as effective communication using interview role plays.
- Cobham Juvenile Justice Centre establishing a Community Awareness program, allowing detainees to learn about different organisations, charities and causes that work to support people in need. Examples included:
 - the Humour Foundation (clown doctors), to which Cobham detainees donated a Smile Day banner they had created to help promote fund-raising events
 - a White Ribbon Day program, with detainees creating cards to send to important women in their lives
 - Salvation Army speakers during Homeless Persons Week, to help detainees access accommodation support
 - Marine biologists from Sydney University visiting the centre during Sea Week to talk about how the detainees can help protect the sea environment. Detainees made and donated banners to advertise Sea Week
 - Red Nose Day, with staff and detainees taking on the challenge to be silly for a serious cause and to discuss basic steps that can help to prevent Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

Young People in Custody (continued)

Outstanding case studies at Juniperina Juvenile Justice Centre

Jenny* completed Year 10 at Juniperina and was granted a scholarship to attend a prestigious Sydney boarding school in 2011. She has completed Year 11 and is currently completing Year 12. Jenny has been offered a Humanities Pathways Scholarship to undertake a Social Work Degree in 2013 and has been offered student accommodation at UNSW while she continues her studies. CatholicCare will provide support after Jenny finishes school until she settles into her new life as a university student.

Kylie* completed Year 10 at Juniperina and in October 2011 the Juniperina Accommodation and Support Program (JA&SP) was able to provide Kylie with stable accommodation. She successfully applied to NuraGili for a position in the Humanities Pathway Program and has commenced a Social

Work degree, achieving an overall Distinction at the completion of her first semester. On the basis of her progress at university, the strength of her application to NuraGili and her support network, Kylie has been granted a Youth Off The Streets Scholarship for two years to be awarded by the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, at Government House in September 2012.

Belinda* completed Year 10 at Juniperina and was discharged in March 2011. She was referred to Whitelion and was successful in gaining a traineeship at the Australian Taxation Office. Belinda has been successful in achieving a promotion and is currently undertaking a Diploma in Management.

*Names have been changed to protect offenders' identities



Court Logistics Unit

The Court Logistics Unit coordinates and transports young offenders for court appearances at the Children's, District and Supreme Courts. The Unit staffs the Bidura Children's Court in Glebe, Campbelltown Children's Court and Parramatta Children's Court. The unit also co-ordinates and undertakes the statewide secure transportation of young offenders between Juvenile Justice Centres and from Juvenile Justice Centres to correctional centres.

In 2011/12, 3,468 statewide transport movements were required, involving 7,939 young people. For some court matters, the unit manages video conferencing, which has increased significantly from 568 in 2005/06 to 4,201 in 2011/12.

Transport Movements

	Movements	Detainees
2007/08	3,785	8,918
2008/09	4,318	10,009
2009/10	4,056	9,569
2010/11	3,511	8,732
2011/12	3,468	7,939

Classification and Placement Unit

The Classification and Placement Unit is responsible for the security classification of young offenders in custody, using the Objective Classification System, which assigns a security rating to the detainee's assessed level of risk. It also coordinates the placement of all young offenders within Juvenile Justice Centres, as well as transfers between Juvenile Justice and Corrective Services NSW.

In 2011/12, 3,117 detainees were classified, with 1,715 of these being the initial classification of a young offender on entering a Juvenile Justice Centre. A detainee's classification may be reviewed due to a change in his or her legal status, as the result of an incident or intelligence, due to critical dates or as a scheduled review. In 2011/12, 1,402 review classifications were completed.

Serious Young Offenders Review Panel

The Serious Young Offenders Review Panel provides independent advice to the Minister and Chief Executive, Juvenile Justice on issues relating to serious violent offenders detained in Juvenile Justice Centres pursuant to Part 4B of the *Children (Detention Centres) Act 1987*.

The Review Panel was established in 1998 as an independent body to advise the Chief Executive on:

- re-classifying detainees convicted for serious children's indictable offences
- granting initial supervised community outings, day and overnight leave to serious children's indictable offenders and detainees on offences of dangerous driving causing death and aggravated dangerous driving causing death under the *Crimes Act 1900*
- other detainees specified by the Chief Executive
- other matters referred by the Chief Executive or the Minister.

The Review Panel seeks to balance the expectations of the community with the needs and expectations of the young people and their families in accordance with the relevant legislation and agency guidelines.

Members of the Review Panel appointed by the Minister for Justice include:

- an acting magistrate (chairperson)
- an independent person qualified in psychology/mental health
- an independent community person with expertise in dealing with youth generally
- a member of the Indigenous community
- a victim of crime
- a delegate of the Deputy Chief Executive (Operations), Juvenile Justice, as an ex officio member.

In 2011/12, the panel met on 12 occasions and dealt with 74 cases. Of these, 14 were considered for re-classification, with seven (50 per cent) of the juvenile offenders reviewed being re-classified. Of the 14 recommendations for re-classification, 11 (79 per cent) were adopted by the Chief Executive.

The Review Panel also considered 59 cases for leave, 79 per cent from regional detention centres and 21 per cent from metropolitan centres. Of the 59 cases, recommendations relating to 57 (97 per cent) were adopted by the Chief Executive.

Quality Assurance

The Juvenile Justice Quality Assurance Framework (JJQAF) has been used throughout Juvenile Justice Centres since 2008. In 2011/12, a Quality Assurance approach was extended to community operations, covering all aspects of Juvenile Justice Community Services (JJCS) including youth justice conferencing and court logistics.

The JJQAF aims to build a culture of continuous quality improvement within Juvenile Justice. The framework encompasses a rigorous process that involves self-assessment, annual review, improvement review and progress review for custody. The Australian Juvenile Justice Administrators (AJJA) Juvenile Justice Standards 2009 were adopted and incorporated into the JJQAF in 2009.

Juvenile Justice's Quality Assurance process involves measuring and improving stakeholder relationships, client satisfaction and customer service by:

- surveys of young people in detention and on community supervision
- staff surveys
- interviews with non-government agencies
- interviews with Official Visitors and Chaplains
- self-assessment of centre/community practices
- review team assessment of centre/community practices
- informal and formal discussions with staff and clients
- inspections of Juvenile Justice Centre environments.

All of the above quality assurance processes are measures that provide important information including:

- standard evaluations of programs and services provided to young people, assessing how these aid in reducing re-offending
- areas in which improvements are required
- further staff training requirements
- reviews of Juvenile Justice Procedures and Policy.

In line with the 2012 Quality Assurance and improvement process, annual reviews were conducted at each Juvenile Justice Centre from January to July 2012. Progress reviews are scheduled to commence from August 2012.

Environmental Sustainability

Juvenile Justice is committed to continually improving the environmental sustainability of its operations, processes, and practices. Considerations relating to ecological sustainability are integrated into procurement and asset management. This ensures improved purchasing decisions, greater emphasis on waste reduction and recycling, and enhanced strategies for new construction and asset management.

In 2011/12, Central Office began a new waste management program to reduce waste sent to landfill and increase recycling rates of paper, cardboard and co-mingled materials. Juvenile Justice has improved its performance across other areas of waste management; for example, the last NSW Waste Reduction and Purchasing Policy (WRAPP) report indicated a 37 per cent increase in the proportion of used toner cartridges sent to recycling. Strong rates of recycling were also maintained across all Juvenile Justice Centres for paper and cardboard. These recycling activities have been supported by continued efforts in procurement. Notably, purchase of office supplies with recognised green credentials increased by 15 per cent.

Redevelopment projects underway incorporate energy efficient lighting strategies, water-efficient fittings and fixtures, solar hot water and the use of small-scale onsite solar power generation. Additionally, in partnership, Juvenile Justice and the Department of Education and Communities have secured a number of grants through the National Solar for Schools Program. This will fund solar panels at schools within six Juvenile Justice Centres. The project, due to be completed this year, will help to offset energy consumption at the centres by an estimated 91,000kWh every year.

In 2011/12, Juvenile Justice again exceeded the targeted average 'environment performance score' outlined under the NSW Government Cleaner Fleet Initiative, maintaining a score rating of 13.5. The fleet currently includes several hybrid vehicles, with E10 used by 79 per cent of the vehicles.