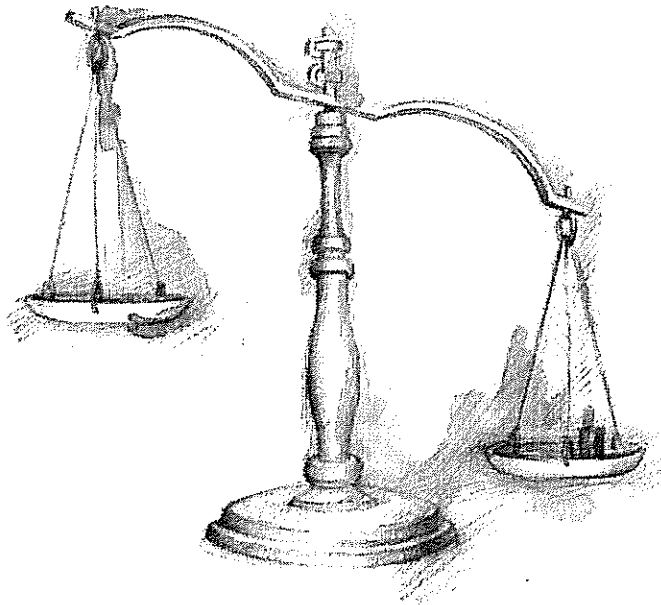


HOLMES COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



JUDGE THOMAS C. LEE

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Millersburg, Ohio 44654

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Glennis R. Menezes
Court Administrator

The Court of Common Pleas

PROBATE & JUVENILE DIVISIONS

HOLMES COUNTY, OHIO
THOMAS C. LEE, Judge

April 26, 2011

To the Citizens of Holmes County:

On behalf of Holmes County Juvenile Court and its staff, I am pleased to present the 2010 Annual Report. This Report contains information on the Court's cases, as well as the services and programs offered by the Court to Holmes County families and children.

It is my sincere desire that the Court provide quality assistance to Holmes County families and children. If you have questions or suggestions as you read this Report, please feel free to contact me. I value your input.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Lee
Juvenile Court Judge

This Annual Report of the Holmes County Court of Common Pleas, Juvenile Division, for the calendar year 2010 is prepared pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.18(B).

COURT PERSONNEL

Judge	Hon. Thomas C. Lee
Court Administrator Grant Administrator	Glennis R. Menez
Bailiff	Bradley S. Conn
Deputy Clerk Deputy Clerk Deputy Clerk/Receptionist/Probation Office Secretary	Christine Jenkins Sonya Baker Nicole Lepley
Chief Probation Officer Probation Officer Probation/Truancy Officer	David Williams, L.S.W. Janice Shroyer, L.S.W. Robert Porter (Retired 9/2010)
Project STAY Office Clerk P/T Probation Office Secretary	Judith Winegar
Connections Mentoring Program Coordinator	Rebecca McKelley

PURPOSE OF THE COURT

Ohio Revised Code Section 2152.01 sets forth the purpose of the Juvenile Court as follows:

- (A) To provide for the care, protection, and mental and physical development of children subject to Chapter 2152 of the Revised Code;
- (B) To protect the public interest and safety;
- (C) To hold juvenile offenders accountable for their actions, restore the victim, and rehabilitate the offender through a system of graduated sanctions and services;
- (D) To provide judicial procedures through which Chapters 2151 and 2152 of the Revised Code are executed and enforced, and in which the parties are assured of a fair hearing, and their constitutional and other legal rights are recognized and protected.

MISSION STATEMENT

Holmes County Juvenile Court exists to foster the development of a healthy community for children and families through the timely administration of justice and the delivery of quality services in a cost-effective, courteous and professional manner.

JURISDICTION

The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction under Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.23 to hear the following types of matters:

Delinquent Child – Those who commit an offense, prior to their 18th birthday, that would be a crime if committed by an adult.

Unruly Child – Those who commit an offense that only applies to someone under the age of 18.

Juvenile Traffic Offender – Those who commit a traffic offense prior to attaining the age of 18.

Abused Children – Children who have been physically or sexually abused by parents, guardians, or another adult.

Neglected Children – Those children who are not properly cared for or are abandoned by their parents or guardians.

Dependent Children – Those children who are without proper care or support through no fault of their parents or guardians.

Adults – Criminal charges against adults who have contributed to the delinquency or unruliness of a child.

Paternity – Actions to determine the father of a child born out of wedlock.

Custody – Actions to determine the custody of any child not a ward of another Court of this State.

JUVENILE COURT DOCKET

The following cases were filed in Juvenile Court in 2009:

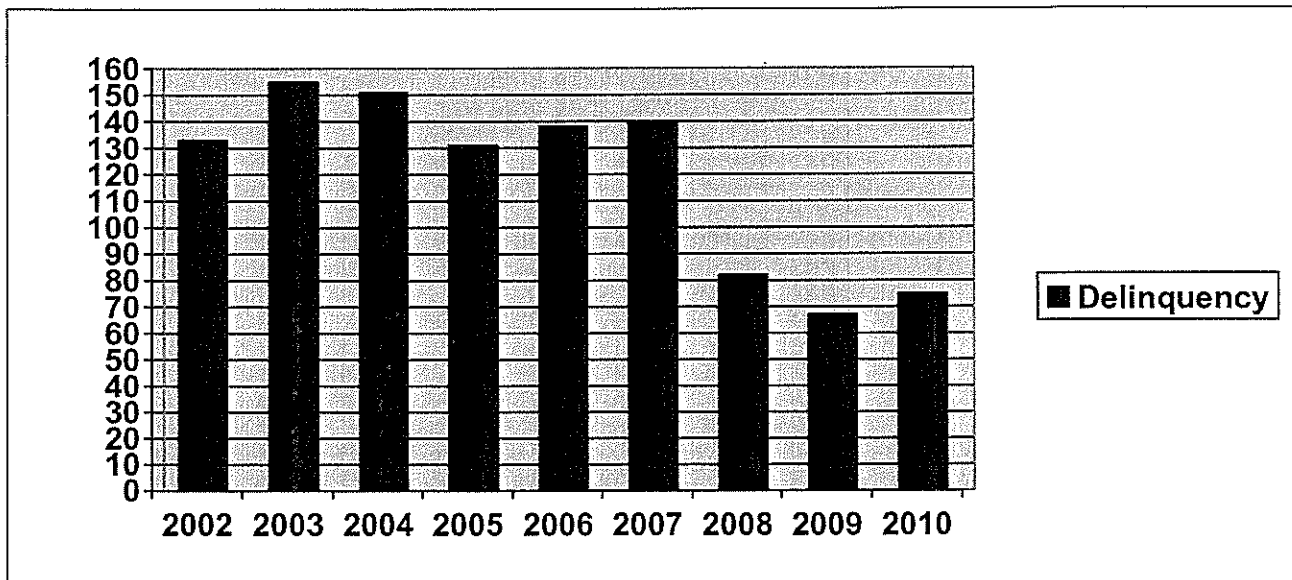
Delinquency	75
Traffic (Details provided below)	149
Dependency, Neglect & Abuse	49
Unruly	21
Adult Cases	0
Permanent Custody	0
Custody/Visitation	98
Child Support	88
Paternity	12
U.I.F.S.A. (Uniform Interstate Family Support Act)	0
Others	<u>3</u>
TOTAL:	495

NOTE: Fifty-one (51) juveniles who were first-time offenders were referred to the Diversion Program, thus reducing the number of cases brought formally before the Court.

Following are graphic illustrations comparing case-type filings for the years 2002 through 2010:

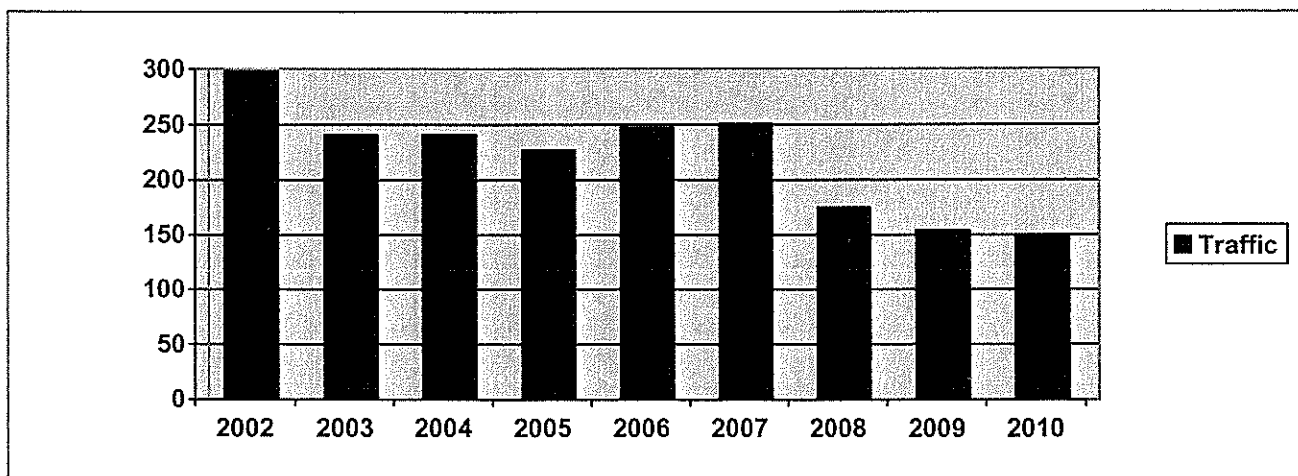
Delinquency

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
133	155	151	131	138	140	82	67	75



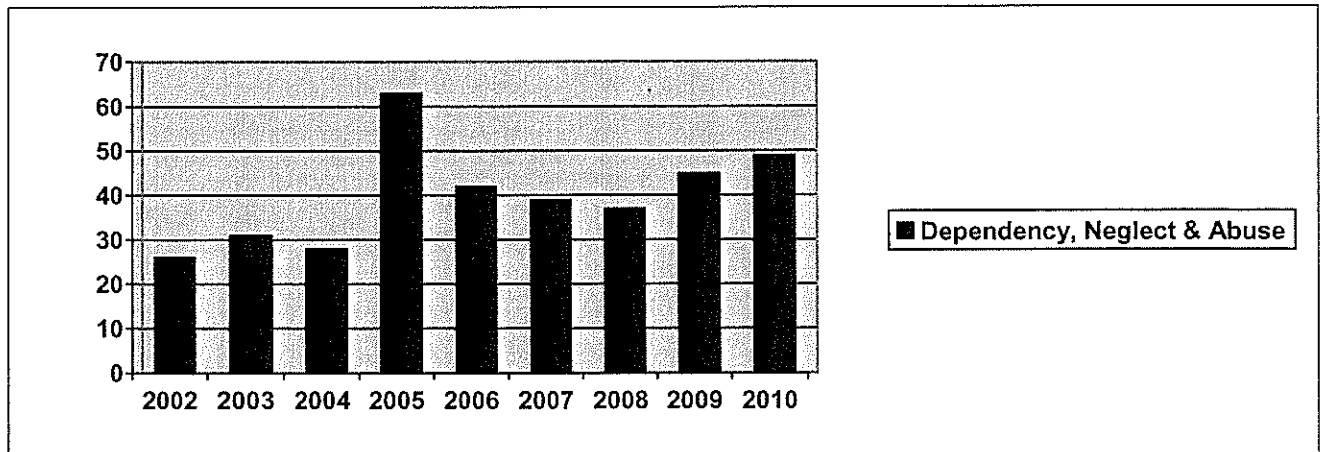
Traffic

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
298	241	241	227	247	251	175	154	149



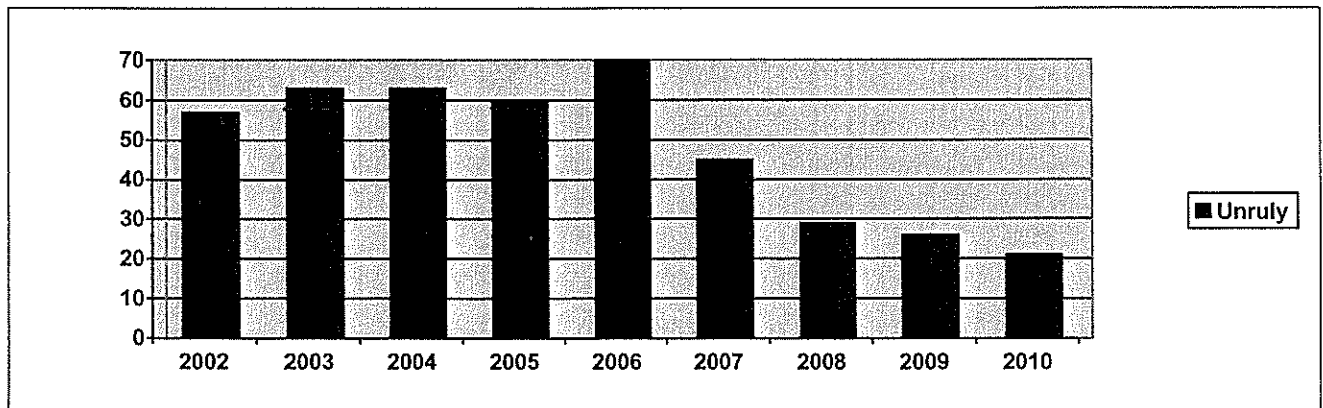
Dependency, Neglect & Abuse

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
26	31	28	63	42	39	37	45	49



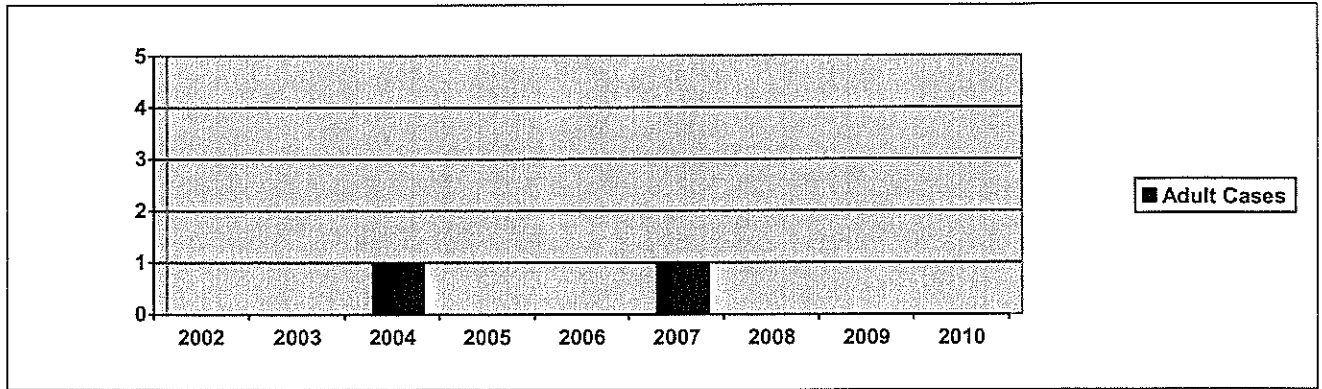
Unruly

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
57	63	63	60	70	45	29	26	21



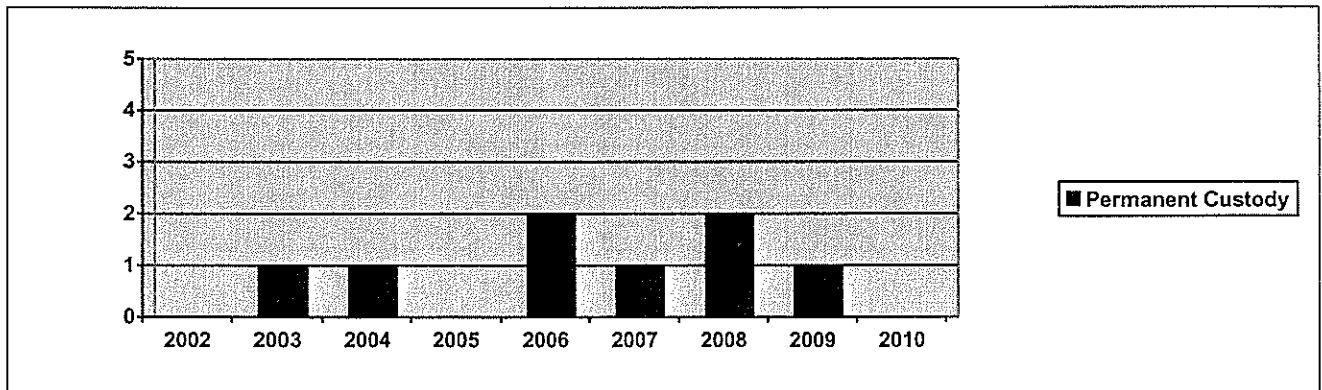
Adult Cases

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0



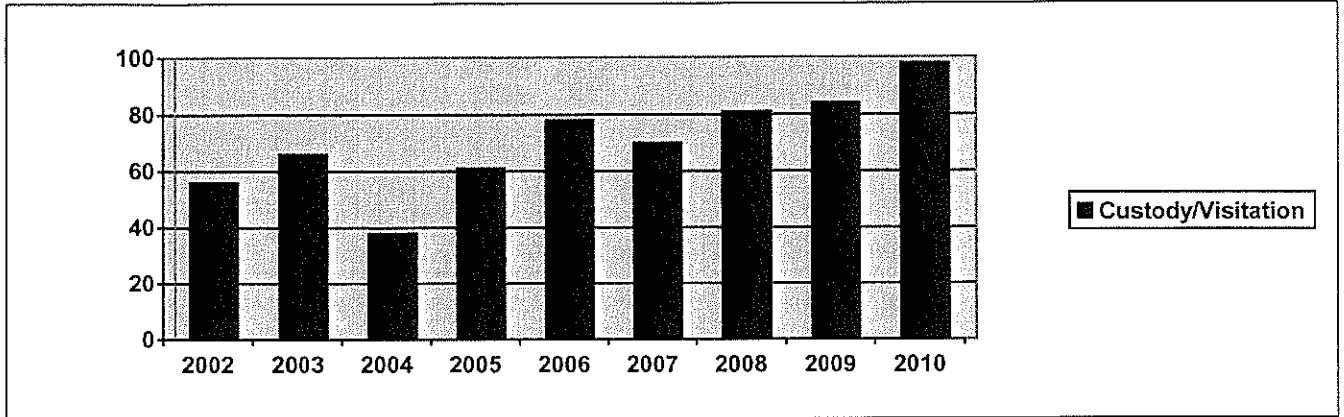
Permanent Custody

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
0	1	1	0	2	1	2	1	0



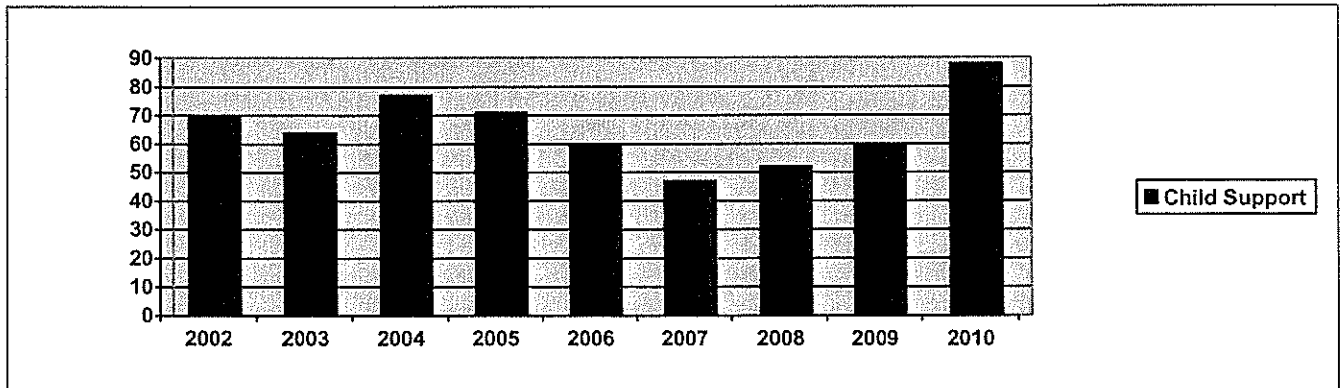
Custody/Visitation

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
56	66	38	61	78	78	81	83	98



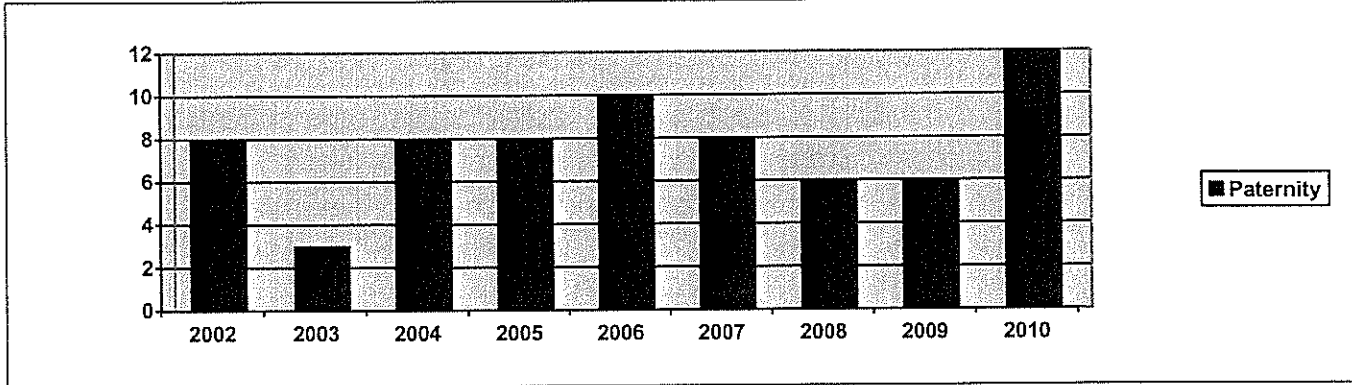
Child Support

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
69	64	77	771	60	47	52	60	88



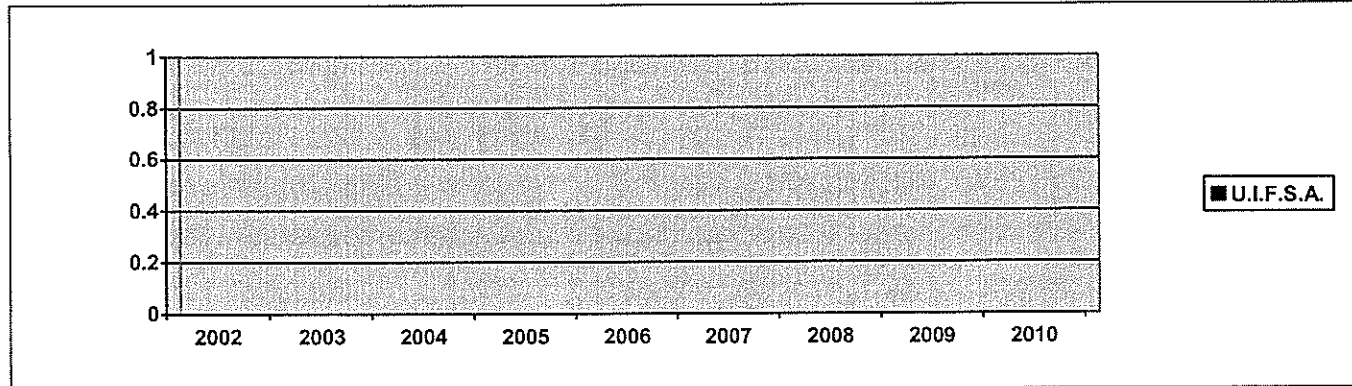
Paternity

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
8	3	8	8	10	8	6	6	12



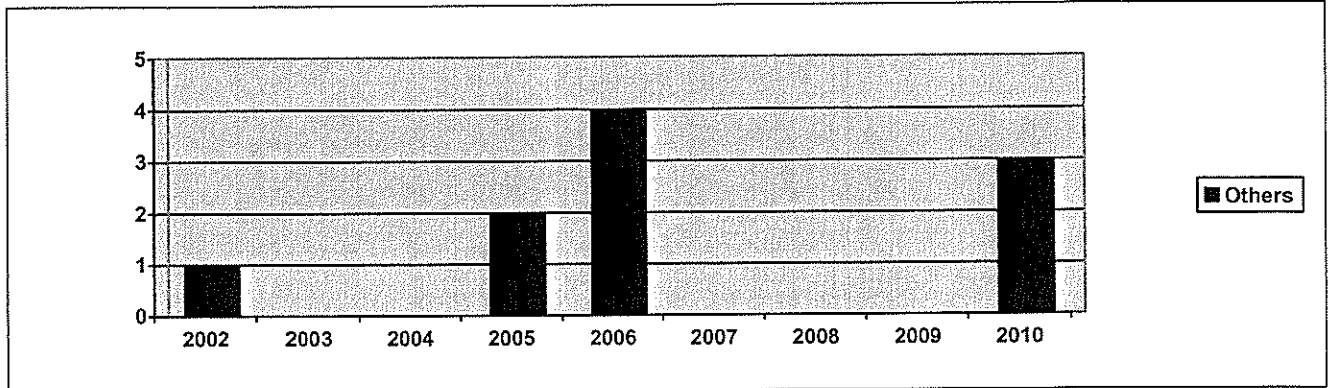
U.I.F.S.A.

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



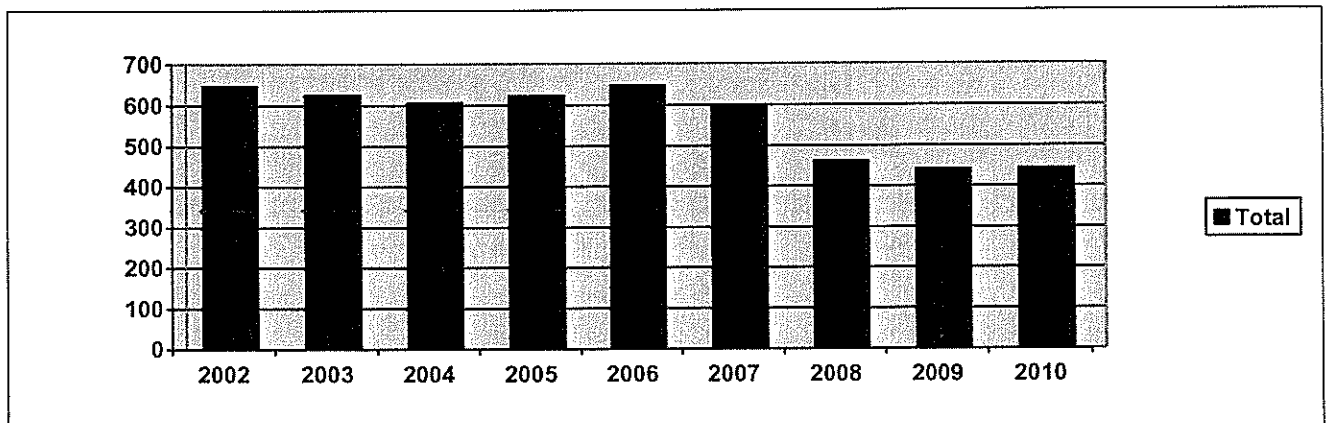
Others

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1	0	0	2	4	0	0	0	3



Total

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
648	6425	607	623	649	601	462	442	443



Types of Traffic Citations 2010	
Assured Clear Distance Ahead	12
Cracked Windshield	1
Driving Under the Influence	1
Failure to Control	28
Failure to Display Registration	1
Failure to Drive on Right Side	2
Failure to Obey Signal	1
Failure to Signal	2
Failure to Stop for Bus	1
Failure to yield - Stop Sign	4
Failure to Yield	5
Fictitious Plates	1
Fleeing & Eluding	1
Following Too Close	2
Left of Center	3
Left Turn at Intersection	1
Moped Violations	1
No Lights	1
No Operator's License	13
No Operator's License (Moped)	1
No Passing Zone	2
No Plates	3
No Seat Belt – Passenger	3
No Seatbelt – Driver	10
Obstruction of View	1
Operating w/o Plates	1
Probation License – Hours	1
Probation License - Passengers	1
Reckless Operation	3
Speed	57
Stop Sign	1
Turn Signal	1
Unsafe Vehicle	2
Window Tint	1

Types of Delinquent Charges 2010

Assault	10
Breaking and Entering	2
Criminal Damaging	7
Criminal Mischief	4
Criminal Trespass	7
Cruelty to Animals	2
Curfew violation	4
Disorderly Conduct	11
Disseminating matter harmful to juveniles	4
Domestic Violence	7
Drug paraphernalia	3
Felonious assault	1
Failure to comply	1
Failure to control	1
Falsification	2
Grand Theft	2
Gross Sexual Imposition	23
Menacing	1
Misuse of Credit Cards	1
No Operator's License	1
Operating Vehicle Without License	1
Petty Theft	8
Possession of drugs	6
Probation violation	11
Rape	8
Receiving Stolen Property	2
Telecommunication harassment	1
Theft	5
Unauthorized use of a vehicle	1
Underage consuming	7
Unruly	13
Vandalism	1
<hr/>	
Cases involving female	33
Cases involving males	83
Cases involving minorities	5

TYPES OF CASES HANDLED THROUGH DIVERSION (First-Time Offenders) IN 2010:

Note: A juvenile may have been charged with more than one offense.

Failure to Comply	1
Trespass	1
Domestic Violence	1
Menacing	1
Theft	2
Falsification	1
Prohibitions Alcohol	3
Prohibitions Drugs	1
Criminal Trespass	8
Assault	3
Unruly (Truancy)	2
Petty Theft	10
Drug Paraphernalia	1
Telephone Harassment	1
Unruly	2
Contributing	1
Criminal Mischief	7
Making False Alarms	1
Criminal Damaging	3
Disseminating Matter Harmful to Juvenile Court	1
Total:	51

FELONIES COMMITTED BY JUVENILES IN 2010:

Total felony adjudications:	9
Males:	6
Females:	0

(Note: Two of the six juveniles had more than one adjudication.)

Felony Adjudications by the Court in 2010:

Gross Sexual Imposition	7
Theft	1
Aggravated Assault	1

DISPOSITIONS

The following dispositions were made in the year 2009:

Delinquency Dispositions 2010

Anger Management	4
Apology	9
Community Service	17
Connections Mentoring	11
Costs	11
Counseling	34
Drug and Alcohol Assessment	8
Diversion	3
DNA & Fingerprinting	3
Fine	5
Home Based Intervention	10
House Arrest	4
Insight Drug & Alcohol Program	3
Detention Center	21
No Contact	10
No Pornography	3
Operator's License (loss of)	3
Must Attend School / Passing Grades	6
Placed in Treatment Center	3
Predisposition investigation ordered	14
Probation	44
Project STAY Alternative School	2
Psychological Evaluation	3
Random Drug Screens	2
Restitution	10
Shoplifting Diversion Program	1
Summer Employment Program	2
Supervised around victims	1
Suspended Detention	34
Suspended DYS	7
Suspended Placement	1

OUT OF HOME PLACEMENTS

As part of the disposition in a Delinquent or Unruly case, the Court may also place a juvenile out of the home. The Court strives to achieve its purposes while keeping a child in a family environment, separating the child from his or her parents only when necessary for his or her welfare or in the interests of public safety. The following out-of-home placements were made in 2010 for children found to be Delinquent or Unruly:

Group homes	1
Foster Care	2
Treatment Centers	2
Total:	5

Additional Information Regarding Placements

Multi-County Juvenile Attention System

Holmes County participates in the Multi-County Juvenile Attention System, funded jointly by Stark, Columbiana, Wayne, Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Carroll Counties. The System provides treatment and detention options to the participating Juvenile Courts, including group homes, a residential treatment center, and attention/detention centers.

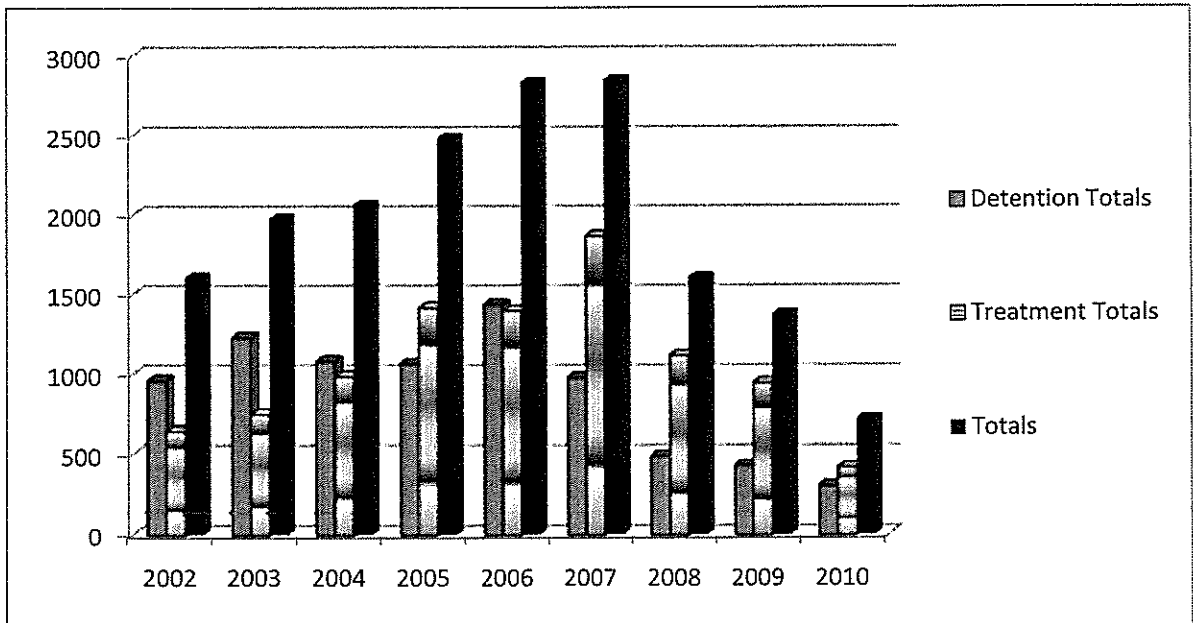
Holmes County represents 5.12% of the total population of the participating counties. In the year 2010, Holmes County used 725 "bed days" (number of juveniles placed x number of days) at System Residential Treatment and Detention Centers. The Juvenile Court utilized 306 bed days at the Linda Martin Attention Center (formerly Wayne-Holmes Attention Center) and Stark Attention Center.

The Court also used 419 bed days in residential facilities as follows: 141 bed days at Canton Boys Group Home, and 278 bed days at The Residential Treatment Center in Canton, Ohio. This was a decrease in usage of 652 bed days compared to 2009.

The total bed days used by Holmes County at the treatment centers and detention centers represented 1.48% of the total used by all participating counties.

Holmes County Juvenile Court MCJAS Usage

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Detention Totals	960	1228	1082	1068	1437	980	489	432	306
Treatment Totals	645	752	985	1417	1397	1867	1116	945	419
Total	1605	1980	2067	2485	2834	2847	1605	1377	725



Ohio Department of Youth Services Facilities

No juveniles were committed to an ODYS Facility in 2010.

PROGRAMS

Probation Department

The Probation Department of the Juvenile Division of the Common Pleas Court of Holmes County is a very active department, consisting of a Chief Probation Officer and two Probation Officers. All probation officers have caseloads assigned to them in which they are actively involved. Additionally, all officers have the following required duties:

1. Filing Violation of Law/Court Orders through the Prosecutor's Office;
2. Testifying in Court hearings;
3. Serving as Court Bailiff;
4. Attending ongoing education and training sessions;
5. Writing and filing reports;
6. Public speaking;
7. Monitoring those under Court supervision for probation or Court orders;
8. Utilizing arrest authority when appropriate.

Probation Officers work closely and regularly with the Prosecutor's Office, schools, police, community and the various support agencies in the county. Attempts are made to have personal "face to face" contact with not only those on probation, but all agencies with which this department has a business relationship.

It is the Probation Department's belief that in order to be an effective, knowledgeable operation, it is mandatory to be out in the schools, police departments and community as much as possible in order to properly supervise those on probation. It is also of utmost importance that the Probation Officers know the respective environments of those they supervise and to know the issues that the clients must face on a daily basis. This, we have found, is the reason people act as they do. An ongoing, ever escalating abuse of alcoholic beverages, deterioration in parental supervision and lack of home environment conducive to values are the primary reasons for more and more youth becoming involved in the criminal justice system.

It is paramount to the Court's position that rehabilitation of the juvenile offender is our objective through accountability, responsibility, treatment and supervision. However, the public safety and welfare must be of primary concern when deciding what the appropriate action is to be taken.

During calendar year 2010, the Probation Department supervised 70 youth on probation (53 males, 17 females. Thirty-six (36)

were placed on probation and 32 were removed from probation. Of those removed from probation, 25 were successful, 0 were unsuccessful, and 7 were considered "neutral" as a result of turning 18 or moving out of Holmes County.

The Probation Department also continued its duty of organizing and supervising Community Service performed by juveniles as part of their sentence. Community Service requires a child to perform work beneficial to the community without pay. The program provides youth with an opportunity to "repay" the community for the problems caused by the child's behavior, as well as provide the youth with valuable work experience.

In 2010, a total of 998.75 hours were provided by juveniles for their community service commitment. At a minimum wage rate of \$7.25 per hour, those 998.75 hours represent services valued at \$7,140.90 to the Holmes County community.

Youth Services Grant

The Youth Services Grant is a State subsidized program designed to assist Juvenile Courts in the development of local service options for youthful offenders. The grant is administered on a fiscal year, beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30. In Fiscal Year 2010 (covering the period of July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010) Holmes County Juvenile Court received \$170,155.87 with which to plan and provide programs which meet the requirements and standards set by the Ohio Department of Youth Services. The amount received from the Department of Youth Services is based on a formula prescribed by Ohio Revised Code Section 5139. Factors included in that formula are the number of felony adjudications for the County and for the State over the past four-year period. The amount allocated to the County based on the prescribed formula is then debited by an amount based upon the number of bed days which the County has used in Department of Youth Services institutional and community correctional facilities. Funds not expended during the fiscal year may be carried-over for funding of additional or continuing programs in coming years, although the legislature has now placed a cap on the amount that can be carried over from year to year. That cap amounts to 25% of the total grant award to the Court in the prior fiscal year.

The following three (3) programs were totally or partially funded by the Youth Services Subsidy Grant in 2010:

1. Probation

The function of the Probation Department has been described elsewhere in this Report. This grant program provides the entire salary and benefits for our two full-time Probation Officers. The maintenance portion of the program provides the Probation Officers with cellular phones in order to remain in contact with the Court and the Probation Office and funding for trainings and educational seminars the Probation Officers attend.

2. Educational Services

The Educational Services Program provides funds for the salary and benefits of the STAY (Services To At Risk Youth) Office clerk. Project STAY provides services to youth who cannot be placed in a regular school setting. Adjudicated delinquent or unruly youth and at-risk youth are placed in the STAY program when they fit the criteria of STAY pupils. This could include severe behavioral problems and ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) students. The social worker, district case managers and teacher make referrals for assessments to determine what particular needs will be met for each youth in the project. Behavioral and family issues are addressed in an effort to help the student attain a positive self-image and problem-solve in a mature manner. Academic classes are provided with strong emphasis placed on proficiency in the core subject areas.

Project STAY also provides students and their families with additional services beyond the Alternative School, including advocacy and service coordination, information about and referral to outside resources, and parent support services.

3. Mentoring

The Court's Mentoring Program, "Connections," began recruiting mentors and matching them with juveniles in the grant's Fiscal Year 2009. The Program was initiated to address the problem of young people who lack positive adult role models and to reduce recidivism in Juvenile Court. Many of these young people come from single-parent homes where the parent is overwhelmed with the daily chores involved in maintaining a home and meeting the basic necessities of their children. Such parents often do not have the time and energy needed to spend time with their children and model general life and decision-making skills. Connections matches these young people with adult volunteers who are trained by the Program Coordinator and are willing to commit to

spending four to eight hours per month with the young person for a period of at least twelve months. It is the goal of the program to aid in creating, supporting and providing nurturing relationships that will encourage these children to grow into assertive, capable and compassionate adults.

The youth targeted for the mentoring program are elementary age through high school and include those adjudicated delinquent and unruly, as well as those who are in the Court's Diversion Program or are simply at-risk.

Rebecca McKelley, the Program Coordinator, presents the program to the community in order to make the public aware of this Court Program, as well as to secure volunteers as mentors. She conducts training sessions for the adult volunteers. Mrs. McKelley also meets with youth and their families to determine if the young person is a good candidate for the Mentoring Program and to facilitate good matches of youth to mentors.

Since January 2009 more than 33 children have been matched with a mentor. These children are being actively served by the compassionate residents of Holmes County and are being exposed to learning new life skills, improved self-esteem, and a consistent example of positive family life. The program continues to seek new mentors and currently has a waiting list of over 15 children.

Recently other counties have taken an interest in the Connections Mentoring Program and have shown interest in replicating the program in other counties so that additional children in Ohio may be served.