

Arizona Judicial Branch

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2010



Judiciary Organizational Chart

Supreme Court

5 Justices, 6-year terms
 Chief Justice, Vice Chief Justice
 3 Associate Justices

Court of Appeals

22 Judges, 6-year terms

Division I, Phoenix

Chief Judge & 15 Associate Judges
 Counties: Apache, Coconino, LaPaz, Maricopa,
 Mohave, Navajo, Yavapai, Yuma

Division II, Tucson

Chief Judge & 5 Associate Judges
 Counties: Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee,
 Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz

Superior Court

174 Judges, 4-year terms
 Presiding Judge in each county

| | | | | | |
|----------|---|----------|----|------------|----|
| Apache | 1 | Greenlee | 1 | Pima | 30 |
| Cochise | 5 | LaPaz | 1 | Pinal | 9 |
| Coconino | 4 | Maricopa | 95 | Santa Cruz | 2 |
| Gila | 2 | Mohave | 6 | Yavapai | 7 |
| Graham | 1 | Navajo | 4 | Yuma | 6 |

In addition to the judicial positions listed above, there are approximately 97 full-time and part-time judges pro tempore, commissioners and hearing officers in the Superior Court.

Justice of the Peace Courts

87 Judges, 87 Precincts, 4-year terms

| | | | |
|----------|----|------------|----|
| Apache | 4 | Mohave | 5 |
| Cochise | 6 | Navajo | 6 |
| Coconino | 4 | Pima | 10 |
| Gila | 2 | Pinal | 8 |
| Graham | 2 | Santa Cruz | 2 |
| Greenlee | 2 | Yavapai | 5 |
| LaPaz | 3 | Yuma | 3 |
| Maricopa | 25 | | |

Municipal Courts

154 Full- and Part-time Judges, varying terms

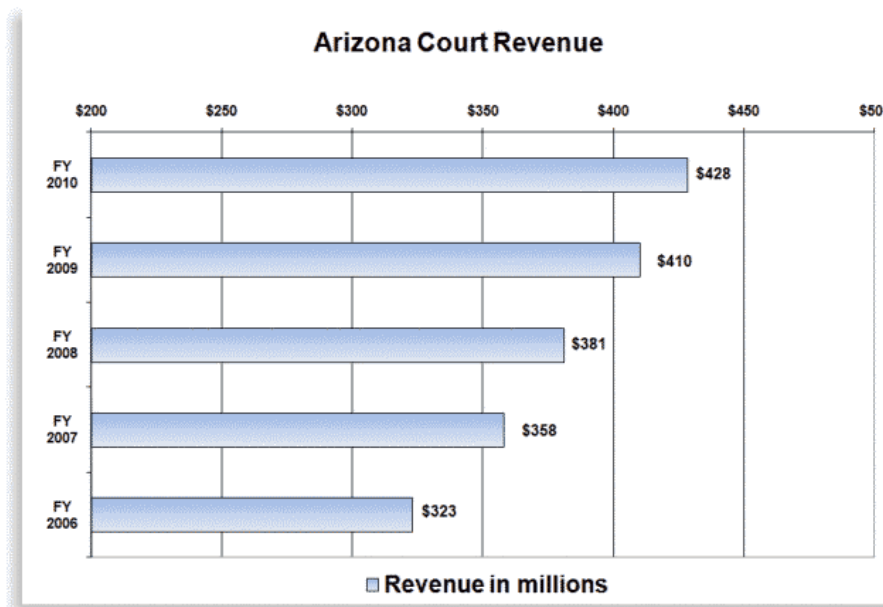
| | Judges | Courts | | Judges | Courts |
|----------|--------|--------|------------|--------|--------|
| Apache | 3 | 3 | Mohave | 5 | 4 |
| Cochise | 4 | 4 | Navajo | 4 | 4 |
| Coconino | 5 | 4 | Pima | 17 | 5 |
| Gila | 7 | 6 | Pinal | 9 | 9 |
| Graham | 3 | 3 | Santa Cruz | 2 | 2 |
| Greenlee | 1 | 1 | Yavapai | 12 | 9 |
| LaPaz | 2 | 2 | Yuma | 5 | 4 |
| Maricopa | 75 | 23 | | | |

Revenue & Expenditure Summary

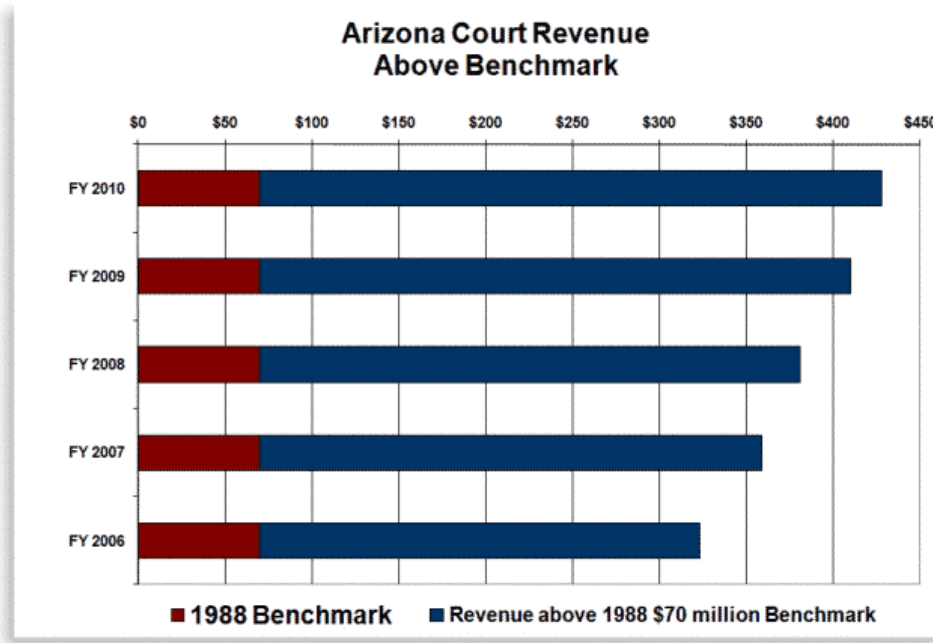
Revenue

- Total statewide court revenue increased 4.4% from \$410.3 million in FY 2009 to \$428.3 million in FY 2010, reflecting the continuing efforts of the courts statewide to collect court-ordered fines, fees, and surcharges. *See Chart A.*
- Statewide revenue increased by 0.6% in FY2010 compared with FY2009 and 4.4% with State Photo Enforcement included.
- This graph represents the trend in increased court revenue above the \$70 million benchmark established in FY 1988. Since that time, courts have collected approximately \$3.148 billion in additional revenue. *See Chart B.*
- Of the total court system revenue, the state received 45.5%, counties received 30.5% and cities and towns 24.0%. *See Chart C.*
- 43.9% of total court revenue was generated by municipal courts, 32.7% by justice courts, 22.3% by Superior Court and 1.1% by appellate courts. *See Chart D.*
- Total restitution payments for victims collected by Courts decreased 7.6% from \$18.5 million in FY 2009 to \$17.1 million in FY 2010.

Graph A

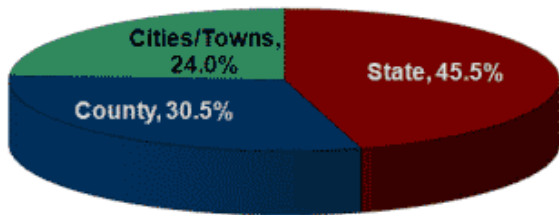


Graph B



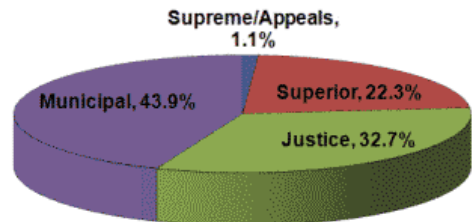
Graph C

Proportion of Revenue Generated by Level of Government



Graph D

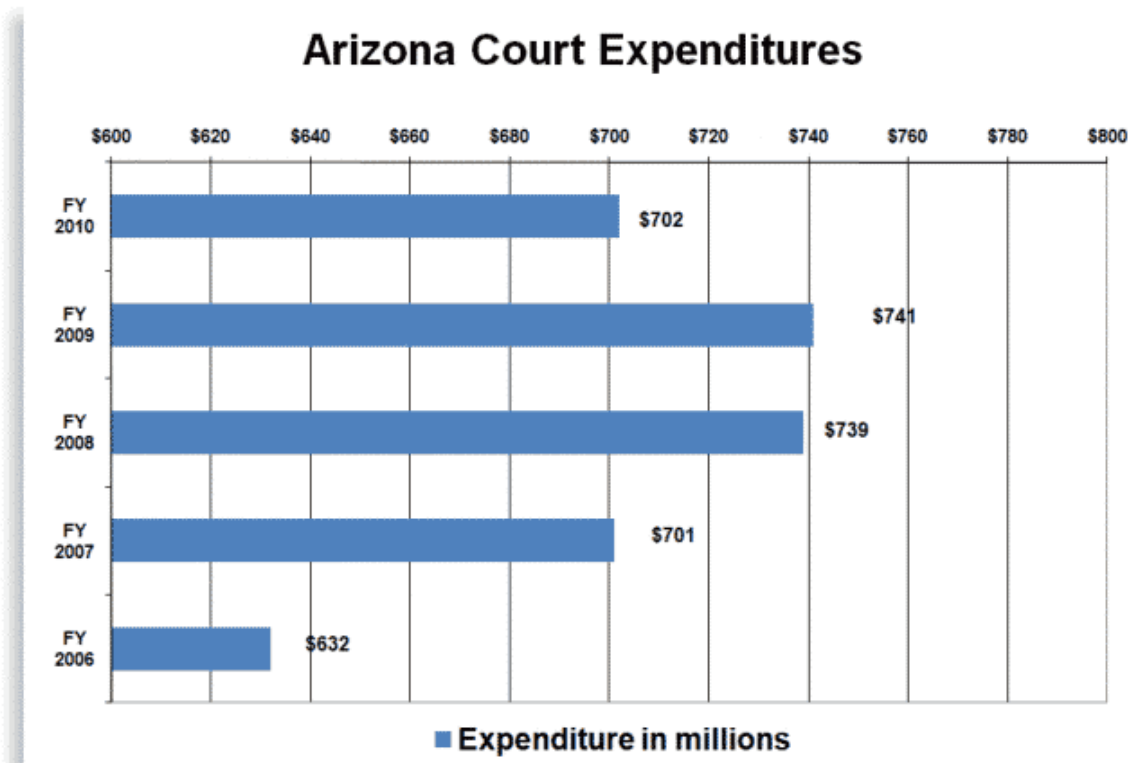
Proportion of Revenue Generated by Court Level



Expenditures

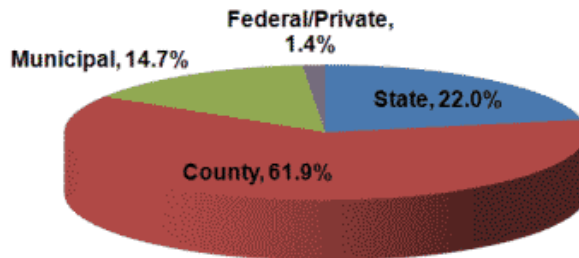
- Total statewide court expenditures decreased 5.2% from \$740.7 million in FY 2009 to \$701.9 million in FY 2010. *See Graph A.*
- 61.9 % of the total funds spent by the court system were from the counties, 22.0% from the state, 14.7% from cities and towns, and 1.4% from federal and private sources. *See Graph B.*
- 67.3% of total court expenditures were in Superior Court (including probation), 14.7% in municipal courts, 11.0% at the appellate level (including statewide administration) and 7.0% in the justice courts *See Graph C.*

Graph A



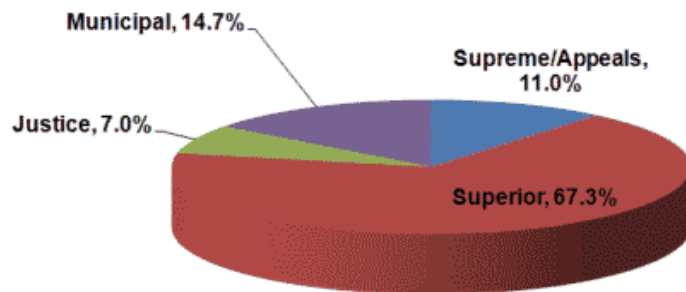
Graph B

Proportion of Expenditures by Government



Graph C

Proportion of Expenditures by Court Level



Court Statistics Caseload and Financial Highlights

FY2010 as compared with FY2009

- There were 3,050,712 case filings in FY 2010 in the Arizona Courts (Appellate, Superior, Justice and Municipal Courts) resulting in 17,945 additional filings during 2010 fiscal year, an increase of 0.6%. That's an average of 11,734 cases filed among the courts every working day. These filings include 450,169 civil traffic state photo speed enforcement filings into the Justice Courts, which account for 14.8% of the total statewide filings.
- Tax Court case filings increased by 70.0% in FY2010 compared to FY2009. During the same period, property tax actions increased by 90.3%.
- Superior Court case filings decreased by 0.3% statewide. In Maricopa County and Rural Counties, filings increased by 56 cases and 3.6%, respectively, while Pima County reported a decrease of 7.8%. The statewide decrease in total case filings was driven by an 8.2% decrease in the criminal case category.
- In Superior Court, Contract cases were up 9.7% in fiscal year 2010 and 161% over a five-year period. The Non-Classified civil case category which includes forfeitures, name changes and other cases types increased by 12.8% in FY2010 and 107% over a five-year period.
- In Superior Court, domestic relations were down in FY2010 by 3.7% compared with an increase in fiscal year 2009 of 4.1%.
- Justice Court case filings increased by 11.3% in FY 2010. Case filings in the rural county justice courts decreased by 0.5% while Maricopa and Pima county case filings increased by 14.6% and 21.9% respectively.
- Statewide, 450,169 civil traffic cases for the state's photo speed enforcement program were filed in Justice Courts in fiscal year 2010.
- Statewide Justice Courts civil traffic cases, including state photo speed enforcement, were up 25.8% while general civil cases increased by 1.5% during the same period.
- Justice Court general civil cases, which include torts, contract, and forfeiture cases, increased by 1.5% in FY2010 and 124% compared with five years ago.
- Statewide, civil traffic case filings account for 64.5% of all case filings in Justice and Municipal Courts. Civil traffic filings increased by 81,907, or 4.8% from FY 2009 to FY 2010.
- Municipal Court case filings decreased by 7.8% statewide. Maricopa, Pima, and the Rural Municipal Court's case filings decreased by 8.7%, 7.3% and 4.1% respectively. The overall decrease was driven by a 9.9% decrease in civil traffic case filings.
- There were 81,609 DUI charges were filed in Justice and Municipal Courts. This represents a decrease of 2,672 case filings from FY 2009, or a 3.2% decrease. (Case filings in Justice and Municipal Courts are primarily counted by charge, not by defendants).
- Statewide, revenue trends in fiscal year 2010 are keeping pace with case filing trends. Case filings increased by 0.6%, while revenue increased by 4.4%.
- Without the state photo speed enforcement program, statewide revenue increased by 0.6% while total case filings increased 0.6% in FY2010 compared with FY2009.
- Arizona courts have collected more than \$3.148 billion in additional revenue over the \$70 million benchmark established in FY 1988.

FY2010 Case Filings by Court Level

| Appellate | |
|--|---------------------|
| Court Level | Case Filings |
| Supreme Court | 1,086 |
| Division One | 2,970 |
| Division Two | 890 |
| Appellate Total | 4,946 |
| General Jurisdiction Superior Court | |
| County | Case Filings |
| Apache | 807 |
| Cochise | 3,898 |
| Coconino | 3,720 |
| Gila | 1,989 |
| Graham | 1,451 |
| Greenlee | 392 |
| La Paz | 812 |
| Maricopa | 160,149 |
| Mohave | 7,880 |
| Navajo | 3,239 |
| Pima | 30,366 |
| Pinal | 12,386 |
| Santa Cruz | 2,112 |
| Yavapai | 7,792 |
| Yuma | 6,186 |
| Tax Court | 3,382 |
| Superior Total | 246,561 |

Trends

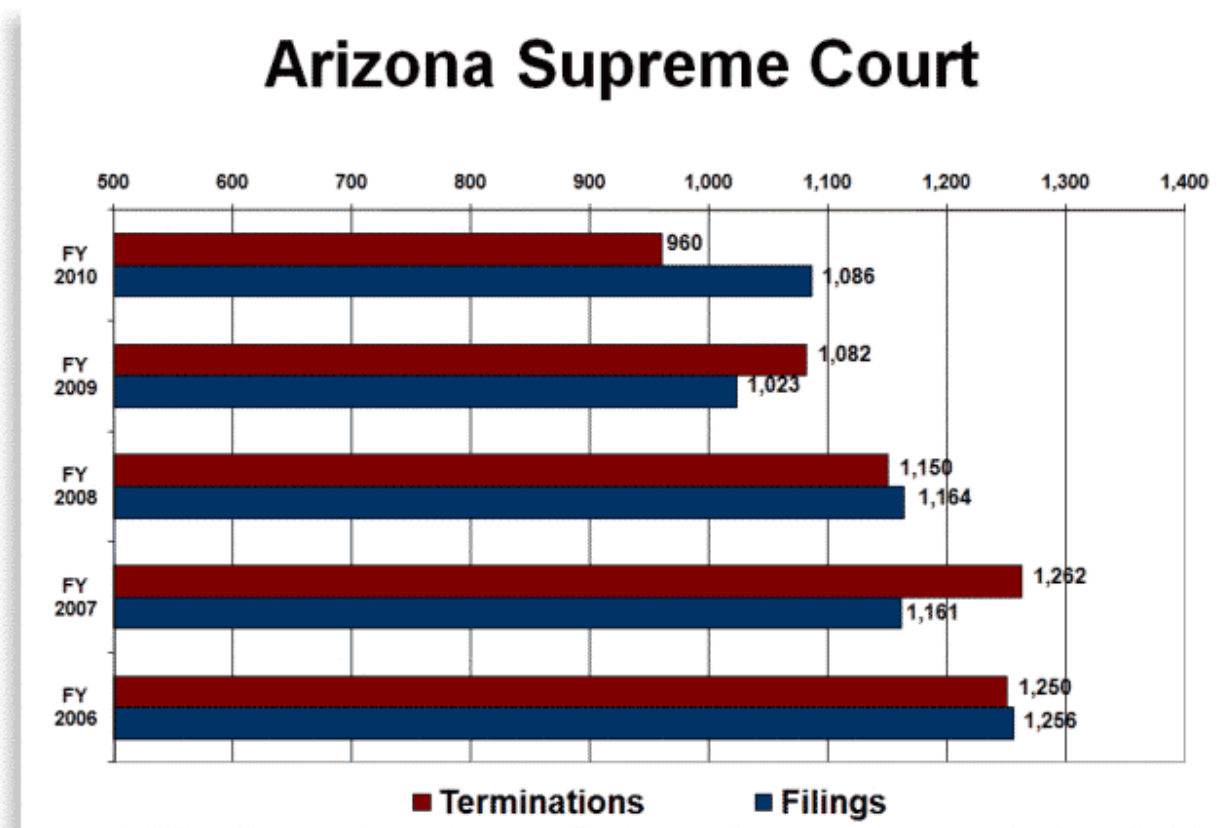
- Appellate Court case filings increased by 388 (8.5%).
- General Jurisdiction Court case filings increased by 705 (0.3%).
- Limited Jurisdiction Court case filings increased by 16,852 (0.6%)

- ▶ Cases filed include original filings and transferred.
- ▶ General Jurisdiction cases are counted by defendant.
- ▶ Limited Jurisdiction cases are counted by charge when filed by citation and by defendant when filed by long-form complaint.

| Limited Jurisdiction Case Filings | | |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| County | Justice | Municipal |
| Apache | 8,758 | 1,751 |
| Cochise | 44,250 | 5,833 |
| Coconino | 27,445 | 26,716 |
| Gila | 16,768 | 25,458 |
| Graham | 4,879 | 2,701 |
| Greenlee | 2,215 | 418 |
| La Paz | 18,696 | 2,858 |
| Maricopa | 823,304 | 944,714 |
| Mohave | 48,927 | 22,613 |
| Navajo | 31,411 | 13,274 |
| Pima | 194,495 | 277,482 |
| Pinal | 55,317 | 29,166 |
| Santa Cruz | 11,396 | 12,067 |
| Yavapai | 46,501 | 45,712 |
| Yuma | 28,317 | 25,763 |
| Total | 1,362,679 | 1,436,526 |

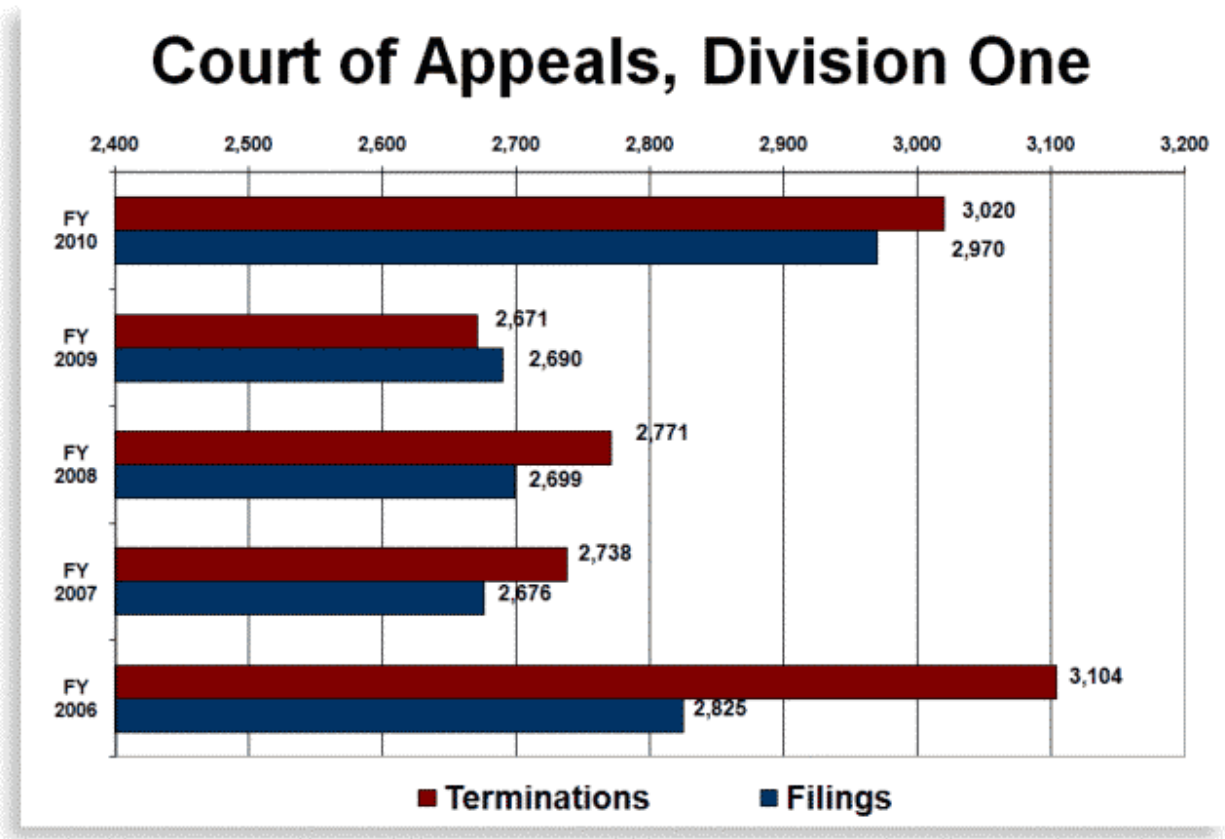
*Filings include 450,169 State Photo Enforcement civil traffic filings.

Arizona Supreme Court Case Filings Chart



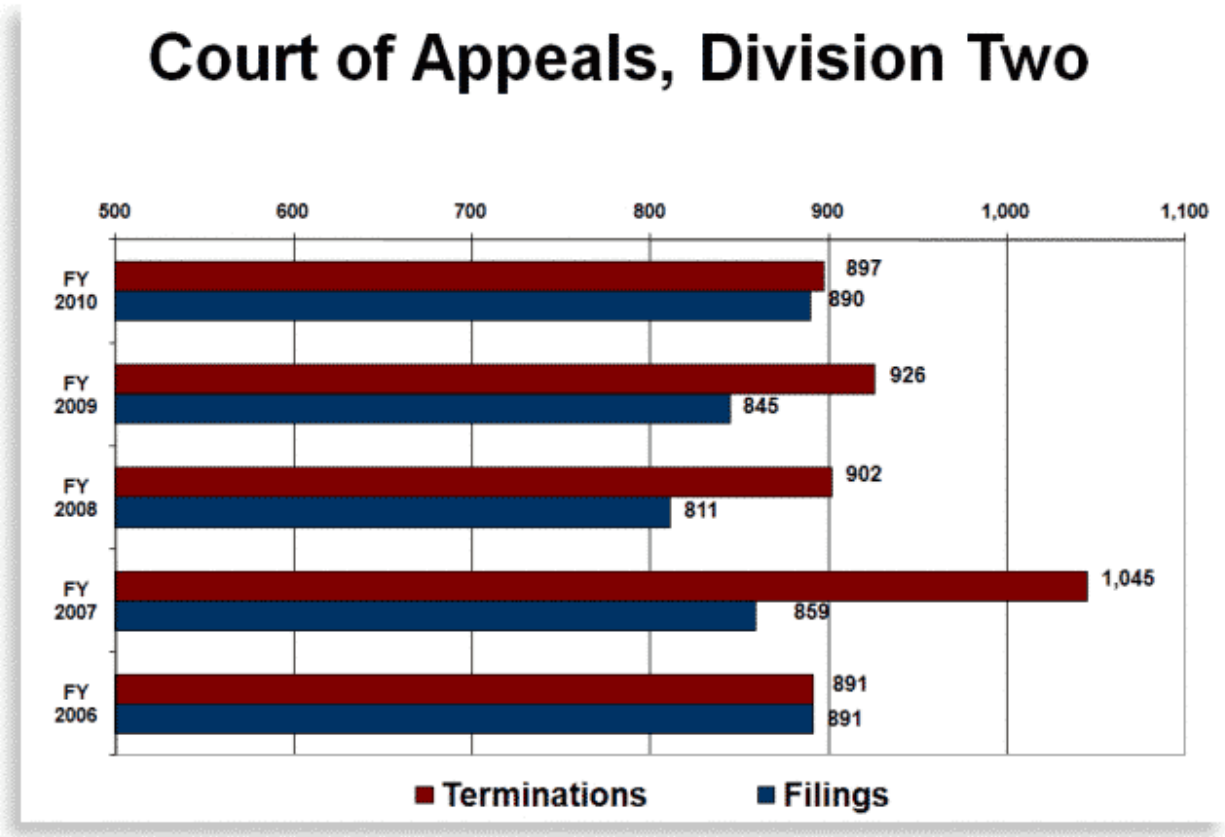
- Supreme Court FY 2010 case filings increased 6.2% from cases filed in FY 2009.
- Cases terminated by the court in FY 2010 decreased 11.3% over case terminations in FY 2009.
- The difference between filings and terminations resulted in a pending caseload increase of 46.8%. There were 269 pending cases on July 1, 2009, compared to 395 pending cases on June 30, 2010.

Court of Appeals, Division One Case Filings Chart



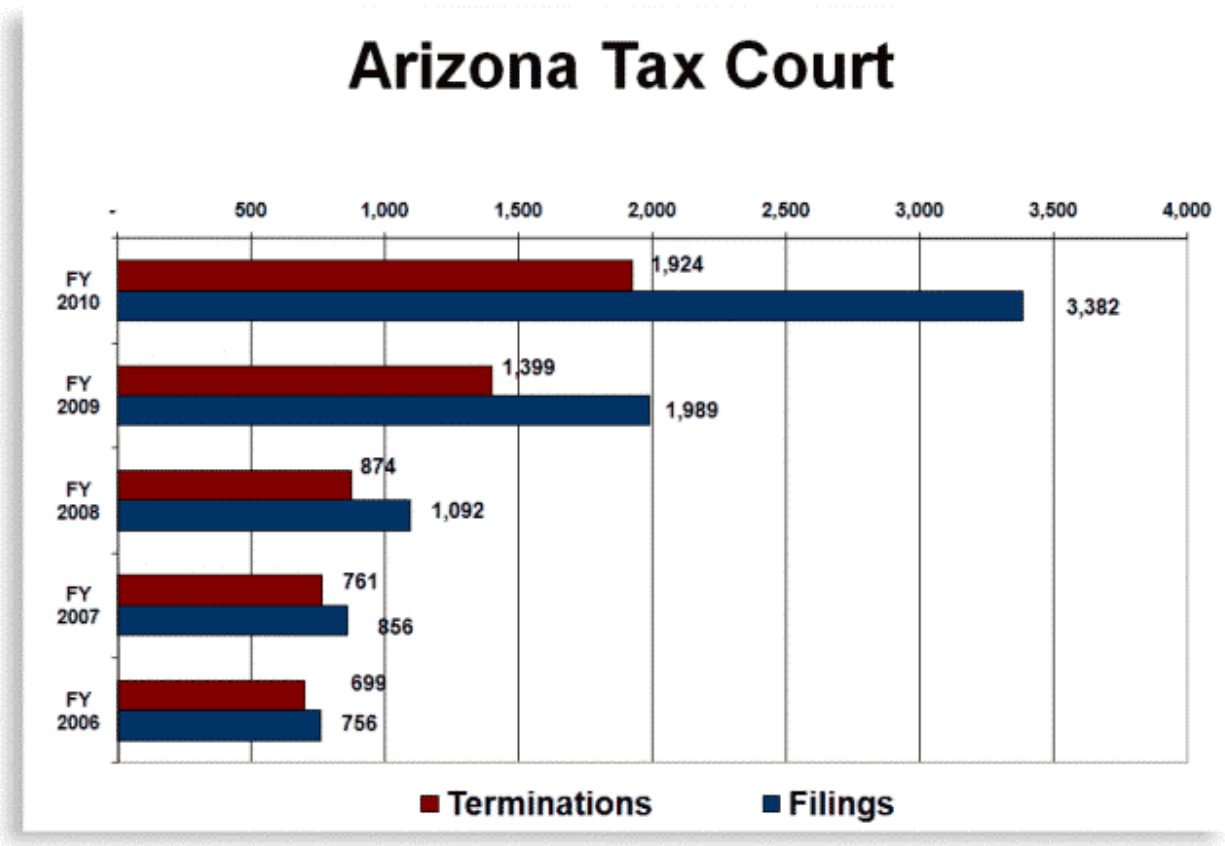
- Filings in FY 2010 represented a 10.4% increase from FY 2009. Unemployment Board filings (excluding transfer in cases), comprising 10.1% of total caseload increased 118.2% from 137 in FY 2009 to 299 in FY 2010.
- Case terminations increased by 13.1% in FY 2010.
- Pending caseload decreased by 0.1%, from 2,441 on July 1, 2009 to 2,438 on June 30, 2010.

Court of Appeals, Division Two Case Filings Chart



- Total filings in FY 2010 increased 5.3% from FY 2009. Total criminal filings (excluding transfer in cases), the largest category, comprising 48.0% of total caseload increased 2.2% from 418 in FY 2009 to 427 in FY 2010.
- Case terminations decreased by 3.1% in FY 2010.
- Pending caseload increased by 2.9%, from 712 on July 1, 2009 to 733 on June 30, 2010.

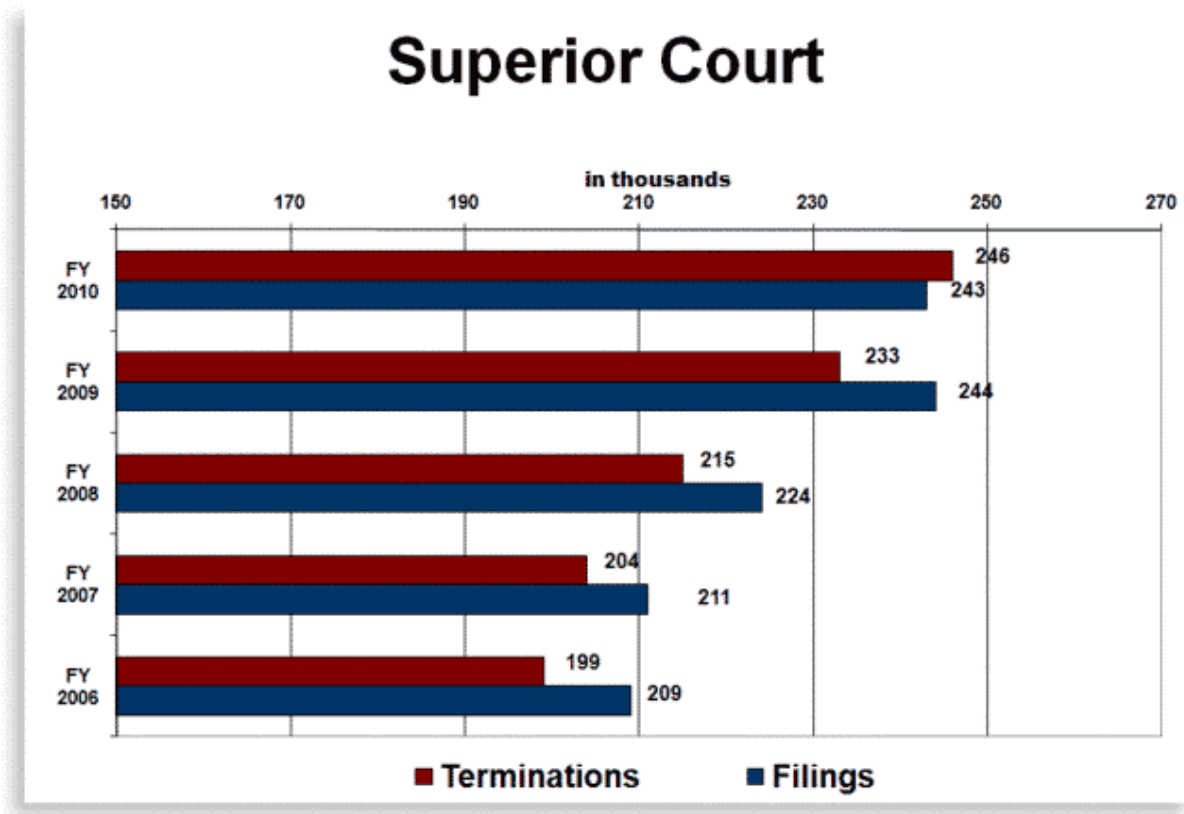
Arizona Tax Court Case Filings Chart



The Arizona Tax Court serves as the statewide venue for all civil actions involving a tax, impost, or assessment.

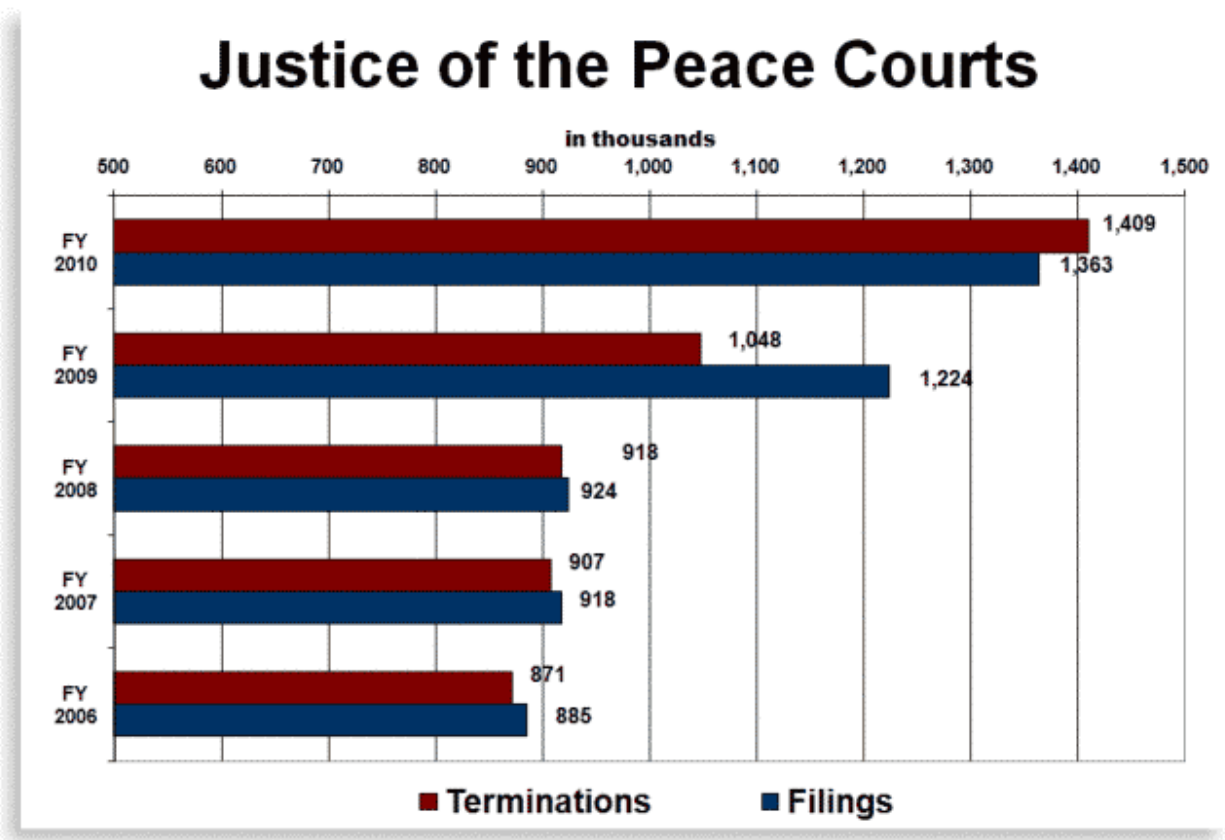
- A total of 3,311 original cases were filed in the court during FY 2010, an increase of 69.7% from the 1,951 cases filed in FY 2009.
- Of the FY 2010 cases filed, 3,148 were property tax actions, accounting for 95.1% of the total.
- A total of 1,924 cases were terminated, 406 or 21.1% by judgment.
- As of June 30, 2010, there were 2,750 cases pending in the tax court.

Superior Court Case Filings Chart



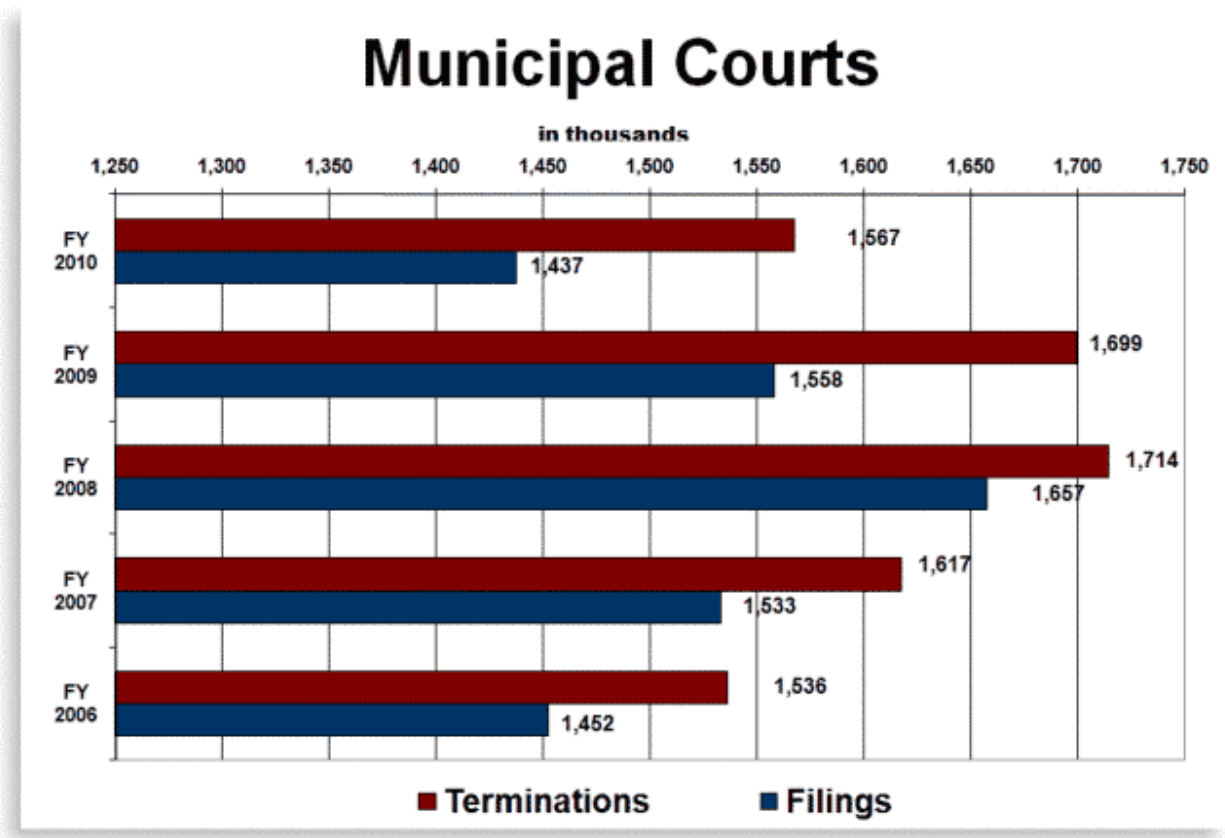
- In FY 2010, total case filings decreased by 0.3% from FY 2009.
- Total case terminations outpace case filings as they increased by 5.5% during the same period.
- Civil case filings increased 9.5% from 92,800 in FY 2009 to 101,596 in FY 2010. In the same period, civil case terminations were up 25.8% from 81,541 to 102,569.
- Criminal case filings decreased 8.2% from 57,475 in FY 2009 to 52,782 in FY 2010. Criminal case terminations decreased by 11.8% during the same period from 60,229 to 53,150.
- Domestic relations cases decreased 3.7% from 52,308 in FY 2009 to 50,388 in FY 2010, and domestic relations case terminations decreased 6.9% from 52,266 to 48,637. Domestic violence petition filings increased 3.6% in Superior Court from 11,316 to 11,726 in FY 2010.
- There were 220,943 total cases pending on July 1, 2009, compared with 218,754 cases pending on June 30, 2010, a decrease of 1.0%.
- Juveniles with direct filings to adult court decreased 30.6%, from 566 in FY 2009 to 393 in FY 2010. Juvenile cases transferred to adult court decreased 32.1%, from 53 in FY 2009 to 36 in FY 2010. A total of 429 juvenile cases were either transferred or directly filed in adult court in FY 2010 compared to 619 in FY 2009, a decrease of 30.7%.

Justice of the Peace Courts Cases Filings Chart



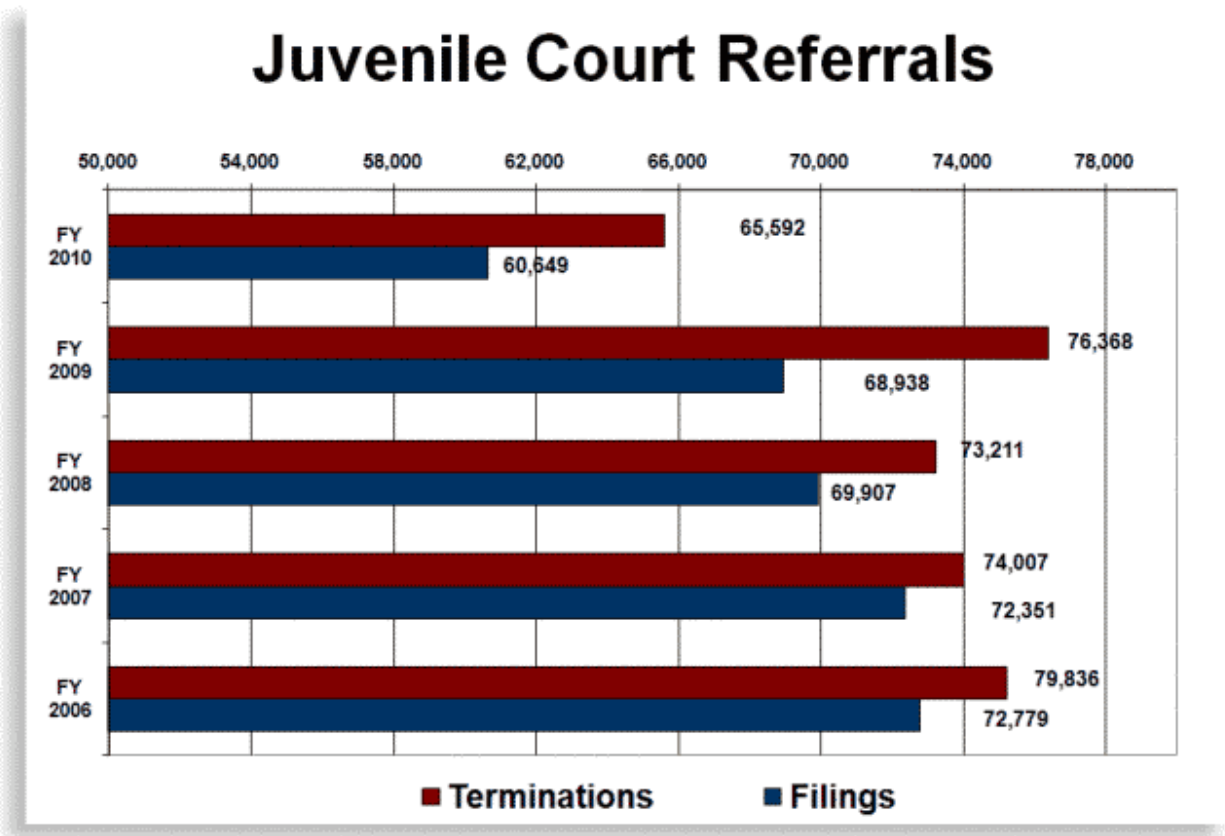
- Total filings in FY 2010 decreased 2.9% from FY 2009 and increased 11.3% when State DPS photo enforcement civil traffic cases are included.
- Total case terminations decreased 2.5% and increased 34.4% when State DPS photo enforcement civil traffic cases are included.
- Civil and criminal traffic filings, which comprise almost two-thirds of all justice court filings, decreased 0.3% from FY2009 and increased 19.5%, from 842,458 in FY 2009 to 1,006,529 in FY 2010 when State DPS photo enforcement civil traffic cases are included.
- Criminal (misdemeanor and felony) case filings decreased 9.8% from 131,227 in FY 2009 to 118,398 in FY 2010. Criminal case terminations decreased 9.4% from 137,104 in FY 2009 to 124,215 in FY 2010.
- Domestic Violence petition filings increased 5.6% in justice courts, from 8,956 to 9,460. Petitions for Injunctions Against Harassment decreased 10.8% from 9,040 to 8,064.
- Total cases pending dropped by 2.2% from 656,860 on July 1, 2009 to 642,612 on June 30, 2010.

Municipal Courts Case Filings Chart



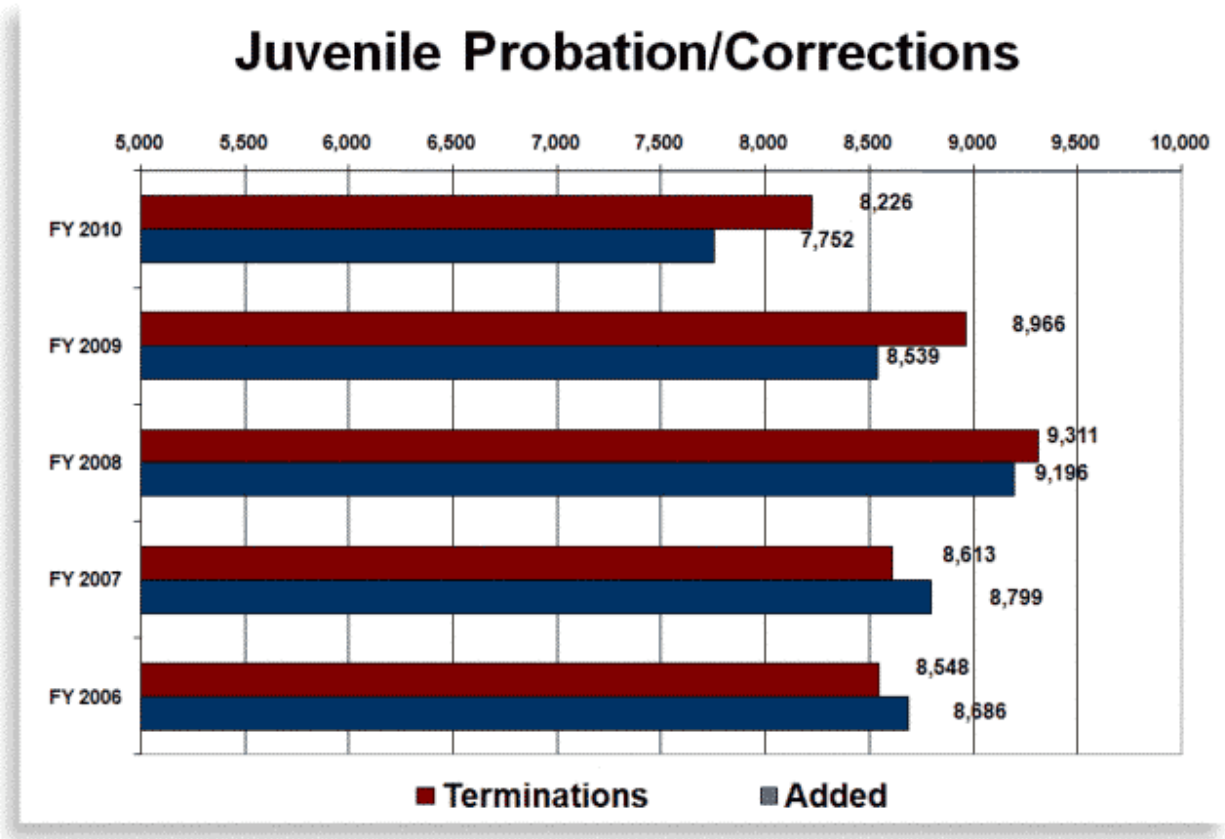
- Case filings in FY 2010 decreased 7.8% from FY 2009. Total case terminations decreased 7.7% in the same period.
- Civil and criminal traffic filings, which comprise about three-fourths of all municipal court cases, decreased 9.2%, from 1,184,775 in FY 2009 to 1,075,645 in FY 2010.
- Criminal misdemeanor case filings decreased 1.8% from 244,990 in FY 2009 to 240,481 in FY 2010. Criminal misdemeanor case terminations decreased 2.0% from 305,719 in FY 2009 to 299,540 in FY 2010.
- Domestic Violence petitions increased 1.1% from 12,997 in FY 2009 to 13,138 in FY 2010. Petitions for Injunctions Against Harassment decreased 4.9%, from 9,550 in FY 2009 to 9,078 in FY 2010.
- Total cases pending decreased 1.6%, from 904,364 on July 1, 2009 to 889,856 on June 30, 2010.

Juvenile Court Referrals Chart



- There were 60,649 referrals to juvenile court in FY 2010, a 12.0% decrease compared to 68,938 in the previous year.
- 65,592 referrals were terminated in FY 2010, a 14.1% decrease compared to the 76,368 referrals terminated in FY 2009.

Juvenile Probation/Corrections Case Filing Chart



- The number of juveniles on probation at the end of FY 2010 decreased 6.8% from 7,908 on July 1, 2009 to 7,368 on June 30, 2010.
- A total of 7,752 adjudicated juveniles were placed on probation in FY 2010, a 9.2% decrease from the 8,539 youths placed on probation in FY 2009.
- 8,226 juveniles were released from probation, a decrease of 8.3% from the 8,966 terminated last year.
- 744 juveniles were committed to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections during FY 2010, a decrease of 12.0% from the 845 committed last year.

Adult Probation

- The number of individuals under the jurisdiction of Arizona adult probation departments at the end of FY2010 decreased 0.9% from 85,163 on July 1, 2009 to 84,395 on June 30, 2010.
- Of the 84,395 under the jurisdiction of adult probation, 43,869 were on standard probation (37,802 were under direct supervision in the state and 6,067 were under indirect supervision as they were out going interstate compact or in long term residential treatment), 2,221 on intensive probation (2,077 were direct supervision and 144 were on indirect supervision), and 38,305 were on administrative supervision (unsupervised, report only, deported, etc.).

Juvenile Court Petitions

- A total of 24,822 petitions were filed in FY 2010, an 8.7% decrease from the 27,195 petitions filed in FY 2009.
- A total of 23,991 petitions were terminated in FY 2010, a 9.7% decrease from the 26,566 terminated in FY 2009.