



**Government
of South Australia**

Department for Families
and Communities

Youth Justice in South Australia

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Families SA

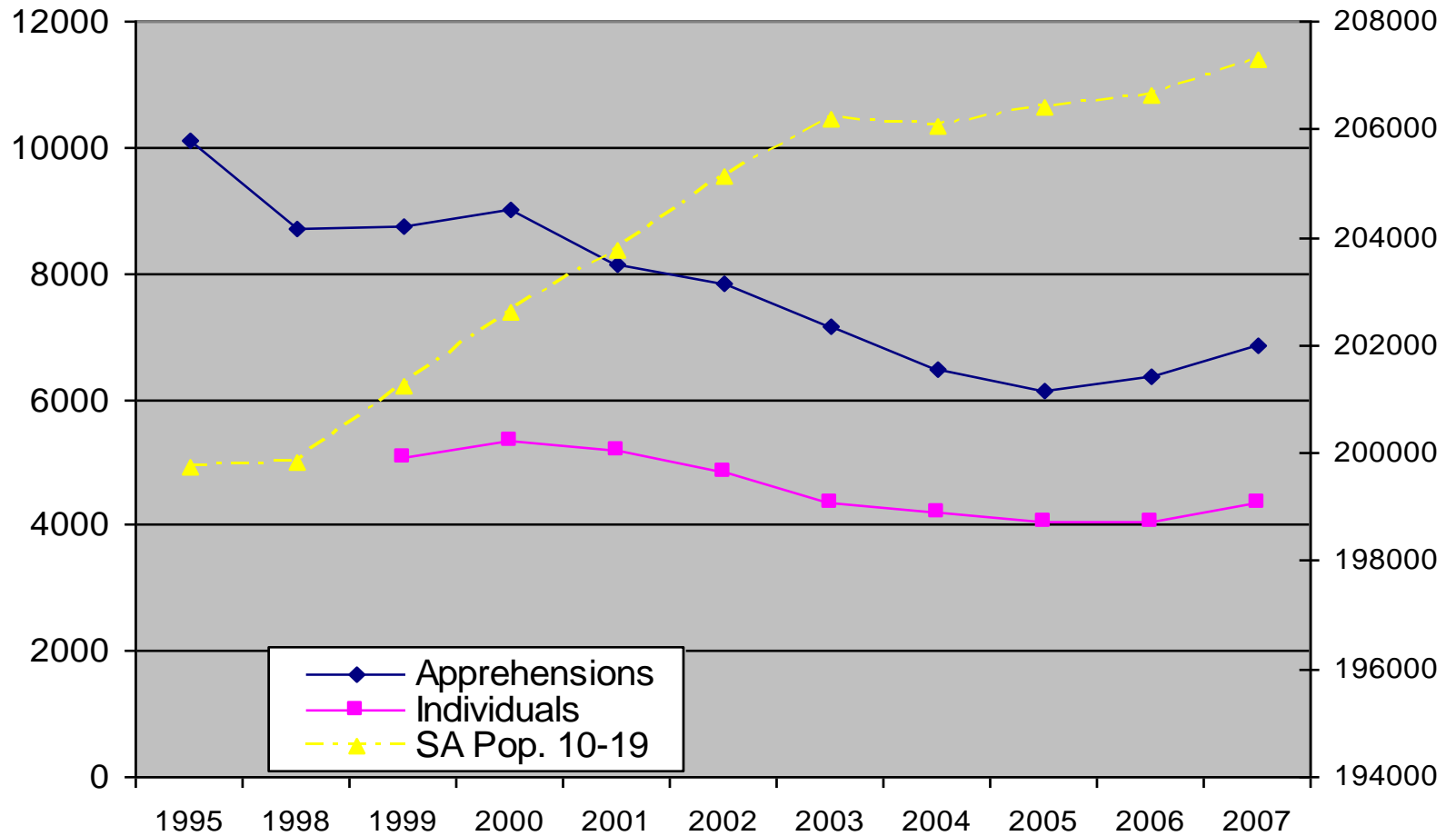
Youth Justice System

- Separate to adult system but same Criminal law's but modified by:
 - Young Offenders Act (1993)
 - Family and Community Services Act (1972)
- Age of Criminal Responsibility is 10 Years, held to be less criminally responsible
- Tiered structure of diversion
 - Informal Cautions
 - Formal Cautions
 - Family Conferences

Key Youth Justice Agencies

- South Australian Police
- Courts Administration Authority – Family Conferences
- Youth Court
- Families & Communities, Families SA
- Sector Partners – Health, Education

Police Apprehensions Involving Youth 1995 -2007



Police Apprehensions by Major Alleged Offence 2007

Offence Type	No.	%
Larceny & Receiving	1,898	27.7
Against Good Order	1,819	26.5
Against Person	884	12.9
Criminal Trespass	732	10.7
Damage Property	686	10
Driving Offences	425	6.2
Robbery & Extortion	123	1.8
Sexual Offences	101	1.5
Drug Offences	98	1.4
Other Offences	55	0.8
Total	6,862	100

Families SA Youth Justice Services

- Targeted at young people who have been convicted or are formally suspected of committing an offence
- Preparation of information and reports for the Youth Court
- Training Centres
- Supervision and case management of young people on orders including:
 - Bail
 - Community Service
 - Obligation
 - Home Detention
 - Custodial detention

Families SA Approach to Youth Justice

Families SA's approach to Youth Justice seeks to:

- Enhance community safety
- Ensure young people who offend are held accountable for their actions
- Minimise the re-occurrence of criminal activity
- Expand opportunities for young people involved in the youth justice system