

Referred to SONAD

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY RESIDENCES

**Residence Judicial Report
2010-2011**

Introduction

In accordance with the *Guidelines for Handling Non-Academic Discipline at Queen's* (2003), a summary of actions from the Discipline Working Group (DWG) of the Senate Residence Committee (SRC) is submitted annually to the Senate. This report adheres to this requirement and presents the records of the Residence Judicial System for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Queen's University Residences recognizes the importance of supporting students to make positive choices and promotes healthy residence communities. Within residences, a system of Community Standards acts as guidelines and set out behavioural expectations for all students in residence. Community Standards are in place to support the safety and security of the residence community and are classified into three levels, One, Two, and Three.

Level One incidents are any actions by an individual or individuals that interfere with another resident's peaceful use and enjoyment of his or her space. Level Two incidents are actions by an individual or individuals that have a significant negative impact on another resident; actions that endanger the safety and security of the perpetrator or others in residence; actions that undermine the dignity of another individual; or actions which result in damage to University property. Level Three incidents include offences of a serious nature that are not expressly Level One or Level Two offences, complex behaviour issues, or a progression of offences from any or all levels.

Decisions about responsibility for Level One incidents are made by Discipline Facilitators in conjunction with Residence Life Coordinators; Level Two decisions of responsibility are made by the Peer Judicial Board, while Level Three decisions of responsibility are made by Residence Life Management, with other campus departments or organizations as necessary.

Statistics in the Residence Judicial System

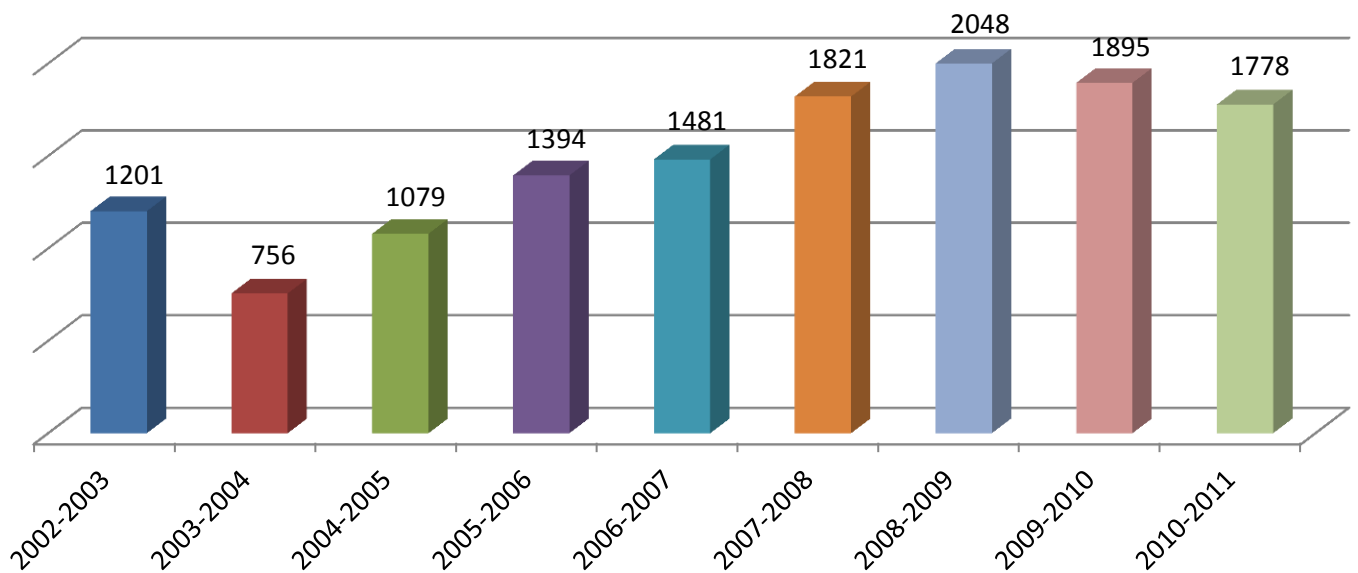
Within the residence judicial process student names are attached to an incident and each unique incident is assigned a case number. More than one student name may be included in one case and student names may be associated with a number of incidents. When a case is reviewed within the Residence Judicial process, decision makers find individual students to be responsible or not responsible for violating a specific Community Standard. When reviewing statistics based on this unique system, it is important to note whether the information provided is counting the number of cases, number of unique student names, or number of students found responsible.

The following statistics provide a brief overview of how incidents were distributed over the 2010-2011 academic year. The records are illustrated graphically to assist with interpretation.

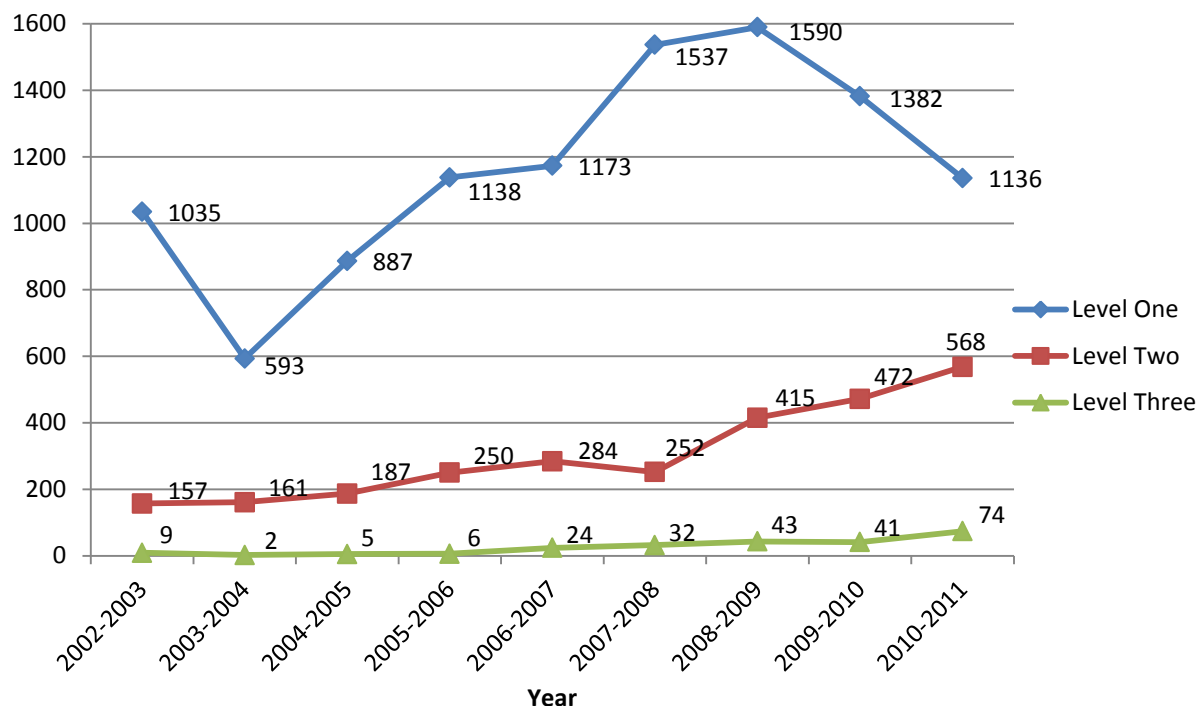
Number of Incidents with a Student Found Responsible: Level & Year

Level	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
One	1035	593	887	1138	1173	1537	1590	1382	1136
Two	157	161	187	250	284	252	415	472	568
Three	9	2	5	6	24	32	43	41	74
Total	1201	756	1079	1394	1481	1821	2048	1895	1778

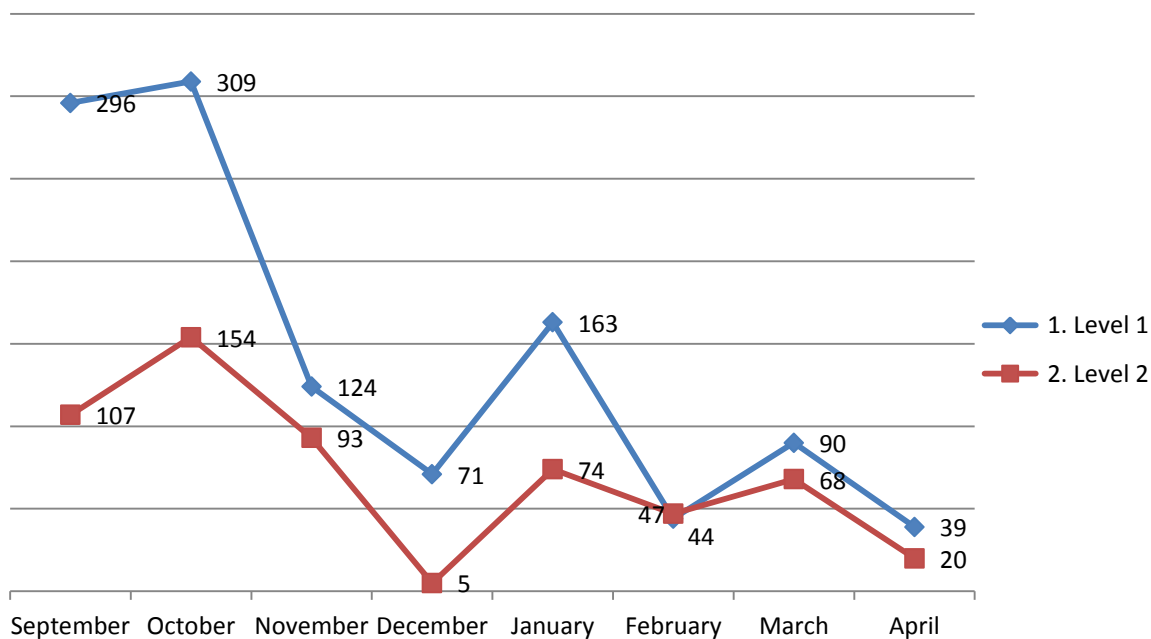
Number of Incidents with a Student Found Responsible: All Levels By Year



Number of Incidents with a Student Found Responsible: Level, Classification, & Year



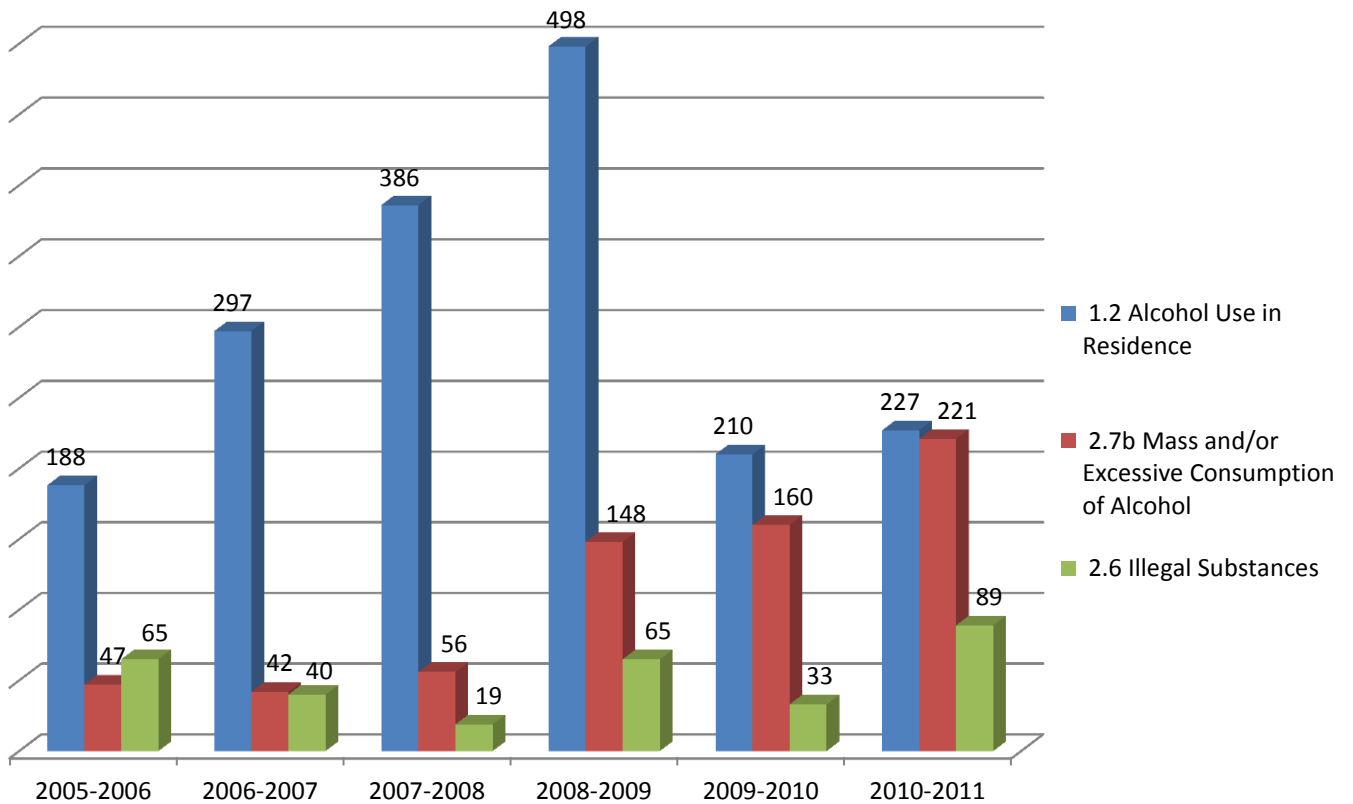
Number of Incidents with a Student Found Responsible for Level One or Level Two, 2010-2011, & Month



Most Frequent Community Standards Incidents 2010-2011

Frequency of Occurrences	Classification: Level One & Two	Number
1	1.3 Noise	567
2	1.5 Inappropriate Behaviour	271
3	1.2 Alcohol Use in Residence	227
4	2.7b Mass and/or Excessive Consumption of Alcohol	221
5	2.1c Inappropriate Behaviour	106
6	2.6 Illegal Substances	89

Alcohol & Illegal Substances: Level One & Level Two, Year

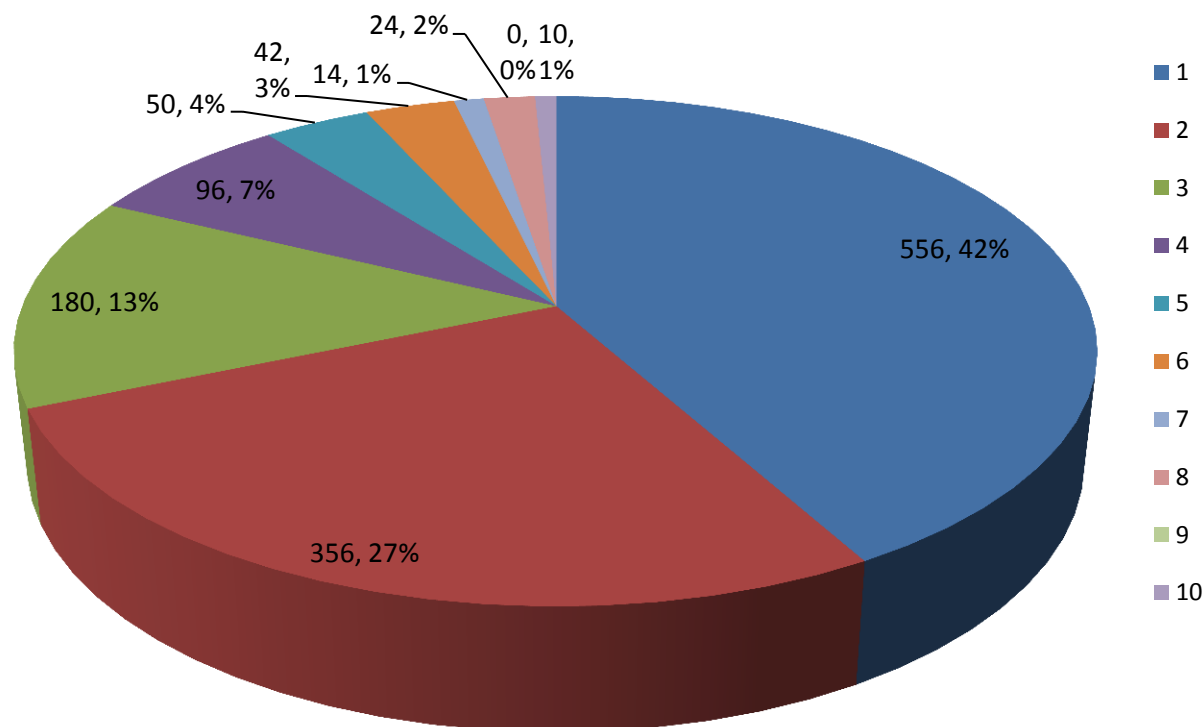


Number of Incidents Student Found Responsible For 2010-2011

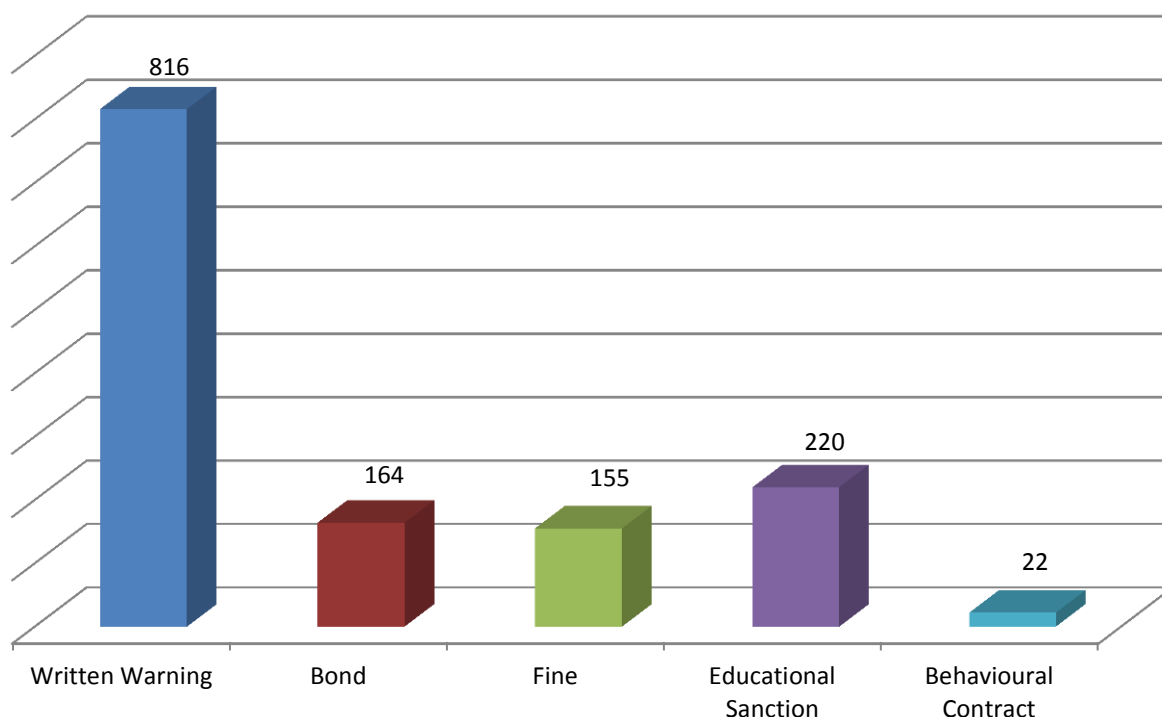
When referring to the number of Community Standard incidents in 2010-2011, it is helpful to note the number of times a student was found responsible for an incident. Of the students who were involved in the Residence Judicial System and found responsible for an incident in 2010-2011:

- 42% were found responsible for one incident
- 27% were found responsible for two incidents
- 13% were found responsible for three incidents
- 7% were found responsible for four incidents
- 4% were found responsible for five or more incidents
- 7% were found responsible for six or more incidents

Of the students living in Residence in 2010-2011, approximately 36% came into contact with the Residence Judicial System and were subsequently found responsible or not responsible. Therefore, of students living in Residence in 2010-2011, 64% did not come into contact with the Residence Judicial System.



Sanctions Assigned 2010-2011: Type & Count



Sanctions are assigned based on the unique circumstances surrounding each incident. More than one sanction may be assigned to an individual for one unique incident. Therefore, the total number of sanctions does not correspond to the total number of offences for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Sanctions are primarily educational and remedial in nature. Verbal warnings, written warnings, educational sanctions including community service and meetings with senior Residence Life representatives, and bonds (with payment required if a student is found responsible for an additional incident) are designed to educate students about their responsibilities and to assist students in making positive, self-directed choices in the future. Additionally, fines, behavioural contracts, and other sanctions are assigned, depending on the nature and progression of offences. Other sanctions include loss of privileges, restitution, relocation, and in most serious cases, suspension or termination of the residence contract.

Peer Judicial Board

The Peer Judicial Board is the decision making body in cases involving Level Two incidents, repeat Level One incidents and appeals for Level One and Level Two cases. It should be noted that a second Level One offence is not considered a Level Two offence.

The Peer Judicial Board is composed of both volunteer Members-at-Large and paid Chairs who help to uphold Residence Community Standards. All members of the Peer Judicial Board are students. Each week of the academic term (excluding exam break and holidays) members of the Peer Judicial Board meet for an informal peer judicial hearing to deliberate and make decisions of responsibility on Level Two Community Standards incidents.

In 2010-2011 there were 16 Members-at-Large and three Chairs who heard cases that came before the Peer Judicial Board, decided if a student was responsible or not responsible, and assigned a sanction if appropriate. The Peer Judicial Board met 44 times and decided on the responsibility of 695 incidents of a student becoming involved in a Community Standards incident. The Peer Judicial Board hearings consisted of 249 hearings and 446 ratifications.

Appeals Committee

Respondents have the right to appeal Level One Offences and Peer Judicial Board decisions to an Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee (comprised of two Members-at-Large and the Appeals Coordinator) heard 48 cases in 2010-2011.

Discipline Working Group Update

The Discipline Working Group (DWG) of the Senate Residence Committee met seven times over the academic year to review and modify the Residence Judicial process, with a view to improving policy and ensuring fairness within the system.

In order to address the challenges of the existing system, the DWG reviewed the following proposed changes to the judicial system for the 2010-2011 academic year:

- Revise the Community Standards sanction guidelines to provide a framework that focuses on educational sanctions to support the educational and remedial nature of the Residence Judicial system.
- Streamline the progression of offences category to ensure students who are involved in a number of Community Standards incidents are meeting with Residence Life staff to discuss their behaviour when necessary.
- Reducing the number of community standards in an effort to consolidate the meaning and intent of the community standards.
- Elevating any instances of tampering with fire equipment or fire alarms to a Level three.

The DWG agreed that these revisions are in keeping with the direction set by Senate, and recommended that they be implemented in the fall 2011.

In keeping with their mandate, the Discipline Working Group has been asked to resume its annual review of the Residences judicial policy and procedures. It is anticipated that the tasks listed above will be undertaken over the course of the 2011-2012 academic year.

Report Submitted by:

Kathryn Morrissey,
Residence Judicial Advisor

On behalf of the Discipline Working Group members:

Harry Smith – Coordinator of Dispute Resolution Mechanisms
Bob Crawford – Senate Residence Committee Representative
Lisa Acchione – VP Discipline, Main Campus Residents' Council
Matt Sheculski – Appointed Representative, Jean Royce Hall Council
Kathryn Morrissey – DWG Chair Residence Judicial Advisor
Seymone Armstrong – DWG Secretary, Community Standards Assistant