



Background Briefing

CIVIL RIGHTS

Robin R. Risko, Senior Fiscal Analyst

January 2010

The fiscal information in this background briefing is based on data through January 1, 2010.

Department of Civil Rights

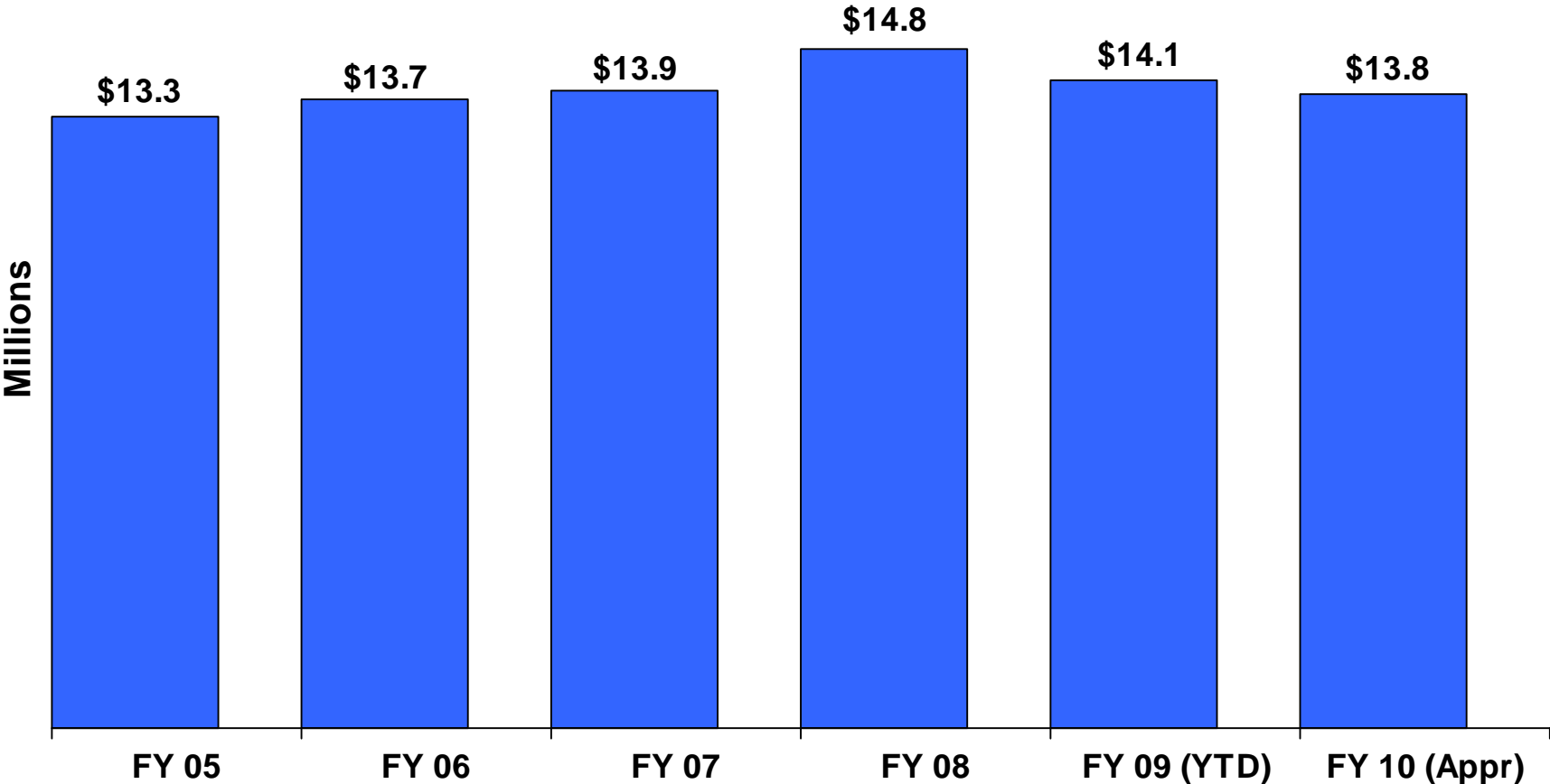
- **Mission is to secure the full and equal enjoyment of civil rights in Michigan by eliminating discrimination, assuring equal protection, and effectively managing and embracing diversity**
- **Civil Rights Commission was established in 1963 when guarantees against discrimination were added to the Michigan Constitution**
- **Department of Civil Rights was established in 1965 to serve as the administrative arm charged with implementing policies of the Commission**
- **Department has investigative and enforcement authority**

Civil Rights Responsibilities

- **Enforce the state's civil rights laws**
- **Provide educational programs that promote voluntary compliance with civil rights laws; activities include networking, partnership, presentations, crisis intervention, training, and technical assistance**
- **Investigate and resolve discrimination complaints in the areas of employment, public accommodations and service, education, housing, and law enforcement**
- **Provide information and services to businesses on diversity initiatives, equal employment law, procurement opportunities and feasibility studies, and joint venture/strategic alliance matchmaking**

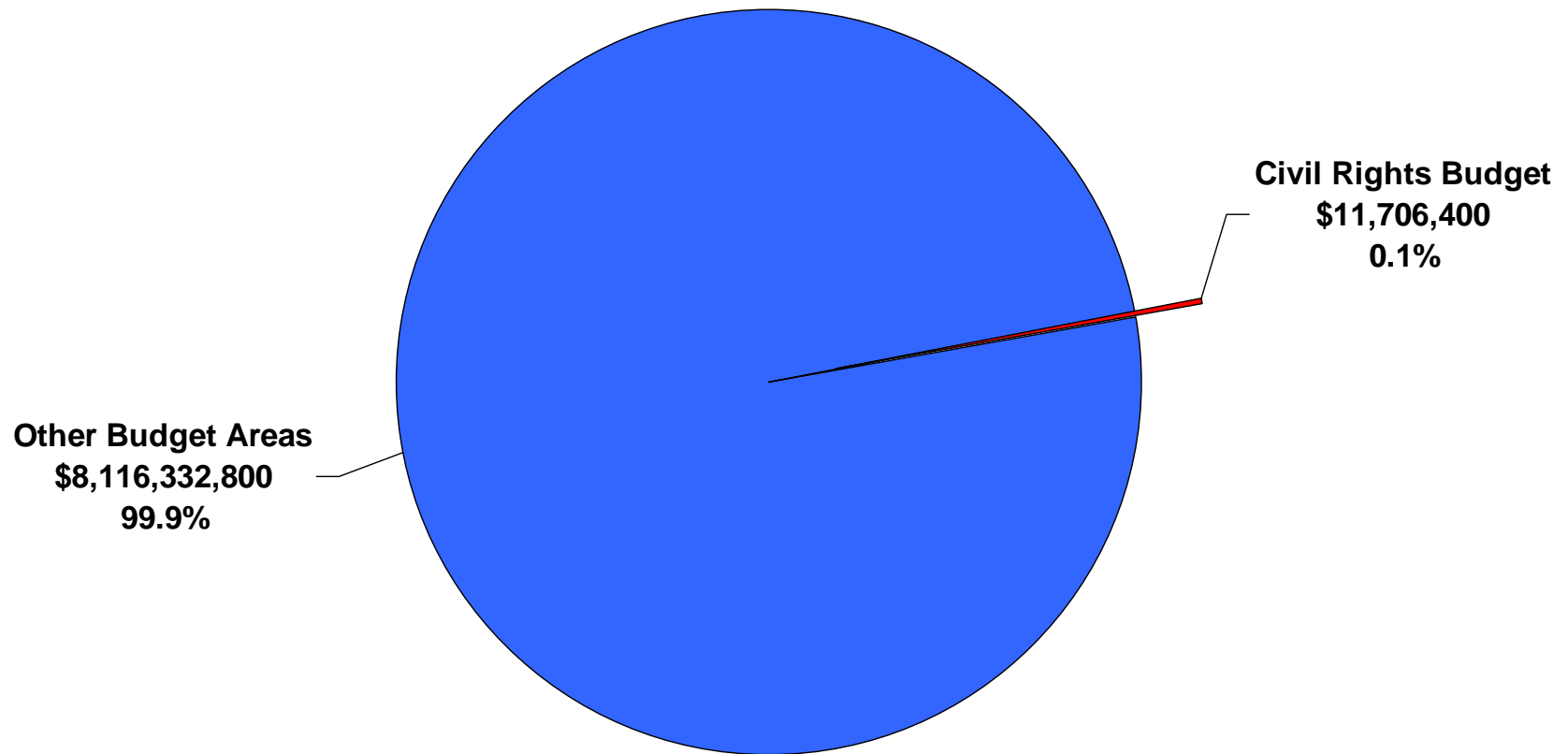
Civil Rights Budget

Civil Rights spending increases primarily due to inflation; decreases due to budget reductions.



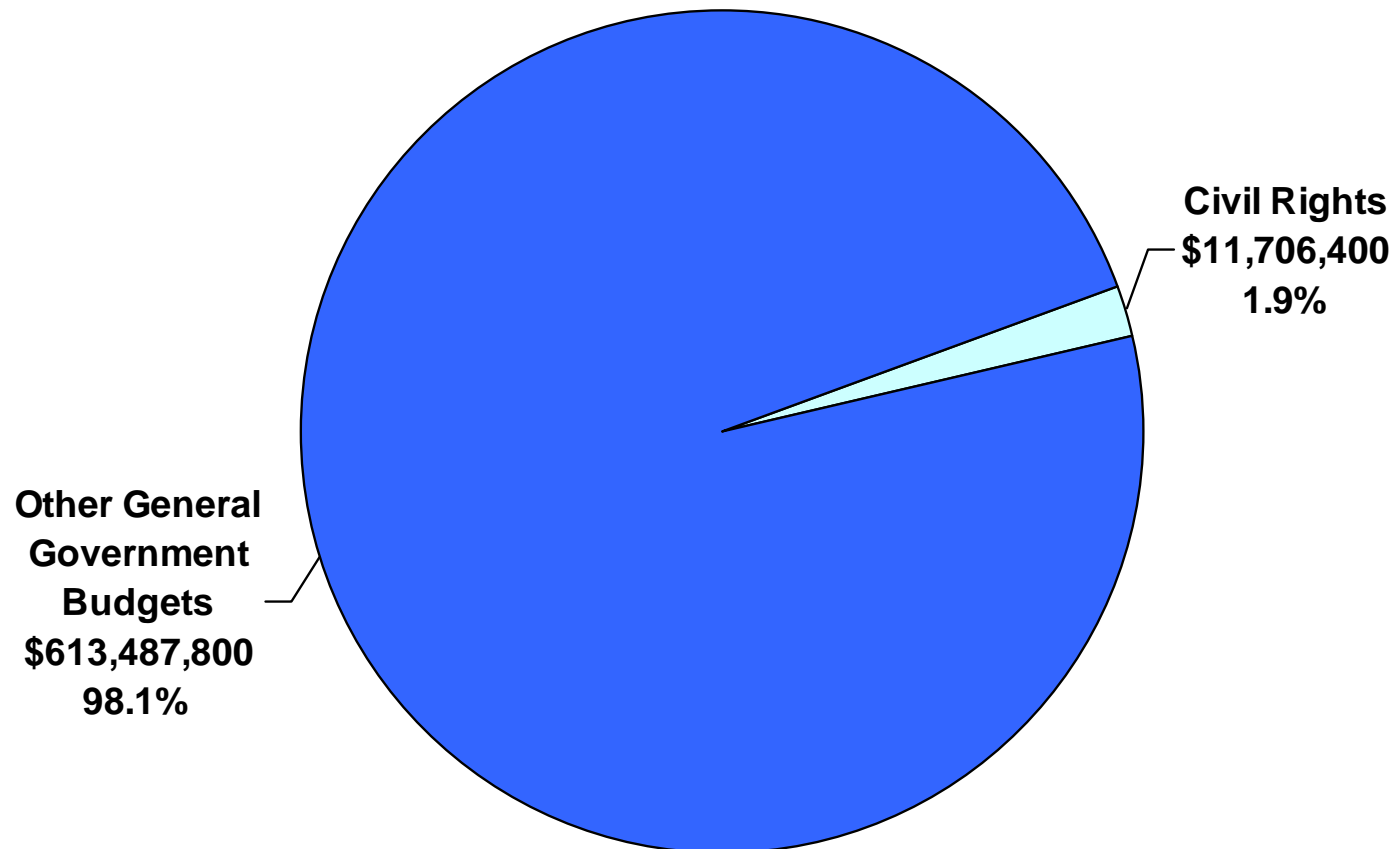
Civil Rights Share of State GF/GP

FY 2009-10 Total State GF/GP = \$8,128,039,200



Civil Rights Share of General Government GF/GP

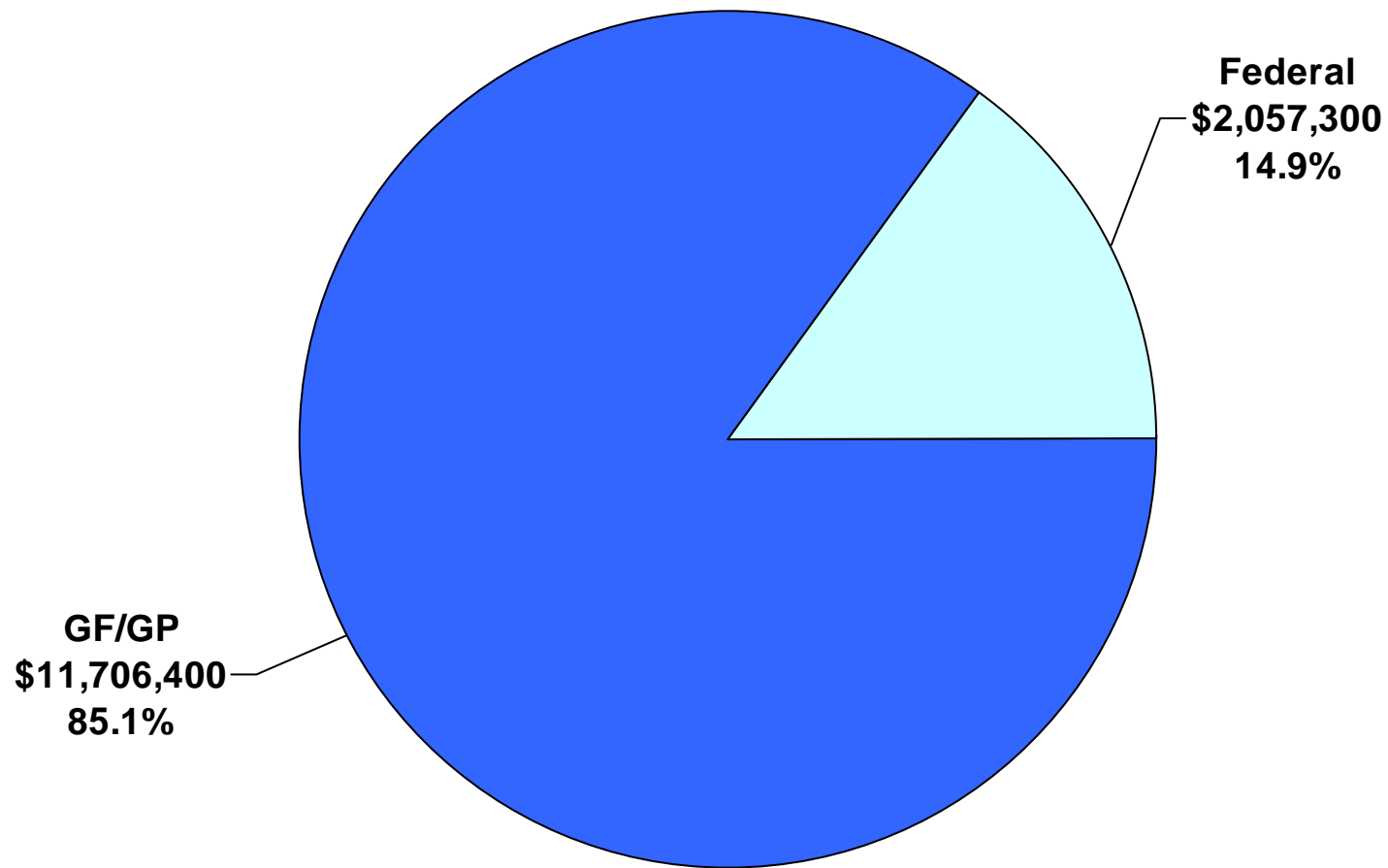
FY 2009-10 GF/GP = \$625,194,200



SOURCES OF FUNDING

Civil Rights Appropriations by Revenue Source

FY 2009-10 Gross Revenue = \$13,763,700



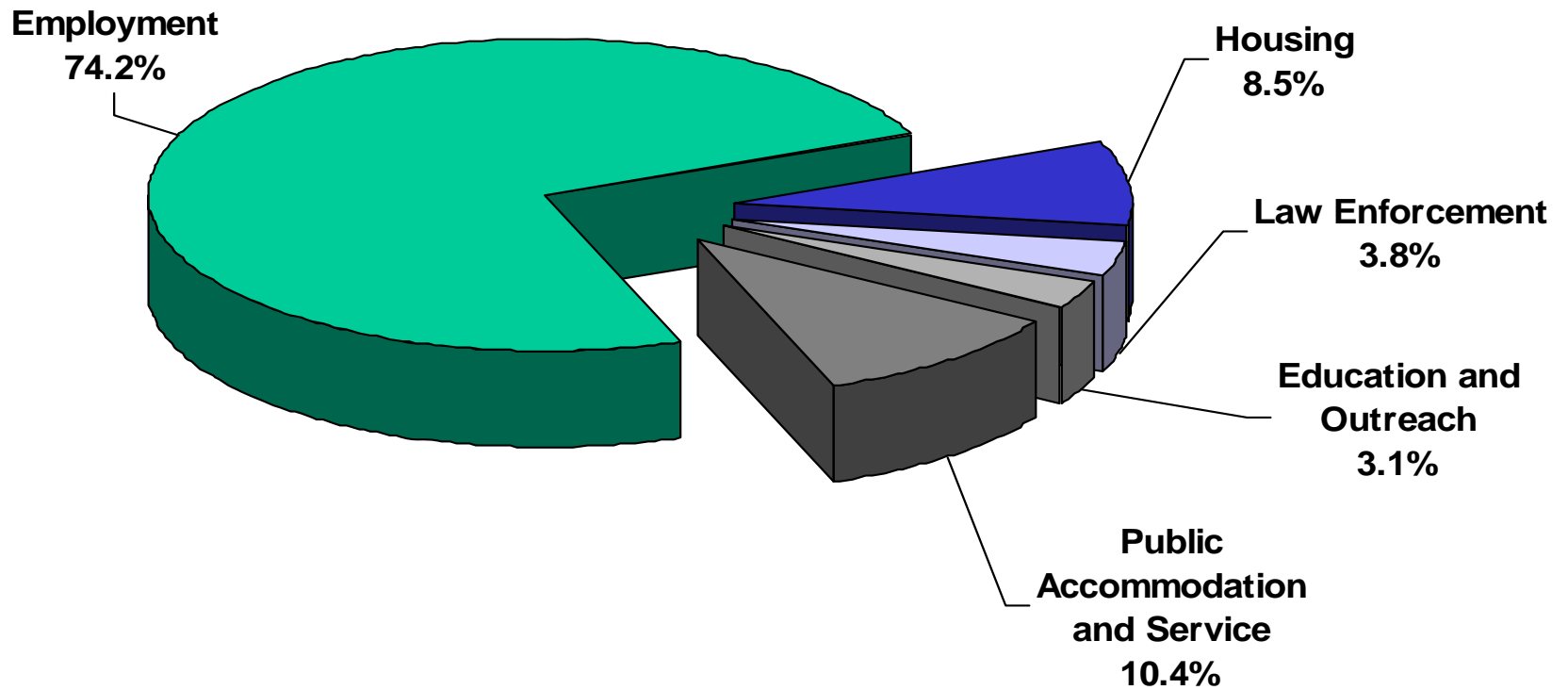
STATE SPENDING

Civil Rights Spending

- **Complaint Investigation and Enforcement:** investigates discrimination complaints and enforces civil rights laws
- **Outreach and Education:** collaborates with governmental units, community-based organizations, law enforcement, advocacy groups, educational institutions, and the private sector
- **Mediation:** alternative dispute resolution
- **Community Relations Division:** enhances communication, provides new options in service delivery, facilitates access to outreach and education, develops and maintains partnerships and initiatives
- **Contract Compliance Unit:** establishes standards and procedures for ensuring non-discrimination in the provision of programs, services, and funding
- **Office of Legal Affairs:** provides legal guidance and strategy on issues and cases, litigates cases, writes amicus briefs on pending court cases, reviews pending legislation, designs and implements grants for fair housing program
- **Michigan Women's Commission:** works to improve the quality of life for women in the areas of employment, education, health, home, and community

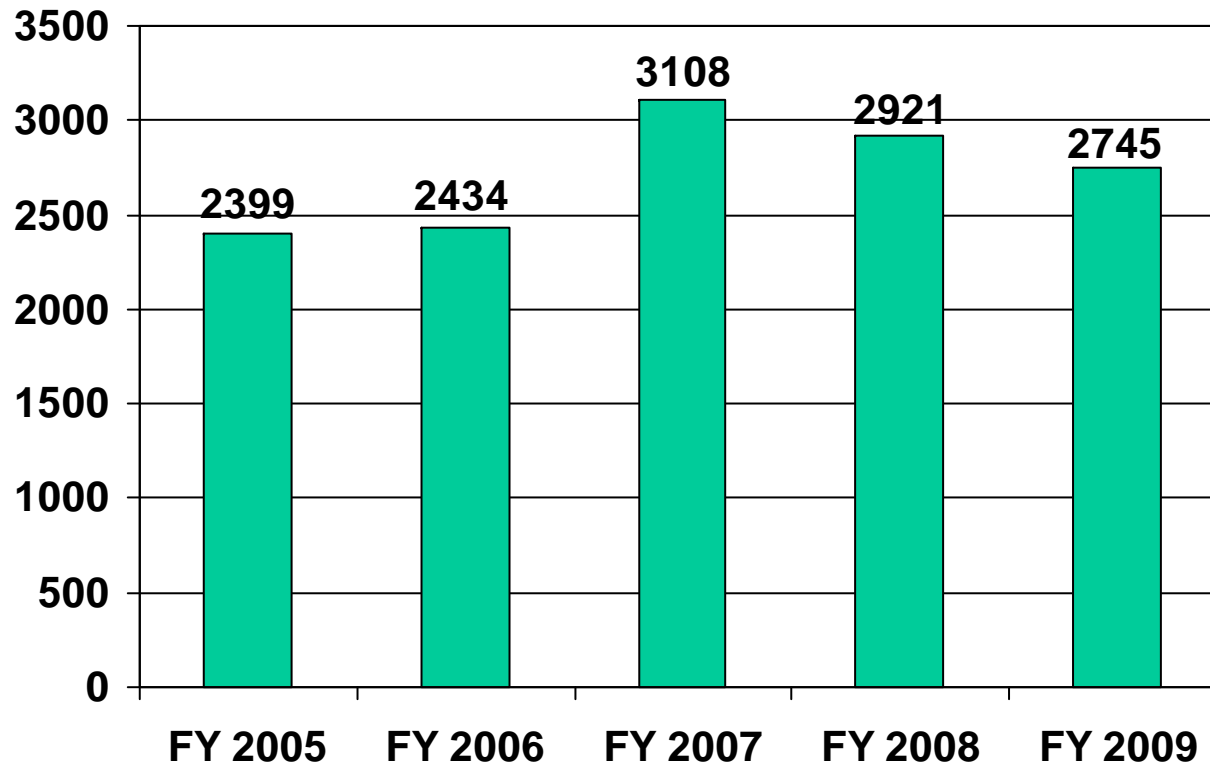
Civil Rights

FY 2009 Complaint Issue Contacts Recorded by Area of Discrimination



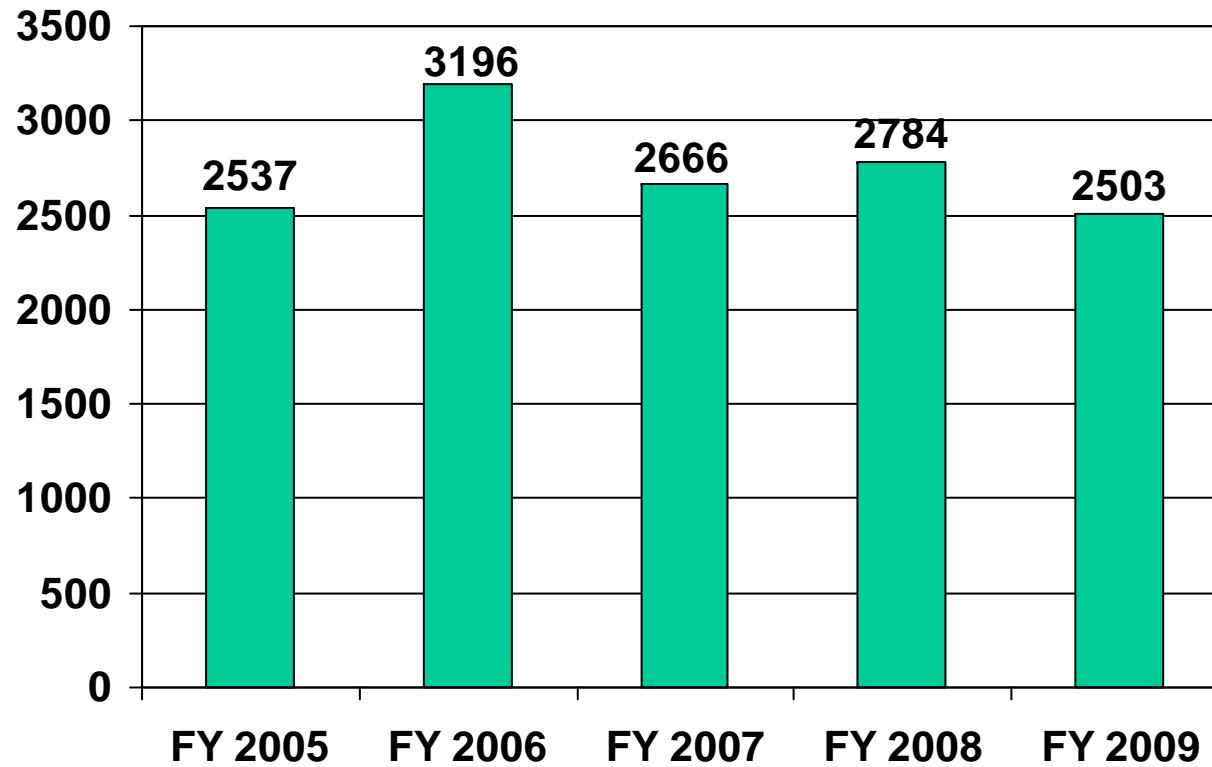
Civil Rights

Complaints Initiated by Fiscal Year



Civil Rights

Complaints Closed by Fiscal Year



**For more information about the
Civil Rights budget, contact:**

**Robin R. Risko
rrisko@house.mi.gov
(517) 373-8080**