

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Cochise County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

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# ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION



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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Cochise County and statewide results from the 2009 gang threat assessment survey, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports can be found at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- Four of the six Cochise County agencies that responded to the survey in 2010 reported an active gang presence within their respective jurisdictions. Of the agencies that reported at least one active gang, one agency provided estimates of the number of gang members within its jurisdiction. This agency estimated that there were 156 active gang members in its jurisdiction.
- One of the four participating agencies in Cochise County that reported a gang presence also reported that gangs were expanding their membership and scope of activities. One of the responding agencies reported that gang activity had increased slightly during the prior six and 12 month periods. When asked about the last five years, one agency reported that gang activity had increased significantly while another agency reported that gang activity had only increased slightly.
- Half of the responding agencies listed human trafficking and vandalism/graffiti/tagging as the primary crimes committed by gangs.
- Half of the responding agencies reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana. One agency reported high involvement in the distribution of crack cocaine, methamphetamine, pharmaceuticals, and powdered cocaine.
- The Crips, Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), and the Bloods were the only gangs reported as having a high level of involvement in Cochise County.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, responding law enforcement agencies identified enforcement and identification of gang members as the most effective strategies in responding to gangs and gang activity in their jurisdictions.

## **Introduction**

During the spring of 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the SAC gang threat assessment survey and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presented a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, ACJC continued to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearm and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Eight law enforcement agencies throughout Cochise County received the current *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the eight surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Cochise County, six (75.0 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Cochise County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

Of the six agencies that responded to SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity in Cochise County, 66.7 percent (four agencies) reported the presence of gangs and gang activity in their respective jurisdiction. This is an increase from the three agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdictions during the previous year (Table 1). Of the agencies that responded that there were gangs within their jurisdictions, one agency estimated that 156 active gang members were present in its jurisdiction. The remaining three agencies reporting gang activity were not able to provide an estimated number of gang members within their jurisdictions. Thus, the number of gang members reported is a conservative estimate of the number of gang members in Cochise County. The reasons for the underestimation include the inability of some agencies to provide estimates, other agencies not responding to the survey at all, and the likelihood that some gang members have not yet come to the attention of law enforcement.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	2	28.6%	3	50.0%	4	66.7%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	5	71.4%	3	50.0%	2	33.3%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

Agencies that reported gangs or gang members in their jurisdictions were asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding. When asked

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	100.0%	100.0%	25.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	0.0%	0.0%	75.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>

whether gangs in the area were expanding their numbers and scope of activities, one (25%) of the Cochise County agencies reporting a gang presence responded that gangs within its jurisdiction were expanding their membership and scope of

activities, compared to half of the agencies reporting a gang presence at the state level (Table 2). This is a small decrease from all of the responding agencies reporting expansion in both 2007 and 2008.

When given the opportunity to provide further explanation of their response about gang membership and gang activities, the one agency with expanding gang membership and activity reported that gangs were becoming more involved in human and drug smuggling.

When considering the six months prior to the 2009 assessment, one agency reported that the level of gang activity in its jurisdiction increased slightly, two reported no change, and one reported a significant decrease in gang activity. Only one agency reported that gang activity increased slightly

over the preceding 12 months, two reported no change, and one reported that activity decreased slightly. When asked to assess the level of gang activity over the past five years, one agency reported that activity increased significantly, one reported that activity increased slightly, one agency reported no change, and one agency reported a slight decrease in gang activity (Figure 1).

Figure 1

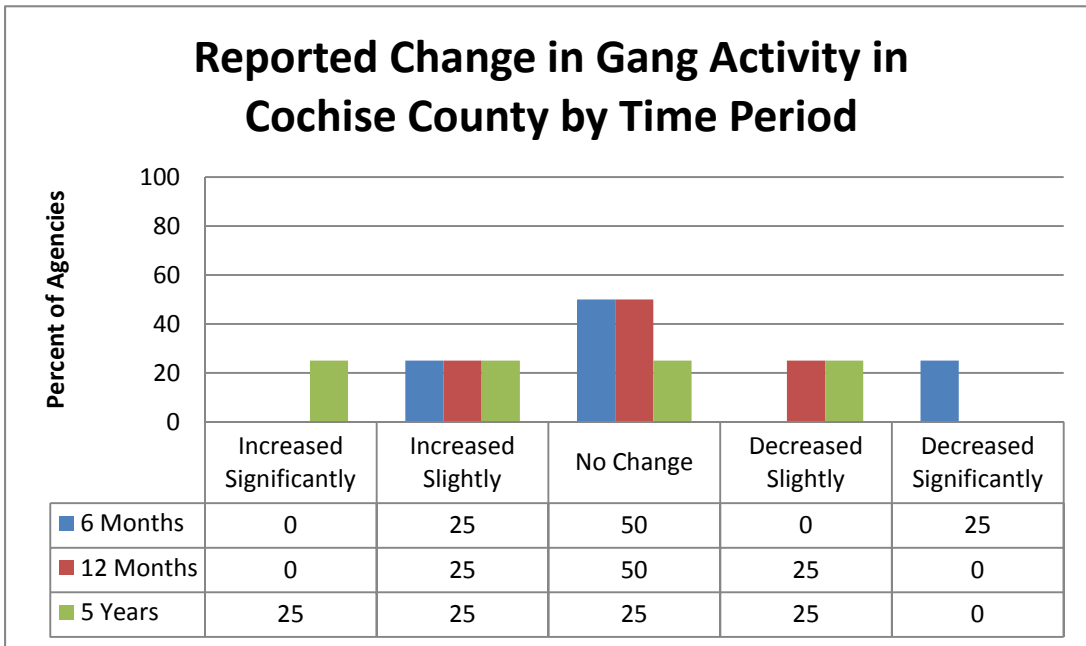
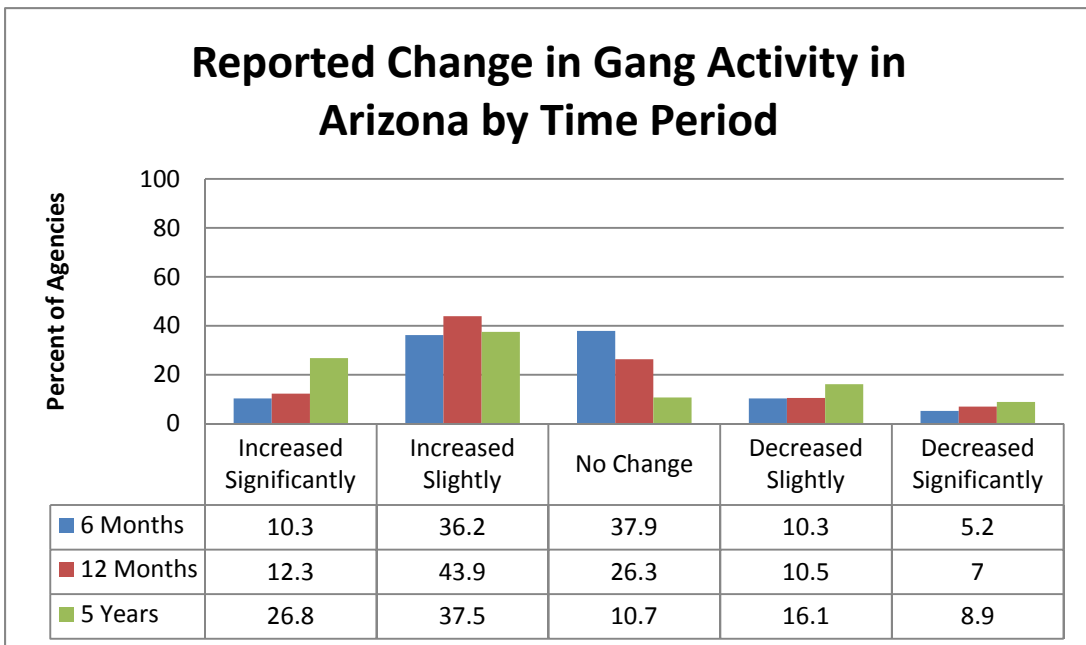


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

<b>Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
<b>Crime</b>	<b>Cochise County</b>		<b>Arizona</b>	
	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>
Assault/Aggravated Assault	2	66.7%	43	78.2%
Burglary	2	66.7%	23	41.8%
Criminal Damage	2	66.7%	17	30.9%
Drive-by Shootings	2	66.7%	8	14.5%
Human Smuggling	2	66.7%	4	7.3%
Drug Sales	1	33.3%	13	23.6%
Narcotics Offenses	1	33.3%	8	14.5%
Drug Smuggling/Trafficking/Transport	1	33.3%	6	10.9%
Weapon Offenses	1	33.3%	4	7.3%
Homicide	1	33.3%	4	7.3%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>55</b>	

Agencies were also asked to report the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). This question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being committed by

gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes they could report. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Cochise County.

Two of the three responding agencies in Cochise County reported assault/aggravated assault, burglary, criminal damage, drive-by shootings, and human smuggling as the primary crimes committed by gangs in their jurisdictions. Other crimes listed by agencies in Cochise County included drug sales, narcotics offenses, drug smuggling/trafficking/transport, weapon offenses, and homicide.

Agencies also rated the level of gang involvement in 15 specific crimes within their jurisdictions. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. In contrast to the qualitative data above that allows for emerging gang crimes to reveal themselves, found in Table 3, this question was intended to provide consistent measurements over time for level of gang involvement a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

Two of the Cochise County agencies reported a high level of gang involvement in 2009 for human trafficking (50 percent) and vandalism/graffiti/tagging (50 percent) (Table 4). At the state level, more than half of the agencies reported high involvement in vandalism/graffiti/tagging, but only 8.8 percent of agencies at the state level reported gangs highly involved in human trafficking.

<b>Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Human Trafficking	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	66.7%	-	33.3%	-
	2009	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-	-
	2009	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.4%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Auto Theft	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Burglary	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	50.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Felonious Assault	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	66.7%	-	33.3%	-
	2009	-	50.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	50.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	33.3%	-	33.3%	33.3%
	2009	-	25.0%	-	-	75.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Identity Theft	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Murder	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Robbery	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	66.7%	-	33.3%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Arson	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Fraud	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
	2009	-	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>
Prostitution	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
	2009	-	-	-	25.0%	75.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies were asked to rate the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. One agency in Cochise County reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in drug street sales, and two more agencies reported a moderate level of involvement (Table 5). Three of the four agencies also reported gangs had a moderate level of involvement in the wholesale of drugs. The greatest percentage of responding agencies reported a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana (50.0 percent), similar to the overall state results (44.8 percent).

<b>Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
		<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	33.3%	33.3%	-	33.3%	-
	2009	25.0%	50.0%	-	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	66.7%	-	-	33.3%
	2009	-	75.0%	-	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Marijuana	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	66.7%	-	33.3%	-	-
	2009	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	33.3%	-	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	25.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	33.3%	33.3%	-	33.3%	-
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2009	25.0%	-	50.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	33.3%	66.7%	-	-
	2009	25.0%	-	50.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Heroin	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	33.3%	-	33.3%	33.3%
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>

Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies were also asked to rate the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The gangs were chosen for inclusion in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment because they correspond to the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

When agencies in Cochise County rated the level of activity by each gang within their respective jurisdictions, only three of the 26 gangs were identified by at least one agency as having high levels of activity (Table 6). The gangs identified by Cochise County law enforcement agencies as having high levels of activity in 2009 were the Crips (50.0 percent), Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13 (50.0 percent), and the Bloods (25.0 percent). Additionally, one agency reported that the Black Gangster Disciples, and neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews had a moderate level of activity in their jurisdiction.

<b>Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Crips (all sets)	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	66.7%	-	-	33.3%	-
	2009	50.0%	-	25.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2008	66.7%	-	33.3%	-	-
	2009	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Bloods (all sets)	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	33.3%	-	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2009	-	25.0%	-	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	33.3%	33.3%	-	33.3%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2009	-	-	75.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	-	75.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	100.0%	-	-

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

	2009	-	-	75.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Border Brothers	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>68.4%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2009	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-

	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
Arizona	2009	-	3.6%	12.5%	69.6%	14.3%
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
Arizona	2009	-	-	7.0%	75.4%	17.5%
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
Arizona	2009	-	-	12.5%	66.1%	21.4%
UBN	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
	2009	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
Arizona	2009	-	1.8%	8.9%	66.1%	23.2%

*Level of Gang Coordination*

The survey also contained questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. Three of the four agencies in Cochise County reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs within their jurisdictions (Table 7). Agency responses indicated that gangs were coordinating with other gangs to smuggle and traffic illegal drugs.

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
Yes	-	100.0%	75.0%	44.6%
No	100.0%	-	25.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	-	-	-	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>

*Most Effective Gang Responses*

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Enforcement	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	3	75.0%	46	78.0%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	75.0%	39	66.1%
GIITEM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	50.0%	34	57.6%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	2	50.0%	29	49.2%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	50.0%	22	37.3%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	50.0%	19	32.2%
School Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	17	28.8%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	13	22.0%
Community Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	8	13.6%

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies have been the most effective in their jurisdiction when responding to gangs. Prior to the 2009, agencies were asked to simply list

any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provided a range of activities that may not have been considered by some if not all respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

Enforcement and identification of gang members were the strategies identified by most agencies as effective gang responses within their jurisdictions (Table 8). This data is consistent with what was reported in the state overall.

### *Task Force Participation*

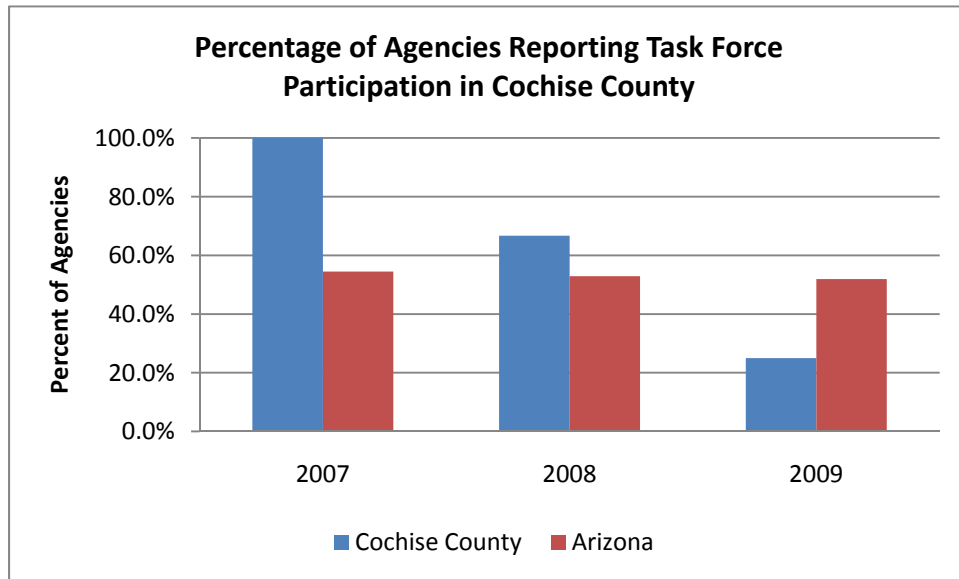
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaborations for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to deal with gangs on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. One of the four Cochise County agencies that responded to the survey reported that they participated in a multi-agency task force, which was a decline from previous years. One agency indicated that they no longer participated in a task force because of budget concerns.

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in Cochise County and throughout Arizona. Several agencies reported significant gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. Similar to the findings for 2008, law enforcement agencies continued to report a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana, crack cocaine, and methamphetamine. Law enforcement agencies also cited gang involvement in assault/aggravated assault, burglary, criminal damage, drive-by shootings, and human smuggling as major concerns within their jurisdictions.

The most active gangs identified by Cochise County law enforcement agencies were the Crips and Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), followed by the Bloods. Other gangs for which agencies reported moderate levels of activity in their jurisdictions within Cochise County included the Black Gangster Disciples, Gangster Disciples, and neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews.

Over the past three years, law enforcement agencies in Cochise County have reported an increase in the presence of gangs and the problems associated with gangs in their jurisdictions. The percentage of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has increased from 28.6 percent in 2007 to 66.7 percent in 2009. The data also reveals that law enforcement agencies were concerned about increased gang involvement in many types of crimes within their jurisdictions during 2009. In addition, a larger percentage of agencies reported high levels of gang involvement in the distribution of pharmaceuticals and powdered cocaine. Although only one agency reported that gangs were expanding their scope of activities, three agencies reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs. While there were a higher number of agencies reporting a gang presence within their jurisdictions, the number of agencies that participated in a multi-agency task force decreased from 2007 to 2009.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: Cochise County communities, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a significant gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, ACJC intends for the Cochise County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Coconino County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

May

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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Coconino County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity in their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Coconino County and statewide results from the 2009 gang threat assessment survey, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports can be found at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

## Findings

- All three Coconino County agencies that responded to the survey in 2010 reported an active gang presence within their respective jurisdictions. Of these agencies, all provided estimates of the number of gang members within their jurisdictions. Together these agencies estimated that there were 408 active gang members in their jurisdictions.
- One of the three participating agencies in Cochise County that reported a gang presence also reported that gangs were expanding their membership and scope of activities. One of the responding agencies reported that gang activity had increased slightly during the past six and 12 month periods, while two reported no change during the same time periods. When asked about the last five years, one agency reported that gang activity had increased significantly, one reported activity increased slightly, and one reported no change in gang activity.
- One of the responding agencies reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in felonious assault, fraud, identity theft, and vandalism/graffiti/tagging.
- Two-thirds of the responding agencies reported that gangs have a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamine, and one agency reported high involvement in the distribution of pharmaceuticals.
- Bloods and Hells Angels (OMG) were the only gangs reported as having a high level of involvement in Coconino County.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, responding law enforcement agencies reported enforcement as the most effective strategy in responding to gangs and gang activity in their jurisdictions.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experience with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the SAC gang threat assessment survey and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S.) §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presented a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For these reasons, ACJC continued to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearm and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005, with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Five law enforcement agencies throughout Coconino County received the current Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the five surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Coconino County, three (60.0 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Coconino County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

All three agencies that responded to SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity in Coconino County reported that there were gangs in their jurisdiction. This is a decrease from the four agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdiction during the previous year (Table 1). Of the agencies that responded that there were gangs within their jurisdictions, the agencies estimated a total of 408 active gang members were present across all three jurisdictions. The number of gang members reported is a conservative estimate of the number of gang members in Coconino County. The causes of underestimation include agencies not responding to the survey and the likelihood that some gang members have not yet come to the attention of law enforcement.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	3	60.0%	4	66.7%	3	100.0%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	2	40.0%	2	33.3%	0	0.0%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

Agencies that reported a gang presence within their jurisdictions were asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding. When asked whether

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	100.0%	75.0%	33.3%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	0.0%	25.0%	66.7%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>56</b>

gangs in the area were expanding their membership and scope of activities, one (33.3%) of the Coconino County agencies reporting a gang presence responded that gangs within its jurisdiction were expanding their membership and scope of

activities, compared to half of the agencies reporting expanding membership and activities at the state level (Table 2). This is a decrease in the number of agencies reporting expansion in 2007 and 2008.

When given the opportunity to provide further explanation of their response about gang membership and gang activities, one agency with expanding gang membership and activity reported that gangs were becoming more involved in fraud and "paper crimes" to make money.

When considering the six months prior to the 2009 assessment, one agency reported that the level of gang activity in its jurisdiction increased slightly, and two reported no change in gang activity. Only one agency reported that gang activity increased slightly over the preceding 12 months and two reported no change. When asked to assess the level of gang activity over the past five years, one agency reported that activity increased significantly, one reported that activity increased slightly, and one agency reported no change in gang activity (Figure 1).

Figure 1

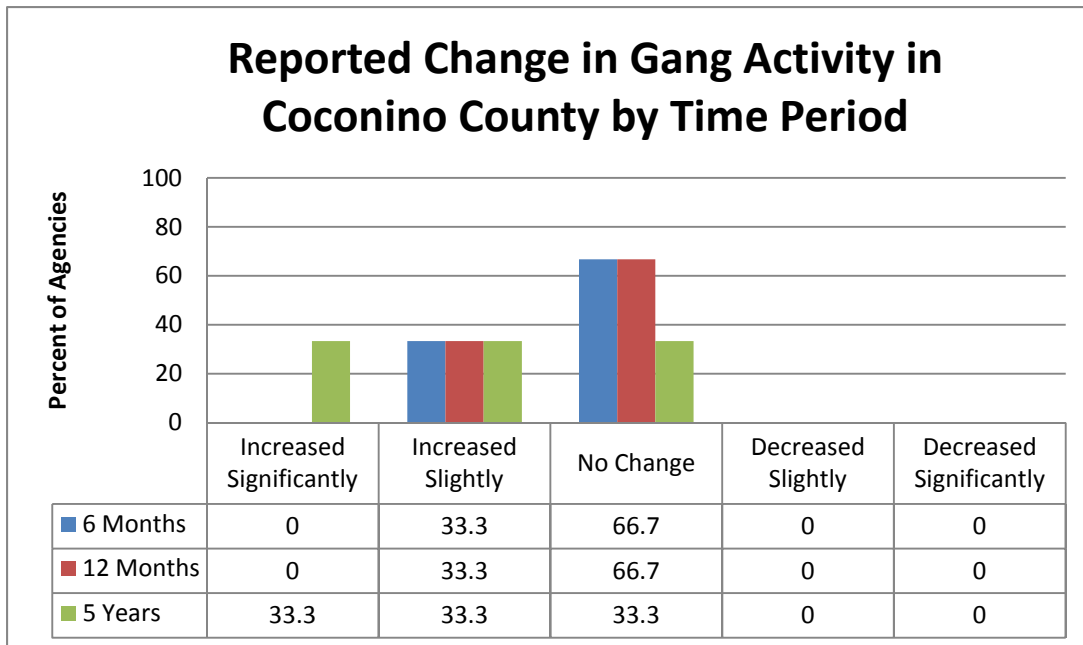
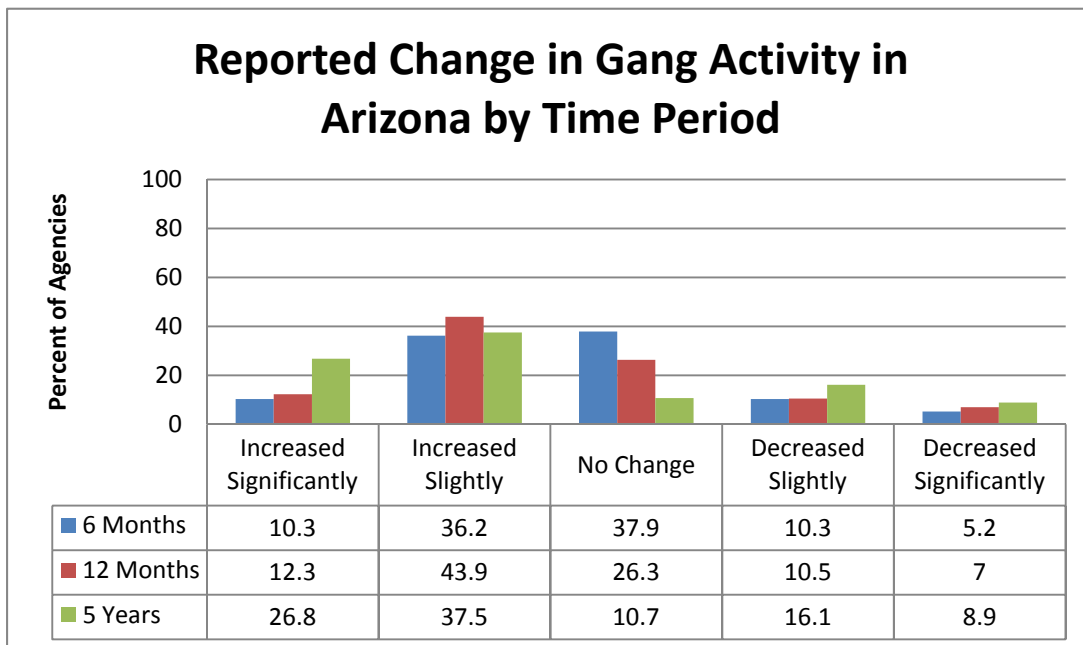


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs, 2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
Crime	Coconino County		Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Assault/Aggravated Assault	3	100.0%	43	78.2%
Fraud/Identity Theft	2	66.7%	5	9.1%
Auto Theft	1	33.3%	7	12.7%
Burglary	1	33.3%	23	41.8%
Drug Offenses	1	33.3%	15	27.3%
Narcotics Offenses	1	33.3%	8	14.5%
Robbery/Armed Robbery	1	33.3%	9	16.4%
Threatening and Intimidation	1	33.3%	13	23.6%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>55</b>	

Agencies were asked to report the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). This question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list

the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes that could be reported. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Coconino County.

All three of the agencies reporting a gang presence in Coconino County reported assault/aggravated assault as the primary crimes being committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions, followed by two agencies reporting fraud/identity theft as a primary crime. Other crimes listed by agencies in Cochise County include auto theft, burglary, drug offenses, narcotics offenses, robbery/armed robbery, and threatening and intimidation.

Agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. In contrast to the qualitative data in Table 3 that allows for emerging gang crimes to be revealed, the categorical question provides consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

In 2009, one Coconino County agency (33.3 percent) reported high gang involvement in felonious assault, fraud, identity theft, and vandalism/graffiti/tagging (Table 4). At the state level, more than half of the agencies reported high involvement in vandalism/graffiti/tagging in 2009, but only 17.5 percent of agencies reported gangs highly involved in felonious assault.

Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Felonious Assault	2007	-	33.3%	66.7%	-	-
	2008	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%	-
	2009	33.3%	-	66.7%	-	-
Arizona	2009	17.5%	35.1%	28.1%	10.5%	8.8%
Fraud	2007	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2008	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	33.3%	33.3%	-	33.3%	-
Arizona	2009	13.0%	14.8%	27.8%	20.4%	24.1%

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Identity Theft	2007	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2008	25.0%	25.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	33.3%	33.3%	-	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	75.0%	25.0%	-	-	-
	2009	33.3%	66.7%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.4%</i>
Auto Theft	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	33.3%	-	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Burglary	2007	-	33.3%	66.7%	-	-
	2008	25.0%	-	75.0%	-	-
	2009	-	33.3%	66.7%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	66.7%	-	33.3%	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	-	33.3%	66.7%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Robbery	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	25.0%	-	50.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	33.3%	-	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Arson	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Murder	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	-	-	75.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2008	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Human Trafficking	2007	-	-	66.7%	-	33.3%
	2008	-	-	75.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>
Prostitution	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies were asked to rate the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. One agency in Coconino County reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in drug street sales, and one additional agency reported a moderate level of involvement (Table 5). One agency reported gangs had a moderate level of involvement in the wholesale of drugs. The greatest percentage of agencies experiencing a gang presence reported a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana (66.7 percent) and methamphetamine (66.7 percent), which is higher than the overall state results of 44.8 percent and 31.6 percent, respectively.

Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
		High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	-	33.3%	66.7%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Marijuana	2007	66.7%	33.3%	-	-	-
	2008	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2009	66.7%	-	33.3%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-	-
	2008	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-	-
	2009	66.7%	-	33.3%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	-	-	66.7%	-	33.3%
	2008	25.0%	-	50.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	-	66.7%	-	-	33.3%
	2008	25.0%	25.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	33.3%	-	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Heroin	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	-	66.7%	-	33.3%
	2008	25.0%	-	50.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>

Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs included in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 responses, only two of the 26 gangs were identified by Coconino County agencies as having high levels of activity (Table 6). Coconino County law enforcement agencies identified the Bloods (33.3 percent) and the Hells Angels OMG (33.3 percent) as having high levels of activity in 2009. Additionally, agencies reported that the Hispanic Sureños (66.7 percent), Mexican Mafia/La Eme (66.7 percent), Aryan Brotherhood (33.3%), and the Crips (33.3%) had a moderate level of activity within their jurisdictions.

<b>Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Bloods (all sets)	2007	66.7%	-	33.3%	-	-
	2008	50.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	33.3%	-	33.3%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	33.3%	66.7%	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	33.3%	-	66.7%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	75.0%	-	25.0%	-
	2009	-	66.7%	33.3%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	33.3%	-	66.7%	-	-
	2008	-	75.0%	-	25.0%	-
	2009	-	66.7%	-	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	33.3%	66.7%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Crips (all sets)	2007	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-	-
	2008	25.0%	-	50.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Border Brothers	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2008	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	-	66.7%	33.3%	-	-
	2008	25.0%	25.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	33.3%	33.3%	-	33.3%
	2008	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>69.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>68.4%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
UBN	2007	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>23.2%</i>

Level of Gang Coordination

The survey also contains questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. In 2009, one of the three agencies in Coconino County reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs in its jurisdiction (Table 7).

Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
Yes	33.3%	25.0%	33.3%	44.6%
No	66.7%	50.0%	66.7%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	-	25.0%	-	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>56</b>

Most Effective Gang Responses

Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)								
	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Enforcement	0	0.0%	3	75.0%	3	100.0%	46	78.0%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	66.7%	39	66.1%
GIITEM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	66.7%	34	57.6%
School Programs	2	66.7%	1	25.0%	2	66.7%	17	28.8%
Community Programs	1	33.3%	1	25.0%	1	33.3%	8	13.6%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	29	49.2%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	22	37.3%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	19	32.2%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	1	33.3%	13	22.0%

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies have been the most effective in their jurisdictions when responding to gangs. Prior to 2009, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time,

researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

Enforcement, identification of gang members, GIITEM, and school programs were the strategies identified by at least two of the three agencies as effective gang responses within their jurisdictions (Table 8). This data is fairly consistent with what was reported across the state.

### *Task Force Participation*

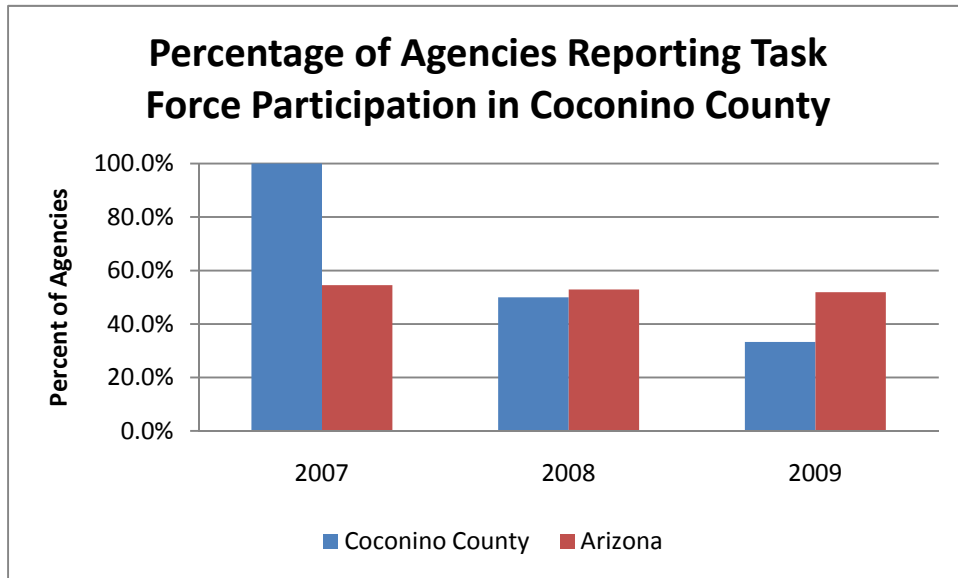
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaborations for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang presence on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. One of the three Coconino County agencies that responded to the survey reported that they participated in a multi-agency task force, which was a decline from previous years. The single agency reporting participation indicated that it was a member of GIITEM.

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in Coconino County and throughout Arizona. Multiple agencies reported significant gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. Similar to the findings for 2008, law enforcement agencies continued to report a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana and pharmaceuticals. Law enforcement agencies also cited gang involvement in assault/aggravated assault and fraud/identity theft as concerns within their jurisdictions.

The most active gangs identified by Coconino County law enforcement agencies were the Bloods and the Hells Angels (OMG). Other gangs for which agencies reported moderate levels of activity in their jurisdictions within Coconino County included the Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), Mexican Mafia/La Eme, Aryan Brotherhood, and the Crips.

Over the past three years, law enforcement agencies in Coconino County have reported some change in the presence of gangs and the problems associated with gangs in their jurisdictions. Although the number of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity remained the same from 2007 to 2009, reporting of expanded gang presence fell from two agencies to one over the same period. The data also reveals that law enforcement agencies were concerned about gang involvement in many types of crimes within their jurisdictions during 2009. Alternately, one agency continued to report that gangs were coordinating with other gangs in their jurisdiction from 2007 to 2009.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: Coconino County communities, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a significant gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, ACJC intends for the Coconino County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Gila County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

June

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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Gila County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	12

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The SAC survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Gila County and statewide results from the 2009 gang threat assessment survey, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- Only one law enforcement agency in Gila County reported that gangs were active in its jurisdiction. Unfortunately, this agency was not able to provide an estimate of the number of gang members.
- The Gila County agency experiencing gang activity reported that gangs were not expanding their membership and scope of activities. The agency also reported that gang activity had not changed over the previous six and 12-month periods but had increased slightly over the past five years.
- Burglary, drug offenses, and homicide were listed as the primary crimes being committed by gangs.
- The law enforcement agency experiencing gang activity reported that gangs had a low level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana, methamphetamine, pharmaceuticals, and powdered cocaine.
- The Aryan Brotherhood, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, and Skinheads were reported as having a low level of activity within the jurisdiction of the law enforcement agency experiencing gang activity.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, the responding law enforcement agency reporting gang involvement identified enforcement, GIITEM, and identification of gang members as the most effective strategies for responding to gangs and gang activity in its jurisdiction.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the SAC gang threat assessment survey and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presented a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearm and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Five law enforcement agencies throughout Gila County received the current Arizona Gang Threat Assessment in 2010, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the five surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Gila County, three (60.0 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Gila County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

Of the three agencies that responded to SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity in Gila County, 33.3 percent (one agency) reported the presence of gangs and gang activity in its jurisdiction. This is a decrease from the two agencies that reported gangs in their respective jurisdictions during the previous year (Table 1). The single agency that reported a gang presence within its jurisdiction in 2009 was not able to estimate the number of active gang members present in its jurisdiction.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	1	25.0%	2	40.0%	1	33.3%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	3	75.0%	3	60.0%	2	66.7%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

The single agency that reported a gang presence in its jurisdiction was asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding. When asked

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	100.0%	50.0%	0.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	0.0%	50.0%	100.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	1	2	1	56

whether gangs in the area were expanding their membership and scope of activities, the one Gila County agency responded that gangs within its jurisdiction were not expanding their membership and scope of activities, compared to half

of the agencies reporting a gang presence at the state level (Table 2). In both 2007 and 2008, one responding agency reported that gangs were expanding.

When considering the six months and 12 months prior to the 2009 assessment, the one responding agency reported that the level of gang activity in its jurisdiction had not changed. When asked about the previous five years, however, the agency reported that the level of gang activity had increased slightly (Figure 1).

Figure 1

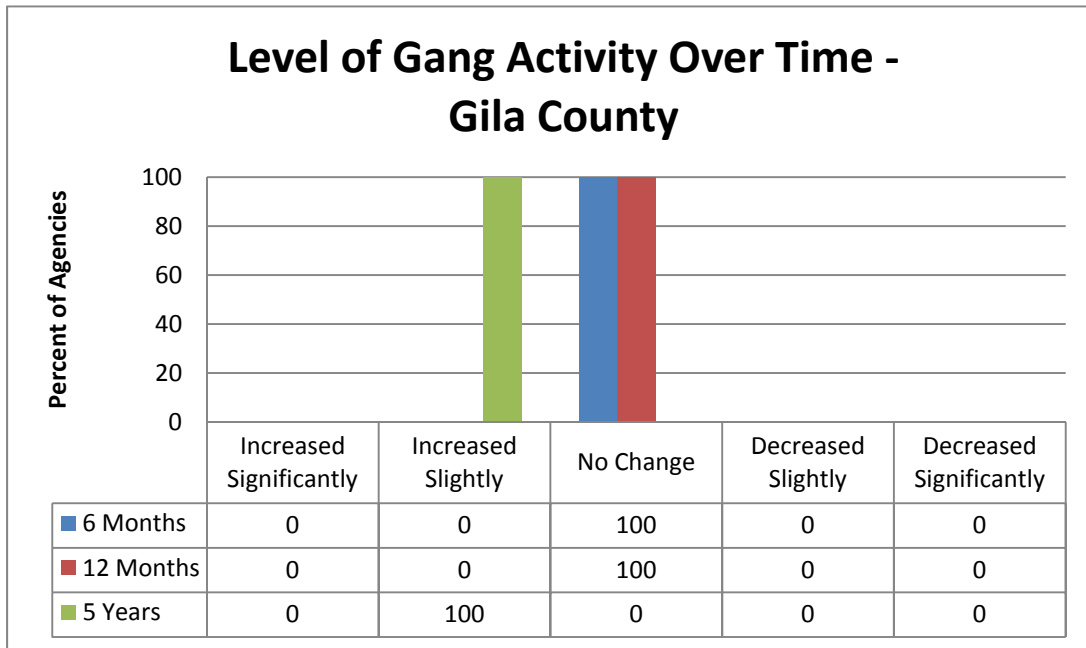
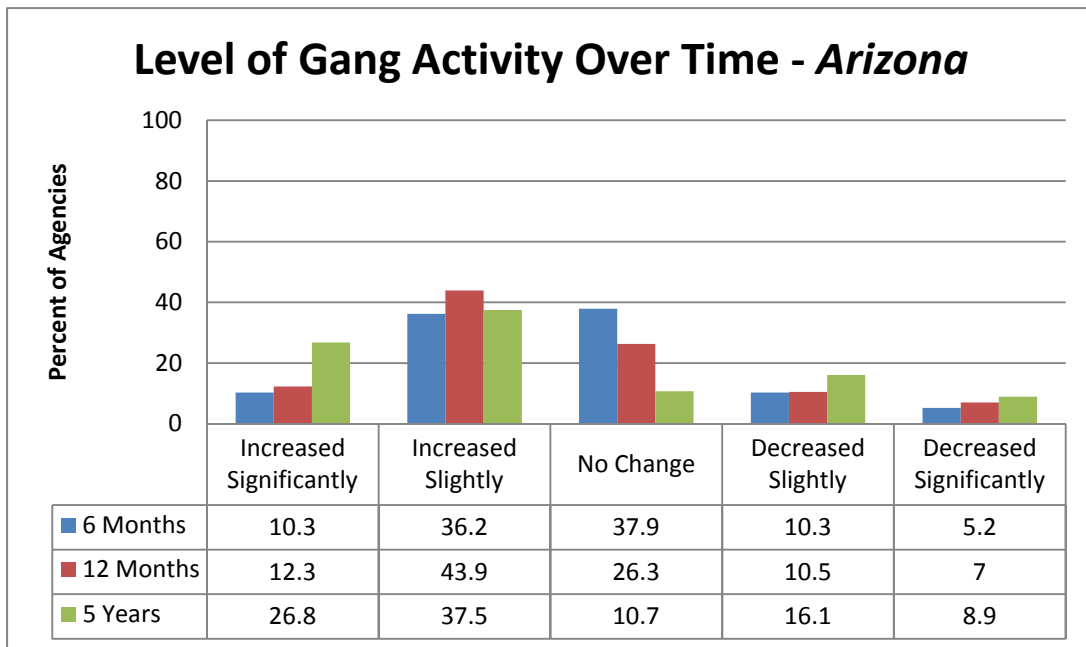


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

<b>Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
Crime	Gila County		Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Burglary	1	100.0%	23	41.8%
Drug Offenses	1	100.0%	15	27.3%
Homicide	1	100.0%	4	7.3%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>55</b>	

One agency also reported the primary crimes committed by gangs within its jurisdiction (Table 3). The question was

open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes that could be reported. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Gila County.

The law enforcement agency that reported a gang presence reported that burglary, drug offenses, and homicide were the primary crimes committed by gangs in 2009.

Agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. In contrast to the qualitative data in Table 3 that allows for emerging gang crimes to be revealed, the categorical question provides consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

While the single Gila County agency reporting a gang presence did not report a high level of involvement in any of the crimes listed, the agency did report a moderate level of involvement in intimidation/extortion and murder (Table 4). The agency also reported a low level of gang involvement in burglary and vandalism/graffiti/tagging.

<b>Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	2009	15.5%	31.0%	31.0%	6.9%	15.5%
Murder	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	2009	3.6%	14.3%	28.6%	44.6%	8.9%
Burglary	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	2009	22.4%	41.4%	19.0%	6.9%	10.3%
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Arizona	2009	57.1%	28.6%	8.9%	-	5.4%
Identity Theft	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	12.3%	22.8%	21.1%	21.1%	22.8%
Prostitution	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	1.8%	5.3%	14.0%	40.4%	38.6%
Arson	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	3.4%	5.2%	19.0%	46.6%	25.9%
Auto Theft	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	12.1%	39.7%	20.7%	19.0%	8.6%
Felonious Assault	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	17.5%	35.1%	28.1%	10.5%	8.8%
Firearms Trafficking	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	5.3%	22.8%	24.6%	26.3%	21.1%
Fraud	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	13.0%	14.8%	27.8%	20.4%	24.1%
Human Trafficking	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	8.8%	17.5%	14.0%	31.6%	28.1%
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	3.5%	1.8%	31.6%	42.1%	21.1%
Robbery	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	12.1%	29.3%	25.9%	20.7%	12.1%
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	1.8%	5.3%	31.6%	36.8%	24.6%

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies were asked to rate the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. The agency with a gang presence reported that gangs had a low level of involvement in street drug sales and the wholesale of drugs (Table 5). Additionally, the agency reported that gangs had a low level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana, methamphetamines, pharmaceuticals, and powdered cocaine.

Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
		High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Marijuana	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Heroin	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>

Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 responses, no gangs were listed as having high or moderate levels of activity (Table 6). The Aryan Brotherhood, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, and Skinheads were listed as having a low level of involvement within the single jurisdiction reporting a gang presence.

Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	Not Applicable	Unknown
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
Bloods (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Border Brothers	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Crips (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>69.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>
UBN	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>23.2%</i>
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>68.4%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>

Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	-	8.9%	78.6%	12.5%
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	-	3.5%	75.4%	21.1%

*Level of Gang Coordination*

The survey also contained questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. In 2009, the single law enforcement agency with a gang presence reported that gangs were not coordinating with other gangs in its area (Table 7).

<b>Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2009 Arizona</b>
Yes	100.0%	50.0%	0.0%	44.6%
No	0.0%	50.0%	100.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>

*Most Effective Gang Responses*

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies have been the most effective in their jurisdictions when responding to gangs. Prior to the 2009, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

<b>Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies</b>								
	<b>2007</b>		<b>2008</b>		<b>2009</b>		<b>2009 Arizona</b>	
	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>
Enforcement	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	46	78.0%
GIITEM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	34	57.6%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	39	66.1%
School Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	17	28.8%
Community Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	13.6%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	29	49.2%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	22	37.3%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	32.2%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13	22.0%

Enforcement, GIITEM, and identification of gang members were the only strategies identified by the responding agency in Gila County (Table 8).

*Task Force Participation*

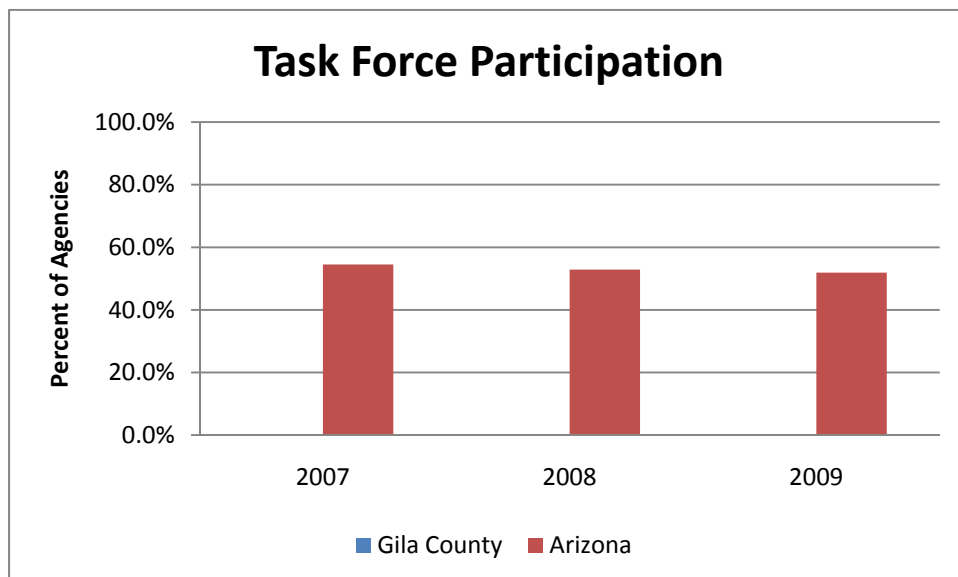
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang presence on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. One agency in Gila County reported no participation in a multi-agency gang task force in 2009, nor did agencies report participation in 2007 or 2008 (Figure 3).

**Figure 3**



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect one law enforcement jurisdiction in Gila County and a number of jurisdictions throughout Arizona. Only one agency of the three total respondents in Gila County reported gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within its respective jurisdiction during 2009. The law enforcement agency continued to report a low level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana, methamphetamines, pharmaceuticals, and powdered cocaine. The agency also cited gang involvement in burglary, drug offenses, and homicide as concerns within its jurisdiction.

The one agency in Gila County reporting a gang presence identified the Aryan Brotherhood, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, and the Skinheads as active gangs in 2009. These gangs were listed as having a low level of activity within the agency's jurisdiction.

The number of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has decreased from two in 2008 to one in 2009. The data reveals that one law enforcement agency was concerned about gang involvement in crime within its jurisdiction during 2009. The agency reported a moderate level of gang involvement in intimidation/extortion and murder and a low level of gang involvement in burglary and vandalism/graffiti/tagging. While gangs were reported to be present in Gila County, no agencies reported participation in a multi-agency task force from 2007 to 2009.

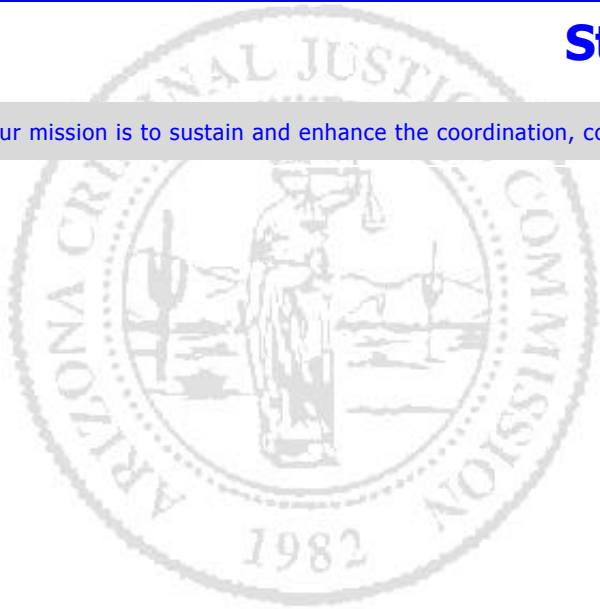
The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: at least one Gila County community, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, ACJC intends for the Gila County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies and included in this report illustrates what those working in the justice system already know: that many Arizona communities and the agencies that serve them continue to face a significant gang problem. It is hoped that this report will assist policy makers and practitioners by capturing information on gang threats at the state and county level to inform discussions about Arizona's gang problem and the development of strategies to effectively address gang prevention, intervention, and enforcement.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Graham County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Graham County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	7
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	9
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	10
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	12

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The SAC survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Graham County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

## Findings

- One of the three Graham County law enforcement agencies that responded to the survey reported an active gang presence within its jurisdiction in 2009. Unfortunately, this agency was not able to provide an estimate of the number of gang members.
- The one agency with a gang presence reported that gangs were expanding their membership and scope of activities. The agency also reported that gang activity increased significantly during the prior six month and five year periods. When asked about the prior 12 months, the agency reported that gang activity had increased slightly.
- Assault/aggravated assault, drug offenses, and theft were listed as the primary crimes being committed by gangs.
- The single agency with a gang presence reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamine.
- The Bloods was the only gang reported as having a high level of involvement within the jurisdiction of the agency with a gang presence. The Crips, Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), and the Mexican/Mafia reportedly had a moderate level of involvement within the same jurisdiction.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, the single agency reporting a gang presence identified gang crime/intelligence data analyses, GIITEM, and joint efforts with other agencies as the most effective strategies for responding to gangs and gang activity.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presented a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearm and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Four law enforcement agencies throughout Graham County received the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* in 2010, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the four surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Graham County, three (75.0 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Graham County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

Of the three agencies that responded to SAC’s request for information on gangs and gang activity in Graham County, one agency (33.3 percent) reported the presence of gangs and gang activity within its jurisdiction. The number of agencies that reported gang activity in Graham County has remained the same from 2008 to 2009 (Table 1). The single agency with a gang presence within its jurisdiction in 2009 was not able to estimate the number of active gang members.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	1	33.3%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	3	100.0%	3	75.0%	2	66.7%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

The single agency in Graham County that reported a gang presence in its jurisdiction was asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding.

	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	-	100.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	-	0.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	-	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>

The agency reported that gangs within its jurisdiction were expanding their membership and scope of activities (Table 2).

When given the opportunity to provide further explanation of their response about gang membership and gang activities, the one

agency with a gang presence reported that the jails have seen a higher number of gang members and graffiti.

Looking at the six months prior to the 2009 assessment, the agency with a gang presence reported that gang activity increased significantly. The agency also reported that gang activity increased slightly in the past 12 months and increased significantly over the past five years (Figure 1).

Figure 1

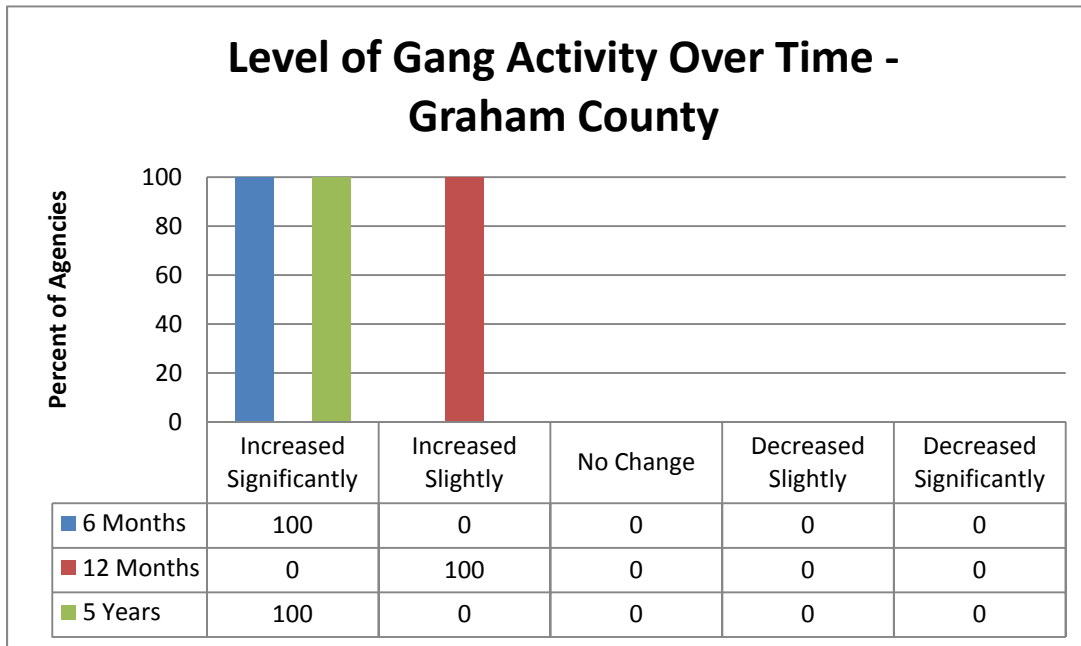
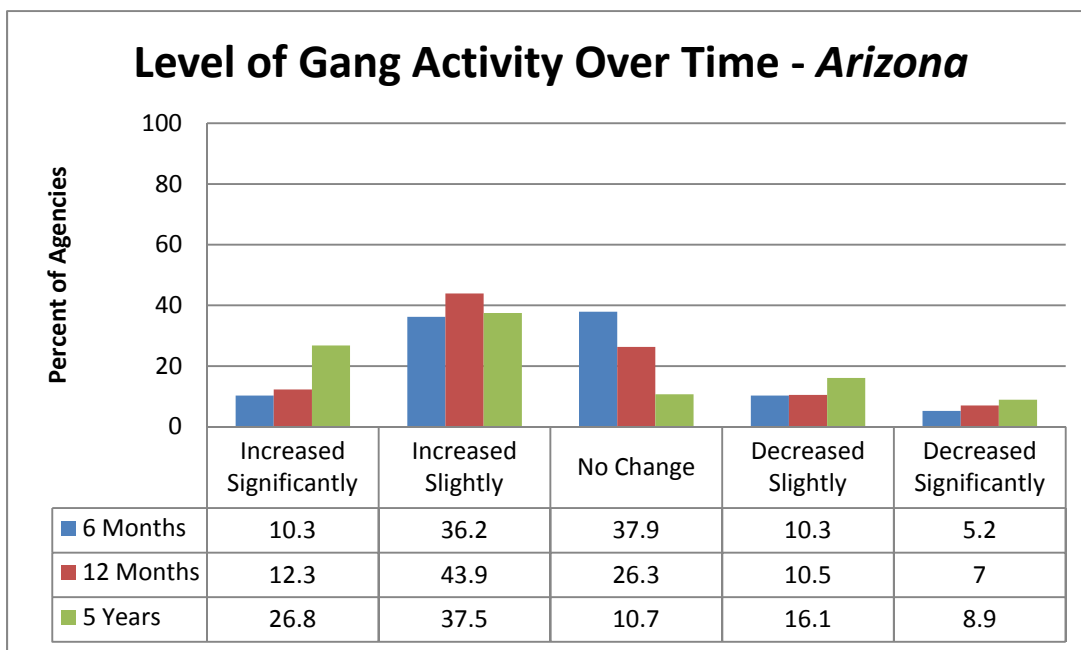


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

<b>Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
<b>Crime</b>	<b>Graham County</b>		<b>Arizona</b>	
	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>
Assault/Aggravated Assault	1	100.0%	43	78.2%
Drug Offenses	1	100.0%	15	27.3%
Theft	1	100.0%	10	18.2%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>55</b>	

One agency also reported the primary crimes committed by gangs within its jurisdiction (Table 3). The question was

open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes that could be reported. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level that reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Graham County.

The responding agency reported that assault/aggravated assault, drug offenses, and theft were the primary crimes being committed by gangs in its jurisdiction (Table 3).

Agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. In contrast to the qualitative data in Table 3 that allows for emerging gang crimes to be revealed, the categorical question provides consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

The agency in Graham County with a gang presence reported a high level of gang involvement in robbery and vandalism/graffiti/tagging (Table 4). Additionally, a moderate level of involvement was reported for auto theft, burglary, and fraud. Low level involvement was reported for felonious assault, human trafficking, identity theft, and intimidation/extortion.

<b>Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Robbery	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	100.0%	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2008	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	100.0%	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	-	<i>5.4%</i>
Auto Theft	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Burglary	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Fraud	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>
Felonious Assault	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Human Trafficking	2008	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>
Identity Theft	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Arson	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Kidnapping	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Murder	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Prostitution	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies were asked to rate the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. The one agency with a gang presence in Graham County reported a moderate level of involvement in street drug sales and a low level of involvement in the wholesale of drugs (Table 5). Additionally, the agency reported a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamines.

Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
		High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Drugs – Street Sales	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>
Marijuana	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>
Methamphetamine	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>
Heroin	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>

*Level of Activity by Gang*

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 response from the one agency with a gang presence in Graham County, the only gang that was reported to have a high level of activity was the Bloods (Table 6). Gangs that were reported to have a moderate level of involvement were the Crips, Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), and Mexican Mafia/La Eme.

<b>Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Bloods (all sets)	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	100.0%	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Crips (all sets)	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Border Brothers	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Skinheads	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2008	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Latin Kings	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-

Arizona	2009	-	5.3%	42.1%	40.4%	12.3%
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	-	1.8%	78.6%	19.6%
Outlaws OMG	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	3.6%	12.5%	69.6%	14.3%
Pagans OMG	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	-	8.9%	78.6%	12.5%
Texas Syndicate	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	-	3.5%	75.4%	21.1%
UBN	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	1.8%	8.9%	66.1%	23.2%
Vice Lords	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	1.8%	10.5%	68.4%	19.3%
Black Gangster Disciples	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	1.8%	3.5%	10.5%	70.2%	14.0%
Gangster Disciples	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	1.8%	1.8%	21.1%	64.9%	10.5%
La Nuestra Familia	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	1.8%	1.8%	10.5%	64.9%	21.1%
La Raza	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	-	-	14.0%	73.7%	12.3%

*Level of Gang Coordination*

The survey also contained questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. The one agency with a gang presence in Graham County reported that gangs were not coordinating with other gangs (Table 7).

<b>Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>			
	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2009 Arizona</b>
Yes	0.0%	0.0%	44.6%
No	100.0	100.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>

*Most Effective Gang Responses*

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies have been the most effective in their respective jurisdictions when responding to gangs. Prior to 2009, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

Gang crime/intelligence data analyses, GIITEM, and joint efforts with other agencies were the effective strategies reported (Table 8).

<b>Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies</b>						
	<b>2008</b>		<b>2009</b>		<b>2009 Arizona</b>	
	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	22	37.3%
GIITEM	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	34	57.6%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	29	49.2%
Enforcement	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	46	78.0%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	39	66.1%
School Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	17	28.8%
Community Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	13.6%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	32.2%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13	22.0%

*Task Force Participation*

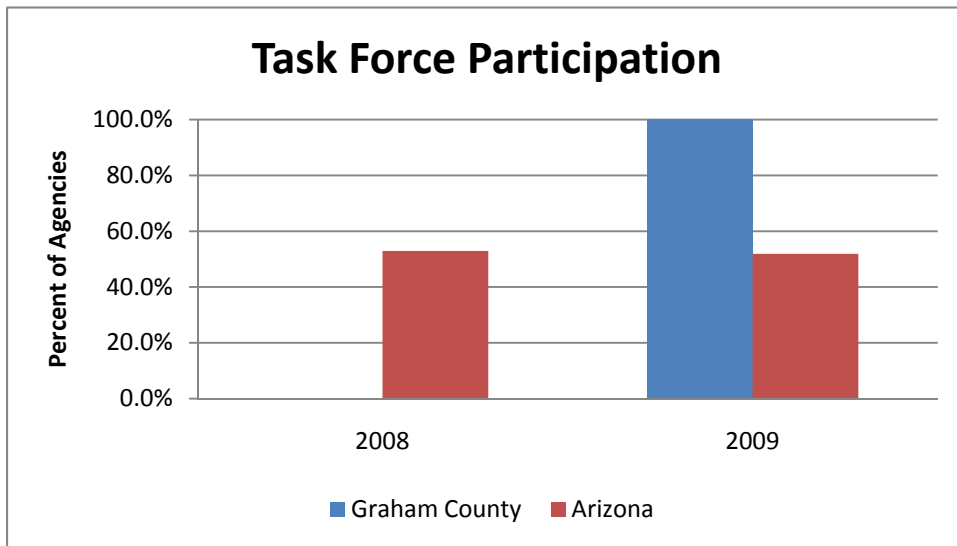
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang presence on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. In 2009, the agency with a gang presence reportedly participated in a multi-agency task force (Figure 3). The agency noted that they participated in GIITEM.

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect one law enforcement jurisdiction in Graham County and a number of jurisdictions throughout Arizona. One of the three total respondents from Graham County reported gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. The one agency reported a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamines. The agency also cited gang involvement in assaults/aggravated assaults, drug offenses, and theft as concerns within its jurisdiction.

The only gang identified by the single Graham County law enforcement agency as having a high level of involvement within the jurisdiction was the Bloods. Additionally, the Crips, Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), and Mexican Mafia/La Eme were reported to have a moderate level of involvement in the same jurisdiction.

Over the past three years, law enforcement agencies in Graham County have reported an increase in the presence of gangs and the problems associated with gangs in their jurisdictions. The number of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has increased from zero in 2007 to one in 2009. The data reveals that the one law enforcement agency was concerned about gang involvement in crime within its jurisdiction during 2009. The agency reported a high level of involvement in robbery and vandalism/graffiti/tagging by gangs. Contrary to the response from 2008, the agency with a gang presence in Graham County reported being involved in a multi-agency task force in 2009.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: at least one Graham County community, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, ACJC intends for the Graham County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Greenlee County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

# ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION



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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Greenlee County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The SAC survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Greenlee County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

## Findings

- The single Greenlee County law enforcement agency that responded to the survey administered in 2010 reported an active gang presence within its jurisdiction in 2009. Unfortunately, the agency was not able to provide an estimate of the number of gang members.
- The Greenlee County agency with a gang presence reported that gangs were not expanding their membership and scope of activities. The agency also reported that gang activity did not change during the previous six month, 12 month, and five year periods.
- The agency did not report crimes that gangs were committing, and when given a list of crimes, the agency listed the level of involvement by gangs as "unknown."
- The agency with a gang presence reported that gangs had a low level of involvement in the distribution of heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine, pharmaceuticals, and powdered cocaine within its jurisdiction.
- The Aryan Brotherhood, Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), Mexican Mafia/La Eme, and the Skinheads were all listed as having a low level of involvement within the one jurisdiction reporting gang activity.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, the law enforcement agency with a gang presence identified community programs, enforcement, identification of gang members, and school programs as the effective strategies used when responding to gangs and gang activity in its jurisdiction.

## **Introduction**

During the spring of 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presented a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Two law enforcement agencies throughout Greenlee County received the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* in 2010, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the two surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Greenlee County, one (50.0 percent) agency returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Greenlee County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

The one law enforcement agency in Greenlee County that responded to SAC's request for gang information reported that gangs and gang activity were present within its jurisdiction. This is the same agency that reported gangs in its jurisdiction during 2007 and 2008 (Table 1). The agency reporting gang activity was not able to estimate the number of active gang members present in its jurisdiction.

Table 1: Number of Law Enforcement Agencies that Reported Gangs, 2007-2009								
	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	1	100.0%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	1	50.0%	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

The agency in Greenlee County that reported a gang presence in its jurisdiction was asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding. The agency in Greenlee County reported that gangs within its jurisdiction were not expanding their membership and scope of activities, compared to half of the agencies across the state reporting that gangs were expanding (Table 2).

Table 2: Percentage of Jurisdictions Reporting Gangs Expanding their Scope of Activities (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>

When asked to rate the level of gang activity in its jurisdiction, the agency with a gang presence reported that gang activity did not change over the six months, 12 months, and five years prior to the survey (Figure 1).

Figure 1

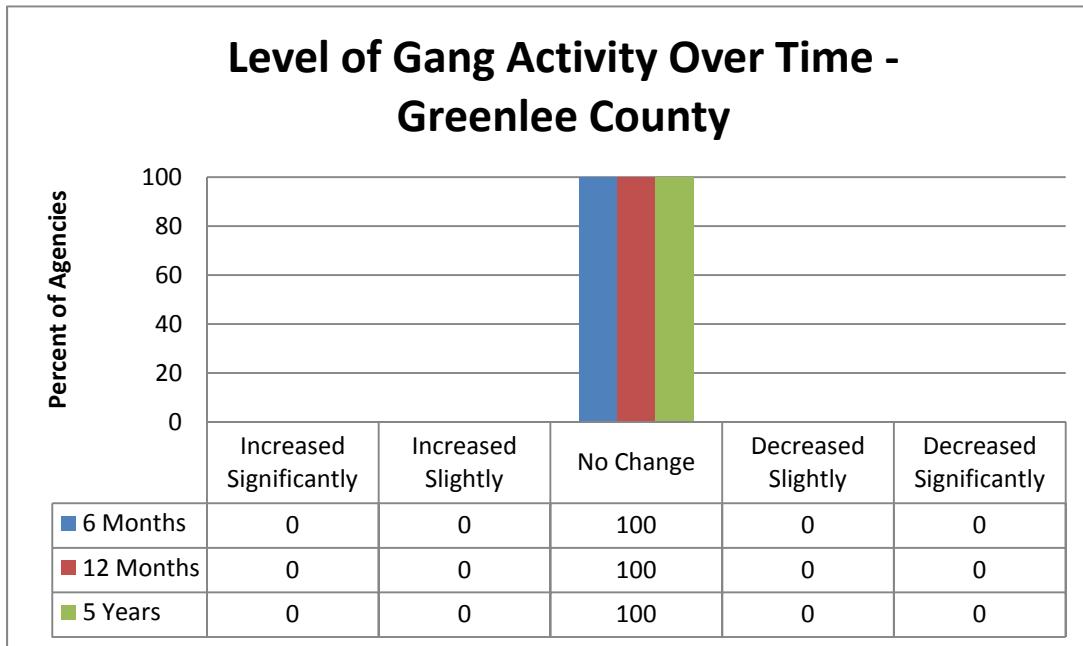
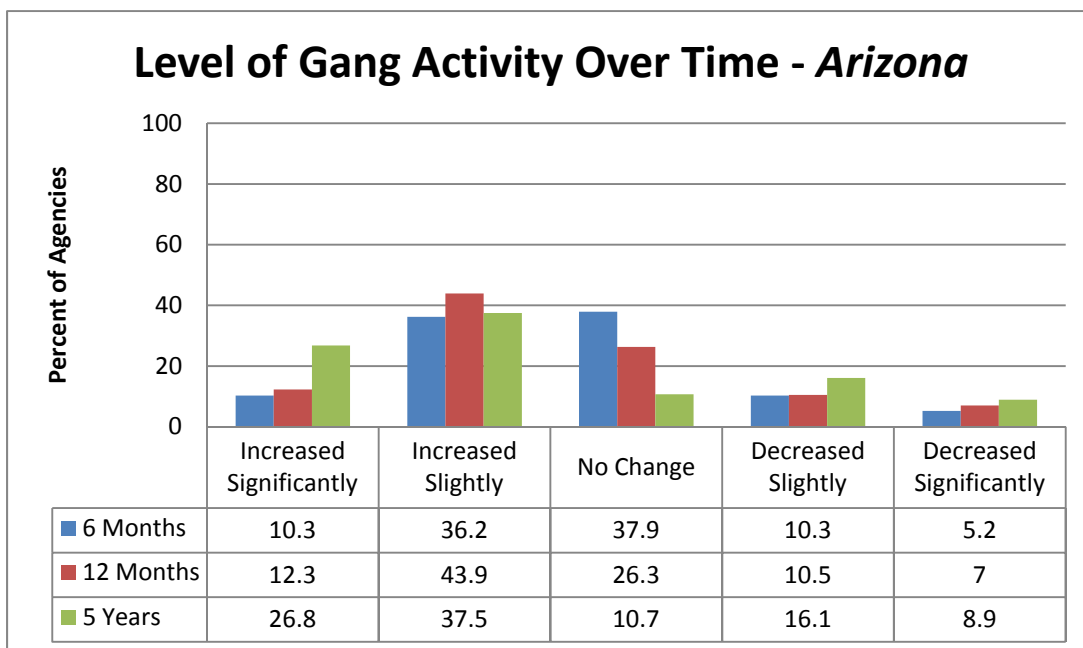


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

The agency with a gang presence did not report any primary crimes committed by gangs within its jurisdiction. This question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes they could report.

Agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. This categorical question provides consistent measurement over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

The agency in Greenlee County with a gang presence reported that the level of gang involvement in all of the crimes listed was "unknown." The only exception was murder, for which the agency did not respond (Table 3).

<b>Table 3: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Arson	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Auto Theft	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Burglary	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Felonious Assault	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Fraud	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>
Human Trafficking	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Identity Theft	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Prostitution	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>
Robbery	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	-	<i>5.4%</i>
Murder	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies were asked to rate the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. The agency with a gang presence reported that gangs had a low level of involvement in the manufacture, street sale, and wholesale of drugs as well as the distribution of marijuana grows (Table 4). More specifically, the agency reported a low level of involvement in the distribution of heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine, pharmaceuticals, and powdered cocaine.

Table 4: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
		High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	10.5%	36.8%	21.1%	31.6%
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	29.3%	36.2%	27.6%	-	6.9%
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	5.2%	29.3%	31.0%	8.6%	25.9%
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	5.2%	41.4%	20.7%	32.8%
Heroin	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	10.3%	29.3%	24.1%	19.0%	17.2%
Marijuana	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	44.8%	29.3%	15.5%	3.4%	6.9%
Methamphetamine	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	31.6%	36.8%	14.0%	8.8%	8.8%
Pharmaceuticals	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	6.9%	24.1%	32.8%	10.3%	25.9%
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	6.9%	13.8%	43.1%	20.7%	15.5%
Crack Cocaine	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	10.3%	12.1%	29.3%	32.8%	15.5%
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	17.2%	27.6%	29.3%	25.9%

Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 response from the one agency with a gang presence, the Aryan Brotherhood, Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), Mexican Mafia/La Eme, and the Skinheads were all listed as having a low level of involvement in the jurisdiction (Table 5).

Table 5: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	Not Applicable	Unknown
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
Bloods (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Border Brothers	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	3.6%	28.6%	57.1%	10.7%
Crips (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	15.8%	19.3%	26.3%	28.1%	10.5%
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	1.8%	1.8%	21.1%	64.9%	10.5%
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	5.3%	28.1%	29.8%	29.8%	7.0%
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	3.5%	8.8%	40.4%	38.6%	8.8%
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	1.8%	1.8%	10.5%	64.9%	21.1%
La Raza	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	14.0%	73.7%	12.3%
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	1.8%	31.6%	54.4%	12.3%
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	5.3%	42.1%	40.4%	12.3%
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	1.8%	78.6%	19.6%
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	8.6%	29.3%	22.4%	32.8%	6.9%
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	3.6%	12.5%	69.6%	14.3%
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	8.9%	78.6%	12.5%
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	3.5%	75.4%	21.1%

UBN	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	1.8%	8.9%	66.1%	23.2%
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	1.8%	10.5%	68.4%	19.3%

### Level of Gang Coordination

The survey also contained questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. The one agency with a gang presence in Greenlee County reported that gangs were not coordinating with other gangs in its jurisdiction (Table 6).

<b>Table 6: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2009 Arizona</b>
Yes	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	44.6%
No	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>

### Most Effective Gang Responses

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies have been the most effective in their respective jurisdictions when responding to gangs. Prior to 2009, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

Community programs, enforcement, identification of gang members, and school programs were the strategies listed as being effective in responding to gangs within the Greenlee County jurisdiction encountering a gang presence (Table 7).

**Table 7: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies**

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Community Programs	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	8	13.6%
Enforcement	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	46	78.0%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	39	66.1%
School Programs	1	100.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	17	28.8%
GIITEM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	34	57.6%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	29	49.2%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	22	37.3%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	32.2%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13	22.0%

*Task Force Participation*

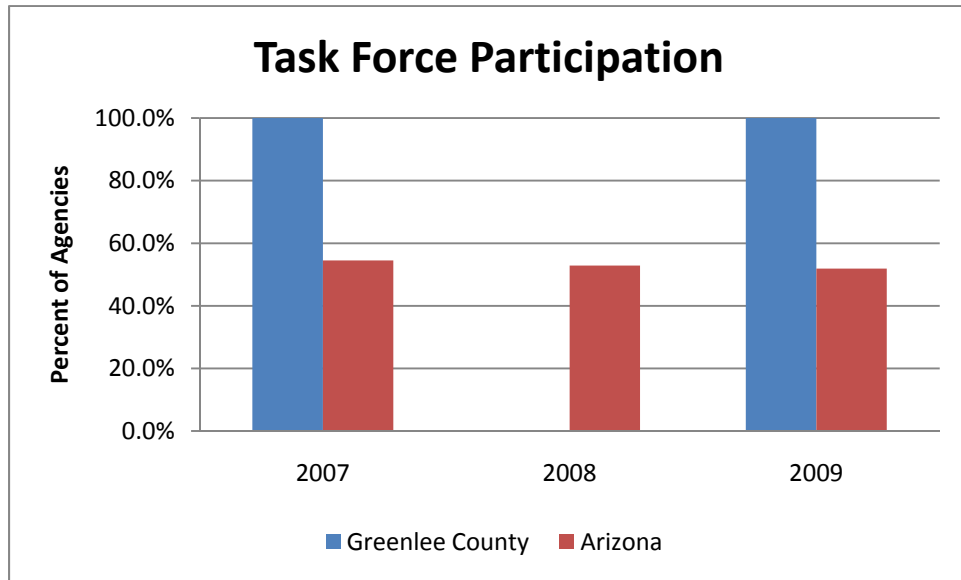
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. In 2009, the agency in Greenlee County with a gang presence reportedly participated in a multi-agency task force (Figure 3).

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in communities throughout Arizona. One agency in Greenlee County reported gang involvement in drug distribution within its jurisdiction during 2009. The law enforcement agency reported a low level of gang involvement in the distribution of heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine, pharmaceuticals, and powdered cocaine. When asked about the level of involvement in various crimes, the level of involvement was "unknown."

The active gangs identified by the Greenlee County law enforcement agency with a gang presence were the Aryan Brotherhood, Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), Mexican Mafia/La Eme, and the Skinheads. These gangs were listed as having a low level of involvement in the agency's jurisdiction.

The law enforcement agency with a gang presence reported that gang activity in its jurisdiction did not change during the six months, 12 months, and five years prior to filling out the survey. The agency also reported that gangs were not expanding their scope of activities and were not coordinating with other gangs. While the level of gang activity within the Greenlee County agency's jurisdiction appears to be low, the agency did report being a member of a multi-agency task force in 2009.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: at least one Greenlee County community, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, ACJC intends for the Greenlee County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 La Paz County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

# ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION



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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in La Paz County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	7
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	9
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	9
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	10
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	11

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey, titled the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The SAC survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides La Paz County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- Only one La Paz County law enforcement agency responded to the survey, and the agency reported an active gang presence within its jurisdiction in 2009. This agency estimated a total of 80 active gang members in its jurisdiction.
- The one agency with a gang presence reported that gang activity had not changed during the six months prior to filling out the survey. When asked about the prior 12 months, the agency reported that gang activity had increased significantly. Over the previous five years, the responding agency reported that gangs had increased slightly.
- Assault/aggravated assault and threatening/intimidation were listed as the primary crimes being committed by gangs within the one jurisdiction with a gang presence in La Paz County.
- The single agency with a gang presence in 2009 reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamine.
- Neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews were reported to have a moderate level of activity in the single jurisdiction reporting a gang presence in La Paz County.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, the single agency reporting a gang presence identified community programs, enforcement, gang crime/intelligence data analyses, identification of gang members, and joint efforts with other agencies as the effective strategies in responding to gang activity.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presents a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, the ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Three law enforcement agencies throughout La Paz County received the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* in 2010, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within the respective law enforcement jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the three surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in La Paz County, one (33.3 percent) agency returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in La Paz County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

The one La Paz County agency that responded to the SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity reported the presence of gangs and gang activity within its jurisdiction. This is a small increase from no agencies reporting gang activity in La Paz County in 2008 (Table 1). The single agency with a gang presence estimated that there were 80 active gang members in its jurisdiction in 2009. The number of gang members reported is possibly a conservative estimate of the number of gang members in La Paz County in 2009. The potential causes of underestimation include the failure of some agencies to respond to the survey and the likelihood that some gang members have not yet come to the attention of law enforcement.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	2	50.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	2	50.0%	2	100.0%	0	0.0%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

The single agency in La Paz County that reported a gang presence in its jurisdiction was asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding.

	2007	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	50.0%	-	50.0%
<b>No</b>	0	-	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	50.0%	-	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>56</b>

The agency did not respond to the question asking about whether gangs were expanding in their activities. However, when given the chance to explain their answers the agency did indicate that it was unknown, but gang membership does appear to remain current and consistent (Table 2).

In 2008 there were no agencies that reported a gang presence in La Paz County.

Looking at the six months prior to taking the 2009 assessment, the agency with a gang presence reported that gang activity had not changed. The agency also reported that gang activity increased significantly over the previous 12 months and gang activity increased slightly over the past five years (Figure 1).

Figure 1

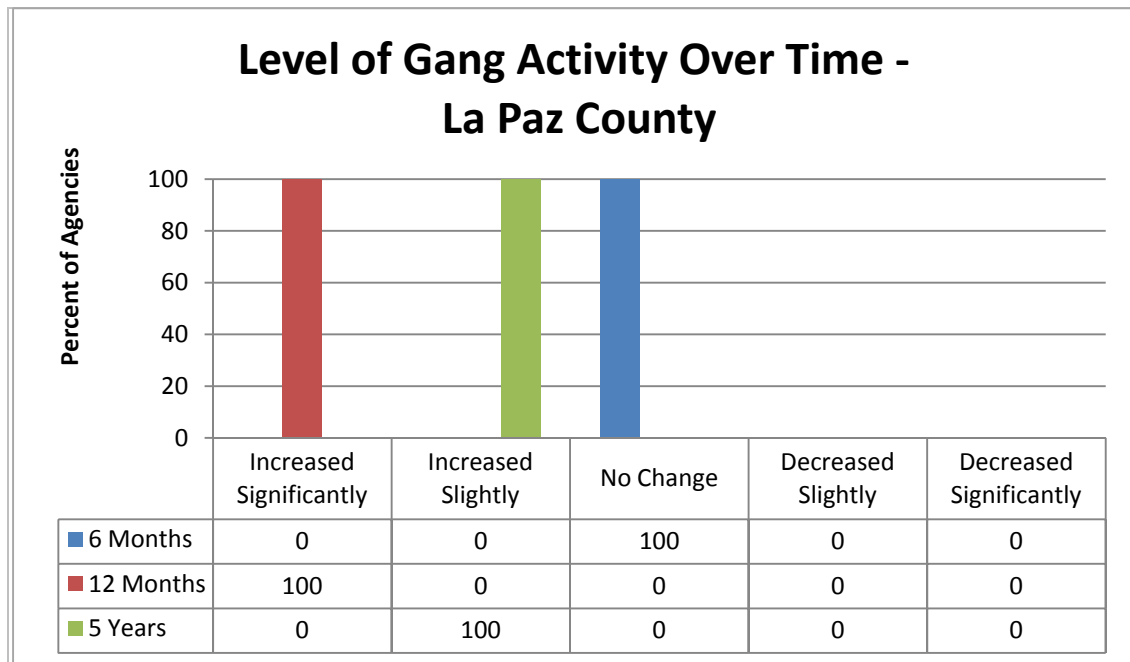
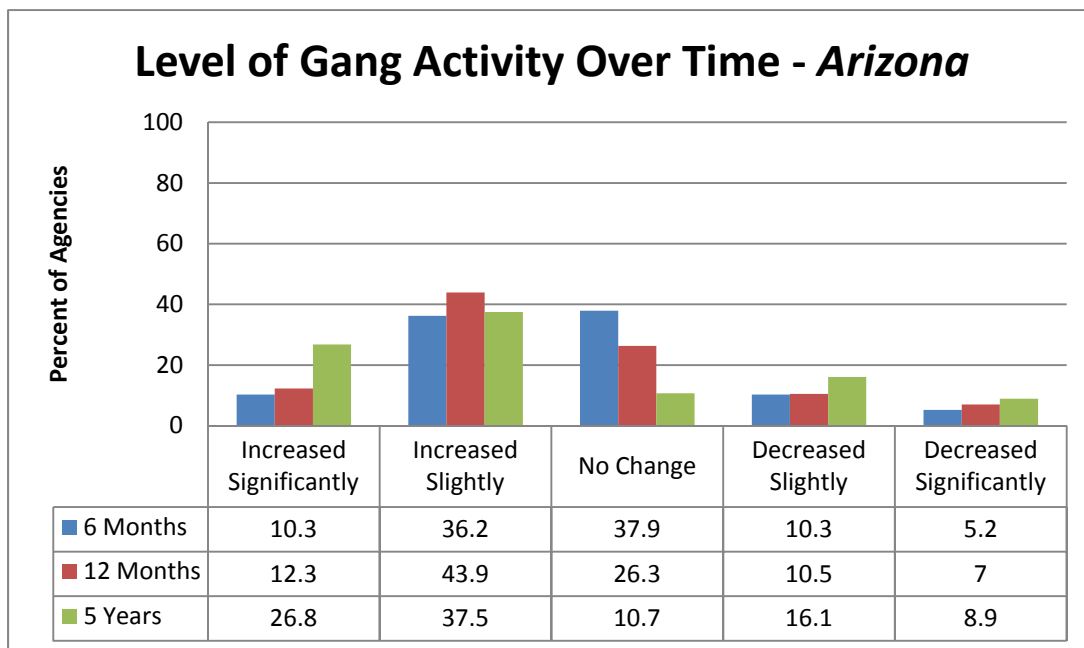


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

<b>Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
Crime	La Paz County		Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Assault/Aggravated Assault	1	100.0%	43	78.2%
Threatening and Intimidation	1	100.0%	13	23.6%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>55</b>	

The agency with a gang presence also reported the primary crimes committed by gangs within its jurisdiction

(Table 3). The question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes that could be reported. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level that reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in La Paz County.

The responding agency reported that assault/aggravated assault and threatening/intimidation were the primary crimes being committed by gangs in its jurisdiction in 2009 (Table 3).

Law enforcement agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. This categorical question provides consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

The La Paz County agency with a gang presence reported a high level of gang involvement in arson in 2009 (Table 4). Additionally, a moderate level of involvement was reported for auto theft, felonious assault, and intimidation/extortion. A low level of involvement was reported for fraud.

<b>Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Arson	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	100.0%	-	-	-	-
Arizona	2009	3.4%	5.2%	19.0%	46.6%	25.9%
Auto Theft	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
Arizona	2009	12.1%	39.7%	20.7%	19.0%	8.6%
Felonious Assault	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
Arizona	2009	17.5%	35.1%	28.1%	10.5%	8.8%
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
Arizona	2009	15.5%	31.0%	31.0%	6.9%	15.5%
Fraud	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
Arizona	2009	13.0%	14.8%	27.8%	20.4%	24.1%
Human Trafficking	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	8.8%	17.5%	14.0%	31.6%	28.1%

Burglary	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Identity Theft	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Murder	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Prostitution	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>
Robbery	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.4%</i>

In 2008 there were no agencies that reported a gang presence in La Paz County.

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies rated the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. The one agency with a gang presence in La Paz County reported a high level of gang involvement in street drug sales in 2009 (Table 5). Additionally, the agency reported a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamines.

		<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	100.0%	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Marijuana	2007	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	100.0%	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Methamphetamine	2007	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2009	100.0%	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Heroin	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>

In 2008 there were no agencies that reported a gang presence in La Paz County.

*Level of Activity by Gang*

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 response from the one agency with a gang presence in La Paz County, neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews were rated as having a moderate level of involvement in its jurisdiction (Table 6). The agency did not respond to the level of activity for any additional gangs from the list. When given the opportunity to provide a gang not included in the list, the agency reported a moderate level of involvement for a "Native" gang.

<b>Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
Bloods (all sets)	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Border Brothers	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Crips (all sets)	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>69.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
UBN	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-

Arizona	2009	-	1.8%	8.9%	66.1%	23.2%
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
Arizona	2009	-	1.8%	10.5%	68.4%	19.3%

In 2008 there were no agencies that reported a gang presence in La Paz County.

*Level of Gang Coordination*

The survey also contained questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. The one agency with a gang presence in La Paz County did not respond to whether gangs were coordinating with other gangs. However, when given the chance to explain their response, the agency indicated that it was unknown but gangs appear to remain local (Table 7).

<b>Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>			
	2007	2009	2009 Arizona
Yes	50.0%	-	44.6%
No	50.0%	-	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	-	-	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>56</b>

In 2008 there were no agencies that reported a gang presence in La Paz County.

*Most Effective Gang Responses*

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies were effective in their respective jurisdictions when combating gangs. Prior to the 2009 assessment, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

The single La Paz County agency with a gang presence reported that community programs, enforcement, gang crime/intelligence data analyses, identification of gang members, and joint efforts with other agencies were the effective gang interdiction, intervention, or suppression strategies in its jurisdiction (Table 8).

<b>Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies</b>						
	2007		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Community Programs	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	8	13.6%
Enforcement	1	50.0%	1	100.0%	46	78.0%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	22	37.3%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	39	66.1%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	29	49.2%
GIITEM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	34	57.6%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	32.2%
School Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	17	28.8%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13	22.0%

In 2008 there were no agencies that reported a gang presence in La Paz County.

Task Force Participation

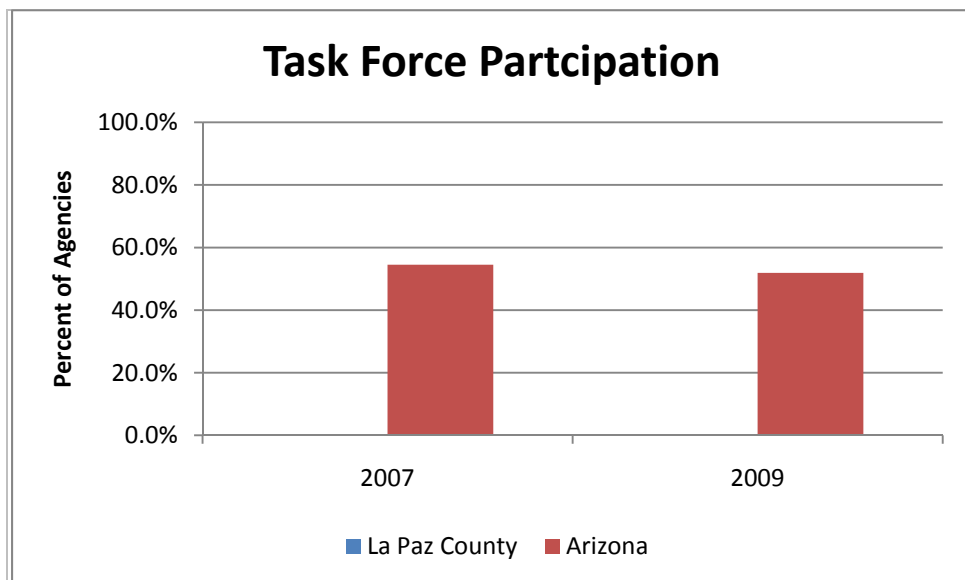
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang presence on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. In 2009, the agency with a gang presence reportedly did not participate in a multi-agency task force (Figure 3). However, the agency noted that they are in the process of developing an IGA with the Department of Public Safety.

Figure 3



In 2008 there were no agencies that reported a gang presence in La Paz County.

## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect one law enforcement jurisdiction in La Paz County and a number of jurisdictions throughout Arizona. The one respondent from La Paz County reported gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within its jurisdiction during 2009. The one agency reported a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamines. The agency also cited gang involvement in assaults/aggravated assaults and threatening/intimidation as a concern within its jurisdiction.

The only gang category identified for having a moderate level of gang involvement in 2009 was the neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews affiliation. In 2007, one agency listed this gang category as having a low level of involvement in its jurisdiction.

Over the past three years, law enforcement agencies in La Paz County have reported a decrease in the presence of gangs in their jurisdictions, but concern about gang activity is still prevalent. The number of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has decreased from two in 2007 to one in 2009. Nonetheless, the data reveals that the law enforcement agency with a gang presence in 2009 was concerned about the high level of gang involvement in arson in 2009, which is an increase from the low level of involvement reported throughout La Paz County in 2007.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: at least one La Paz County community, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, the ACJC intends for the La Paz County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Maricopa County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

# ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION



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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Maricopa County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The SAC survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Maricopa County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- Gangs were reported to be active in 16 of the 20 law enforcement jurisdictions (80.0 percent) that responded to the survey in 2010. Of the agencies that reported active gangs, 15 agencies provided estimates of the number of gang members in their respective jurisdictions. Together, these agencies estimated a total of 20,768 active gang members within the 15 jurisdictions in Maricopa County.
- More than half (60.0 percent) of the agencies encountering gang activity reported that gangs were expanding their membership and scope of activities. More than half of the agencies reported that gang activity had increased during the six months and the five years prior to taking the survey. When asked about the previous 12 months, more than half of the agencies (57.1 percent) reported gang activity had either stayed the same or decreased.
- Assault/aggravated assault was listed by all agencies in Maricopa County as the primary crime being committed by gangs, followed by burglary (62.5 percent) and drug sales (50.0 percent).
- More than 40 percent of responding agencies reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana and 31.3 percent reported a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of methamphetamine.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, law enforcement agencies in Maricopa County identified enforcement and identification of gang members as the most effective strategies when responding to gangs and gang activity in their jurisdictions. The least implemented strategies among the agency respondents were school programming and community-based gang programming.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presented a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Twenty-two law enforcement agencies throughout Maricopa County received the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the 22 surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Maricopa County, 20 (90.9 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Maricopa County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

Of the 20 agencies that responded to SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity in Maricopa County, 80.0 percent (16 agencies) reported the presence of gangs and gang activity in their respective jurisdictions. This is a decrease from the 18 agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdictions during 2008 (Table 1). Of the 16 agencies that reported gangs within their jurisdictions, 15 of the agencies estimated that 20,768 active gang members were present across their jurisdictions. One agency reporting gang activity was not able to provide an estimated number of gang members within its jurisdiction. Thus, the number of gang members reported is a conservative estimate of the total number of gang members in Maricopa County. Other potential causes for the underestimation in the total number of gang members throughout the county include the inability of the remaining agency to provide estimates, other agencies not responding to the survey at all, and the likelihood that some gang members have not yet come to the attention of law enforcement.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	17	81.0%	18	81.8%	16	80.0%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	4	19.0%	4	18.2%	4	20.0%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

Agencies that reported gangs or gang members in their respective jurisdictions were asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding. When

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	70.6%	76.5%	60.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	29.4%	17.6%	40.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	0.0%	5.9%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>56</b>

asked whether gangs in the area were expanding in membership and scope of activities, 60 percent of the Maricopa County agencies reporting a gang presence responded that gangs within their respective jurisdictions were expanding their membership

and scope of activities, compared to half of the agencies reporting expanded gang activities at the state level (Table 2). This is a decrease from 76.5 percent of the agencies reporting expansion during 2008.

When given the opportunity to provide further explanation of their responses, many agencies with expanding gang membership and activity reported that gangs were becoming more involved in identity theft and fraud.

When considering the six months prior to the 2009 assessment, more than half of the agencies with a gang presence reported that gang activity had increased slightly or significantly (Figure 1). Slightly more than 14 percent of agencies reported that gang activity had increased significantly over the

preceding 12 months and 28.6 percent reported that activity increased slightly. When asked to assess the level of gang activity over the past five years, 15.4 percent reported that activity had increased significantly and an additional 46.2 percent reported that activity had increased slightly over the past five years.

Figure 1

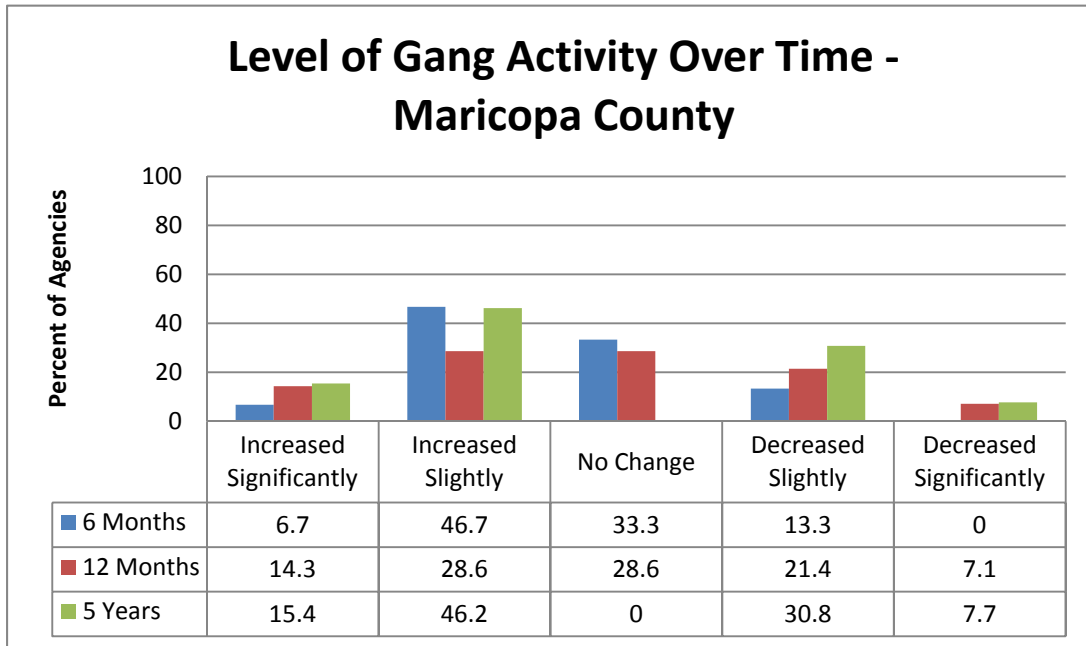
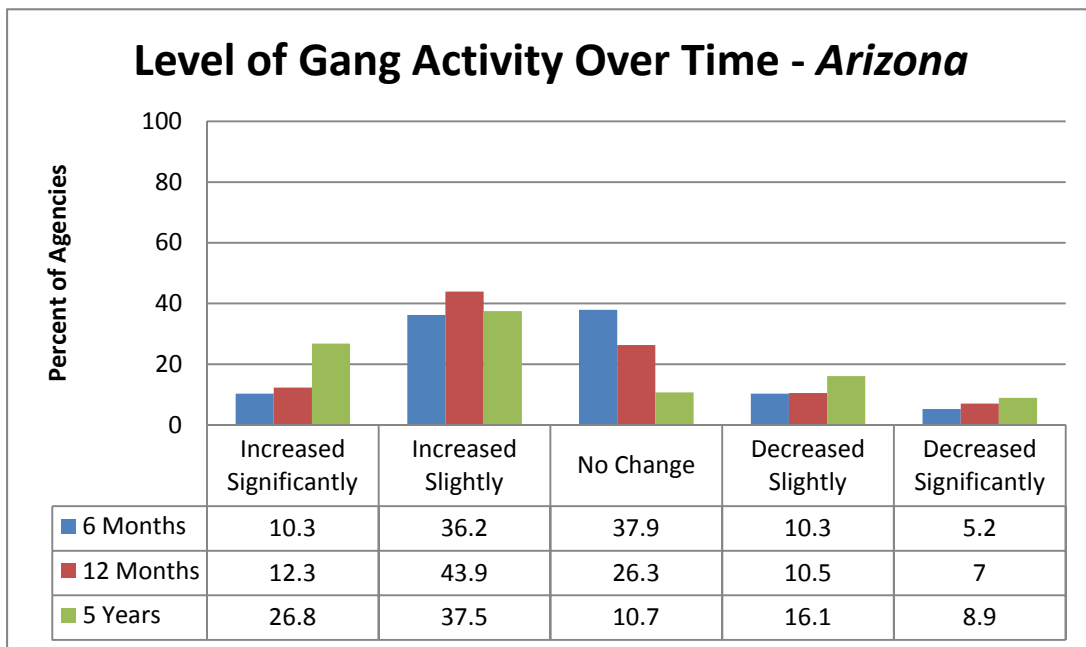


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

<b>Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
<b>Crime</b>	<b>Maricopa County</b>		<b>Arizona</b>	
	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>
Assault/Aggravated Assault	16	100.0%	43	78.2%
Burglary	10	62.5%	23	41.8%
Drug Sales	8	50.0%	13	23.6%
Robbery/Armed Robbery	5	31.3%	9	16.4%
Threatening and Intimidation	5	31.3%	13	23.6%
Criminal Damage	4	25.0%	17	30.9%
Drive-by Shootings	4	25.0%	8	14.5%
Drug Offenses	3	18.8%	15	27.3%
Fraud/Identity Theft	3	18.8%	5	9.1%
Theft	3	18.8%	10	18.2%
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	3	18.8%	13	23.6%
Alcohol Crimes/Minor in Consumption/DUI	2	12.5%	3	5.5%
Drug Possession	2	12.5%	4	7.3%
Homicide	2	12.5%	4	7.3%
Auto Theft	1	6.3%	7	12.7%
Kidnapping	1	6.3%	1	1.8%
Money Laundering	1	6.3%	1	1.8%
Property Crimes	1	6.3%	3	5.5%
Public Disorder Crimes	1	6.3%	1	1.8%
Shoplifting	1	6.3%	1	1.8%
Trafficking of Stolen Property	1	6.3%	1	1.8%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>16</b>		<b>55</b>	

Agencies were also asked to report the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). This question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes they could

report. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Maricopa County.

All 16 agencies reported assault/aggravated assault as a primary crime being committed by gangs, followed by burglary (62.5 percent), drug sales (50.0 percent), robbery/armed robbery (31.3 percent), threatening and intimidation (31.3 percent), criminal damage (25.0 percent), and drive-by shootings (25.0 percent). Additionally, 18.8 percent of agencies reported drug offenses, fraud/identity theft, theft, and vandalism/graffiti/tagging as primary crimes being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions.

Agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. This categorical question provides consistent measurement over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

The crime type with the largest percentage of agencies in Maricopa County reporting a high level of gang involvement during 2009 was vandalism/graffiti/tagging (62.5 percent), followed by fraud (33.3 percent), burglary (31.3 percent), and identity theft (31.3 percent) (Table 4). While the previous table revealed that all agencies reported assault as the primary crime committed by gangs, Table 4

shows that only 25.0 percent of agencies reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in felonious assaults. This difference between the assault categories is likely attributed to the variation in definitions for "assault/aggravated assault" and "felonious assault."

Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	52.9%	41.2%	5.9%	-	-
	2008	61.1%	33.3%	5.6%	-	-
	2009	62.5%	37.5%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.4%</i>
Fraud	2007	5.9%	23.5%	41.2%	17.6%	11.8%
	2008	5.9%	11.8%	23.5%	35.3%	23.5%
	2009	33.3%	20.0%	26.7%	13.3%	6.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>
Burglary	2007	23.5%	58.8%	5.9%	5.9%	5.9%
	2008	5.6%	61.1%	27.8%	-	5.6%
	2009	31.3%	50.0%	12.5%	6.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Identity Theft	2007	23.5%	23.5%	23.5%	17.6%	11.8%
	2008	16.7%	16.7%	33.3%	27.8%	5.6%
	2009	31.3%	31.3%	18.8%	12.5%	6.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Auto Theft	2007	35.3%	35.3%	17.6%	5.9%	5.9%
	2008	22.2%	33.3%	33.3%	5.6%	5.6%
	2009	25.0%	37.5%	18.8%	6.3%	12.5%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Felonious Assault	2007	17.6%	52.9%	23.5%	5.9%	-
	2008	29.4%	35.3%	23.5%	5.9%	5.9%
	2009	25.0%	43.8%	25.0%	6.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	11.8%	47.1%	23.5%	5.9%	11.8%
	2008	22.2%	22.2%	27.8%	11.1%	16.7%
	2009	25.0%	12.5%	31.3%	-	31.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Robbery	2007	17.6%	29.4%	35.3%	11.8%	5.9%
	2008	33.3%	16.7%	44.4%	5.6%	-
	2009	25.0%	37.5%	31.3%	6.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	11.8%	17.6%	52.9%	5.9%	11.8%
	2008	5.6%	11.1%	38.9%	22.2%	22.2%
	2009	13.3%	13.3%	33.3%	26.7%	13.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Murder	2007	11.8%	11.8%	58.8%	17.6%	-
	2008	11.1%	16.7%	27.8%	27.8%	16.7%
	2009	13.3%	6.7%	33.3%	40.0%	6.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	5.9%	70.6%	23.5%	-
	2008	5.6%	11.1%	16.7%	61.1%	5.6%
	2009	12.5%	6.3%	31.3%	31.3%	18.8%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	70.6%	17.6%	11.8%
	2008	-	22.2%	11.1%	55.6%	11.1%
	2009	6.7%	6.7%	26.7%	40.0%	20.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>

Prostitution	2007	-	11.8%	29.4%	29.4%	29.4%
	2008	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%	61.1%	22.2%
	2009	-	18.8%	6.3%	56.3%	18.8%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>
Arson	2007	-	-	35.3%	35.3%	29.4%
	2008	-	-	16.7%	61.1%	22.2%
	2009	-	12.5%	6.3%	56.3%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Human Trafficking	2007	-	6.3%	31.3%	18.8%	43.8%
	2008	-	5.6%	16.7%	44.4%	33.3%
	2009	-	12.5%	25.0%	25.0%	37.5%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies were asked to rate the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. In Maricopa County, 31.3 percent of agencies reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in street drug sales and 12.5 percent reported a high level of involvement in the wholesale of drugs (Table 5). The greatest percentage of responding agencies reported a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana (43.8 percent), similar to the overall state results (44.8 percent).

<b>Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
		<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	29.4%	41.2%	29.4%	-	-
	2008	11.1%	50.0%	22.2%	-	16.7%
	2009	31.3%	37.5%	31.3%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	17.6%	11.8%	52.9%	5.9%	11.8%
	2008	11.1%	11.1%	27.8%	27.8%	22.2%
	2009	12.5%	18.8%	31.3%	6.3%	31.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	5.9%	-	47.1%	23.5%	23.5%
	2008	5.6%	5.6%	16.7%	38.9%	33.3%
	2009	-	18.8%	25.0%	25.0%	31.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	12.5%	37.5%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Marijuana	2007	41.2%	41.2%	17.6%	-	-
	2008	38.9%	27.8%	22.2%	5.6%	5.6%
	2009	43.8%	37.5%	-	6.3%	12.5%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	29.4%	41.2%	29.4%	-	-
	2008	27.8%	27.8%	27.8%	-	16.7%
	2009	31.3%	43.8%	6.3%	12.5%	6.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Heroin	2007	11.8%	35.3%	29.4%	5.9%	17.6%
	2008	5.6%	27.8%	27.8%	11.1%	27.8%
	2009	25.0%	31.3%	-	25.0%	18.8%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>

Crack Cocaine	2007	11.8%	17.6%	52.9%	5.9%	11.8%
	2008	16.7%	16.7%	38.9%	11.1%	16.7%
	2009	6.3%	18.8%	43.8%	31.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	5.9%	5.9%	47.1%	17.6%	23.5%
	2008	-	5.9%	5.9%	35.3%	52.9%
	2009	6.3%	25.0%	18.8%	18.8%	31.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	18.8%	68.8%	6.3%	6.3%
	2008	5.6%	16.7%	50.0%	11.1%	16.7%
	2009	6.3%	18.8%	37.5%	25.0%	12.5%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	5.9%	-	58.8%	11.8%	23.5%
	2008	5.6%	11.1%	16.7%	27.8%	38.9%
	2009	-	12.5%	31.3%	31.3%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>

### Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their respective jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the responses from agencies with a gang presence in 2009, 12 of the 26 gangs listed were identified by at least one agency as having high levels of activity in their jurisdiction (Table 6). The most prevalent gangs reportedly having high levels of activity in 2009 were the Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13 with a presence in 43.8 percent of jurisdictions dealing with gang activity, Mexican Mafia/La Eme (25.0 percent), Aryan Brotherhood (18.8 percent), and the Skinheads (18.8 percent).

Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	Not Applicable	Unknown
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	41.2%	17.6%	17.6%	23.5%	-
	2008	27.8%	38.9%	27.8%	5.6%	-
	2009	43.8%	31.3%	18.8%	-	6.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	17.6%	11.8%	52.9%	11.8%	5.9%
	2008	22.2%	22.2%	38.9%	11.1%	5.6%
	2009	25.0%	12.5%	43.8%	12.5%	6.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	11.1%	11.1%	38.9%	38.9%	-
	2009	18.8%	18.8%	50.0%	12.5%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Skinheads	2007	5.9%	17.6%	41.2%	35.3%	-
	2008	11.1%	11.1%	44.4%	33.3%	-
	2009	18.8%	18.8%	37.5%	18.8%	6.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Crips (all sets)	2007	23.5%	29.4%	29.4%	17.6%	-
	2008	16.7%	27.8%	44.4%	5.6%	5.6%
	2009	12.5%	43.8%	31.3%	-	12.5%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	17.6%	11.8%	23.5%	35.3%	11.8%
	2008	16.7%	22.2%	33.3%	27.8%	-
	2009	12.5%	31.3%	25.0%	25.0%	6.3%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	11.8%	-	23.5%	52.9%	11.8%
	2008	-	5.6%	33.3%	61.1%	-
	2009	6.3%	-	25.0%	62.5%	6.3%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>
Bloods (all sets)	2007	17.6%	23.5%	47.1%	11.8%	-
	2008	22.2%	11.1%	44.4%	22.2%	-
	2009	6.3%	31.3%	50.0%	-	12.5%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	5.9%	-	35.3%	41.2%	17.6%
	2008	-	5.6%	44.4%	50.0%	-
	2009	6.3%	-	31.3%	56.3%	6.3%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	11.8%	11.8%	35.3%	41.2%	-
	2008	-	27.8%	27.8%	38.9%	5.6%
	2009	6.3%	31.3%	25.0%	25.0%	12.5%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	5.9%	11.8%	35.3%	47.1%	-
	2008	5.6%	11.1%	38.9%	38.9%	5.6%
	2009	6.3%	12.5%	56.3%	18.8%	6.3%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	5.9%	76.5%	17.6%
	2008	-	-	5.9%	76.5%	17.6%
	2009	6.3%	6.3%	12.5%	56.3%	18.8%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	5.9%	35.3%	47.1%	11.8%
	2008	-	-	27.8%	66.7%	5.6%
	2009	-	6.3%	31.3%	43.8%	18.8%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	-	88.2%	11.8%
	2008	-	-	11.1%	83.3%	5.6%
	2009	-	6.3%	12.5%	68.8%	12.5%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>
Border Brothers	2007	-	5.9%	29.4%	64.7%	-
	2008	-	11.1%	22.2%	50.0%	16.7%
	2009	-	6.3%	18.8%	62.5%	12.5%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>
Latin Kings	2007	-	5.9%	47.1%	41.2%	5.9%
	2008	-	-	50.0%	44.4%	5.6%
	2009	-	6.3%	43.8%	37.5%	12.5%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	5.9%	82.4%	11.8%
	2008	-	-	16.7%	72.2%	11.1%
	2009	-	6.3%	12.5%	68.8%	12.5%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>69.6%</i>
UBN	2007	-	-	6.7%	66.7%	26.7%
	2008	-	-	6.3%	56.3%	37.5%
	2009	-	6.3%	18.8%	37.5%	37.5%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	11.8%	76.5%	11.8%
	2008	-	-	22.2%	61.1%	16.7%
	2009	-	6.3%	12.5%	56.3%	25.0%
	<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>68.4%</i>

Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	23.5%	70.6%	5.9%
	2008	-	-	11.1%	66.7%	22.2
	2009	-	-	33.3%	40.0%	26.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	41.2%	47.1%	11.8%
	2008	-	5.6%	33.3%	55.6%	5.6%
	2009	-	-	25.0%	62.5%	12.5%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	11.8%	70.6%	17.6%
	2008	-	-	17.6%	70.6%	11.8%
	2009	-	-	18.8%	68.8%	12.5%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	11.8%	76.5%	11.8%
	2008	-	-	5.6	94.4	-
	2009	-	-	12.5%	75.0%	12.5%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	5.9%	82.4%	11.8%
	2008	-	-	5.9%	94.1%	-
	2009	-	-	12.5%	75.0%	12.5%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	11.8%	82.4%	5.9%
	2008	-	-	-	88.9%	11.1%
	2009	-	-	6.3%	75.0%	18.8%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	5.9%	88.2%	5.9%
	2008	-	-	-	88.9%	11.1%
	2009	-	-	6.3%	68.8%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>

### Level of Gang Coordination

The survey also contained questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. Three-fourths of the responding agencies with a gang presence reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 7). Agency responses indicated that gangs were coordinating with other gangs to deal drugs and commit property crimes. In addition, multiple agencies reported coordination between rival gangs in jails and prison.

Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
	2007	2008	2009	2009 <i>Arizona</i>
Yes	52.9%	70.6%	75.0%	44.6%
No	29.4%	29.4%	25.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	17.6%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>56</b>

### Most Effective Gang Responses

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies have been the most effective in their respective jurisdictions when responding to gangs. Prior to 2009, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. In an effort to standardize the responses, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by

the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

Enforcement and identification of gang members were the strategies identified by the largest percentage of agencies as effective gang responses within their jurisdictions (Table 8). This data is consistent with what was reported across the state.

**Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies**

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Enforcement	8	47.1%	8	44.4%	12	75.0%	46	78.0%
Identification of Gang Members	3	17.6%	3	16.7%	12	75.0%	39	66.1%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	0	0.0%	1	5.6%	11	68.8%	19	32.2%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	4	23.5%	5	27.8%	9	56.3%	22	37.3%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	1	5.9%	4	22.2%	9	56.3%	29	49.2%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	50.0%	13	22.0%
GIITEM	2	11.8%	1	5.6%	7	43.8%	34	57.6%
School Programs	4	23.5%	2	11.1%	3	18.8%	17	28.8%
Community Programs	2	11.8%	5	27.8%	1	6.3%	8	13.6%

*Task Force Participation*

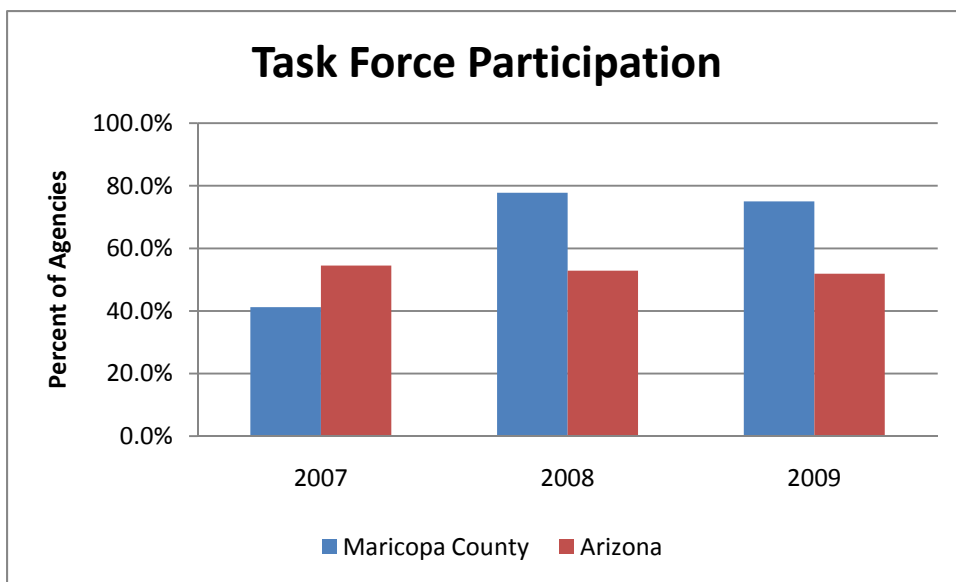
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang presence on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. Three-fourths of agencies in Maricopa County that responded to the survey reported that they participated in a multi-agency task force, which was a slight decline from previous years (Figure 3). Agencies reported participating in GIITEM, the Fusion Center, and the East Valley Gang Task Force.

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in Maricopa County and throughout Arizona. Several agencies reported significant gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. Law enforcement agencies continue to report a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamine, similar to what was reported in 2007 and 2008. Law enforcement agencies in Maricopa County also cited gang involvement in assault/aggravated assault, burglary, drug sales, robbery/armed robbery and threatening/intimidation as major concerns within their jurisdictions.

The most active gangs identified by Maricopa County law enforcement agencies were the Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, Aryan Brotherhood, and the Skinheads. Other gangs reported as having high levels of activity include the Crips, neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews, Black Gangster Disciples, Bloods, Gangster Disciples, Hells Angels OMG, Hispanic Norteños (14), and La Nuestra Familia.

Over the past three years, law enforcement agencies in Maricopa County have reported increases in the problems associated with gangs in their jurisdictions. While the percentage of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has remained relatively unchanged, gang involvement in many types of crimes have increased since 2007. A larger percentage of agencies reported high levels of gang involvement in vandalism/graffiti/tagging, fraud, burglary, identity theft, and auto theft. Although a lower percentage of agencies reported that gangs are expanding their membership and numbers in 2009, many agencies reported that gang coordination with other gangs in their jurisdiction has increased.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: Maricopa County communities, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a significant gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, ACJC intends for the Maricopa County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Mohave County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

# ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION



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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Mohave County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey, titled the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The SAC survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Mohave County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- Four of the five Mohave County law enforcement agencies that responded to the survey in 2010 reported an active gang presence within their respective jurisdictions. Of the agencies that reported at least one active gang, three agencies provided estimates of the number of gang members within their jurisdictions. The three agencies estimated that there were 700 active gang members across their jurisdictions.
- Two of the four agencies in Mohave County that reported a gang presence also reported that gangs were expanding their membership and scope of activities in 2009. All of the agencies with a gang presence reported that gang activity had increased slightly during the prior six months and three agencies reported that activity had increased slightly during the prior 12 months. When asked about the last five years, three agencies reported that gang activity had increased significantly while another agency reported that gang activity had only increased slightly.
- Half of the responding agencies reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamine. One agency reported high involvement in the distribution of pharmaceuticals.
- Hells Angels OMG and the neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews were the only gangs reported as having a high level of involvement in Mohave County.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, responding law enforcement agencies identified GIITEM, identification of gang members, and joint efforts with other agencies as the most effective strategies in responding to gangs and gang activity in their jurisdictions.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presented a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Seven law enforcement agencies throughout Mohave County received the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the seven surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Mohave County, five (71.4 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Mohave County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

Of the five agencies that responded to SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity in Mohave County, 80.0 percent (four agencies) reported the presence of gangs and gang activity in their respective jurisdictions. This is a decrease from the six agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdictions during the previous year (Table 1). Of the agencies that responded that there were gangs within their jurisdictions, three agencies estimated a total of 700 active gang members present across their jurisdictions. The remaining agency reporting gang activity was not able to provide an estimated number of gang members within its jurisdiction. Thus, the number of gang members reported is a conservative estimate of the number of gang members in Mohave County. Other potential causes of the underestimation include the inability of the remaining agency to provide estimates, other agencies not responding to the survey, and the likelihood that some gang members have not yet come to the attention of law enforcement.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	5	83.3%	6	85.7%	4	80.0%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	1	16.7%	1	14.3%	1	20.0%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

Agencies that reported a gang presence in their jurisdictions were asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding. When asked whether

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	60.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	40.0%	50.0%	50.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	5	6	4	56

gangs in the area were expanding their membership and scope of activities, two (50.0%) of the Mohave County agencies reporting a gang presence responded that gangs within their respective jurisdictions were expanding their membership

and scope of activities, similar to half of the agencies reporting a gang presence at the state level (Table 2). This is a small decrease from the percentage of agencies experiencing gang activity and reporting expansion in 2007.

When given the opportunity to provide further explanation of their responses, agencies reported that gangs were becoming more involved in attempted murder and using threats and intimidation against rival gangs and local businesses.

When considering the six months prior to the 2009 assessment, all agencies reported that the level of gang activity within their respective jurisdictions had increased slightly. Only one agency reported that gang activity increased significantly over the preceding 12 months while the remaining three

agencies reported activity had increased slightly. When asked to assess the level of gang activity over the past five years, three agencies reported that activity increased significantly while one reported activity had increased slightly (Figure 1).

Figure 1

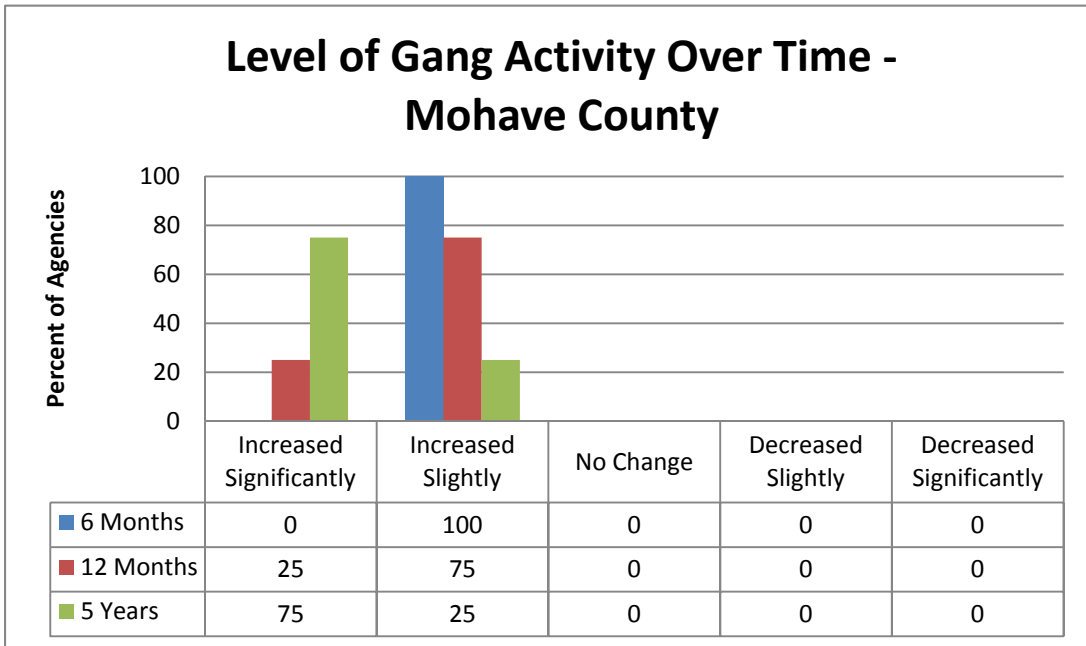
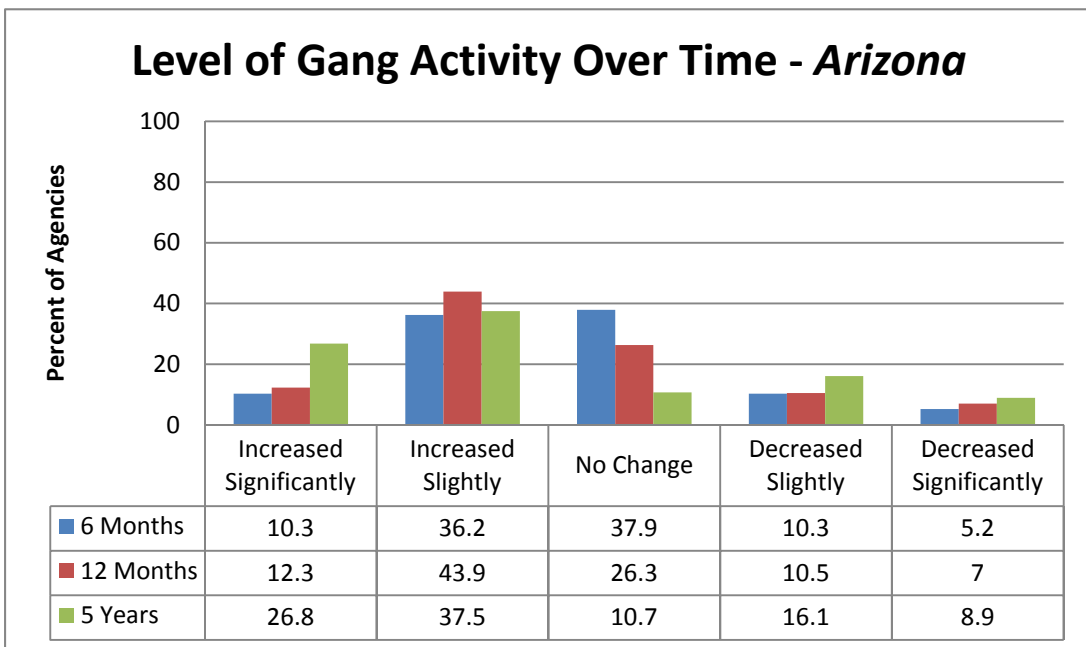


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

<b>Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
<b>Crime</b>	<b>Mohave County</b>		<b>Arizona</b>	
	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>
Assault/Aggravated Assault	3	75.0%	43	78.2%
Drug Offenses	3	75.0%	15	27.3%
Drug Smuggling/Trafficking/Transport	2	50.0%	6	10.9%
Attempted Homicide	1	25.0%	2	3.6%
Criminal Damage	1	25.0%	17	30.9%
Disorderly Conduct	1	25.0%	2	3.6%
Prostitution	1	25.0%	2	3.6%
Theft	1	25.0%	10	18.2%
Threatening and Intimidation	1	25.0%	13	23.6%
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	1	25.0%	13	23.6%
Weapon Offenses	1	25.0%	4	7.3%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>55</b>	

Agencies were asked to report the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). This question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being

committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes they could report. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Mohave County.

Three out of four agencies with a gang presence in Mohave County reported assault/aggravated assault and drug offenses as primary crimes being committed by gangs in their respective jurisdictions. Other crimes listed by agencies in Mohave County include drug smuggling/trafficking/transport, attempted homicide, criminal damage, disorderly conduct, prostitution, theft, threatening/intimidation, vandalism/graffiti/tagging, and weapon offenses.

Agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. This categorical question provides consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

In 2009, three of the Mohave County agencies (75.0 percent) reported a high level of gang involvement in vandalism/graffiti/tagging. Additionally, two agencies reported a high level of involvement in burglary (Table 4). Only one of the agencies reported a high level of involvement in auto theft, felonious assault, and intimidation/extortion.

<b>Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	20.0%	60.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2008	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2009	75.0%	-	25.0%	-	-
Arizona	2009	57.1%	28.6%	8.9%	-	5.4%

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Burglary	2007	-	80.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2008	-	16.7%	50.0%	33.3%	-
	2009	50.0%	-	-	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Auto Theft	2007	-	80.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2008	-	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%
	2009	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Felonious Assault	2007	40.0%	40.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2008	33.3%	16.7%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	-	40.0%	60.0%	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%	-
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%	-
	2008	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%	-
	2009	-	50.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Identity Theft	2007	-	60.0%	20.0%	20.0%	-
	2008	-	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Murder	2007	-	-	60.0%	40.0%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Robbery	2007	-	80.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	80.0%	20.0%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	20.0%	60.0%	20.0%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>
Arson	2007	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%	-
	2008	-	-	16.7%	83.3%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Fraud	2007	-	20.0%	80.0%	-	-
	2008	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>
Human Trafficking	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	16.7%	16.7%	50.0%	16.7%
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>
Prostitution	2007	-	-	60.0%	40.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	83.3%	16.7%
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies rated the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. Three agencies in Mohave County reported that gangs had a moderate level of involvement in street drug sales, and one agency reported a moderate level of involvement in the wholesale of drugs (Table 5). The greatest percentage of agencies with a gang presence reported a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana (50.0 percent) and methamphetamine (50.0 percent).

<b>Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
		<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	40.0%	60.0%	-	-	-
	2008	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	-	16.7%
	2009	-	75.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	-	20.0%	80.0%	-	-
	2008	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%	-
	2008	-	16.7%	33.3%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	75.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Marijuana	2007	40.0%	40.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2008	40.0%	40.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2009	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	60.0%	40.0%	-	-	-
	2008	20.0%	60.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2009	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	-	40.0%	40.0%	20.0%	-
	2008	16.7%	-	50.0%	33.3%	-
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Heroin	2007	-	20.0%	60.0%	20.0%	-
	2008	-	-	83.3%	16.7%	-
	2009	-	50.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	-	80.0%	20.0%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	-	20.0%	60.0%	20.0%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	20.0%	80.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>

Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 responses, only two of the 26 gangs were identified by Mohave County agencies as having high levels of activity (Table 6). Mohave County law enforcement agencies identified the Hells Angels OMG (25.0 percent), and the neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews (25.0 percent) as having high levels of activity in 2009. Additionally, agencies reported that the Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13 (75.0 percent), Skinheads (75.0 percent), Aryan Brotherhood (50.0 percent), Mara Salvatrucha/MS-13 (25.0 percent) and Outlaws OMG (25.0 percent) had a moderate level of activity within their jurisdictions.

Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	Not Applicable	Unknown
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	60.0%	40.0%	-	-
	2008	33.3%	16.7%	33.3%	16.7%	-
	2009	25.0%	75.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	-	40.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
	2008	-	16.7%	33.3%	50.0%	-
	2009	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	20.0%	80.0%	-	-	-
	2008	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%	-	-
	2009	-	75.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Skinheads	2007	20.0%	60.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	16.7%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	75.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	60.0%	40.0%	-
	2008	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	-	75.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>69.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
	2008	-	-	66.7%	16.7%	16.7%
	2009	-	-	75.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Bloods (all sets)	2007	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%	-
	2008	16.7%	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%	-
	2008	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	40.0%	60.0%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
	2008	-	-	16.7%	83.3%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Crips (all sets)	2007	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%	-
	2008	16.7%	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
Border Brothers	2007	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
	2008	-	-	16.7%	83.3%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
	2008	-	-	16.7%	83.3%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	40.0%	60.0%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%	-
	2008	-	-	16.7%	83.3%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	40.0%	60.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
	2008	-	-	16.7%	83.3%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>

Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
UBN	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>23.2%</i>
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>68.4%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>

### Level of Gang Coordination

The survey also contains questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. In 2009, three of the four agencies in Mohave County reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs within their jurisdictions (Table 7). Agency responses indicated that motorcycle gangs were predominately coordinating with each other as well as coordinating with gangs in larger cities.

<b>Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2009 Arizona</b>
Yes	20.0%	33.3%	75.0%	44.6%
No	80.0%	50.0%	25.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>

### Most Effective Gang Responses

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies have been the most effective in their respective jurisdictions when responding to gangs. Prior to the 2009, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

GIITEM, identification of gang members, and joint efforts with other agencies were the strategies identified by most agencies as effective gang responses within their jurisdictions (Table 8). Community programs, law enforcement gang units, and special prosecution programs were not listed by any of the responding agencies as being effective strategies.

**Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies**

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
GIITEM	4	80.0%	2	33.3%	4	100.0%	34	57.6%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	75.0%	39	66.1%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	2	33.3%	3	75.0%	29	49.2%
Enforcement	2	40.0%	2	33.3%	2	50.0%	46	78.0%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	1	20.0%	1	16.7%	1	25.0%	22	37.3%
School Programs	0	0.0%	2	33.3%	1	25.0%	17	28.8%
Community Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	13.6%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	1	20.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	32.2%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13	22.0%

*Task Force Participation*

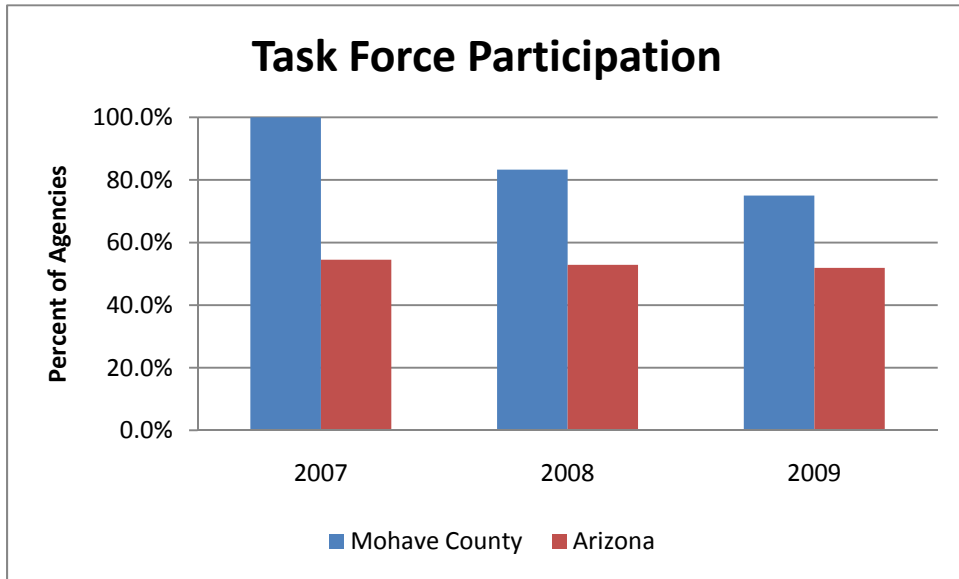
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaborations for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gangs on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. Three of the four Mohave County agencies that responded to the survey reported that they participated in a multi-agency task force (Figure 3). All three agencies reported participating in GIITEM.

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in Mohave County and throughout Arizona. Several agencies reported significant gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. Similar to the findings for 2008, law enforcement agencies continued to report a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana. Law enforcement agencies also cited gang involvement in assault/aggravated assault, drug offenses, and drug smuggling/trafficking/transport as major concerns within their jurisdictions.

The most active gangs identified by Mohave County law enforcement agencies were the Hells Angels OMG and neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews. Other gangs for which agencies reported moderate levels of activity in their jurisdictions within Mohave County included the Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13, Skinheads, Aryan Brotherhood, Mara Salvatrucha/MS-13, and Outlaws OMG.

Over the past three years, law enforcement agencies in Mohave County have reported a decrease in the presence of gangs and the problems associated with gangs in their jurisdictions. The number of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has decreased from five agencies in 2007 to four agencies in 2009. Alternately, the data reveals that law enforcement agencies were concerned about increased gang involvement in many types of crimes within their jurisdictions during 2009. An increasing percentage of agencies reported high levels of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana, methamphetamine, and pharmaceuticals since 2007. Two agencies reported that gangs were expanding their scope of activities and three agencies reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: Mohave County communities, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a significant gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, ACJC intends for the Mohave County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Navajo County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Navajo County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey, titled the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The SAC survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Navajo County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- All four of the Navajo County agencies that responded to the survey in 2010 reported an active gang presence within their respective jurisdictions. Of the agencies that reported at least one active gang, three agencies provided estimates of the number of gang members within their jurisdictions. The three agencies estimated that there were 315 active gang members across their jurisdictions.
- Three of the four agencies in Navajo County that reported a gang presence also reported that gangs were expanding their membership and scope of activities. Three of the responding agencies reported that gang activity had increased during the prior six months and all agencies reported that activity had increased slightly in the past 12 months. When asked about the last five years, one agency reported that gang activity had increased significantly while the remaining agencies reported that gang activity had increased slightly.
- Half of the responding agencies reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana. One agency reported high involvement in the distribution of heroin and methamphetamine.
- The Crips was identified as the only gang having a high level of involvement in Navajo County. All four agencies reported moderate involvement of the Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), and other gangs had moderate involvement in a number of jurisdictions.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, all responding law enforcement agencies identified enforcement and GIITEM as the most effective strategies in responding to gangs and gang activity in their jurisdictions. Three of the four agencies identified school programs as an effective strategy to combat gang activity.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presents a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, the ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, the ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Nine law enforcement agencies throughout Navajo County received the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the nine surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Navajo County, four (44.4 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Navajo County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

All four agencies that responded to the SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity in Navajo County reported the presence of gangs and gang activity in their respective jurisdictions. This is an increase from the three agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdictions during 2007 (Table 1). Of the agencies that responded that there were gangs within their jurisdictions, three agencies estimated a total of 315 active gang members were present across their jurisdictions. The number of gang members reported is a conservative estimate of the number of gang members in Navajo County. Potential causes of the underestimation include the inability of the remaining agency with a gang presence to provide an estimate, the failure of other agencies to respond to the survey, and the likelihood that some gang members have not yet come to the attention of law enforcement.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	3	75.0%	4	100.0%	4	100.0%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	1	25.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

Agencies that reported a gang presence within their jurisdictions were asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding. When asked whether

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	50.0%	100.0%	75.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	50.0%	0.0%	25.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>

gangs in the area were expanding their membership and scope of activities, three (75.0 percent) of the Navajo County agencies reporting a gang presence responded that gangs within their respective jurisdictions were expanding their membership and scope of activities, compared to half of the agencies reporting expanded membership and activities at the state level (Table 2). This is a small decrease in the number of agencies reporting expansion in 2008.

When given the opportunity to provide further explanation of their responses found in Table 2, the agencies with expanding gang membership and activity reported that gangs were becoming more involved in violent crime, drug-related offenses, citizen documentation fraud, and criminal damage.

When considering the six months prior to the 2009 assessment, one agency reported that the level of gang activity in its jurisdiction increased significantly, two reported it increased slightly, and one reported a slight decrease in gang activity. All four agencies reported that gang activity increased slightly over the preceding 12 months. When asked to assess the level of gang activity over the past

five years, one agency reported that activity increased significantly, and the remaining three agencies reported activity had increased slightly (Figure 1).

Figure 1

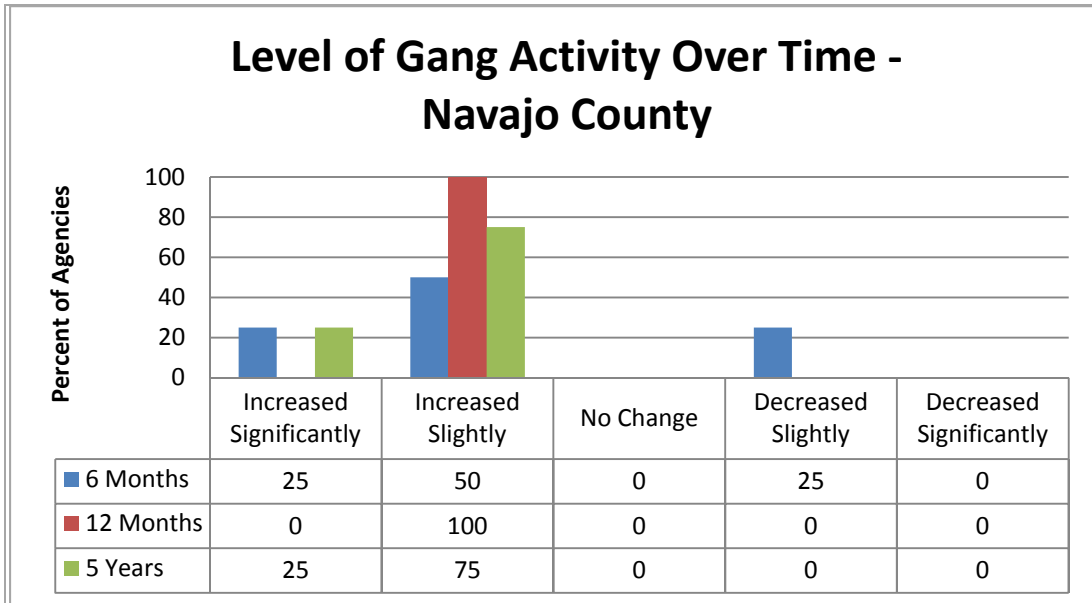
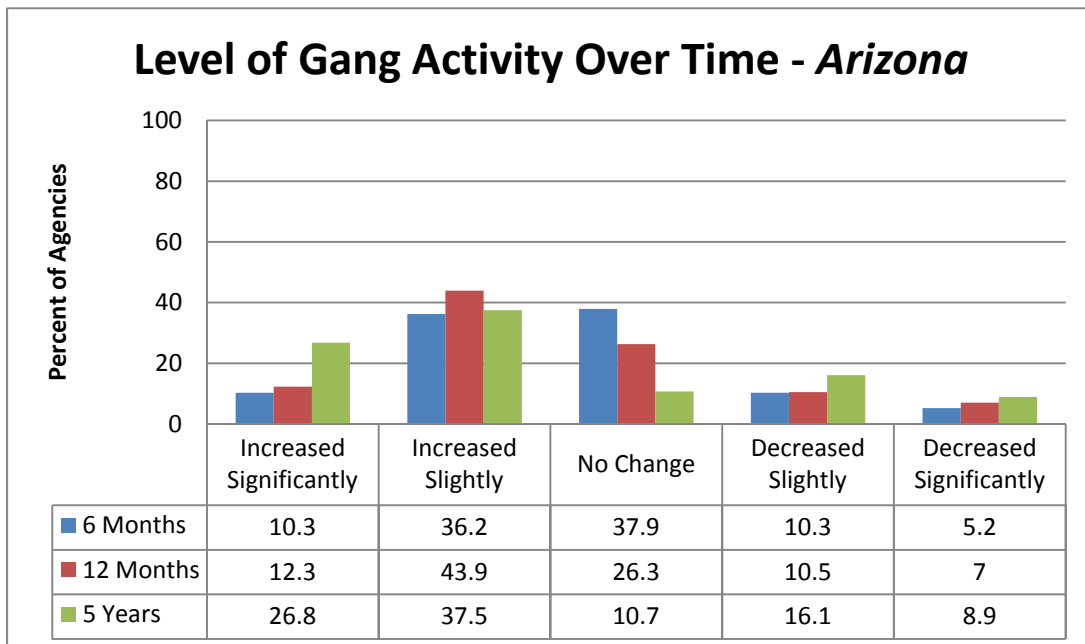


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
Crime	Navajo County		Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Drug Sales	3	75.0%	13	23.6%
Assault/Aggravated Assault	2	50.0%	43	78.2%
Criminal Damage	2	50.0%	17	30.9%
Attempted Homicide	1	25.0%	2	3.6%
Drug Offenses	1	25.0%	15	27.3%
Drug Possession	1	25.0%	4	7.3%
Drug Use	1	25.0%	4	7.3%
Theft	1	25.0%	10	18.2%
Threatening and Intimidation	1	25.0%	13	23.6%
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	1	25.0%	13	23.6%
Violent Crime	1	25.0%	1	1.8%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>55</b>	

Agencies were asked to report the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). This question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being

committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes that could be reported. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Navajo County.

Three of the four agencies reporting a gang presence in Navajo County reported drug sales as one of the primary crimes committed by gangs in their jurisdictions. Other crimes listed by agencies in Navajo County include assault/aggravated assault, criminal damage, attempted homicide, drug offenses, drug possession, drug use, theft, threatening and intimidation, vandalism/graffiti/tagging, and violent crime.

Agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. In contrast to the qualitative data in Table 3 that allows for emerging gang crimes to be revealed, the categorical question was intended to provide consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

All four Navajo County agencies reported a high level of gang involvement in 2009 for vandalism/graffiti/tagging (Table 4). Additionally, one Navajo County agency reported a high level of gang involvement in fraud, and one agency reported a high level of involvement in identity theft.

Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	-	66.7%	-	33.3%	-
	2008	75.0%	25.0%	-	-	-
	2009	100.0%	-	-	-	-
Arizona	2009	57.1%	28.6%	8.9%	-	5.4%

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Fraud	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	25.0%	-	-	-	75.0%
	2009	25.0%	-	50.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>
Identity Theft	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	25.0%	-	-	-	75.0%
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Burglary	2007	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2008	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2008	-	75.0%	25.0%	-	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	25.0%	-	-	-	75.0%
	2009	-	75.0%	-	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Robbery	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	25.0%	-	50.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	75.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Felonious Assault	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%
	2009	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Arson	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Auto Theft	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	75.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Murder	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	25.0%	-	50.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Human Trafficking	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	25.0%	-	-	75.0%
	2009	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>
Prostitution	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	25.0%	75.0%
	2009	-	-	-	25.0%	75.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies rated the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. Three agencies in Navajo County reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in drug street sales (Table 5). Three of the four agencies also reported gangs had a moderate level of involvement in the wholesale of drugs. The greatest percentage of responding agencies reported a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana (50.0 percent), higher than the overall state percentage (44.8 percent).

Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
		High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
	2008	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	75.0%	-	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
	2008	25.0%	-	25.0%	-	50.0%
	2009	-	75.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
	2008	25.0%	-	-	-	75.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	75.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Marijuana	2007	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2008	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-	-
	2009	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Heroin	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	-	25.0%	25.0%	-	50.0%
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
	2008	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	25.0%	75.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	25.0%	-	-	75.0%
	2009	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
	2008	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
	2008	-	25.0%	-	50.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	75.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>

Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 responses, only one of the 26 gangs was identified by Navajo County law enforcement agencies as having high levels of activity (Table 6). Navajo County law enforcement agencies identified the Crips (50.0 percent) as having high levels of activity in 2009. Additionally, agencies reported that the Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), Aryan Brotherhood, Hells Angels OMG, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews, Bloods, Border Brothers, and the Skinheads had a moderate level of activity within their jurisdictions.

Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	Not Applicable	Unknown
Crips (all sets)	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	33.3%	33.3%	-	33.3%	-
	2009	50.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
	2008	-	25.0%	75.0%	-	-
	2009	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	50.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	50.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Bloods (all sets)	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	75.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Border Brothers	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2008	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	75.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	75.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	1.8%	19.3%	66.7%	12.3%
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	75.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	3.5%	8.8%	40.4%	38.6%	8.8%
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	1.8%	31.6%	54.4%	12.3%
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	5.3%	42.1%	40.4%	12.3%
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	3.6%	12.5%	69.6%	14.3%
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	8.9%	78.6%	12.5%
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	1.8%	10.5%	68.4%	19.3%
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	1.8%	28.1%	59.6%	10.5%
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	7.0%	75.4%	17.5%
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	1.8%	3.5%	10.5%	70.2%	14.0%
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	1.8%	1.8%	21.1%	64.9%	10.5%
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	1.8%	1.8%	10.5%	64.9%	21.1%
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	1.8%	78.6%	19.6%
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	3.5%	75.4%	21.1%

UBN	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>23.2%</i>
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	75.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	-	25.0%	75.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>

*Level of Gang Coordination*

The survey also contains questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. In 2009, two of the four agencies in Navajo County reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs within their jurisdictions (Table 7). Agency responses indicated that gangs were coordinating with other gangs to sell illegal drugs as well as street gangs and prison gangs coordinating with one another.

<b>Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2009 Arizona</b>
Yes	0.0%	25.0%	50.0%	44.6%
No	100.0%	50.0%	50.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>

*Most Effective Gang Responses*

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies have been the most effective in their respective jurisdictions when combating gangs. Prior to the 2009 assessment, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

Enforcement and GIITEM were the strategies identified by all agencies as effective gang responses within their jurisdictions (Table 8). Additional strategies listed were school programs, identification of gang members, community programs, and joint efforts with other agencies.

**Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies**

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Enforcement	2	66.7%	2	50.0%	4	100.0%	46	78.0%
GIITEM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	100.0%	34	57.6%
School Programs	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	3	75.0%	17	28.8%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	50.0%	39	66.1%
Community Programs	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	1	25.0%	8	13.6%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	25.0%	29	49.2%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	32.2%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	22	37.3%
Special Prosecution Programs	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13	22.0%

*Task Force Participation*

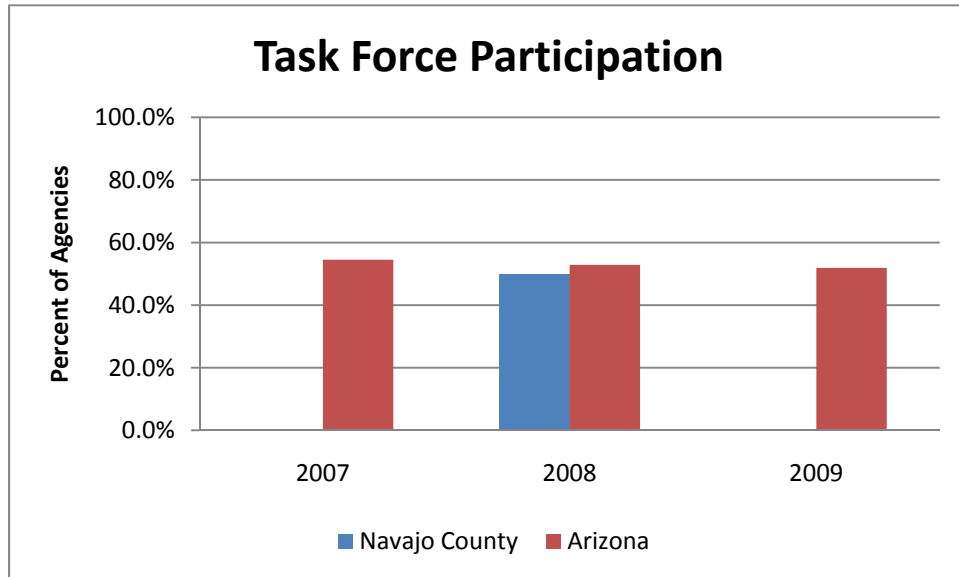
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang presence on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. None of the Navajo County agencies that responded to the survey reported that they participated in a multi-agency task force. One agency indicated that it should be participating, but the agency currently does not have the appropriate funds.

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in Navajo County and throughout Arizona. Multiple agencies reported significant gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. Similar to the findings from 2008, law enforcement agencies continued to report a high or moderate level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamine. Law enforcement agencies also cited gang involvement in drug sales, assault/aggravated assault, and criminal damage as major concerns within their jurisdictions.

The most active gang identified by Navajo County law enforcement agencies was the Crips. Other gangs for which agencies reported moderate levels of activity in their jurisdictions within Navajo County include the Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), Aryan Brotherhood, Hells Angels OMG, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews, Bloods, Border Brothers, and the Skinheads.

Over the past three years, law enforcement agencies in Navajo County have reported an increase in the presence of gangs and the problems associated with gangs in their jurisdictions. The number of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has increased from three agencies in 2007 to four in 2009. The data also reveals that law enforcement agencies were concerned about increased gang involvement in many types of crimes within their jurisdictions during 2009. In addition, a larger percentage of agencies reported high levels of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana, heroin, and methamphetamine since 2007. While the number of agencies reporting a gang presence within their jurisdictions increased in 2009, no agency with a gang presence reported participation in a multi-agency task force.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: Navajo County communities, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a significant gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, the ACJC intends for the Navajo County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Pima County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

# ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION



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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Pima County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey, titled the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The SAC survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Pima County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- All four Pima County agencies that responded to the survey in 2010 reported an active gang presence within their respective jurisdictions. Three of the agencies reporting the presence of gang activity provided estimates of the number of gang members within their jurisdictions. These agencies estimated that there were 5,212 active gang members across their jurisdictions.
- One of the four agencies in Pima County with a gang presence reported that gangs were expanding their membership and scope of activities. Two of the responding agencies reported that gang activity had increased slightly during the prior six and 12 month periods. When asked about the last five years, two agencies reported that gang activity had increased significantly, another agency reported that gang activity had not changed, and one agency reported that activity had decreased slightly.
- All four agencies listed assault/aggravated assault as the primary crime being committed by gangs.
- Half of the responding agencies reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in the distribution of crack cocaine, and one agency reported high involvement in the distribution of marijuana. One agency reported high involvement in the distribution of heroin, and one agency reported high involvement in the distribution of methamphetamine.
- The Bloods, Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13, Crips, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, and neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews were the gangs reported as having a high level of involvement in Pima County.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presents a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, the ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, the ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Eight law enforcement agencies throughout Pima County received the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the eight surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Pima County, four (50.0 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Pima County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

Of the four agencies that responded to the SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity in Pima County, all four agencies reported the presence of gangs and gang activity in their respective jurisdictions. This is a decrease from the five agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdictions during the previous year (Table 1). Three agencies with a gang presence estimated that 5,212 active gang members were present across their jurisdictions. The final agency reporting gang activity was not able to provide an estimated number of gang members within its jurisdiction. Thus, the number of gang members reported is a conservative estimate of the number of gang members in Pima County. Other potential causes of underestimation include the inability of the remaining agency to provide an estimate, other agencies not responding to the survey, and the likelihood that some gang members have not yet come to the attention of law enforcement.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	7	100.0%	5	71.4%	4	100.0%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	0	0.0%	2	28.6%	0	0.0%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

Agencies that reported a gang presence within their jurisdictions were asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding. When asked whether

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	42.9%	40.0%	25.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	42.9%	60.0%	75.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>

gangs in the area were expanding their membership and scope of activities, one (25 percent) of the Pima County agencies reporting a gang presence responded that gangs within its jurisdiction were expanding their membership and scope of

activities, compared to half of the agencies reporting expanded membership and activities at the state level (Table 2). This is a decrease in the number of agencies reporting expansion in 2007 and 2008.

When given the opportunity to provide further explanation of its response from Table 2, the one agency with expanding gang membership and activity reported that gangs were becoming more involved in graffiti and tagging.

When considering the six months prior to the 2009 assessment, two agencies reported that the level of gang activity in their jurisdictions increased slightly, one reported no change, and one reported a slight decrease in gang activity. Two agencies reported that gang activity increased slightly over the preceding 12 months, one reported no change, and one reported that activity decreased significantly.

When asked to assess the level of gang activity over the past five years, two agencies reported that activity increased significantly, one reported no change, and one agency reported a slight decrease in gang activity (Figure 1).

Figure 1

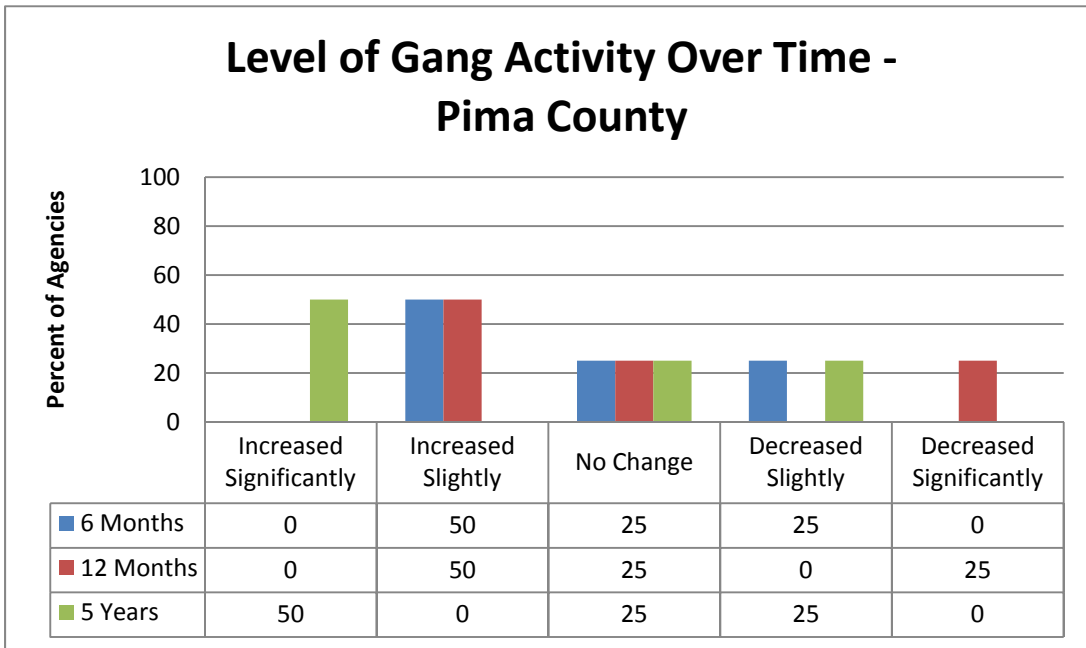
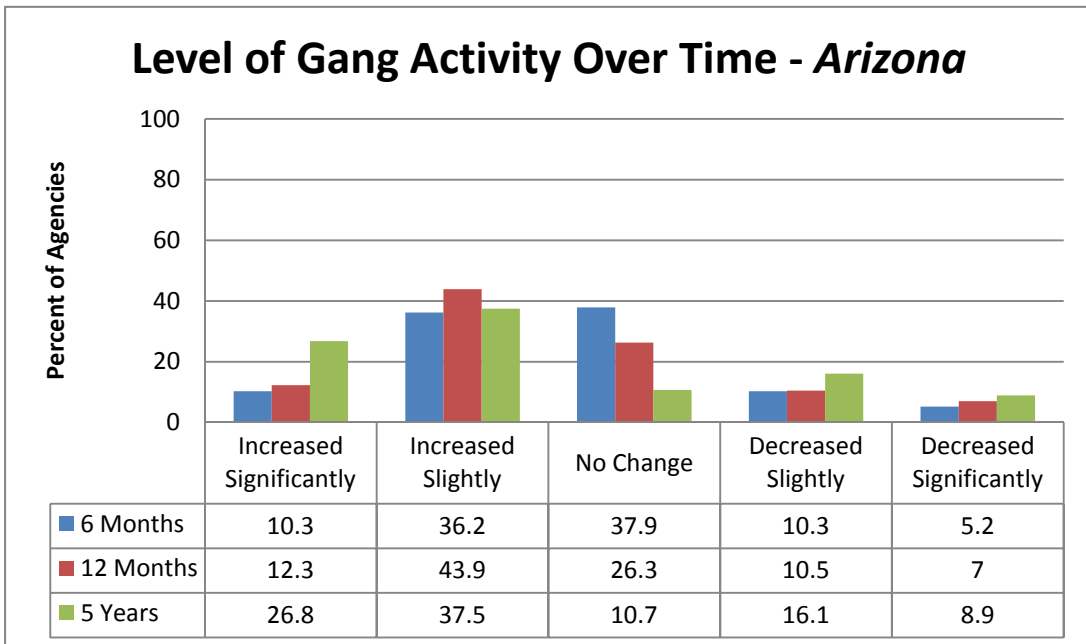


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
Crime	Pima County		Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Assault/Aggravated Assault	4	100.0%	43	78.2%
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	3	75.0%	13	23.6%
Auto Theft	2	50.0%	7	12.7%
Burglary	2	50.0%	23	41.8%
Robbery/Armed Robbery	2	50.0%	9	16.4%
Criminal Damage	1	25.0%	17	30.9%
Drive-by Shootings	1	25.0%	8	14.5%
Drug Offenses	1	25.0%	15	27.3%
Drug Sales	1	25.0%	13	23.6%
Narcotics Offenses	1	25.0%	8	14.5%
Prostitution	1	25.0%	2	3.6%
Threatening and Intimidation	1	25.0%	13	23.6%
Weapon Offenses	1	25.0%	4	7.3%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>55</b>	

Agencies were asked to report the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). This question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their

jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes that could be reported. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Pima County.

All four of the agencies reporting a gang presence in Pima County reported assault/aggravated assault as one of the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). Additional crimes listed by at least half of the agencies with a gang presence in Pima County include vandalism/graffiti/tagging, auto theft, burglary, and robbery/armed robbery.

Law enforcement agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. In contrast to the qualitative data in Table 3 that allows for emerging gang crimes to be revealed the categorical question provides consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

Two of the Pima County agencies reported a high level of gang involvement in vandalism/graffiti/tagging during 2009 (Table 4). Additionally, agencies reported a high level of involvement in auto theft, burglary, felonious assault, human trafficking, intimidation/extortion, prostitution, and robbery.

Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	28.6%	71.4%	-	-	-
	2008	75.0%	25.0%	-	-	-
	2009	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
Arizona	2009	57.1%	28.6%	8.9%	-	5.4%

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Auto Theft	2007	14.3%	28.6%	28.6%	-	28.6%
	2008	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Burglary	2007	-	42.9%	28.6%	-	28.6%
	2008	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-	-
	2009	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Felonious Assault	2007	14.3%	14.3%	71.4%	-	-
	2008	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Human Trafficking	2007	-	28.6%	14.3%	14.3%	42.9%
	2008	-	75.0%	-	-	25.0%
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	-	42.9%	42.9%	-	14.3%
	2008	50.0%	25.0%	-	-	25.0%
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	-	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Prostitution	2007	-	-	14.3%	28.6%	57.1%
	2008	25.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
	2009	25.0%	-	50.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>
Robbery	2007	14.3%	14.3%	28.6%	-	42.9%
	2008	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-	-
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	14.3%	28.6%	-	14.3%	42.9%
	2008	25.0%	-	75.0%	-	-
	2009	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Murder	2007	-	14.3%	28.6%	28.6%	28.6%
	2008	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Fraud	2007	-	42.9%	-	14.3%	42.9%
	2008	-	33.3%	-	66.7%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>
Identity Theft	2007	-	28.6%	28.6%	-	42.9%
	2008	-	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	42.9%	14.3%	42.9%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	28.6%	42.9%	28.6%
	2008	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Arson	2007	-	-	-	42.9%	57.1%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies rated the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. One agency in Pima County reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in drug street sales, and one agency reported a high level of involvement in the wholesale of drugs (Table 5). A high percentage of agencies experiencing a gang presence also reported a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of crack cocaine (50.0 percent) and marijuana (50.0 percent).

Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
		High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	14.3%	42.9%	42.9%	-	-
	2008	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-	-
	2009	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	14.3%	14.3%	42.9%	-	28.6%
	2008	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-	-
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	-	57.1%	-	42.9%
	2008	-	25.0%	75.0%	-	-
	2009	-	25.0%	75.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	75.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	28.6%	14.3%	42.9%	-	14.3%
	2008	50.0%	25.0%	-	-	25.0%
	2009	50.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Marijuana	2007	42.9%	42.9%	14.3%	-	-
	2008	20.0%	40.0%	-	20.0%	20.0%
	2009	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Heroin	2007	14.3%	-	42.9%	-	42.9%
	2008	40.0%	20.0%	20.0%	-	20.0%
	2009	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	-	28.6%	42.9%	14.3%	14.3%
	2008	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
	2009	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	14.3%	14.3%	14.3%	57.1%
	2008	-	60.0%	20.0%	-	20.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	14.3%	28.6%	14.3%	14.3%	28.6%
	2008	20.0%	60.0%	-	-	20.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	14.3%	-	42.9%	-	42.9%
	2008	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>

Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 responses, five of the 26 gangs were identified by Pima County agencies as having high levels of activity (Table 6). Pima County law enforcement agencies identified the Bloods (50.0 percent), Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13 (50.0 percent), Crips (25.0 percent), Mexican Mafia/La Eme (25.0 percent), and neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews (25.0 percent) as having high levels of activity in 2009. Additionally, one agency reported that the Hells Angels OMG had a moderate level of activity within its jurisdiction along with one agency reporting a moderate level of activity from the Hispanic Norteños (14).

Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	Not Applicable	Unknown
Bloods (all sets)	2007	28.6%	28.6%	42.9%	-	-
	2008	60.0%	20.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2009	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	-	42.9%	42.9%	14.3%	-
	2008	40.0%	40.0%	-	-	20.0%
	2009	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Crips (all sets)	2007	14.3%	14.3%	57.1%	-	14.3%
	2008	40.0%	40.0%	20.0%	-	-
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	42.9%	-	42.9%	14.3%
	2008	20.0%	40.0%	20.0%	-	20.0%
	2009	25.0%	25.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	14.3%	14.3%	42.9%	14.3%	14.3%
	2008	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%	-	-
	2009	25.0%	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	-	42.9%	42.9%	14.3%
	2008	-	-	80.0%	20.0%	-
	2009	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	14.3%	14.3%	42.9%	28.6%
	2008	-	-	60.0%	20.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	14.3%	14.3%	42.9%	28.6%
	2008	-	-	40.0%	60.0%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	-	-	40.0%	40.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	14.3%	71.4%	14.3%
	2008	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
Border Brothers	2007	-	-	14.3%	57.1%	28.6%
	2008	-	-	75.0%	-	25.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	14.3%	71.4%	14.3%
	2008	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	-	71.4%	28.6%
	2008	-	-	20.0%	60.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Latin Kings	2007	-	14.3%	-	57.1%	28.6%
	2008	-	-	40.0%	60.0%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	28.6%	28.6%	42.9%
	2008	-	20.0%	40.0%	20.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	28.6%	28.6%	28.6%	14.3%
	2008	-	-	40.0%	60.0%	-
	2009	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	71.4%	28.6%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	14.3%	-	71.4%	14.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	-	71.4%	28.6%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	-	71.4%	28.6%
	2008	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	-	85.7%	14.3%
	2008	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>69.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	85.7%	14.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	-	85.7	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>

UBN	2007	-	16.7%	-	16.7%	66.7%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>23.2%</i>
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	71.4%	28.6%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>68.4%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	85.7%	14.3%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>

### Level of Gang Coordination

The survey also contained questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. All four agencies in Pima County reported that gangs were not coordinating with other gangs within their jurisdictions (Table 7).

<b>Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2009 Arizona</b>
Yes	0.0%	40.0%	0.0%	44.6%
No	100.0%	60.0%	100.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>

### Most Effective Gang Responses

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies have been the most effective in their respective jurisdictions when combating gangs. Prior to the 2009 assessment, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

Enforcement and GIITEM were strategies identified by three of the four agencies as effective gang responses within their jurisdictions (Table 8). Additionally, agencies reported gang crime/intelligence data analyses, identification of gang members, joint efforts with other agencies, law enforcement gang units, and school programs as effective gang responses within their communities.

**Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies**

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Enforcement	3	42.9%	3	60.0%	3	75.0%	46	78.0%
GIITEM	2	28.6%	0	0.0%	3	75.0%	34	57.6%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	2	50.0%	22	37.3%
Identification of Gang Members	2	28.6%	2	40.0%	2	50.0%	39	66.1%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	50.0%	29	49.2%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	2	50.0%	19	32.2%
School Programs	1	14.3%	1	20.0%	1	25.0%	17	28.8%
Community Programs	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	13.6%
Special Prosecution Programs	1	14.3%	1	20.0%	0	0.0%	13	22.0%

*Task Force Participation*

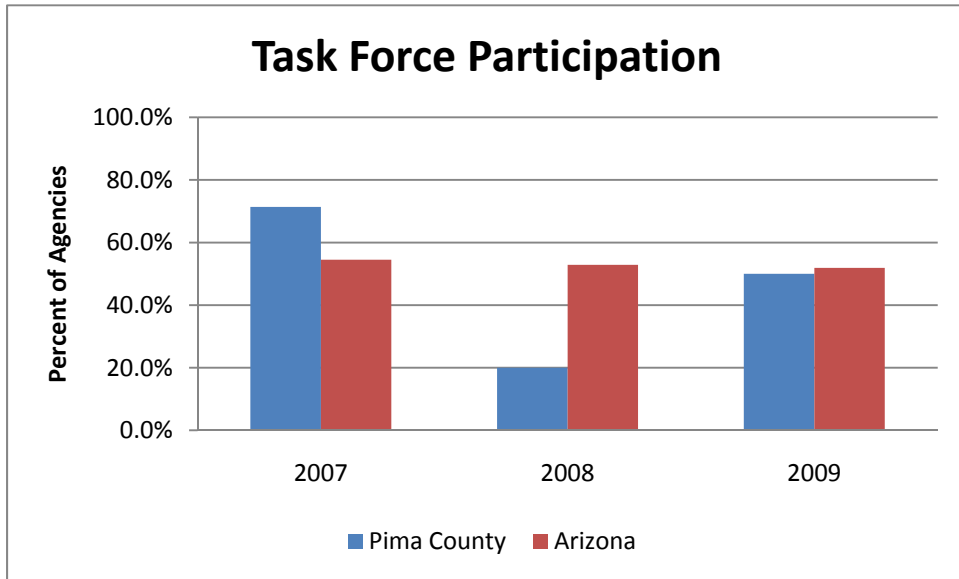
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang presence on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. Two of the four Pima County agencies that responded to the survey reported that they participated in a multi-agency task force in 2009, which was an increase from 2008. One agency indicated that it participated in GIITEM.

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in Pima County and throughout Arizona. Multiple agencies reported significant gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. Similar to the findings for 2008, law enforcement agencies continued to report a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of crack cocaine. Law enforcement agencies also cited gang involvement in assault/aggravated assault, vandalism/graffiti/tagging, auto theft, burglary, and robbery/armed robbery as concerns within their jurisdictions.

The most active gangs identified by Pima County law enforcement agencies were the Bloods, Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13, Crips, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, and neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews. Other gangs for which agencies reported moderate levels of activity in their jurisdictions within Pima County include the Hells Angels OMG and the Hispanic Norteños (14).

Over the past three years, the number of law enforcement agencies reporting the presence of gangs in Pima County has decreased, but problems persist with gangs within these jurisdictions. The number of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has decreased from seven agencies in 2007 to four agencies in 2009. In addition, a larger number of agencies reported high levels of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamine. While one agency reported that gangs were expanding their scope of activities, no agencies reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: Pima County communities, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a significant gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, the ACJC intends for the Pima County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Pinal County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Pinal County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey, titled the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The SAC survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Pinal County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- All six Pinal County agencies that responded to the survey in 2010 reported an active gang presence within their respective jurisdictions. Five of the agencies reporting a gang presence also provided estimates of the number of gang members within their jurisdictions. The agencies estimated that there were 516 active gang members across their jurisdictions.
- Three of the agencies in Pinal County that reported a gang presence in 2009 also reported that gangs were expanding their membership and scope of activities. Half of the agencies with a gang presence reported that gang activity had not changed during the six months prior to taking the survey, and half of the agencies reported that gang activity increased slightly during the prior 12 months. When asked about the last five years, 33.3 percent of agencies reported that gang activity had increased significantly, and 33.3 percent of agencies reported that gang activity had increased slightly.
- Agencies that provided primary crimes committed by gangs within their jurisdictions listed assault/aggravated assault, drug offenses, and drug sales as the most recognized primary crimes committed by gangs.
- Half of the agencies with a gang presence in 2009 reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana. More than 30 percent of agencies reported high involvement in the distribution of crack cocaine, methamphetamine, and powdered cocaine.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, law enforcement agencies identified enforcement as the most effective strategies for responding to gangs and gang activity in their jurisdictions.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presents a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, the ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, the ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Twelve law enforcement agencies throughout Pinal County received the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, which was administered in 2010 and contained a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within the respective law enforcement jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the 12 surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Pinal County, six (50.0 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Pinal County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

Of the six agencies that responded to the SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity in Pinal County, all six reported the presence of gangs and gang activity in their respective jurisdictions. This is a decrease from the eight agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdictions during the previous year (Table 1). Of the agencies that indicated a gang presence within their jurisdictions, five agencies estimated that 516 active gang members were present across their jurisdictions in 2009. The remaining agency reporting gang activity was not able to provide an estimated number of gang members within its jurisdiction. Thus, the number of gang members reported is a conservative estimate of the number of gang members in Pinal County. Other potential causes of underestimation include the inability of the remaining agency to provide estimates, failure of other agencies to respond to the survey and the likelihood that some gang members have not yet come to the attention of law enforcement.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	5	71.4%	8	80.0%	6	100.0%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	2	28.6%	2	20.0%	0	0.0%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

Agencies that reported a gang presence within their jurisdictions were asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding in 2009. When asked

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	60.0%	50.0%	60.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	40.0%	33.3%	40.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	5	6	5*	56

whether gangs in the area were expanding their membership and scope of activities, three (60.0 percent) of the Pinal County agencies that responded to the question in Table 2 reported that gangs within

their jurisdictions were expanding their membership and scope of activities, compared to half of the

agencies reporting expanded membership and activities at the state level.

When given the opportunity to provide further explanation of their responses regarding gang membership and gang activities, agencies with expanding gang membership and activity reported that gangs were becoming more involved in drug trafficking, human trafficking, and the sale of methamphetamines.

When considering the six months prior to the 2009 assessment, one agency (16.7 percent) with a gang presence reported that the level of gang activity in its jurisdiction increased slightly, 50.0

percent of agencies reported no change, 16.7 percent reported that activity decreased slightly, and 16.7 percent reported a significant decrease in gang activity. Half of the agencies with a gang presence reported that gang activity increased slightly over the preceding 12 months, 33.3 percent reported no change, and 16.7 percent of agencies reported that activity decreased significantly. When asked to assess the level of gang activity over the past five years, 33.3 percent reported that activity increased significantly, 33.3 percent reported that activity increased slightly, 16.7 percent reported no change, and 16.7 percent of agencies with a gang presence reported a significant decrease in gang activity (Figure 1).

Figure 1

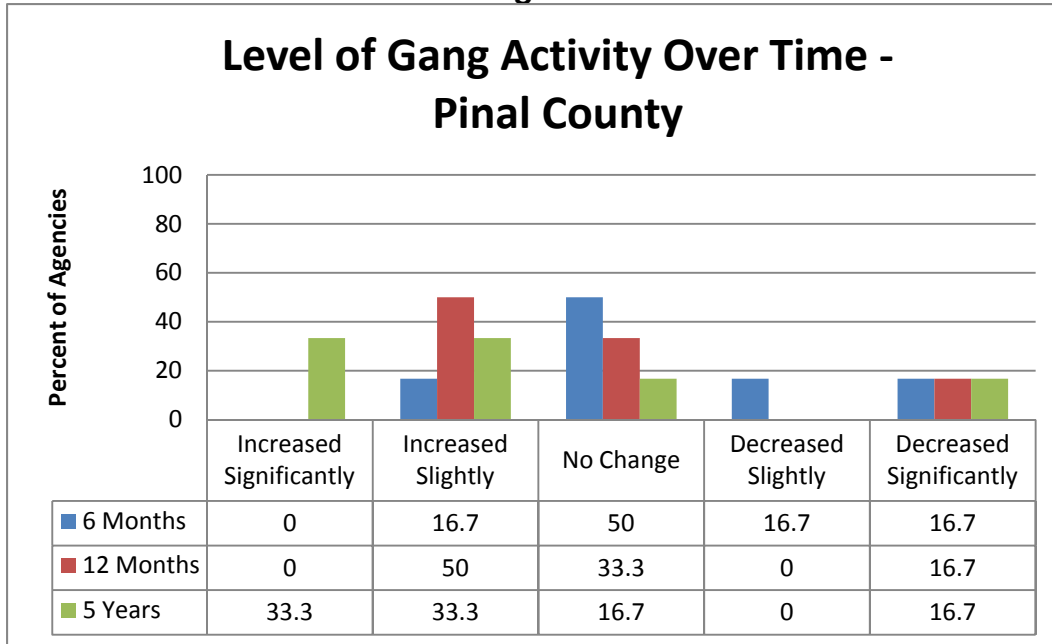
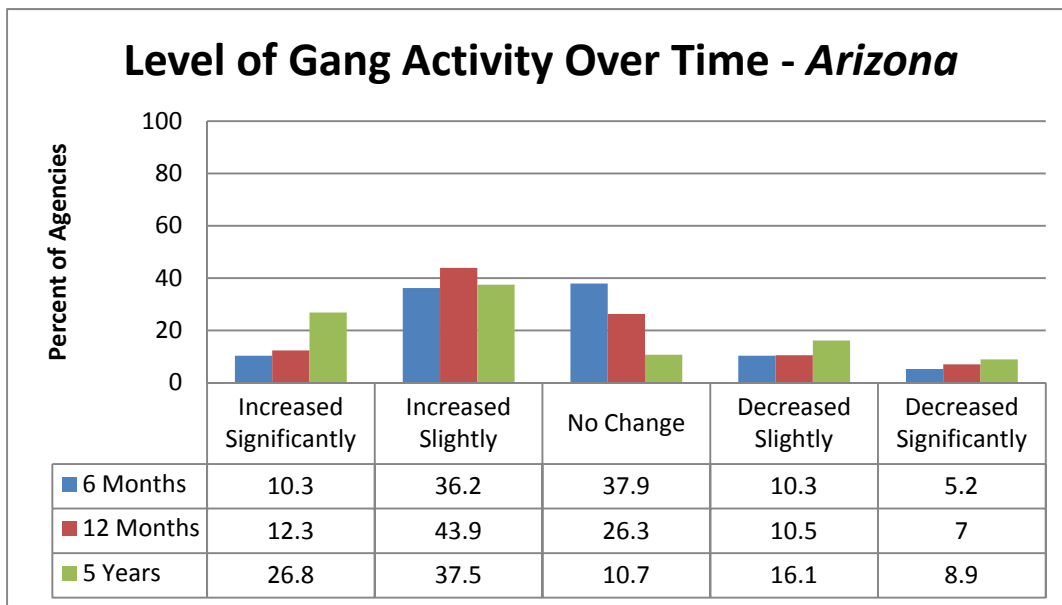


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

<b>Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
<b>Crime</b>	<b>Pinal County</b>		<b>Arizona</b>	
	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>
Assault/Aggravated Assault	3	60.0%	43	78.2%
Drug Offenses	3	60.0%	15	27.3%
Drug Sales	3	60.0%	13	23.6
Burglary	2	40.0%	23	41.8%
Criminal Damage	2	40.0%	17	30.9%
Theft	2	40.0%	10	18.2%
Auto Theft	1	20.0%	7	12.7%
Disorderly Conduct	1	20.0%	2	3.6%
Drive-by Shootings	1	20.0%	8	14.5%
Drug Smuggling/Trafficking/Transport	1	20.0%	6	10.9%
Home Invasions	1	20.0%	1	1.8%
Human Smuggling	1	20.0%	4	7.3%
Robbery/Armed Robbery	1	20.0%	9	16.4%
Threatening and Intimidation	1	20.0%	13	23.6%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>5*</b>		<b>55</b>	

\*Only five of the six agencies reporting a gang presence responded to this question.

Agencies were asked to report the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). This question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the

number and types of crimes that could be reported. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Pinal County.

Pinal County law enforcement agencies that responded to the question in Table 3 reported assault/aggravated assault (60.0 percent of agencies), drug offenses (60.0 percent), and drug sales (60.0 percent) as some of the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions. Other crimes listed by multiple agencies in Pinal County include burglary (40.0 percent), criminal damage (40.0 percent), and theft (40.0 percent). One agency experiencing a gang presence did not respond to the question in Table 3.

Law enforcement agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. This categorical question provides consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

In 2009, 60.0 percent of the Pinal County agencies responding to the question reported high gang involvement in vandalism/graffiti/tagging. Additionally, agencies with a gang presence reported a high level of involvement in burglary (33.3 percent), intimidation/extortion (33.3 percent), arson (16.7 percent), auto theft (16.7 percent), felonious assault (16.7 percent), and human trafficking (16.7 percent).

<b>Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging*	2007	60.0%	40.0%	-	-	-
	2008	50.0%	12.5%	25.0%	12.5%	-
	2009	60.0%	20.0%	20.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.4%</i>
Burglary	2007	-	60.0%	20.0%	-	20.0%
	2008	12.5%	25.0%	25.0%	12.5%	25.0%
	2009	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	20.0%	20.0%	40.0%	-	20.0%
	2008	-	50.0%	12.5%	12.5%	25.0%
	2009	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Arson	2007	-	20.0%	20.0%	-	60.0%
	2008	-	-	42.9%	14.3%	42.9%
	2009	16.7%	-	16.7%	50.0%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Auto Theft	2007	40.0%	-	40.0%	-	20.0%
	2008	-	37.5%	25.0%	12.5%	25.0%
	2009	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Felonious Assault	2007	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%	-	-
	2008	37.5%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	25.0%
	2009	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Human Trafficking	2007	-	40.0%	20.0%	-	40.0%
	2008	-	37.5%	-	25.0%	37.5%
	2009	16.7%	33.3%	-	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>
Identity Theft	2007	-	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	50.0%	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Robbery	2007	-	20.0%	60.0%	-	20.0%
	2008	-	25.0%	37.5%	25.0%	12.5%
	2009	-	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	-	60.0%	20.0%	-	20.0%
	2008	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	25.0%	37.5%
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Fraud	2007	-	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	37.5%	12.5%	50.0%
	2009	-	16.7%	50.0%	16.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	25.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Murder	2007	-	20.0%	60.0%	-	20.0%
	2008	12.5%	12.5%	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Prostitution	2007	-	-	-	40.0%	60.0%
	2008	-	-	12.5%	37.5%	50.0%

	2009	-	-	33.3%	16.7%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	12.5%	25.0%	-	62.5%
	2009	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>

\*Only five of the six agencies reporting a gang presence responded to this question.

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies rated the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. Half of the agencies with a gang presence in Pinal County reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in drug street sales (Table 5). Additionally, one-half of the agencies with a gang presence reported a moderate level of involvement in the wholesale of drugs. Half of the agencies with a gang presence reported that gangs in their jurisdictions had a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana. Agencies also listed that gangs had a high level of involvement in the distribution of crack cocaine (33.3 percent), methamphetamine (33.3 percent), and powdered cocaine (33.3 percent)

Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
		High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	60.0%	-	40.0%	-	-
	2008	25.0%	50.0%	12.5%	-	12.5%
	2009	50.0%	33.3%	-	-	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	-	40.0%	20.0%	-	40.0%
	2008	-	28.6%	28.6%	-	42.9%
	2009	-	50.0%	33.3%	-	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	16.7%	50.0%	-	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture*	2007	20.0%	-	20.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Marijuana	2007	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%	-	-
	2008	50.0%	25.0%	-	-	25.0%
	2009	50.0%	16.7%	16.7%	-	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	40.0%	20.0%	20.0%	-	20.0%
	2008	25.0%	25.0%	25.0%	12.5%	12.5%
	2009	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%	-	-
	2008	25.0%	50.0%	-	-	25.0%
	2009	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	-	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	20.0%	40.0%	20.0%	20.0%
	2008	12.5%	25.0%	37.5%	-	25.0%
	2009	33.3%	16.7%	33.3%	-	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>

Heroin	2007	-	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	25.0%	50.0%	-	25.0%
	2009	-	16.7%	66.7%	-	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	-	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	37.5%	-	62.5%
	2009	-	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	-	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2008	12.5%	25.0%	12.5%	12.5%	37.5%
	2009	-	16.7%	66.7%	-	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>

\*Only five of the six agencies reporting a gang presence responded to this question.

### Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 responses, four of the 26 gangs were identified by Pinal County agencies as having high levels of activity (Table 6). Pinal County law enforcement agencies identified the Bloods (33.3 percent), Crips (33.3 percent), the Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13 (16.7 percent), and neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews (16.7 percent) as having high levels of activity in 2009. Additionally, one agency reported that the Hells Angels OMG had a moderate level of activity within its jurisdiction.

	Year	High	Moderate	Low	Not Applicable	Unknown
Bloods (all sets)	2007	60.0%	20.0%	-	-	20.0%
	2008	25.0%	37.5%	12.5%	25.0%	-
	2009	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Crips (all sets)	2007	40.0%	40.0%	-	-	20.0%
	2008	25.0%	37.5%	-	25.0%	12.5%
	2009	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	20.0%	20.0%	-	40.0%	20.0%
	2008	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	12.5%	50.0%
	2009	16.7%	-	33.3%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	20.0%	40.0%	-	20.0%	20.0%
	2008	12.5%	-	37.5%	25.0%	25.0%
	2009	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%	-
	2008	-	12.5%	25.0%	62.5%	-
	2009	-	16.7%	16.7%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Border Brothers	2007	-	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	62.5%	12.5%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	40.0%	40.0%	20.0%	-
	2008	-	12.5%	25.0%	25.0%	37.5%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	-	40.0%	60.0%	-
	2008	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	-	-	37.5%	50.0%	12.5%
	2009	-	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	60.0%	40.0%	-
	2008	-	-	25.0%	62.5%	12.5%
	2009	-	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
UBN*	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	71.4%	28.6%
	2009	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>23.2%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2008	-	-	12.5%	87.5%	-
	2009	-	-	16.7%	83.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	-	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	12.5%	50.0%	37.5%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	83.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	-	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	87.5%	12.5%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2008	-	-	-	85.7%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2008	-	-	12.5%	87.5%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	-	60.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	60.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>

Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2008	-	-	14.3%	71.4%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>69.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2008	-	-	-	85.7%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	-	60.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	83.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	-	60.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	-	83.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	60.0%	40.0%	-
	2008	-	-	12.5%	75.0%	12.5%
	2009	-	-	-	83.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	60.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	-	87.5%	12.5%
	2009	-	-	-	83.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>68.4%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>

\*Only five of the six agencies reporting a gang presence responded to this question.

### Level of Gang Coordination

The survey also contains questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. In 2009, four agencies in Pinal County reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs within their jurisdictions (Table 7). One agency with a gang presence did not respond to this question. Agency responses indicated that gangs were coordinating with other gangs to expand their drug sales, to recruit members, and to combat other, more dominant gangs.

<b>Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2009 Arizona</b>
Yes	80.0%	50.0%	80.0%	44.6%
No	20.0%	33.3%	20.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5*</b>	<b>56</b>

\*Only five of the six agencies reporting a gang presence responded to this question.

### Most Effective Gang Responses

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies were the most effective in their respective jurisdictions when combating gangs. Prior to the 2009 assessment, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories.

The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

Enforcement was the strategy identified by five of the six agencies as an effective response to gang activity (Table 8). Additionally, four agencies reported GIITEM as an effective response to gangs, and four agencies reported identification of gang members as another effective response.

**Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies**

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Enforcement	1	20.0%	2	25.0%	5	83.3%	46	78.0%
GIITEM	3	60.0%	2	25.0%	4	66.7%	34	57.6%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	66.7%	39	66.1%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	1	20.0%	2	25.0%	2	33.3%	29	49.2%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	33.3%	13	22.0%
Community Programs	1	20.0%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	8	13.6%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	22	37.3%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	0	0.0%	1	12.5%	1	16.7%	19	32.2%
School Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	17	28.8%

### Task Force Participation

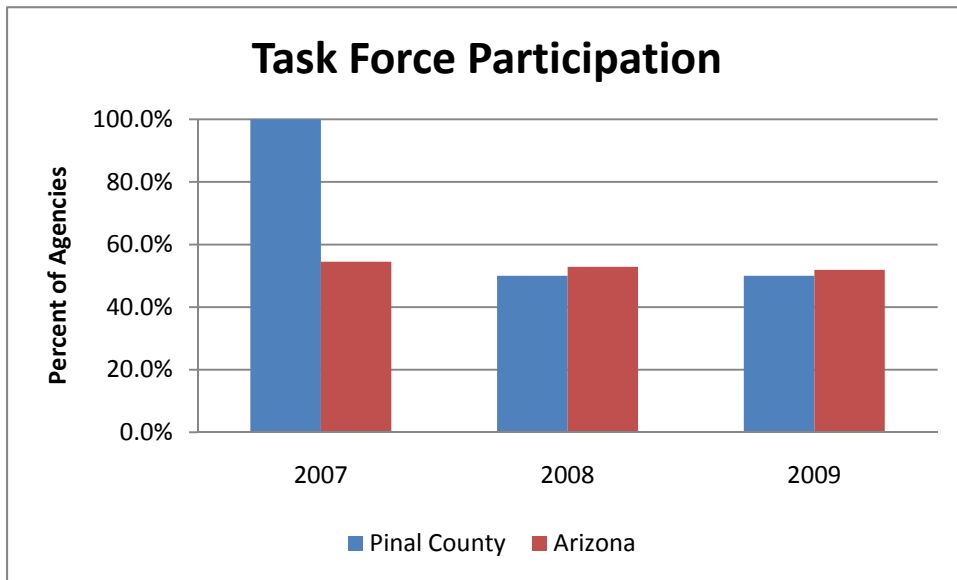
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang presence on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. Two of the four Pinal County agencies that responded to the question reported that they participated in a multi-agency task force, which was a decline from 2007. Responding agencies reported that they were participating in GIITEM.

Figure 3



\*Only four of the six agencies reporting a gang presence responded to this question.

## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in Pinal County and throughout Arizona. Multiple agencies reported significant gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. Similar to the findings for 2008, law enforcement agencies continued to report a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana, crack cocaine, and methamphetamine. Law enforcement agencies also cited gang involvement in assault/aggravated assault, drug offenses, and drug sales as major concerns within their jurisdictions.

The most active gangs identified by Pinal County law enforcement agencies were the Bloods, Crips, Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), and neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews. The Hells Angels OMG was also moderately active in one of the reporting jurisdictions.

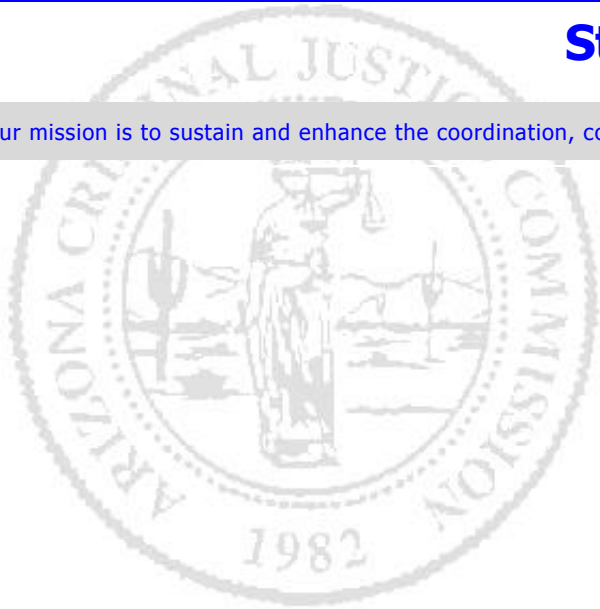
Over the past three years, law enforcement agencies in Pinal County have reported an increase in the presence of gangs and the problems associated with gangs in their jurisdictions. The number of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has increased from five agencies in 2007 to six agencies in 2009. The data also reveals that law enforcement agencies were concerned about increased gang involvement in many types of crimes within their jurisdictions during 2009. In addition, a larger percentage of agencies reported high levels of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana and powdered cocaine. Three agencies reported that gangs were expanding their scope of activities, and four agencies reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: Pinal County communities, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a significant gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, the ACJC intends for the Pinal County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Santa Cruz County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Santa Cruz County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey, titled the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The SAC survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Santa Cruz County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- The single Santa Cruz County law enforcement agency that responded to the survey administered in 2010 reported an active gang presence within its jurisdiction in 2009. Unfortunately, the agency was not able to provide an estimate of the number of gang members.
- The Santa Cruz County agency with a gang presence reported that gangs were not expanding their membership and scope of activities in 2009. The agency also reported that gang activity did not change during the previous six months; however, activity increased slightly in the prior one and five year periods.
- The single agency reported that gangs had a moderate level of involvement in vandalism/graffiti/tagging and a low level of involvement in burglary and intimidation/extortion. Gangs within the jurisdiction were also reportedly involved in property crimes and drug sales.
- The agency with a gang presence reported that gangs had a moderate level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana and MDMA as well as a low level of involvement in the distribution of powdered cocaine within the agency's jurisdiction.
- The Latin Kings and Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) were listed as having a low level of involvement within the one jurisdiction reporting gang activity.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, the law enforcement agency with a gang presence identified community programs, enforcement, gang crime/intelligence data analyses, GIITEM, joint efforts with other agencies, and school programs as the effective strategies used in response to gangs and gang activity within its jurisdiction.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presents a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, the ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, the ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Three law enforcement agencies throughout Santa Cruz County received the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment in 2010, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the three surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Santa Cruz County, one (33.3 percent) agency returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Santa Cruz County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

The one law enforcement agency in Santa Cruz County that responded to the SAC’s request for gang information reported that gangs and gang activity were present within its jurisdiction. This is a decrease from two agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdictions during 2007 and 2008 (Table 1). The agency reporting gang activity was not able to estimate the number of active gang members present in its jurisdiction.

Table 1: Number of Law Enforcement Agencies that Reported Gangs, 2007-2009								
	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	2	66.7%	2	66.7%	1	100.0%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	0	0.0%	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	1	33.3%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

The agency reporting a gang presence within its Santa Cruz County jurisdiction was asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and gang activities were expanding during

Table 2: Percentage of Jurisdictions Reporting Gangs Expanding their Scope of Activities (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>

2009. The agency in Santa Cruz County reported that gangs within its jurisdiction were not expanding their membership and scope of activities, compared to half of the agencies across the state reporting that gangs were expanding (Table 2).

When asked to rate the level of gang activity in its jurisdiction, the agency with a gang presence reported that gang activity did not change over the prior six months but activity increased slightly in the 12 months and five years prior to filling out the survey (Figure 1).

Figure 1

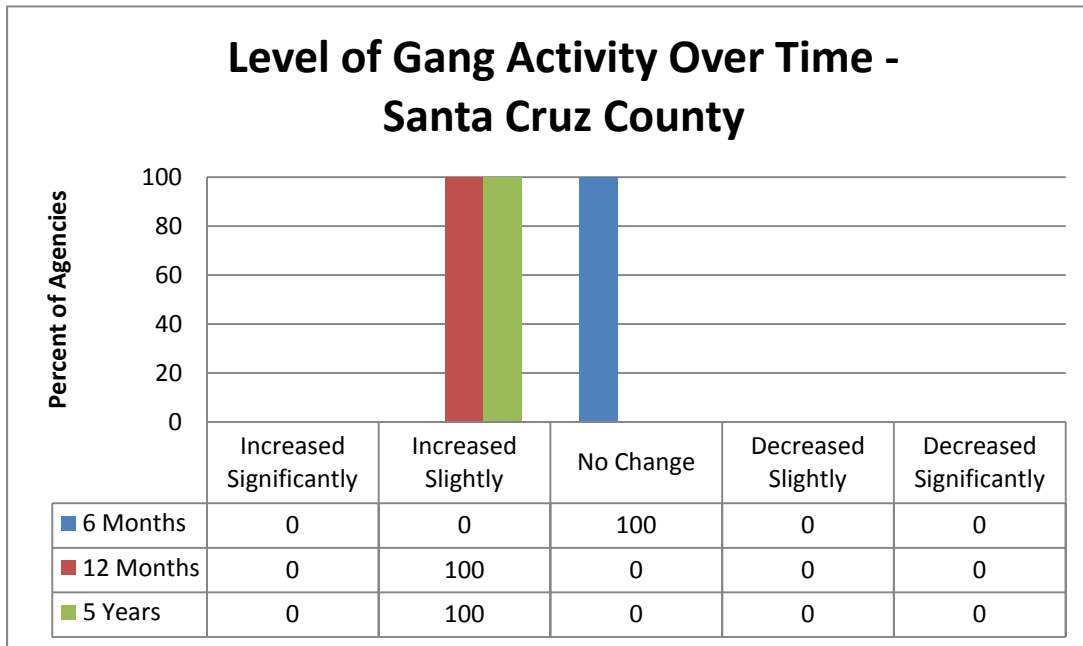
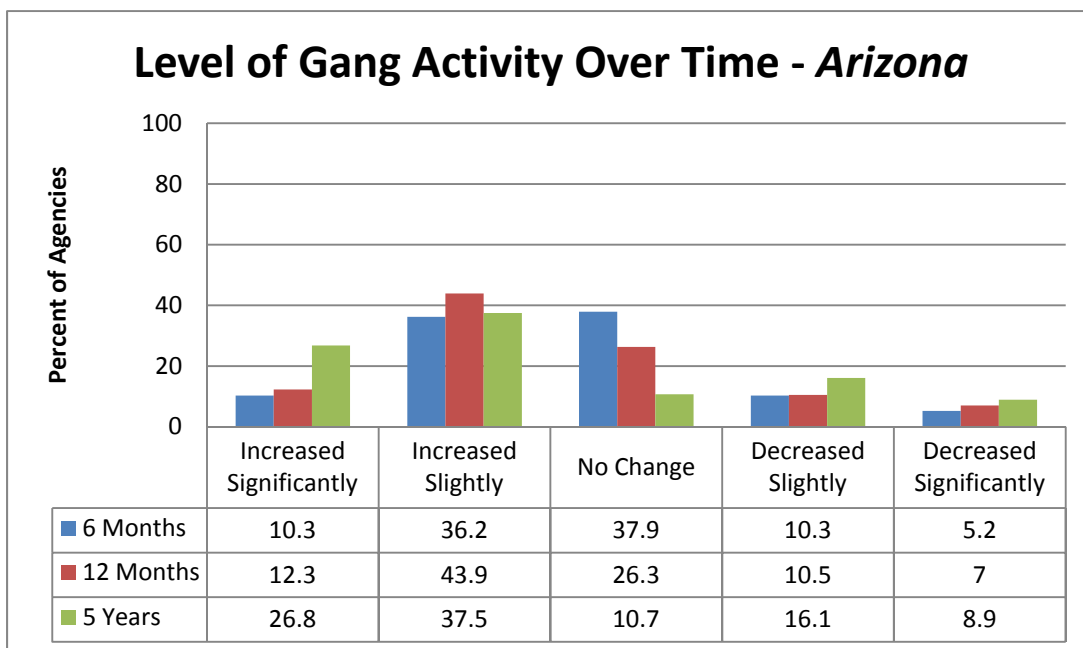


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

<b>Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
<b>Crime</b>	<b>Santa Cruz County</b>		<b>Arizona</b>	
	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>
Burglary	1	100.0%	23	41.8%
Drug Sales	1	100.0%	15	27.3%
Property Crimes	1	100.0%	3	5.5%
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	1	100.0%	13	23.6%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>55</b>	

Agencies were asked to report the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). This question was

open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes that could be reported. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Santa Cruz County.

The single agency reporting a gang presence in Santa Cruz County reported burglary, drug sales, property crimes, and vandalism/graffiti/tagging as primary crimes being committed by gangs within its jurisdiction.

Law enforcement agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. This categorical question provides consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

The agency in Santa Cruz County with a gang presence reported a moderate level of gang involvement in vandalism/graffiti/tagging (Table 4). In addition, the agency reported a low level of gang involvement in burglary and intimidation/extortion.

<b>Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.4%</i>
Burglary	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	100.0%	-	-	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Arson	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Auto Theft	2007	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Human Trafficking	2007	50.0%	-	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>
Identity Theft	2007	50.0%	-	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Murder	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Prostitution	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>
Robbery	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>
Felonious Assault	2007	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2008	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Fraud	2007	50.0%	-	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies rated the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. The agency with a gang presence reported that gangs had a low level of involvement in the street sale of drugs (Table 5). More specifically, the agency reported a moderate level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana and MDMA. The agency also reported a low level of involvement in the distribution of powdered cocaine.

Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
		High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2008	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Marijuana	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	100.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	50.0%	-	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Heroin	2007	50.0%	-	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>

Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the response from the one agency with a gang presence, the Latin Kings and Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) were indicated as having a low level of involvement in the jurisdiction in 2009 (Table 6).

Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	Not Applicable	Unknown
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	1.8%	31.6%	54.4%	12.3%
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	100.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	5.3%	42.1%	40.4%	12.3%
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	1.8%	28.1%	59.6%	10.5%
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	7.0%	75.4%	17.5%
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	5.3%	15.8%	45.6%	22.8%	10.5%
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	12.5%	66.1%	21.4%
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	1.8%	19.3%	66.7%	12.3%
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	1.8%	3.5%	10.5%	70.2%	14.0%
Bloods (all sets)	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	14.0%	14.0%	33.3%	26.3%	12.3%
Border Brothers	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-

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	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	3.6%	28.6%	57.1%	10.7%
Crips (all sets)	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	50.0%	-	-	50.0%	-
	2008	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>69.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
UBN	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-

	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	1.8%	8.9%	66.1%	23.2%
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	100.0%	-
Arizona	2009	-	1.8%	10.5%	68.4%	19.3%
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	-	100.0%
Arizona	2009	24.6%	33.3%	24.6%	12.3%	5.3%

*Level of Gang Coordination*

The survey also contained questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. The one agency with a gang presence in Santa Cruz County reported that gangs were not coordinating with other gangs in its jurisdiction (Table 7).

<b>Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2009 Arizona</b>
Yes	50.0%	50.0%	0.0%	44.6%
No	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>56</b>

*Most Effective Gang Responses*

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies were the most effective in their respective jurisdictions when combating gangs. Prior to the 2009 assessment, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

Community programs, enforcement, gang crime/intelligence data analyses, GIITEM, joint efforts with other agencies, and school programs are the strategies indicated as being effective responses to gangs within the Santa Cruz County jurisdiction encountering a gang presence in 2009 (Table 8).

**Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies**

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Community Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	8	13.6%
Enforcement	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	46	78.0%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	22	37.3%
GIITEM	2	100.0%	2	100.0%	1	100.0%	34	57.6%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	29	49.2%
School Programs	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	17	28.8%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	39	66.1%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	13	22.0%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	32.2%

*Task Force Participation*

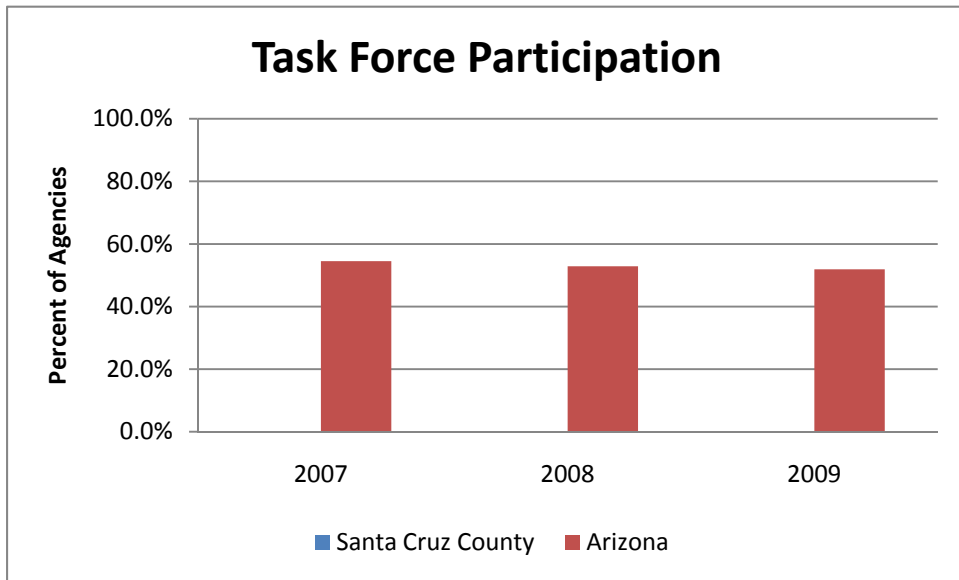
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gangs on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. The agency in Santa Cruz County with a gang presence did not report participating in a multi-agency task force in 2009 (Figure 3).

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in communities throughout Arizona. One agency in Santa Cruz County reported gang involvement in drug distribution within its jurisdiction during 2009. The law enforcement agency reported a moderate level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana and MDMA and a low level of involvement in powdered cocaine. When asked about the level of involvement in various crimes, the agency reported that gangs had a moderate level of involvement in vandalism/graffiti/tagging and a low level of involvement in burglary and intimidation/extortion.

The active gangs identified by the Santa Cruz County law enforcement agency with a gang presence include the Latin Kings and Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13). These gangs were noted as having a low level of involvement in the agency's jurisdiction in 2009.

The law enforcement agency with a gang presence reported that gang activity in its jurisdiction did not change during the prior six months but increased slightly during the 12 months and five years prior to filling out the survey. The agency reported that gangs were not expanding their scope of activities and were not coordinating with other gangs in 2009. The agency in Santa Cruz County also reported that the agency was not a member of a multi-agency task force in 2009.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: at least one Santa Cruz County community, the communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, the ACJC intends for the Santa Cruz County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Yavapai County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

# ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION



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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Yavapai County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey, titled the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Yavapai County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- Six of the 11 Yavapai County agencies that responded to the survey administered in 2010 reported an active gang presence within their respective jurisdictions. Of the agencies that reported at least one active gang, five agencies provided estimates of the number of gang members within their jurisdictions. These agencies estimated that there were 307 active gang members across their jurisdictions.
- Two of the six Yavapai County agencies that identified a gang presence reported that gangs were expanding their membership and scope of activities. Two agencies with a gang presence reported a slight or significant increase in gang activity during the six months prior to taking the survey while the other three agencies with a gang presence reported that gang activity did not change or decreased during the previous six months. During the 12 months prior to taking the survey, three agencies with a gang presence reported that gangs had increased slightly or significantly in their jurisdictions. When asked about the five years prior to taking the survey, three agencies reported increasing activity and three agencies reported decreasing activity.
- Multiple agencies with a gang presence reported that gangs had a moderate level of involvement in the distribution of heroin (33.3 percent), marijuana (33.3 percent), and methamphetamine (33.3 percent). One agency reported moderate involvement in the distribution of powdered cocaine.
- The Hells Angels OMG, Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13, Aryan Brotherhood, Black Gangster Disciples, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews, and the Skinheads were the gangs reported by law enforcement agencies as having a moderate level of involvement.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presents a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, the ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

A total of 11 law enforcement agencies throughout Yavapai County received the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, contained a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within the respective law enforcement jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the 11 surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Yavapai County, 11 (100.0 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Yavapai County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

Of the 11 agencies that responded to the SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity in Yavapai County, six agencies (54.5 percent) reported the presence of gangs and gang activity in their respective jurisdictions. This is a decrease from the seven agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdictions during the previous year (Table 1). Of the agencies that indicated a gang presence within their jurisdictions, five agencies estimated a total of 307 active gang members present in their jurisdictions in 2009. The remaining agency reporting gang activity was not able to provide an estimate of the number of gang members within its jurisdiction. Thus, the number of gang members reported is a conservative estimate of the number of gang members in Yavapai County. Other potential causes of the underestimation include the inability of the remaining agency to provide an estimate and the likelihood that some gang members have not yet come to the attention of law enforcement.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	5	45.5%	7	63.6%	6	54.5%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	6	54.5%	4	36.4%	5	45.5%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

Agencies that reported a gang presence within their jurisdictions were asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and activities were expanding in 2009. When asked whether

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	40.0%	50.0%	40.0%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	40.0%	33.3%	60.0%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	20.0%	16.7%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	5	6	5	56

\*Only five of the six agencies reporting a gang presence responded to this question.

gangs in the area were expanding their membership and scope of activities, two (40.0 percent) of the Yavapai County agencies reporting a gang presence responded that gangs within their jurisdictions were expanding their membership and scope of activities, compared to half of the agencies reporting expanding membership and activities at the state level (Table 2). This is a small decrease in the number of agencies reporting expansion from 2008.

When given the opportunity to provide further explanation of their responses regarding gang membership and gang activities, one agency with expanding gang membership and activity reported that gangs were becoming more involved in tagging, criminal damage, robbery, burglary, and aggravated assaults.

When considering the six months prior to the 2009 assessment, one agency reported that the level of gang activity in its jurisdiction increased significantly, one reported activity increased slightly, three reported no change, and one reported a significant decrease in gang activity. Only one agency reported that gang activity increased significantly over the preceding 12 months while two reported a slight increase in activity, one reported no change, one reported a slight decrease in activity, and one reported activity decreasing significantly. When asked to assess the level of gang activity over the past five years, one agency reported that activity increased significantly, two reported that activity increased slightly, one agency reported activity decreased slightly, and two agencies reported a significant decrease in gang activity (Figure 1).

Figure 1

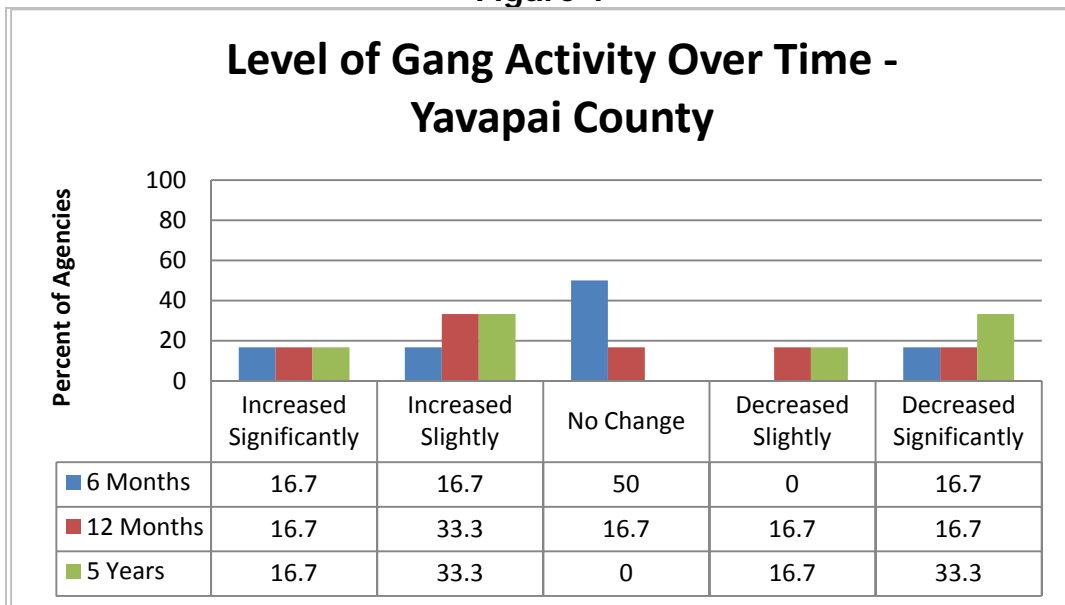
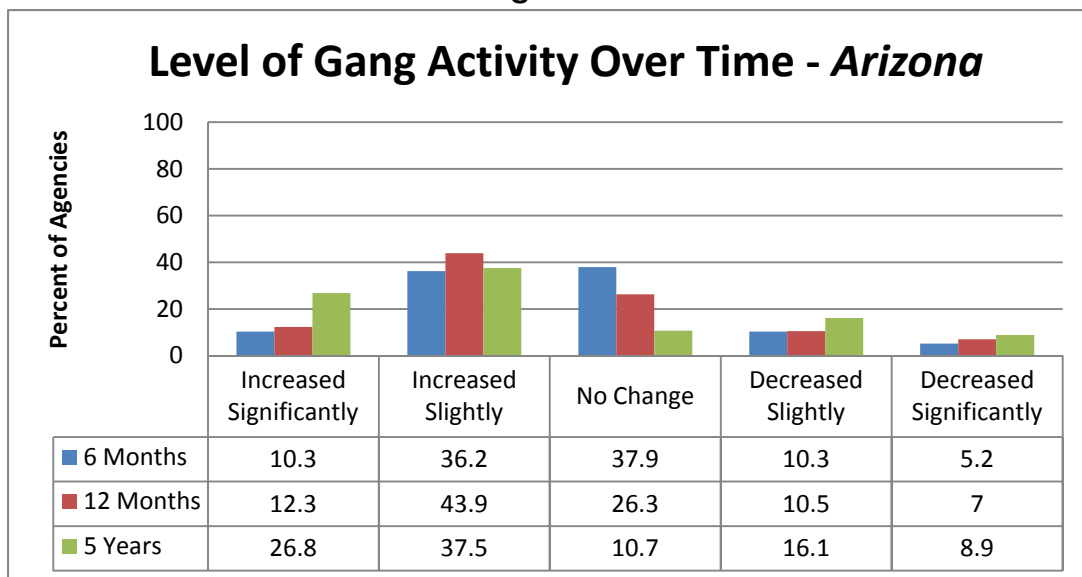


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

<b>Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
<b>Crime</b>	<b>Yavapai County</b>		<b>Arizona</b>	
	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>
Criminal Damage	4	66.7%	17	30.9%
Assault/Aggravated Assault	2	33.3%	43	78.2%
Burglary	2	33.3%	23	41.8%
Threatening and Intimidation	2	33.3%	13	23.6%
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2	33.3%	13	23.6%
Drug Offenses	1	16.7%	15	27.3%
Theft	1	16.7%	10	18.2%
Traffic	1	16.7%	1	1.8%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>55</b>	

Agencies were asked to report the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). This question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list

the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the number and types of crimes that could be reported. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Yavapai County.

Four of the six agencies with a gang presence in Yavapai County reported criminal damage as a primary crime committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions. Other crimes listed by agencies in Yavapai County include assault/aggravated assault, burglary, threatening and intimidation, vandalism/graffiti/tagging, drug offenses, theft, and traffic.

Law enforcement agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. This categorical question provides consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

In 2009, two of the Yavapai County agencies reported high gang involvement for vandalism/graffiti/tagging, and one agency reported high gang involvement for intimidation/extortion and robbery (Table 4). A number of agencies also reported a moderate level of involvement in auto theft, burglary, felonious assault, and human trafficking in 2009.

<b>Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging*	2007	-	40.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
	2008	14.3%	57.1%	14.3%	-	14.3%
	2009	40.0%	40.0%	-	-	20.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.4%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	-	40.0%	20.0%	-	40.0%
	2008	14.3%	42.9%	28.6%	-	14.3%
	2009	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Robbery	2007	-	-	60.0%	20.0%	20.0%
	2008	14.3%	-	28.6%	14.3%	42.9%
	2009	16.7%	-	16.7%	16.7%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Auto Theft	2007	-	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	14.3%	28.6%	28.6%	28.6%
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Burglary	2007	-	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2008	14.3%	28.6%	-	14.3%	42.9%
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	-	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Felonious Assault	2007	-	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2008	14.3%	42.9%	28.6%	-	14.3%
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Human Trafficking*	2007	-	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
	2008	-	14.3%	14.3%	14.3%	57.1%
	2009	-	20.0%	-	20.0%	60.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	-	-	60.0%	-	40.0%
	2008	-	42.9%	14.3%	-	42.9%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Fraud*	2007	-	-	60.0%	-	40.0%
	2008	-	14.3%	42.9%	-	42.9%
	2009	-	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>
Identity Theft*	2007	-	20.0%	20.0%	-	60.0%
	2008	-	14.3%	42.9%	-	42.9%
	2009	-	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Prostitution*	2007	-	-	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	14.3%	28.6%	28.6%	28.6%
	2009	-	-	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>
Arson	2007	-	-	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	14.3%	42.9%	42.9%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	50.0%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	14.3%	42.9%	42.9%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	50.0%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Murder	2007	-	-	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	16.7%	33.3%	50.0%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
	2008	-	-	14.3%	42.9%	42.9%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	33.3%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>

\*Only five of the six agencies reporting a gang presence responded to this question.

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies rated the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. Two agencies in Yavapai County reported that gangs had a moderate level of involvement in the street sales of drugs, one agency reported a moderate level of drug manufacturing, and one agency reported a moderate level of the wholesale of drugs (Table 5). A number of agencies reported that gangs had a moderate level of involvement in the distribution of heroin (33.3 percent), marijuana (33.3 percent), methamphetamine (33.3 percent), and powdered cocaine (16.7 percent).

<b>Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
		<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	-	60.0%	40.0%	-	-
	2008	28.6%	42.9%	14.3%	-	14.3%
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	-	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	-	40.0%	-	60.0%
	2008	14.3%	14.3%	28.6%	-	42.9%
	2009	-	16.7%	-	33.3%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	-	-	60.0%	-	40.0%
	2008	28.6%	-	28.6%	-	42.9%
	2009	-	16.7%	-	-	83.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	33.3%	16.7%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Heroin	2007	-	-	50.0%	25.0%	25.0%
	2008	-	-	57.1%	-	42.9%
	2009	-	33.3%	16.7%	-	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
Marijuana	2007	20.0%	80.0%	-	-	-
	2008	28.6%	42.9%	14.3%	-	14.3%
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	40.0%	60.0%	-	-	-
	2008	42.9%	28.6%	14.3%	-	14.3%
	2009	-	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	20.0%	40.0%	-	40.0%
	2008	-	42.9%	14.3%	-	42.9%
	2009	-	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	-	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2008	-	-	14.3%	14.3%	71.4%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	16.7%	66.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	-	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
	2008	-	14.3%	14.3%	14.3%	57.1%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	16.7%	66.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	-	-	20.0%	-	80.0%
	2008	-	16.7%	16.7%	16.7%	50.0%

	2009	-	-	16.7%	16.7%	66.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>

*Level of Activity by Gang*

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 responses, none of the gangs were listed by Yavapai County agencies as having high levels of activity (Table 6). Yavapai County law enforcement agencies identified the Hells Angels OMG (33.3 percent), Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13 (33.3 percent), Aryan Brotherhood (16.7 percent), the Black Gangster Disciples (16.7 percent), Mexican Mafia/La Eme (16.7 percent), neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews (16.7 percent), and the Skinheads (16.7 percent) as having moderate levels of activity in 2009.

<b>Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	14.3%	14.3%	71.4%	-	-
	2009	-	33.3%	50.0%	-	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	-	25.0%	-	75.0%	-
	2008	-	42.9%	28.6%	28.6%	-
	2009	-	33.3%	16.7%	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	28.6%	14.3%	42.9%	14.3%	-
	2009	-	16.7%	33.3%	16.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	16.7%	-	50.0%	33.3%
	2009	-	16.7%	-	50.0%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	40.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
	2008	-	-	71.4%	28.6%	-
	2009	-	16.7%	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	-	25.0%	-	75.0%	-
	2008	-	14.3%	-	85.7%	-
	2009	-	16.7%	-	50.0%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	40.0%	60.0%	-	-
	2008	14.3%	42.9%	28.6%	-	14.3%
	2009	-	16.7%	50.0%	16.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2008	-	-	57.1%	28.6%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	16.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2008	-	14.3%	-	71.4%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Crips (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	14.3%	14.3%	71.4%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	25.0%	-	75.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	85.7%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Bloods (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	14.3%	85.7%	-
	2009	-	-	16.7%	50.0%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Border Brothers	2007	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
	2008	-	-	-	85.7%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	25.0%	50.0%	25.0%
	2008	-	-	-	85.7%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2008	-	14.3%	14.3%	71.4%	-
	2009	-	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	33.3%	-	66.7%	-
	2008	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
	2009	-	-	16.7%	33.3%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>69.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>
UBN	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	14.3%	71.4%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	-	83.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>23.2%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2008	-	-	-	85.7%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
	2008	-	28.6%	14.3%	57.1%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2008	-	-	28.6%	71.4%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	14.3%	71.4%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>68.4%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2008	-	-	14.3%	85.7%	-
	2009	-	-	-	60.0%	40.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>

Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	85.7%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2008	-	-	28.6%	57.1%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	-	33.3%	66.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2008	-	-	-	85.7%	14.3%
	2009	-	-	-	40.0%	60.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>

### Level of Gang Coordination

The survey also contains questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. In 2009, no agencies in Yavapai County reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs within their jurisdictions (Table 7).

<b>Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2009 Arizona</b>
Yes	0.0%	42.9%	0.0%	44.6%
No	60.0%	28.6%	100.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	40.0%	28.6%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>56</b>

### Most Effective Gang Responses

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies were the most effective in their respective jurisdictions when combating gangs. Prior to the 2009 assessment, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

Enforcement (66.7 percent of agencies), identification of gang members (50.0 percent), joint efforts with other agencies (33.3 percent), GIITEM (16.7 percent), school programs (16.7 percent), and special prosecution programs (16.7 percent) were the strategies identified by Yavapai County agencies as effective gang responses within their jurisdictions (Table 8).

**Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies**

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Enforcement	1	20.0%	1	14.3%	4	66.7%	46	78.0%
Identification of Gang Members	0	0.0%	1	14.3%	3	50.0%	39	66.1%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	1	14.3%	2	33.3%	29	49.2%
GIITEM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	34	57.6%
School Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	17	28.8%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	1	14.3%	1	16.7%	13	22.0%
Community Programs	1	20.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	13.6%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	22	37.3%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	1	20.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	19	32.2%

*Task Force Participation*

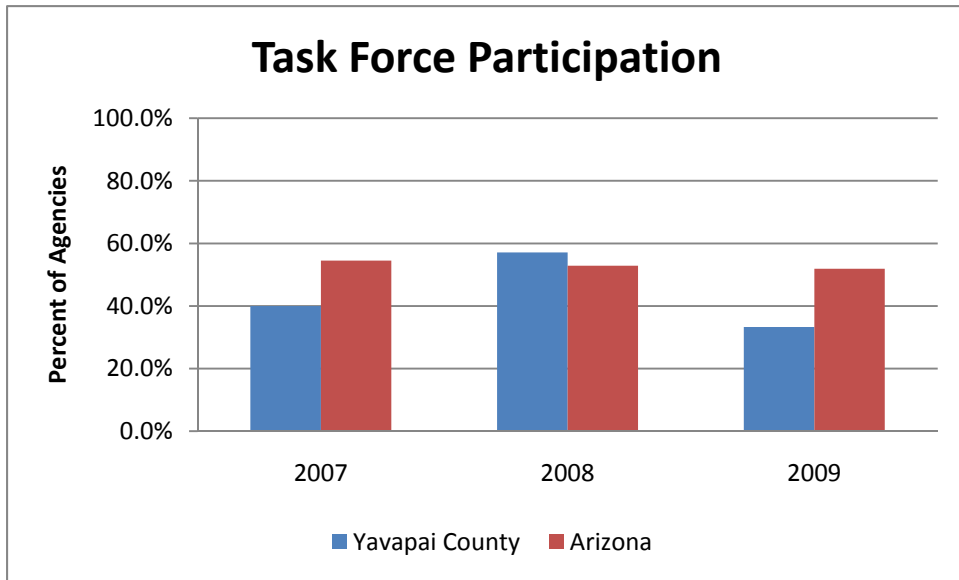
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang presence on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. Two of the six Yavapai County agencies that responded to the survey reported that they participated in a multi-agency task force, which was a decline from previous years. One agency indicated that they participated in GIITEM.

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in Yavapai County and throughout Arizona. Multiple agencies reported significant gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. Law enforcement agencies reported a moderate level of gang involvement in the distribution of heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine, and powdered cocaine. Law enforcement agencies expressed concern with gang involvement in assault/aggravated assault, burglary, threatening and intimidation, vandalism/graffiti/tagging, drug offenses, theft, and traffic within their jurisdictions.

The most active gangs identified by Yavapai County law enforcement agencies were the Hells Angels OMG, Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13, Aryan Brotherhood, the Black Gangster Disciples, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews, and the Skinheads. These gangs were reported as having a moderate level of involvement in the jurisdictions reporting a gang presence in Yavapai County.

Over the past three years, law enforcement agencies in Yavapai County reported an increase in the presence of gangs and the problems associated with gangs in their jurisdictions. The percentage of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has increased from 45.5 percent in 2007 to 54.5 percent in 2009. The data also reveals that law enforcement agencies were concerned about gang involvement in many types of crimes within their jurisdictions during 2009. While 40.0 percent of agencies reported that gangs were expanding their scope of activities, no agencies reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs. Despite a higher number of agencies reporting a gang presence within their jurisdictions, the number of agencies that participated in a multi-agency task force decreased from 2007 to 2009.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: Yavapai County communities, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a significant gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, the ACJC intends for the Yavapai County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.

# Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

## Statistical Analysis Center Publication

Our mission is to sustain and enhance the coordination, cohesiveness, productivity and effectiveness of the Criminal Justice System in Arizona



# 2009 Yuma County Gang Threat Assessment

# 2011

# ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION



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## Table of Contents

<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>Research Methods</b> .....	2
<b>Gangs in Yuma County and Arizona</b> .....	3
<i>Total Gang Membership</i> .....	3
<i>Level of Gang Activity Over Time</i> .....	3
<i>Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs</i> .....	5
<i>Level of Activity by Gang</i> .....	8
<i>Level of Gang Coordination</i> .....	10
<i>Most Effective Gang Responses</i> .....	10
<i>Task Force Participation</i> .....	11
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	13

## Executive Summary

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's (ACJC) Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding gangs and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. The SAC gang threat assessment survey, titled the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*, conducted by the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Drug Intelligence Center, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The survey contained questions for law enforcement officials concerning the presence of gangs within their jurisdictions, the level of gang activity, the involvement of gang members in crime and illegal drug distribution, the extent of cross-gang coordination, and law enforcement strategies targeting gang members. The following report provides Yuma County and statewide results from the 2009 survey administration, including trend data collected during prior administrations of the gang threat assessment survey in 2007 and 2008. Additional state and county reports are available at <http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/publications/publications.aspx?ServId=1000>.

### Findings

- Six of the seven Yuma County agencies that responded to the survey in 2010 reported an active gang presence within their respective jurisdictions. Of the agencies that reported at least one active gang, four agencies provided estimates of the number of gang members within their jurisdictions. These agencies estimated that there were 4,310 active gang members across the four jurisdictions.
- Five of the six Yuma County agencies with a gang presence reported that gangs were expanding their membership and scope of activities. More than 60 percent of the responding agencies reported that gang activity had increased during the prior six months. More than 80 percent of agencies reported that gang activity had increased during the previous 12 months. When asked about the five years prior to taking the 2009 survey, half of the agencies reported that gang activity had increased significantly or slightly while 16.7 percent of agencies reported that gang activity had not changed and 33.3 percent reported activity had decreased slightly.
- Approximately 67 percent of the agencies with a gang presence reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in the distribution of marijuana, and 40 percent of agencies reported a high level of involvement in the distribution of methamphetamine.
- The Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13, Mexican Mafia/La Eme, and the Hispanic Norteños/14 were the gangs reported as having a high level of involvement in Yuma County.
- When asked about gang intervention strategies, law enforcement agencies with a gang presence identified enforcement, identification of gang members, and joint efforts with other agencies as the most effective strategies in response to gangs and gang activity in their jurisdictions.

## **Introduction**

During spring 2010, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission's Statistical Analysis Center surveyed law enforcement officers in Arizona regarding their perceptions and experiences with gangs, gang members, and gang activity within their respective jurisdictions. This report examines and summarizes the results from the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* and fulfills ACJC's statutory requirement to conduct an annual survey that measures the prevalence of gang activity in Arizona using available monies per Arizona Revised Statute §41-2416. Although no funds were specifically appropriated to carry out the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, effectively addressing gangs and gang activity presents a significant challenge to Arizona's law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system. For this reason, ACJC continues to collect and share information on gangs and gang activity using existing resources.

## **Research Methods**

Since 1990, the ACJC has administered a gang survey to state, county, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies throughout Arizona. In 2007, the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* replaced the original *Arizona Gang Survey* because of feedback from the law enforcement community in Arizona requesting a more in-depth analysis of current threats posed by gangs. The *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment* was modeled after the *National Gang Threat Assessment*. The national assessment is a project of the National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Drug Intelligence Center and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives. The first national assessment was conducted in 2005 with surveys being sent out to hundreds of gang investigators across the nation.

Seven law enforcement agencies throughout Yuma County received the *Arizona Gang Threat Assessment*, which asked a series of questions about gangs and gang activity within their respective law enforcement jurisdictions during 2009. The survey was designed to gather information on gangs, gang members, gang activity, and other pertinent information to better understand the threat gangs pose to public safety. Of the seven surveys distributed to law enforcement agencies in Yuma County, all seven (100.0 percent) agencies returned a survey to the SAC.

## Gangs in Yuma County and Arizona

### Total Gang Membership

Of the seven agencies that responded to SAC's request for information on gangs and gang activity in Yuma County, 85.7 percent (six agencies) reported the presence of gangs and gang activity in their respective jurisdictions. This is an increase from the five agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdictions during the previous year (Table 1). Of the agencies that indicated a gang presence within their jurisdictions, four agencies estimated a total of 4,310 active gang members present across their jurisdictions in 2009. The remaining two agencies reporting gang activity were not able to provide an estimated number of gang members within their jurisdictions. Thus, the number of gang members reported is a conservative estimate of the number of gang members in Yuma County. The causes of the underestimation include the inability of some agencies to provide estimates and the likelihood that some gang members have not yet come to the attention of law enforcement.

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Yes</b>	2	66.7%	5	83.3%	6	85.7%	59	75.6%
<b>No</b>	1	33.3%	1	16.7%	1	14.3%	19	24.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't know</b>	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

### Level of Gang Activity Over Time

Agencies that reported a gang presence within their jurisdictions were asked to rate the level of gang activity and whether gang membership and activities were expanding in 2009. When asked whether

	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
<b>Yes</b>	100.0%	60.0%	83.3%	50.0%
<b>No</b>	0.0%	40.0%	16.7%	46.4%
<b>Unsure/Don't Know</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>56</b>

gangs in the area were expanding their membership and scope of activities, five (83.3 percent) of the Yuma County agencies reporting a gang presence responded that gangs within their jurisdictions were expanding their membership and

scope of activities, compared to half of the agencies reporting expanding membership and activities at the state level (Table 2). This is a continued increase in the number of agencies reporting expansion in 2007 and 2008.

When given the opportunity to provide further explanation of their responses regarding gang membership and gang activities, the agencies with expanding gang membership and activity reported that gangs were becoming more involved in drug smuggling, drug trafficking, burglary, and tagging.

When considering the six months prior to the 2009 assessment, two agencies reported that the level of gang activity in their respective jurisdictions increased significantly, two reported that activity had increased slightly, one reported no change, and one reported a slight decrease in gang activity. During the preceding 12 months, two agencies reported that gang activity increased significantly,

three reported that activity increased slightly, and one reported that activity decreased slightly. When asked to assess the level of gang activity over the past five years, one agency reported that activity increased significantly, two reported that activity increased slightly, one agency reported no change, and two agencies reported a slight decrease in gang activity (Figure 1).

Figure 1

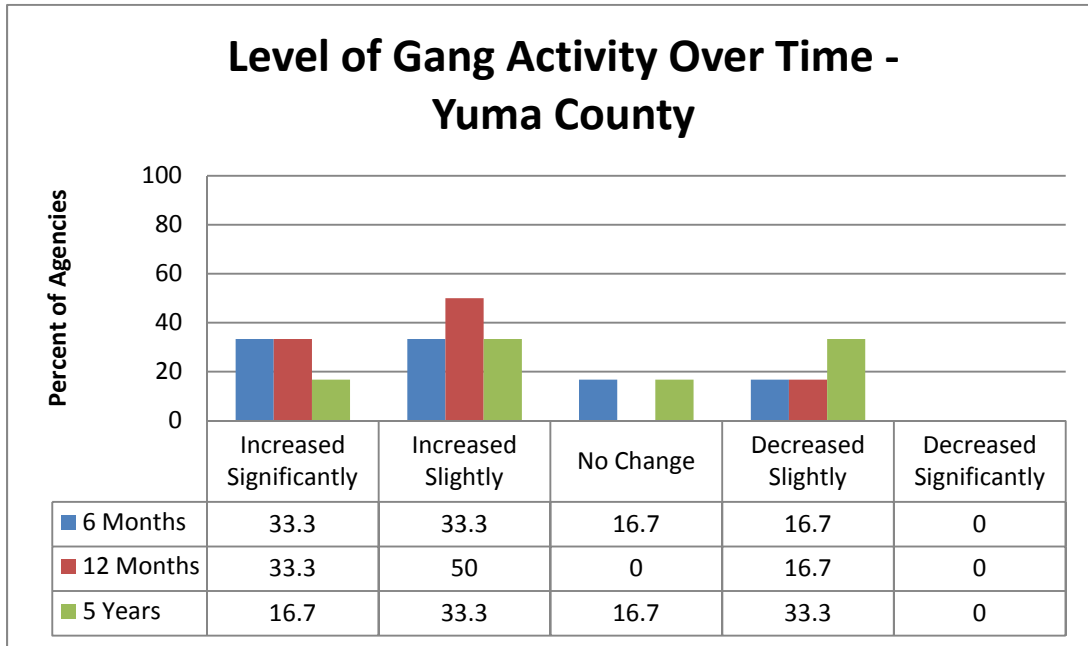
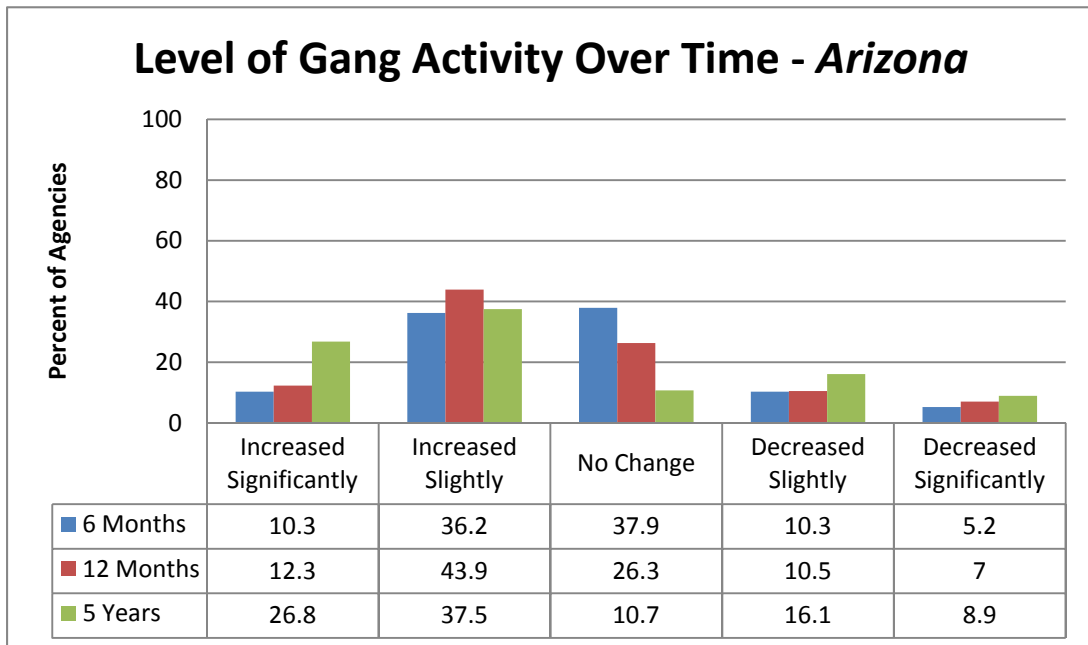


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

<b>Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
<b>Crime</b>	<b>Yuma County</b>		<b>Arizona</b>	
	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>	<b>Number of Agencies</b>	<b>Percent of Agencies</b>
Assault/Aggravated Assault	5	83.3%	43	78.2%
Drug Smuggling/Trafficking/Transport	3	50.0%	6	10.9%
Auto Theft	2	33.3%	7	12.7%
Burglary	2	33.3%	23	41.8%
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2	33.3%	13	23.6%
Alcohol Crimes/Minor in Consumption/DUI	1	16.7%	3	5.5%
Criminal Damage	1	16.7%	17	30.9%
Drug Offenses	1	16.7%	15	27.3%
Drug Possession	1	16.7%	4	7.3%
Drug Sales	1	16.7%	13	23.6%
Drug Use	1	16.7%	4	7.3%
Extortions	1	16.7%	1	1.8%
Human Smuggling	1	16.7%	4	7.3%
Property Crimes	1	16.7%	3	5.5%
Theft	1	16.7%	10	18.2%
Weapon Offenses	1	16.7%	4	7.3%
<b>Number of Agencies Responding</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>55</b>	

Agencies were asked to report the primary crimes committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions (Table 3). This question was open-ended, and respondents were asked to list the crimes that were being committed by gangs in their jurisdictions with no limit to the

number and types of crimes that could be reported. Table 3 also provides the number of agencies at the state level who reported the same crimes identified by law enforcement in Yuma County.

Five of the six Yuma County agencies with a gang presence reported assault/aggravated assault as a primary crime committed by gangs within their respective jurisdictions. Other crimes listed by two or more agencies in Yuma County include drug smuggling/trafficking/transport, auto theft, burglary, and vandalism/graffiti/tagging.

Law enforcement agencies also rated the level of gang involvement within their jurisdictions for 15 specific crime categories. Agencies ranked the level of gang involvement for each type of crime based on the following five categories: high, moderate, low, none, and unknown gang involvement. This categorical question provides consistent measurements over time for the level of gang involvement across a predetermined set of violent and property crimes.

In 2009, four of the Yuma County agencies reported a high level of gang involvement in vandalism/graffiti/tagging (Table 4). Additional crimes identified by at least one agency for having a high level of gang involvement include burglary (50.0 percent), felonious assault (40.0 percent), firearms trafficking (16.7 percent), and human trafficking (16.7 percent).

<b>Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Vandalism/Graffiti/Tagging	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	40.0%	40.0%	-	-	20.0%
	2009	66.7%	33.3%	-	-	-
Arizona	2009	57.1%	28.6%	8.9%	-	5.4%

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Burglary	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	20.0%	40.0%	20.0%	-	20.0%
	2009	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>
Felonious Assault	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%
	2009	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>35.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Firearms Trafficking	2007	50.0%	-	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2009	16.7%	16.7%	-	33.3%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Human Trafficking	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	40.0%	-	60.0%
	2009	16.7%	50.0%	-	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>
Auto Theft	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	40.0%	40.0%	-	20.0%
	2009	-	50.0%	16.7%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>39.7%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>
Intimidation/Extortion	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	60.0%	20.0%	-	20.0%
	2009	-	33.3%	66.7%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Fraud	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
	2009	-	20.0%	-	40.0%	40.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>13.0%</i>	<i>14.8%</i>	<i>27.8%</i>	<i>20.4%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>
Murder	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	20.0%	20.0%	-	40.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	16.7%	33.3%	50.0%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>44.6%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>
Robbery	2007	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2008	-	20.0%	60.0%	-	20.0%
	2009	-	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>
Sexual Assault/Rape	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	20.0%	40.0%	40.0%
	2009	-	-	66.7%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>
Arson	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	60.0%	40.0%
	2009	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>46.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Identity Theft	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	20.0%	20.0%	-	60.0%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	33.3%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>
Kidnapping	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	40.0%	60.0%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Prostitution	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	-	-	60.0%	40.0%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	16.7%	66.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>

In addition to the level of gang involvement by crime type, agencies rated the level of gang involvement in the distribution of various illegal drugs. Two agencies in Yuma County reported that gangs had a high level of involvement in drug street sales, and two agencies reported a moderate level of involvement (Table 5). A large percentage of agencies experiencing a gang presence reported a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana (66.7 percent), followed by methamphetamine (40.0 percent).

<b>Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>						
		<b>High</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
Drugs – Street Sales	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	-	60.0%	20.0%	-	20.0%
	2009	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>36.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Drugs – Wholesale	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2009	-	16.7%	50.0%	16.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>31.0%</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Drugs – Manufacture	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	-	-	20.0%	80.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>
Marijuana Grows	2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2009	-	-	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.2%</i>	<i>41.4%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>
Marijuana	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	60.0%	-	-	-	40.0%
	2009	66.7%	16.7%	16.7%	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>44.8%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>	<i>3.4%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Methamphetamine	2007	50.0%	50.0%	-	-	-
	2008	40.0%	20.0%	-	-	40.0%
	2009	40.0%	60.0%	-	-	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>36.8%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
MDMA (Ecstasy) and analogs	2007	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	40.0%	-	60.0%
	2009	-	50.0%	-	16.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>17.2%</i>	<i>27.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Pharmaceuticals	2007	-	-	-	-	100.0%
	2008	-	-	40.0%	-	60.0%
	2009	-	50.0%	33.3%	-	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>25.9%</i>
Heroin	2007	-	50.0%	50.0%	-	-
	2008	20.0%	20.0%	20.0%	-	40.0%
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>24.1%</i>	<i>19.0%</i>	<i>17.2%</i>
Crack Cocaine	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	20.0%	20.0%	60.0%
	2009	-	16.7%	-	33.3%	50.0%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>10.3%</i>	<i>12.1%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>
Powdered Cocaine	2007	-	-	100.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	40.0%	20.0%	40.0%
	2009	-	16.7%	16.7%	50.0%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>6.9%</i>	<i>13.8%</i>	<i>43.1%</i>	<i>20.7%</i>	<i>15.5%</i>

Level of Activity by Gang

Law enforcement agencies reported the level of activity within their jurisdictions for 26 specific gangs. The list of gangs in the Arizona Gang Threat Assessment was selected based on the gangs listed in the National Gang Threat Assessment, allowing for a state and national comparison.

According to the 2009 responses, three of the 26 gangs were identified by Yuma County agencies as having high levels of activity (Table 6). Yuma County law enforcement agencies identified the Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13 (33.3 percent), Mexican Mafia/La Eme (33.3 percent) and the Hispanic Norteños/14 (16.7 percent) as having high levels of activity in 2009. In addition to the Hispanic Sureños/SUR 13 (33.3 percent) and Hispanic Norteños/14 (33.3 percent), agencies reported that the neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews (50.0 percent), Hells Angels OMG (33.3 percent), and Mara Salvatrucha/MS-13 (33.3 percent) had a moderate level of activity in their jurisdictions.

Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	Not Applicable	Unknown
Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13)	2007	100.0%	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	75.0%	25.0%	-
	2009	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	16.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>24.6%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>5.3%</i>
Mexican Mafia/La Eme	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	20.0%	60.0%	20.0%	-
	2009	33.3%	-	33.3%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>12.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Hispanic Norteños (14)	2007	50.0%	-	50.0%	-	-
	2008	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2009	16.7%	33.3%	33.3%	16.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>38.6%</i>	<i>8.8%</i>
Neighborhood-based Drug Trafficking Groups/Crews	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	20.0%	-	60.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	50.0%	16.7%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>8.6%</i>	<i>29.3%</i>	<i>22.4%</i>	<i>32.8%</i>	<i>6.9%</i>
Hells Angels OMG	2007	-	50.0%	-	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	40.0%	60.0%	-
	2009	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>29.8%</i>	<i>7.0%</i>
Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13)	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	60.0%	40.0%	-
	2009	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>40.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
18 <sup>th</sup> Street Gang	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	-	50.0%	33.3%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>59.6%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Border Brothers	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	75.0%	25.0%
	2009	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>28.6%</i>	<i>57.1%</i>	<i>10.7%</i>
Crips (all sets)	2007	-	50.0%	-	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

La Nuestra Familia	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	60.0%	40.0%
	2009	-	-	33.3%	33.3%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
Latin Kings	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>31.6%</i>	<i>54.4%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Outlaws OMG	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	20.0%	-	80.0%	-
	2009	-	-	33.3%	66.7%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>3.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>69.6%</i>	<i>14.3%</i>
Aryan Brotherhood	2007	Not Included in 2007 Survey				
	2008	-	-	40.0%	60.0%	-
	2009	-	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>15.8%</i>	<i>45.6%</i>	<i>22.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Bandidos OMG	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	16.7%	83.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>	<i>66.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Bloods (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	20.0%	80.0%	-
	2009	-	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>33.3%</i>	<i>26.3%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
La Raza	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>73.7%</i>	<i>12.3%</i>
Pagans OMG	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	16.7%	83.3%	-
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>12.5%</i>
Skinheads	2007	-	-	50.0%	50.0%	-
	2008	-	-	40.0%	60.0%	-
	2009	-	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>5.3%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>	<i>42.1%</i>	<i>28.1%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>
Vice Lords	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>68.4%</i>	<i>19.3%</i>
Almighty P Stone Nation	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>7.0%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>17.5%</i>
Asian Gangs (all sets)	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>12.5%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>21.4%</i>
Black Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>	<i>70.2%</i>	<i>14.0%</i>
Gangster Disciples	2007	-	-	50.0%	-	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	100.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>	<i>64.9%</i>	<i>10.5%</i>

Mexikanemi (Texas Mexican Mafia)	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>78.6%</i>	<i>19.6%</i>
Texas Syndicate	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	-	80.0%	20.0%
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	-	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>75.4%</i>	<i>21.1%</i>
UBN	2007	-	-	-	50.0%	50.0%
	2008	-	-	25.0%	75.0%	-
	2009	-	-	-	66.7%	33.3%
<i>Arizona</i>	<i>2009</i>	-	<i>1.8%</i>	<i>8.9%</i>	<i>66.1%</i>	<i>23.2%</i>

### Level of Gang Coordination

The survey also contains questions regarding gangs coordinating their activity with other gangs. In 2009, three of the five agencies in Yuma County reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs within their jurisdictions (Table 7).

<b>Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)</b>				
	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2009 Arizona</b>
Yes	0.0%	60.0%	60.0%	44.6%
No	100.0%	20.0%	40.0%	42.9%
Unsure/Don't Know	0.0%	20.0%	0.0%	12.5%
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>56</b>

Agency responses indicated that gangs were coordinating with prison gangs to enhance smuggling activities as well as to unify the work of street gangs with Mexican drug cartel organizations.

### Most Effective Gang Responses

Agency respondents provided information pertaining to which strategies were the most effective in their respective jurisdictions when combating gangs. Prior to the 2009 assessment, agencies were asked to simply list any strategies that were effective within their jurisdictions. To make responses more consistent over time, researchers changed the question in the 2009 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment by instructing agency representatives to select from a number of response categories. The new response categories provide a range of activities that may not have been previously considered by the respondents during prior survey administrations. For this reason, the change in the structure of the question is a likely explanation for the large increases in some categories of interdiction, intervention, and suppression strategies.

All strategies, except community programs, were identified by at least one agency as being effective in dealing with gangs (Table 8). The most common responses were enforcement (100.0 percent), identification of gang members (83.3 percent), joint efforts with other agencies (66.7 percent), gang crime/intelligence data analyses (50.0 percent), and GIITEM (50.0 percent).

**Table 8: Effective Gang Interdiction, Intervention, or Suppression Strategies**

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
Enforcement	2	100.0%	2	40.0%	6	100.0%	46	78.0%
Identification of Gang Members	1	50.0%	0	0.0%	5	83.3%	39	66.1%
Joint Efforts with Other Agencies	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	66.7%	29	49.2%
Gang Crime/Intelligence Data Analyses	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	50.0%	22	37.3%
GIITEM	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	50.0%	34	57.6%
Law Enforcement Gang Units	1	50.0%	1	20.0%	2	33.3%	19	32.2%
School Programs	0	0.0%	1	20.0%	2	33.3%	17	28.8%
Special Prosecution Programs	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	13	22.0%
Community Programs	0	0.0%	1	20.0%	0	0.0%	8	13.6%

*Task Force Participation*

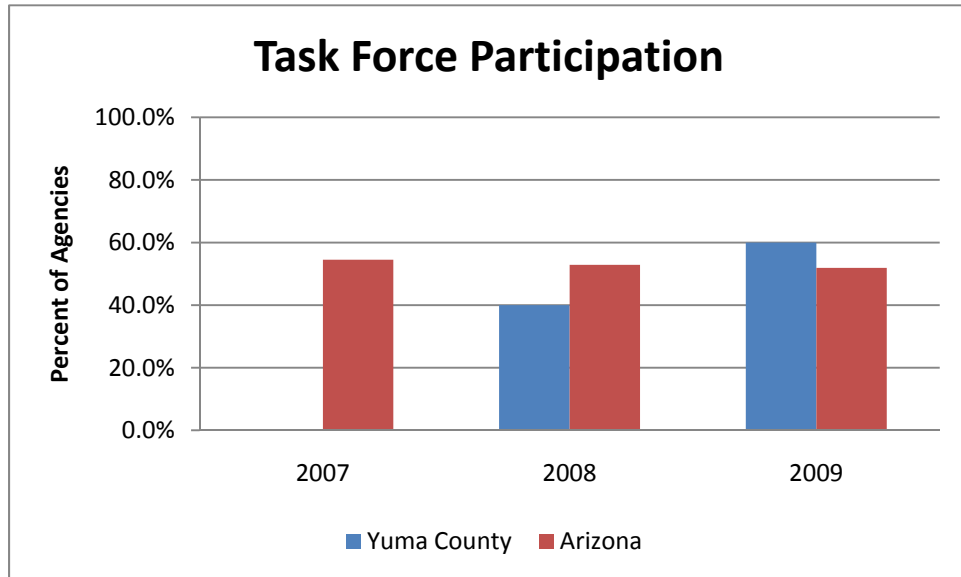
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together law enforcement agencies from federal, state, county, municipal, and tribal jurisdictions in a coordinated, intelligence-driven approach to suppress gang presence on a large scale.

In 2006, after several years of declining resources and downsizing operations resulting from state revenue shortfalls, DPS received funding to revitalize GIITEM and enhance its mission to include combating illegal immigration and human smuggling. More specifically, GIITEM is charged with:

- 1) Deterring criminal gang activity through investigations, arrest and prosecution;
- 2) Dismantling gang-related criminal enterprises;
- 3) Deterring border-related crimes;
- 4) Disrupting human smuggling organizations;
- 5) Collecting, analyzing and disseminating gang and illegal immigration intelligence; and
- 6) Providing anti-gang awareness training to communities and schools.

In the 2007 and 2008 Arizona Gang Threat Assessment, agencies were asked if they *participate* or *lead* a multi-agency task force. In 2009, agencies were only asked if they *participate* in a multi-agency gang task force. Three of the five Yuma County agencies that responded to the question participated in a multi-agency task force, which is an increase from previous years. Agencies indicated that they collaborated with GIITEM, US Marshals, and FBI Safe. Two agencies indicated that they are interested in participating, but the agencies currently lack the manpower.

Figure 3



## **Conclusion**

Gang activity continues to negatively affect many law enforcement jurisdictions in Yuma County and throughout Arizona. Multiple agencies reported significant gang involvement in crime and drug distribution within their respective jurisdictions during 2009. Similar to the findings for 2008, law enforcement agencies continued to report a high level of gang involvement in the distribution of marijuana and methamphetamine. Law enforcement agencies also cited gang involvement in assault/aggravated assault, drug smuggling/trafficking/transport, auto theft, burglary, and vandalism/graffiti/tagging as concerns within their jurisdictions.

The most active gangs identified by Yuma County law enforcement agencies were the Hispanic Sureños (SUR 13), Mexican Mafia/La Eme, and Hispanic Norteños (14). Other gangs for which Yuma County agencies reported moderate levels of activity include neighborhood-based drug trafficking groups/crews, the Hells Angels OMG, and Mara Salvatrucha/MS-13.

Over the past three years, law enforcement agencies in Yuma County have reported an increase in the presence of gangs and the problems associated with gangs in their jurisdictions. The number of agencies reporting gangs and gang activity has increased from two agencies in 2007 to six agencies in 2009. The data also reveals that law enforcement agencies were concerned about increased gang involvement in many types of crimes within their jurisdictions during 2009. More than 80 percent of agencies reported that gangs were expanding their scope of activities, and 60 percent reported that gangs were coordinating with other gangs. With a higher number of agencies reporting a gang presence within their jurisdictions, the number of agencies that participated in a multi-agency task force also increased from no agencies in 2007 to three agencies in 2009.

The data collected from local law enforcement agencies illustrates what many working in the criminal justice system already know: Yuma County communities, communities across the state, and the law enforcement agencies that serve these communities continue to face a significant gang problem. Through the research work of the SAC, the ACJC intends for the Yuma County gang profile and the state gang report to inform policy makers, practitioners, and other stakeholders on gangs and gang activity both at the state and county level.