

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

February

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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.

Table 1: Number of Law Enforcement Agencies that Reported a Gang Presence, 2007-2009

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

Table 2: Percentage of Jurisdictions Reporting Gangs Expanding their Scope of Activities, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)

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

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

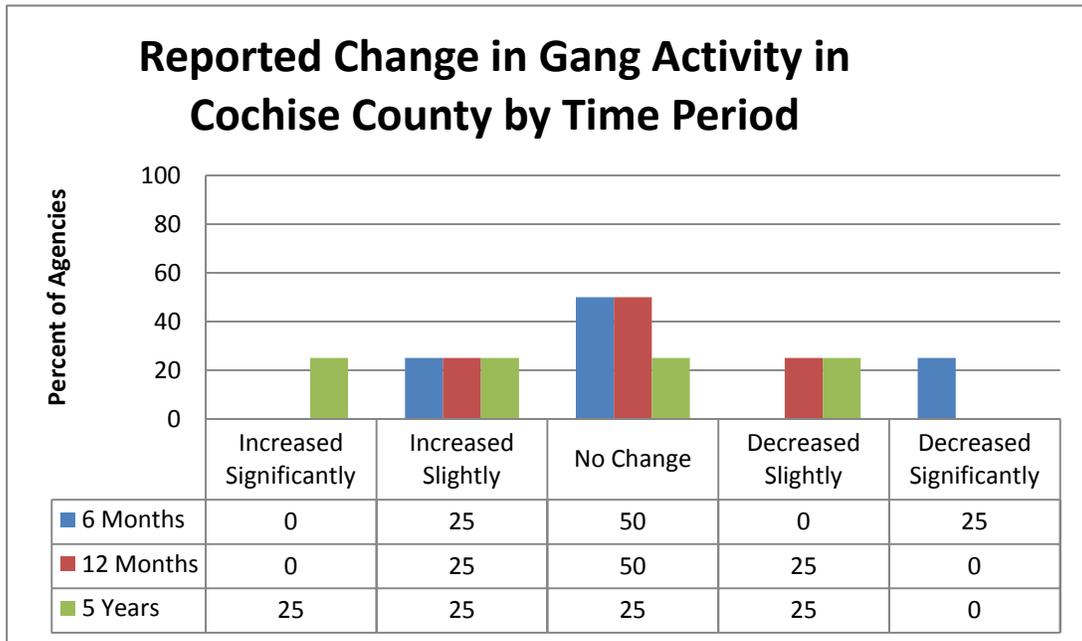
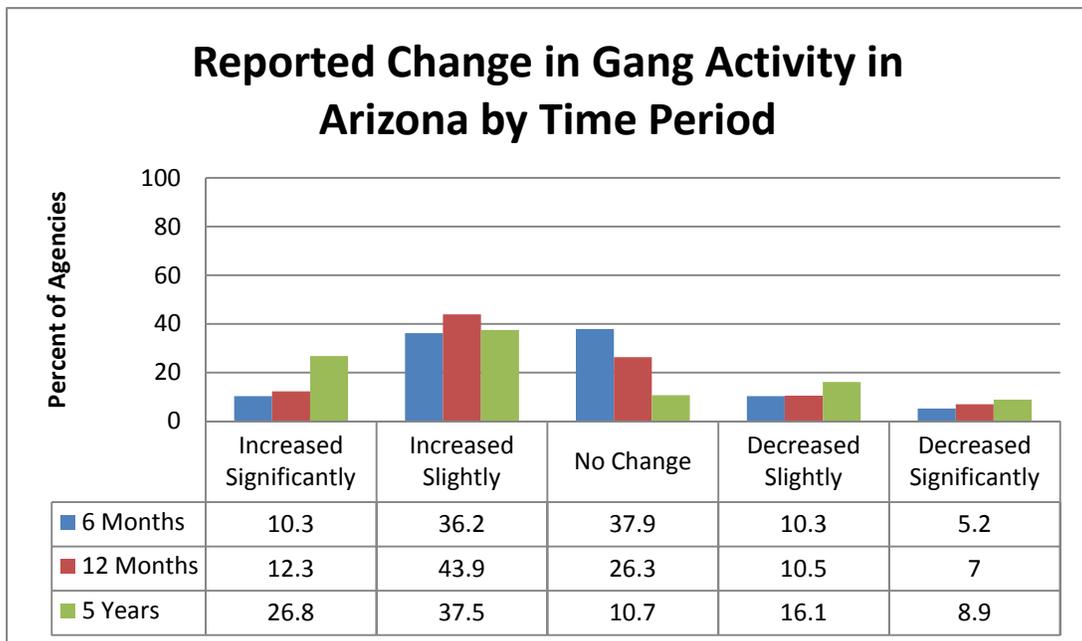


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
Crime	Cochise County		Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
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%
Number of Agencies Responding	3		55	

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.

Table 4: Level of Gang Involvement in Crime, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
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>

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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).

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	-	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.

Table 6: Level of Activity by Gang, 2007-2009 (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
	Year	High	Moderate	Low	Not Applicable	Unknown
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	-	-	-	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>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%	-	-

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	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 th 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%
Total Responses	2	2	4	56

Most Effective Gang Responses

	2007		2008		2009		2009 Arizona	
	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

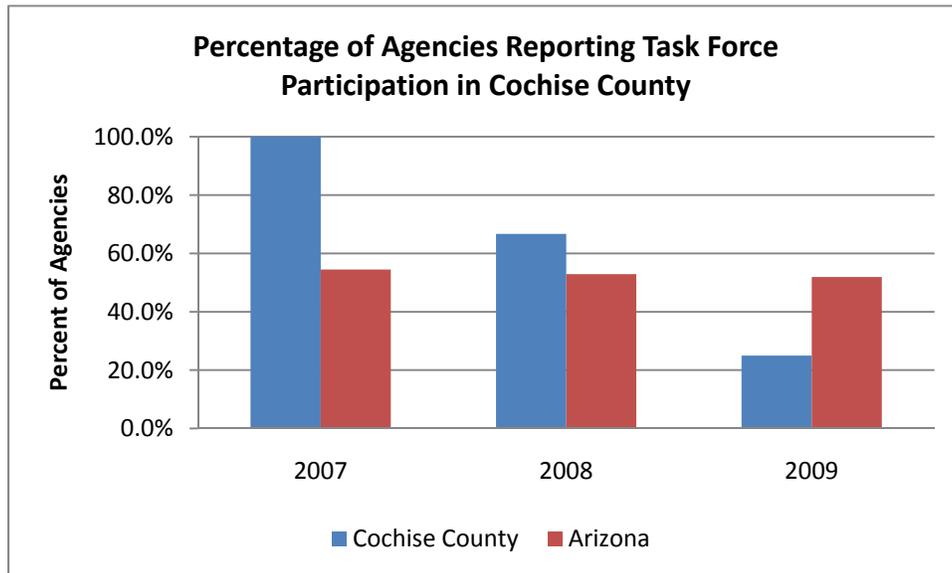
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaborations for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together 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.