

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



Chairperson
RALPH OGDEN
Yuma County Sheriff

Vice-Chairperson
DANIEL G. SHARP, Chief
Oro Valley Police Department

JOHN R. ARMER
Gila County Sheriff

JOSEPH ARPAIO
Maricopa County Sheriff

DUANE BELCHER, Chairperson
Board of Executive Clemency

DAVID K. BYERS, Director
Administrative Office of the Courts

CLARENCE DUPNIK
Pima County Sheriff

ROBERT C. HALLIDAY, Director
Department of Public Safety

TOM HORNE
Attorney General

ROBERT HUDDLESTON, Chief
Casa Grande Police Department

BARBARA LAWALL
Pima County Attorney

BILL MONTGOMERY
Maricopa County Attorney

CHARLES RYAN, Director
Department of Corrections

DAVID SANDERS
Pima County Chief Probation
Officer

LINDA SCOTT
Former Judge

GEORGE E. SILVA
Santa Cruz County Attorney

CARL TAYLOR
Coconino County Supervisor

Mayor
VACANT

Police Chief
VACANT

JOHN A. BLACKBURN, JR.
Executive Director

MICHELLE NEITCH
Research Analyst

MATTHEW BILESKI
Research Analyst

PHILLIP STEVENSON
Director, Statistical Analysis
Center

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	1
Introduction	2
Research Methods	2
Gangs in Mohave County and Arizona	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
Conclusion	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.

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
Yes	5	83.3%	6	85.7%	4	80.0%	59	75.6%
No	1	16.7%	1	14.3%	1	20.0%	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 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

Table 2: Percentage of Jurisdictions Reporting Gangs Expanding their Scope of Activities (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
Yes	60.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
No	40.0%	50.0%	50.0%	46.4%
Unsure/Don't Know	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%
Total Responses	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

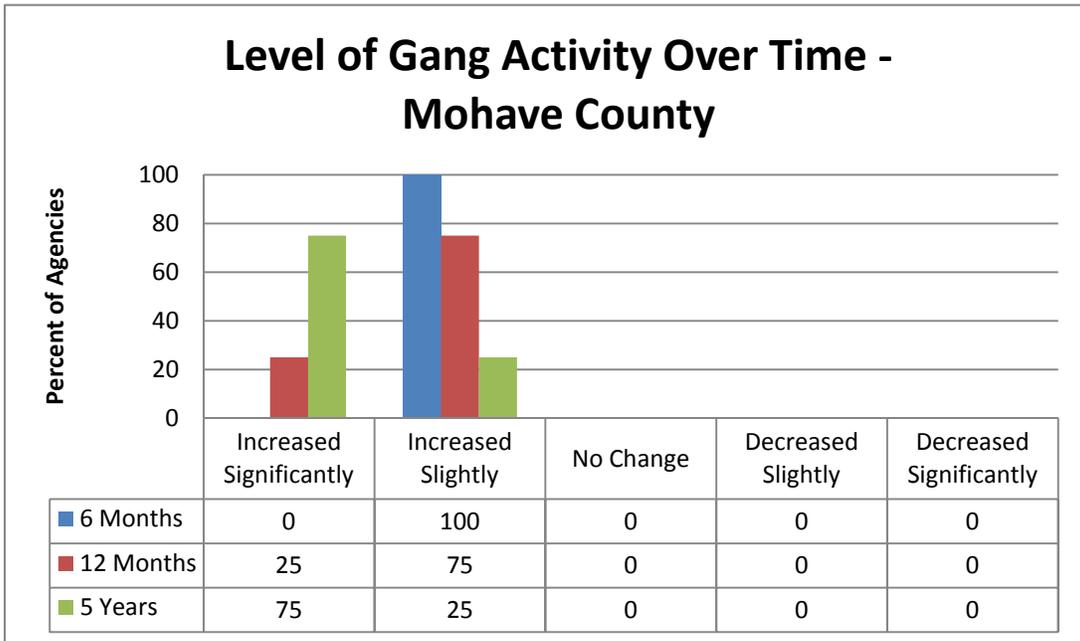
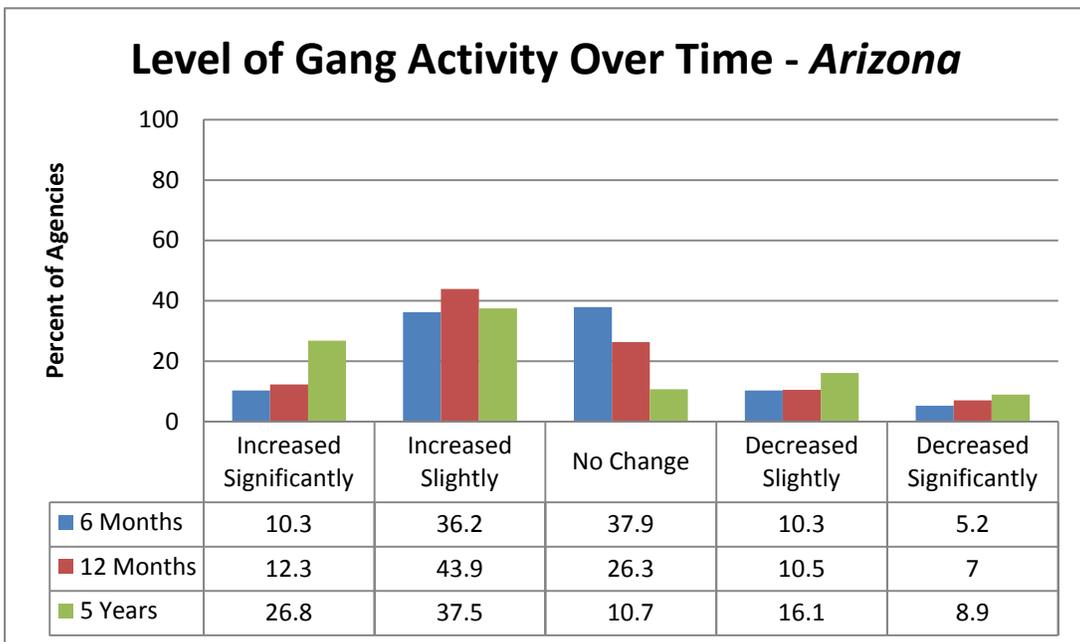


Figure 2



Gang Involvement in Crimes and Drugs

Table 3: Primary Crimes Committed by Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
Crime	Mohave County		Arizona	
	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies	Number of Agencies	Percent of Agencies
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%
Number of Agencies Responding	4		55	

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.

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

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).

Table 5: Gang Involvement in the Distribution of Drugs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)						
		High	Moderate	Low	None	Unknown
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 th 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.

Table 7: Gang Coordination with Other Gangs (Of the Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Activity)				
	2007	2008	2009	2009 Arizona
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%
Total Responses	5	6	4	56

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						
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

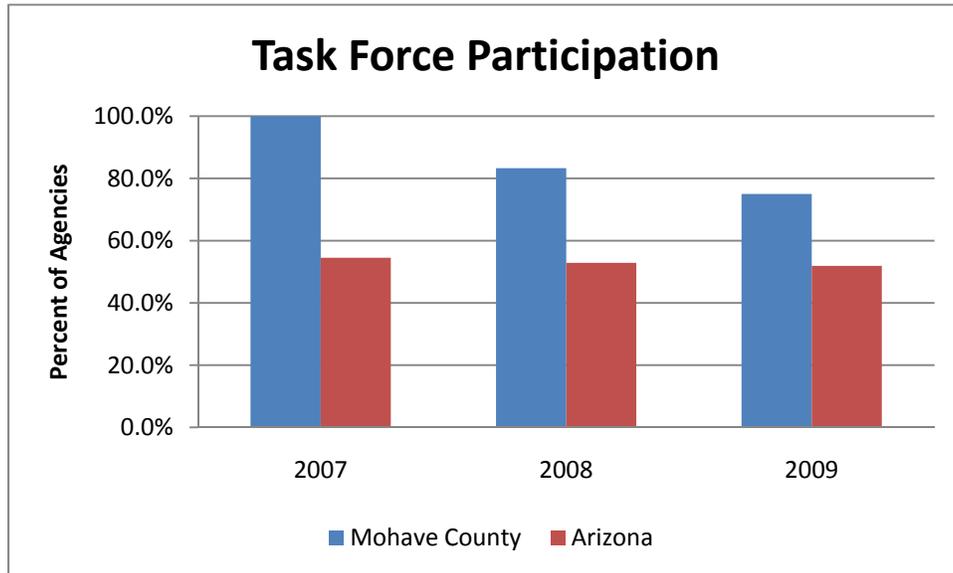
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaborations for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together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