

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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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
Yes	7	100.0%	5	71.4%	4	100.0%	59	75.6%
No	0	0.0%	2	28.6%	0	0.0%	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 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
Yes	42.9%	40.0%	25.0%	50.0%
No	42.9%	60.0%	75.0%	46.4%
Unsure/Don't Know	14.3%	0.0%	0.0%	3.6%
Total Responses	7	5	4	56

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

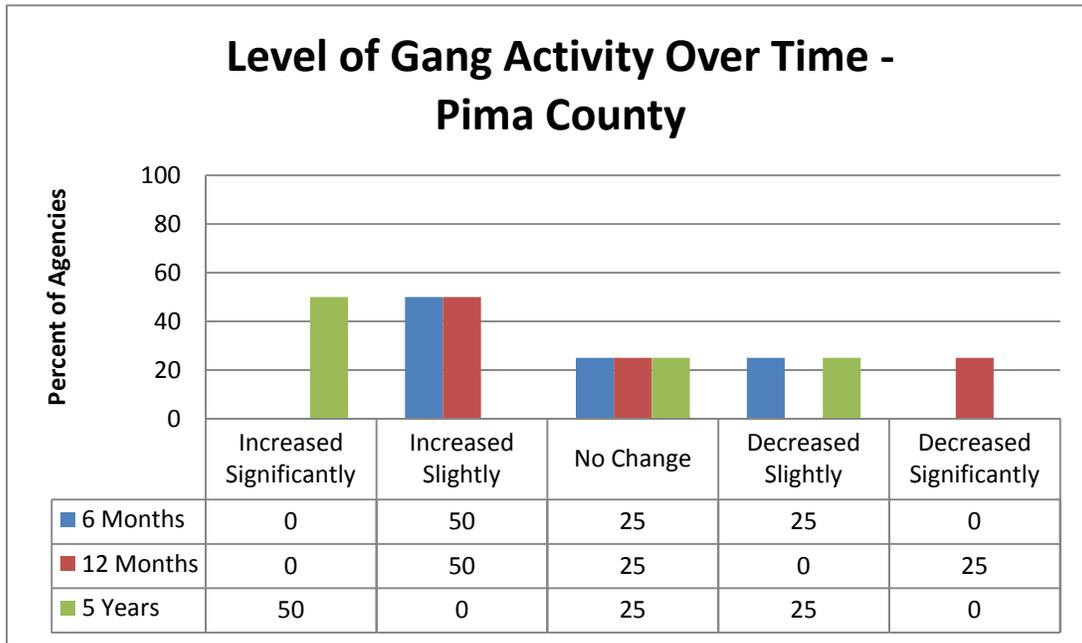
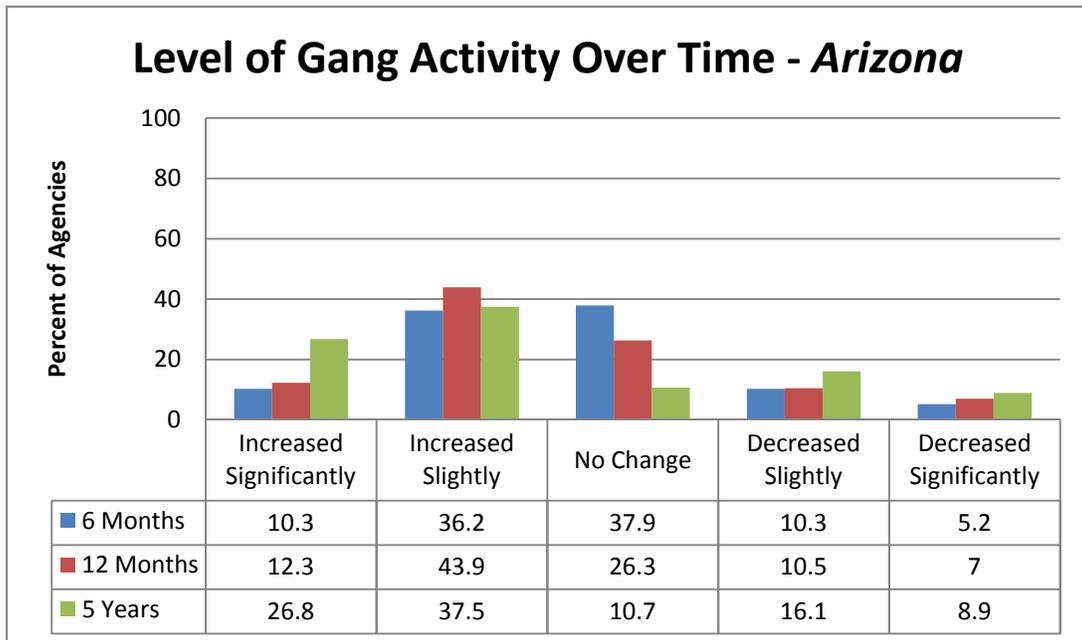


Figure 2



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%
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 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%

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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 th 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).

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

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						
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

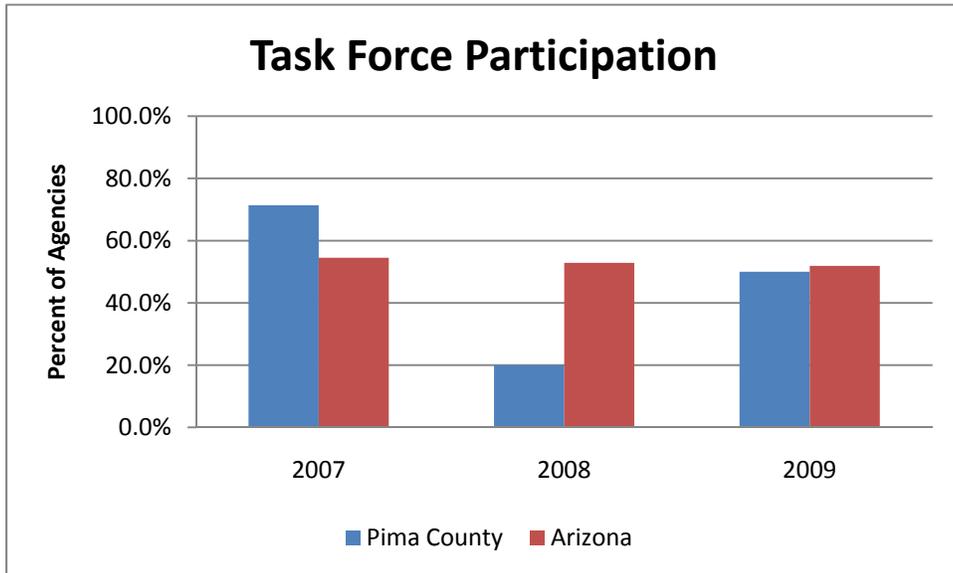
Under the direction of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Gang Intelligence and Immigration Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM) assists criminal justice agencies statewide with multi-agency collaboration for criminal gang enforcement and investigative strategies. GIITEM brings together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