

gangs in texas  
2001: an overview



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS  
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# ***GANGS*** in Texas: 2001

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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## an overview

The definitions in the Attorney General's Gang Report follow usage common to many law enforcement agencies and much of the literature on gangs; however, there is wide variation in the way all of these terms are used, even among professionals in the same field.

### **What Is a Gang?**

Section 71.01(d) of the Texas Penal Code defines a criminal street gang as "three or more persons having a common identifying sign or symbol or an identifiable leadership who continuously or regularly associate in the commission of criminal activities."

A specific definition of a gang is defeated by the sheer diversity of gangs in Texas today. In general terms, a gang is a loosely organized group of at least three people. The group usually has a name, may have a leader or leaders, and may have developed identifying signs such as distinctive symbols, clothing, jewelry, tattoos, colors, or hand signs. Members perceive themselves as a gang, associate regularly, and collaborate in committing delinquent and/or criminal offenses. Gangs vary in their degree of organization, the presence or strength of a leader or leaders, their identifying signs, and the nature of their illegal activities. The essential elements are the group, the fact that the group perceives itself as a gang, and that they collaborate in violating the law.

Much of what gangs do is non-criminal. Many gang members spend most of their gang-time "hanging out" and "kicking back." What distinguishes a gang from other groups is criminality or delinquency. This agency does not recognize any benefit in tracking or labeling as gangs any groups that are not involved in committing delinquent or criminal offenses.

It is not enough for one member to have committed an offense. Three or more members acting together as a group must have committed an offense at least once. The illegal activity may range from status offenses, such as truancy, to severe assaults and homicides. What is characteristic of a group that is a gang is the fact that some of the group's activities are illegal, disruptive, and harmful.

### **Four Basic Types of Gangs**

While there are a great variety of individual gangs, some common patterns are discernible. Types of gangs are sometimes distinguished on the basis of race and ethnicity ("Black" gangs, "White" gangs, "Hispanic" gangs, "Asian" gangs). Although many gangs do in fact consist of members of only one race or ethnicity, the categories of gangs presented here are distinguished on the basis of their members' activities, primarily because gangs are delinquent or criminal groups. In any case, race and ethnicity are not appropriate criteria for any determination regarding delinquent or criminal association. This is especially true since race is becoming less of an identifying factor as gangs in Texas adopt more multi-ethnic memberships.

In this report, gangs are sorted into four types. This is done for several reasons:

- These four different types of gangs reflect different cultural and economic circumstances;
- They are broad enough to encompass other, more narrowly defined categories, such as prison gangs or tagging crews;
- They call for different strategies of prevention and intervention;
- They require different tactical responses from law enforcement; and
- Many police departments already report separate tallies for these four types of gangs.

The definitions below can encourage communication and help avoid some misunderstandings. They may help clarify some debates over whether certain groups are or are not gangs. However, this terminology cannot capture the very rich diversity of gangs and is not intended as a legal tool. Some gangs may also overlap into more than one category.

### **Delinquent Youth Gang**

This is a loosely structured group of young people (mostly juveniles) who “hang out” together. The group has a name, and typically members have developed identifying signs such as similar clothing style, colors, and/or hand signs. Members engage in delinquent or undesirable behavior with enough frequency to attract negative attention from law enforcement and/or neighborhood residents and/or school officials. A key defining point is that no member has ever been arrested for a serious offense such as robbery, assault, or drive-by shooting.

### **Traditional Turf-Based Gang**

This is a loosely structured, named group committed to defending its reputation and status as a gang. It is usually associated with a geographic territory but may simply defend its perceived interests against rival gangs. Members are young people (juveniles and/or adults) who typically use identifying signs such as clothing style, colors, tattoos, or hand signs. The members usually mark the gang’s turf with graffiti. At least one shooting (assault, homicide, or drive-by) has occurred in the last year as a result of rivalry between this gang and another gang.

### **Gain-Oriented Gang**

This is a loosely structured, named group of young people (juveniles and/or adults) who repeatedly engage in criminal activities for economic gain. On at least one occasion in the last year, two or more gang members have worked together in a gain-oriented criminal offense such as robbery, burglary, or the sale of a controlled substance. The group may share many characteristics of turf-based gangs and may defend a territory, but when the group acts together as a gang for economic gain, it should be classified as a gain-oriented gang. Some gain-oriented gangs use profits from drug sales to set up similar criminal operations in new territories—these are sometimes referred to as franchise gangs. Usually the intent is to escape pressure from local law enforcement entities.

### **Violent/Hate Gang**

This is a named group (of juveniles and/or adults) that does not qualify as either a gain-oriented or a traditional turf-based gang, according to the definitions above. Typically, the group has developed identifying signs such as a style of dress, haircut, or tattoos. Two or more of its members have, at least once in the last year, collectively committed an assault, a homicide, or an offense that could be reported under the federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act (vandalism, assault, or homicide). This type of gang includes groups whose violence has an ideological or religious rationale, such as racism or Satanism. This type also includes groups whose members are randomly or senselessly violent. Some prison gangs, as well as occult gangs, could fall into this category.

## Other Common Gang Terms & Groups

Some additional, distinctive kinds of gangs have been identified by law enforcement officials. Most of them fit into one of the four categories described above.

### Prison Gangs/Security Threat Groups

In the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ), prison gangs are also known as Security Threat Groups. These groups form primarily in correctional institutions and generally are better organized and more structured than juvenile street gangs. Inmates who join may have identifying tattoos; communication and signs between gang members tend to be highly secret, often encoded. A prospective prison gang member must usually take an oath that binds him to the organization for life. Prison gangs tend to have a written constitution and/or rules that the members follow. Members who violate these rules or try to break away from the gang may be threatened with execution.

Inmates are expected to remain members for life, maintaining their prison gang contacts after their release. A released inmate who has joined a prison gang can be a negative influence if he reestablishes contact with his former street gang members. Some Texas law enforcement officials report that certain prison gangs recruit young members directly off the streets. In 1999, it became a felony offense to coerce, solicit, or induce a child (or any person) to actively participate in the activities of a criminal street gang. (§§22.015 and 71.022, Penal Code)

Some law enforcement officials report that prison gangs are "taking over" street gangs as a means of expanding their drug trade. Dues are collected from each member with the intention that this money is to be sent to fellow gang members locked up in prison to make their stay more comfortable, or to finance other gang-related business. Released prison gang members have been known to be involved in other crimes besides narcotics trafficking. Home invasions, assaults, burglaries, robberies, murder, murder for hire, and witness intimidation are common.

Major prison gangs within TDCJ correctional institutions have also been found to have members in other states and in federal institutions.

Some prison gangs reportedly engage in activities that characterize more than one of the different gang types outlined above:

- Designating and defending a portion of a cell block as turf;
- Operating illegal enterprises for gain, including drug trafficking and protection rackets, both inside and outside prisons;
- Collecting a street tax on dealers selling drugs in their area or turf; and
- Basing the gang's identity on race or ethnicity and fostering hatred for other racial or ethnic groups as a way to maintain cohesion and allegiance among gang members.

### White Supremacy Groups

Racist skinheads, neo-Nazis, and other white supremacy groups fall within the category of violent/hate gangs. Their rhetoric is generally protected by constitutional guarantees of freedom of speech, but when their activities become violent or violate the law, they may be appropriately targeted as gangs. Some of the prison gangs in Texas are built around a strong white supremacist ideology.

## **Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs**

These highly mobile and hierarchical organizations periodically move in groups and congregate. Motorcycle gang members tend to be older than street gang members, and their membership tends to be long-standing. A biker's rank or office within the club is generally indicated by the insignia and colors on his jacket. Affiliations between groups often span state lines, and some international affiliations exist as well. Group activities may be disruptive and very violent, and may involve drug trafficking and prostitution.

## **Cults**

Groups that are bound together by ideology or religious beliefs, however unusual, are legal. They are exercising rights protected by the Constitution and should not be considered gangs unless their beliefs or practices culminate in illegal acts, such as assaults or destruction of property.

## **Satanic Cults**

Some gangs take on the motif and symbolism of the occult or Satanism. It is important to note, however, that not every youth involved with Satanism is also a gang member.

The crimes associated with these gangs range from church vandalism, arson, grave robbing, and sexual assault – these four offenses are most commonly used as “initiation” rites – to animal mutilation, murder, child pornography, and child kidnapping. All of these offenses may be incorporated into the groups’ “religious” ceremonies. There have been reports of youth acting independently to commit serious acts of violence in the name of Satanism or the occult. Although some of these gangs are youth practicing on their own, there have also been reports of links between some youth groups and adult occult practitioners who may be connected to larger, organized occult gangs. Predatory pedophiles have also been reported to use the occult as a lure to attract victims.

## **Tagging Crews**

“Taggers,” who sometimes cluster in groups known as “tagging crews,” vandalize property through graffiti. They are motivated by a desire for attention and use graffiti to create an identity for themselves and their crew. The images used in their graffiti are often not gang-related. Taggers consider their tags or “pieces” to be artwork. Although spray paint is the most common medium used, taggers – also referred to as “piecers” or “writers” – may also use markers and stick-on labels in their graffiti. These items are easy to acquire and conceal. Another common problem reported is the use of etching tools and chemicals to cut or carve into surfaces, also known as “scratchiti.”

## **Tagbangers**

Tagbangers are tagging crews that evolved into gangs. These groups began as typical taggers, whose primary motivation was gaining attention by vandalizing property. However, competition among tagging crews and pressure from street gangs led tagbanger groups to increase and expand the range of their criminal activity, resulting in behavior that mirrors that of criminal street gangs. They frequently incorporate common gang symbols in their graffiti.

## **Female Gangs**

In past Attorney General surveys, about 13 percent of all gang members were reported to be females. There is a trend in Texas toward females both becoming full-fledged members of male gangs and also forming their own exclusively female gangs. In some cases, the female gang is an auxiliary to a partner male gang; in other situations, the female gang is completely independent. Generally, females are no longer excluded from the planning and execution of major gang activities, and they

are no longer restricted to supporting roles. Female gang members in Texas are as likely to pull the trigger in a drive-by as they are to drive the car. Gang officers report that they no longer assume that females are merely carrying weapons or holding illegal substances, and report that they are frequently more ruthless and violent than their male counterparts. Female membership may also include an initiation rite, such as being physically beaten or having sex with a certain number of gang members or HIV-positive gang members.

### **Gang Nations**

This is not a term with a hard and fast definition, but it may be used to denote very large gangs, such as the two large Los Angeles gangs, the Bloods and the Crips, or the two major Chicago gangs, the People Nation and the Folk Nation. Increasingly, Texas law officials are also considering Surenos and Nortenos, from southern and northern California respectively, to be gang nations. Gang nations are made up of smaller “sets” that share certain symbols and loyalties. Thus, different sets of the same gang may not even know each other except by recognizing common signs and insignia. They may develop rivalries among themselves, but they may also rally against a common enemy. Gang nations may also be found within prison populations. Keep in mind that not all gangs in Texas are affiliated with a gang nation.

### **Car Clubs**

Legitimate car clubs have been in existence for a long time. For many car enthusiasts, these car clubs serve as a sport and a hobby that actively promote a gang- and drug-free environment. Of main concern to law enforcement are the car clubs or cruisers that have taken on many of the characteristics commonly associated with gangs, such as a group name, hand signs, and intergroup rivalries and competition, and whose actions meet the legal definition of a criminal street gang. Law enforcement agencies have reported that some of these car club members are gang members who now claim that they are not in a gang but in a car club.

### **Party Crews**

The term “party crew,” is commonly used by groups of juveniles who may or may not be involved in criminal gang activity. What constitutes a party crew varies from city to city. Crews have been known to take on many of the characteristics commonly associated with gangs, such as a group name and hand signs. Rivalries and competitions among and within these groups may have led to criminal offenses. Of main concern to law enforcement are the illegal parties organized by these crews. The parties can be held anywhere but usually take place in locations such as abandoned warehouses, unoccupied homes, rural areas, or privately-owned land. Whatever the location, the crew may or may not have the owner’s knowledge or consent. Alcohol and drugs are frequently available to party-goers, who are often minors. Law enforcement has reported that some of these party crew members are known gang members who are now claiming that they are not in a gang but in a party crew. In other instances, the crew claims that it is not a gang when, in fact, their actions meet the legal definition for “criminal street gang.” Party crews have also been known to attend raves.

### **Raves**

A rave event is an all-night, high-energy dance party that can take place in a nightclub, warehouse, sports arena or open field. They are usually alcohol-free events, but they can also be held in bars. Rave parties have become increasingly popular among high school and college-aged youth around the country, but they are also beginning to affect younger age groups. Rave parties feature fast pounding electronic music, and attendance can range from small groups to thousands. Safety at these events is a major concern for law enforcement. Drugs, such as ecstasy, GHB, ketamine, LSD, and

nitrous oxide, are commonly found at raves. Other safety concerns include the condition of the venue where the rave takes place. Many venues do not meet Health and Safety Code standards and are hazardous to the participants in attendance. Raves have traditionally been non-violent events, but law enforcement has reported an increase in the presence of gangs.

## Levels of Gang Involvement

There are many levels of involvement in gangs. The common terminology is roughly as follows:

“Regulars” are those gang members who hang out with the group on a daily basis. They are familiar with and aware of most gang activities. They will likely be present during gang offenses, frequently as participants or accomplices.

The “Hard-core” members are those who are deeply committed regular gang members. They are responsible for instigating and actually committing the most serious offenses attributed to their gangs.

Sometimes one hard-core member is the leader of the group but, in many gangs, this role is passed from one person to another depending on the occasion. The leader in a time of retaliation may be the shooter; the leader for a car theft may be the member with special expertise in that activity.

“Associates” are friends, acquaintances, and relatives who are somewhat knowledgeable about gang activities and occasionally participate. They may be “business associates” who provide services, such as supplying illegal substances or disposing of stolen property. Other associates include self-proclaimed or aspiring gang members who are not fully trusted or accepted and not fully informed about gang activities.

“Juniors” are aspiring gang members too young to be fully accepted. Siblings or other young relatives (cousins, nephews, and nieces) of gang members are particularly at risk of developing more serious levels of gang involvement. Adult members may use very young children as pawns, lookouts, or drug couriers to avoid prosecution in the adult criminal justice system. In some families, inter-generational gang membership is so entrenched that older family members teach toddlers their gang’s history, hand signs, and symbols.

Effective June 14, 2001, if it is shown at the punishment phase of a trial involving certain felony drug charges that the defendant used or attempted to use a child in the commission of the offense, the punishment must be increased by one degree. If the defendant used or threatened to use force against the child or another to gain the child’s assistance, the punishment for the offense increases to the level of a first degree felony. (§481.140, Health & Safety Code)



## Signs of Gang Involvement

General signs of gang involvement may include:

- Claiming gang membership;
- Wearing gang-related clothing or jewelry;
- Using hand signs;
- Assuming a new nickname or street name;
- Substance abuse;
- Truancy or poor school performance;
- Frequent negative contact with police;
- Unexplained income; and
- Unexplained signs, symbols, or graffiti on personal property, in the youth's bedroom, or near his or her home.

This list is very standard and should be used as a guide when attempting to identify youth at risk for gang association. These signs may also be exhibited for reasons not related to gang involvement, including abuse, personal problems, or mental health issues.

## Tracking Members and Offenses

Under Chapter 61 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, local law enforcement agencies may collect information on individuals, including juveniles, who are involved in gangs. Criminal information collected under Chapter 61 relating to a criminal street gang must be relevant to the identification of an organization that is reasonably suspected of involvement in criminal activity and consist of any two of the following criteria:

- a self-admission by the individual of criminal street gang membership;
- an identification of the individual as a criminal street gang member by a reliable informant or other individual;
- a corroborated identification of the individual as a criminal street gang member by an informant or other individual of unknown reliability;
- evidence that the individual frequents a documented area of a criminal street gang, associates with known criminal street gang members, and uses criminal street gang dress, hand signs, tattoos, or symbols; or
- evidence that the individual has been arrested or taken into custody with known criminal street gang members for an offense or conduct consistent with criminal street gang activity.

It is not mandatory that law enforcement agencies compile and maintain information relating to a criminal street gang in a local or regional intelligence database. However, if they choose to do so, agencies must maintain the information in accordance with the criminal intelligence system's operating policies established by federal regulations and the submission criteria detailed above. (Art. 61.02(b), C.C.P.) If a local law enforcement agency compiles and maintains information under Chapter 61 relating to a criminal street gang, the agency must send the information to the Department of Public Safety. (Art. 61.03(c), C.C.P.)

Some police departments and prosecutors' offices track the incidence of gang-related crime, in addition to tracking gang membership. Whether or not an offense is considered gang-related varies from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

In some agencies, an offense may be considered gang-related if a gang member is involved or arrested for the offense, regardless of whether gang involvement motivated the crime. In other jurisdictions, an offense may be considered gang-related if one of the following conditions applies:

- Gang identifiers are displayed at the time of the offense;
- More than one gang member is involved;
- A participant claims to be acting as a gang member;
- A reliable informant reports that the participants were acting as a gang; or
- The activity benefits or promotes the gang in some way.

## Reporting About Gangs

In this report, terms are used as much as possible in accordance with the definitions and concepts set forth in the Overview. In reporting the results of the current survey, however, it is unavoidable that other uses will come into play. The Office of the Attorney General's definitions were included in the survey instrument, but each respondent was free to apply his or her judgment, experience, and knowledge when deciding whether to characterize criminal activity in their jurisdiction as gang-related. Thus, the number and types of gangs reported by a small town in West Texas and the number and type reported by an urban jurisdiction in East Texas are not directly comparable.

Ultimately, no single definition will serve the purposes of everyone who needs to talk about the gang problem, nor can it fit every potential context and local circumstance. While it is useful to gather information about the magnitude and growth of the gang problem around the state, an effort to nail down an "accurate" total number of gangs or gang members is misleading. Given how quickly the gang culture changes, such a number would be obsolete as soon as it is published. These definitions and surveys ultimately serve more important objectives: understanding the phenomenon of gangs and developing sound policies to deal with them.

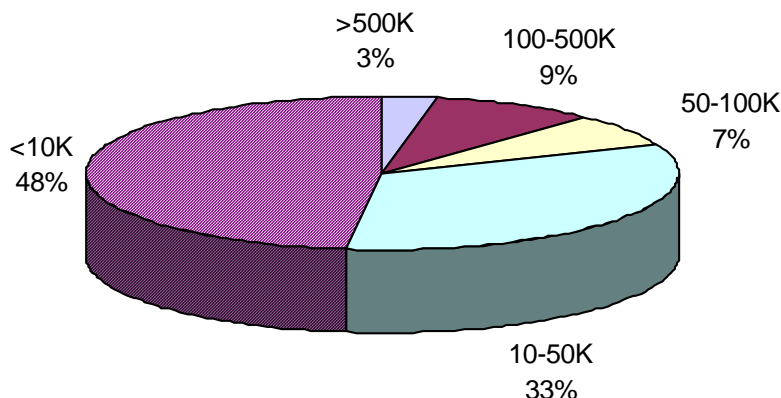
# *GANGS* in Texas: 2001

## Gang Survey Results

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The 2001 Gang Survey was mailed to a total of 1,453 police chiefs, school district police departments, sheriffs, district attorneys, criminal district attorneys, and county attorneys. Overall, 429 agencies responded, for a survey response rate of 30 percent. Of the 1,125 police departments, sheriff's departments, and school district police departments surveyed, 368 responded (33 percent), and 61 of 328 prosecutors polled returned the survey (19 percent). Table I gives the demographic distribution of the 2001 survey returns. The survey instrument is reprinted in Appendix C.

**Figure 1: Distribution of Respondents by Population Size**

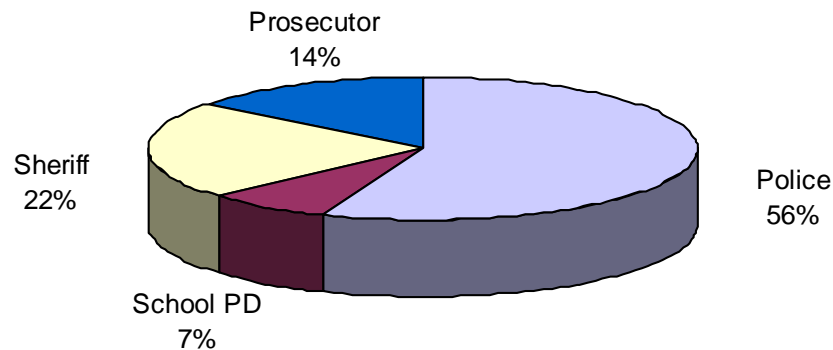


Written responses were mailed or faxed to the Office of the Attorney General in the fall of 2001. Respondents were asked to base their responses on the situation at the time, i.e., fall 2001. Respondents answered the survey with the understanding that the information they provided would be treated as confidential criminal intelligence. For this reason, results for specific jurisdictions are not available.

In general, the terms “agency” and “department” are used to refer to all those who were sent the survey, except where the text specifically refers to police department or sheriff’s department subgroups. “Respondents” refers to those agencies that returned the survey and answered a particular question. For purposes of analysis by agency type, all responding district attorneys, county attorneys, and criminal district attorneys are included under the heading of “prosecutor.”

Responding agencies of all types are included in the data breakdown by jurisdiction size. Major metropolitan jurisdictions, as referred to in the text, are those with a population size of more than 500,000. School district police departments were grouped according to the population size of the community, not the number of students in the school district.

**Figure 2: Distribution of Respondents by Agency Type**



Direct comparisons with past Office of the Attorney General Gang Reports are inappropriate, as the survey has changed, the number of respondents is lower, and there is no guarantee that the same respondents from past reports also responded to the current survey.

**Table I: Demographic Distribution of Returns**

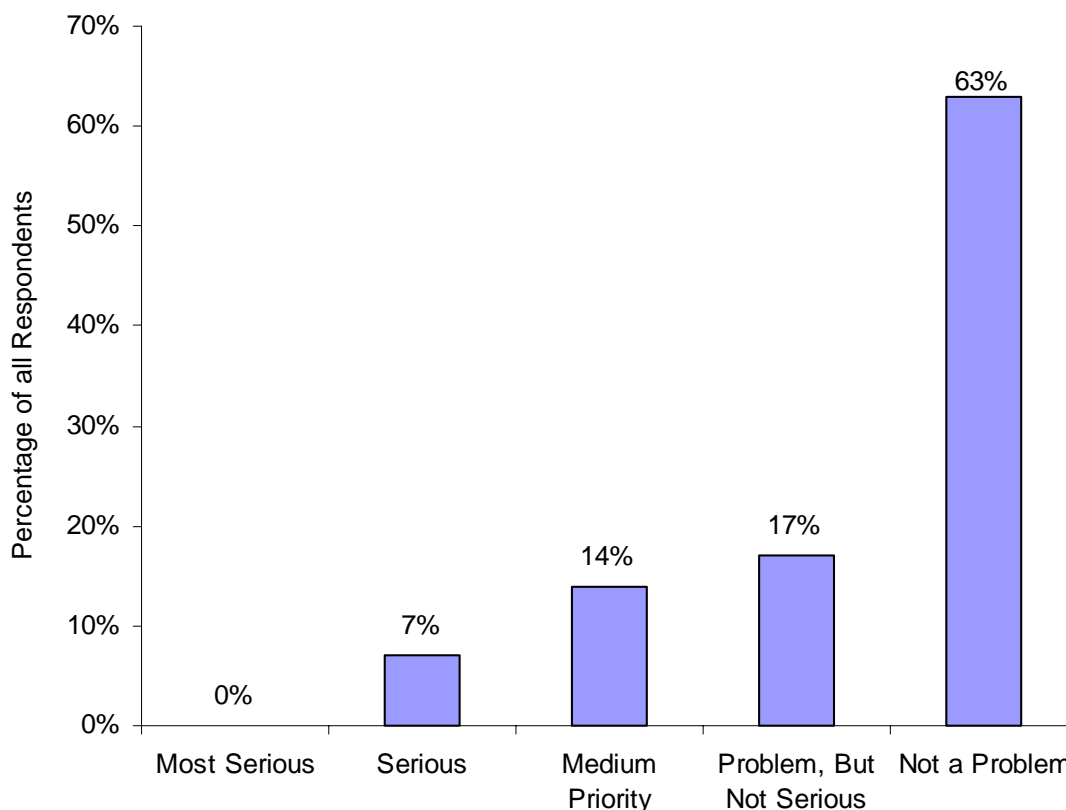
Respondent	<10K	10-50K	50-100K	100-500K	>500K	Total
Police	141	66	9	17	7	240
Sheriff	34	40	9	11	2	96
Prosecutors	16	25	10	6	4	61
School PDs	16	9	3	3	1	32
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>429</b>

The response rate was somewhat lower than for the 1999 Attorney General Gang Survey. The primary differences in the distribution of responses were a higher rate of return from school district police departments and a lower return rate from municipal police departments in jurisdictions with fewer than 10,000 residents, while returns from sheriffs and prosecutors were roughly comparable.

## How Serious Is the Situation?

Agencies were asked to rank the seriousness of the gang situation in their jurisdictions in comparison with other public safety issues they face. Their responses are shown in Figure 3.

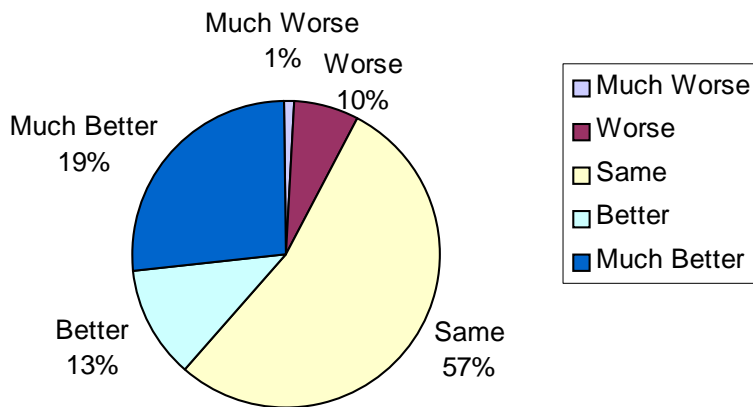
**Figure 3: How Serious is the Gang Problem?**



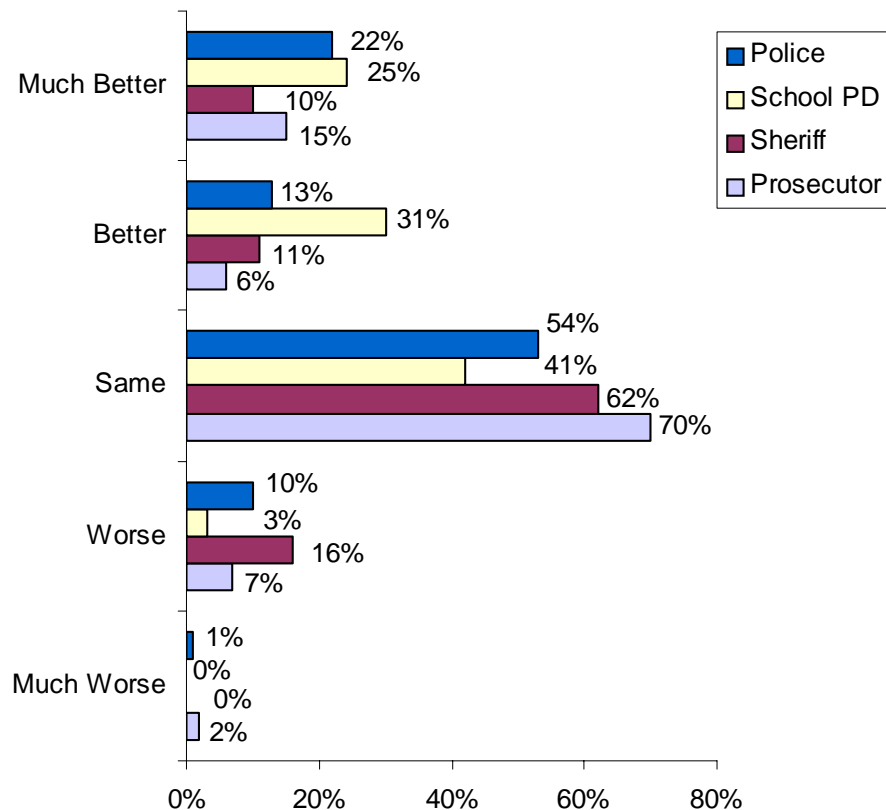
Seven percent of the responding agencies rated gangs as one of the serious problems they face, 14 percent rated it a medium priority, 17 percent say gangs are a problem but not serious, and 63 percent report that gangs are not a problem in their jurisdiction. Of the 260 agencies that report no problem, 161 serve jurisdictions with fewer than 10,000 residents, although at this population level, 11 percent report the problem is a medium priority or one of the serious problems they face. In the larger jurisdictions, 46 percent of the responding agencies in the 50-100,000 population level report that gangs are a medium priority or a serious problem, as do 51 percent of the departments in the 100-500,000 category. Nine of the 14 major metropolitan agencies rate gangs as a serious problem.

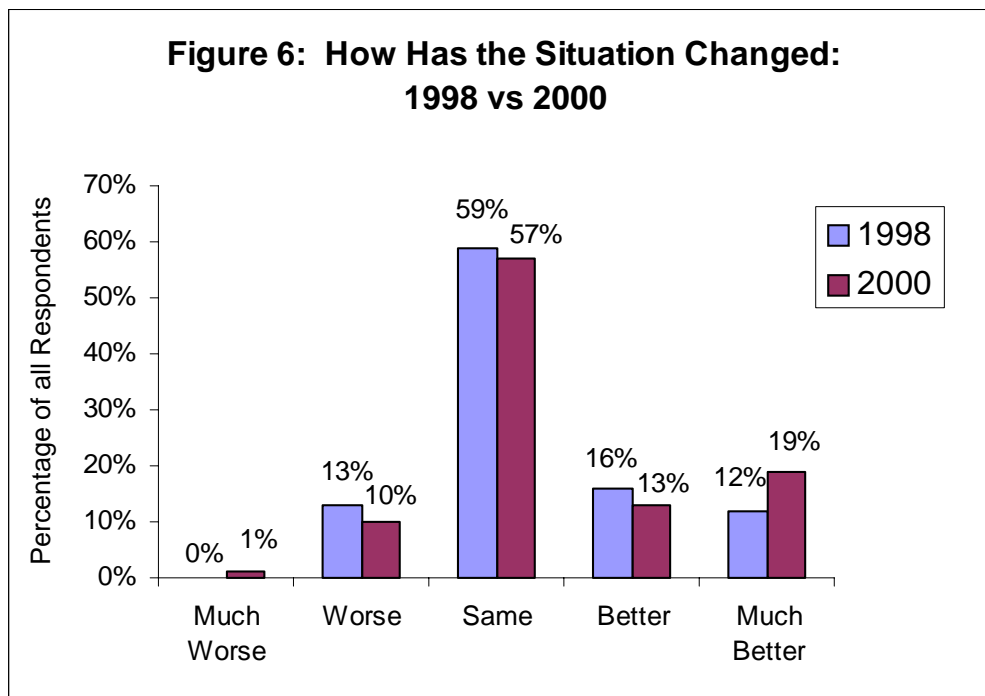
Figures 4 and 5 show the degree to which the problem had deteriorated, stayed the same, or improved during the preceding year. Overall, more than half (57 percent) of the agencies report that the situation is about the same as it was a year ago. This mirrors the results reported in the 1999 Attorney General Gang Survey [see Figure 6]. More than half of the responding school district police (56 percent) and more than one-third (35 percent) of the municipal police departments report that the situation has improved to some degree.

**Figure 4: Is the Situation Better, Worse, or the Same?**



**Figure 5: Is the Situation Better, Worse, or the Same?**





Much of the report of improvement comes from jurisdictions serving fewer than 50,000 residents. Also, more departments in the 100-500,000 population range report improvement than report the situation is getting worse. On the other hand, nearly one third of responding agencies at the 50-100,000 level report the situation has deteriorated during the past year, as did a third of the major metropolitan departments.

## Number of Gangs and Gang Members

Departments were asked to give their current estimate of the number of gangs active in their jurisdiction. The police and school district departments that responded to the survey reported a total of almost 3,000 gangs. The responding sheriff's departments reported 319 gangs, and responding prosecutors reported 2,165 gangs. Eighteen percent of those who answered the question reported that these figures came from a database maintained by their agency. The rest based their answer on an educated guess. The responding departments also reported a total of 97,600 gang members in their jurisdictions.

Readers are cautioned against citing these numbers as an official count of the number of gangs and gang members in Texas, because there may be substantial overlap in these estimates. A gang that operates across several communities, or that is known both to local police departments and the sheriff and local prosecutors, may have been counted by more than one respondent.

At the same time, there are almost certainly gaps in these figures. Roughly 30 percent of the law enforcement agencies and prosecutors in the state responded to the survey. Those who did not respond undoubtedly know of local gangs that are not included in these results. In addition, many of the responding agencies stated that the figures they gave were estimates. Agencies also use varying definitions of the word "gang" when making these estimates. In the absence of mandatory reporting to a statewide gang database, it is not possible to give a complete accounting of the number of gangs and gang members in the state.

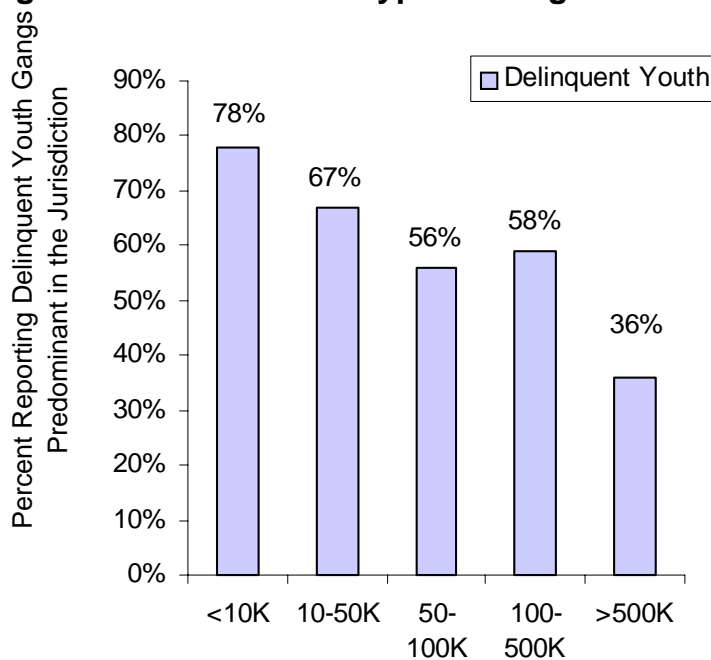
Readers are also cautioned against comparing these figures with those reported in previous Attorney General gang reports. The pool of respondents has changed from one report to the next, and in each case the response group represents a different subset of all law enforcement agencies in Texas. Thus it is not possible to determine from these results how the total number of gangs and gang members has changed over time.

The largest cities and counties account for the great majority of the gangs and gang members. Major metropolitan jurisdictions reported 4,146 gangs and 73,621 gang members. Departments at the 100-500,000 level reported almost 600 gangs and 11,750 gang members. Ninety of the 207 departments serving fewer than 10,000 resident reported there are no gangs in their jurisdiction, as did 39 of the 140 respondents in the next higher category.

## Types of Gangs

The grand total of gang members reported by the 429 survey respondents should also be viewed in light of the information that the agencies provided about which types of gangs are present in their jurisdictions. Delinquent youth gangs were the most frequently reported type of gang, with 263 departments reporting their presence. By contrast, 112 departments reported the presence of turf-based gangs, 105 agencies reported having profit-oriented gangs, and 45 reported the presence of violent or hate-motivated gangs. Agencies could report having more than one type of gang in their jurisdiction. One hundred twenty-two agencies reported having only delinquent youth gangs and if any other type of gang was reported, delinquent youth gangs were also present almost without exception.

**Figure 7: Predominant Type of Gang**



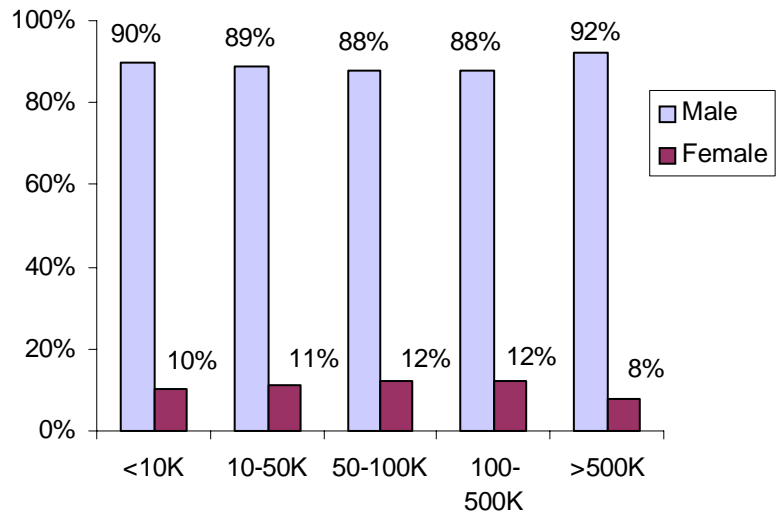
Agencies that indicated the presence of gangs in their jurisdiction were also asked which type is most prevalent. Among those who answered this question, 138 respondents reported that delinquent youth gangs are the most prevalent type of gang [see Figure 7]. This finding generally holds true across all jurisdiction types, with over 60 percent of responding agencies of each type giving this result. The percentage of departments reporting that delinquent youth gangs are predominant generally drops as the size of the jurisdiction increases, while the reporting of turf-based gangs and gain-oriented gangs generally increases in direct relation to the size of the jurisdiction.



## Gang Demographics

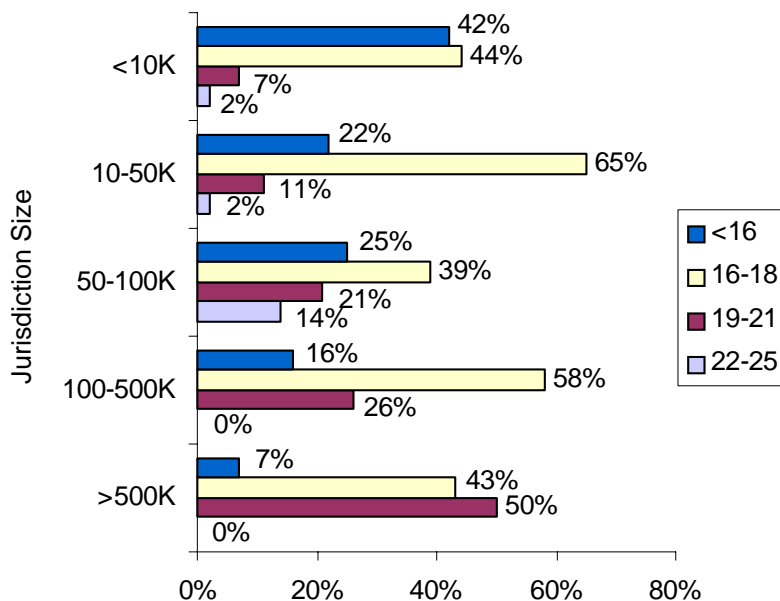
Respondents report that on average, 87-90 percent of gang members in their jurisdictions are male, and 10-13 percent are female [see Figure 8]. This ratio holds true across all jurisdiction sizes. However, the responding school district police reported that about 76 percent of gang members in their schools were male and the rest female, while the other jurisdiction types generally followed the overall results. Among the 116 small jurisdictions responding to this question, 40 reported that no females were gang members.

**Figure 8: Ratio of Males to Females**



When asked what role female gang members take in local gangs, 61 percent of all agencies responding to the question reported that girls belong to gangs that have members of both sexes. Forty-three percent report that females are members of auxiliary groups identified with male gangs. Eighteen departments, including three of the 14 major metropolitan agencies report the presence of all-female gangs.

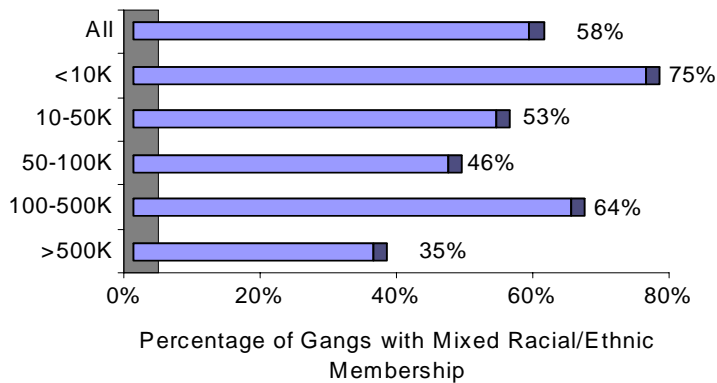
**Figure 9: Average Age of Gang Members**



Percent of Agencies Reporting Each Category as the Predominant Age of Gang Members

Overall, the predominant age of gang members is 16 to 18 years old. Five respondents, all from jurisdictions under 10,000 reported an average age of 26 or higher [see Figure 9].

**Figure 10: Mixed Racial/Ethnic Membership**

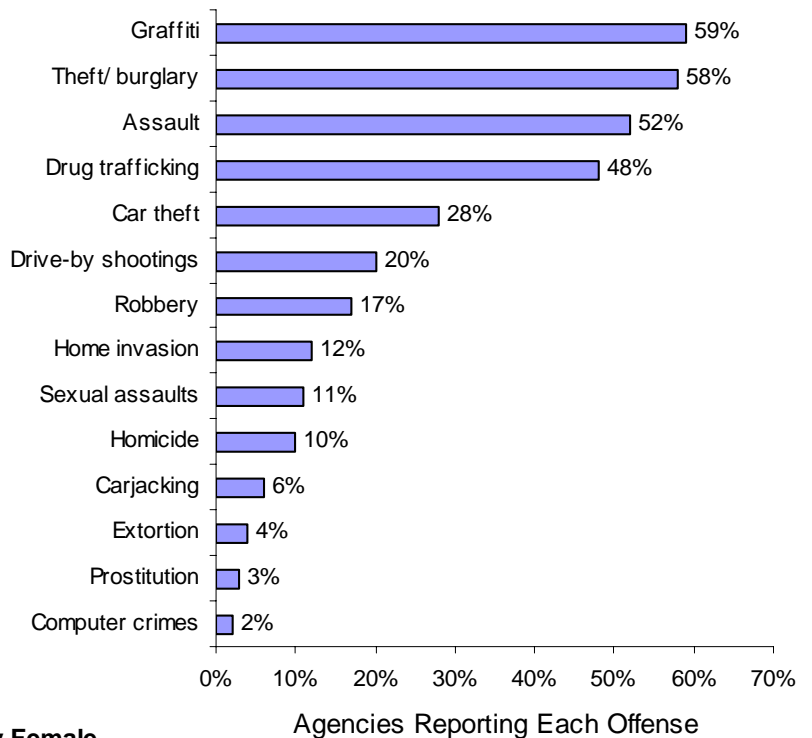


While some gangs are composed of members from only one ethnic or racial group, others are more mixed. Agencies were asked what percentage of local gangs have a significant mixture of racial or ethnic groups. Those who reported the presence of mixed-race gangs indicated that, on average, nearly 60 percent of the gangs in their jurisdiction have a mixed racial or ethnic membership [see Figure 10].

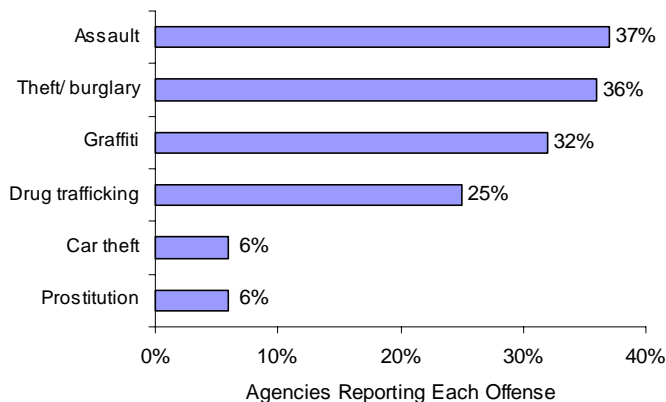
### Offenses Committed by Gangs

Departments were asked to indicate the types of offenses that are committed by gangs within their jurisdiction and the types of offenses committed by female gang members. The results are shown in Figures 11 and 12. Respondents could choose more than one option when answering these questions and could also volunteer answers. The percentages given represent the number of respondents who reported the occurrence of an offense type divided by the total pool of respondents. Readers are cautioned that an affirmative response only means that a particular gang-related offense has taken place within the jurisdiction. It does not measure the frequency of the offense

**Figure 11: Offenses Committed by Gangs**



**Figure 12: Offenses By Female Gang Members**



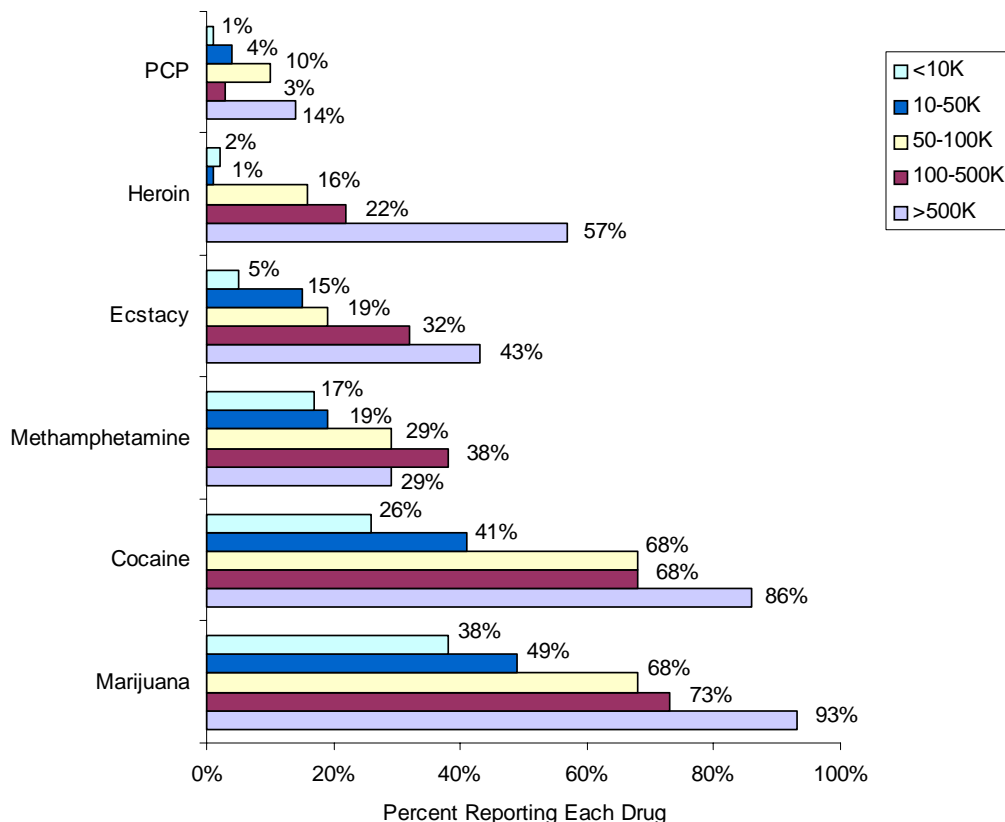
As in the 1999 Survey, the most frequently cited offenses among all agencies were graffiti, theft and burglary, assault, and drug trafficking. A majority of departments serving more than 10,000 residents reported these offenses occur in their jurisdictions. Nearly half of the jurisdictions under 10,000 reported the presence of graffiti, and more than one-third reported problems with theft and burglary, assault, and drug trafficking. For car theft, drug trafficking, home invasion, theft and burglary, sexual assault, and homicide, the response rate among departments in the 50-100,000 population category was comparable or higher than that for departments serving 100,000 to 500,000 residents.

Assault, theft and burglary, graffiti, and drug trafficking were also the most frequently cited offenses committed by female gang members. Four of the responding major metropolitan departments reported that female gang members are engaged in prostitution, and six of the 14 departments reported that female gang members are committing robberies, the same response rate as for gang members as a whole.

Among the other offenses reported were: disorderly conduct/criminal mischief (7 respondents), vandalism (6), car burglary (3), gambling (1), firearms violations (1), trespassing (1), identity theft (1), bicycle thefts (1), arson (1), movement of illegal aliens (1), curfew violations (1), and school disruption (1).

Agencies that reported that gang members in their jurisdiction engage in drug trafficking were asked to specify the types of drugs involved. These results are shown in Figure 13. As with the other questions regarding gang offenses, respondents could choose more than one option.

**Figure 13: Drug Trafficking by Gangs**



As a percentage of respondents, the reporting rates for cocaine trafficking were the same for jurisdictions in the 50-100,000 category and for the next higher level, and were almost comparable for marijuana. The response rate for methamphetamine trafficking was higher among jurisdictions serving 100-500,000 residents than among the major metropolitan departments.

School district police had the highest reporting rate for marijuana trafficking (63 percent), while sheriffs had the highest response rate for methamphetamine (28 percent). The response rates for cocaine trafficking were roughly comparable for police departments (41 percent) and school police (44 percent), and slightly lower for sheriffs (38 percent) and prosecutors (34 percent). Other drugs reported to be subject to trafficking by gang members were barbiturates - a.k.a. "roche" pills (4 respondents), inhalants and Freon (3), codeine (3), crack cocaine (3), rohypnol (2), xanax (1), and bromazepam (1).

Drugs sales, burglary, and theft were the profit-making activities most frequently reported by respondents. Other profit-making activities reported include vehicle theft and burglary (15 respondents), fencing stolen goods (9), robbery (7), forgery and counterfeiting (3), property crimes (2), movement of illegal aliens (1), weapons trafficking (1), extortion (1), prostitution (1), and computer crimes (1).

## Weapons Used by Gangs

Respondents were asked to indicate the kinds of weapons commonly used by gangs in their jurisdictions. The results are given in Table II. Respondents could choose more than one option. "N" represents the total pool of survey respondents in each category. Please note that these results only show whether these weapons are present, not how many are in use or how frequently they are used.

**Table II: Weapons Present in the Jurisdiction**

<b>Weapons Present in the Jurisdiction</b>	<b>All (n=429)</b>	<b>&lt;10,000 (n=207)</b>	<b>10-50,000 (n=140)</b>	<b>50-100,000 (n=31)</b>	<b>100-500,000 (n=37)</b>	<b>&gt;500,000 (n=14)</b>
Stabbing/ Cutting weapons	188 (44%)	65	67	20	24	12
Club / striking weapons	145 (34%)	50	51	15	20	9
Handguns	163 (38%)	44	56	22	27	14
Shotguns	45 (10%)	10	10	8	8	9
Rifles	41 (10%)	8	9	6	8	10
Other	13 (3%)	6	4	0	0	3

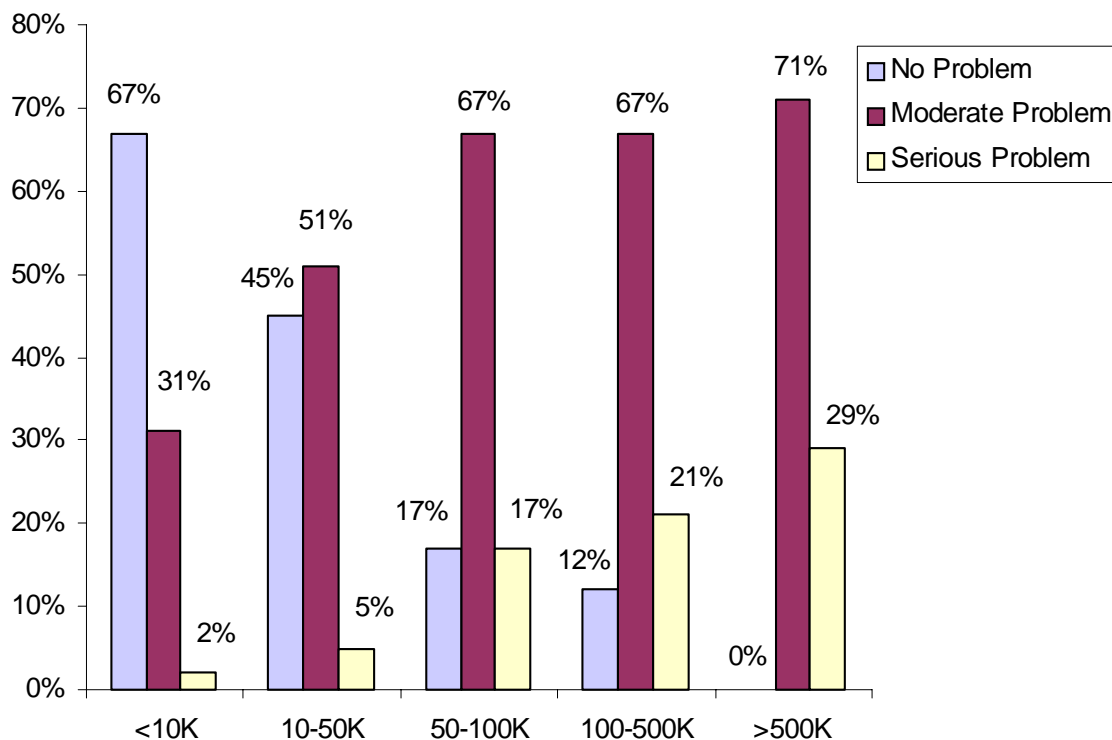
Knives and handguns are a significant presence in all of the population categories with more than 10,000 residents. The reporting rate for these weapons in the 10-50,000 population category was 48 percent for knives and 40 percent for handguns. At the next higher population level, the reporting rate rises to 64 percent for knives and 71 percent for handguns. Rifles and shotguns were predominantly reported by the major metropolitan departments.

Among those who reported that handguns are used by local gangs, respondents indicated that roughly three-fourths are semi-automatics; the rest are revolvers. Departments indicating the presence of rifles reported that nearly all are semi-automatics, and only a small portion of the rifles in use are fully automatic. Several small departments reported that spray paint cans are used as weapons, and one major metropolitan department reported the use of explosives.

## Gang Activity in Schools

Respondents were asked the degree to which gangs are a problem on their school campuses. The results are shown in Figure 14. Percentages are based on the number of respondents in each category who answered this question. In each population category above 10,000, a majority of the responding departments reported that gangs are at least somewhat of a problem. A handful reported that they are a serious problem. Most of the departments that reported that gangs are not a problem in their schools serve jurisdictions with fewer than 10,000 residents.

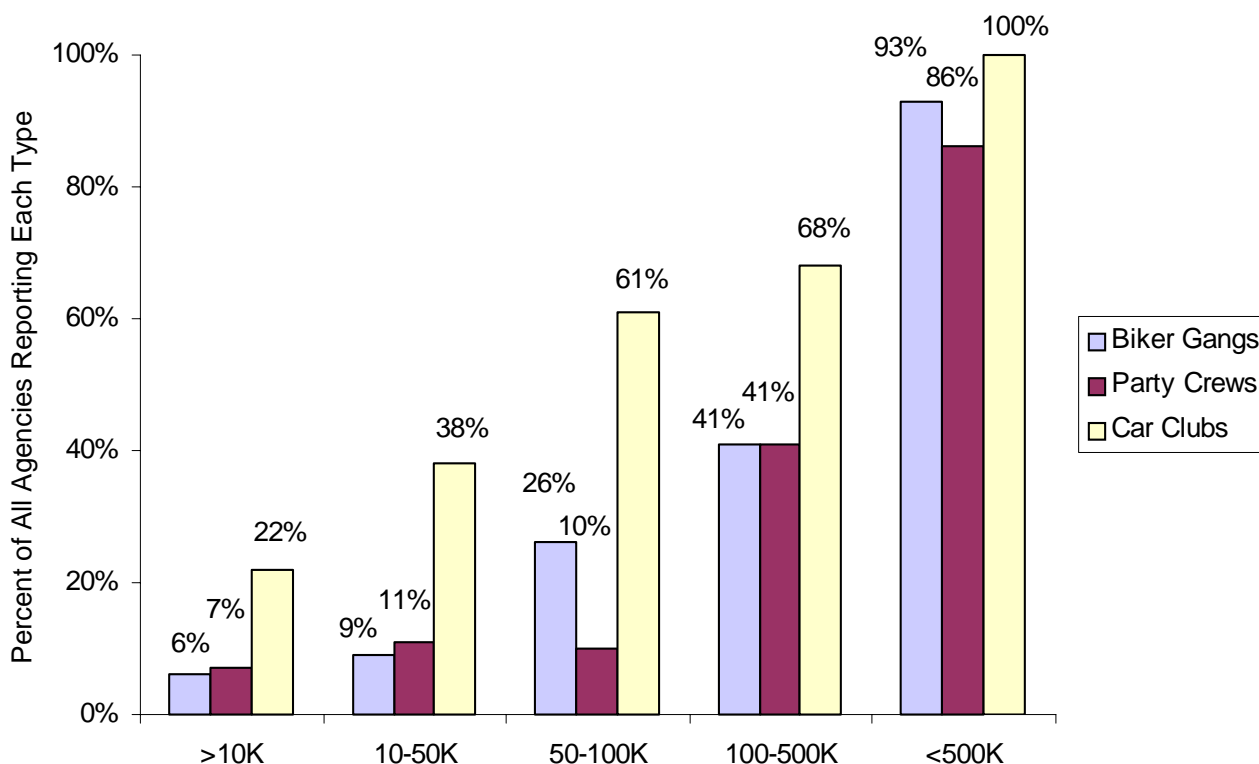
**Figure 14: Gang Activity in Schools**



## Related Groups & Activities

Respondents were asked about the extent to which several kinds of groups and activities are present in their jurisdiction, including party and rave crews, car clubs, and motorcycle gangs [see Figure 15]. In this chart, again, percentages are based on the number of respondents in each size category who answered these questions.

**Figure 15: Presence of Other Groups**



One hundred fifty-seven departments – 37 percent of all respondents – reported that car clubs are active in their jurisdictions, while 59 departments (14 percent) reported the presence of party or rave crews. Car clubs are primarily a factor in the larger jurisdictions, with more than 60 percent of the departments in the 50-100,000 and 100-500,000 categories reporting that these groups are present. Rave crews appear to be a significant factor primarily in jurisdictions with 100,000 residents or more – 41 percent of respondents in the 100-500,000 group gave an affirmative response, as opposed to 10 percent of the departments in the 50-100,000 category. A small number of respondents in each category say these groups meet the Penal Code's definition of a criminal street gang.

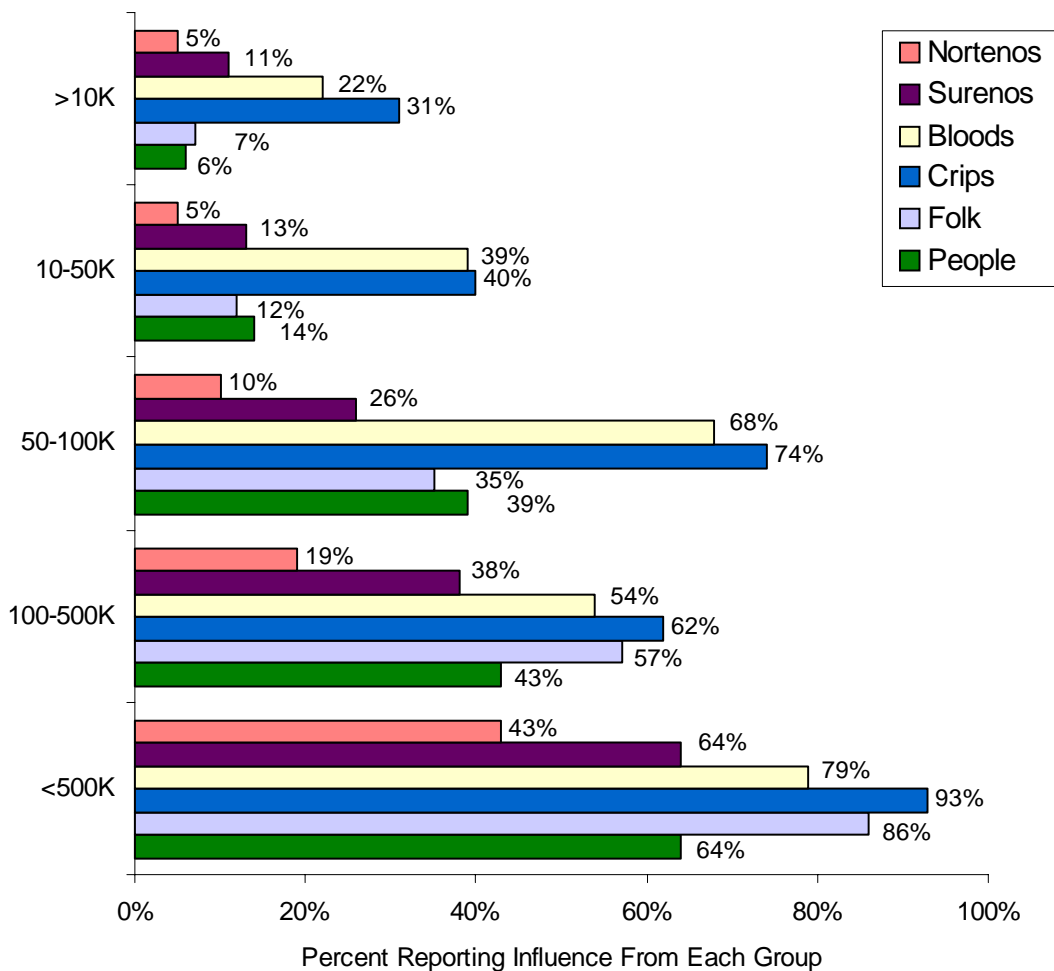
All 14 of the major metropolitan departments say car clubs are active in their jurisdictions, and 12 report that party or rave crews are active. In both cases, nine of these departments reported that these groups meet the Penal Code's definition of a criminal street gang.

Sixty departments, 16 percent of all respondents, report having outlaw motorcycle gangs active in their jurisdictions. The majority of these are from the larger jurisdictions, including 13 of the 14 responding major metropolitan departments, 15 of 37 respondents in the next category down, and 8 of 31 respondents in the 50-100,000 category. In all of the jurisdiction categories, drug offenses were the most frequently reported form of criminal activity engaged in by motorcycle gangs. Nine of the major metropolitan departments also reported that motorcycle gangs are active in prostitution, and six reported these gangs are active in auto thefts.

## Sources of Influence

Departments were given a list of gang nations, and asked whether they see the influence of any of these groups in their jurisdiction. The results are shown in Figure 16. Respondents could choose more than one option. Percentages are based on the total pool of survey respondents in each category.

**Figure 16: Gang Nation Influence by Jurisdiction Size**



Overall, 42 percent of respondents reported seeing influence from the Crips, and 36 percent report influence from the Bloods. This influence extends down to the smallest cities and counties in the state, with 32 percent of departments under 10,000 reporting Crips influence and 22 percent reporting Bloods influence. With the exception of the Nortenos, there is an increase in the reporting rate for all of the gang nations from the 10-50,000 level to the 50-100,000 level. Departments in the middle range have a higher reporting rate for both Crips and Bloods influence than the 100-500,000 level.

A breakdown of these results by jurisdiction type found that school district police had the highest response rate for influence from the Bloods and Crips, while police departments had a much higher response rate for Folk influence than either school district or sheriff departments.

Agencies were also asked about the extent to which gangs in their jurisdictions are influenced by gangs from other counties. Overall, 42 percent reported no influence from foreign gangs. This result holds across all jurisdiction sizes except the largest. Among the major metropolitan departments, six of the 14 report influence from Mexican gangs and five report the influence of gangs from El Salvador. Seven departments in the next lower population tier report influence from Mexican gangs, and five report influence from El Salvadoran gangs. Fourteen respondents noted the influence of gangs from the border area, including the cities of Ciudad Juarez, Nuevo Laredo, and Matamoros, and one each reported influence from Mexico City and Chihuahua.

A small number of departments, spread among all jurisdiction sizes, report the influence of gangs from Russia, Korea, Cambodia, Vietnam, Honduras, Laos, and Germany.

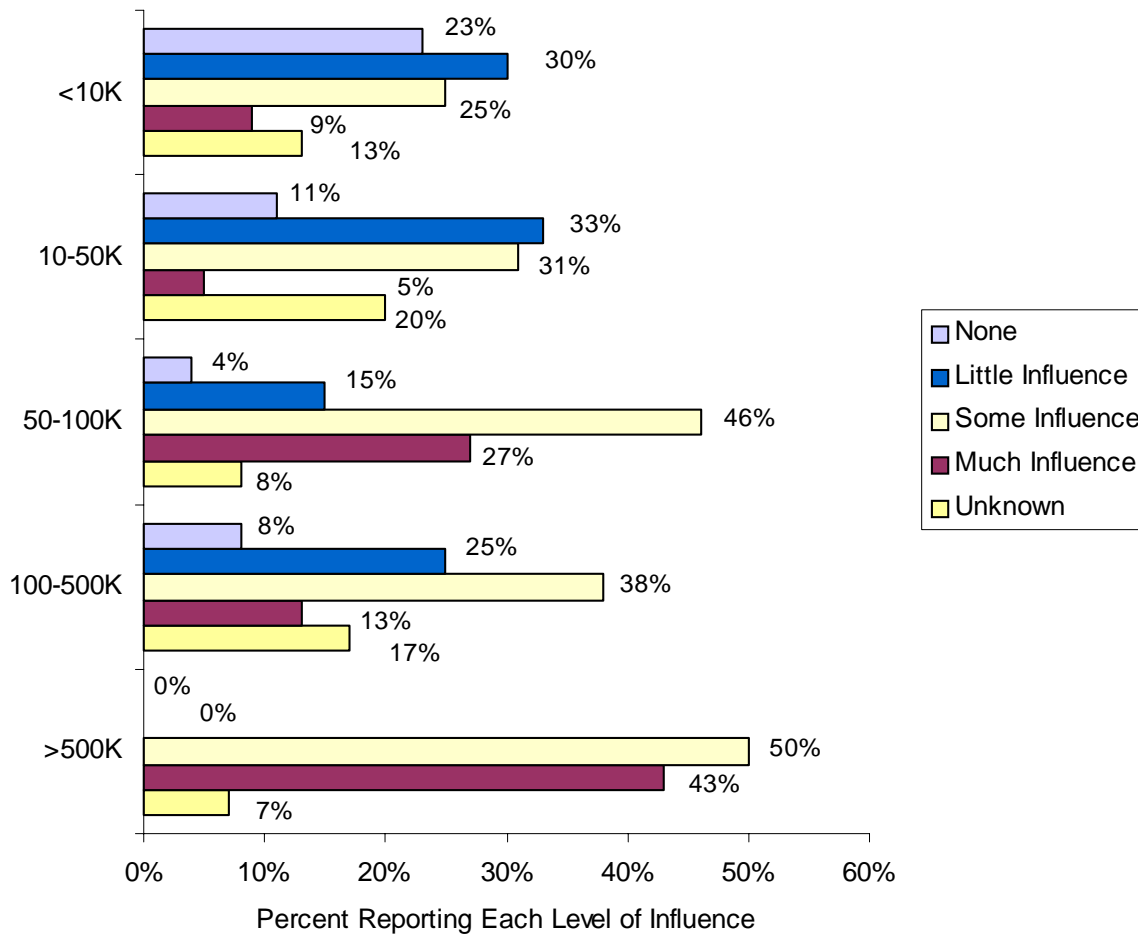
## Security Threat Group Influence

Agencies were given a list of security threat groups (STGs), also known as prison gangs, and were asked to indicate whether any of these groups influence the gangs in their jurisdiction. This information is available on the secure Attorney General's Gang Resource System Web site. A Web site access application form can be found in Appendix E of this report. Contact the Attorney General Juvenile Crime Intervention for further assistance.

Agencies that reported the influence of STGs in their jurisdictions were asked to characterize the degree to which the local gang situation has been affected by adult STG members returning to the community from prison. Among those who answered the question, 13 percent said there was no effect on local gangs, 27 percent said there was very little, 32 percent said local gangs were somewhat affected, and 13 percent there was a significant effect. Fifteen percent declined to characterize the degree of influence. [see Figure 17]

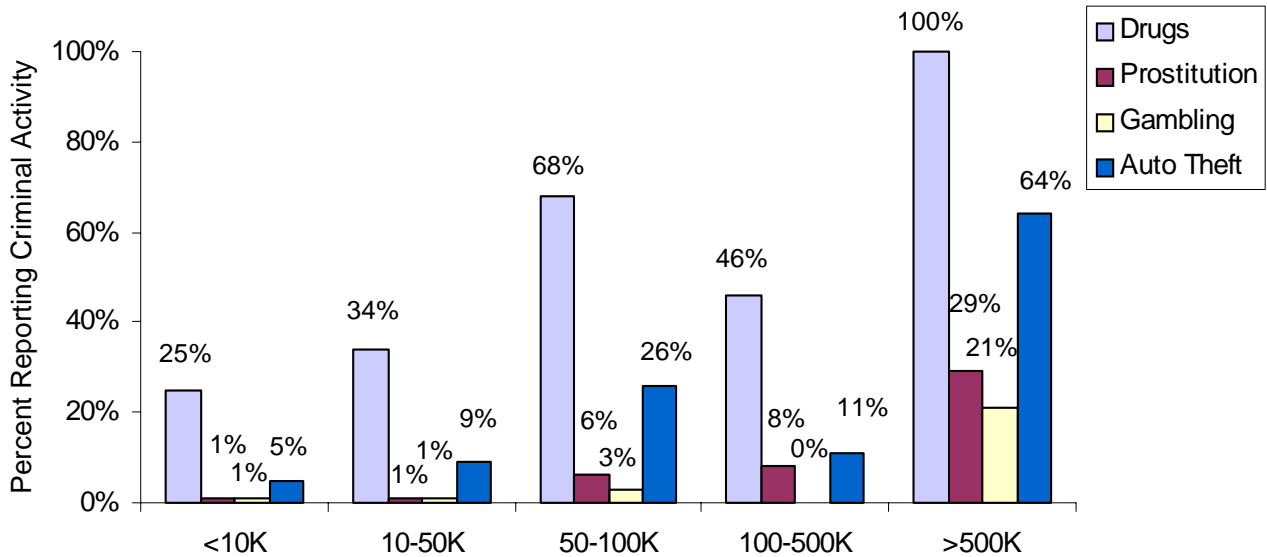


**Figure 17: Local Influence From Security Threat Groups**



Drug offenses were the most commonly cited criminal activity engaged in by STGs [see Figure 18]. Auto thefts were cited by one-quarter of the departments in the 50-100,000 category, and 11 percent of the departments in the next higher level responded affirmatively. Nine of the 14 major metropolitan departments also reported that STGs are involved in auto theft, and four departments cited prostitution, and three cited gambling. Other reported offenses include theft and burglary (18 respondents), assault (10), murder (7), robbery (6), fraud/forgery/counterfeiting (3), contract murder (3), criminal mischief/graffiti (2), vandalism (2), weapons offenses/theft (2), extortion (1), money laundering (1), computer crimes (1), trafficking in illegal aliens (1), home invasion (1), and auto theft (1).

**Figure 18: Criminal Activity by STGs**

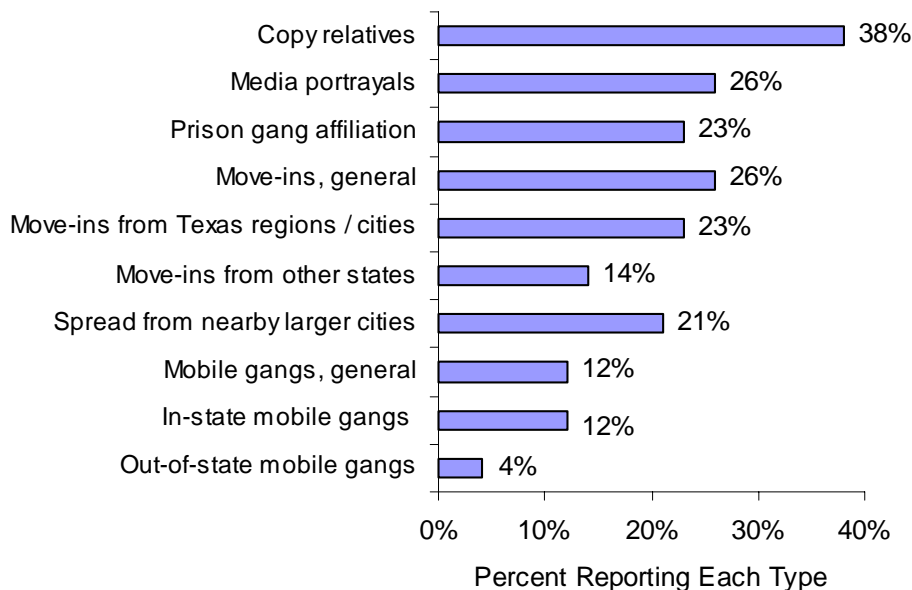


## Forms of Influence

Agencies that reported having problems with outside influences were asked to describe the form this influence takes. Their responses are shown in Figure 19. Respondents could choose more than one option. Percentages are based on the total number of survey respondents in each category.

Copying relatives was the most frequently cited form of influence overall. Among the major metropolitan departments, the most common influences were STGs and gang members moving in from other areas. Move-ins were also cited by more than half of the respondents in the 50-100,000 population category.

**Figure 19: Forms of Influence**



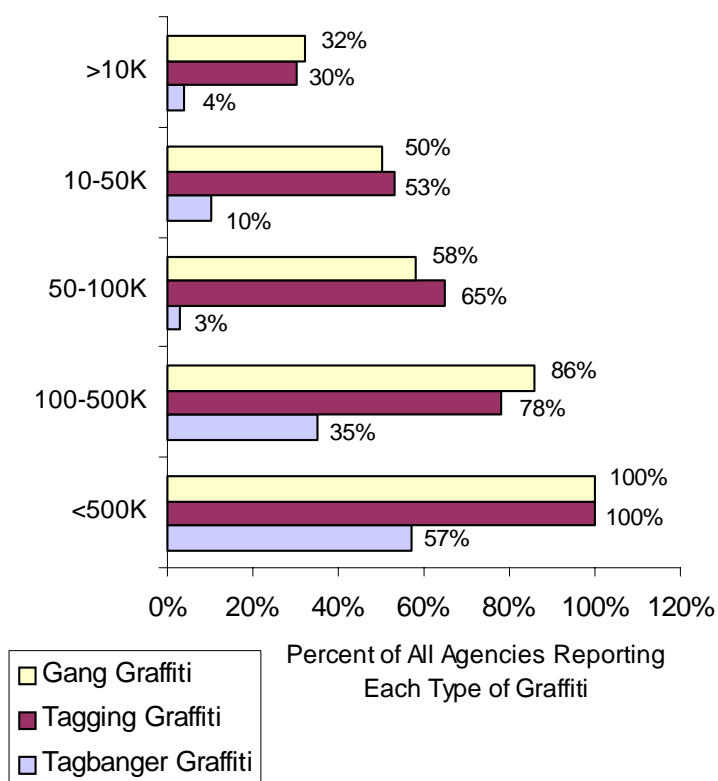
## Graffiti

Respondents were asked to identify the types of graffiti present in their jurisdictions, and to indicate which form was most prevalent.

All of the major metropolitan departments reported the presence of both tagging and gang graffiti. A majority of the agencies in the other population levels above 10,000 residents also reported the presence of both gang and tagging graffiti, as did nearly a third of the smallest jurisdictions. Nearly half of the responding sheriffs reported both tagging and gang graffiti. [see Figure 20].

Forty-five departments, including eight of the major metropolitan agencies, reported the presence of tagbanger graffiti. Six respondents, all serving fewer than 50,000 residents, reported that this was the most common form in their jurisdiction.

**Figure 20: Graffiti Found in the Jurisdiction**

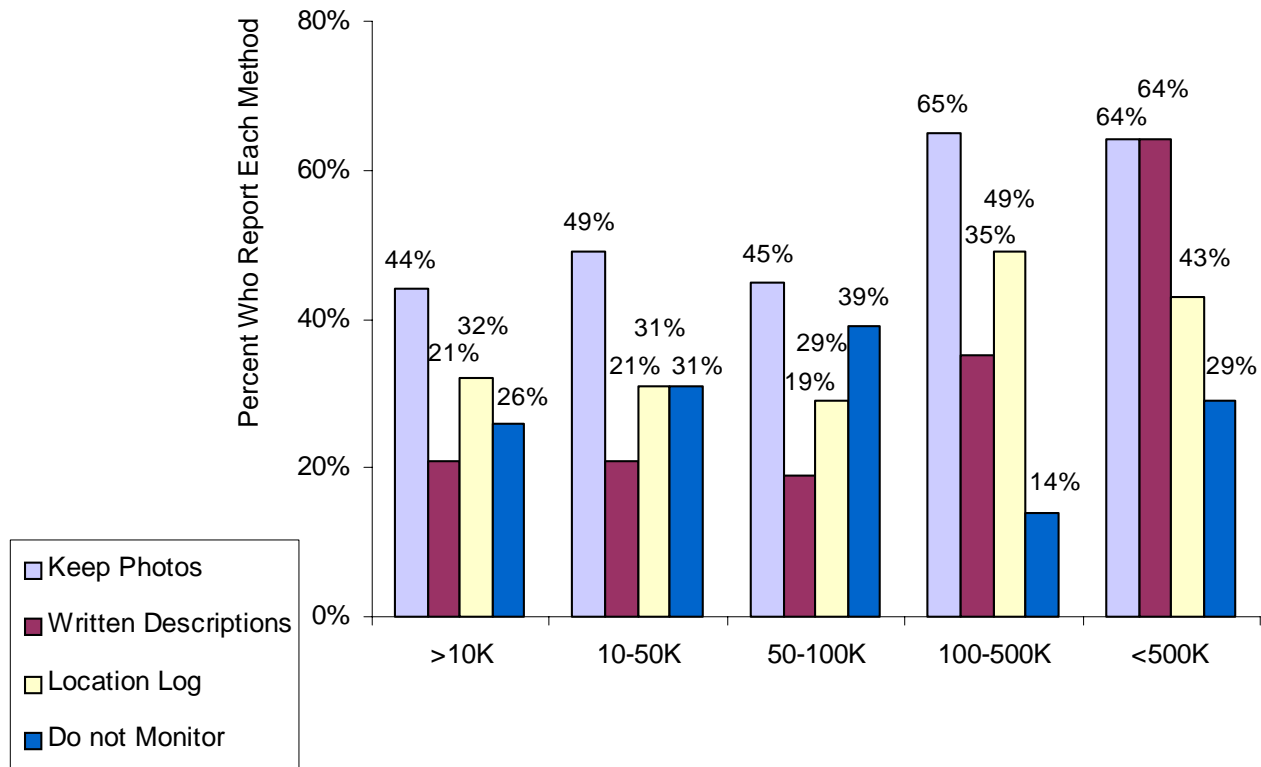


When asked which form of graffiti was the most serious problem, jurisdictions with fewer than 50,000 residents reported that tagging graffiti was most common, as did 10 of the 14 major metropolitan agencies. Those in the categories between 50,000 and 500,000 residents reported that gang graffiti was seen most frequently.

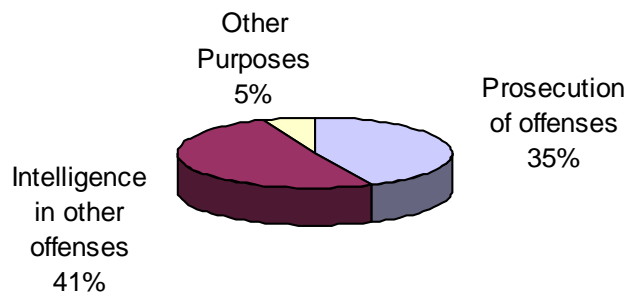
Four of the major metropolitan agencies also reported the presence of etching or "scratchiti," as did a small number of departments in the other size categories. When broken down by jurisdiction type, school district police departments had the highest response rate for etching.

Agencies were also asked to describe how graffiti is monitored and how this information is used. Respondents could choose all methods and uses that apply in their jurisdiction. The results are shown in Figures 21 and 22.

**Figure 21: Monitoring Graffiti**



**Figure 22: Use of Graffiti Information**



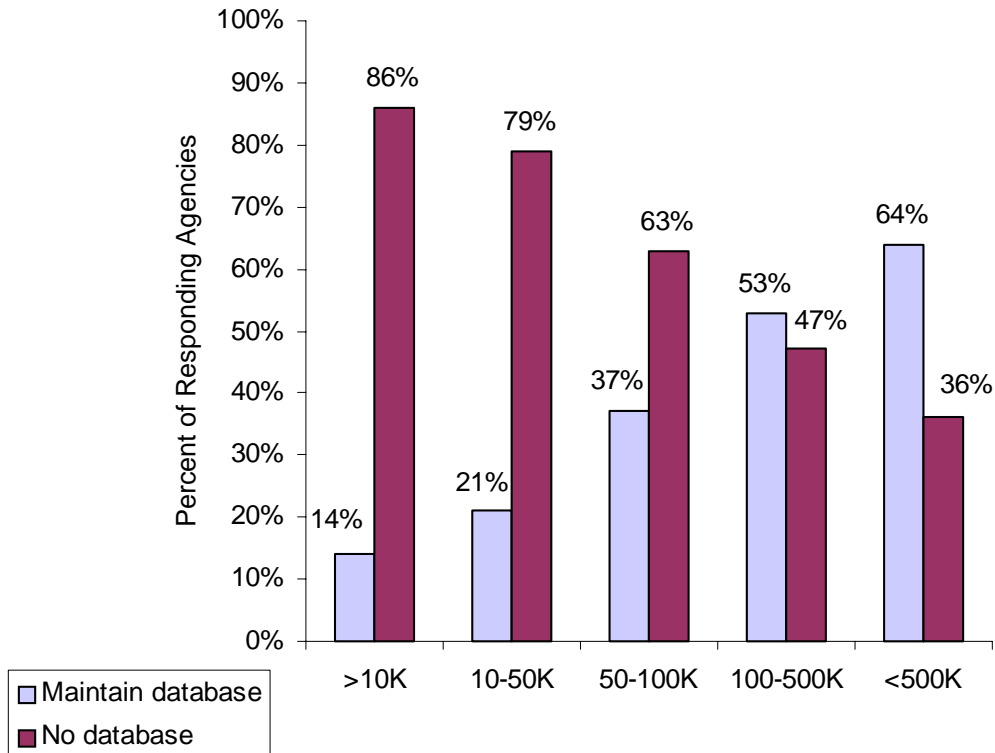
Twenty-six departments, including a number of prosecutors and sheriffs, report tracking graffiti through police incident reports. One department reports that a graffiti hotline is in operation in its jurisdiction.

Based on the response from those who answered this question, graffiti information is primarily used for intelligence purposes. Among the other uses volunteered were: identification of individual graffiti artists, sharing with other agencies, officer training, community and school education programs, development of criminal mischief cases, and referral for clean-up. Forty departments, including eight of the 14 major metropolitan agencies, report having a graffiti eradication fund in their jurisdiction.

## Tracking and Record Keeping

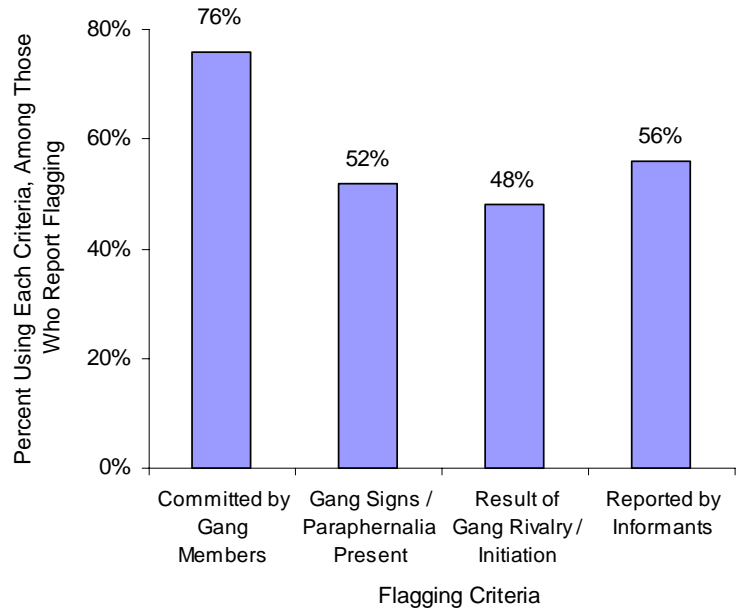
Departments were asked whether they maintain a database of gang intelligence information [see Figure 23]. Among those who answered the question, 23 percent reported maintaining a database of gang intelligence information. Police (28 percent) and school district departments (31 percent) were twice as likely as sheriff’s departments (14 percent) to maintain an intelligence database. Nine percent of the responding prosecutors report having a database. The percentage of departments that responded affirmatively increased in direct relation to the size of their jurisdiction, with a majority of the departments that serve over 100,000 residents reporting they maintain such a database.

**Figure 23: Departments that Maintain a Gang Database**

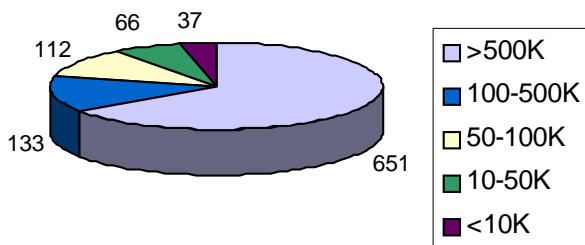


Some departments flag offenses as gang-related. Respondents were asked, if they do flag offenses, to specify the criteria used to make this determination. The results are shown in Figure 24. One department reported that two or more elements must be present before a crime is flagged as gang-related. Several police departments reported that flagging is done based on the specifics of the case, or at the discretion of the reporting officer. One department reported flagging offenses so that non-association with gang members could be ordered as a condition of probation. One-hundred sixty-seven respondents (39 percent) reported that offenses are not flagged.

**Figure 24: Flagging Gang-Related Offenses**



**Figure 25: Number of Drive-by Shootings in 2000**



### Drive-by Shootings

Respondents were also asked if they maintain a count of drive-by shootings or incidents suspected of being drive-by shootings. Among those who answered the question, 149 respondents (42 percent) reported keeping such a tally. These respondents recorded 999 drive-by shootings in 2000. Of the total number of drive-bys recorded, more than three-quarters took place in the two largest jurisdiction categories (651 shootings in major metropolitan jurisdictions, 133 in jurisdictions with 100-500,000 residents). Among departments under 50,000 residents that keep a tally, 140 reported no drive-by shootings in their jurisdiction during this time period. [see Figure 25]

Table III gives a breakdown of this tally by department type. Percentages are based on the number of respondents from each type of jurisdiction who answered this question.

**Table III: Drive-By Shootings**

Drive-by Shootings	# of Agencies Keeping Tally	# of Drive-by Shootings Reported
All respondents (n=355)	149 (42%)	999
Police (n=240)	98 (50%)	716
ISD-PDs (n=30)	6 (20%)	7
Sheriffs (n=75)	34 (45%)	52
Prosecutors (n=54)	11 (20%)	224

Readers are cautioned against viewing these figures as a complete and total count of the number of drive-by shootings in Texas in 2000. As with the figures reported for the number of gangs and gang members, the agencies that responded to this question represent only a portion of the police, sheriffs, and prosecutors in Texas. Some of the agencies that did not respond probably had drive-by shootings during the period covered by this survey, so it is likely the figures given here underestimate the total number of drive-by shootings. On the other hand, in some cases, different departments with overlapping jurisdiction have responded to the question, so these figures may include incidents that have been counted more than once.

## Information Sharing

Departments were asked whether they share general information on gangs with other agencies. The results are shown in Appendix D, Table A, broken down by jurisdiction size. Respondents could choose more than one option.

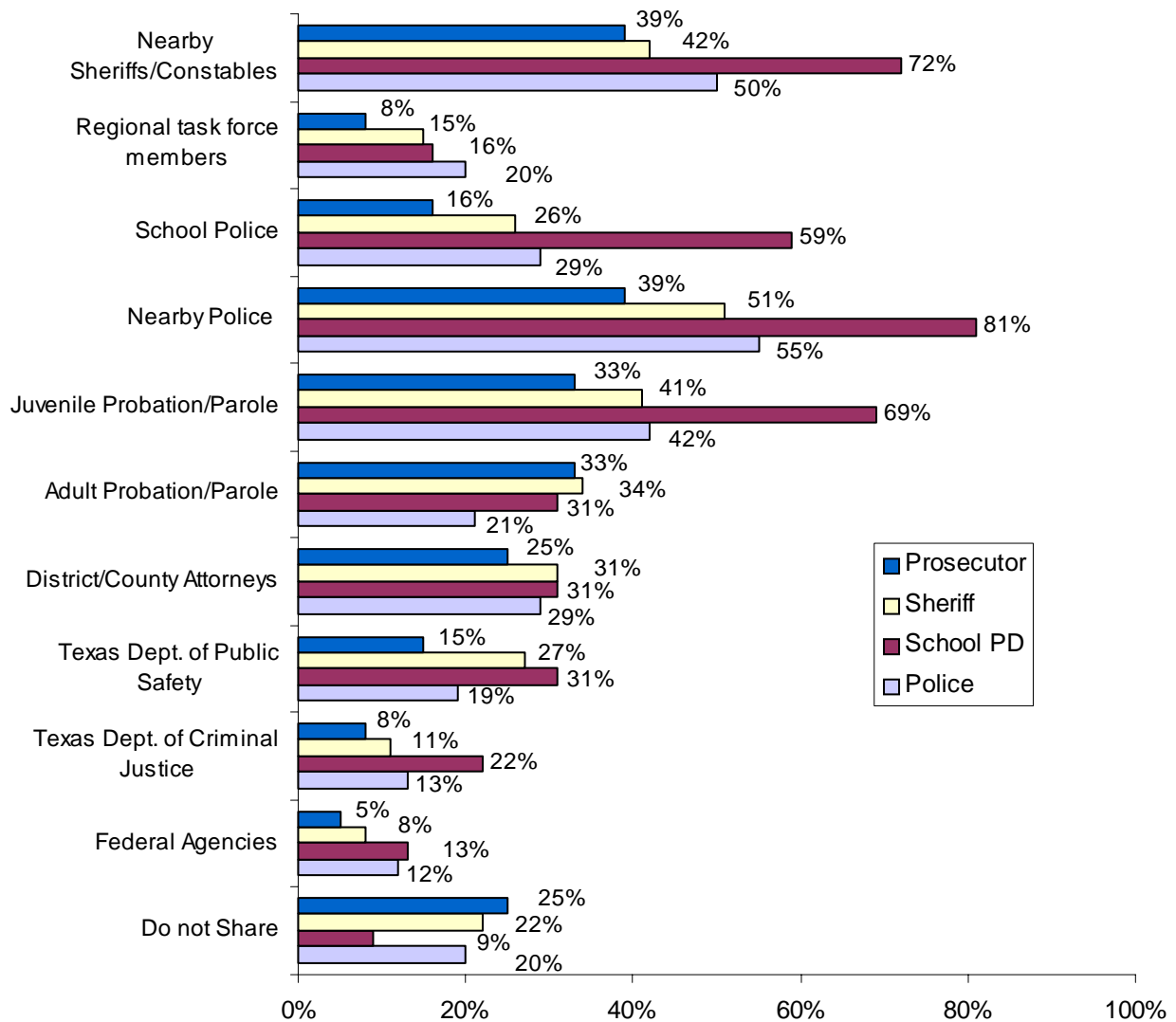
A majority of departments reported sharing general information with nearby police departments, schools, juvenile probation and parole officers, sheriffs and constables. This result generally holds true across all jurisdiction sizes. Five percent of all respondents reported sharing general information with human services agencies. Larger jurisdictions (>50,000) were more likely than smaller agencies to share general information with adult probation and parole officers. Departments in larger jurisdictions were also more likely to share general information with district and county attorneys and with local federal law enforcement agencies.

When broken down by jurisdiction type, school district police departments had the highest response rates for sharing general information with nearby police and sheriff departments and with juvenile probation and parole officers. Less than half of the respondents in each category reported sharing general information with district or county attorneys, adult probation and parole officers, and local federal agencies. Prosecutors had the highest response rate for sharing general information with adult probation and parole officers. These results are shown in Appendix D, Table B.

Respondents were also asked whether they share actual gang intelligence with other local agencies. The results are given in Figure 26. Respondents could choose more than one option. Percentages are based on the total pool of survey respondents in each category.

When broken down by jurisdiction type, the results for police and sheriff's departments closely tracked the results for all respondents. School district police departments were very likely to share gang intelligence with local police departments (81 percent), sheriffs (72 percent), juvenile probation and parole officers (69 percent), and other school district police (59 percent). Prosecutors were most likely to share gang intelligence with police and sheriff departments and with juvenile and adult probation/parole officers.

**Figure 26: Types of Agencies with which Gang Intelligence is Shared**

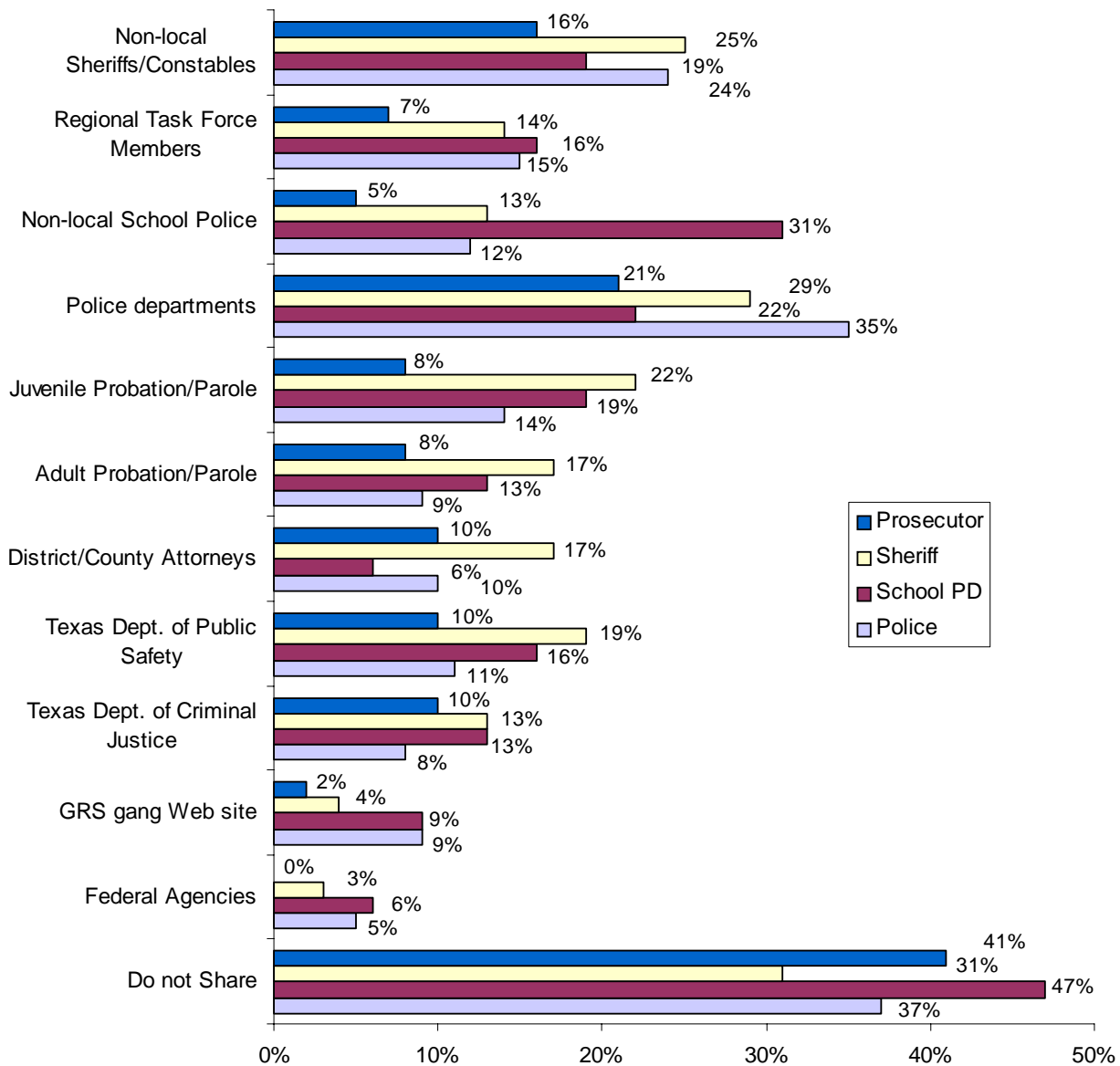


Although a significant percentage of respondents from all jurisdiction sizes report sharing gang intelligence with neighboring police departments, sheriffs, and juvenile probation officers, those from jurisdictions of more than 50,000 were more likely than smaller departments to report sharing information with district or county attorneys, juvenile and adult probation/parole officers, and state and federal law enforcement agencies.



Less than one third of all respondents reported sharing gang intelligence with non-local agencies. This result generally holds true when the results are broken down by jurisdiction type. [see Figure 27] However, when analyzed by jurisdiction size, a much higher percentage of departments with jurisdictions over 100,000 than smaller jurisdictions reported sharing information with non-local police departments, juvenile and adult probation and parole officers, school district police departments, and the Attorney General’s Gang Resource System (GRS) Web site. Major metropolitan departments had much higher response rates than the other jurisdiction sizes for sharing information with non-local sheriffs, other participants in regional task forces, the Texas Department of Public Safety, and Texas Department of Criminal Justice, but had lower response rates than departments in the next level down for sharing information with juvenile and adult probation officers, school district police departments, and federal law enforcement agencies.

**Figure 27: Sharing Gang Intelligence with Non-Local Agencies**

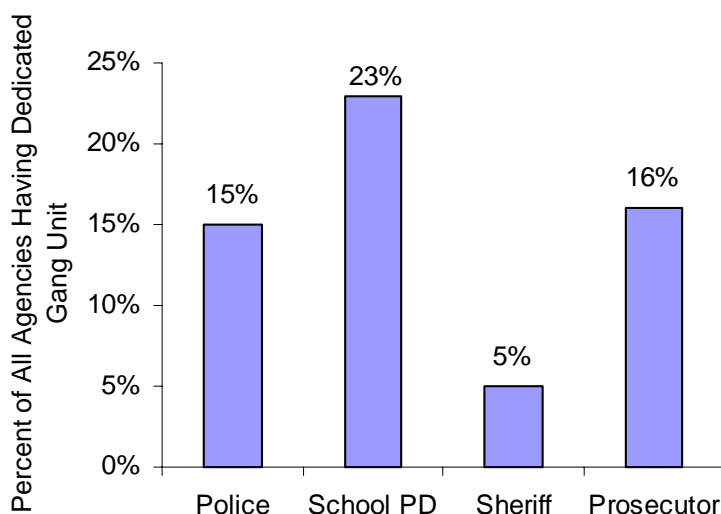


## Gang Task Forces And Dedicated Gang Units

Respondents were asked if an interagency gang task force is active in their jurisdiction, and if so, which agencies participate in the task force. Fifty-three departments reported that a task force was active. Among these, all reported that local police departments were members of the task force. Forty-eight respondents reported that the sheriff's office was also a member. Other reported task force members include school district police departments (32), juvenile parole/probation offices (31), adult parole/probation offices (20), district attorneys (28), county attorneys (28), and housing authorities (6). Other task force members reported include the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Army, Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms [see Figure 28].

Fifty-eight agencies reported having personnel assigned to a gang unit within their department. All but five of these units were created since 1990. Eleven of the 14 major metropolitan departments reported having a dedicated gang unit, as did 14 of the 37 second-tier departments that responded.

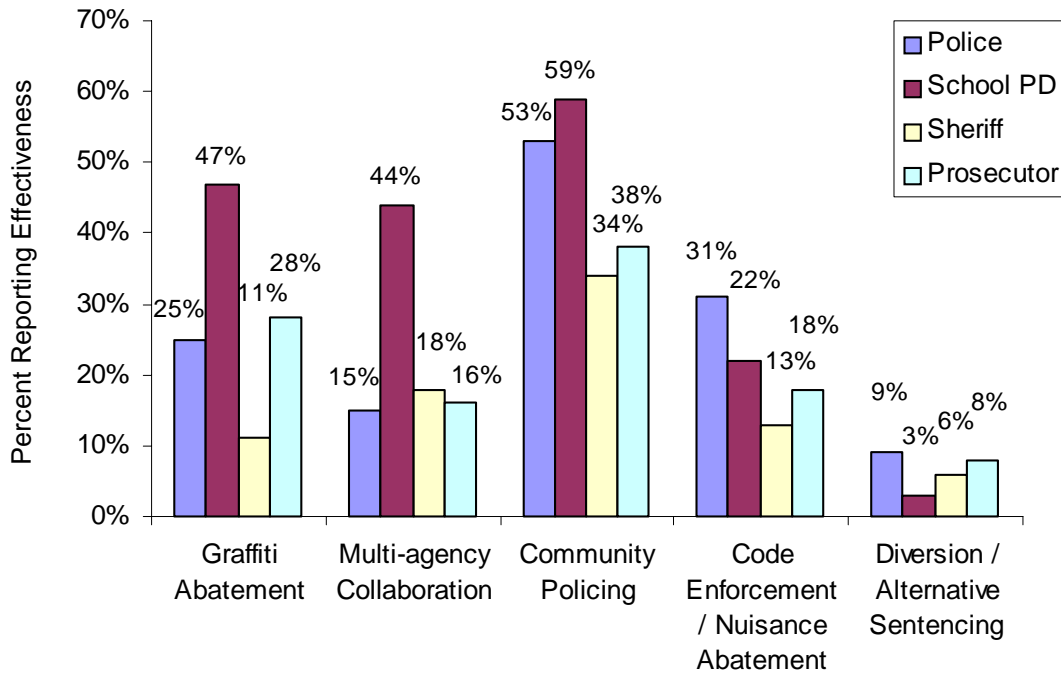
**Figure 28: Agency Gang Units**



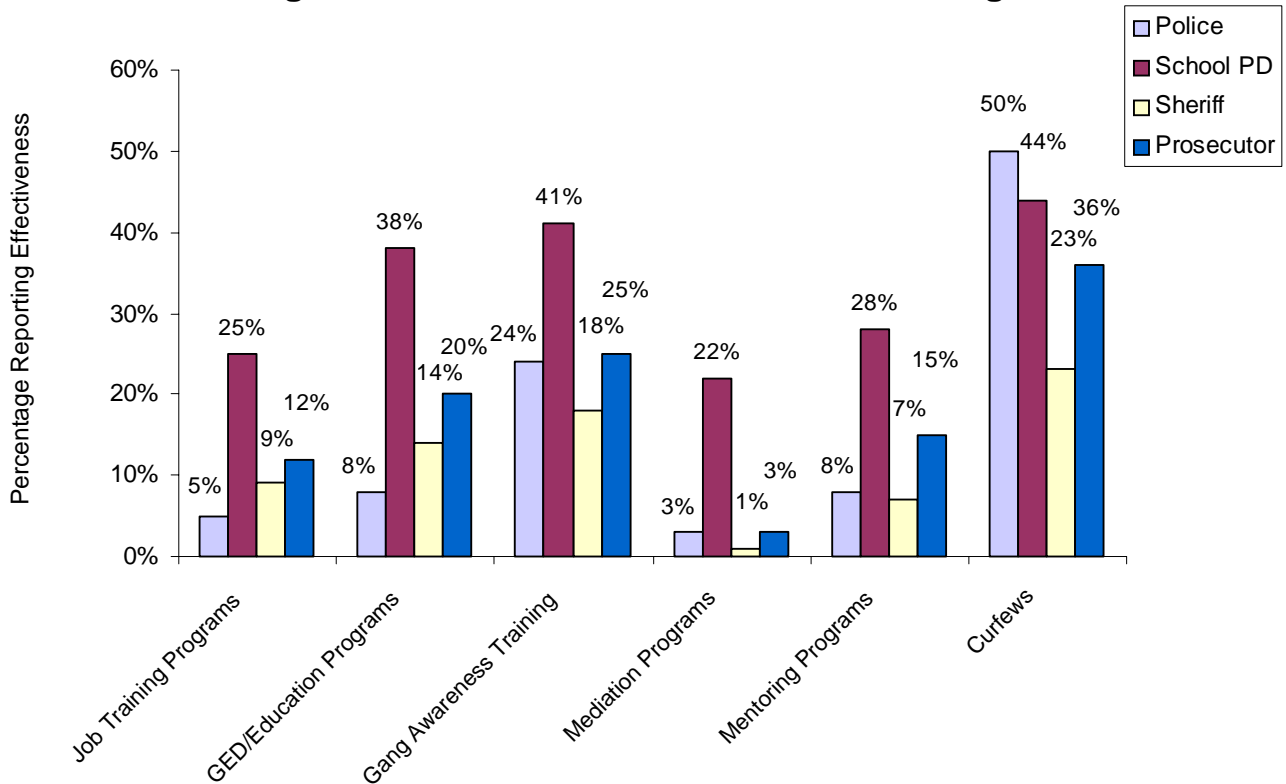
## Effective Strategies for Dealing with Gangs

Agencies were given a list of widely used enforcement and intervention strategies for dealing with gang activity. They were asked to indicate the strategies they have found effective in their jurisdiction. The results are shown in Figures 29 and 30. Respondents could choose more than one option and could volunteer other answers. Percentages are based on the total pool of survey respondents in each category.

**Figure 29: Enforcement Strategies**



**Figure 30: Intervention / Prevention Strategies**

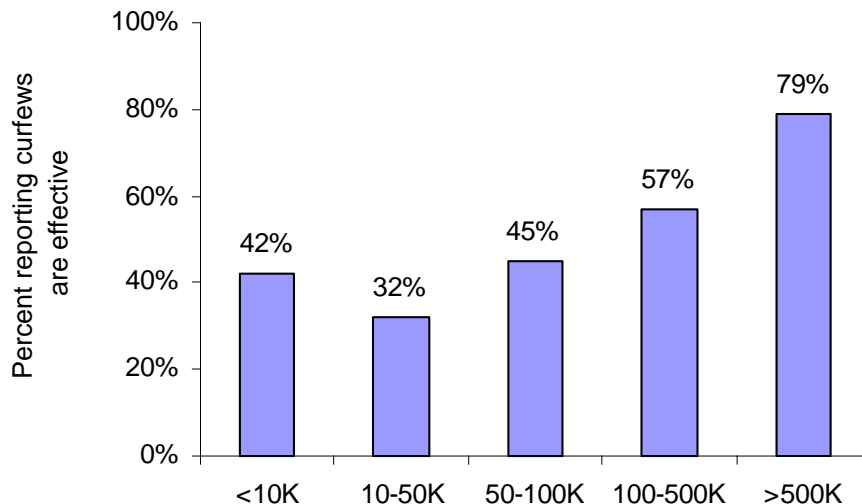


Use of code enforcement and nuisance abatement as an enforcement strategy received stronger support from jurisdictions with fewer than 10,000 residents than from those serving 10,000 to 100,000 residents. The highest rates of support for community policing come from departments serving the smallest and largest jurisdictions.

The highest endorsement rate for all of the intervention strategies, except curfews, came from school district police departments. As a group, school district police departments also gave the strongest endorsement for community policing, graffiti abatement, and multi-agency collaboration.

A majority of jurisdictions in all size categories report having a curfew ordinance in place. All of the major metropolitan agencies report having such an ordinance. However, less than 40 percent of responding sheriffs gave an affirmative response, possibly reflecting the rural nature of many of these jurisdictions. Support for curfews as a response strategy was lowest among departments serving 10-50,000 residents than among the other population categories [see Figure 31].

**Figure 31: Effectiveness of Curfews**



Respondents could volunteer other effective responses to gang activity. Among those reported were: heavy marked patrol presence in gang territory; maintaining close contact with parents, young offenders, and the community; frequent and heavy prosecution for repeat offenses; close collaboration between narcotics and criminal intelligence staff; maintaining police presence and zero tolerance of gang activity in schools; school-based gang awareness training; use of the Texas Exile program to reduce firearms offenses; targeting gang leaders for prosecution; anti-loitering enforcement; school dress codes; and graffiti repainting programs.

## APPENDIX A

**Senate Bill 8**  
**CHAPTER 61, CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE**

**Art. 61.01. Definitions**

In this chapter:

- (1) "Combination" and "criminal street gang" have the meanings assigned by Section 71.01, Penal Code.
- (2) "Child" has the meaning assigned by Section 51.02, Family Code.
- (3) "Criminal information" means facts, material, photograph, or data reasonably related to the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity.
- (4) "Criminal activity" means conduct that is subject to prosecution.
- (5) "Criminal justice agency" has the meaning assigned by Article 60.01 and also means a municipal or county agency, or school district law enforcement agency, that is engaged in the administration of criminal justice under a statute or executive order.
- (6) "Administration of criminal justice" has the meaning assigned by Article 60.01.
- (7) "Department" means the Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas.
- (8) "Intelligence database" means a collection or compilation of data organized for search and retrieval to evaluate, analyze, disseminate, or use intelligence information relating to a criminal combination or a criminal street gang for the purpose of investigating or prosecuting criminal offenses.
- (9) "Law enforcement agency" does not include the Texas Department of Criminal Justice or the Texas Youth Commission.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 671, § 1, eff. Aug. 28, 1995. Subd. (1) amended by and Subds. (7), (8), (9) added by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1154, § 2, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.

**Art. 61.02. Criminal Combination and Criminal Street Gang Intelligence Database; Submission Criteria**

- (a) Subject to Subsection (b), a criminal justice agency may compile criminal information into an intelligence database for the purpose of investigating or prosecuting the criminal activities of criminal combinations or criminal street gangs. The information may be compiled on paper, by computer, or in any other useful manner.
- (b) A law enforcement agency may compile and maintain criminal information relating to a criminal street gang as provided by Subsection (a) in a local or regional intelligence database only if the agency compiles and maintains the information in accordance with the criminal intelligence systems operating policies established under 28 C.F.R. Section 23.1 et seq. and the submission criteria established under Subsection (c).

(c) Criminal information collected under this chapter relating to a criminal street gang must:

- (1) be relevant to the identification of an organization that is reasonably suspected of involvement in criminal activity; and
- (2) consist of any two of the following:
  - (A) a self-admission by the individual of criminal street gang membership;
  - (B) an identification of the individual as a criminal street gang member by a reliable informant or other individual;
  - (C) a corroborated identification of the individual as a criminal street gang member by an informant or other individual of unknown reliability;
  - (D) evidence that the individual frequents a documented area of a criminal street gang, associates with known criminal street gang members, and uses criminal street gang dress, hand signals, tattoos, or symbols; or
  - (E) evidence that the individual has been arrested or taken into custody with known criminal street gang members for an offense or conduct consistent with criminal street gang activity.

#### **Art. 61.03. Release of information**

- (a) A criminal justice agency that maintains criminal information under this chapter may release the information on request to:
  - (1) another criminal justice agency;
  - (2) a court; or
  - (3) a defendant in a criminal proceeding who is entitled to the discovery of the information under Chapter 39.
- (b) A criminal justice agency or court may use information received under this article only for the administration of criminal justice. A defendant may use information received under this article only for a defense in a criminal proceeding.
- (c) If a local law enforcement agency compiles and maintains information under this chapter relating to a criminal street gang, the agency shall send the information to the department.
- (d) The department shall establish an intelligence database and shall maintain information received from an agency under Subsection (c) in the database in accordance with the policies established under 28 C.F.R. Section 23.1 et seq. and the submission criteria under Article 61.02(c).
- (e) The department shall designate a code to distinguish criminal information contained in the intelligence database relating to a child from criminal information contained in the database relating to an adult offender.

#### **Art. 61.04. Criminal information relating to child**

- (a) Notwithstanding Chapter 58, Family Code, criminal information relating to a child associated with a combination or a criminal street gang may be compiled and released under this chapter regardless of the age of the child.

- (b) A criminal justice agency that maintains information under this chapter may release the information to an attorney representing a child who is a party to a proceeding under Title 3, Family Code, if the juvenile court determines the information:
  - (1) is material to the proceeding; and
  - (2) is not privileged under law.
- (c) An attorney may use information received under this article only for a child's defense in a proceeding under Title 3, Family Code.
- (d) If a local law enforcement agency collects criminal information under this chapter relating to a criminal street gang, the governing body of the county or municipality served by the law enforcement agency may adopt a policy to notify the parent or guardian of a child of the agency's observations relating to the child's association with a criminal street gang.

**Art. 61.05. Unauthorized use or release of criminal information**

- (a) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly:
  - (1) uses criminal information obtained under this chapter for an unauthorized purpose; or
  - (2) releases the information to a person who is not entitled to the information.
- (b) An offense under this article is a Class A misdemeanor.

**Art. 61.06. Removal of Records Relating to an Individual Other Than a Child**

- (a) This article does not apply to information collected under this chapter by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice or the Texas Youth Commission.
- (b) Subject to Subsection (c), information collected under this chapter relating to a criminal street gang must be removed from an intelligence database established under Article 61.02 and the intelligence database maintained by the department under Article 61.03 after three years if:
  - (1) the information relates to the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity engaged in by an individual other than a child; and
  - (2) the individual who is the subject of the information has not been arrested for criminal activity reported to the department under Chapter 60.
- (c) In determining whether information is required to be removed from an intelligence database under Subsection (b), the three-year period does not include any period during which the individual who is the subject of the information is confined in the institutional division or the state jail division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

**Art. 61.07. Removal of Records Relating to a Child**

Text of article as added by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 1154, § 7

- (a) This article does not apply to information collected under this chapter by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice or the Texas Youth Commission.



- (b) Subject to Subsection (c), information collected under this chapter relating to a criminal street gang must be removed from an intelligence database established under Article 61.02 and the intelligence database maintained by the department under Article 61.03 after two years if:
  - (1) the information relates to the investigation or prosecution of criminal activity engaged in by a child; and
  - (2) the child who is the subject of the information has not been:
    - (A) arrested for criminal activity reported to the department under Chapter 60; or
    - (B) taken into custody for delinquent conduct reported to the department under Chapter 58, Family Code.
- (c) In determining whether information is required to be removed from an intelligence database under Subsection (b), the two-year period does not include any period during which the child who is the subject of the information is:
  - (1) committed to the Texas Youth Commission for conduct that violates a penal law of the grade of felony; or
  - (2) confined in the institutional division or the state jail division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

**Art. 61.08. Right to Request Review of Criminal Information**

- (a) On receipt of a written request of a person or the parent or guardian of a child that includes a showing by the person or the parent or guardian that a law enforcement agency may have collected criminal information under this chapter relating to the person or child that is inaccurate or that does not comply with the submission criteria under Article 61.02(c), the head of the agency or the designee of the agency head shall review criminal information collected by the agency under this chapter relating to the person or child to determine if:
  - (1) reasonable suspicion exists to believe that the information is accurate; and
  - (2) the information complies with the submission criteria established under Article 61.02(c).
- (b) If, after conducting a review of criminal information under Subsection (a), the agency head or designee determines that:
  - (1) reasonable suspicion does not exist to believe that the information is accurate or the information does not comply with the submission criteria, the agency shall:
    - (A) destroy all records containing the information; and
    - (B) notify the department and the person who requested the review of the agency's determination and the destruction of the records; or
  - (2) reasonable suspicion does exist to believe that the information is accurate and the information complies with the submission criteria, the agency shall notify the person who requested the review of the agency's determination and that the person is entitled to seek judicial review of the agency's determination under Article 61.09.

- (c) On receipt of notice under Subsection (b), the department shall immediately destroy all records containing the information that is the subject of the notice in the intelligence database maintained by the department under Article 61.03.
- (d) A person who is committed to the Texas Youth Commission or confined in the institutional division or the state jail division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice does not while committed or confined have the right to request review of criminal information under this article.

**Art. 61.09. Judicial Review**

- (a) A person who is entitled to seek judicial review of a determination made under Article 61.08(b)(2) may file a petition for review in district court in the county in which the person resides.
- (b) On the filing of a petition for review under Subsection (a), the district court shall conduct an in camera review of the criminal information that is the subject of the determination to determine if:
  - (1) reasonable suspicion exists to believe that the information is accurate; and
  - (2) the information complies with the submission criteria under Article 61.02(c).
- (c) If, after conducting an in camera review of criminal information under Subsection (b), the court finds that reasonable suspicion does not exist to believe that the information is accurate or that the information does not comply with the submission criteria, the court shall:
  - (1) order the law enforcement agency that collected the information to destroy all records containing the information; and
  - (2) notify the department of the court's determination and the destruction of the records.
- (d) A petitioner may appeal a final judgment of a district court conducting an in camera review under this article.
- (e) Information that is the subject of an in camera review under this article is confidential and may not be disclosed.

## APPENDIX B

**Senate Bill 1578**  
**ARTICLE 61.10, CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE**  
**TEXAS VIOLENT GANG TASK FORCE**

**Art. 61.10 Texas Violent Gang Task Force**

Text of article as added by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 492, § 1

- (a) In this article, "task force" means the Texas Violent Gang Task Force.
- (b) The purpose of the task force is to form a strategic partnership between state, federal, and local law enforcement agencies to better enable law enforcement and correctional agencies to take a proactive stance towards tracking gang activity and the growth and spread of gangs statewide.
- (c) The task force shall focus its efforts on:
  - (1) developing a statewide networking system that will provide timely access to gang information;
  - (2) establishing communication between different law enforcement agencies, combining independent agency resources, and joining agencies together in a cooperative effort to focus on gang membership, gang activity, and gang migration trends; and
  - (3) forming a working group of law enforcement and correctional representatives from throughout the state to discuss specific cases and investigations involving gangs and other related gang activities.
- (d) The task force may take any other actions as necessary to accomplish the purposes of this article.
- (e) The Department of Public Safety shall support the task force to assist in coordinating statewide antigang initiatives.
- (f) The task force shall consist of:
  - (1) a representative of the Department of Public Safety designated by the director of that agency;
  - (2) a representative of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice designated by the executive director of that agency;
  - (3) a representative of the Texas Youth Commission designated by the executive director of that agency;
  - (4) a representative of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission designated by the executive director of that agency;
  - (5) a representative of the Criminal Justice Policy Council designated by the executive director of that agency;
  - (6) a representative of the office of the attorney general designated by the attorney general; and
  - (7) three local law enforcement or adult or juvenile community supervision personnel and a prosecuting attorney designated by the governor.

Added by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 492, § 1, eff. June 18, 1999.

## APPENDIX C

# The Attorney General's 2001 Gang Survey

Please complete the enclosed survey on gang activity in your jurisdiction. Your agency's specific responses will be confidential, but we do ask that you provide a contact in case we have questions about your response or wish to follow up on some issues in greater depth.

Please feel free to attach narrative comments or call Juvenile Crime Intervention at (512) 463-4024. Please mail your completed survey to Juvenile Crime Intervention, CJ-JCI 068, Office of the Attorney General, PO Box 12548, Austin, TX 78711-2548, by **September 15, 2001**. You may fax your completed survey to (512) 480-9186. Thank you for your cooperation.



# Gang Categories

*The terms commonly used to describe different types of gangs (for example, “prison” gangs and “outlaw motorcycle” gangs) are derived from a specific characteristic of the group, rather than their behavior. Since their criminal behavior is the root of society’s abhorrence of these gangs, for purposes of this survey, we are adopting categories based on behavior. The different types of gangs – “prison,” “outlaw motorcycle,” etc. – should fall into one of the following behavioral categories.*

**Delinquent Youth Gang.** This is a loosely structured group of young people (mostly juveniles) who "hang out" together. The group has a name, and typically members have developed identifying signs such as similar clothing style, colors, and/or hand signs. Members engage in delinquent or undesirable behavior often enough to attract negative attention from law enforcement and/or neighborhood residents and/or school officials. A key defining point is that no member has ever been arrested for a serious offense.

**Traditional Turf-Based Gang.** This is a loosely structured, named group committed to defending its reputation and status as a gang. It is usually associated with a geographic territory but may simply defend its perceived interests against rival gangs. Members are juveniles and/or adults who typically use identifying signs such as clothing style, colors, tattoos or hand signs. The members usually mark the gang's turf with graffiti. At least one shooting (assault, homicide or drive-by) has occurred in the last year as a result of rivalry between this gang and another gang.

**Gain-Oriented Gang.** This is a loosely structured, named local group of juveniles and/or adults who repeatedly engage in criminal activities for economic gain. On at least one occasion in the last year, two or more gang members have worked together in a gain-oriented criminal offense such as robbery, burglary, auto theft or the sale of a controlled substance. The group may share many characteristics of turf-based gangs and may defend a territory, but when the group acts together as a gang for economic gain, it should be classified as a gain-oriented gang.

**Violent/Hate Gang.** This is a named group (juveniles and/or adults) that does not qualify as either a gain-oriented or a traditional turf-based gang, according to the definitions above. Typically, the group has developed identifying signs such as a style of dress, haircut, or insignia. Two or more of its members have, at least once in the last year, collectively committed an assault, a homicide, or an offense that could be reported under the federal Hate Crimes Act (vandalism, assault or homicide). This type of gang includes groups whose violence has an ideological or religious rationale, such as racism or Satanism. This type of gang also includes groups whose members are randomly or senselessly violent.



## Graffiti Categories

**Gang graffiti** is done by criminal street gang members and may include identifying symbols used by the gang. Roman numerals, crowns, pitchforks and stars are well known examples of gang symbols, but other symbols may be used by gangs in your community. This graffiti is usually easy to read, simple in design, and may be done in a single color. Gang graffiti can be motivated by a variety of factors such as identifying the gang, showing disrespect for a rival gang, marking territory, publicizing the gang's power in the community, instilling fear in the neighborhood, advertising the gang's drug sales, issuing threats against rival gangs or gang members, and proclaiming the gangs' membership via a gang "roster." It is used as a form of communication both between gangs and within a gang.

**Tagging** is usually done by an individual or a member of a "tagging crew", which are loosely organized groups of taggers who band together to share supplies and provide each other with protection as they vandalize property. Tagger graffiti does not generally include gang symbols and is usually difficult to read. The style can range from the taggers' initials or crew name scribbled in a single color to elaborate, multi-colored murals. Tagging is usually done to promote the individual tagger or the tagging crew to which they belong. Taggers do not normally confine themselves to a particular neighborhood or "turf."

**Tagbanger graffiti** is usually done by a tagging crew that has evolved into a full-fledged criminal street gang. Essentially, tagbangers are tagging crews that, because of competition with rival crews, begin to commit the same sorts of violent offenses normally associated with criminal street gangs. Tagbanger graffiti is basically gang graffiti that is done by individuals who were once taggers, not gang members. As such, this graffiti can incorporate elements of both gang graffiti and tagging, such as the use of gang symbols in more elaborate graffiti, and may be restricted to a certain geographic area or "turf."

## Gang Nation

This term may be used to denote very large gangs, most conspicuously the two large Los Angeles gangs, the Bloods and the Crips, and the two major Chicago gangs, the People and the Folk. Texas law officials are also considering Surenos and Nortenos, from southern and northern California respectively, to be gang nations. Gang nations are made up of smaller "sets" that share certain symbols and loyalties. Different sets of the same gang nation may not even know each other except by recognizing signs and insignia used by the nation. They may develop rivalries among themselves, but they may also rally against a common enemy. Gang nations and their affiliations generally extend to within prison populations.

*Please answer the following questions based on the situation in your jurisdiction at the present time.*

*Part I: General Questions*

1. Which of the following best describes your agency?

- Municipal police department
- School campus police
- University police
- County sheriff
- District or county attorney's office

2. What is the population of your jurisdiction?

*(Where possible, we will double check with the most recent census data.)*

- Less than 10,000
- Between 10,001 and 50,000
- Between 50,001 and 100,000
- Between 100,001 and 500,000
- More than 500,000

3. How serious is the gang problem in your jurisdiction, compared to other public safety issues?

*(Please check one.)*

- Gangs are **the most serious** law enforcement problem we face.
- Gangs are **one of the serious** law enforcement problems we face.
- Gangs are a **medium-priority** law enforcement problem in our jurisdiction.
- Gangs are a problem, but they are **not one of our more serious** problems.
- Gangs are **not much of a problem** in our jurisdiction, compared to other issues.

4. During the past year, has the gang problem in your area gotten better, worse, or stayed about the same? *(Please check one.)*

- Gangs are a **much worse** problem today than they were a year ago.
- Gangs are **more of a problem** today than they were a year ago.
- The gang problem is **about the same** today as it was a year ago.
- Gangs are a **little less** of a problem today, compared with a year ago.
- Gangs are **much less of a problem** today, compared with a year ago.

5. Does your department maintain a database of local gang intelligence information?

- Yes
- No

6a. What is your department's current estimate of the **number of gangs** active in your jurisdiction? *(To the best of your ability, please limit answers to gangs in your jurisdiction only, that do not overlap with other jurisdictions.)*

Number of Gangs \_\_\_\_\_

6b. The answer to Question 6a. is based on:

- Actual statistics from our department's **database**
- OR
- An **educated guess**.

7a. Are the following types of gangs active in your jurisdiction?

(Refer as needed to the categories on page 2.)

Delinquent youth gangs?	Yes _____	No _____
Traditional turf-based gangs?	Yes _____	No _____
Gain-oriented gangs?	Yes _____	No _____
Violent/hate gangs?	Yes _____	No _____

7b. If you checked "yes" for more than one category in 7a, which category is the one that the largest number of the gangs in your jurisdiction fall into? (Please circle one.)

Delinquent youth	Gain-oriented
Traditional turf-based	Violent/hate

8a. What is your department's current estimate of the **number of gang members** active in your jurisdiction?

Number of Gang Members \_\_\_\_\_

8b. Of these gang members, what percent do you estimate are

Male \_\_\_\_\_%

Female \_\_\_\_\_%

8c. What is the average age of a gang member in your jurisdiction?

(Please circle one range.)

<16    16-18    19-21    22-25    26-30    31-40    >40

8d. Are your answers to Questions 8a-8c based on:

\_\_\_\_\_ Actual statistics from our department's **database**

OR

\_\_\_\_\_ An **educated guess**.

9. If you have female gang members in your jurisdiction, are they: (Please check all that apply.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Members of female-only gangs

\_\_\_\_\_ Members of auxiliary groups identified with male gangs

\_\_\_\_\_ Members of gangs that have both male and female members.

10a. What do you estimate is the racial/ethnic distribution of gang members in your jurisdiction?

(Total must equal 100%.)

African American \_\_\_\_\_%

White \_\_\_\_\_%

Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_%

Asian \_\_\_\_\_%

Other \_\_\_\_\_% (What ethnicity? \_\_\_\_\_)

10b. While some gangs are comprised of just one racial/ethnic group, others are more mixed. What percentage of the gangs in your jurisdiction have a significant mixture of racial/ethnic groups?

\_\_\_\_\_ %            \_\_\_\_\_ Don't know

11a. What kinds of offenses are committed by gangs in your jurisdiction?

*(Please check all that apply.)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Assaults
- \_\_\_\_\_ Car theft
- \_\_\_\_\_ Carjacking
- \_\_\_\_\_ Computer crimes (Crimes using computers, theft of computer parts, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Drive-by shootings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Drug trafficking
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sexual assaults
- \_\_\_\_\_ Extortion
- \_\_\_\_\_ Home invasions (Breaking into a house when the inhabitants are home, robbing and assaulting them)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Homicides
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prostitution
- \_\_\_\_\_ Robbery
- \_\_\_\_\_ Theft/burglary
- \_\_\_\_\_ Graffiti
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other *(Please explain.)* \_\_\_\_\_

11b. What types of offenses are female gang members committing?

*(Please check all that apply.)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ Assaults
- \_\_\_\_\_ Car theft
- \_\_\_\_\_ Carjacking
- \_\_\_\_\_ Computer crimes (Crimes using computers, theft of computer parts, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Drive-by shootings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Drug trafficking
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sexual assaults
- \_\_\_\_\_ Extortion
- \_\_\_\_\_ Home invasions (Breaking into a house when the inhabitants are home, robbing and assaulting them)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Homicides
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prostitution
- \_\_\_\_\_ Robbery
- \_\_\_\_\_ Theft/burglary
- \_\_\_\_\_ Graffiti
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other *(Please explain.)* \_\_\_\_\_

11c. If you checked "drug trafficking" for either 11a or 11b, what types of drugs are involved?  
(Please check all that apply.)

- Marijuana
- Ecstasy
- Cocaine
- Heroin
- PCP
- Methamphetamine
- Other (Please explain.) \_\_\_\_\_

12. Does your department maintain a count of drive-by shootings or incidents suspected of being drive-by shootings?

- Yes      How many in 2000: \_\_\_\_\_
- No

13. If gangs in your jurisdiction are involved in profit-making activities, what are they? (If gangs in your jurisdiction are not generally gain-oriented, write N/A.)

- Number one profitable activity: \_\_\_\_\_
- Number two profitable activity: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other profitable activity: \_\_\_\_\_

14a. In your jurisdiction, what kinds of weapons do gangs usually use? (Check all that apply.)

- Stabbing or cutting weapons
- Club or striking weapons
- Handguns
- Shotguns
- Rifles
- Other (Please explain.) \_\_\_\_\_

14b. If you checked "Handguns" in 14a, what percentage are:

- Semi-automatic? \_\_\_\_\_ %      Revolver? \_\_\_\_\_ %

14c. If you checked "Rifles" in 14a, what percentage are:

- Semi-automatic? \_\_\_\_\_ %      Fully automatic? \_\_\_\_\_ %

15. In your jurisdiction, is gang activity a problem on your school campuses?

- Not a problem at all
- Somewhat of a problem
- Very much a problem

16a. Do you have car clubs in your jurisdiction?

- Yes       No       Don't know

16b. If you answered "yes" to 15a, do any of these groups meet the Penal Code definition of "criminal street gang"?

- Yes       No       Don't know

17a. Do you have party or rave crews in your jurisdiction?  
 Yes       No       Don't know

17b. If you answered "yes" to 17a, do any of these groups meet the Penal Code definition of "criminal street gang"?  
 Yes       No       Don't know

**Part II: Outside Influences**

18. Do you see influence from any of the following gang nations in your jurisdiction?  
*(Please check all that apply.)*

- People
- Folks
- Crips
- Bloods
- Surenos
- Nortenos

19a. Do you see influence from any of the following Security Threat Groups (STG), or prison gangs, in your jurisdiction? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- Aryan Brotherhood
- Aryan Circle
- Barrio Azteca
- Bloods
- Crips
- Hermanos De Pistoleros Latinos (HPL)
- Mexican Mafia
- Raza Unida
- Texas Chicano Brotherhood
- Texas Mafia
- Texas Syndicate

19b. If you checked any STGs in 19a, are these groups involved with any of the following criminal activities in your jurisdiction? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- Drugs
- Prostitution
- Gambling
- Auto theft
- Other *(Please explain.)* \_\_\_\_\_

19c. If you checked any STGs in 19a, how much has your jurisdiction's gang problem been affected by the return to your community of adult gang-involved inmates from prison?

- Not at all
- Very little
- Somewhat
- Very much
- Don't know

20. Are the gangs in your area influenced by gangs from other countries?

*(Please check all that apply.)*

- Mexico
  - Where in Mexico? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- El Salvador What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Guatemala What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Nicaragua What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Other Latin American country(ies)?
  - What country (ies)? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Cambodia What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Korea What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Vietnam What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Other Asian country(ies)
  - What country (ies)? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Russia What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- Other country(ies)?
  - What country (ies)? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What gang(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
- No problems with influences from other countries.

21. If you have problems with outside influences, how does this occur?

*(Please check all that apply.)*

- Local youth hear about gangs from **relatives who live elsewhere** and copy cat
- Local youth are influenced by **media portrayals** of gangs
- Local gang members come back from corrections facilities with **prison gang affiliations**
- Members of gangs move in from:  cities in other parts of Texas  
 out-of-state and **start new gangs**
- Gangs have **spread out from nearby bigger cities**
- Highly mobile gangs from:  other Texas cities  
 other states  
**travel into your jurisdiction to commit offenses**, then go home
- Other *(Please explain.)* \_\_\_\_\_
- No problems with outside influences.

22a. Do you have outlaw motorcycle gangs in your jurisdiction?

- Yes  No

22b. If you answered "yes" to 22a, are these outlaw motorcycle gangs involved in any of the following criminal activities? (Please check all that apply.)

- Drugs
- Prostitution
- Gambling
- Auto theft
- Other (Please explain.) \_\_\_\_\_

**Part III: Graffiti**

23a. Are the following types of graffiti a problem in your jurisdiction?  
(Refer as needed to the categories on page 10.)

- |                    |           |          |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|
| Gang graffiti      | Yes _____ | No _____ |
| Tagging graffiti   | Yes _____ | No _____ |
| Tagbanger graffiti | Yes _____ | No _____ |

23b. If you checked "yes" for more than one category in 23a, which one of the categories is the one that you have the most problem with in your jurisdiction? (Please circle one category)

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gang graffiti | <input type="checkbox"/> Tagging graffiti | <input type="checkbox"/> Tagbanger graffiti |
|--|---|---|

24a. How does your department monitor graffiti? (Please check all that apply.)

- Maintain photographs
- Maintain written descriptions
- Log of locations
- Other (Please explain.) \_\_\_\_\_
- We do not monitor graffiti

24b. How is the information used?

- Prosecution of graffiti cases
- Intelligence in investigating other gang-related cases
- Other (Please explain.) \_\_\_\_\_

25. Has your department experienced a problem with "etching" or "scratchiti," where graffiti is cut or carved into a surface, instead of painted or marked on?

- |                              |                             |                                     |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|

26. Does your county have a graffiti eradication fund, as authorized by Article 102.071 of the Code of Criminal Procedure?

- |                              |                             |                                     |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|



**Part IV: Strategies**

27. With what other **local agencies** does your department share **general information** about gangs in your area? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- Schools
- Human services
- Juvenile probation/parole officers
- Adult probation/parole officers
- District or county attorney's office
- Nearby municipal police departments
- Nearby county sheriff's constables offices
- Local offices of federal law enforcement agencies
- Other *(Please explain.)* \_\_\_\_\_
- No other agency

28a. Do you share **actual gang intelligence** with law enforcement agencies **in your region**? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- Sheriff's and constable's offices
- Participants in Regional Texas Violent Gang Task Force meetings
- School district police departments
- Police departments
- Juvenile probation/parole officers
- Adult probation/parole officers
- District or county attorney's office
- DPS
- TDCJ
- Federal agencies *(which?)* \_\_\_\_\_
- Other *(Please explain.)* \_\_\_\_\_
- No other agency

28b. Do you share **actual gang intelligence** with law enforcement agencies **outside your local area**? *(Please check all that apply.)*

- Sheriff's and constable's offices
- Participants in Regional Texas Violent Gang Task Force meetings
- School district police departments
- Police departments
- Juvenile probation/parole officers
- Adult probation/parole officers
- District or county attorney's office
- DPS
- TDCJ
- Office of the Attorney General's Gang Resource System Web Site
- Federal agencies *(Which?)* \_\_\_\_\_
- Other *(Please explain)* \_\_\_\_\_
- No other agency

29. If offenses are "flagged" as gang-related by your department, on what basis is this done?  
 Committed by gang members  
 Occurs as result of gang rivalry, initiation, or other gang "business"  
 Gang hand signs or paraphernalia were observed  
 Reported by informants to be gang-related  
 Other (*Please explain.*) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Offenses are not flagged as gang-related

30a. Is there an interagency gang task force active within your jurisdiction?  
 Yes       No

30b. If so, what agencies participate?  
*(Check all that apply, including your own agency if appropriate.)*  
 Police departments  
 Sheriff's departments  
 School district police  
 Juvenile probation/parole  
 Adult probation/parole  
 District attorney's office  
 County attorney's office  
 Housing Authority  
 Other (*Please explain*) \_\_\_\_\_

31. Does your jurisdiction have a juvenile curfew ordinance?  
 Yes       No

32. Does your agency have personnel dedicated to a specific gang unit?  
 Yes      Year formed \_\_\_\_\_      Number of personnel in the unit \_\_\_\_\_  
 No

33. What strategies have you found effective in addressing the gang problem?  
*(Please check all that apply.)*  
Enforcement  
 Graffiti abatement  
 Multi-agency collaboration on gang prosecutions  
 Community policing  
 Code enforcement/nuisance abatement  
 Diversion or alternative sentencing  
 Other (*Please explain.*) \_\_\_\_\_

Intervention and Prevention  
 Job training programs  
 GED/education programs  
 Community gang awareness training  
 Mediation programs  
 Mentoring programs  
 Curfews  
 Other (*Please explain.*) \_\_\_\_\_

34. Please feel free to attach narrative comments or observations. If you do attach narrative comments, may we quote them in the report?

- Yes, **[you may identify us as the source.]**  
 Yes, but **[please do not identify us except by type of agency or jurisdiction.]**  
 No, **[comments are for your information only.]**

35. The Attorney General's gang report is based on population and does not identify specific jurisdictions or agencies. What is your department's position on being named specifically in the report produced from this survey?

- Support  Oppose  No position

Please feel free to offer comments over the telephone. Contact Juvenile Crime Intervention, Office of the Attorney General, (512) 463-4024.

Please provide the name and telephone number of the person who completed this report:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone : (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency name: \_\_\_\_\_

County or counties in your jurisdiction: \_\_\_\_\_

May we contact you if we have questions?

- Yes  
 No

## Thank you for your cooperation!

Please mail your completed survey by **September 15, 2001** to:

**Juvenile Crime Intervention, CJ-JCI 068  
Office of the Attorney General  
PO Box 12548  
Austin, TX 78711-2548**

Or FAX your completed survey to: **(512) 480-9186**

## APPENDIX D

## Appendix D

### Tables

**Table A:**

General Information Sharing	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Schools	268 (62%)	122	85	21	28	12
Human services	23 (5%)	11	5	2	2	3
Juvenile probation/parole officers	254 (59%)	107	85	21	29	12
Adult probation/parole officers	147 (34%)	48	53	13	22	11
DA or CA	180 (42%)	76	54	18	20	12
Nearby police depts.	288 (67%)	120	96	27	32	13
Nearby sheriffs & constables	232 (54%)	113	69	17	22	11
Local federal law enforcement offices	65 (15%)	12	13	13	17	10
Other	21 (5%)	7	8	0	4	2
None	34 (8%)	19	13	2	0	0

**Table B:**

General Information Sharing	All (n=429)	Police (n=240)	ISD-PD (n=32)	Sheriff (n=96)	Prosecutor (n=61)
Schools	268 (62%)	162	18	58	30
Human services	23 (5%)	15	0	7	1
Juvenile probation/parole officers	254 (59%)	138	25	56	35
Adult probation/parole officers	147 (34%)	73	12	34	28
DA or CA	180 (42%)	104	13	41	22
Nearby police	288 (67%)	157	29	63	39
Nearby sheriffs & constables	232 (54%)	136	24	36	36
Local federal law enforcement offices	65 (15%)	36	7	11	11
Other	21 (5%)	14	1	1	5
None	34 (8%)	19	2	6	7

**Figure 3: Seriousness of the Problem**

How Serious Is the Problem	All (n=416)	<10,000 (n=201)	10-50,000 (n=135)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=35)	>500,000 (n=14)
Most serious	0 (0%)	0	0	0	0	0
One of the serious problems	29 (7%)	4	2	7	7	9
Medium-priority	58 (14%)	18	20	7	11	2
A problem, but not serious	69 (17%)	18	33	4	11	3
Not a problem	260 (63%)	161	80	13	6	0

**Figure 4: Is the Problem Better or Worse**

Is Situation Better or Worse	All (n=400)	<10,000 (n=194)	10-50,000 (n=128)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=33)	>500,000 (n=14)
Much worse	4 (1%)	1	0	2	1	0
More of a problem	42 (11%)	13	13	7	4	5
About the same	227 (57%)	103	80	16	22	6
A little less of a problem	53 (13%)	24	16	5	5	3
Much less of a problem	75 (19%)	53	20	1	1	0

**Figure 5: Is the Problem Better or Worse**

Is the Situation Better or Worse	All (n=400)	Police (n=240)	ISD-PD (n=32)	Sheriff (n=87)	Prosecutor (n=54)
Much worse	4 (1%)	3	0	0	1
More of a problem	42 (11%)	23	1	14	4
About the same	227 (57%)	122	13	54	38
A little less of a problem	53 (13%)	30	10	10	3
Much less of a problem	75 (19%)	50	8	9	8

**Figure 6: How the Situation has Changed**

Change in Situation: 1998 vs. 2000	Much Worse	Worse	Same	Better	Much Better
1998 (n=440)	2	57	259	69	53
2000 (n=401)	4	42	227	53	75

**Figure 7: Predominant Gang Type**

Most Prevalent Type of Gang	All (n=209)	<10,000 (n=72)	10-50,000 (n=72)	50-100,000 (n=25)	100-500,000 (n=26)	>500,000 (n=14)
Delinquent youth	138 (66%)	56	48	14	15	5
Turf-based	33 (16%)	7	12	4	6	4
Gain-oriented	36 (17%)	7	12	7	5	5
Violence/Hate	2 (1%)	2	0	0	0	0

**Figure 9: Average Age of Gang Members**

Average Age	All (n=292)	<10,000 (n=125)	10-50,000 (n=94)	50-100,000 (n=28)	100-500,000 (n=31)	>500,000 (n=14)
<16	87 (30%)	53	21	7	5	1
16-18	151 (52%)	55	61	11	18	6
19-21	40 (14%)	9	10	6	8	7
22-25	9 (3%)	3	2	4	0	0
26-30	2 (1%)	2	0	0	0	0
31-40	3 (1%)	3	0	0	0	0

**Figure 10: Percentage of Gangs with Mixed Race/Ethnicity**

% with Mixed Race/Ethnicity	All (n=90)	<10,000 (n=26)	10-50,000 (n=29)	50-100,000 (n=13)	100-500,000 (n=13)	>500,000 (n=8)
	58%	75%	53%	46%	64%	35%

% with Mixed Race/Ethnicity	All (n=90)	Police (n=55)	ISD-PD (n=5)	Sheriff (n=19)	Prosecutor (n=12)
	58%	52%	75%	64%	71%

**Figure 11: Offenses**

Gang Offenses	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Assault	225 (52%)	75	81	24	31	14
Car theft	122 (28%)	30	41	18	21	12
Car jacking	27 (6%)	0	5	5	9	8
Computer crimes	10 (2%)	2	3	0	2	3
Drive-by shootings	87 (20%)	13	23	18	21	12
Drug trafficking	207 (48%)	74	71	22	27	13
Sexual assaults	49 (11%)	11	13	8	9	8
Extortion	18 (4%)	5	3	1	4	5
Home invasion	50 (12%)	14	9	8	9	10
Homicide	41 (10%)	4	4	11	12	10
Prostitution	14 (3%)	5	2	3	1	3
Robbery	74 (17%)	14	16	13	20	11
Theft/burglary	248 (58%)	90	86	28	31	13
Graffiti	254 (59%)	98	87	24	31	14
Other	29 (7%)	16	6	3	3	1



**Figure 12: Offenses by Females**

Offenses by Females	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Assault	158 (37%)	49	55	19	26	9
Car theft	25 (6%)	7	9	6	1	2
Car jacking	3 (1%)	0	1	1	0	1
Computer crimes	2 (0%)	1	0	0	0	1
Drive-by shootings	10 (2%)	0	3	4	1	2
Drug trafficking	108 (25%)	33	38	12	17	8
Sexual assaults	2 (0%)	2	0	0	0	0
Extortion	6 (1%)	6	0	0	0	0
Home invasion	10 (2%)	3	2	2	0	3
Homicide	4 (1%)	0	0	2	0	2
Prostitution	25 (6%)	6	7	5	3	4
Robbery	16 (4%)	3	2	3	2	6
Theft/burglary	154 (36%)	47	54	18	26	9
Graffiti	138 (32%)	43	53	16	20	6
Other	12 (3%)	8	3	1	0	0

**Figure 13: Offenses - Drug Trafficking**

Drug Offenses	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Marijuana	208 (48%)	78	69	21	27	13
Ecstasy	55 (13%)	10	21	6	12	6
Cocaine	169 (39%)	54	57	21	25	12
Heroin	27 (6%)	4	2	5	8	8
PCP	13 (3%)	2	5	3	1	2
Meth.	88 (21%)	35	26	9	14	4
Other	18 (4%)	7	3	4	2	2

**Figure 14: Gangs In Schools**

Gang Activity in Schools	All (n=398)	<10,000 (n=191)	10-50,000 (n=130)	50-100,000 (n=30)	100-500,000 (n=33)	>500,000 (n=14)
Not a problem	195 (49%)	128	58	5	4	0
Somewhat of a problem	177 (44%)	59	66	20	22	10
Very much a problem	26 (7%)	4	6	5	7	4

**Figure 15: Presence of Other Groups**

Presence of Other Groups	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Car Clubs	157 (37%)	46	53	19	25	14
Party Crews	59 (14%)	14	15	3	15	12
Biker Gangs	60 (14%)	12	12	8	15	13

**Figure 16: Gang Nation Influence**

Gang Nation Influence	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
People	69 (16%)	13	19	12	16	9
Folks	75 (17%)	14	17	11	21	12
Crips	179 (42%)	64	56	23	23	13
Bloods	153 (36%)	46	55	21	20	11
Surenos	71 (17%)	22	18	8	14	9
Nortenos	34 (8%)	11	7	3	7	6

Gang Nation Influence	All (n=429)	Police (n=240)	ISD-PD (n=32)	Sheriff (n=96)	Prosecutor (n=61)
People	69 (16%)	45	4	11	9
Folks	75 (17%)	53	3	8	11
Crips	179 (42%)	108	17	29	25
Bloods	153 (36%)	89	18	23	23
Surenos	71 (17%)	45	6	12	8
Nortenos	34 (8%)	21	6	3	4

**Figure 17: Local Security Threat Group Influence**

Local STG Influence	All (n=213)	<10,000 (n=77)	10-50,000 (n=75)	50-100,000 (n=26)	100-500,000 (n=24)	>500,000 (n=14)
Not at all	29 (13%)	18	8	1	2	0
Very little	58 (27%)	23	25	4	6	0
Somewhat	70 (32%)	19	23	12	9	7
Very much	27 (13%)	7	4	7	3	6
Don't know	32 (15%)	10	15	2	4	1

**Table 18: Security Threat Group Offenses**

STG Offenses	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Drugs	152 (35%)	52	48	21	17	14
Prostitution	13 (3%)	3	1	2	3	4
Gambling	9 (2%)	3	2	1	0	3
Auto Theft	45 (10%)	11	13	8	4	9
Other	50 (12%)	13	15	7	6	9

**Figure 19: Forms of Outside Influence**

Forms of Outside Influence	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Copy relatives	164 (38%)	78	54	10	14	8
Media portrayals	110 (26%)	43	38	10	11	8
STG affiliation	100 (23%)	32	31	13	14	10
Move-in's, general	111 (26%)	39	32	16	14	10
Move-in's from other Texas regions	98 (23%)	37	29	13	14	5
Move-in's from other states	59 (14%)	17	14	10	12	6
Spread from nearby larger cities	92 (21%)	41	26	13	11	1
Mobile gangs, general	52 (12%)	17	18	5	7	5
In-state mobile gangs	51 (12%)	18	15	7	8	3
Out-of-state mobile gangs	17 (4%)	1	4	2	5	5
Other	12 (3%)	7	3	0	1	1
None	76 (18%)	39	24	5	8	0

**Figure 20: Graffiti Found in Jurisdiction**

Graffiti Found in Jurisdiction	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Gang graffiti	201 (47%)	67	70	18	32	14
Tagging graffiti	199 (46%)	62	74	20	29	14
Tagbanger graffiti	45 (10%)	9	14	1	13	8

**Figure 21: Graffiti Monitoring**

	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Keep photos	207 (48%)	91	69	14	24	9
Written descriptions	100 (23%)	43	29	6	13	9
Location log	143 (33%)	66	44	9	18	6
Do not monitor	40 (9%)	15	14	3	6	2

**Figure 22: Graffiti Information Use**

Use of Graffiti Information	All (n=429)	Police (n=240)	ISD-PD (n=32)	Sheriff (n=96)	Prosecutor (n=61)
Prosecution of offenses	151 (35%)	95	17	24	15
Intelligence in other gang offenses	178 (41%)	115	19	30	14
Other	21 (5%)	13	2	5	1

**Table 23: Departments Maintaining Gang Database**

Departments That Maintain Gang Database	All (n=413)	<10,000 (n=200)	10-50,000 (n=135)	50-100,000 (n=30)	100-500,000 (n=34)	>500,000 (n=14)
Maintain database	93 (23%)	27	28	11	18	9
No database	320 (77%)	173	107	19	16	5

**Figure 24: Flagging Gang Offenses**

Flagging Gang Offenses	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Committed by gang members	116 (27%)	40	33	12	20	11
Rivalry/initiation	80 (19%)	23	25	13	13	6
Signs/paraphernalia	74 (17%)	29	16	11	11	7
Reported by informants	85 (20%)	36	23	9	10	7

**Figure 26: Local Intelligence Sharing**

<b>Intelligence Sharing - Local Agencies</b>	<b>All (n=429)</b>	<b>&lt;10,000 (n=207)</b>	<b>10-50,000 (n=140)</b>	<b>50-100,000 (n=31)</b>	<b>100-500,000 (n=37)</b>	<b>&gt;500,000 (n=14)</b>
Sheriffs & constables	207 (48%)	105	57	17	19	9
Regional task force participants	71 (17%)	16	22	11	14	8
School district PDs	123 (29%)	38	48	12	16	9
Police departments	230 (54%)	97	71	20	29	13
Juvenile probation/parole officers	182 (42%)	74	58	16	25	9
Adult probation/parole officers	114 (27%)	32	37	14	20	11
DA or CA	124 (29%)	45	38	15	16	10
DPS	90 (21%)	35	25	10	12	8
TDCJ	53 (12%)	12	13	10	9	9
Federal law enforcement agencies	44 (10%)	5	8	9	12	10
Other	6 (1%)	2	3	1	0	0
None	88 (21%)	52	26	7	2	1

<b>Intelligence Sharing - Local Agencies</b>	<b>All (n=429)</b>	<b>Police (n=240)</b>	<b>ISD-PD (n=32)</b>	<b>Sheriff (n=96)</b>	<b>Prosecutor (n=61)</b>
Sheriffs & constables	207 (48%)	120	23	40	24
Regional task force participants	71 (17%)	47	5	14	5
School district PDs	123 (29%)	69	19	25	10
Police departments	230 (54%)	131	26	49	24
Juvenile probation/parole officers	182 (42%)	101	22	39	20
Adult probation/parole officers	114 (27%)	51	10	33	20
DA or CA	124 (29%)	69	10	30	15
DPS	90 (21%)	45	10	26	9
TDCJ	53 (12%)	30	7	11	5
Federal law enforcement agencies	44 (10%)	29	4	8	3
Other	6 (1%)	5	1	0	0
None	88 (21%)	49	3	21	15

**Figure 27: Non-Local Intelligence Sharing**

<b>Non-local Intelligence Sharing</b>	<b>All (n=429)</b>	<b>&lt;10,000 (n=207)</b>	<b>10-50,000 (n=140)</b>	<b>50-100,000 (n=31)</b>	<b>100-500,000 (n=37)</b>	<b>&gt;500,000 (n=14)</b>
Sheriffs & constables	98 (23%)	40	28	10	12	8
Regional task force participants	57 (13%)	15	18	7	10	7
School district PDs	54 (13%)	16	19	6	10	3
Police departments	131 (31%)	52	37	12	21	9
Juvenile probation/parole officers	66 (15%)	21	23	7	12	3
Adult probation/parole officers	46 (11%)	11	16	6	10	3
DA or CA	47 (11%)	14	15	6	8	4
DPS	56 (13%)	20	15	6	8	7
TDCJ	41 (10%)	10	6	6	10	9
OAG Web site	29 (7%)	4	7	3	11	4
Federal law enforcement agencies	18 (4%)	3	2	3	8	2
Other	19 (4%)	7	6	1	3	2
None	158 (37%)	92	48	10	6	2

<b>Non-Local Intelligence Sharing</b>	<b>All (n=429)</b>	<b>Police (n=240)</b>	<b>ISD-PD (n=32)</b>	<b>Sheriff (n=96)</b>	<b>Prosecutor (n=61)</b>
Sheriffs & constables	98 (23%)	58	6	24	10
Regional task force participants	57 (13%)	35	5	13	4
School district PDs	54 (13%)	29	10	12	3
Police departments	131 (31%)	83	7	28	13
Juvenile probation/parole officers	66 (15%)	34	6	21	5
Adult probation/parole officers	46 (11%)	21	4	16	5
DA or CA	47 (11%)	23	2	16	6
DPS	56 (13%)	27	5	18	6
TDCJ	41 (10%)	19	4	12	6
OAG gang Web site	29 (7%)	21	3	4	1
Federal law enforcement agencies	18 (4%)	13	2	3	0
Other	19 (4%)	13	3	0	3
None	158 (37%)	88	15	30	25

## Figures 29-31: Responses to Gang Activity

Responses to Gang Activity	All (n=429)	<10,000 (n=207)	10-50,000 (n=140)	50-100,000 (n=31)	100-500,000 (n=37)	>500,000 (n=14)
Graffiti abatement	102 (24%)	35	34	10	14	9
Multi-agency collaboration	78 (18%)	21	17	12	16	12
Community policing	202 (47%)	107	55	15	15	10
Code enforcement	105 (24%)	57	23	3	16	6
Alternative sentencing	34 (8%)	10	12	1	6	5
Other	58 (14%)	27	16	8	2	5
Job training	36 (8%)	16	8	4	5	3
GED/educ. programs	57 (13%)	24	17	4	7	5
Gang awareness training	103 (24%)	32	30	14	18	9
Mediation	18 (4%)	6	3	2	4	3
Mentoring	45 (10%)	17	10	5	9	4
Curfews	177 (41%)	86	45	14	21	11
Other	21 (5%)	7	4	3	3	4

Responses to Gang Activity	All (n=429)	Police (n=240)	ISD-PD (n=32)	Sheriff (n=96)	Prosecutor (n=61)
Graffiti abatement	102 (24%)	59	15	11	17
Multi-agency collaboration	78 (18%)	37	14	17	10
Community policing	202 (47%)	127	19	33	23
Code enforcement	105 (24%)	75	7	12	11
Alternative sentencing	34 (8%)	22	1	6	5
Other	58 (14%)	42	4	4	8
Job training	36 (8%)	12	8	9	7
GED/educ. programs	57 (13%)	20	12	13	12
Gang awareness training	103 (24%)	58	13	17	15
Mediation	18 (4%)	8	7	1	2
Mentoring	45 (10%)	20	9	7	9
Curfews	177 (41%)	119	14	22	22
Other	21 (5%)	13	1	3	4

## APPENDIX E



### **ARTICLE 61.11, CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE GANG RESOURCE SYSTEM**

Text of article as added by Acts 1999, 76<sup>th</sup> Regular Legislative Session

- (a) The office of the attorney general shall establish an electronic gang resource system to provide criminal justice agencies and juvenile justice agencies with information about criminal street gangs in the state. The system may include the following information with regard to any gang:
  - (1) gang name;
  - (2) gang identifiers, such as colors used, tattoos, and clothing preferences;
  - (3) criminal activities;
  - (4) migration trends;
  - (5) recruitment activities; and
  - (6) a local law enforcement contact.
- (b) Upon request by the office of the attorney general, criminal justice agencies and juvenile justice agencies shall make a reasonable attempt to provide gang information to the office of the attorney general for the purpose of maintaining an updated, comprehensive gang resource system.
- (c) The office of the attorney general shall cooperate with criminal justice agencies and juvenile justice agencies in collecting and maintaining the accuracy of the information included in the gang resource system.
- (d) Information relating to the identity of a specific offender or alleged offender may not be maintained in the gang resource system.
- (e) Information in the gang resource system may be used in investigating gang-related crimes but may be included in affidavits or subpoenas or used in connection with any other legal or judicial proceeding only if the information from the system is corroborated by information not provided or maintained in the system.
- (f) Access to the gang resource system shall be limited to criminal justice agency personnel and juvenile justice agency personnel.
- (g) Information in the gang resource system shall be accessible by:
  - (1) municipality or county; and
  - (2) gang name.
- (h) The office of the attorney general may coordinate with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to include information in the gang resource system regarding groups which have been identified by the Security Threat Group Management Office of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

# TEXAS ATTORNEY GENERAL'S GANG RESOURCE SYSTEM APPLICATION FOR SECURE ID

*Access to the Gang Resource System is limited to criminal justice agency and juvenile justice agency personnel (art. 61.11(f), CCP). Information in the Gang Resource System may be used to investigate gang-related crimes. However, if information from the Gang Resource System is included in affidavits or subpoenas, or used in connection with any other legal or judicial proceeding, it must be corroborated by information not provided or maintained in the system (art. 61.11(e), CCP). **This computer system is for the official use of the State of Texas. All other use is prohibited and will be prosecuted pursuant to §§ 33.01 to 33.04 (PC).***

*Please complete all information requested on the following form. This information will be used to verify that you are permitted to access the Gang Resource System. **Incomplete applications will be returned.***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle Initial) (Last)

Agency/Dept.: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Dept. Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street or PO Box)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Agency Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Agency Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel/Human Resources Department Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Employee ID Number/Badge Number\*: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN\*: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street or PO Box)  
(if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature) (Date)

For security reasons, please return completed application to:

Office of the Attorney General  
Juvenile Crime Intervention  
ATTN: Gang Resource System Application  
P.O. Box 12548  
Austin, Texas 78711

\* These numbers will be used to verify your identity in the event you need to contact us regarding your account.

**For Internal Use Only**

HR: _____	Date: _____
OAG: _____	ID/PW: _____