U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

1996 NATIONAL YOUTH GANG SURVEY

OJJDP Summary

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) was established by the President and Congress through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, Public Law 93–415, as amended. Located within the Office of Justice Programs of the U.S. Department of Justice, OJJDP's goal is to provide national leadership in addressing the issues of juvenile delinquency and improving juvenile justice.

OJJDP sponsors a broad array of research, program, and training initiatives to improve the juvenile justice system as a whole, as well as to benefit individual youth-serving agencies. These initiatives are carried out by seven components within OJJDP, described below.

Research and Program Development Division develops knowledge on national trends in juvenile delinquency; supports a program for data collection and information sharing that incorporates elements of statistical and systems development; identifies how delinquency develops and the best methods for its prevention, intervention, and treatment; and analyzes practices and trends in the juvenile justice system.

Training and Technical Assistance Division provides juvenile justice training and technical assistance to Federal, State, and local governments; law enforcement, judiciary, and corrections personnel; and private agencies, educational institutions, and community organizations.

Special Emphasis Division provides discretionary funds to public and private agencies, organizations, and individuals to replicate tested approaches to delinquency prevention, treatment, and control in such pertinent areas as chronic juvenile offenders, community-based sanctions, and the disproportionate representation of minorities in the juvenile justice system.

State Relations and Assistance Division supports collaborative efforts by States to carry out the mandates of the JJDP Act by providing formula grant funds to States; furnishing technical assistance to States, local governments, and private agencies; and monitoring State compliance with the JJDP Act.

Information Dissemination Unit informs individuals and organizations of OJJDP initiatives; disseminates information on juvenile justice, delinquency prevention, and missing children; and coordinates program planning efforts within OJJDP. The unit's activities include publishing research and statistical reports, bulletins, and other documents, as well as overseeing the operations of the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse.

Concentration of Federal Efforts Program promotes interagency cooperation and coordination among Federal agencies with responsibilities in the area of juvenile justice. The program primarily carries out this responsibility through the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, an independent body within the executive branch that was established by Congress through the JJDP Act.

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The mission of OJJDP is to provide national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent juvenile victimization and respond appropriately to juvenile delinquency. This is accomplished through developing and implementing prevention programs and a juvenile justice system that protects the public safety, holds juvenile offenders accountable, and provides treatment and rehabilitative services based on the needs of each individual juvenile.

1996 National Youth Gang Survey

Summary

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Responses to the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey were submitted voluntarily by law enforcement agencies throughout the country. Readers are cautioned against basing judgments on the nature or extent of the gang problem in a particular locality solely on the data presented here. Because of differing methodology, definitions, and sampling techniques, caution is also urged in making direct comparisons between these data and data obtained in other surveys.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, and the Office for Victims of Crime.

Foreword

For decades, we have researched youth gangs, as their proliferation across America has led to increased public concern. In 1995, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) inaugurated a series of annual surveys, conducted by the National Youth Gang Center, to facilitate analysis of changes and trends in the nature of youth gangs and their activities.

Although the 1995 National Youth Gang Survey was the most extensive national survey conducted up to that time and provided valuable baseline data, the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey is even more representative of the Nation as a whole—surveying nearly 5,000 law enforcement agencies. Survey results indicate that the youth gang problem in the United States is substantial and impacts communities of all sizes, with nearly three-quarters of large cities and one-quarter of rural counties reporting gang activity. The 1996 survey estimates that nearly 850,000 gang members were active in nearly 31,000 gangs—the largest numbers reported to date.

Sound data are essential to solving the problem of juvenile crime. It is my hope that the comprehensive findings of the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey, reported in this Summary, will aid the efforts of all those working to combat the presence of youth gangs in their jurisdictions.

Shay Bilchik
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Executive Summary

The youth gang problem in the United States has become an important public policy issue in recent years, largely because of the growth of youth gang violence and the apparent proliferation of youth gangs throughout the United States. In order to measure the extent of the problem, the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's 1996 National Youth Gang Survey was conducted by the National Youth Gang Center. This survey was the largest of its type, and the results are fully representative of the Nation as a whole. Almost 5,000 law enforcement agencies were surveyed, and more than 80 percent of the survey recipients responded. Survey recipients were asked about youth gangs in their jurisdictions in 1996, including questions about the number of gangs and gang members, gang member demographics, gang drug distribution, gang migration, and the level of crime in which gang members were involved. A gang was defined as "a group of youths or young adults in (the respondent's) jurisdiction that (the respondent) or other responsible persons in (the respondent's) agency or community are willing to identify or classify as a 'gang.'"

The 1996 National Youth Gang Survey was sent to two groups: a statistically representative sample of 3,024 law enforcement agencies and a sample of 1,956 law enforcement agencies that were surveyed in the 1995 National Youth Gang Survey, but not selected for the 1996 representative sample. Information and analyses included in this report were limited to the survey responses for the statistically representative sample, as the data were more comprehensive and allowed for a more complete nationwide perspective.

The statistically representative sample was composed of jurisdictions in four area types: all large cities with populations greater than 25,000; a random sample of small cities with populations between 2,500 and 25,000; all suburban counties; and a random sample of rural counties. Surveys were sent to the appropriate local law enforcement agency within each jurisdiction included in the sample.

Based on the results of the survey, it was estimated that there were 4,824 jurisdictions throughout the country with active youth gangs in 1996. Furthermore, it was projected that 30,818 gangs and 846,428 gang members were active in these jurisdictions. Fifty-three percent of respondents in the United States had active gangs in 1996. More specifically, gang activity was reported in 74 percent of large cities, 57 percent of suburban counties, 34 percent of small cities, and 25 percent of rural counties.

When the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction was accounted for, the number of gang members nationwide was evenly split between juveniles and adults. The vast majority of gang members (71 percent) were reported to be from 15 to 24 years old. Adult gang members were most prevalent in suburban counties (58 percent) and large cities (51 percent).

Males were reported to be substantially more involved in gang activity than their female counterparts. When the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction was controlled for, females constituted only 10 percent of gang members throughout the country. This contrasts with several recent self-report studies in which females represented approximately one-fourth to one-third of all gang members in urban adolescent samples.

Results of the survey also revealed that the racial/ethnic composition of gangs has changed compared with earlier national surveys and research involving smaller samples. When the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction was controlled for, Caucasians accounted for 14 percent of all gang members nationwide. In addition, the proportion of Caucasian gang members was more than twice the national average in rural counties (32 percent) and small cities (31 percent). However, Hispanic and African-American gang members continued to constitute the majority of gang members, especially in large cities and suburban counties. Respondents estimated that 47 percent of the gangs in their jurisdictions were multiethnic/multiracial when the results were weighted for the number of gangs reported in each jurisdiction.

Most respondents (84 percent) indicated that they had experienced some migration of gang members into their jurisdictions. After the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction was controlled for, it was estimated that 21 percent of all gang members in jurisdictions that experienced some migration had migrated to the jurisdiction in which they were residing. The average proportion of gang migrants reported by survey respondents decreased as the population of jurisdictions increased.

Youth gang members were estimated to have been involved in 2,364 homicides in large cities and 561 homicides in suburban counties. Regarding other crimes, respondents indicated that youth gang members were more involved in larceny/theft, followed fairly closely (in the order of degree of involvement) by aggravated assault, burglary, and motor vehicle theft. Youth gang members were not extensively involved in robbery—almost half of the respondents reported low degrees of involvement.

On average, respondents estimated that 43 percent of the drug sales in their jurisdictions involved gang members. However, a substantial number of respondents (47 percent) indicated that gang members controlled or managed less than one-quarter of all drug distribution in their jurisdictions. In jurisdictions that reported a high level of gang control of drug sales and distribution, African-Americans constituted the largest average proportion of gang members. Additionally, the largest average proportion of adult gang members was reported in jurisdictions that reported a high level of gang control of drug distribution.

The results of this survey indicate that the youth gang problem in this country is substantial and affects communities of all sizes. Almost three-fourths of the cities surveyed with populations greater than 25,000 reported youth gangs in 1996. Furthermore, a majority of suburban counties had gangs, as did a significant percentage of small cities and rural counties. Caucasians were found to be more involved in gang activity than previous studies and surveys had indicated, and their predominance in rural counties and small cities was especially high. Gang members were

involved in a significant amount of crime, but the degree of involvement and type of crime varied by area type, region, and population. Examination of these data by the National Youth Gang Center will continue, and subsequent surveys will help to gather more information about gangs and gang members.

Introduction

The National Youth Gang Center (NYGC) was created in 1995 through a cooperative agreement between the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the Institute for Intergovernmental Research. NYGC conducts an annual survey of law enforcement agencies to assess the extent of the youth gang problem in communities throughout the United States.

The 1995 National Youth Gang Survey was the first national survey of youth gangs conducted by NYGC. The sample for this survey consisted of 4,120 law enforcement agencies and included many agencies that reported gang problems in previous surveys.[1] Approximately 83 percent of the survey recipients responded. Of the responding agencies, 58 percent reported that youth gangs were active in their jurisdictions in 1995.

Although the 1995 survey was the most extensive national gang survey conducted up to that time and provided valuable baseline data, it was not entirely representative of the Nation as a whole. As a result, the sample for the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey was constructed to be statistically representative and to present a more complete national picture of youth gang activity.

The 1996 survey was sent to two sample groups:

- 3,024 law enforcement agencies that constituted a statistically representative sample (hereinafter referred to as the "representative sample").
- 1,956 additional law enforcement agencies that were surveyed in 1995 but were not included in the 1996 representative sample (hereinafter referred to as the "comparative sample").

Agencies in the representative sample were asked questions regarding the extent of the gang problem in their jurisdictions, including the number of gangs and gang members. In addition, agencies were asked to comment on gang member demographics, gang drug distribution, gang migration, and the level of crime committed by gang members (this survey form is given as appendix A). This sample represented four area types: large cities (populations greater than 25,000), small cities (populations between 2,500 and 25,000), suburban counties, and rural counties.[2]

The agencies included in the comparative sample were sent an abbreviated questionnaire that asked only about the presence of gangs in 1996 and the number of gangs and gang members (this survey form is contained in appendix B). The comparative sample is not representative and therefore is not used for making inferences about agencies that were not surveyed; it is used only to make comparisons with the 1995 survey. Agencies included in the comparative sample will be surveyed in future years to evaluate trends in gang activity.

Nearly 5,000 agencies were surveyed for 1996. However, this Summary focuses solely on the 3,024 survey recipients in the representative sample, because the survey instrument was more comprehensive and the sample allowed for a more complete nationwide perspective than did previous surveys.

The 1996 sample allowed for a more complete nationwide perspective than did previous surveys.

The 1996 National Youth Gang Survey permits comparative analysis with samples from previous surveys.

Methodology

Survey respondents

Law enforcement agencies continue to be the best and most widely used source of information for national gang surveys and other forms of criminal justice research. Criminal justice agencies usually are organized centrally and capable of developing systems for routine recordkeeping and reporting (Curry, 1995; Maxson, Klein, and Cunningham, 1993). However, law enforcement data have some important limitations. First, many agencies do not collect data in a standardized manner. Databases are becoming more widespread, but they are more commonly used for intelligence gathering than for crime recording. Second, law enforcement agencies are sometimes affected and constrained by political considerations, and a gang problem may tend to be either denied or exaggerated (Curry, 1995). Third, agencies, and individuals within agencies, often have differing definitions of what constitutes a gang or a gang incident, and perceptions of the problem vary depending upon the expertise and experiences of the observer. Varying definitions in different jurisdictions continue to be problems for the collection of gang data.

Survey sample

The representative sample of 3,024 police and sheriff's departments was composed of four divisions grouped by area type:

- All police departments serving cities with populations of more than 25,000 (large cities).
- A randomly selected sample of police departments serving cities with populations between 2,500 and 25,000 (small cities).
- All suburban county police and sheriff's departments (suburban counties).
- A randomly selected sample of rural county police and sheriff's departments (rural counties).

The entire universe of large cities (1,216) and suburban counties (664) was included in the representative sample for two reasons. First, the 1995 National Youth Gang Survey revealed that gang activity in the United States is positively correlated with large populations. Second, a great deal of research on gangs has been conducted for large population areas. The 1996 National Youth Gang Survey permits comparative analysis with samples from previous surveys.

The random samples of small cities and rural counties were selected using a formula developed by Cochran (1977, see appendix C). Implementation of the sampling method produced the following sample sizes: 399 jurisdictions from a total of 8,740 cities with populations between 2,500 and 25,000 identified by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census[3] and 745 rural counties from a total of 2,356 included in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's *Crime in the United States, 1994: Uniform Crime Reports* (Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1995).

The comparative sample of 1,956 police and sheriff's departments comprised jurisdictions that were surveyed in 1995 but not included in the 1996 representative sample. These jurisdictions will be surveyed in future years for the purpose of evaluating trends in gang activity.

Survey instructions specifically asked sheriff's departments to report only for their "unincorporated service area and any contracted jurisdictions." This was done in an effort to avoid sheriff's departments reporting for cities and towns within their counties that were already in the survey sample. In a few instances, county agencies did not follow survey instructions, but these instances of duplicate reporting were corrected in the course of preparing the data for analysis.

All jurisdictions included in the sample were cross-referenced with a U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census database so that accurate and current populations could be assigned to each. Jurisdictions were linked to a Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Code, which is administered by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. Each FIPS Code is unique and is linked to the most recent Bureau of the Census population estimates. This survey used estimates for 1994 because these were the most current population estimates at the time the sample was developed.

Each city and town was assigned a FIPS Code that corresponded to the entire population of that area.[4] Counties were assigned populations for their unincorporated areas. FIPS Code language refers to the unincorporated area of a county as the "balance of" a county. This figure excludes the populations of incorporated cities and towns within the county. A few counties do not have a "balance of" population because there are no cities or towns within the jurisdiction. In such cases, the jurisdiction was assigned the population of the entire county.

All jurisdictions included in the sample were cross-referenced with a U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census database.

Response rate

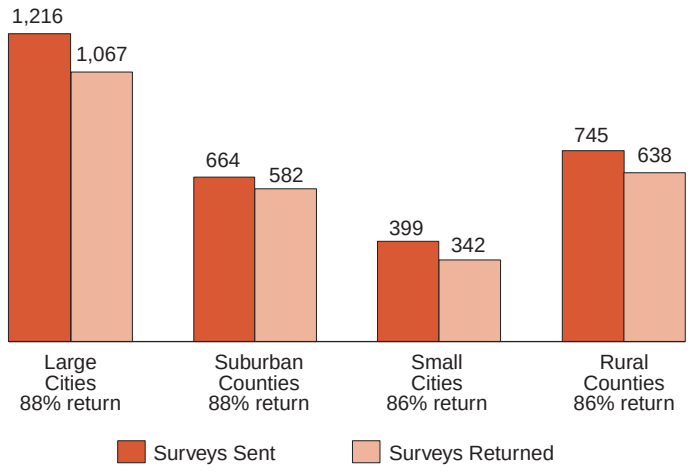
In October 1997, surveys were sent to agencies in both the representative and comparative samples. Surveys sent to agencies that were surveyed in 1995 were addressed to the individuals who responded to the 1995 survey. Surveys sent to agencies not surveyed in 1995 were addressed to either the Chief of Police or the Sheriff.

In the first 2 months after the surveys were mailed, the initial response rate was approximately 50 percent. After followup calls were conducted, the response rate increased to approximately 87 percent for the representative sample and 81 percent for the comparative sample. Response rates for the representative sample varied by area type, but not significantly (see figure 1). Large cities and suburban counties had the highest response rate (88 percent), followed by small cities and rural counties (86 percent).

In a few cases, respondents failed to answer one or more questions in the survey. In these cases, the agency was excluded from the analysis of the respective question or questions. Evaluation of the number of agencies that answered different questions revealed that respondents were less likely to answer if they were asked to indicate a percentage or raw number. In contrast, respondents were more likely to answer questions that asked them to select from a list.

To provide the most accurate nationwide perspective of the extent of the gang problem, it was necessary to estimate.

Figure 1: Number of Respondents, by Area Type



There did not appear to be any other survey design or methodological problems that contributed to the likelihood that a respondent would or would not answer a question.

Extrapolation/Estimation

To provide the most accurate nationwide perspective of the extent of the gang problem, it was necessary to estimate:

- The number of jurisdictions reporting gangs.
- The number of gangs.
- The number of gang members.
- The number of homicides.

To determine the estimated number of jurisdictions reporting gangs in small cities and rural counties, the percentage of agencies reporting gangs was multiplied by the total number of small cities and rural counties included in the group from which the sample was derived. The same method was used for large cities and suburban counties in order to incorporate nonrespondents.

Estimating the number of gangs and gang members for small cities and rural counties was a slightly more complex task. For these samples, the following steps were completed:

1. Calculate the mean for agencies responding either “yes” or “no” to the question regarding the number of gangs and gang members.
2. Multiply the total number of jurisdictions from which the sample was derived by the percentage of agencies responding either “yes” or “no” to the question regarding the number of gangs and gang members.
3. Multiply the product of step 2 by the mean calculated in step 1.

To produce the most accurate nationwide estimate, it was necessary to extrapolate for nonrespondents in large cities and suburban counties. If this had not been done, the result would have been a systematic underestimation of the extent of gang activity in these areas. In addition, any change in the proportion of agencies responding for large cities and suburban counties in future surveys would likely have resulted in a commensurate change in the number of gangs and gang members; this change could lead to a false conclusion that gang activity has increased or decreased.

To estimate the number of gangs and gang members for large cities and suburban counties, the average or mean number of gangs and gang members per jurisdiction was calculated. These estimates were controlled for population by stratification of respondent agencies into population groups of 50,000 and by calculation of a mean for each population group. To acquire the most accurate mean, the survey designers established a minimum number of agencies in each population group from which a mean could be derived. The minimum number was set at 40 to allow for the inclusion of a large number and wide range of agencies in each population group. Unfortunately, not all population groups included 40 or more agencies. Therefore, the population groups were expanded equally on the high and low ends until 40 or more agencies were included. Once this expansion was completed, a mean was calculated and that mean was matched with each nonresponding agency within the corresponding population group (see appendix D).

As with gangs and gang members, estimating the number of homicides required extrapolation for both random samples and for nonrespondents in large cities and suburban counties. The number of agencies responding to the homicide questions and reporting homicides in the random samples was comparatively low. Consequently, extrapolations for the random samples would not have been reliable. Responses for large cities and suburban counties were analyzed because the entire universe of each group was included in the sample. Therefore, an estimated number of homicides was reported only for large cities and suburban counties. A nationwide estimate could not be calculated.

The estimated number of homicides that likely occurred in large cities and suburban counties during 1996 was obtained by multiplying the average number of homicides per jurisdiction by the estimated number of jurisdictions reporting gangs in 1996.

Demographics

Respondents who reported gangs in 1996 were asked for specific demographic information: age, sex, and race/ethnicity (see appendix A). All responses were in the form of percentages. Demographic categories were grouped as follows:

- **Age:** younger than 15, 15–17, 18–24, and older than 24.
- **Sex:** male and female.
- **Race/Ethnicity:** African-American, Hispanic, Caucasian, Asian, and "other."

Respondents who reported gangs in 1996 were asked for specific demographic information.

It is important to be able to make comparisons about gang activity across jurisdictions.

Gang activity within each demographic category was analyzed using the following variables: area type, geographic region (as defined by *Crime in the United States, 1996: Uniform Crime Reports,* Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1997; see appendix E), and population. In addition, each demographic category was grouped by jurisdictions that reported their gang problem began before 1990 ("older" gang jurisdictions) and those that reported their problem began between 1990 and 1996 ("newer" gang jurisdictions). This grouping allowed for the comparison of characteristics of gang members in older gang jurisdictions with those in newer gang jurisdictions.

In order for a response to be considered in the analysis, the sum of the percentages within each category was required to equal 100 percent. Although most agencies responded appropriately, a small percentage (8 percent for age, 1 percent for sex, and 9 percent for race/ethnicity) of the responses did not total 100 percent and were subsequently excluded from the analysis. The excluded data were examined to determine if there was some systematic problem that contributed to the miscalculations. It was concluded that human error was primarily responsible. Additionally, summary data were not included for categories in which there were fewer than 20 observations, unless otherwise noted.

An important limitation to interpreting the responses to the demographic questions and the question regarding the percentage of migrant gang members is that jurisdictions only provided average percentages in their responses. These percentages do not reflect differences in the size of the gangs across the reporting jurisdictions. To account for this important factor, the percentages were weighted by the total number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction (the total number of gangs was used for the question regarding multiethnic/multiracial gangs). Agency responses must have met the following criteria in order to be considered in the analysis: the sum of the percentages within each category must have totaled 100 percent, and the agency must have reported a total number of gang members or, for the question regarding multiethnic/multiracial gangs, a total number of gangs. These requirements decreased the number of agencies included in the analysis but increased the reliability of the translation of percentages into actual numbers of gangs or gang members.

It is important to be able to make comparisons about gang activity across jurisdictions utilizing the variables previously discussed (area type, geographic region, population, and year of onset). Therefore, weighted percentages were used only when estimating aggregate percentages for gangs or gang members. The remainder of the analyses were conducted by comparing averages, regardless of the number of gangs or gang members reported, for each jurisdiction. This procedure allowed differences across jurisdictions to be observed without being skewed by jurisdictions with a disproportionate number of gangs or gang members. When appropriate, tables are included in the following analysis to illustrate the differences between weighted and unweighted averages.

Statistical significance

Statistical significance was determined by conducting *chi*-square and one-way analysis of variance tests. *Chi*-square is often used when evaluating the level of statistical significance attained in a cross-tabulation. One-way analysis of variance tests determines the differences between means of a dependent variable by one factor, or independent variable. For a relationship to be considered statistically significant, it must meet a minimum level of significance, which in this case was set at .05. In other words, if a relationship is statistically significant at the .05 level, there would be less than a 5-percent probability that the relationship occurred by chance.

Data limitations

Despite the comprehensiveness of this survey and the use of a representative sample, there are some important limitations. As noted earlier, law enforcement data have some inherent weaknesses that might affect the conclusions presented in this Summary. Respondents to the survey were asked to base their responses on records or personal knowledge. Since it is impossible to determine which responses were based on official records and which were based on personal knowledge, the most conservative view would be that all responses were estimates by the individual or agency respondent.

Responses to survey questions likely were influenced by the respondents' perceptions of gangs in their jurisdictions. For instance, studies relying on law enforcement data tend to produce lower estimates of female involvement in gangs than general surveys (Esbensen and Winfree, in press). Furthermore, females are sometimes excluded from gang classification as a matter of policy (Curry, Ball, and Fox, 1994). These tendencies may have resulted in underreporting of female involvement in gangs by respondents to this survey.

Definitions continue to pose problems for practitioners and researchers evaluating gang activity on a national level. Little agreement has been reached on what constitutes a gang, gang member, or gang incident, despite efforts to gain a consensus (Law Enforcement Youth Gang Definitional Conference, 1989). In light of these problems, the current survey did not seek to define gang terms narrowly. The survey defined a youth gang as "a group of youths or young adults in (the respondent's) jurisdiction that (the respondent) or other responsible persons in (the respondent's) agency or community are willing to identify or classify as a 'gang.'" Respondents were asked to exclude motorcycle gangs, hate or ideology groups, prison gangs, and exclusively adult gangs. No definition was presented regarding what constitutes a gang member or gang incident, although respondents were asked whether the gang homicides reported in the survey were solely gang motivated.

The effect of the lack of a standardized definition of a gang was compounded by respondents who indicated that their definition of a gang included the following groups: taggers (58 percent), satanic groups (24 percent), "stoners" (20 percent), and terrorist groups (5 percent) (see figure 6). The reporting of such groups as "youth gangs" indicates that the definitional problems among law enforcement agencies are widespread.

Respondents were asked to exclude motorcycle gangs, hate or ideology groups, prison gangs, and exclusively adult gangs.

Respondents in the West, which has historically experienced significant gang problems, reported the highest level of gang activity.

The current survey did not specify what constitutes a troublesome youth group or a multiethnic/multiracial gang. As a result, responses concerning each category were wide ranging and difficult to interpret. For instance, there is no way to determine the degree to which gangs are multiethnic/multiracial. Some gangs may have a large variety of races/ethnicities while others may have only a few members whose race/ethnicity differs from the remainder of the gang. A lack of standardized definitions among respondents is an important limitation to the current survey and should be considered when drawing conclusions about the findings in this Summary.

Survey Results

City and county agencies reporting gangs

Approximately 53 percent of all survey respondents in the representative sample reported that youth gangs were active in their jurisdictions in 1996. More specifically, figure 2 shows that 74 percent of large cities reported gangs in 1996, followed by 57 percent of suburban counties, 34 percent of small cities, and 25 percent of rural counties (see appendix F for a list of all jurisdictions reporting gangs in 1996, by area type). The relationship between agencies reporting gangs in 1996 and area type was found to be statistically significant.

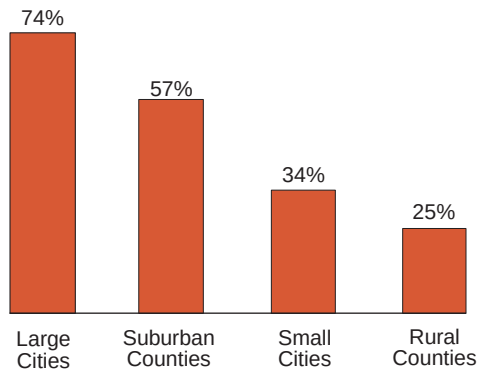
To estimate the number of cities and counties nationwide that had gangs in 1996, extrapolations were conducted for both the random samples of small cities and rural counties and the nonrespondents for large cities and suburban counties. Table 1 shows the reported number of jurisdictions with gangs in 1996 and the estimated or extrapolated number. It was estimated that approximately 4,824 jurisdictions throughout the country had active youth gangs in 1996.

Table 1: Number of Jurisdictions With Gangs in 1996: Reported Versus Estimated

Area Type	Reported Number	Estimated Number
Large city	785	899
Small city	113	2,948
Suburban county	329	379
Rural county	158	598
Total	1,385	4,824

Figure 3 presents the percentages of survey respondents reporting gangs in 1996 for each region of the country. Respondents in the West, which has historically experienced significant gang problems, reported the highest level of gang activity (75 percent). This is more than 20 percent higher than the next highest region, the Midwest, which reported 54 percent. In addition, 50 percent of the

Figure 2: Percentage of Jurisdictions Reporting Gangs in 1996, by Area Type

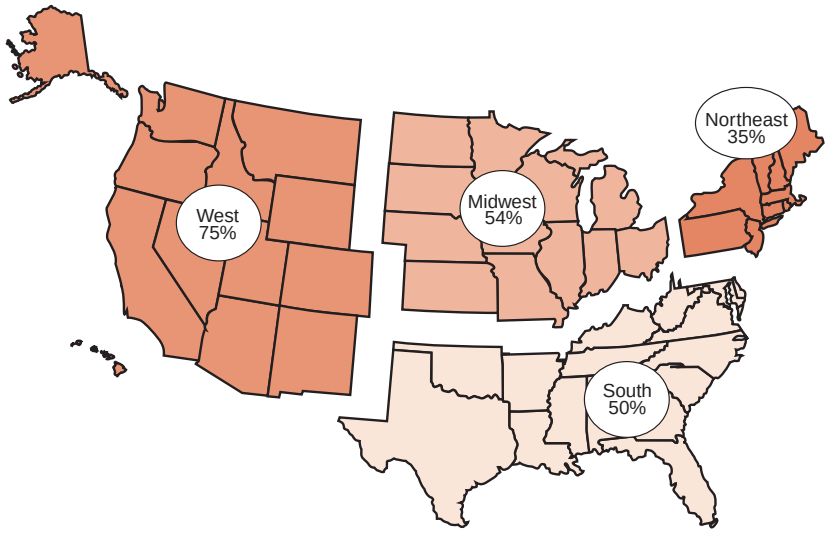


survey respondents in the South reported gangs in 1996, followed by 35 percent for the Northeast.

Gang activity throughout the United States appeared to vary substantially by region. The differences in gang activity by region were found to be statistically significant. Both population size and area type had a statistically significant relationship to the level of gang activity reported for each region (see appendixes G and H).

For the purposes of this survey, each geographic region was divided into smaller increments called divisions (see appendix E). Figure 4 illustrates the percentage of jurisdictions reporting gangs, by division. As figure 4 illustrates, the Pacific

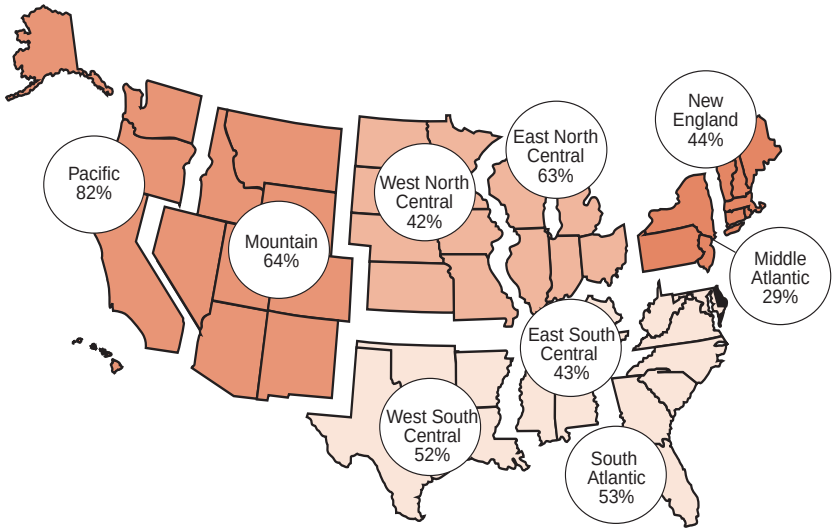
Figure 3: Percentage of Jurisdictions Reporting Gangs in 1996, by Region



Gang activity throughout the United States appeared to vary substantially by region.

Survey recipients also were asked if they had youth gang problems prior to 1996.

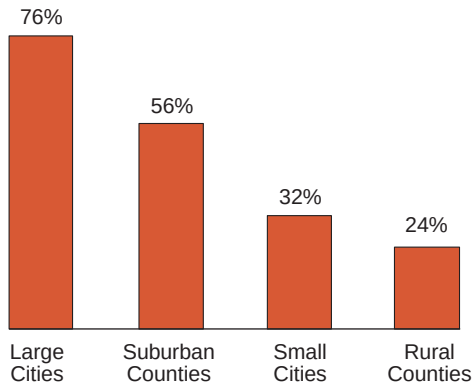
Figure 4: Percentage of Jurisdictions Reporting Gangs in 1996, by Division



division within the western region experienced significantly more gang problems than all other divisions throughout the country, with 82 percent of jurisdictions reporting gangs. In light of these findings, each State in the Pacific division was analyzed separately, excluding Alaska and Hawaii.[5] California, Washington, and Oregon all reported particularly high levels of gang activity. California led all States in this division, with 85 percent of survey respondents reporting gangs in 1996, followed by 78 percent for Washington and 64 percent for Oregon.

Survey recipients also were asked if they had youth gang problems prior to 1996. As expected, the highest proportion (76 percent) of affirmative answers came from large cities (see figure 5). The percentages for the remaining area types were as follows: suburban counties, 56 percent; small cities, 32 percent; and rural counties, 24 percent.

Figure 5: Percentage of Jurisdictions Reporting Gang Problems Prior to 1996, by Area Type



Following extrapolation, the estimated number of jurisdictions reporting gangs prior to 1996 was compared with the estimated number reporting gangs in 1996. There was an overall 4.1-percent increase in the number of jurisdictions reporting youth gangs (see table 2). Small cities had the greatest increase, with 6.8 percent, followed by rural counties with 4.4 percent and suburban counties with 1.3 percent. Large cities showed a 3.2-percent decrease in gang activity. An estimated 30 large cities had gangs prior to 1996 but none in 1996.

Determining why a community may no longer have a gang problem allows other jurisdictions to replicate successful prevention and intervention strategies. Followup interviews will be conducted with a randomly selected group of agencies that reported gangs prior to 1996 but no gangs in 1996. Interviews also will be conducted with agencies that reported gangs in 1996 but no previous gang problem, in order to determine what led to the development of gangs in those jurisdictions. When this analysis is complete, the results will be reported.

Followup interviews will be conducted with a randomly selected group of agencies that reported gangs prior to 1996 but no gangs in 1996.

Table 2: Estimated Number of Jurisdictions With Gangs Prior to 1996 Versus Jurisdictions With Gangs in 1996

Area Type	Estimated Number of Jurisdictions With Gangs Prior to 1996	Estimated Number of Jurisdictions With Gangs in 1996	Percentage of Difference
Large city	929	899	–3.2%
Small city	2,760	2,948	6.8
Suburban county	374	379	1.3
Rural county	573	598	4.4
Total	4,636	4,824	4.1

Population size appears to affect the likelihood that jurisdictions will experience gang problems. There was a direct variation between gang activity and population size for agencies reporting gangs in 1996 and for those reporting gangs prior to 1996 (see tables 3–6). *Chi*-square tests showed these relationships to be statistically significant for all area types.

Table 3: Percentage of Large Cities Reporting Gangs, by Population Size

Population Size	Gangs Prior to 1996	Gangs in 1996
250,000 or more	**61** (100%)	**61** (100%)
100,000–249,999	**116** (94%)	**113** (91%)
50,000–99,999	**240** (81%)	**237** (80%)
25,000–49,999	**398** (68%)	**374** (64%)
Total/Percentage	**815** (76%)	**785** (74%)

Most respondents indicated that their gang problem began quite recently; 1994 was the most frequently cited year.

Table 4: Percentage of Small Cities Reporting Gangs, by Population Size

Population Size	Gangs Prior to 1996	Gangs in 1996
10,000–24,999	**45** (45%)	**42** (43%)
2,500–9,999	**63** (26%)	**71** (30%)
Total/Percentage	**108** (32%)	**113** (34%)

Table 5: Percentage of Suburban Counties Reporting Gangs, by Population Size

Population Size	Gangs Prior to 1996	Gangs in 1996
250,000 or more	**36** (90%)	**36** (90%)
100,000–249,999	**66** (73%)	**67** (74%)
50,000–99,999	**82** (63%)	**85** (66%)
25,000–49,999	**66** (47%)	**63** (46%)
10,000–24,999	**69** (45%)	**69** (45%)
1–9,999	**9** (26%)	**9** (31%)
Total/Percentage	**328** (56%)	**329** (57%)

Table 6: Percentage of Rural Counties Reporting Gangs, by Population Size

Population Size	Gangs Prior to 1996	Gangs in 1996
250,000 or more	**0***	**0***
100,000–249,999	**1***	**1***
50,000–99,999	**10** (45%)	**9** (41%)
25,000–49,999	**25** (43%)	**22** (39%)
10,000–24,999	**54** (28%)	**58** (32%)
1–9,999	**65** (18%)	**68** (19%)
Total/Percentage	**155** (24%)	**158** (25%)

* Fewer than 20 agencies responded to this question; a reliable estimate could not be reached.

Year gangs became a problem

Agencies that reported gangs in their jurisdictions prior to 1996 were asked to identify the year in which gangs first posed a problem. Most respondents indicated that their gang problem began quite recently; 1994 was the most frequently cited year. The year of onset varied somewhat by area type. On average, gangs began to pose a problem in 1989 for large cities, 1990 for suburban counties, 1992 for small cities, and 1993 for rural counties (see table 7). Regionally, the average year of onset was 1986 in the West, 1990 in the Midwest, and 1991 in both the Northeast and South (see table 8).

Table 7: Average Year of Onset, by Area Type

Area Type	Average Year of Onset
Large city	1989
Small city	1992
Suburban county	1990
Rural county	1993

Table 8: Average Year of Onset, by Region

Region	Average Year of Onset
Midwest	1990
Northwest	1991
South	1991
West	1986

It was estimated that 30,818 gangs and 846,428 gang members were active in the United States in 1996.

Number of gangs and gang members

Prior to the 1995 National Youth Gang Survey, the estimates of gangs ranged from 8,600 to 9,000 with 375,000 to 400,000 gang members (Curry, Ball, and Decker, 1996a; 1996b; 1996c; Klein, 1995). However, the samples used in previous surveys were limited in size and scope.

The sample of jurisdictions reporting gangs in the 1995 National Youth Gang Survey included counties and was much larger (2,007) than any used in previous studies of gang activity. Results of the survey indicated that approximately 23,000 gangs and 665,000 gang members were active in the United States in 1995 (Moore, 1997; National Youth Gang Center, 1997). These figures were based on actual reports or estimates by city and county law enforcement agencies. The data were not extrapolated to account for agencies not included in the survey, because the sample was not representative.

As noted in the introduction, the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey was designed to be representative of the Nation as a whole. Therefore, inferences can be made about gang problems in cities and counties not included in the survey. After extrapolations were conducted for the random samples and nonrespondents for large cities and suburban counties, it was estimated that 30,818 gangs and 846,428 gang members were active in the United States in 1996 (see table 9).

Table 9: Reported and Extrapolated Number of Gangs and Gang Members for 1996

	Reported Number		Extrapolated Number	
Area Type	**Gangs**	**Gang Members**	**Gangs**	**Gang Members**
Large city	11,495	469,267	12,841	513,243
Small city	315	3,618	8,053	92,448
Suburban county	6,897	195,205	7,956	222,267
Rural county	533	5,000	1,968	18,470
Total	19,240	673,090	30,818	846,428

Juvenile gangs and street gangs were included by more than 80 percent of all respondents.

The average number of gangs and gang members per jurisdiction generally varied by population size. As table 10 illustrates, the average number of both gangs and gang members increased, drastically in some cases, as population size increased. This trend was also present when both population size and area type were observed together (see appendix I). Unfortunately, the low number of observations makes the data difficult to interpret for small cities and rural counties. Nevertheless, certain trends were evident for large cities and suburban counties. In jurisdictions with populations ranging from 25,000 to 249,999, suburban counties appeared to have a higher average number of gangs and gang members than large cities. Conversely, in jurisdictions with populations exceeding 250,000, large cities, on average, had more gangs and gang members per jurisdiction than suburban counties.

Table 10: Average Number of Gangs and Gang Members per Jurisdiction, by Population Size

Population Size*	Gangs per Jurisdiction	Gang Members per Jurisdiction
250,000 or more	**80** (*n*=90)	**5894** (*n*=68)
100,000–249,999	**32** (*n*=167)	**1016** (*n*=141)
50,000–99,999	**10** (*n*=304)	**352** (*n*=221)
25,000–49,999	**6** (*n*=414)	**13** (*n*=302)
10,000–24,999	**4** (*n*=143)	**84** (*n*=91)
1–9,999	**3** (*n*=132)	**37** (*n*=85)
Overall average	**15** (*n*=1250)	**741** (*n*=908)

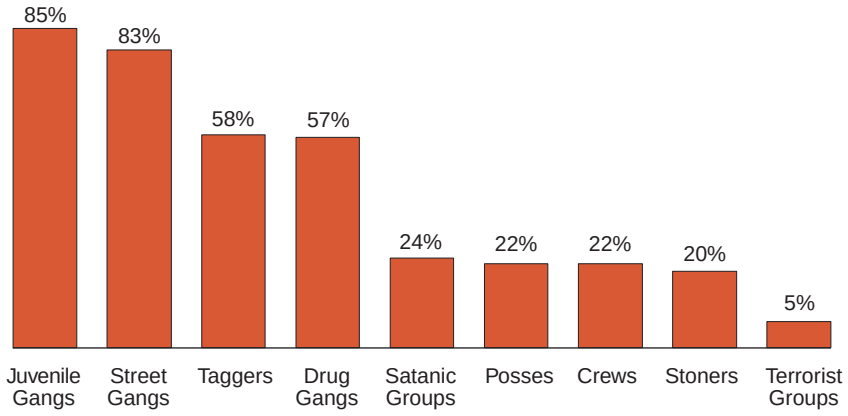
Note: *n*=the number of observations.
* Population parameters are inclusive of all area types.

Although gang activity was widespread in 1996, a large number of the gangs and gang members reported by survey respondents were concentrated in Chicago, IL, and Los Angeles (City and County), CA. These three localities have a long history of gang problems, and together they accounted for almost 4 percent of all gangs estimated to be active in 1996 and almost 27 percent of all gang members. Without these 3 localities, the average numbers of gangs and gang members in populations of 250,000 or more were reduced to 69 and 2,638, respectively.

Types of gangs

There has been considerable debate among practitioners and researchers about which groups should be considered gangs (Klein, 1995). In the present survey, respondents were asked to identify, from a list of groups some consider to be gangs, the types of groups they included in their definition of a gang. Juvenile gangs, street gangs, drug gangs, and “taggers” were included in the gang definitions of more than half of all respondents (see figure 6). Juvenile gangs and street gangs were included by more than 80 percent of all respondents. Of the groups included on the survey list, terrorist groups were least likely to be included in gang definitions.

Figure 6: Types of Groups Included in Definitions of Gangs



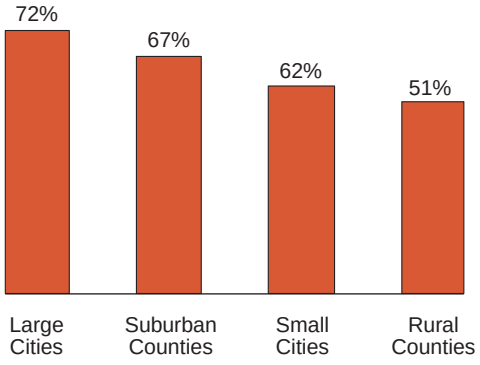
Agencies do recognize the differences between gangs and unsupervised and troublesome youth groups.

Unsupervised and troublesome youth groups

"Unsupervised peer groups" (Sampson and Groves, 1989) are small groups of adolescents, typically with three or four members, that are highly transitory and poorly organized (Warr, 1996). Many of these groups are involved in occasional delinquent behavior, but they are not committed to a criminal orientation (Short, 1996). As a result, they may be considered troublesome but not threatening to society. These adolescent groups lack size, formal organization, and permanence, and their delinquency typically is not as frequent, serious, or violent as that of youth gangs.

Some researchers have suggested that law enforcement agencies typically do not make a distinction between gangs and unsupervised and troublesome youth groups. To test this notion, survey recipients were asked about these respective groups in their jurisdictions. The data indicated that agencies do recognize the differences between gangs and unsupervised and troublesome youth groups (see figure 7). Approximately 72 percent of large cities reported having

Figure 7: Percentage of Jurisdictions Reporting Troublesome Youth Groups



The 1996 National Youth Gang Survey attempted to capture a national picture of the age, sex, and race/ethnicity of gang members.

unsupervised and troublesome youth groups, followed by 67 percent for suburban counties, 62 percent for small cities, and 51 percent for rural counties.

Gang member demographics

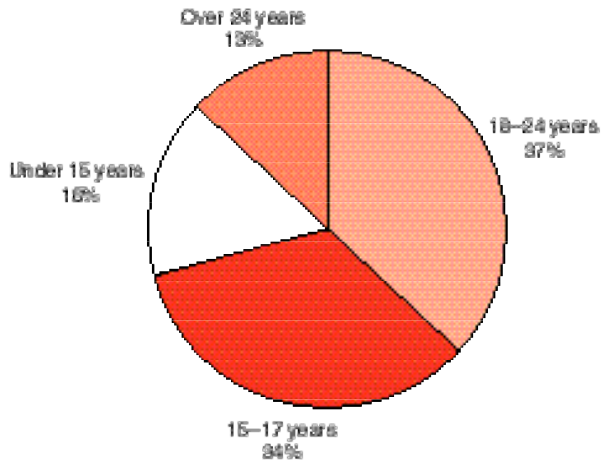
Demographic characteristics of gang members have been widely studied and debated. Numerous self-report studies and surveys provide varying conclusions, but most results have been obtained from localized research, thus limiting projection. The 1996 National Youth Gang Survey attempted to capture a national picture of the age, sex, and race/ethnicity of gang members by utilizing a representative sample of the entire country.

Age

Past research on the age of gang members has produced differing results. Some researchers contend that gang members are becoming younger; others argue that they are becoming older. Klein pointed out that the earliest known age of entry into gangs for juveniles was about 11, which left "little room for change downward" (Klein, 1995). Irving Spergel (1995) emphasized the high number of adult gang members involved in gang crime.

Results of the current survey, weighted for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction, indicated that, in 1996, the members of groups considered to be "youth gangs" were evenly split between juveniles and adults. As figure 8 illustrates, 16 percent of youth gang members were younger than 15; 34 percent were between the ages of 15 and 17; 37 percent were between the ages of 18 and 24; and 13 percent were older than 24.

Figure 8: Age of Gang Members (Weighted for Number of Gang Members)



To evaluate differences in age across jurisdictions, the reported percentages also were averaged without taking into account the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction. Table 11 shows the weighted and unweighted averages for area types and the total for all area types combined. When the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction was not controlled for, the unweighted average proportion of gang members under the age of 18 was much higher (68 percent) than the weighted proportion (50 percent) for all area types because there were a large percentage of adult gang members reported by fewer agencies and a small percentage of adult gang members reported by a greater number of agencies.

There appears to be an association between area type and the age of gang members.

Table 11: Age of Gang Members, by Area Type: Weighted Versus Unweighted Averages

Age, by Area Type	Weighted Average	Unweighted Average
Large city		
Under 15	15%	22%
15–17	34	45
18–24	37	28
Over 24	14	5
Small city		
Under 15	20	18
15–17	49	57
18–24	25	22
Over 24	5	3
Suburban county		
Under 15	15	22
15–17	27	45
18–24	44	28
Over 24	14	5
Rural county		
Under 15	26%	24%
15–17	45	49
18–24	27	25
Over 24	3	2
All area types		
Under 15	16	22
15–17	34	46
18–24	37	27
Over 24	13	5

Notes: The percentages within each area type may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Averages for all area types cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each area type. The number of observations is different for each area type.

Table 12 shows the age ranges of gang members by area type and region based on unweighted averages. There appears to be an association between area type and the age of gang members. The average proportion of juvenile gang members was high in all four area types, but especially in small cities and rural counties. Conversely, agencies in large cities and suburban counties reported a higher average proportion of adult gang members. When area type is considered, the variation in the age of gang members was found to be statistically significant for all age ranges except “under 15.”

The relation of the age of gang members to the region of the country, irrespective of area type, was statistically significant only in the “over 24” age category. Even within this age range, there were no large differences between regions.

Population size appears to be a significant correlate of the age of gang members.

There appeared to be more variation between regions when area types were examined separately. Respondents in the Midwest and West reported a greater average proportion of adult gang members in large cities and suburban counties. Agencies in the South reported a greater average proportion of adult gang members in large cities and rural counties. There were too few observations available for estimates in the Northeast.

Table 12: Age of Gang Members, by Area Type and Region (Unweighted*)

Age, by Area Type	Overall Average	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
Large city					
Under 15	22%	22%	23%	23%	19%
15–17	45	45	44	45	45
18–24	28	28	29	27	29
Over 24	5	5	4	5	7
Small city					
Under 15	18	13	+	20	23
15–17	57	59	+	60	55
18–24	22	25	+	18	18
Over 24	3	3	+	2	4
Suburban county					
Under 15	22	23	+	23	21
15–17	45	45	+	48	40
18–24	28	27	+	25	31
Over 24	5	6	+	4	8
Rural county					
Under 15	24	23	+	25	26
15–17	49	52	+	46	53
18–24	25	24	+	27	17
Over 24	2	1	+	3	3
All area types					
Under 15	22	21	22	23	20
15–17	46	47	44	47	46
18–24	27	27	30	26	27
Over 24	5	5	4	4	6

Notes: The percentages within each area type may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Overall averages and averages for all area types cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each area type and region. The number of observations is different for each area type and region.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.
+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

Population size appears to be a significant correlate of the age of gang members. As table 13 shows, the average percentage of adult gang members reported by respondents increased substantially as population size increased (see appendix J for an illustration of all age ranges in smaller population increments). The differences in age by population size were found to be statistically significant.

The survey results suggest that adult gang members are more prevalent in cities that have a long history of gang problems. As Klein (1995) points out, "Older members seem more common in cities that have developed gang traditions over a decade or more." He also observed that newer gang cities do not have many gang members in the upper age ranges.

Table 13: Juvenile and Adult Gang Members, by Population Size and Region (Unweighted*)

Population and Age Category	Overall Average	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
250,000 or more					
Juvenile	54%	+	+	57%	52%
Adult	46	+	+	43	48
100,000–249,999					
Juvenile	60	57%	+	68	53
Adult	40	43	+	32	47
1–99,999					
Juvenile	71	70	69%	72	71
Adult	29	30	31	28	29

Notes: The percentages within each population parameter may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Overall averages cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each region. The number of observations is different for each region.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.
+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

For this Summary, agencies experiencing gang problems before 1990 were considered "older" gang jurisdictions. Those first reporting gang problems after 1990 were classified as "newer" gang jurisdictions. The average proportion of adult gang members reported by agencies in older large cities was 7 percent higher than in newer large cities (see table 14). Compared with their counterparts in newer suburban counties, agencies in older suburban counties reported 5 percent more adult gang members. There were too few reports from agencies in older small cities and rural counties to make comparisons; the small number of reports was likely due to the relatively recent emergence of gangs in these area types.

Sex

Nearly all research concludes that males dominate gang membership. Some studies have indicated that females represent less than 10 percent of all gang members, and one recent study estimated the figure as low as 3 or 4 percent (Curry, Ball, and Fox, 1994; Esbensen and Winfree, in press; Miller, 1982). Other studies have reported that the proportion of females in gangs is much larger, ranging from approximately one-fourth to one-third of all gang members in urban adolescent samples.[6]

Nearly all research concludes that males dominate gang membership.

Females accounted for 11 percent of gang members.

Table 14: Age of Gang Members, by Period Gangs Became a Problem and Area Type (Unweighted*)

Age, by Area Type	Period Gangs Became a Problem: Before 1990	Period Gangs Became a Problem: 1990–96	Percentage of Difference
Large city			
Under 15	20%	23%	+3%
15–17	42	47	+5
18–24	30	27	–3
Over 24	8	4	–4
Small city			
Under 15	+	18	N/A
15–17	+	61	N/A
18–24	+	19	N/A
Over 24	+	2	N/A
Suburban county			
Under 15	21	23	+2
15–17	40	45	+5
18–24	30	28	–2
Over 24	8	5	–3
Rural county			
Under 15	+	26	N/A
15–17	+	49	N/A
18–24	+	24	N/A
Over 24	+	2	N/A
All area types			
Under 15	20	23	+3
15–17	42	48	+6
18–24	30	26	–4
Over 24	8	3	–5

Notes: The percentages within each area type may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Averages for all area types cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each area type. The number of observations is different for each area type.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.
+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

Some researchers have argued that law enforcement agencies tend to minimize female gang membership. Curry (1998) suggested that law enforcement might not view female gang involvement as serious enough to be considered a problem. Females were identified as suspects in only 2 percent of 1,346 Los Angeles County gang-related homicides dating back to 1979 (Klein, 1995). In addition, only 2 of 286 gang homicides that occurred in Chicago between 1988 and 1990 were attributed to females (Spergel, 1995).

Agencies responding to the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey reported that, when the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction was controlled for, females constituted 10 percent of the total. The unweighted responses showed that, on average, females accounted for 11 percent of gang members (see table 15). Differences between weighted and unweighted estimates were fairly minimal, except in small cities.

Table 15: Sex of Gang Members, by Area Type: Weighted Versus Unweighted Averages

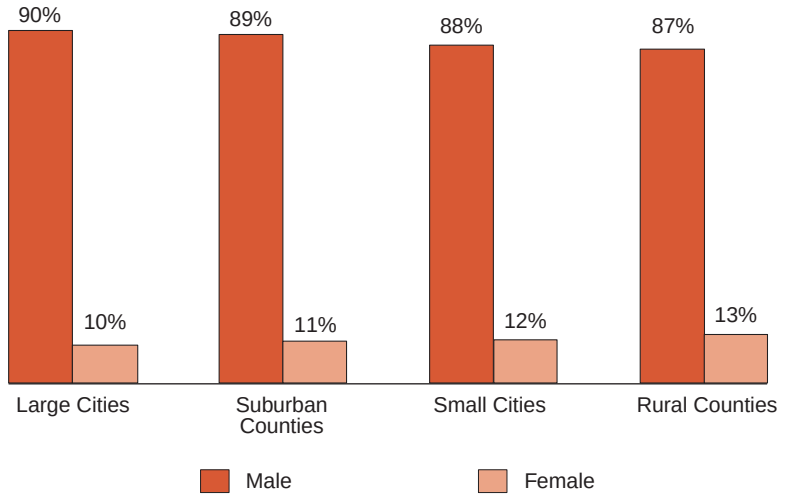
Sex, by Area Type	Weighted Average	Unweighted Average	Sex, by Area Type	Weighted Average	Unweighted Average
Large city			**Rural county**		
Male	92%	90%	Male	87%	87%
Female	8	10	Female	13	13
Small city			**All area types**		
Male	80	88	Male	90	89
Female	20	12	Female	10	11
Suburban county					
Male	91	89			
Female	9	11			

Note: Averages for all area types cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each area type. The number of observations is different for each area type.

Figure 9 depicts the sex of gang members by area type, irrespective of the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction. The average proportion of female gang members was highest in rural counties and lowest in large cities. All of the differences in sex by area type were found to be statistically significant.

Regional variation in the sex of gang members was minimal. The average proportion of female gang members was 13 percent in the Northeast and 11 percent in the Midwest, South, and West (see figure 10). These differences were not statistically significant.

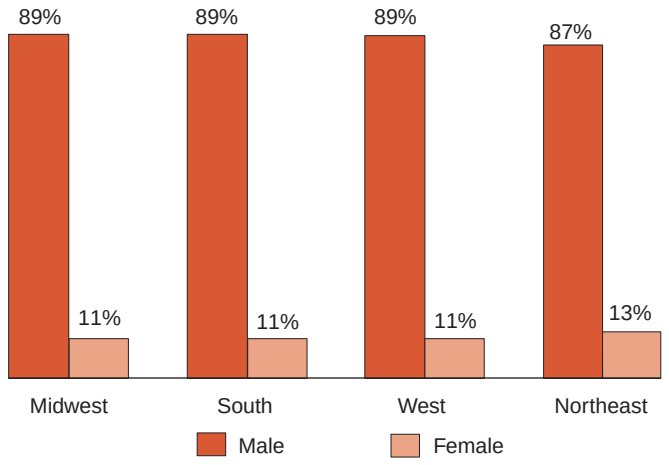
Figure 9: Sex of Gang Members, by Area Type (Unweighted)



The average proportion of female gang members was highest in rural counties and lowest in large cities.

Nationally, the average proportion of female gang members decreased as the population increased.

Figure 10: Sex of Gang Members, by Region (Unweighted)



When sex was examined by region and area type, limited variation was evident (see appendix K). Agencies in rural counties reported that the average proportion of female gang members in the West was 18 percent and in the Midwest, 16 percent. The lowest average proportion of females (9 percent) was reported by agencies in small cities in the Midwest. Little information was available for the Northeast, because of a limited number of observations.

Population size, more than area type and region, appeared to affect the average proportion of male and female gang members. As table 16 illustrates, the average proportion of female gang members reported by respondents decreased as the population of the locality increased. Agencies reported that the average percentage of female gang members was 14 percent in jurisdictions with populations less than 10,000 and 9 percent in jurisdictions with populations greater than 250,000. The average proportion of female gang members reported in the smallest jurisdictions (populations less than 10,000) was highest in the West (18 percent).

The effect of population size on the average proportion of male and female gang members was determined to be statistically significant. Nationally, the average proportion of female gang members decreased as the population increased. Consistent with this overall pattern, the average proportion of female gang members in the smallest population range was higher than the average proportion in the largest population range for the Midwest, South, and West. However, this pattern was not always linear. For example, the average percentage of female gang members reported by jurisdictions in the 10,000–24,999 population range was lower than the average percentage found in the 25,000–49,999 population range in the Midwest and South. Too few observations were available for the Northeast to allow a reliable estimate for the population ranges of 1–9,999, 10,000–24,999, 100,000–249,999, and 250,000 or more.

Table 16: Sex of Gang Members, by Population Size and Region (Unweighted*)

Sex, by Population Size	Overall Average	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
250,000 or more					
Male	91%	+	+	90%	89%
Female	9	+	+	10	11
100,000–249,999					
Male	90	92	+	88	90
Female	10	8	+	12	10
50,000–99,999					
Male	90	91	88%	89	90
Female	10	9	12	11	10
25,000–49,999					
Male	89	88	88	89	89
Female	11	12	12	11	11
10,000–24,999					
Male	89	90	+	91	86
Female	11	10	+	9	14
1–9,999					
Male	86	87	+	89	82
Female	14	13	+	11	18

Note: Overall averages cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each region. The number of observations is different for each region.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.
+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

Race/Ethnicity

Previous studies and surveys have reported that American street gang members are predominantly African-American and Hispanic (Klein, 1995; Miller, 1982). However, a few recent studies have shown an increase in the number of Caucasian youth involved in gangs. In a survey of 122 cities, Curry, Ball, and Fox (1994) found that the proportion of Caucasian youth involved in gang-related crime, although quite small (4.4 percent), had increased. In their evaluation of the Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) Program, Esbensen and Osgood (1997) found that 25 percent of self-reported gang members were Caucasian.

After controlling for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction, the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey revealed that Hispanics and African-Americans constituted the majority of gang members. The following aggregate percentages were reported nationally: Hispanic—44 percent, African-American—35 percent, Caucasian—14 percent, Asian—5 percent, and other—2 percent (see figure 11).

The 1996 National Youth Gang Survey revealed that Hispanics and African-Americans constituted the majority of gang members.

The unweighted average of Hispanics was much lower than the weighted average, especially in large cities and suburban counties.

Figure 11: Race/Ethnicity of Gang Members (Weighted for Number of Gang Members)

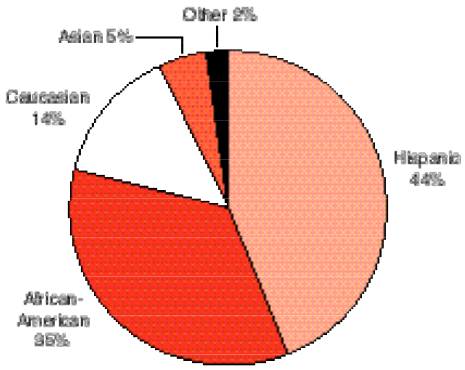


Table 17 illustrates the differences between the weighted and unweighted averages. The unweighted average of Hispanics was much lower than the weighted average, especially in large cities and suburban counties. This difference is due to the large number of Hispanic gang members concentrated in a few large metropolitan areas in the western region. The unweighted averages indicate a

Table 17: Race/Ethnicity of Gang Members, by Area Type: Weighted Versus Unweighted Averages

Race/Ethnicity by Area Type	Weighted Average	Unweighted Average
Large city		
African-American	40%	33%
Hispanic	44	32
Caucasian	10	26
Asian	5	7
Other	1	2
Small city		
African-American	29	26
Hispanic	33	26
Caucasian	31	42
Asian	7	3
Other	1	3
Suburban county		
African-American	26	30
Hispanic	50	25
Caucasian	14	39
Asian	6	6
Other	4	1
Rural county		
African-American	42%	35%
Hispanic	18	17
Caucasian	32	39
Asian	4	2
Other	4	6
All area types		
African-American	35	32
Hispanic	44	28
Caucasian	14	32
Asian	5	6
Other	2	2

Notes: The percentages within each area type may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Averages for all area types cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each area type. The number of observations is different for each area type.

smaller proportion of Hispanic gang members because there were fewer agencies in small cities and rural counties reporting Hispanic gang members.

A significant difference also existed between the weighted and unweighted averages for Caucasians. The unweighted average number of Caucasian gang members was more than twice the weighted average for all area types combined. This difference was the result of the large number of agencies in small cities and suburban and rural counties reporting a high percentage of Caucasian gang members. However, when the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction was controlled for, the actual proportion of Caucasian gang members throughout the country was considerably lower than the actual proportion of Hispanic and African-American gang members.

When area type was taken into account, the unweighted averages for race/ethnicity varied considerably. The average percentages of African-American gang members reported by respondents in large cities (33 percent) and rural counties (35 percent) were higher than the overall unweighted average (see table 18). These variations for African-Americans were notable but were not found to be statistically significant.

The variation in race/ethnicity associated with area type for Hispanics, Caucasians, and Asians was statistically significant. The average proportion of Hispanic gang members was highest in large cities (32 percent) and lowest in rural counties (17 percent). The average proportion of Caucasian gang members was lowest in large cities (26 percent) and highest in small cities (42 percent). Furthermore, the average percentage of Caucasian gang members reported by respondents was remarkably high (39 percent) in suburban counties and rural counties. Higher average proportions of Asian gang members were reported in large cities (7 percent) and suburban counties (6 percent) than in small cities (3 percent) and rural counties (2 percent).

Nationally, only 2 percent of gang members were identified as "other." Altogether, 169 agencies identified an "other" race/ethnicity, the majority of which fell within four categories: American Indian, Polynesian (includes Pacific Islander, Filipino, Samoan, Tongan, and Hawaiian), Middle Eastern (includes

The variation in race/ethnicity associated with area type for Hispanics, Caucasians, and Asians was statistically significant.

Table 18: Race/Ethnicity of Gang Members, by Area Type (Unweighted*)

	Race/Ethnicity				
Area Type	**African-American**	**Hispanic**	**Caucasian**	**Asian**	**Other**
Large city	33%	32%	26%	7%	2%
Small city	26	26	42	3	3
Suburban county	30	25	39	6	1
Rural county	35	17	39	2	6
Overall average	32	28	32	6	2

Notes: The percentages within each area type may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Overall averages cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each area type. The number of observations is different for each area type.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.

The variation in race/ethnicity by region was determined to be statistically significant.

Arab), and Haitian. As figure 12 indicates, American Indian was most frequently cited as "other" (45 percent), followed by Polynesian (27 percent), Middle Eastern (8 percent), and Haitian (5 percent).

Similar to findings on area type, the unweighted averages for race/ethnicity varied considerably by region. As table 19 indicates, the average proportion of African-American gang members was 45 percent in the South but only 10 percent in the West. The average percentage of Hispanic gang members was 56 percent in the West but only 16 percent in the Midwest and 19 percent in the South. Furthermore, the average proportion of Caucasian gang members was highest (42 percent) in the Midwest and lowest (21 percent) in the West. The variation in race/ethnicity by region was determined to be statistically significant.

Figure 12: Race/Ethnicity of Gang Members Described as "Other"

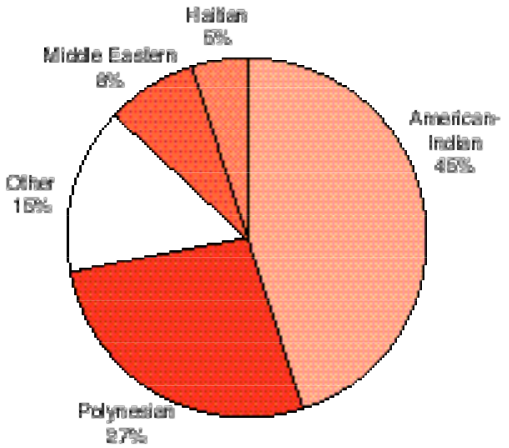


Table 19: Race/Ethnicity of Gang Members, by Region (Unweighted*)

	Race/Ethnicity				
Region	**African-American**	**Hispanic**	**Caucasian**	**Asian**	**Other**
Midwest	34%	16%	42%	5%	3%
Northeast	32	27	33	6	1
South	45	19	31	4	1
West	10	56	21	9	3
Overall average	32	28	32	6	2

Notes: The percentages within each region may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Overall averages cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each area type. The number of observations is different for each area type.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.

A cross-tabulation with both area type and region revealed some additional variations in the race/ethnicity of gang members (table 20). The highest average proportion of African-American gang members (59 percent) was in rural counties in the South. The average proportion of Hispanic gang members was highest in the West, regardless of area type. In the Midwest, Caucasians accounted for the largest average proportion of gang members in small cities (49 percent), suburban counties (50 percent), and rural counties (61 percent). The highest average proportion of Asian gang members was reported in western large cities (11 percent).

The highest average proportion of African-American gang members (59 percent) was in rural counties in the South.

Table 20: Race/Ethnicity of Gang Members, by Area Type and Region (Unweighted*)

Race/Ethnicity, by Area Type	Overall Average	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
Large city					
African-American	33%	42%	33%	45%	11%
Hispanic	32	17	29	25	58
Caucasian	26	33	30	24	18
Asian	7	6	7	5	11
Other	2	2	1	1	2
Small city					
African-American	26	24	+	48	5
Hispanic	26	22	+	15	54
Caucasian	42	49	+	35	28
Asian	3	2	+	1	8
Other	3	3	+	0	6
Suburban county					
African-American	30	27	+	38	13
Hispanic	25	15	+	17	56
Caucasian	39	50	+	40	22
Asian	6	7	+	5	8
Other	1	1	+	0	1
Rural county					
African-American	35	19	+	59	3
Hispanic	17	8	+	10	49
Caucasian	39	61	+	29	34
Asian	2	2	+	1	2
Other	6	10	+	1	13

Notes: The percentages within each area type may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Overall averages cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each region. The number of observations is different for each region.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.
+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

Approximately 46 percent of gangs in the United States were estimated to be multiethnic/multiracial.

There was a moderate degree of association between ethnic composition and population size (see appendix L). In the 25,000–49,999 and the 250,000 or more population ranges, the highest average proportion of gang members was for African-Americans. The average proportion of Hispanic gang members was predominant in the 50,000–99,999 and 100,000–249,999 population ranges. The average proportion of Caucasian gang members was predominant in the 1–9,999 and 10,000–24,999 population ranges. The average proportion of Asian gang members, although comparatively low, was above the overall average in populations of 50,000–99,999 and 250,000 or more. Variations in race/ethnicity associated with population size were found to be statistically significant for all races/ethnicities except African-American.

Jurisdictions in which gang problems began prior to 1990 (older gang jurisdictions) reported a much higher average percentage of Hispanic gang members than of other racial/ethnic groups. As shown in table 21, the average proportion of Hispanic gang members in newer gang jurisdictions was 21 percent less than in older gang jurisdictions. In contrast, the average proportion of Caucasian gang members was 23 percent higher in jurisdictions with a newer gang problem than in jurisdictions with an older gang problem. African-American and Asian gang membership differed by 2 percent on average. Table 21 also reveals this comparison for each area type, although not enough observations were available for reliable estimation of gang problems that began prior to 1990 in small cities and rural counties.

Multiethnic/Multiracial Gangs. Because of anecdotal reporting of an increase in gangs of mixed race and ethnicity, respondents were asked to report the percentage of gangs in their jurisdictions that were multiethnic/multiracial. No definition of these terms was provided in the survey. When the number of gangs reported in each jurisdiction was controlled for, approximately 46 percent of gangs in the United States were estimated to be multiethnic/multiracial.

Unweighted averages were used to compare differences across jurisdictions. Agencies in suburban counties reported the highest average percentage of multiethnic/multiracial gangs (53 percent), followed by large cities (48 percent), small cities (45 percent), and rural counties (34 percent) (see figure 13). There is little previous research on a national scope with which to make comparisons, and respondents were not asked about the proportions of the racial/ethnic mix of members in individual gangs. Future surveys will gather more information on this topic.

Table 22 shows the average proportion of multiethnic/multiracial gangs by area type and region. Agencies in the Midwest reported the highest average proportions (55 percent) of multiethnic/multiracial gangs, while the Northeast reported the lowest proportions (39 percent). Suburban counties in the Midwest, South, and West reported the highest proportions of multiethnic/multiracial gangs, compared with other area types.

Table 21: Race/Ethnicity of Gang Members, by Area Type and Period Gangs Became a Problem (Unweighted*)

Race/Ethnicity by Area Type	Period Gangs Became a Problem		Percentage of Difference
	Before 1990	1990–96	
Large city			
African-American	34%	31%	–3%
Hispanic	42	27	–15
Caucasian	15	34	+19
Asian	7	6	–1
Other	2	2	0
Small city			
African-American	+	26	N/A
Hispanic	+	22	N/A
Caucasian	+	46	N/A
Asian	+	3	N/A
Other	+	3	N/A
Suburban county			
African-American	31	30	–1
Hispanic	41	19	–22
Caucasian	21	44	+23
Asian	6	7	+1
Other	1	1	0
Rural county			
African-American	+	37	N/A
Hispanic	+	17	N/A
Caucasian	+	39	N/A
Asian	+	1	N/A
Other	+	6	N/A
All area types			
African-American	33	31	–2
Hispanic	42	23	–19
Caucasian	16	39	+23
Asian	7	5	–2
Other	2	2	0

Notes: The percentages within each area type may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Averages for all area types cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each area type. The number of observations is different for each area type.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.
+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

The proliferation of gangs in the United States has resulted in increased interest in the role played by migration of gang members.

Figure 13: Percentage of Multiethnic/Multiracial Gangs, by Area Type

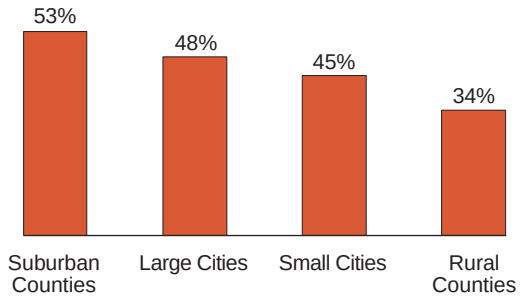


Table 22: Percentage of Gangs Reported To Be Multiethnic/ Multiracial, by Area Type and Region (Unweighted*)

Area Type	Overall Average	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
Large city	48%	55%	42%	46%	44%
Small city	45	55	+	34	47
Suburban county	53	58	+	52	53
Rural county	34	49	+	26	+
Overall average	47	55	39	44	45

Note: Overall averages and averages for all area types cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each area type and region. The number of observations is different for each area type and region.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.
+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

Gang migration

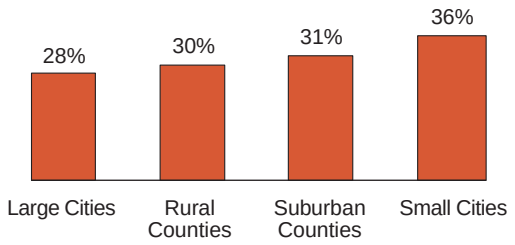
The proliferation of gangs in the United States has resulted in increased interest in the role played by migration of gang members. Migration has been mentioned as a factor contributing to the spread of gangs in State legislative task force reports, government-sponsored conference presentations, and law enforcement reports at the local, State, and Federal levels (Maxson, Woods, and Klein, 1996). The conclusions of many of these reports, however, have been at odds with those of empirically based studies (Howell, 1998; Maxson, Woods, and Klein, 1996). For instance, a recent study of more than 1,100 cities concluded that migrant gang members have had less of an effect on the proliferation of gangs throughout the country than previously believed (Maxson, Woods, and Klein, 1996; Maxson, 1998).

In the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey, agencies that reported gangs in 1996 were asked if there had been any gang migration into their jurisdictions and

what proportion of their gang members were migrants. Approximately 84 percent of respondents indicated that they had experienced some gang migration into their jurisdictions. When responses were weighted for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction, respondents that experienced some migration estimated that 21 percent of their gang members were migrants.

The average proportion of migrant gang members in jurisdictions that experienced gang migration was much higher when unweighted averages rather than weighted averages were used. Average unweighted proportions ranged from 28 percent in large cities to 36 percent in small cities (29 percent overall) (see figure 14). The weighted average proportion of migrant gang members is lower than the unweighted average proportion because there were fewer migrants reported in jurisdictions with large numbers of gang members. Conversely, a greater number of jurisdictions with few gang members reported a large number of gang migrants.

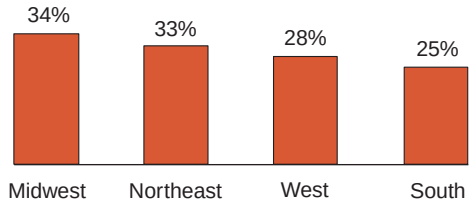
Figure 14: Percentage of Migrant Gang Members, by Area Type (Unweighted)



The ratio of migrants to all gang members also varied by region. Survey respondents in the Midwest that experienced some migration reported the highest average proportion of gang migrants, 34 percent, followed by 33 percent in the Northeast, 28 percent in the West, and 25 percent in the South (see figure 15). These variations in gang migration by region were found to be statistically significant.

Figure 16 illustrates the percentage of migrants by population size. Generally, as population size increased, the average percentage of migrants decreased. Agencies that experienced some migration in the two lowest population ranges

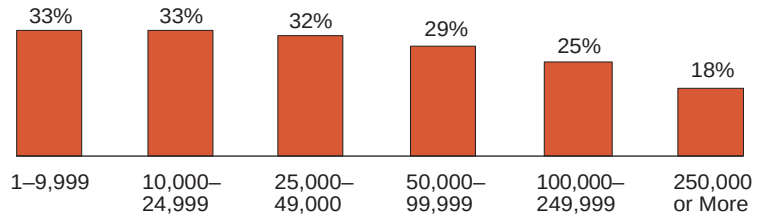
Figure 15: Percentage of Migrant Gang Members, by Region (Unweighted)



Approximately 84 percent of respondents indicated that they had experienced some gang migration into their jurisdictions.

A substantial number of homicides in 1996 were attributed to gang members.

Figure 16: Percentage of Migrant Gang Members, by Population Size (Unweighted)



(1–9,999 and 10,000–24,999) reported the highest average proportion of gang migrants (33 percent). In contrast, those that experienced some migration in the highest population range (250,000 or more) reported the lowest average proportion of gang migrants (18 percent). The variation in the average percentage of migrants by population size was statistically significant.

The survey results indicated that gang member migration was widespread and, to some degree, affected a large majority of the agencies reporting gangs in 1996. Further analyses of the migration data will be undertaken, and subsequent surveys will attempt to gather more information about the extent of gang member migration, particularly the underlying reasons for relocation.

Gangs and crime

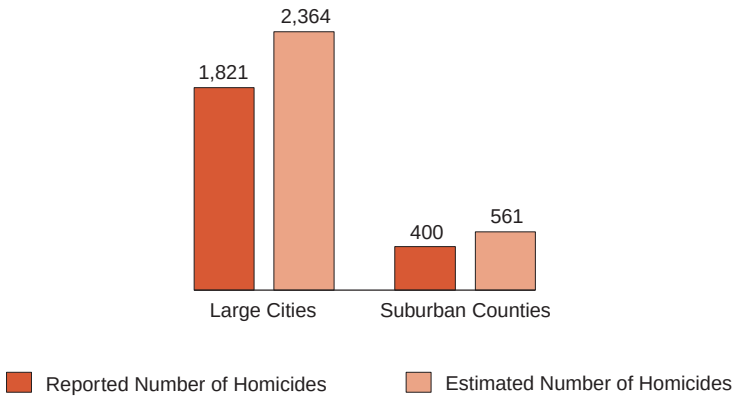
Gangs typically have been associated with criminal acts since the first reports of their activities were made (Sante, 1991). Observers of gangs generally agree that, while not all gang members participate in criminal acts, involvement in such activity distinguishes gangs from other groups (Curry and Decker, 1998). The present survey asked respondents to report the number of homicides in 1996 involving gang members and to estimate the degree of gang member involvement in other offenses (i.e., aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and larceny/theft).

Homicide

Results of the current survey indicated that a substantial number of homicides in 1996 were attributed to gang members. Figure 17 shows that gang members were reportedly responsible for an estimated 2,364 homicides in large cities and 561 homicides in suburban counties in 1996. As noted in the "Methodology" section, there were too few responses from small cities and rural counties to extrapolate the number of homicides for these types of localities.

The number of homicides that occurred in large cities and suburban counties in 1996 was associated with population size. Table 23 indicates that the number of homicides varied directly with population size, especially in the Nation's largest cities. Approximately 44 percent of agencies serving cities with populations of 250,000 or more reported more than 10 gang-related or gang-motivated homicides. In contrast, only 6 percent of large cities with populations between

Figure 17: Gang Member Homicides, by Area Type



100,000 and 249,999 and only 1 percent of large cities with populations less than 100,000 had more than 10 gang-related homicides. The same effect was present, but less pronounced, in suburban counties. The relationship between population size and the number of homicides in large cities and suburban counties was statistically significant.

Table 23: Number of Homicides Involving Gang Members, by Population Size and Area Type

Number of Homicides, by Population Size	Total/ Percentage	Area Type	
		Large City	Suburban County
250,000 or more			
11 or more homicides	**23** (33%)	**19** (44%)	**4** (15%)
1–10 homicides	**32** (46%)	**21** (49%)	**11** (42%)
0 homicides	**14** (20%)	**3** (7%)	**11** (42%)
100,000–249,999			
11 or more homicides	**8** (5%)	**6** (6%)	**2** (4%)
1–10 homicides	**84** (56%)	**57** (59%)	**27** (49%)
0 homicides	**59** (39%)	**33** (34%)	**26** (47%)
1–99,999			
11 or more homicides	**5** (1%)	**4** (1%)	**1** (1%)
1–10 homicides	**200** (27%)	**160** (29%)	**40** (21%)
0 homicides	**538** (72%)	**390** (70%)	**148** (78%)

Note: The percentages within each population parameter may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

Past research has shown that jurisdictions throughout the country have differing definitions of what constitutes a gang crime (Spergel, 1995; Maxson and Klein, 1990). Maxson and Klein (1990) showed that "estimates of the

Jurisdictions throughout the country have differing definitions of what constitutes a gang crime.

A crime is considered gang motivated if the underlying reason is to further the interests and activities of the gang.

prevalence of gang violence can vary widely among cities using different definitions." Generally, gang crime is classified as either gang related or gang motivated, depending on the jurisdiction. For a crime to be considered gang related, it "must be committed by someone who is a known gang member, is identified as a gang member by a third party, or is suspected of being a gang member" (Decker and Van Winkle, 1996). Additionally, some jurisdictions consider an incident gang related if the victim is a gang member (Maxson and Klein, 1990). A crime is considered gang motivated if the underlying reason is to further the interests and activities of the gang. Only acts that show "a clear link to the gang" are defined as gang motivated (Decker and Van Winkle, 1996).

Survey respondents who indicated that homicides involving gang members had occurred in their jurisdictions in 1996 were asked if these homicides were solely gang motivated. No definition of "gang motivated" was given in the survey. Approximately 73 percent of suburban counties and 69 percent of respondents in large cities indicated that the homicides reported for their jurisdictions were gang motivated.

In this Summary, the questions regarding homicide have been analyzed on a limited basis only. Further analysis will be conducted with data collected by future surveys. In addition, subsequent surveys will focus more attention on the issues surrounding gang crime definitions.

Degree of criminal activity

Survey recipients were asked to indicate the degree to which gang members were involved in the following offenses in their jurisdictions: aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and larceny/theft. These crimes were selected because they are commonly associated with gang activity. As table 24 reveals, agencies most often reported a "high" degree of gang member involvement for larceny/theft (38 percent), followed by aggravated assault (33 percent), burglary (30 percent), and motor vehicle theft (30 percent). Gang members were not extensively involved in robbery, with 11 percent of respondents reporting no involvement and 43 percent reporting a "low" degree of involvement.

Table 24 also shows the degree of criminal involvement by area type. Compared with small cities and rural counties, both large cities and suburban counties had high degrees of gang member involvement in aggravated assault, motor vehicle theft, and robbery. Suburban and rural counties had higher degrees of gang involvement in burglary than large and small cities. Gang member involvement in larceny/theft was high in all localities but highest in suburban and rural counties.

Criminal activity varied considerably by region (see table 25). Agencies in the West reported the highest degree of gang member involvement in aggravated assault, motor vehicle theft, and robbery. However, robbery involvement was quite low in all regions. Burglary was highest in the South (37 percent) and lowest in the Northeast (9 percent). Larceny/theft was high in all regions, ranging from 21 percent in the Northeast to 42 percent in the South.

Table 24: Degree of Gang Member Criminal Activity, by Area Type

Degree of Offending, by Type of Offense	Total/ Percentage	Area Type: Large City	Small City	Suburban County	Rural County
Aggravated assault					
High	**440** (33%)	**286** (38%)	**14** (13%)	**111** (35%)	**29** (19%)
Medium	**516** (39%)	**299** (39%)	**40** (37%)	**113** (36%)	**64** (43%)
Low	**344** (26%)	**160** (21%)	**46** (43%)	**86** (27%)	**52** (35%)
Not involved	**35** (3%)	**15** (2%)	**8** (7%)	**7** (2%)	**5** (3%)
Robbery					
High	**198** (15%)	**122** (16%)	**11** (10%)	**47** (15%)	**18** (12%)
Medium	**413** (31%)	**270** (36%)	**15** (14%)	**94** (30%)	**34** (23%)
Low	**573** (43%)	**313** (42%)	**51** (47%)	**142** (45%)	**67** (45%)
Not involved	**139** (11%)	**48** (6%)	**32** (29%)	**30** (10%)	**29** (20%)
Burglary					
High	**394** (30%)	**190** (25%)	**25** (23%)	**115** (37%)	**64** (42%)
Medium	**559** (42%)	**325** (43%)	**44** (40%)	**135** (43%)	**55** (36%)
Low	**342** (26%)	**220** (29%)	**34** (31%)	**60** (19%)	**28** (18%)
Not involved	**40** (3%)	**23** (3%)	**7** (6%)	**5** (2%)	**5** (3%)
Motor vehicle theft					
High	**404** (30%)	**255** (34%)	**25** (23%)	**98** (31%)	**26** (17%)
Medium	**427** (32%)	**252** (33%)	**25** (23%)	**107** (34%)	**43** (29%)
Low	**438** (33%)	**218** (29%)	**50** (46%)	**100** (32%)	**70** (46%)
Not involved	**64** (5%)	**31** (4%)	**10** (9%)	**11** (4%)	**12** (8%)
Larceny/theft					
High	**505** (38%)	**275** (36%)	**34** (31%)	**133** (42%)	**63** (41%)
Medium	**601** (45%)	**357** (47%)	**47** (43%)	**138** (44%)	**59** (38%)
Low	**211** (16%)	**115** (15%)	**26** (24%)	**42** (13%)	**28** (18%)
Not involved	**22** (2%)	**12** (2%)	**2** (2%)	**4** (1%)	**4** (3%)

Note: The percentages within each offense may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

The degree of criminal activity also varied by population size for some crimes. Table 26 shows that gang member involvement in aggravated assault, robbery, and motor vehicle theft generally increased as the population size increased. The degree of involvement in burglary and larceny/theft was not significantly associated with population size. Gang involvement in burglary was estimated to be highest in populations of 10,000 to 24,999 and lowest in populations of 50,000 to 99,999. Gang member involvement in larceny/theft was estimated to be highest in populations of 100,000 to 249,999 and lowest in populations of 250,000 or more.

Gang member involvement in aggravated assault, robbery, and motor vehicle theft generally increased as the population size increased.

The degree of gang member involvement in criminal activity did not vary substantially by sex.

Table 27 illustrates the demographic characteristics of gang members in jurisdictions that reported a high degree of gang member involvement in criminal activity. When unweighted averages were used, the average proportion of gang members over the age of 18 was higher in jurisdictions that reported a high degree of gang member involvement in robbery and aggravated assault than in jurisdictions reporting the same degree of gang member involvement in burglary, motor vehicle theft, and larceny/theft. The highest average proportion of gang members under the age of 18 was in jurisdictions reporting a high degree of gang member involvement in burglary. The degree of gang member involvement in criminal activity did not vary substantially by sex. The average proportion of male gang members ranged from 88 to 90 percent in jurisdictions reporting a high degree of involvement in all offenses. The highest average proportion of African-American and Hispanic gang members was in jurisdictions reporting a high degree of involvement in robbery, aggravated assault, and motor vehicle theft.

Table 25: Degree of Gang Member Criminal Activity, by Region

Degree of Offending, by Type of Offense	Total/ Percentage	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
Aggravated assault					
High	**440** (33%)	**105** (27%)	**47** (33%)	**133** (29%)	**155** (46%)
Medium	**516** (39%)	**148** (38%)	**59** (42%)	**182** (39%)	**127** (38%)
Low	**344** (26%)	**119** (30%)	**28** (20%)	**144** (31%)	**53** (16%)
Not involved	**35** (3%)	**19** (5%)	**7** (5%)	**7** (2%)	**2** (1%)
Robbery					
High	**198** (15%)	**59** (15%)	**16** (12%)	**61** (13%)	**62** (18%)
Medium	**413** (31%)	**96** (25%)	**53** (38%)	**145** (32%)	**119** (35%)
Low	**573** (43%)	**170** (44%)	**49** (36%)	**214** (47%)	**140** (42%)
Not involved	**139** (11%)	**64** (17%)	**20** (15%)	**39** (9%)	**16** (5%)
Burglary					
High	**394** (30%)	**99** (25%)	**13** (9%)	**173** (37%)	**109** (32%)
Medium	**559** (42%)	**166** (43%)	**47** (34%)	**198** (42%)	**148** (44%)
Low	**342** (26%)	**115** (29%)	**66** (47%)	**87** (19%)	**74** (22%)
Not involved	**40** (3%)	**11** (3%)	**14** (10%)	**9** (2%)	**6** (2%)
Motor vehicle theft					
High	**404** (30%)	**86** (22%)	**32** (23%)	**148** (32%)	**138** (41%)
Medium	**427** (32%)	**137** (35%)	**31** (22%)	**150** (32%)	**109** (32%)
Low	**438** (33%)	**149** (38%)	**59** (42%)	**146** (31%)	**84** (25%)
Not involved	**64** (5%)	**20** (5%)	**17** (12%)	**21** (5%)	**6** (2%)
Larceny/theft					
High	**505** (38%)	**150** (38%)	**29** (21%)	**198** (42%)	**128** (38%)
Medium	**601** (45%)	**171** (44%)	**72** (51%)	**199** (42%)	**159** (47%)
Low	**211** (16%)	**63** (16%)	**38** (27%)	**63** (13%)	**47** (14%)
Not involved	**22** (2%)	**8** (2%)	**2** (1%)	**10** (2%)	**2** (1%)

Note: The percentages within each offense may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

Gangs and drugs

Involvement of youth gangs in drugs has been a major public concern since the crack cocaine epidemic began in the mid-1980's (Klein, 1995). Several issues have been debated and researched, including the extent of gang member involvement in drug sales (Decker and Van Winkle, 1994); the interrelationship of youth gangs, drugs, and crime (Howell and Decker, 1999); the geographical location of most gang drug distribution (Maxson, 1995); the race/ethnicity of gang members involved in drug sales (Esbensen and Winfree, in press); and the ability of youth gangs to manage drug trafficking operations (Moore, 1990).

Until now, national law enforcement data have not been available on the involvement of gang members in drug sales and the extent of gang control or management of drug distribution. The survey results reported below provide new information on these important issues.

Table 26: Degree of Gang Member Criminal Activity, by Population Size

Degree of Offending, by Type of Offense	Total/ Percentage	Population Size					
		1–9,999	10,000–24,999	25,000–49,999	50,000–99,999	100,000–249,999	250,000 or more
Aggravated assault							
High	**440** (33%)	**23** (16%)	**34** (21%)	**118** (27%)	**126** (39%)	**77** (44%)	**62** (69%)
Medium	**516** (39%)	**51** (36%)	**62** (38%)	**191** (43%)	**119** (37%)	**71** (41%)	**22** (24%)
Low	**344** (26%)	**59** (42%)	**59** (36%)	**125** (28%)	**72** (22%)	**23** (13%)	**6** (7%)
Not involved	**35** (3%)	**9** (6%)	**7** (4%)	**9** (2%)	**6** (2%)	**4** (2%)	**0** (0%)
Robbery							
High	**198** (15%)	**12** (8%)	**21** (13%)	**55** (12%)	**47** (15%)	**32** (19%)	**31** (34%)
Medium	**413** (31%)	**25** (18%)	**35** (22%)	**130** (29%)	**102** (32%)	**80** (46%)	**41** (46%)
Low	**573** (43%)	**67** (47%)	**68** (43%)	**219** (50%)	**147** (46%)	**56** (32%)	**16** (18%)
Not involved	**139** (11%)	**39** (27%)	**34** (22%)	**38** (9%)	**21** (7%)	**5** (3%)	**2** (2%)
Burglary							
High	**394** (30%)	**44** (31%)	**61** (37%)	**125** (28%)	**85** (27%)	**54** (31%)	**25** (28%)
Medium	**559** (42%)	**55** (38%)	**66** (41%)	**177** (40%)	**139** (43%)	**78** (45%)	**44** (49%)
Low	**342** (26%)	**39** (27%)	**29** (18%)	**124** (28%)	**91** (28%)	**40** (23%)	**19** (21%)
Not involved	**40** (3%)	**6** (4%)	**7** (4%)	**17** (4%)	**6** (2%)	**2** (1%)	**2** (2%)
Motor vehicle theft							
High	**404** (30%)	**24** (17%)	**35** (21%)	**112** (25%)	**105** (33%)	**75** (43%)	**53** (59%)
Medium	**427** (32%)	**34** (24%)	**56** (34%)	**149** (34%)	**100** (31%)	**60** (35%)	**28** (31%)
Low	**438** (33%)	**74** (51%)	**59** (36%)	**158** (36%)	**102** (32%)	**36** (21%)	**9** (10%)
Not involved	**64** (5%)	**12** (8%)	**14** (9%)	**24** (5%)	**11** (4%)	**3** (2%)	**0** (0%)
Larceny/theft							
High	**505** (38%)	**52** (36%)	**61** (36%)	**168** (38%)	**121** (38%)	**72** (41%)	**31** (34%)
Medium	**601** (45%)	**60** (42%)	**73** (44%)	**202** (46%)	**143** (45%)	**76** (44%)	**47** (52%)
Low	**211** (16%)	**29** (20%)	**28** (17%)	**67** (15%)	**50** (16%)	**25** (14%)	**12** (13%)
Not involved	**22** (2%)	**2** (1%)	**6** (4%)	**7** (2%)	**6** (2%)	**1** (1%)	**0** (0%)

Note: The percentages within each offense may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

On average, respondents estimated that 43 percent of the drug sales in their jurisdictions involved gang members.

Table 27: Demographic Characteristics of Gang Members in Jurisdictions Reporting a High Degree of Gang Member Involvement in Criminal Activity, by Type of Offense (Unweighted*)

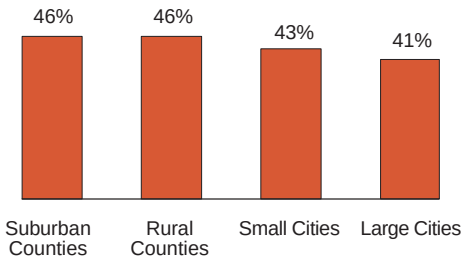
		Type of Offense				
Demographic Characteristics	**Overall Average**	**Aggravated Assault**	**Robbery**	**Burglary**	**Motor Vehicle Theft**	**Larceny/ Theft**
Age						
Under 15	22%	20%	20%	23%	22%	22%
15–17	46	44	42	47	45	46
18–24	27	30	31	26	28	27
Over 24	5	7	7	4	6	5
Sex						
Male	89	89	90	89	89	88
Female	11	11	10	11	11	12
Race/Ethnicity						
African-American	32	34	40	30	34	31
Hispanic	28	36	33	29	33	29
Caucasian	32	22	20	31	23	31
Asian	6	6	5	7	8	7
Other	2	2	3	3	2	3

Notes: The percentages within each demographic characteristic may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Overall averages cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each type of offense. The number of observations is different for each type of offense.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.

Drug sales

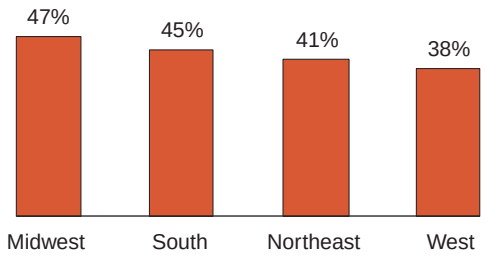
On average, respondents estimated that 43 percent of the drug sales in their jurisdictions involved gang members. Averages among area types did not differ substantially, and the variation was not statistically significant. Respondents in suburban and rural counties reported that 46 percent of the drug sales in their jurisdictions involved gang members, followed by 43 percent for small cities and 41 percent for large cities (see figure 18).

Figure 18: Percentage of Drug Sales Involving Gang Members, by Area Type



Variation in gang member involvement in drug sales by region was found to be statistically significant. The average percentages of drug sales involving gang members in the four regions were as follows: 47 percent in the Midwest, 45 percent in the South, 41 percent in the Northeast, and 38 percent in the West (see figure 19).

Figure 19: Percentage of Drug Sales Involving Gang Members, by Region



The use of averages such as those reported above is somewhat misleading for two reasons. First, more than half (57 percent) of all respondents said their "youth gang" definition included drug gangs (see figure 6). As a result, many respondents included what might be considered purely drug gangs along with traditional youth gangs in their responses to the survey. Second, the responses showed a bimodal distribution; i.e., large proportions of respondents reported either low or high gang member involvement in drug sales in their jurisdictions.

For the analysis below, the proportion of drug sales involving gang members was divided into three levels: low (0–33 percent), moderate (34–66 percent), and high (67–100 percent). Nearly half (47 percent) of gang members were reported to be involved at the low level of drug sales, 26 percent at the moderate level, and 27 percent at the high level (see table 28).

Table 28: Level of Gang Member Involvement in Drug Sales, by Area Type

		Area Type			
Level of Involvement	**Total/ Percentage**	**Large City**	**Small City**	**Suburban County**	**Rural County**
67–100% (high)	**274** (27%)	**147** (25%)	**23** (32%)	**70** (30%)	**34** (29%)
34–66% (moderate)	**263** (26%)	**152** (26%)	**15** (21%)	**62** (27%)	**34** (29%)
0–33% (low)	**468** (47%)	**284** (49%)	**35** (48%)	**100** (43%)	**49** (42%)
Total/Percentage	**1005** (100%)	**583** (100%)	**73** (101%)	**232** (100%)	**117** (100%)

Note: The percentages within each level of involvement may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

More than half (57 percent) of all respondents said their "youth gang" definition included drug gangs.

The highest proportion of jurisdictions reporting high gang member involvement in drug sales was found in small cities (32 percent) and the lowest was found in large cities (25 percent).

Differences between area types in the level of gang member involvement in drug sales were not statistically significant. Nevertheless, table 28 reveals that the highest proportion of jurisdictions reporting high gang member involvement in drug sales was found in small cities (32 percent) and the lowest was found in large cities (25 percent). In addition, 49 percent of jurisdictions in large cities reported low involvement, while 42 percent of jurisdictions in rural counties reported low involvement.

Table 29 shows considerable variation in gang member involvement in drug sales by region at the low (0–33 percent), moderate (34–66 percent), and high (67–100 percent) levels. These variations were found to be statistically significant. Approximately 32 percent of jurisdictions in the Midwest and 29 percent in the South reported that their gang members were involved in high levels of drug sales. Only 26 percent of jurisdictions in the Northeast and 19 percent in the West reported that their gang members were involved at a high level. These data indicate that slightly more jurisdictions in the midwestern and southern regions reported gang member involvement in drug sales at a high level.

Table 29: Level of Gang Member Involvement in Drug Sales by Region

Level of Involvement	Total/ Percentage	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
67–100% (high)	**274** (27%)	**95** (32%)	**26** (26%)	**104** (29%)	**49** (19%)
34–66% (moderate)	**263** (26%)	**81** (27%)	**23** (23%)	**91** (26%)	**68** (27%)
0–33% (low)	**468** (47%)	**120** (41%)	**52** (51%)	**161** (45%)	**135** (54%)
Total/Percentage	**1005** (100%)	**296** (100%)	**101** (100%)	**356** (100%)	**252** (100%)

Note: The percentages within each level of involvement may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

The West and the Northeast had the highest percentage of respondents reporting low gang member involvement in drug sales, with 54 and 51 percent, respectively. Thus, most of the gang member involvement in drug sales in these regions was low.

For jurisdictions that responded to the question regarding gang member involvement in drug sales, the estimated age of gang members based upon unweighted averages was as follows: 21 percent under age 15; 45 percent ages 15–17; 28 percent ages 18–24; and 5 percent over age 24 (see table 30). The average proportion of gang members in the 18–24 and the over 24 age ranges was slightly higher in jurisdictions in which gang member involvement in drug sales was reported at the moderate (34–66 percent) and high (67–100 percent) levels. The average proportion of gang members under 18 was slightly lower in jurisdictions that reported gang member involvement in drug sales at these higher levels. The variation in the ages of gang members by level of involvement in drug sales was found to be statistically significant for all age ranges except gang members under 15.

Table 30: Level of Gang Member Involvement in Drug Sales, by Age of Gang Members (Unweighted*)

Level of Involvement	Age			
	Under 15	15–17	18–24	Over 24
67–100% (*n*=232)	20%	43%	30%	7%
34–66% (*n*=217)	20	44	30	6
0–33% (*n*=407)	23	47	26	4
0–100% (*n*=856)	21	45	28	5

Notes: The percentages within each level of involvement may not equal 100 percent due to rounding; *n*=the number of observations.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.

As noted earlier in this Summary, the race/ethnicity of gang members, based on unweighted averages, was as follows: African-American, 32 percent; Caucasian, 32 percent; Hispanic, 28 percent; Asian, 6 percent; and "other," 2 percent (see table 17). However, agencies that responded to the question regarding gang member involvement in drug sales (see table 31) indicated that gang members in their jurisdictions were 34 percent African-American, 29 percent Hispanic, 29 percent Caucasian, 6 percent Asian, and 2 percent "other."

Further examination of gang member involvement in drug sales by race/ethnicity showed that the highest average proportions of Caucasian, Hispanic, and Asian gang members were in jurisdictions reporting low gang member involvement in drug selling and that the highest average proportion of African-American gang members was in jurisdictions reporting high gang member involvement in drug selling. When the level of gang member involvement in drug sales was taken into account, the differences among the average proportions of African-American, Hispanic, Caucasian, and Asian gang members were statistically significant.

Table 31: Level of Gang Member Involvement in Drug Sales, by Race/Ethnicity of Gang Members (Unweighted*)

Level of Involvement	Race/Ethnicity				
	African-American	Hispanic	Caucasian	Asian	Other
67–100% (*n*=250)	50%	24%	22%	3%	1%
34–66% (*n*=235)	38	26	28	6	2
0–33% (*n*=427)	23	34	34	7	2
0–100% (*n*=912)	34	29	29	6	2

Notes: The percentages within each level of involvement may not equal 100 percent due to rounding; *n*=the number of observations.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.

The highest average proportion of African-American gang members was in jurisdictions reporting high gang member involvement in drug selling.

Some respondents indicated that youth gangs control or manage a substantial proportion of drug distribution in their jurisdictions.

Drug distribution

Some respondents indicated that youth gangs control or manage a substantial proportion of drug distribution in their jurisdictions (see table 32). The estimated percentages for each level of gang control of drug distribution (excluding those who responded "do not know") were as follows: none, 6 percent; less than one-fourth, 41 percent; less than half, 23 percent; more than half, 29 percent; and all, 1 percent.[7] Nearly half (47 percent) of the respondents who provided estimates said that gangs "control or manage" less than one-fourth of all drug distribution in their jurisdictions.

The level of gang control of drug distribution did not appear to vary substantially by area type. Approximately 31 percent of large cities and 30 percent of small cities and suburban counties indicated that gangs control or manage more than half or all of the drug distribution in their jurisdictions (see table 32). In contrast, 21 percent of the respondents in rural counties said that gangs control more than half or all of the drug distribution. The relationship between drug distribution and area type was not found to be statistically significant.

Table 32: Level of Gang Control of Drug Distribution, by Area Type

		Area Type			
Level of Control	**Total/ Percentage**	**Large City**	**Small City**	**Suburban County**	**Rural County**
All	**15** (1%)	**9** (1%)	**1** (1%)	**2** (1%)	**3** (2%)
More than half	**325** (29%)	**199** (30%)	**25** (29%)	**76** (29%)	**25** (19%)
Less than half	**261** (23%)	**147** (22%)	**16** (18%)	**59** (22%)	**39** (30%)
Less than one-fourth	**471** (41%)	**257** (39%)	**38** (44%)	**115** (44%)	**61** (46%)
None	**67** (6%)	**44** (7%)	**7** (8%)	**12** (5%)	**4** (3%)
Total/Percentage	**1139** (100%)	**656** (99%)	**87** (100%)	**264** (101%)	**132** (100%)

Note: The percentages within each area type may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

Regionally, there was somewhat more variation in the level of drug distribution controlled or managed by gangs in comparison with a variation by area type. The relationship between the level of gang control of drug distribution and the region was statistically significant. As table 33 shows, the proportion of respondents that reported that gangs control or manage more than half or all of the drug distribution in their jurisdictions was higher in the Midwest (36 percent) and Northeast (33 percent) than in the South (27 percent) or West (25 percent). Approximately 52 percent of the respondents in the West and 50 percent in the South said that gangs control either less than one-fourth or none of the illegal drug distribution, compared with 43 percent in the Midwest and 40 percent in the Northeast.

Table 33: Level of Gang Control of Drug Distribution, by Region

Level of Control	Total/ Percentage	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
All	**15** (1%)	**8** (2%)	**0** (0%)	**5** (1%)	**2** (1%)
More than half	**325** (29%)	**113** (34%)	**39** (33%)	**105** (26%)	**68** (24%)
Less than half	**261** (23%)	**69** (21%)	**33** (28%)	**93** (23%)	**66** (23%)
Less than one-fourth	**471** (41%)	**123** (37%)	**39** (33%)	**174** (44%)	**135** (47%)
None	**67** (6%)	**21** (6%)	**8** (7%)	**23** (6%)	**15** (5%)
Total/Percentage	**1139** (100%)	**334** (100%)	**119** (101%)	**400** (100%)	**286** (100%)

Note: The percentages within each region may not equal 100 percent due to rounding.

In jurisdictions that responded to the question regarding gang-controlled drug distribution, the estimated age of gang members, based on unweighted averages, was as follows: 21 percent under age 15; 46 percent ages 15–17; 28 percent ages 18–24; and 5 percent over age 24 (see table 34). Respondents who said gangs control all of the drug distribution reported a greater proportion of adult gang members (58 percent). In contrast, in jurisdictions in which respondents said gangs controlled none of the drug distribution, a much smaller proportion of adult gang members was reported (20 percent). Thus, the average proportion of adult gang members was higher in jurisdictions that said gangs controlled more of the drug distribution. The variation between levels of gang-controlled or gang-managed drug distribution was found to be statistically significant in all age ranges.

The ages of gang members involved at some level (all, more than half, less than half, or less than one-fourth) in drug distribution varied by population size. The highest average proportion of gang members involved in some drug distribution was in the 15–17 age range in all population categories. More generally, the average proportion of juvenile gang members involved in some drug distribution decreased as population size increased (see table 35). Conversely, the average proportion of adult gang members increased as population size increased. The variation in the ages of gang members involved in gang-controlled drug distribution was statistically significant when population was taken into account.

In jurisdictions that responded to the question regarding gang control or management of drug distribution, the race/ethnicity of gang members, as based on unweighted averages, was as follows: African-American, 33 percent; Caucasian, 30 percent; Hispanic, 29 percent; Asian, 6 percent; and "other," 2 percent (see table 36). As observed with gang member involvement in drug sales, the average proportion of African-American gang members was higher in jurisdictions that reported a greater degree of gang control of drug distribution; the proportion increased from 18 percent in jurisdictions that reported no gang control of drug distribution to 59 percent in jurisdictions that reported gang control of all drug distribution. All other racial/ethnic groups, except "other," were skewed toward low gang control of drug distribution.

The average proportion of juvenile gang members involved in some drug distribution decreased as population size increased.

The variation in race/ethnicity of gang members was statistically significant when level of drug distribution was taken into account.

Table 34: Level of Gang Control of Drug Distribution, by Age of Gang Members (Unweighted*)

	Age			
Level of Control	**Under 15**	**15–17**	**18–24**	**Over 24**
All (*n*=12†)	10%	32%	47%	11%
More than half (*n*=279)	19	42	31	8
Less than half (*n*=220)	23	43	29	5
Less than one-fourth (*n*=401)	21	49	26	4
None (*n*=58)	31	48	19	1
Overall average‡ (*n*=970)	21	46	28	5

Notes: The percentages within each level of involvement may not equal 100 percent due to rounding; *n*=the number of observations.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.
† Caution should be exercised in interpreting these data as there were less than 20 observations available for estimation.
‡ These averages were derived from the estimates of respondents who responded to the question regarding drug distribution.

Table 35: Population Size, by Age of Gang Members in Jurisdictions Reporting Some Gang Control of Drug Distribution (Unweighted*)

	Age			
Population	**Under 15**	**15–17**	**18–24**	**Over 24**
250,000 or more (*n*=67)	17%	37%	36%	10%
100,000–249,999 (*n*=124)	19	39	34	8
50,000–99,999 (*n*=212)	20	43	31	6
25,000–49,999 (*n*=299)	21	49	25	5
10,000–24,999 (*n*=114)	23	48	26	3
1–9,999 (*n*=96)	22	51	23	3

Notes: The percentages within each population parameter may not equal 100 percent due to rounding; *n*=the number of observations.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.

In sum, the greater the gang control of drug distribution, the greater the average proportion of African-American gang members reported in those jurisdictions. The opposite was true for Hispanics, Asians, and Caucasians. Additionally, the variation in race/ethnicity of gang members was statistically significant when level of drug distribution was taken into account.

Table 36: Level of Gang Control of Drug Distribution, by Race/Ethnicity of Gang Members (Unweighted*)

Level of Control	Race/Ethnicity				
	African-American	Hispanic	Caucasian	Asian	Other
All (*n*=14†)	59%	19%	18%	4%	1%
More than half (*n*=287)	50	24	21	4	1
Less than half (*n*=235)	35	29	28	5	3
Less than one-fourth (*n*=423)	22	32	36	7	2
None (*n*=61)	18	30	43	8	0
Total/Average‡ (*n*=1,020)	33	29	30	6	2

Notes: The percentages within each level of involvement may not equal 100 percent due to rounding; *n*=the number of observations.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.
† Caution should be exercised in interpreting these data because there were less than 20 observations available for estimation.
‡ These averages were derived from the estimates of those who responded to the question regarding drug distribution.

The youth gang problem in this country is substantial and affects communities of all sizes.

Summary and Conclusions

The 1996 National Youth Gang Survey is the largest and most comprehensive national youth gang survey to date. Nearly 5,000 law enforcement agencies were surveyed, with the response rate exceeding 80 percent. The survey sample consisted of suburban and rural counties and cities with populations greater than 2,500. The majority of agencies surveyed were part of a statistically representative sample that allowed the data to be extrapolated for the Nation as a whole. The survey provided valuable information about the extent of the youth gang problem throughout the United States and the characteristics and criminal involvement of gang members.

The following summarizes the results of the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey:

- The youth gang problem in this country is substantial and affects communities of all sizes. Almost three-fourths of surveyed cities with populations greater than 25,000 (large cities) reported youth gangs in 1996. A majority of suburban counties had gangs, as did a significant percentage of small cities and rural counties. The western region of the United States had the highest percentage (75 percent) of jurisdictions reporting gangs in 1996, while the northeastern region had the lowest percentage (35 percent). The larger the population, the higher the percentage of jurisdictions reporting gangs.
- An estimated 4,824 jurisdictions had active youth gangs in the United States in 1996. In addition, approximately 31,000 gangs and 846,000 gang members were active in these jurisdictions. These numbers are higher than those found in the 1995 survey, largely because of the differences in 1996 survey design and methodology.

The racial and ethnic composition of gangs in 1996 appears to be different from what earlier national surveys and research had indicated.

- The number of jurisdictions reporting youth gangs increased by 4.1 percent for the Nation as a whole, as shown by comparison of the estimated number of jurisdictions reporting gangs prior to 1996 with those reporting gangs in 1996. Contrary to this overall increase, gang activity decreased by 3.2 percent in large cities. Although the causes of these changes in gang activity are not immediately apparent, followup interviews were scheduled with agencies that experienced changes, and the results of this analysis will be reported in the future.
- Most gang problems began quite recently, especially in small cities and rural counties. Survey respondents most frequently cited 1994 as the year gangs began to pose a problem in their jurisdictions. The average year of onset was significantly earlier in the West (1986).
- When results were weighted for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction, half of the gang members nationwide were juveniles; the other half were adults. However, the majority of gang members (71 percent) were reported to be between the ages of 15 and 24.
- The average proportion of juvenile gang members was less in jurisdictions that reported their gang problem began prior to 1990 as compared with jurisdictions that reported their gang problem began between 1990 and 1996. The average proportion of adult gang members increased as population size increased.
- The average proportion of adult gang members increased as the level of gang member involvement in drug sales and the degree of gang control of drug distribution increased.
- Females were reported to be substantially less involved in gangs than males in 1996, despite other recent findings indicating relatively more female involvement. The average proportion of female gang members was affected slightly by population size, decreasing from 14 percent in populations of 1–9,999 to 9 percent in populations of 250,000 or more.
- The racial and ethnic composition of gangs in 1996 appears to be different from what earlier national surveys and research had indicated. When the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction was controlled for, Caucasians accounted for 14 percent of all gang members. In addition, the proportion of Caucasian gang members was especially high in rural counties (32 percent) and small cities (31 percent).
- As population size increased, the average proportion of African-American, Hispanic, and Asian gang members increased and the average proportion of Caucasian gang members decreased.
- The average proportion of minority gang members, especially Hispanics, in newer gang jurisdictions was lower than the average proportion in older gang jurisdictions. Conversely, the average proportion of Caucasian gang members was substantially higher in newer gang jurisdictions compared with older gang jurisdictions, suggesting that the increase in Caucasian gang membership was a recent trend.

- The average proportion of African-American gang members increased as the level of gang member involvement in drug sales and the degree of gang control of drug distribution increased. Under the same circumstances, the average proportion of Caucasian, Hispanic, and Asian gang members decreased.
- Forty-six percent of gangs throughout the country were shown to be multiethnic/multiracial when the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction was controlled for. Multiethnic/multiracial gangs were especially prevalent in suburban counties (55 percent) and small cities (52 percent).
- When unweighted percentages were used, the average proportion of multiethnic/multiracial gangs was highest in the Midwest (55 percent) and lowest in the Northeast (39 percent).
- Approximately 84 percent of respondents indicated that their jurisdictions experienced some gang migration. In addition, when the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction was taken into account, 21 percent of the gang members in jurisdictions that experienced some migration were estimated to be migrants.
- Respondents in small cities reported the highest average proportion of migrants (36 percent). The larger the jurisdiction, the smaller the average proportion of gang migrants. Regionally, the average proportion of migrants was highest in the Midwest (34 percent) and the Northeast (33 percent).
- An estimated 2,364 homicides that occurred in large cities and 561 homicides that occurred in suburban counties involved gang members. The larger the population of a jurisdiction, the higher the number of homicides involving gang members.
- Respondents indicated that youth gang members were, relatively, more involved in larceny/theft, followed fairly closely, in the order of degree of involvement, by aggravated assault, burglary, and motor vehicle theft. The number of jurisdictions that reported a high degree of involvement in aggravated assault, robbery, and motor vehicle theft increased as the population of jurisdictions increased.
- On average, respondents estimated that 43 percent of the drug sales in their jurisdictions involved gang members, although most respondents reported gang member involvement at the high and low ends of the spectrum. Almost half of the jurisdictions in large cities and small cities reported that gang members were not very involved in drug sales. Additionally, the majority of jurisdictions in the West and Northeast indicated that gang members were not very involved in drug sales.
- Nearly half (47 percent) of the respondents indicated that gang members controlled or managed less than one-quarter of all drug distribution in their jurisdictions. Jurisdictions in the Midwest and Northeast reported a high degree of gang control of drug distribution. Approximately 36 percent of

The larger the jurisdiction, the smaller the average proportion of gang migrants.

Analysis of these data by the National Youth Gang Center will continue.

respondents in the Midwest and 33 percent in the Northeast indicated that more than half of the drug distribution in their jurisdictions was controlled by gangs.

Analysis of these data by the National Youth Gang Center will continue, and subsequent surveys will gather additional information in areas that require further examination. The NYGC survey database also will be accessible to other gang researchers for analysis.

Endnotes

1. See the 1995 *National Youth Gang Survey* Summary for a detailed explanation of the methodology used to compile the sample for the 1995 survey.
2. A list of cities and their populations was obtained from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census. A list of agencies whose jurisdictions are considered suburban counties and rural counties was obtained from *Crime in the United States, 1994: Uniform Crime Reports*, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1995, pp. 167–189.
3. Data from the *Government's Integrated Directory* was provided by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.
4. For its own purposes, the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census sometimes divides cities and towns into segments. However, for the purposes of this survey, the entire population was used.
5. The number of agencies surveyed was too low to make any assumptions about the level of gang activity in Alaska and Hawaii.
6. Curry, 1998; Esbensen and Huizinga, 1993; Esbensen and Osgood, 1997; Esbensen and Winfree, in press; Fagan, 1990; and Hill et al., in press.
7. Each respondent was limited to one choice within this range of options.

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Appendix A: 1996 National Youth Gang Survey Form for the Representative Sample

Your agency has been selected to furnish information for the **1996** National Youth Gang Survey. Your answers statistically represent those of hundreds of other law enforcement agencies that will not be surveyed, so your response is very important. **Please return the survey by November 28, 1997.**

Please return the completed survey form by fax or by mail to:

National Youth Gang Center
Institute for Intergovernmental Research
Post Office Box 12729
Tallahassee, FL 32317–2729
Telephone Number: 800–446–0912
Fax Number: 888–323–7305 *(This is a toll-free fax number.)*

Survey Instructions

1. Please report data for **Calendar Year 1996** (January 1 through December 31).
2. For the purpose of this survey, a "youth gang" is defined as: *a group of youths or young adults in your jurisdiction that you or other responsible persons in your agency or community are willing to identify or classify as a "gang."* **Do not** include motorcycle gangs, hate or ideology groups, prison gangs, or other exclusively adult gangs. Please base your responses on your records, your personal knowledge, or by consulting other agency personnel who are familiar with youth gangs.
3. Police departments should report only for their city/town.
4. Sheriff's departments should report ***only for their unincorporated service area and any contracted jurisdictions.***

SAMPLE

Agency Information

1. Name of Jurisdiction Served (City, Town, *or* County):_____
2. Law Enforcement Agency Name: _____
3. Agency Mailing Address:

   Street: _____

   City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
4. Name of Person Completing Survey:

   First Name: _____ MI: ____ Last Name: _____
5. Title/Rank: _____
6. Telephone Number, With Area Code: _____ –_____–_____
7. Fax Number, With Area Code: _____ –_____–_____

Survey Questions

1. Have you had youth gang problems in your jurisdiction *prior* to 1996?

   Yes ☐ **No** ☐ **Do not know** ☐

2. If you answered YES to question 1, in approximately what year did gangs begin to pose a problem in your jurisdiction?

   19____ Do not know ☐

3. Do you have unsupervised and troublesome youth groups that you do not consider to be youth gangs?

   Yes ☐ **No** ☐ **Do not know** ☐

   If YES, about how many such groups are currently active in your jurisdiction? _____

4. During 1996, were any youth gangs active in the city, town, or county named in question 1?

   Yes ☐ **No** ☐ **Do not know** ☐

IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO QUESTION 4, PLEASE CONTINUE.

IF YOU ANSWERED "NO" OR "DO NOT KNOW" TO QUESTION 4, THAT COMPLETES THE SURVEY. PLEASE RETURN THE FORM BY MAIL OR FAX.

SAMPLE

5a. How many youth gangs (as defined in the survey instructions) were active in your jurisdiction during 1996?

   Number of active *gangs:* _____ Do not know ☐

5b. Listed below are different kinds of gangs or groups that some consider to be gangs. Please indicate the type or types included in your answer to question 4.

1) street gangs	**Yes** ☐	**No** ☐
2) drug gangs	**Yes** ☐	**No** ☐
3) juvenile gangs	**Yes** ☐	**No** ☐
4) stoners	**Yes** ☐	**No** ☐
5) satanic groups	**Yes** ☐	**No** ☐
6) terrorist groups	**Yes** ☐	**No** ☐
7) taggers	**Yes** ☐	**No** ☐
8) posses	**Yes** ☐	**No** ☐
9) crews	**Yes** ☐	**No** ☐

10) other (please identify) _____

6. What was the total number of active youth gang members in your jurisdiction during 1996?

   Total number of *gang members:* _____ Do not know ☐

7. Considering all the members of the gangs you are reporting on, what is your estimate of the percentage who are:

Age	**Percentage**
Under 15	___%
15–17	___%
18–24	___%
Over 24	___%

   Do not know ☐

8. What is the percentage of all the members of the gangs you are reporting on who are:

   Male ___% **Female** ___% **Do not know** ☐

9a. Listed below are terms often used to describe the race/ethnicity of gangs and gang members. The list does not include all variations. For your jurisdiction, what percentage of all youth gang **members** do you estimate are:

   1) African-American/black ___%

   2) Hispanic/Latino ___%

   3) Asian ___%

   4) Caucasian/white ___%

   5) Other ___% **(Please identify)**_____

SAMPLE

9b. What percentage of the **gangs** in your jurisdiction are multiethnic or multiracial? These gangs are sometimes called "hybrids."

   ___% **Do not know** ☐

10. In your jurisdiction, what percent of drug sales do you estimate involves youth gang members?

   ___% **Do not know** ☐

11. What proportion of drug distribution do you estimate gangs control or manage in your jurisdiction? (Please check the answer that fits best.)

   All of it ☐

   More than half ☐

   Less than half ☐

   Less than one-fourth ☐

   None ☐

   Do not know ☐

12a. How many homicides involving youth gang members occurred in your jurisdiction in 1996?

___ **Homicides** **Do not know** ☐

12b. Does this figure include only homicides that are **gang-motivated?**

Yes ☐ **No** ☐

13. In this question, you are asked to comment on "migration" by youth gang members. "Migration" includes temporary visits for social or criminal purposes as well as longer stays, including permanent moves for any reason. By definition, gang migrants have already joined gangs in their former jurisdiction prior to their arrival in a new jurisdiction.

a. Has there been any gang migration into your jurisdiction?

Yes ☐ **No** ☐ **Do not know** ☐

b. What proportion of the current gang members in your jurisdiction are estimated to be migrants?

___ % **Do not know** ☐

14. Please indicate the degree to which youth gang members are estimated to have engaged in the following offenses in your jurisdiction in 1996. Please *circle* your response.

Offense	**Degree**			
Aggravated Assault	High	Medium	Low	Not Involved
Robbery	High	Medium	Low	Not Involved
Larceny/Theft	High	Medium	Low	Not Involved
Burglary	High	Medium	Low	Not Involved
Motor Vehicle Theft	High	Medium	Low	Not Involved

SAMPLE

Appendix B: Abbreviated 1996 National Youth Gang Survey Form for the Comparative Sample

Survey Instructions

In the 1995 National Youth Gang Survey, your agency furnished information that contributed to a better understanding of the scope of youth gang problems in the United States. We ask you to update the data for **1996** by answering the questions on page 2.

1. Please report data for **Calendar Year 1996** (January 1 through December 31).
2. For the purpose of this survey, a "youth gang" is defined as: *a group of youths or young adults in your jurisdiction that you or other responsible persons in your agency or community are willing to identify or classify as a "gang."* **Do not** include motorcycle gangs, hate or ideology groups, prison gangs, or other exclusively adult gangs. Please base your responses on your records, your personal knowledge, or by consulting other agency personnel who are familiar with youth gangs.
3. Please report only for your jurisdiction. Sheriff's departments should report only for their unincorporated service area and any contracted jurisdictions.
4. Please return the completed survey form by fax or by mail to:

   National Youth Gang Center
   Institute for Intergovernmental Research
   Post Office Box 12729
   Tallahassee, FL 32317–2729
   Telephone Number: 800–446–0912
   Fax Number: 888–323–7305 *(This is a toll-free fax number.)*

SAMPLE

Agency Information

1. Name of Jurisdiction Served (City, Town, *or* County):_____
2. Law Enforcement Agency Name: _____
3. Agency Mailing Address:

   Street: _____

   City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
4. Name of Person Completing Survey:

   First Name: _____ MI: ____ Last Name: _____
5. Title/Rank: _____
6. Telephone Number, With Area Code: _____ –_____–_____
7. Fax Number, With Area Code: _____ –_____–_____

Survey Questions

1. During 1996, were youth gangs active in the city, town, or county served by your agency?

   Yes ☐ **No** ☐ **Do not know** ☐

2. In your jurisdiction in 1996, on the basis of records or your best estimate, what was the number of:

   Active youth gangs? _____ **Do not know** ☐

   Youth gang members? _____ **Do not know** ☐

SAMPLE

Appendix C: Random Sample Selection Methodology

Two random samples were constructed for the 1996 National Youth Gang Survey. The first was a random sample of cities and towns with populations between 2,500 and 25,000 (small cities), and the second was of rural counties.

On previous surveys, the response rate for cities with populations over 150,000 has been as high as 91.3 percent. The response rate for cities with populations between 25,000 and 150,000 was estimated using a random sample of municipalities in that size range that were surveyed as part of the 1994 U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice survey conducted by Curry et al. (1996). The response rate of those cities to the 1995 National Youth Gang Survey has been estimated at 74.5 percent. All of the above computations for the proposed sample size assumed a response rate of 75 percent.

The estimated required sample size *n* was derived using the formula:

$$n = \frac{t^2 NPQ}{(d2(N\text{-}1) + t^2 PQ)}$$

Where:

t is the abscissa of the normal curve that cuts off an area of α at the tails.
N is the true population size.
P is the true proportion of the population with a specific characteristic.
Q is the true proportion of the population without a specific characteristic or (*1–P*).
d is an acceptable error of size that can be incurred at probability α.

This computing formula is derived from the formula provided by Cochran's *Sampling Techniques* (1977) for sample size *n* required for producing an error of size *d* at a specific probability α. Cochran uses *t*, the abscissa of the normal curve that cuts off an area of α at the tails to produce the formula:

$$n = \frac{\frac{t^2 PQ}{d^2}}{1 + \frac{1}{N}\left(\frac{t^2 PQ}{d^2} - 1\right)}$$

All the terms in the computing formula are presented in a form equivalent to those in Cochran's formula.

An error rate *d* was computed as 5 percent. The probability α of an estimated error being greater than *d* used in the computations above is .05. All computations are based on an estimated true population of *P*=.5 and *Q*=.5 because this results in the most conservative and largest estimates for required samples for each stratum.

Appendix D: Population Categories Used for Estimating the Average Number of Gangs and Gang Members Based on Population of Nonrespondents

Population	Average Number of Gangs	Population	Average Number of Gang Members
Large Cities		**Large Cities**	
25,000–74,999	4.62	25,000–74,999	103.09
75,000–124,999	11.08	75,000–124,999	495.71
100,000–199,999	18.99	100,000–199,999	856.41
150,000–249,999	25.52	150,000–249,999	1000.81
175,000–324,999	35.12	175,000–324,999	1447.50
200,000–399,999	49.05	175,000–424,999	1549.19
250,000–549,999	61.48	225,000–924,999	2375.02
275,000–874,999	74.95	275,000–1,024,999	2694.93
300,000–999,999	79.85		
Suburban Counties		**Suburban Counties**	
0–49,999	2.75	0–49,999	41.61
50,000–99,999	7.84	50,000–99,999	228.68
100,000–149,999	28.36	75,000–174,999	519.38
125,000–224,999	48.75	125,000–224,999	1014.68
150,000–399,999	49.88	150,000–399,999	1145.32
175,000–474,999	39.93	150,000–499,999	1119.67
175,000–574,999	38.61	150,000–599,999	1120.22
175,000–674,999	39.53	150,000–699,999	1284.96
200,000–849,999	33.63	150,000–899,999	1268.90

Appendix E: *Uniform Crime Reports for the United States, 1996*—Regions and Divisions (Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1997)

Midwestern States

East North Central
Illinois
Indiana
Michigan
Ohio
Wisconsin

West North Central
Iowa
Kansas
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
South Dakota

Northeastern States

New England
Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Vermont

Middle Atlantic
New Jersey
New York
Pennsylvania

Southern States

South Atlantic
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Maryland
North Carolina
South Carolina
Virginia
West Virginia

East South Central
Alabama
Kentucky
Mississippi
Tennessee

West South Central
Arkansas
Louisiana
Oklahoma
Texas

Western States

Mountain
Arizona
Colorado
Idaho
Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Utah
Wyoming

Pacific
Alaska
California
Hawaii
Oregon
Washington

Appendix F: Jurisdictions Reporting Gangs in 1996

This list is not comprehensive. Jurisdictions reporting gangs in 1996 listed for large cities and suburban counties include only those that responded to the survey. Jurisdictions reporting for small cities and rural counties were part of a random sample and statistically represent many other jurisdictions that had gangs in 1996 but are unnamed.

Large Cities

Alabama

Anniston
Auburn
Bessemer
Birmingham
Dothan
Florence
Gadsden
Huntsville
Mobile
Montgomery
Phoenix City
Tuscaloosa

Alaska

Anchorage
Fairbanks
Juneau

Arizona

Bullhead City
Chandler
Flagstaff
Gilbert
Glendale
Lake Havasu City
Mesa
Peoria
Phoenix
Prescott
Scottsdale
Sierra Vista
Tempe
Tucson
Yuma

Arkansas

Conway
Fort Smith
Hot Springs
Jacksonville
Jonesboro
Little Rock
North Little Rock
Pine Bluff
Rogers
Springdale

California

Alameda
Alhambra
Anaheim
Antioch
Arcadia
Azusa
Bakersfield
Baldwin Park
Bell
Bell Gardens
Belmont
Berkeley
Brea
Buena Park
Burbank
Campbell
Carlsbad
Cathedral City
Ceres
Chico
Chino
Chula Vista
Claremont
Clovis
Colton
Compton
Concord
Corona
Costa Mesa
Covina
Cypress
Daly City
Davis
Delano
Downey
East Palo Alto
El Cajon
El Centro
El Monte
Escondido
Eureka
Folsom
Fontana
Fountain Valley
Fremont
Fresno
Fullerton
Garden Grove
Gardena
Gilroy
Hawthorne
Huntington Beach
Huntington Park
Inglewood
Irvine
La Habra
La Verne
Livermore
Lodi
Lompoc
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Los Gatos
Madera
Manteca
Maywood
Menlo Park
Merced
Milpitas
Monrovia
Montclair
Montebello
Monterey
Morgan Hill
Mountain View
Napa
National City
Oakland
Oceanside
Ontario
Orange
Oxnard
Palm Springs
Paradise
Pittsburg
Placentia
Pleasant Hill
Porterville
Redding
Redlands
Redondo Beach
Redwood City
Rialto
Richmond
Riverside
Rohnert Park
Roseville
Sacramento
Salinas
San Bernardino
San Bruno
San Diego
San Francisco
San Gabriel
San Jose
San Leandro
San Luis Obispo
San Mateo
San Pablo
San Rafael
Santa Ana
Santa Barbara
Santa Clara
Santa Cruz

Santa Paula
Santa Rosa
Seaside
Simi Valley
South Gate
South San Francisco
Stockton
Sunnyvale
Tustin
Union City
Upland
Vacaville
Vallejo
Ventura
Visalia
Watsonville
West Covina
Westminster

Colorado

Arvada
Aurora
Boulder
Colorado Springs
Denver
Englewood
Fort Collins
Grand Junction
Greeley
Lakewood
Longmont
Loveland
Northglenn
Pueblo
Thornton

Connecticut

Branford
Bridgeport
Danbury
East Hartford
East Haven
Glastonbury
Groton
Hamden
Hartford
Manchester
Meriden
Middletown
Naugatuck
New Britain
New Haven
Shelton
Southington
Stamford
Vernon
Waterbury
West Hartford
Wethersfield
Windsor

District of Columbia

Florida

Altamonte Springs
Boca Raton
Bradenton
Clearwater
Coconut Creek
Coral Springs
Daytona Beach
Delray Beach
Fort Lauderdale
Fort Myers
Fort Pierce
Hallandale
Hialeah
Hollywood
Jacksonville
Jupiter
Kissimmee
Lakeland
Lauderhill
Margate
Melbourne
Miami
Miami Beach
Miramar
North Lauderdale
North Miami
North Miami Beach
Oakland Park
Orlando
Ormond Beach
Palm Beach Gardens
Panama City
Pensacola
Pinellas Park
Pompano Beach
Port Orange
Sanford
Sarasota
St. Petersburg
Sunrise
Tallahassee
Tampa
Titusville
West Palm Beach
Winter Haven

Georgia

Albany
Atlanta
Columbus
East Point
Hinesville
Lagrange
Macon
Rome
Roswell
Savannah
Smyrna
Valdosta
Warner Robins

Hawaii

Honolulu

Idaho

Boise
Coeur d'Alene
Nampa
Pocatello

Illinois

Addison
Alton
Aurora
Bartlett
Belleville
Berwyn
Bloomington
Buffalo Grove
Burbank
Carbondale
Carol Stream
Champaign
Chicago
Chicago Heights
Crystal Lake
DeKalb
Decatur
Des Plaines
Dolton
Downers Grove
Elgin
Evanston
Freeport
Galesburg
Glendale Heights
Glenview
Hanover Park
Harvey
Hoffman Estates
Kankakee
Lombard
Maywood
Moline
Mount Prospect
Naperville
Niles
Normal
North Chicago
Oak Forest
Oak Lawn
Oak Park
Orland Park
Palatine
Park Forest
Park Ridge
Pekin
Peoria
Quincy
Rock Island
Rockford
Schaumburg
Springfield
St. Charles
Streamwood
Urbana
Waukegan
Wheaton
Wheeling
Woodridge

Indiana

Anderson
Bloomington
East Chicago
Elkhart
Evansville
Fort Wayne
Gary
Goshen
Indianapolis
Kokomo
Lafayette

Lawrence
Marion
Merrillville
Michigan City
Muncie
New Albany
Portage
Richmond
South Bend
Terre Haute
Valparaiso

Iowa

Ames
Bettendorf
Burlington
Cedar Rapids
Clinton
Council Bluffs
Davenport
Des Moines
Iowa City
Mason City
Sioux City
Urbandale
Waterloo

Kansas

Emporia
Hutchinson
Kansas City
Lawrence
Leavenworth
Lenexa
Olathe
Overland Park
Salina
Shawnee
Topeka
Wichita

Kentucky

Bowling Green
Covington
Frankfort
Hopkinsville
Louisville
Owensboro

Louisiana

Alexandria
Baton Rouge
Bossier City
Lafayette
Monroe
New Iberia
New Orleans
Shreveport

Maine

Lewiston
Portland

Maryland

Baltimore
Frederick
Gaithersburg

Massachusetts

Amherst
Beverly
Boston
Braintree
Brookline
Cambridge
Chelmsford
Chicopee
Dartmouth
Everett
Fall River
Fitchburg
Franklin
Holyoke
Lawrence
Leominster
Lexington
Lynn
Malden
Newton
Northampton
Pittsfield
Revere
Salem
Somerville
Springfield
Tewksbury
Waltham
Watertown
West Springfield
Westfield
Woburn
Worcester

Michigan

Ann Arbor
Battle Creek
Canton
Chesterfield
Dearborn
Dearborn Heights
Detroit
East Lansing
Farmington Hills
Flint
Flint Township
Garden City
Grand Rapids
Holland
Inkster
Jackson
Kalamazoo
Kentwood
Lansing
Lincoln Park
Muskegon
Oak Park
Pontiac
Port Huron
Redford
Roseville
Saginaw
Shelby Township
Southfield
Southgate
St. Clair Shores
Sterling Heights
Taylor
Waterford

Minnesota

Apple Valley
Blaine
Brooklyn Center
Brooklyn Park
Burnsville
Cottage Grove
Eagan
Edina
Lakeville
Mankato
Maplewood
Minneapolis
Moorhead
Plymouth
Richfield
Rochester
Roseville
St. Cloud
St. Louis Park
St. Paul
Winona

Mississippi

Biloxi
Columbus
Greenville
Hattiesburg
Meridian
Pascagoula
Tupelo
Vicksburg

Missouri

Blue Springs
Cape Girardeau
Florissant
Independence
Jefferson City
Kansas City
Kirkwood
Lees Summit
Raytown
Springfield
St. Charles
St. Joseph
St. Louis
University City

Montana

Billings
Great Falls
Missoula

Nebraska

Bellevue
Kearney
Lincoln
Omaha

Nevada

Las Vegas

New Hampshire

Concord
Manchester
Nashua

New Jersey

Atlantic City
East Orange
Egg Harbor Township

Elizabeth
Fort Lee
Hamilton
Irvington
Jackson
Kearny
Lakewood
Linden
Long Branch
Manalapan
Middletown
Millville
Montclair
New Brunswick
Newark
North Bergen
Paterson
Teaneck
Trenton
Union
Union City

New Mexico

Carlsbad
Clovis
Farmington
Hobbs
Las Cruces
Rio Rancho
Santa Fe

New York

Albany
Auburn
Buffalo
Cicero
Hempstead
Jamestown
Manlius
Mount Vernon
New York
Orangetown
Rochester
Schenectady
Syracuse
Troy
Watertown
Yonkers

North Carolina

Asheville
Burlington
Chapel Hill
Charlotte
Concord
Durham
Goldsboro
Greensboro
Greenville
Jacksonville
Kannapolis
Salisbury
Wilmington
Winston Salem

North Dakota

Fargo
Grand Forks
Minot

Ohio

Akron
Barberton
Brunswick
Canton
Cincinnati
Cleveland
Cuyahoga Falls
East Cleveland
Elyria
Fairfield
Findlay
Gahanna
Hamilton
Huber Heights
Kent
Lima
Lorain
Mansfield
Marion
Mentor
Middletown
Parma
Reynoldsburg
Shaker Heights
Springfield
Toledo
Warren
Westerville
Youngstown

Oklahoma

Broken Arrow
Edmond
Enid
Lawton
Midwest City
Moore
Muskogee
Norman
Oklahoma City
Ponca City
Shawnee
Stillwater
Tulsa

Oregon

Albany
Beaverton
Corvallis
Keizer
Lake Oswego
Medford
Portland
Salem
Springfield

Pennsylvania

Allentown
Bensalem
Bethlehem
Chester
Erie
Harrisburg
McKeesport
Millcreek
Norristown
Philadelphia
Pittsburgh
Reading

Rhode Island

Coventry
Cranston
East Providence
Providence
West Warwick
Woonsocket

South Carolina

Beaufort
Greenville
Myrtle Beach
North Charleston
Rock Hill
Spartanburg

South Dakota

Rapid City
Sioux Falls

Tennessee

Clarksville
Cleveland
Columbia
Cookeville
Hendersonville
Jackson
Kingsport
Knoxville
Murfreesboro
Nashville
Oak Ridge

Texas

Abilene
Amarillo
Arlington
Austin
Baytown
Bedford
Bryan
Carrollton
College Station
Copperas Cove
Corpus Christi
De Soto
Deer Park
Del Rio
Duncanville
Edinburg
El Paso
Euless
Fort Worth
Galveston
Garland
Grapevine
Haltom City
Harlingen
Houston
Huntsville
Hurst
Irving
Killeen
Kingsville
La Porte
Lake Jackson
Laredo
League City
Longview
Lubbock
Lufkin
McKinney

McAllen
Mesquite
Midland
Missouri City
Nacogdoches
New Braunfels
North Richland Hills
Odessa
Pasadena
Plano
Port Arthur
Richardson
Round Rock
Rowlett
San Angelo
San Antonio
San Marcos
Sherman
Sugar Land
Temple
Tyler
Victoria
Waco

Utah

Bountiful
Logan
Murray
Ogden
Orem
Provo
Roy
Salt Lake City
Sandy
St. George
West Valley City

Virginia

Alexandria
Chesapeake
Manassas
Newport News
Norfolk
Portsmouth
Virginia Beach

Washington

Bellevue
Bellingham
Bremerton
Edmonds
Everett
Kennewick
Kirkland
Longview
Lynnwood
Olympia
Renton
Richland
Seattle
Spokane
Tacoma
Walla Walla
Yakima

West Virginia

Morgantown

Wisconsin

Appleton
Beloit
Brookfield
Fond Du Lac
Green Bay
Greenfield
Kenosha
Madison
Manitowoc
Milwaukee
New Berlin
Oshkosh
Racine
Superior
Wausau
West Allis

Small Cities

Alabama

Bridgeport
Chickasaw
Talladega
Trussville

Arizona

Apache Junction
San Luis
Show Low
Somerton

Arkansas

Prairie Grove

California

Brentwood
Crescent City
Dixon
Farmersville
Firebaugh
Half Moon Bay
Huron
Los Banos
Nevada City

Connecticut

Cromwell

Florida

Alachua
Greenacres
Lake City
Madison
Mount Dora
Opa-Locka
Starke
Wildwood

Georgia

Cedartown
Forest Park
Pelham

Illinois

Country Club Hills
Crest Hill
Edwardsville
Fox River Grove
Libertyville
Macomb
Madison
Morton Grove
North Aurora
Paris
Plainfield
Prospect Heights
Richton Park
Riverside
Vernon Hills
Wauconda
Winfield
Winthrop Harbor

Indiana

Petersburg

Iowa

Grinnell

Kansas

Arkansas City
El Dorado
Roeland Park

Kentucky

Franklin
London
Shively

Louisiana

Haynesville
Pineville

Maine

Fort Fairfield

Massachusetts

Belchertown
Holden

Michigan

Menominee
Rockford

Minnesota

Lindstrom
South St. Paul
Spring Lake Park

Mississippi

Booneville

Missouri

Clinton
Festus
North Kansas City
Pevely
Pleasant Hill
Windsor

New Hampshire

Portsmouth

New Jersey

Asbury Park

New Mexico

Deming

New York

Oxford
Perry
Scotia
South Nyack

North Carolina
Andrews
Randleman

Ohio
Cardington
Fostoria
Kenton
Parma Heights
Washington
Wellington

Oklahoma
Fort Gibson
Tecumseh

Oregon
Ontario

Pennsylvania
Ephrata
Palmerton

South Dakota
Winner

Texas
Ballinger
Gladewater
Los Fresnos
Richmond

Utah
Midvale
Roosevelt
Spanish Fork
Springville

Virginia
Berryville
Waynesboro

Washington
Blaine
Chelan
Ferndale
Lacey
Mount Vernon
Oak Harbor
Steilacoom

Wisconsin
Little Chute

Wyoming
Rock Springs

Suburban Counties

Alabama
Baldwin
Dale
Lauderdale
Madison
Mobile
Montgomery
Russell
Shelby
Tuscaloosa

Arizona
Maricopa
Mohave
Pima
Pinal
Yuma

Arkansas
Crawford
Lonoke
Pulaski
Washington

California
Alameda
Butte
Contra Costa
El Dorado
Fresno
Kern
Los Angeles
Madera
Marin
Merced
Monterey
Napa
Orange
Placer
Riverside
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego
San Joaquin
San Luis Obispo
San Mateo
Santa Barbara
Santa Clara
Santa Cruz
Shasta
Solano
Sonoma
Stanislaus
Sutter
Tulare
Yolo
Yuba

Colorado
Douglas
El Paso
Jefferson
Larimer
Pueblo
Weld

Florida
Alachua
Bay
Brevard
Broward
Clay
Collier
Dade
Escambia
Flagler
Hillsborough
Lee
Leon
Manatee
Marion
Okaloosa
Orange
Osceola
Palm Beach
Pasco
Pinellas
Polk
Santa Rosa
Sarasota
Seminole
St. Lucie
Volusia

Georgia
Bibb
Carroll
Chatham
Cherokee
Clayton
Cobb
Columbia
Coweta
Dekalb
Dougherty
Douglas
Gwinnett
Jones
Lee
Madison
McDuffie
Oconee
Paulding
Rockdale
Spalding
Twiggs
Walton

Idaho
Ada

Illinois
Boone
Clinton
Cook
Dekalb
Dupage
Grundy
Jersey
Kane
Kankakee
Kendall
Macon
Madison
McHenry
McLean
Ogle
Peoria
Rock Island
Sangamon
St. Clair
Will
Winnebago

Indiana
Allen
Delaware
Elkhart
Porter
Tippecanoe
Wells

Iowa
Scott

Kansas
Douglas
Harvey
Johnson
Sedgwick
Wyandotte

Kentucky
Bell
Bullitt
Calloway
Christian
Daviess
Grant
Jefferson

Louisiana
Bossier
Caddo
E. Baton Rouge
Jefferson
Rapides
St. Charles
St. Martin
Terrebonne

Maryland
Baltimore
Calvert
Charles
Harford
Howard
Montgomery
Prince Georges

Michigan
Bay
Eaton
Genesee
Kalamazoo
Macomb
Midland
Monroe
Muskegon
Oakland
Ottawa
Van Buren
Washtenaw
Wayne

Minnesota
Benton
Chisago
Dakota
Hennepin
Polk
Sherburne
St. Louis

Mississippi
Forrest
Harrison

Missouri
Boone
Christian
Clay
Greene
Jackson
Jefferson
Lincoln
St. Charles
St. Louis

Montana
Yellowstone

Nebraska
Sarpy

Nevada
Washoe

New Jersey
Essex
Hudson
Middlesex
Union

New Mexico
Dona Ana
Sandoval

New York
Broome
Genesee
Oneida
Ontario
Schenectady
Suffolk

North Carolina
Buncombe
Burke
Catawba
Cumberland
Currituck
Davidson
Forsyth
Gaston
Guilford
Johnston
New Hanover
Pitt
Yadkin

North Dakota
Cass
Grand Forks

Ohio
Ashtabula
Clermont
Columbiana
Delaware
Hamilton
Licking
Lorain
Medina
Miami
Montgomery
Wood

Oklahoma
Cleveland
Logan
Oklahoma
Pottawatomie
Rogers
Tulsa

Oregon
Clackamas
Columbia
Marion
Multnomah
Washington
Yamhill

Pennsylvania
Allegheny
Beaver

South Carolina
Aiken
Anderson
Edgefield
Greenville
Lexington
Pickens
Richland
Sumter

South Dakota
Minnehaha
Pennington

Tennessee
Loudon
Madison
Montgomery
Rutherford
Shelby
Sullivan

Texas
Bastrop
Bexar
Brazoria
Brazos
Chambers
Denton
Ector
El Paso
Fort Bend
Galveston
Grayson
Guadalupe
Hardin
Harris
Harrison
Hays
Jefferson
Lubbock
Midland
Montgomery
Nueces
Parker
Randall
Rockwall
Tarrant
Travis
Upshur
Victoria
Williamson

Utah
Davis
Salt Lake
Utah
Weber

Virginia
Arlington
Bedford
Charles City
Chesterfield
Fairfax
Fauquier
New Kent
Prince William
Roanoke
Spotsylvania

Washington
Benton
Clark
King
Pierce
Snohomish
Spokane
Thurston
Whatcom
Yakima

West Virginia
Cabell
Marshall

Wisconsin
Brown
Calumet
Dane
Kenosha
La Crosse
Marathon
Ozaukee
Pierce
Racine
Sheboygan
Washington
Winnebago

Wyoming
Laramie

Rural Counties

Alabama
Choctaw
Pickens
Talladega
Wilcox

Arizona
Greenlee
Santa Cruz

Arkansas
Chicot
Marion
Ouachita
Phillips
St. Francis
Union

California
Colusa
Humboldt
Lake
San Benito
Tehama

Colorado
Las Animas
Mesa
Morgan
Park
Prowers

Florida
Highlands
Indian River
Wakulla

Georgia
Coffee
Crawford
Echols
Glynn
Habersham
Irwin
Jackson
Lamar
Stephens
Talbot
Troup
White
Wilkinson

Idaho
Bannock
Bingham
Lincoln

Illinois
Moultrie
Perry
Williamson

Indiana
Cass
Noble
Steuben

Iowa
Des Moines
Emmet
Mahaska

Kansas
Coffey
Riley
Stanton

Kentucky
Lewis
Marshall
Meade

Louisiana
Claiborne
Washington
West Feliciana

Michigan
Houghton
Iron
Luce
Mackinac
Marquette
Newaygo
Shiawassee
Tuscola

Minnesota
Carlton
Redwood
Waseca
Watonwan
Yellow Medicine

Mississippi
Adams
Bolivar
Copiah
Hancock
Holmes
Jones
Lee
Perry
Scott

Missouri
Douglas
Howell
Mississippi
Perry
Pike
Pulaski
Vernon

Montana
Blaine
Hill
Roosevelt

New Mexico
Luna
McKinley
Torrance

New York
Jefferson

North Carolina
Caswell
Chowan
Harnett
Montgomery
Tyrrell
Vance

Ohio
Ashland
Darke
Hancock
Hardin
Monroe
Tuscarawas
Wayne

Oklahoma
Atoka
Blaine
Cherokee
Craig
Custer

Oregon
Douglas
Hood River

Pennsylvania
Lackawanna
Luzerne

South Carolina
Abbeville
Chester
Lancaster
Newberry

South Dakota
Corson
Todd
Tripp
Ziebach

Tennessee
Hamblen
Haywood
Maury
Sequatchie
Tipton

Texas
Calhoun
Cooke
Fayette
Goliad
Kerr
Kleberg
Robertson
Uvalde
Wise

Utah
Carbon
Garfield
Millard
Tooele
Wasatch

Virginia
Lunenburg

Washington
Grant
Lewis
Mason
Okanogan
Pacific
Stevens

West Virginia
Upshur

Wisconsin
Juneau
Manitowoc
Menominee
Sauk
Shawano
Vilas

Appendix G: Number and Percentage of Agencies Reporting Gangs in 1996, by Population Size and Region

Population	Total/ Percentage	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
250,000 or more	**97** (95%)	**17** (100%)	**10** (67%)	**38** (100%)	**32** (100%)
100,000–249,999	**181** (83%)	**38** (83%)	**20** (67%)	**65** (79%)	**58** (98%)
50,000–99,999	**331** (74%)	**92** (82%)	**41** (49%)	**102** (68%)	**96** (94%)
25,000–49,999	**459** (59%)	**151** (72%)	**63** (34%)	**145** (58%)	**100** (75%)
10,000–24,999	**169** (39%)	**56** (44%)	**6** (15%)	**79** (35%)	**28** (65%)
1–9,999	**148** (24%)	**56** (23%)	**6** (9%)	**53** (25%)	**33** (36%)
Total/Percentage	**1,385** (53%)	**410** (54%)	**146** (35%)	**482** (50%)	**347** (75%)

Appendix H: Number and Percentage of Agencies Reporting Gangs in 1996, by Area Type and Region

Area Type	Total/ Percentage	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
Large city	**785** (74%)	**229** (81%)	**119** (47%)	**219** (79%)	**218** (87%)
Small city	**113** (34%)	**42** (40%)	**12** (12%)	**32** (41%)	**27** (51%)
Suburban county	**329** (57%)	**90** (60%)	**12** (32%)	**159** (50%)	**68** (96%)
Rural county	**158** (25%)	**49** (22%)	**3** (10%)	**72** (25%)	**34** (40%)
Total/Percentage	**1,385** (53%)	**410** (54%)	**146** (35%)	**482** (50%)	**347** (75%)

Appendix I: Average Number of Gangs and Gang Members per Jurisdiction, by Population Size and Area Type

Population (Average per Jurisdiction)	Overall Average	Area Type			
		Large City	Small City	Suburban County	Rural County
250,000 or more					
Gangs	80	87	N/A	67	+
Gang Members	5,894	6,349	N/A	4,940	+
100,000–249,999					
Gangs	32	22	N/A	51	+
Gang Members	1,016	946	N/A	1,157	+
50,000–99,999					
Gangs	10	9	N/A	12	+
Gang Members	352	347	N/A	382	+
25,000–49,999					
Gangs	6	6	N/A	9	+
Gang Members	134	130	N/A	165	+
10,000–24,999					
Gangs	4	N/A	4	5	4
Gang Members	84	N/A	78	114	53
1–9,999					
Gangs	3	N/A	3	+	4
Gang Members	37	N/A	34	+	40

Note: Overall averages cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each area type. The number of observations is different for each area type.
+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

Appendix J: Age of Gang Members, by Population Size and Region (Unweighted*)

Age, by Population Size	Overall Average	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
250,000 or more					
Under 15	17%	+	+	14%	20%
15–17	38	+	+	44	32
18–24	36	+	+	34	37
Over 24	9	+	+	8	11
100,000–249,999					
Under 15	19	18%	+	22	15
15–17	41	39	+	46	38
18–24	33	35	+	28	37
Over 24	7	8	+	4	10
50,000–99,999					
Under 15	21	22	18%	24	18
15–17	45	45	42	46	46
18–24	29	27	36	26	29
Over 24	5	6	4	4	7
25,000–49,999					
Under 15	23	22	26	24	23
15–17	48	49	49	47	50
18–24	25	26	23	24	23
Over 24	4	4	2	5	4
10,000–24,999					
Under 15	24	21	+	26	26
15–17	48	47	+	46	55
18–24	26	29	+	26	16
Over 24	2	3	+	2	2
1–9,999					
Under 15	23	23	+	23	25
15–17	54	55	+	53	52
18–24	20	20	+	21	19
Over 24	3	2	+	3	4

Notes: The percentages within each population parameter may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Overall averages cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each region. The number of observations is different for each region.

* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.

+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

Appendix K: Sex of Gang Members, by Area Type and Region (Unweighted*)

Sex, by Area Type	Overall Average	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
Large city					
Male	90%	90%	88%	90%	90%
Female	10	10	12	10	10
Small city					
Male	88	91	+	89	88
Female	12	9	+	11	12
Suburban county					
Male	89	90	+	88	87
Female	11	10	+	12	13
Rural county					
Male	87	84	+	90	82
Female	13	16	+	10	18

Note: Overall averages cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each region. The number of observations is different for each region.
* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.
+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

Appendix L: Race/Ethnicity of Gang Members, by Population Size and Region (Unweighted*)

Race/Ethnicity, by Population Size	Overall Average	Region			
		Midwest	Northeast	South	West
250,000 or more					
African-American	37%	+	+	35%	26%
Hispanic	32	+	+	31	47
Caucasian	20	+	+	26	10
Asian	9	+	+	8	13
Other	2	+	+	1	4
100,000–249,999					
African-American	31	39%	+	37	14
Hispanic	35	15	+	24	58
Caucasian	27	38	+	35	16
Asian	6	5	+	4	10
Other	1	2	+	0	1
50,000–99,999					
African-American	29	40	30%	39	9
Hispanic	32	13	30	21	60
Caucasian	30	41	25	35	18
Asian	8	5	12	5	12
Other	1	2	2	0	1
25,000–49,999					
African-American	33	38	26	47	9
Hispanic	28	18	25	19	57
Caucasian	32	37	43	28	25
Asian	6	6	5	5	7
Other	1	2	1	1	2
10,000–24,999					
African-American	34	22	+	52	6
Hispanic	21	18	+	13	50
Caucasian	40	51	+	33	34
Asian	3	5	+	2	4
Other	2	3	+	1	6
1–9,999					
African-American	30	20	+	55	3
Hispanic	22	12	+	15	54
Caucasian	40	55	+	29	26
Asian	2	2	+	1	5
Other	6	11	+	0	12

Notes: The percentages within each population parameter may not equal 100 percent due to rounding. Overall averages cannot be calculated using the averages presented for each region. The number of observations is different for each region.

* The averages reported in this table do not account for the number of gang members reported in each jurisdiction.

+ Fewer than 20 observations were available for estimation.

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The following list highlights popular and recently published OJJDP documents and videotapes, grouped by topical areas.

The *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Brochure* (1996, NCJ 144527 (23 pp.)) offers more information about the agency.

The OJJDP Publications List (BC000115) offers a complete list of OJJDP publications and is also available online.

OJJDP sponsors a teleconference initiative, and a flyer (LT 116) offers a complete list of videos available from these broadcasts.

Corrections and Detention

Beyond the Walls: Improving Conditions of Confinement for Youth in Custody. 1998, NCJ 164727 (116 pp.).

Boot Camps for Juvenile Offenders. 1997, NCJ 164258 (42 pp.).

Disproportionate Minority Confinement: 1997 Update. 1998, NCJ 170606 (12 pp.).

Juvenile Arrests 1996. 1997, NCJ 167578 (12 pp.).

Juvenile Court Statistics 1995. 1998, NCJ 170607 (112 pp.).

Courts

Offenders in Juvenile Court, 1995. 1997, NCJ 167885 (12 pp.).

RESTTA National Directory of Restitution and Community Service Programs. 1998, NCJ 166365 (500 pp.), $33.50.

Youth Courts: A National Movement Teleconference (Video). 1998, NCJ 171149 (120 min.), $17.00.

Delinquency Prevention

1997 Report to Congress: Title V Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs. 1998, NCJ 170605 (71 pp.).

Allegheny County, PA: Mobilizing To Reduce Juvenile Crime. 1997, NCJ 165693 (12 pp.).

Combating Violence and Delinquency: The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan (Report). 1996, NCJ 157106 (200 pp.).

Combating Violence and Delinquency: The National Juvenile Justice Action Plan (Summary). 1996, NCJ 157105 (36 pp.).

Mentoring—A Proven Delinquency Prevention Strategy. 1997, NCJ 164834 (8 pp.).

Mentoring for Youth in Schools and Communities Teleconference (Video). 1997, NCJ 166376 (120 min.), $17.00.

Mobilizing Communities To Prevent Juvenile Crime. 1997, NCJ 165928 (8 pp.).

Reaching Out to Youth Out of the Education Mainstream. 1997, NCJ 163920 (12 pp.).

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Gangs

Gang Members and Delinquent Behavior. 1997, NCJ 165154 (6 pp.).

Youth Gangs: An Overview. 1998, NCJ 167249 (20 pp.).

Youth Gangs in America Teleconference (Video). 1997, NCJ 164937 (120 min.), $17.00.

General Juvenile Justice

Comprehensive Juvenile Justice in State Legislatures Teleconference (Video). 1998, NCJ 169593 (120 min.), $17.00.

Developmental Pathways in Boys' Disruptive and Delinquent Behavior. 1997, NCJ 165692 (20 pp.).

Exciting Internships: Work Today for a Better Tomorrow. 1998, NCJ 171696 (6 pp.).

Guidelines for the Screening of Persons Working With Children, the Elderly, and Individuals With Disabilities in Need of Support. 1998, NCJ 167248 (52 pp.).

Juvenile Justice, Volume III, Number 2. 1997, NCJ 165925 (32 pp.).

Juvenile Justice, Volume IV, Number 2. 1997, NCJ 166823 (28 pp.).

Juvenile Justice, Volume V, Number 1. 1998, NCJ 170025 (32 pp.).

Juvenile Justice Reform Initiatives in the States 1994–1996. 1997, NCJ 165697 (81 pp.).

A Juvenile Justice System for the 21st Century. 1998, NCJ 169726 (8 pp.).

Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1997 Update on Violence. 1997, NCJ 165703 (32 pp.).

Juvenile Offenders and Victims: A National Report. 1995, NCJ 153569 (188 pp.).

Keeping Young People in School: Community Programs That Work. 1997, NCJ 162783 (12 pp.).

Sharing Information: A Guide to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and Participation in Juvenile Justice Programs. 1997, NCJ 163705 (52 pp.).

Missing and Exploited Children

Court Appointed Special Advocates: A Voice for Abused and Neglected Children in Court. 1997, NCJ 164512 (4 pp.).

Federal Resources on Missing and Exploited Children: A Directory for Law Enforcement and Other Public and Private Agencies. 1997, NCJ 168962 (156 pp.).

In the Wake of Childhood Maltreatment. 1997, NCJ 165257 (16 pp.).

Portable Guides to Investigating Child Abuse: An Overview. 1997, NCJ 165153 (8 pp.).

Protecting Children Online Teleconference (Video). 1998, NCJ 170023 (120 min.), $17.00.

When Your Child Is Missing: A Family Survival Guide. 1998, NCJ 170022 (96 pp.).

Substance Abuse

Beyond the Bench: How Judges Can Help Reduce Juvenile DUI and Alcohol and Other Drug Violations (Video and discussion guide). 1996, NCJ 162357 (16 min.), $17.00.

Capacity Building for Juvenile Substance Abuse Treatment. 1997, NCJ 167251 (12 pp.).

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Drug Identification and Testing in the Juvenile Justice System. 1998, NCJ 167889 (92 pp.).

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Guide for Implementing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders. 1995, NCJ 153681 (255 pp.).

Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders: Risk Factors and Successful Interventions Teleconference (Video). 1998, NCJ 171286 (120 min.), $17.00.

State Legislative Responses to Violent Juvenile Crime: 1996–97 Update. 1998, NCJ 172835 (16 pp.).

White House Conference on School Safety: Causes and Prevention of Youth Violence Teleconference (Video). 1998, NCJ 173399 (240 min.), $17.00.

Youth in Action

Planning a Successful Crime Prevention Project. 1998, NCJ 170024 (28 pp.).

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