

1995 National Youth Gang Survey





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.

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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.

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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.

1995 National Youth Gang Survey

Program Summary

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Points of view or opinions expressed in this document are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of OJJDP or the U.S. Department of Justice.

Responses to the 1995 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 National Institute of Justice, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, and the Office for Victims of Crime.

Foreword

Youth gangs have been the subject of research projects and surveys for decades, but these have almost always been "one-time" efforts. The 1995 National Youth Gang Survey, conducted by the National Youth Gang Center (NYGC), is the first of what is intended to be an annual survey that will allow comparisons of changes and trends in coming years. The results of this survey confirm what earlier studies had suggested—that there has been a growth in the pervasiveness of the Nation's youth gang problem over time.

NYGC contacted more than 4,000 agencies—the largest number ever surveyed. Reports and estimates from responding agencies indicate that there were more than 660,000 youth gang members and more than 23,000 gangs active in their jurisdictions during 1995. Although these are the largest totals reported to date, the actual numbers are likely to be higher. Not all law enforcement agencies were surveyed, some of those surveyed did not participate, and the data were not extrapolated. While, therefore, the youth gang problem is undoubtedly larger than the survey indicates, the data NYGC has gathered provide information that has significance at both a national and community level.

The survey found, for example, that gang activities are spreading to smaller communities and rural counties. The survey also found that no State, and few major cities, are gang-free. Nearly all agencies that reported a gang problem felt that the severity of the problem would either remain the same or grow worse.

The first step to solving any problem is to collect and analyze relevant data. I hope the comprehensive findings of the 1995 National Youth Gang Survey will aid your efforts to combat the rise of youth gangs.

Shav Bilchik

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- The Regional Information Sharing Systems projects, for assistance in identifying prospective survey recipients and in transmitting the survey instruments to their member agencies:

New England State Police Information Network (NESPIN)
Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement
Network (MAGLOCLEN)
Regional Organized Crime Information Center (ROCIC)
Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center (MOCIC)
Pocky Mountain Information Network (PMIN)

Rocky Mountain Information Network (RMIN)

Western States Information Network (WSIN)

- Law enforcement representatives of the 3,440 police and sheriff's departments who took time to respond to the survey.
- Researchers who provided advice and counsel in the preparation of the survey instrument, assistance in selection of the localities to be surveyed, and valuable review and comments on the draft report: Walter B. Miller, Ph.D., James C. Howell, Ph.D., and G. David Curry, Ph.D. Dr. Miller, Dr. Curry, and Dr. Cheryl Maxson were most generous in providing not only the results, but data from their earlier studies and surveys.
- The staff of the Institute for Intergovernmental Research who conducted the survey and prepared the document.

Table of Contents

roreword	111
Acknowledgments	v
List of Tables	viii
List of Figures	ix
Executive Summary	xi
Background	1
Purpose of the 1995 NYG Survey	3
Methodology	3
1995 gang problems	8
Number of gangs	12
Number of gang members	15
Homicides	18
Law enforcement responses	18
Current situation	18
Summary and Conclusions	19
Endnotes	21
References	22
Appendix A: UCR Regions and Divisions	23
Appendix B: City Law Enforcement Agencies Reporting Gangs	24
Appendix C: County Law Enforcement Agencies Reporting Gangs	35
Appendix D: 1995 National Youth Gang Survey Form	40

List of Tables

Table 1	Number of Jurisdictions With Gang Problems: 1975–1995	. 1
Table 2	Number of Gangs in the United States: 1975–1995	. 2
Table 3	Number of Gang Members in the United States: 1975–1995	. 2
Table 4	Breakdown of Survey Respondents by Agency Type: 1975–1995	. 4
Table 5	Number of Respondents Reporting Youth Gangs by Population Size	14
Table 6	Number of Sheriff's Departments Reporting Youth Gangs by Population Size	15
Table 7	Number of Police Departments Reporting Youth Gangs by Population Size	15
Table 8	Number of Gang Members Reported by Police Departments by Population Size	17
Table 9	Number of Gang Members Reported by Sheriff's Departments by Population Size	17

List of Figures

Figure 1	Screen of Administrative Data Base	5
Figure 2	Surveys Returned Based on Type of Respondent	7
Figure 3	All Respondents by Population	7
Figure 4	Responding Police Departments by Population	8
Figure 5	Responding Sheriff's Departments by Population	8
Figure 6	Law Enforcement Agencies Reporting Youth Gang Activity	9
Figure 7	Top 10 States by Number of Sheriff's Departments Reporting Gangs	9
Figure 8	Top 10 States by Number of Police Departments Reporting Gangs	0
Figure 9	Top 10 States by Number of Gangs Reported 1	0
Figure 10	Regional Distribution of Agencies Reporting Gangs 1	1
Figure 11	Number of Agencies Reporting No Gang Activity in 1995	1
Figure 12	Likelihood of Future Gang Problems (Agencies With No 1995 Gang Problems)	2
Figure 13	Number of Gangs Reported by Police and Sheriff's Departments	3
Figure 14	Active Youth Gangs by Region 1	3
Figure 15	Number of Respondents by Population Size1	4
Figure 16	Top 10 States by Number of Gang Members 1	6
Figure 17	Top 10 Cities and Counties by Number of Gang Members	6
Figure 18	Types of Police Department Response Units	8
Figure 19	Types of Sheriff's Department Response Units	8
Figure 20	Current Situation: All Responding Agencies 1	9
Figure 21	Current Situation: Police Departments	9
Figure 22	Current Situation: Sheriff's Departments 1	9

Executive Summary

The presence, number, and activities of youth gangs have been topics of interest for researchers and practitioners for many years. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's 1995 National Youth Gang Survey, conducted by the National Youth Gang Center, is the latest and largest survey of its type to date. Surveys were mailed to 4,120 local police and sheriff's departments across the Nation requesting information on their jurisdictions, and 83 percent (3,440) of the agencies responded. The agencies were asked whether youth gangs in their jurisdictions were active in 1995; whether youth gangs had been active prior to 1995; the number of youth gangs and youth gang members in 1995; the degree of involvement of youth gang members in homicides (as perpetrators and as victims) in 1995; the types of responses in place to deal with youth gangs; and whether the agency could assess the current youth gang situation.

Agencies surveyed included those that had reported having a youth gang problem in the past as well as agencies that had not reported gang problems previously or had never been surveyed. Agencies serving all population categories, from rural localities to large metropolitan centers, were surveyed. The Regional Information Sharing Systems projects, six multi-State projects that provide criminal information exchange and support services to law enforcement agencies nationwide, facilitated the surveys of their selected member agencies. "Youth gang" was defined as "a group of youths in the [respondent's] jurisdiction, aged approximately 10 to 22, that the [respondent or other] responsible persons in the [respondent's] agency or community are willing to identify or classify as a 'gang'." Motorcycle gangs, hate or ideology groups, prison gangs, and adult gangs were excluded.

Over 2,000 law enforcement agencies reported or estimated a total of 23,388 youth gangs and 664,906 youth gang members active in their jurisdictions during 1995. Even though these totals are larger than previous estimates, they must be considered minimum numbers. The findings were based solely on data provided by the responding agencies. Not every law enforcement agency was surveyed, and the data were not extrapolated for the Nation as a whole. Therefore, the youth gang problem is undoubtedly larger than the survey indicates.

Of responding agencies reporting gang problems, 90 percent felt their gang problem would stay the same or become worse. Over half (59 percent) of all law enforcement agencies reporting youth gang problems in 1995 had specially allocated personnel in response, and 63 percent of police departments and 48 percent of sheriff's departments reporting youth gang problems had created an organizational entity such as a gang unit. Data regarding youth gang members' involvement in homicides are still being analyzed. Researchers conclude that no State is gang-free; few large cities are gang-free; and youth gangs are emerging in new localities, especially smaller and rural communities. Survey data were analyzed by city, State, region of the country, and population.

Background

In February 1995, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) entered into a cooperative agreement with the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) to establish the National Youth Gang Center (NYGC). One of the major tasks assigned to NYGC was assessing current youth gang data collection efforts and, where indicated, developing improved strategies and standardized practices. Related to this task was the initiation of a national youth gang survey. Because previous gang surveys suggested growth in the number of cities, towns, and counties with gang problems (see table 1), the first NYGC effort was designed to survey a much larger number of jurisdictions. Thus, more than 4,000 agencies were surveyed to obtain information about the presence of youth gangs and related criminal activity. Subsequent surveys will build upon and expand baseline data obtained in this initial poll.

The presence, number, and activities of youth gangs have been topics of interest for researchers and practitioners for many years and the subject of formal data collection for more than 30 years, but these have almost always been one-time efforts. The 1995 National Youth Gang Survey, conducted by staff of NYGC, is the latest and largest such survey. OJJDP intends the NYG survey to be an annual event so that comparisons may be made of changes and trends over time.

In early 1994, NYGC asked Dr. David Curry¹ to review methods and findings of previous youth gang surveys and studies preparatory to the conduct of the 1995 National Survey. Because each of the earlier studies used somewhat different methodology, sample size, and definitions, it is difficult to compare their findings; however, certain trends can be observed (as shown in tables 1, 2, and 3).

Table 1: Number of Jurisdictions With Gang Problems: 1975–1995

 Survey	Number of Jurisdictions Identified
Miller, 1975a	6
Miller, 1982 ^a	41
Miller, 1982 ^b	286
Needle & Stapleton, 1983 ^b	27
Spergel & Curry, 1988 ^a	68
Curry et al., 1992 ^a	110
Curry et al., 1994 ^a	282
Curry et al., 1994 ^b	760
Klein, 1995 ^b	800-1,100

^a Specific cities identified

More than 4,000 agencies were surveyed to obtain information about the presence of youth gangs and related criminal activity.

^b Number of jurisdictions involves estimates

The number of communities experiencing youth gang problems has increased.

Table 2: Number of Gangs in the United States: 1975–1995

Survey	Number of Gangs
Miller, 1975 ^b	1,730
Miller, 1982 ^b	2,285
Spergel & Curry, 1988 ^a	1,439
Curry et al., 1992 ^a	4,881
Curry et al., 1994°	8,625
Klein, 1995 ^b	>9,000

^a Specific cities identified

Table 3: Number of Gang Members in the United States: 1975–1995

Survey	Number of Gang Members
Miller, 1975 ^b	55,000
Miller, 1982 ^b	97,940
Spergel & Curry, 1988	120,636
Curry et al., 1992 ^a	249,324
Curry et al., 1994°	378,807
Curry et al., 1994 ^e	555,181
Klein, 1995 ^b	>400,000

^a Specific cities identified

Not shown is a 25-year cumulative survey of youth gangs by Dr. Walter Miller (forthcoming).² All these earlier studies, including Miller's 1996 study, show that over time:

- The number of communities experiencing youth gang problems has increased.
- Even considering their dynamic nature and the difficulties in counting them, the number of gangs have increased.
- The number of gang members also has increased.

^b Number of gangs involves estimates

c Number of gang members is a conservative estimate, which makes no adjustment for agencies that were unable to report due to lack of data

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^c Number of gang members is a conservative estimate, which makes no adjustment for agencies that were unable to report due to lack of data.

^d Number of gang members involves estimates by law enforcement

^e Number of gang members is a reasonable estimate, in which robust statistics were substituted for agencies that were unable to report due to lack of data

Purpose of the 1995 NYG Survey

The purpose of the 1995 NYG survey was to provide broader baseline data on the current youth gang situation, fill some informational gaps, and establish a network of reporting agencies for future data collection. It was intended, among other things, to build upon cumulative data collected by Dr. Walter Miller, a gang researcher.

Methodology

Over nearly 25 years, Miller had collected information about youth gang activity in communities across the country from many sources. NYGC staff worked with Dr. Miller to supplement his data base by adding several hundred cities and towns that had reported youth gang activity in recent surveys, including those conducted by David Curry et al.,³ the National Drug Intelligence Center,⁴ the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms,⁵ and other studies whose distribution is restricted. Miller prepared a set of lists for NYGC that identified 6,264 localities and categorized them as: (1) city or county, (2) previously reporting a gang problem or no gang problem reported, and (3) members or nonmembers of the Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) projects.⁶

From these communities, NYGC staff selected 4,120 localities (2,820 cities and 1,300 counties) to be included in the 1995 survey: 1,877 agencies that had reported having a youth gang problem at some time over the past 25 years, and 2,243 that had not previously reported gangs or that had never been surveyed. Although selection of the 1995 survey localities was not random, the inclusion of localities previously identified by Curry et al. in 1994 added an element of randomness. The 1994 researchers surveyed all cities with populations between 150,000 and 200,000 and a random sample of 284 of the 1,126 municipalities with populations ranging from 25,000 to 150,000.

NYGC staff next identified the law enforcement agencies serving the 4,120 counties, cities, and towns.

A useful survey technique is to triangulate data in a community by questioning several agencies with diverse perspectives on the problem being surveyed. However, to keep costs as low as possible for the first NYG survey, inquiries were made to law enforcement agencies only. The survey goal was to involve the largest number of agencies to date, and efficiency and cost were factors.

Curry has pointed out the advantages and disadvantages of law enforcement agencies as data collectors:

Criminal justice agencies are usually more centrally organized than most other agencies that are involved in the comprehensive community response to gang problems. In most jurisdictions, this gives these organizations a greater capacity to develop systems for routinized recordkeeping and reporting. Law enforcement agencies more than The survey goal was to involve the largest number of agencies to date.

Table 4: Breakdown of Survey Respondents by Agency Type: 1975–1995

Survey	Law Enforcement	Prosecution	Judges	Probation	Corrections	Aftercare	School Service	Youth	Other
Miller, 1975	31.4%	1.3%	5.0%	6.3%	3.1%	0.6%	1.3%	39.0%	11.9%
Miller, 1982	18.6%	0.7%	4.9%	21.7%	1.3%	Not Identified	7.5%	42.0%	3.3%
Needle & Stapleton, 1983	100.0%								
Spergel & Curry, 1988	20.5%	10.2%	5.5%	12.6%	3.1%	4.3%	13.8%	24.4%	5.6%
Curry et al., 1992	100.0%								
Johnson et al., 1992	100.0%								
Johnson et al., 1993	100.0%	100.0%							
Levinson, 1991–1993					100.0%				
Curry et al., 1994	100.0%								
Quinn, 1993	100.0%								
Klein, 1995	100.0%								

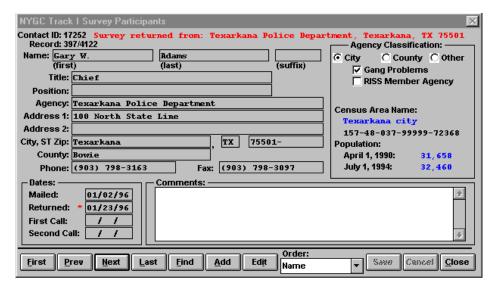
other agencies in the criminal justice system come in contact with the day-to-day activities of gang members. Information from the prosecution, the court, and other justice agencies, while important, is more removed from the quantity and level of detail to which law enforcement personnel are exposed.⁷

This is not to say that reporting by law enforcement agencies is without problems. It simply recognizes that they were more likely than other agencies to have the required information. Table 4 depicts the reliance of previous surveys on law enforcement agencies as a primary source of information on youth gangs.

Law enforcement agencies appear to have become the youth gang survey respondents of choice, particularly in recent years. A final reason for using law enforcement agencies as sources was the close working relationship between IIR, which operates NYGC, and the six RISS projects, which include in their membership more than 4,600 local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies. It was believed that support by the RISS projects would facilitate and add credibility to the survey. Membership lists maintained by each RISS project were screened, and State and Federal agencies were deleted. The sample of 4,120 law enforcement agencies ultimately selected for the 1995 survey included 3,230 police and sheriff's departments that were RISS members.

In November and December 1995, NYGC staff constructed an administrative data base in preparation for the survey mailout and processing. Using various law enforcement directories and information supplied by the RISS projects, staff created a record for each of the agencies to be surveyed (see figure 1).

Figure 1: Screen of Administrative Data Base



Each record contained the agency's Chief Executive Officer's or other senior official's name, mailing address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and fields for tracking dispatch, followup actions, and return of the survey instruments. Additional data fields indicate RISS project affiliation and whether or not gang problems had been reported previously. A separate data base containing U.S. Census Bureau information was obtained and linked to the administrative data base. The 1990 census and the latest population estimate for the city or county were linked to the record of each law enforcement agency reporting. (Because they were asked to report on the unincorporated areas of their jurisdictions only, the census figures for the unincorporated areas were tied to reports from sheriff's departments.) At the same time that the agencies to be surveyed were being indexed, the survey questions and instruments were being developed and refined.

Early in planning for the 1995 survey, NYGC decided to automate the process as much as possible. Accordingly, the survey forms were designed using a software program that allowed responses to be returned by mail or by facsimile, whereupon the responses would be entered directly into an electronic data base without generating paper copies.

Two survey instruments were designed: one for agencies that had previously reported youth gang activity; the other for agencies for which no previous report of gang problems was known to NYGC. Page one of each form contained the following instructions:

Please report only for the jurisdiction served by your agency. Sheriff's departments should report only for their unincorporated service area and any contracted communities.

A separate data base containing U.S. Census Bureau information was obtained and linked to the administrative data base.

he upper age limit of the definition (21 years) was established by OJJDP's enabling legislation.

This was intended to prevent duplicative reporting by law enforcement agencies in the same county.

Instruction number two was an attempt to deal with definitional problems that have divided researchers and practitioners for years.

For the purposes of this survey, a "Youth Gang" is defined as a group of youths in your jurisdiction, aged approximately 10 to 22, 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 adult gangs.

Curry has described well the various definitions of "gang" that have been used by researchers in many national surveys. Further compounding the problem is the development of other definitions used by law enforcement agencies to test and measure the criminal activity of gangs. The NYGC definition used in the 1995 survey was developed with the assistance of Dr. Walter Miller and other researchers, and although it represents consensus among those who drafted it, others may find it does not meet their needs. The upper age limit of the definition (21 years) was established by OJJDP's enabling legislation. The final instruction stated:

This survey form was designed to be faxed to the National Youth Gang Center at [telephone number], where it will automatically be entered into a survey data base. If you do not have a fax, or prefer to return the completed form by mail, please use the preaddressed envelope. If that envelope has been misplaced, please mail the survey to: [NYGC address].

A letter transmitting the survey forms to the law enforcement agencies was prepared in two versions. For agencies that were members of one of the six RISS projects, the letter was sent to the individual with whom the RISS project routinely exchanged law enforcement intelligence. For agencies that were not RISS members, the forms were sent to the police chief or sheriff. In both cases, the cover letter repeated the instructions referred to above and requested that if the addressee turned the survey form over to someone else to complete, that individual must be knowledgeable and be authorized to reply on behalf of the agency.

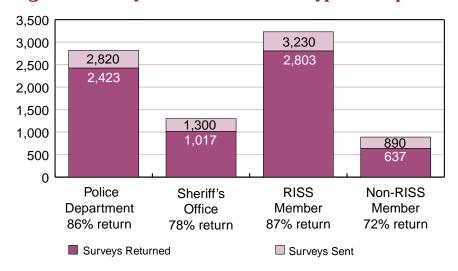
The number and phrasing of the survey questions generated considerable debate during the instrument design process. Even though OJJDP charged NYGC with surveying a large number of jurisdictions to obtain limited information, the temptation to add a question or two, or to amplify those which were asked, was constantly encountered. Ultimately, only seven questions were asked and, although several were multiple choice questions, the entire response form was confined to one page.

Between December 21, 1995, and January 2, 1996, 4,120 surveys were mailed to 2,820 police departments and 1,300 sheriff's departments. Approximately 50 percent of the survey forms were returned by January 31, 1996; one-half by fax and one-half by mail.

Followup telephone calls to the agencies that did not respond to the mailed survey were then initiated, which increased the response rate considerably. Following the calls, a total of 3,440 surveys had been returned (or 83 percent of the target group) (see figure 2); 70.5 percent of these responses were furnished by police departments and 29.5 percent by sheriff's departments. (The rate of survey return by police departments was 86 percent and 78 percent by sheriffs.)

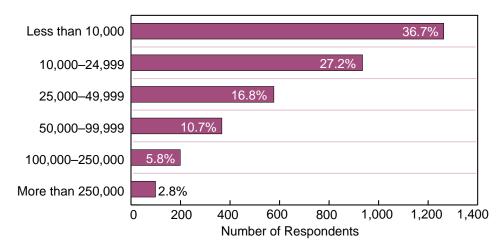
The valuable assistance of the RISS projects in administering the survey is evident in the return rates: 87 percent by law enforcement agencies that were RISS members, and 72 percent by non-RISS agencies.

Figure 2: Surveys Returned Based on Type of Respondent



Some 64 percent (2,198) of responding agencies represented population groups of 25,000 or fewer, and 37 percent (1,263) of responding departments represented communities of fewer than 10,000 (figures 3–5). This is the largest number of small city police and sheriff's departments in presumably rural counties ever surveyed regarding gang problems.

Figure 3: All Respondents by Population



his is the largest number of small city police and sheriff's departments in presumably rural counties ever surveyed regarding gang problems.

Of the 3,440 responses, 58 percent reported that youth gangs were active in their jurisdictions in 1995.

Figure 4: Responding Police Departments by Population

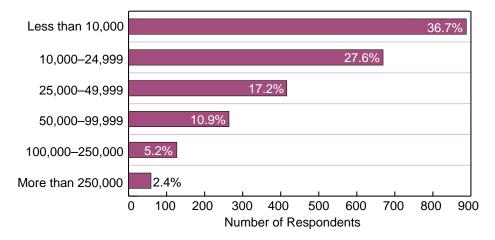
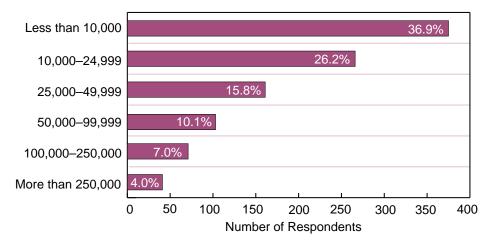


Figure 5: Responding Sheriff's Departments by Population



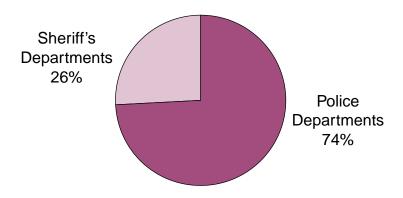
The major difference in the two survey forms used was contained in question one, which asked the respondent to determine in which (any or all) of three listed time periods the reporting jurisdiction experienced youth gang problems: 1970–1979, 1980–1989, or 1990–1994. A second version (for agencies that previously had been reported as having gangs in their service area) asked them to validate this information.

This report will not cover detailed responses to the historical aspects of question one. These will be examined separately by Dr. Walter Miller as part of his research.

1995 gang problems

Surveyed agencies were asked about youth gang problems during 1995. Of the 3,440 responses, 58 percent (1,492 police departments and 515 sheriff's departments) reported that youth gangs were active in their jurisdictions in 1995. Figure 6 shows the percentage of agencies responding that reported activity.

Figure 6: Law Enforcement Agencies Reporting Youth Gang Activity

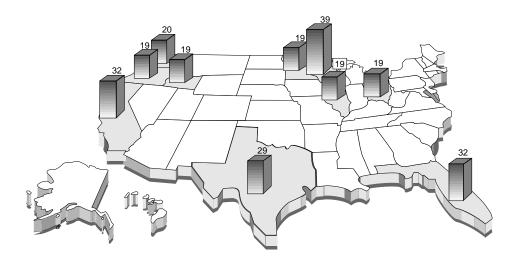


Y outh gangs were reported in all 50 States.

The individual city and county agencies reporting youth gangs are listed alphabetically by State in appendixes B and C.

Youth gangs were reported in all 50 States. Figures 7 and 8 show the top 10 States by the number of police or sheriff's departments submitting reports of youth gang activity. Figure 9 shows the top 10 States by number of gangs reported.

Figure 7: Top 10 States by Number of Sheriff's Departments Reporting Gangs



Top 10 States by Number of Sheriff's Departments Reporting Gangs:

Wisconsin	39
California	32
Florida	32
Texas	29
Washington	20
Idaho	19
Illinois	19
Ohio	19
Oregon	19
Minnesota	19

Top 10 States by Number of Police Departments Reporting Gangs:

California	212
Illinois	178
Texas	96
Washington	67
Florida	60
Oregon	59
Massachusetts	38
Ohio	38
Missouri	34
Minnesota	32

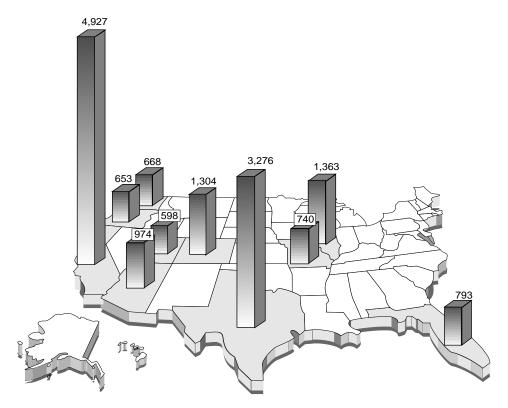
Top 10 States by Number of Gangs Reported:

California	4,927
Texas	3,276
Illinois	1,363
Colorado	1,304
Arizona	974
Florida	793
Missouri	740
Washington	668
Oregon	653
Utah	598

Figure 8: Top 10 States by Number of Police Departments Reporting Gangs

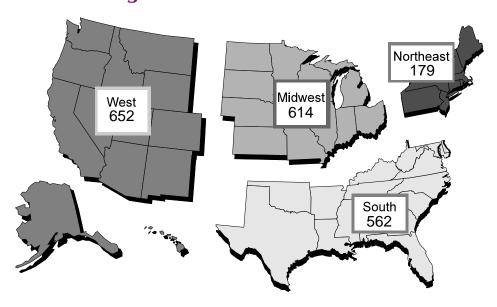


Figure 9: Top 10 States by Number of Gangs Reported



Reports were analyzed by Uniform Crime Report (UCR) regional groupings. ¹⁰ Figure 10 shows the regional distribution of agencies reporting youth gangs. The area with the highest number of agencies reporting gang activity was the West, followed by the Midwest, South, and Northeast.

Figure 10: Regional Distribution of Agencies Reporting Gangs



A total of 1,433 respondents (931 police and 502 sheriff's departments) reported no youth gang activity in 1995. The largest number of agencies reporting no activity was in the Midwest, followed by the South, West, and Northeast (figure 11).

Figure 11: Number of Agencies Reporting No Gang Activity in 1995



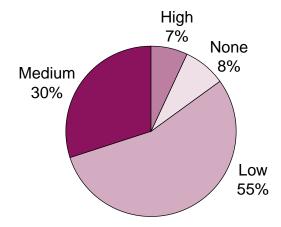
The area with the highest number of agencies reporting gang activity was the West.

of the 2,007 agencies reporting gang problems in 1995, 1,741 estimated a total of 23,388 youth gangs in their jurisdictions.

Respondents who reported no youth gang activity were asked to rate the likelihood of youth gang problems developing in their jurisdictions in the near future on a scale from "high" (meaning a high likelihood) to "none" (meaning no likelihood of future problems).

As shown in figure 12, 96 percent (1,379) of the respondents reporting "no gangs" provided likelihood ratings as follows: 7 percent (102) thought there was a "high" likelihood of future youth gang problems; 30 percent (409) believed there was a "medium" likelihood; 55 percent (752) rated the likelihood "low"; and only 8 percent (116) ruled out future youth gang activity altogether.

Figure 12: Likelihood of Future Gang Problems (Agencies With No 1995 Gang Problems)



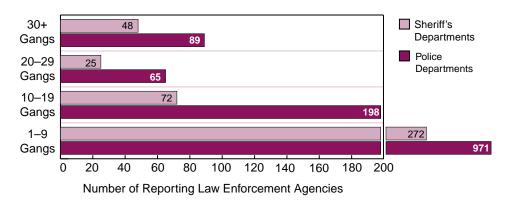
Number of gangs

Respondents were asked to report from their records or, in the absence of records, to estimate how many youth gangs were active in their localities in 1995. About 13 percent of the respondents who reported youth gang problems did not report how many youth gangs were active in their locality (figure 13).

Of the 2,007 agencies reporting gang problems in 1995, 1,741 reported or estimated numbers totaling 23,388 youth gangs in their jurisdictions. Previous surveys estimated national totals by directly surveying selected major cities and extrapolating data obtained from a sampling of smaller cities. The estimated number of gangs from these earlier projections for the entire country was less than this survey's actual reports from 1,741 communities.

For the purpose of analysis, the number of youth gangs per reporting jurisdiction was categorized as "1–9 gangs," "10–19 gangs," "20–29 gangs," and "30 or more." Of the respondents who could report or estimate the number of gangs, about 73 percent (971) of city departments and 65 percent (272) of county agencies said they had fewer than 10 active youth gangs per reporting locality (figure 13).

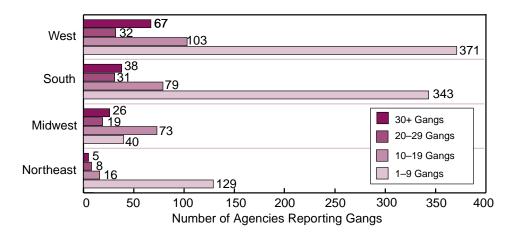
Figure 13: Number of Gangs Reported by Police and Sheriff's Departments



The mean number of youth gangs reported by city police departments was 12 and the median number was 4. For those portions of the counties under the jurisdiction of sheriff's departments, the mean number of youth gangs was 23 and the median number was 5.

These categories were then cross-tabulated by UCR region and by UCR population group¹¹ to better depict the Nation's youth gang problems (figure 14). Regionally, agencies in the Northeast reported a higher percentage (82 percent) of localities in the "1–9 gangs" category than other regions. Localities in the West reported the highest percentage (12 percent) in the "30 or more" category.

Figure 14: Active Youth Gangs by Region



As might be anticipated, the number of youth gangs per reporting locality typically varied according to the size of the population group; i.e., the larger cities reported a larger number of gangs. Two-thirds (66 percent) of jurisdictions with populations greater than 250,000 reported 30 or more gangs each (table 5). Conversely, 85 percent of jurisdictions with populations below 50,000 reported fewer than 10 youth gangs each (table 5).

L ocalities in the West reported the highest percentage (12 percent) in the "30 or more" (gangs) category.

N inety-four percent of police departments and 93 percent of sheriff's departments serving fewer than 10,000 persons reported they had "1–9 gangs."

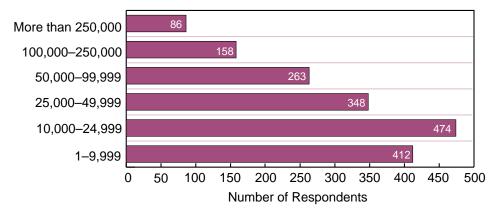
Table 5: Number of Respondents Reporting Youth Gangs by Population Size

Population	1–9 Gangs	10–19 Gangs	20–29 Gangs	30 or More Gangs	Total*
More than 250,000	7 (8%)	9 (10%)	13 (15%)	57 (66%)	86 (99%)
100,000-250,000	55 (35%)	47 (30%)	27 (17%)	29 (18%)	158 (100%)
50,000-99,999	133 (51%)	89 (34%)	18 (7%)	23 (9%)	263 (101%)
25,000–49,999	262 (75%)	53 (15%)	17 (5%)	16 (5%)	348 (100%)
10,000-24,999	401 (85%)	52 (11%)	12 (3%)	9 (2%)	474 (101%)
1-9,999	386 (94%)	21 (5%)	3 (1%)	2 (<1%)	412 (100%)
Total	1,244 (71%)	271 (16%)	90 (5%)	136 (8%)	1,741 (100%)

^{*}Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

The total number of respondents is shown by population size in figure 15.

Figure 15: Number of Respondents by Population Size



When they were grouped by population, reporting of the number of youth gangs per jurisdiction by sheriff's departments varied somewhat from reporting by police departments. Only 52 percent of sheriff's departments serving populations greater than 250,000 reported having "30 or more" gangs (table 6), compared to 75 percent of police departments serving the largest cities (table 7). Ninety-four percent of police departments and 93 percent of sheriff's departments serving fewer than 10,000 persons reported they had "1–9 gangs." It should be remembered that sheriff's departments quite often report only the unincorporated areas of the counties.

Table 6: Number of Sheriff's Departments Reporting Youth Gangs by Population Size

Population	1–9 Gangs	10–19 Gangs	20–29 Gangs	30 or More Gangs	Total*
More than 250,000	5 (16%)	6 (19%)	4 (13%)	16 (52%)	31 (100%)
100,000-250,000	20 (42%)	11 (23%)	6 (13%)	11 (23%)	48 (101%)
50,000–99,999	37 (52%)	21 (30%)	3 (4%)	10 (14%)	71 (100%)
25,000–49,999	53 (70%)	12 (16%)	6 (8%)	5 (7%)	76 (101%)
10,000–24,999	84 (74%)	20 (18%)	4 (4%)	5 (4%)	113 (100%)
Less than 10,000	74 (93%)	3 (4%)	3 (4%)	0 (0%)	80 (101%)
Total	273 (65%)	73 (17%)	26 (6%)	47 (11%)	419 (99%)

^{*}Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Table 7: Number of Police Departments Reporting Youth Gangs by Population Size

Population	1–9 Gangs	10–19 Gangs	20–29 Gangs	30 or More Total Gangs
More than 250,000	2 (4%)	3 (5%)	9 (16%)	41 (75%) 55 (100%)
100,000-250,000	35 (32%)	36 (33%)	21 (19%)	18 (16%) 110 (100%)
50,000–99,999	96 (50%)	68 (35%)	15 (8%)	13 (7%) 192 (100%)
25,000–49,999	209 (77%)	41 (15%)	11 (4%)	11 (4%) 272 (100%)
10,000–24,999	317 (88%)	32 (9%)	8 (2%)	4 (1%) 361 (100%)
Less than 10,000	312 (94%)	18 (5%)	0 (0%)	2 (1%) 332 (100%)
Total	971 (73%)	198 (15%)	64 (5%)	89 (7%) 1,322 (100%)

Number of gang members

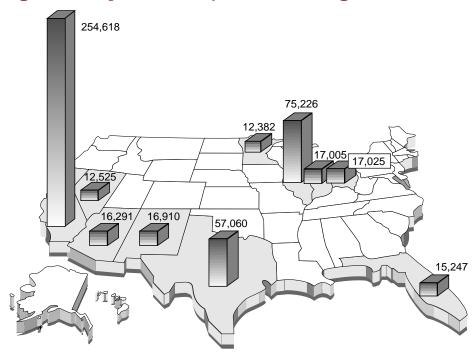
Of the law enforcement agencies that reported gang problems in 1995, 25% did not provide information on the number of youth gang members active in their jurisdictions. However, 1,499 agencies reported or estimated a total of 664,906 gang members. This is the highest reported or estimated figure to date. More than 58 percent of these gang members were in three States: California, Illinois, and Texas (figure 16) according to the agencies' reports. Nationally about one-fourth of all gang members reported in 1995 were in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, and Chicago (figure 17).

More than 58 percent of these gang members were in three States: California, Illinois, and Texas.

Top 10 States by Number of Gang Members:

California	254,618
Illinois	75,226
Texas	57,060
Ohio	17,025
Indiana	17,005
New Mexico	16,910
Arizona	16,291
Florida	15,247
Nevada	12,525
Minnesota	12,382

Figure 16: Top 10 States by Number of Gang Members



The number of youth gang members reported by police departments varied according to the locality's population size, with 90 percent of cities in groupings with the largest populations reporting having more than 500 gang members. Nearly 62 percent of these largest cities reported having more than 1,500 gang members (table 8). Virtually all police departments serving cities with fewer than 25,000 inhabitants reported fewer than 500 youth gang members.

Top 10 Cities and Counties by Number of Gang Members:

Los Angeles	60,000
County, CA	
Los Angeles, CA	58,197
Chicago, IL	33,000
Santa Ana, CA	11,000
Cleveland, OH	10,000
Long Beach, CA	10,000
San Antonio, TX	7,000
Gary, IN	7,000
Bernalillo	7,000
County, NM	
East St. Louis, IL	6,500

Figure 17: Top 10 Cities and Counties by Number of Gang Members

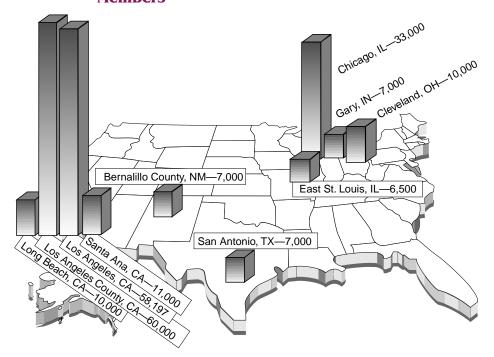


Table 8: Number of Gang Members Reported by Police Departments by Population Size

Population	1–499 Members	500–999 Members	1,000–1,499 Members	>1,500 Members	Total*
More than 250,000	5(10%)	8 (25%)	7 (13%)	32 (62%)	52 (100%)
100,000-250,000	44 (44%)	28 (28%)	11 (11%)	18 (18%)	101 (101%)
50,000-99,999	144 (81%)	20 (11%)	9 (5%)	4 (2%)	177 (100%)
25,000–49,999	218 (92%)	9 (4%)	5 (2%)	4 (2%)	236 (100%)
10,000–24,999	299 (97%)	8 (3%)	1 (<1%)	0 (0%)	308 (100%)
Less than 10,000	278 (100%)	1 (<1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	279 (100%)
Total	988 (86%)	74 (6%)	33 (3%)	58 (5%)	1,153 (100%)

^{*}Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

Fewer gang members were reported by sheriffs in the most populated counties than in cities. Seventy-five percent of sheriffs in the largest counties reported more than 500 gang members, but only 50 percent reported more than 1,500 (table 9). Like police departments in smaller cities, nearly 100 percent of sheriff's departments in counties with fewer than 10,000 residents reported fewer than 500 gang members.

Table 9: Number of Gang Members Reported by Sheriff's Departments by Population Size

Population	1–499 Members	500–999 Members	1,000–1,499 Members	>1,500 Members	Total*
More than 250,000	7 (25%)	5 (18%)	2 (7%)	14 (50%)	28 (100%)
100,000-250,000	28 (68%)	3 (7%)	4 (10%)	6 (15%)	41 (100%)
50,000–99,999	47 (75%)	7 (11%)	3 (5%)	6 (9%)	63 (100%)
25,000–49,999	57 (89%)	5 (8%)	0 (0%)	2 (3%)	64 (100%)
10,000–24,999	76 (93%)	3 (4%)	3 (4%)	0 (0%)	82 (101%)
Less than 10,000	67 (99%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	68 (100%)
Total	282 (82%)	24 (7%)	12 (3%)	28 (8%)	346 (100%)

^{*}Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

O nly 10 percent of all reporting localities thought their youth gang problems were getting better.

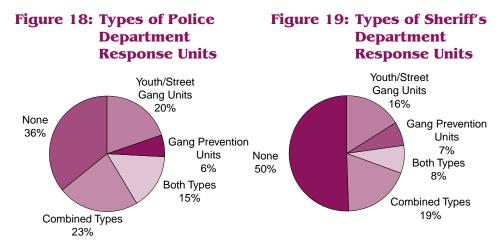
For the 1,134 city police departments that could estimate both the number of youth gangs and the number of members, the average number of members per gang was 33. For 339 sheriff's departments that could estimate both the number of youth gangs and the number of members, the average gang membership was 28.

Homicides

One survey item asked for information on gang-related homicides. Respondents were asked to provide specific information on youth gang members who were involved as homicide victims or perpetrators. Some departments, which keep otherwise complete records, do not segregate "gang" from "nongang" victims nor "youth" from "adult" gang members involved in homicides and were unable to respond to that question. More than 400 agencies furnished data. Preliminary analysis of the responses to this question has not been completed for this report, and additional inquiries for clarification purposes will be made to some respondents.

Law enforcement responses

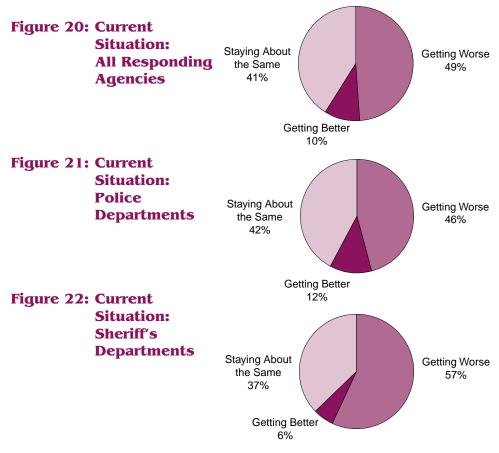
Sixty-three percent of police departments and 48 percent of sheriff's departments reporting youth gang activity had specially allocated personnel to respond. Figures 18 and 19 show the types of units created.



When the survey was designed, it was believed that few agencies would dedicate resources to gangs unless they had a youth gang problem, so agencies that reported no problem in 1995 were not asked to answer the question about gang units. Nevertheless, 3 percent of departments that reported "no gangs in 1995" also reported having some sort of gang unit.

Current situation

Those agencies that reported 1995 youth gang problems were asked to assess their current situation (figures 20–22). More than 99 percent of them did. Only 10 percent of all reporting localities thought their youth gang problems were getting better. The remainder believed their problems were staying about the same (41 percent) or were getting worse (49 percent).



Much valuable information was gathered, and the data will be available for further analysis by researchers.

Summary and Conclusions

Researchers generally want more data, and many law enforcement agencies believe they are asked to respond to far too many surveys. To achieve the purposes of this survey, tradeoffs between the interests of researchers and practitioners were necessary. Aside from the valuable assistance by the RISS projects, the high response rate also is probably attributable to the survey's simplicity and brevity. It was designed to be easily answered and easily returned. Certain additional questions might have been asked, others worded differently perhaps, and some misinterpretation could have been anticipated and avoided. Nevertheless, much valuable information was gathered, and the data will be available for further analysis by researchers. As is invariably the case, the survey responses will raise additional questions. But equipped with data from this, the largest gang survey conducted to date, and possessing a broad network of respondents, NYGC is now positioned to incorporate these questions into future surveys and expand the number of agencies surveyed.

The survey is only a snapshot of 1995. We can, however, make some conclusions based on the data presented in this report:

■ The number of youth gangs and gang members is large—larger than previously estimated, and probably even larger than this survey depicts. Eighty percent of all local law enforcement agencies were not surveyed.

Y outh gangs are not just a problem for large cities and metropolitan counties.

Of the 20 percent that were, 58 percent of those that responded reported gang activity. This number was not wholly unexpected because a large percentage of the agencies targeted in the 1995 survey had reported gangs in earlier years. It is, therefore, unlikely that the remaining agencies that were not surveyed would report the same level of activity. Even so, considering that some agencies that had previously reported youth gangs did not respond to the 1995 survey and that approximately 12,000 law enforcement agencies were not surveyed at all, the national totals of youth gangs and members are most certainly higher than our survey indicates. In addition:

- No state is gang-free.
- Few large cities are gang-free.
- Half the respondents reporting youth gang problems in 1995 serve populations under 25,000. Youth gangs are not just a problem for large cities and metropolitan counties.
- Youth gangs are emerging in new localities, especially smaller and rural localities. Of the communities reporting youth gang activity in 1995, 5 percent said they had not had youth gang problems in the past, and of these "emerging gang localities," fully 80 percent had populations under 25,000.
- Although not the only type of agency involved with youth gangs, law enforcement agencies are increasingly required to deal with the problem, and more than 1,200 reported they had formal organizational responses such as prevention or enforcement units. Although they reported gang activity, more than 700 other agencies had no personnel assigned to deal with youth gangs. Two-thirds of the agencies serving "emerging gang localities" had no gang units.
- To properly assess the nature and extent of youth gang problems, law enforcement agencies need accurate information. This survey was not intended to measure the nature or quality of data currently being collected—that task will be accomplished in future surveys. But clearly, many agencies are keeping track of the gang problem. About 73 percent of the 2,007 agencies reporting 1995 gang problems were able to provide reports or estimates of both the number of youth gangs and the number of gang members in their communities. Although encouraging, this also indicates that a significant number of law enforcement agencies need to improve their data collection. About 1 percent of the respondents could report or estimate the number of gang members but not the number of gangs, and another 13 percent of those reporting youth gang problems could provide reports or estimates of the number of gangs but not the number of members. Twelve percent of the 2,007 respondents did not report either.

Endnotes

- See G. David Curry, National Youth Gang Surveys: A Review of Methods and Findings, for an analysis of prior youth gang studies. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, National Youth Gang Center. December 1995.
- 2. Dr. Walter Miller's 25-year study, *The Growth of Youth Gang Problems in the United States 1970–1995*, is forthcoming.
- 3. In this study, the National Institute of Justice's 1992 survey of gangrelated crime in counties and municipalities was extended to include all U.S. cities with populations between 150,000 and 200,000. A random selection of 284 cities with populations between 25,000 and 150,000 was also included.
- 4. The National Drug Intelligence Center survey gathered specific information on the Bloods, the Crips, and other gangs from 48 States and the District of Columbia.
- See the United States Department of the Treasury, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms 1994 survey, "Street Gangs Second Edition." Office of Law Enforcement, Intelligence Division, Tactical Intelligence Branch. January 1994.
- 6. There are six multi-State RISS projects that provide criminal information exchange and other support services to local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies in all 50 States.
- 7. See Curry (1995), p. 44.
- 8. See Curry (1995) for a discussion of the gang definition issue.
- 9. Section 283 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 102–586).
- 10. A list of the States that make up the regions used in this analysis can be found in appendix A.
- 11. For a detailed breakdown of population group classifications, refer to *Crime in the United States, 1994*, United States Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation. (Appendix.)

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Appendix A: UCR Regions and Divisions

Northeastern States

New England Middle Atlantic

Connecticut New Jersey Maine New York Pennsylvania Massachusetts

New Hampshire Rhode Island Vermont

Midwestern States

East North Central West North Central

Illinois Iowa Indiana Kansas Michigan Minnesota Ohio Missouri Wisconsin Nebraska North Dakota

South Dakota

Southern States

South Atlantic East South Central West South Central

Delaware Alabama Arkansas District of Columbia Kentucky Louisiana Florida Oklahoma Mississippi Tennessee Texas

Georgia Maryland North Carolina South Carolina Virginia West Virginia

Western States

Pacific Mountain

Arizona Alaska California Colorado Idaho Hawaii Montana Oregon Nevada Washington

New Mexico

Utah Wyoming

Appendix B: City Law Enforcement Agencies Reporting Gangs

Alabama	Douglas	California
Alabaster	El Mirage	Adelanto
Alexander City	Glendale	Alameda
Anniston	Hayden	Alhambra
Athens	Holbrook	Anaheim
Auburn	Lake Havasu City	Anderson
Bessemer	Lakeside	Antioch
Birmingham	Marana	Arcadia
Chickasaw	Mesa	Atwater
Daphne	Nogales	Auburn
Dothan	Oro Valley	Azusa
Elba	Paradise Valley	Bakersfield
Evergreen	Payson	Baldwin Park
Foley	Peoria	Banning
Gadsden	Phoenix	Barstow
Georgiana	Prescott	Beaumont
Huntsville	Prescott Valley	Bell Gardens
Lafayette	Scottsdale	Berkeley
Mobile	Sells	Beverly Hills
Monroeville	Sierra Vista	Bishop
Montgomery	Somerton	Blythe
Opelika	Tempe	Brawley
Orange Beach	Thatcher	Brea
Pell City	Tombstone	Brentwood
Selma	Tucson	Buena Park
Tuscaloosa	Window Rock	Burbank
	Yuma	Calexico
Alaska		Carlsbad

Alaska

Anchorage Benton Dillingham Juneau Fort Smith Ketchikan **Hot Springs** Kodiak Kotzebue Jonesboro Palmer Seward Newport

Arizona

Apache Junction Avondale Buckeye **Bullhead City** Casa Grande Chandler

Arkansas

Chico Jacksonville Chino Chula Vista Little Rock Claremont Clearlake North Little Rock Clovis Pine Bluff Coachella Russellville Coalinga Sherwood Colma Stuttgart Colton West Helena Concord Wynne Corcoran Corning

Castro Valley

Cathedral

Ceres

Corona La Habra Pleasant Hill Coronado La Mesa Pomona Costa Mesa La Palma Port Hueneme Porterville Cotati La Verne Covina Lakeport Red Bluff Lemoore Culver City Redding Redondo Beach **Cypress** Lincoln

Daly City Lodi Redwood City Delano Lompoc Reedley Dinuba Long Beach Rialto Los Alamitos Dixon Richmond Downey Los Angeles Ridgecrest Dublin Los Banos Riverside East Palo Alto Los Gatos Rohnert Park El Cajon Madera Roseville El Centro Mammoth Lakes Sacramento

El Cerrito Martinez Salinas Marysville El Monte San Bernardino Merced San Bruno Fairfax Fairfield **Milpitas** San Carlos Farmersville Modesto San Diego Folsom San Francisco Monrovia Fontana Montebello San Gabriel Foster City Monterey Park San Jacinto Fountain Valley Morgan Hill San Jose Fremont Morro Bay San Leandro Mountain View Fresno San Marino **Fullerton** Napa San Mateo Nevada City Galt San Pablo Gardena Newark San Rafael Gilroy Novato Sanger Glendale Oakland Santa Ana Gonzales Oceanside Santa Barbara

Greenfield Santa Clara Ontario Orange Santa Cruz Gustine Half Moon Bay Orland Santa Maria Hawaiian Gardens Oroville Santa Paula Hayward Oxnard Santa Rosa Healdsburg Pacifica Scotts Valley Hemet Palm Springs Seaside Hercules Palo Alto Sebastopol Hollister Pasadena Shafter Holtville Paso Robles Signal Hill Hughson Patterson Simi Valley **Imperial** Perris Sonora Indio Pismo Beach South Gate Irvine Pittsburg

IrvinePittsburgSouth Lake TahoeJacksonPlacentiaSouth San Francisco

King City Placerville Stockton

Hallandale Sunnyvale Pueblo **Tiburon** Sheridan Hialeah Torrance Hollywood Connecticut Tracy Homestead **Tustin** Bridgeport Jacksonville Ukiah Danbury Jacksonville Beach Union City East Hartford Key West **Upland** East Haven Lake Wales Vacaville Lake Worth Glastonbury Vallejo Granby Lakeland Ventura Hartford Largo Visalia Manchester Lauderhill Walnut Creek Meriden Leesburg Waterford New Britain Longwood Watsonville New Haven Maitland West Covina New London Margate West Sacramento Newington Miami Whittier North Haven Miami Beach Willits Old Saybrook North Miami Beach Willows Plainville North Palm Beach Woodland Oakland Park Rocky Hill Stamford Ocala Yuba City Stonington Ocoee Colorado Torrington Opa Locka Wallingford Orlando Alamosa West Hartford Arvada Ormond Beach Aurora Wethersfield Palm Bay Brighton Windsor Palm Beach Gardens Brush Palmetto **Delaware** Colorado Springs Panama City Beach Cortez Wilmington Pembroke Pines Craig Pensacola District of Denver Pinellas Park Columbia Durango Plantation Edgewater Pompano Beach Florida **Evans** Port Orange Fort Collins Apopka Riviera Beach **Boca Raton** Fort Lupton Sarasota Fort Morgan Cape Coral South Miami Golden Clearwater St. Petersburg **Grand Junction** Coconut Creek Sunrise Greeley **Coral Springs** Tallahassee La Junta Davie Temple Terrace Delray Beach Lafayette Titusville Lakewood Eatonville West Palm Beach

Fort Lauderdale

Fort Myers

Fort Pierce

Greenacres

Winter Garden

Winter Park

Lamar

Longmont

Louisville

Loveland

GeorgiaPrestonDeerfieldAlbanyRupertDe KalbAtlantaSandpointDowners Grove

Chamblee Wendell East Hazel Crest Clarkston East Moline

Columbus Illinois East Monne
Conyers Addison Edwardsville
Covington Algonquin Effingham
Dalton Alton Elgin

Duluth Arlington Heights Elk Grove Village

East Point Aurora Elmhurst

Forest Park Barrington Fairview Heights

Gainesville Bartlett Flossmoor Griffin Batavia Fox Lake Hazlehurst Belleville Frankfort Lawrenceville Franklin Park Bellwood Macon Berkeley Freeport Berwyn Galesburg Morrow Bloomington Pelham Gibson City Rome Blue Island Glendale Heights

Rossville Bolingbrook Glenview
Savannah Bridgeview Glenwood
St. Mary's Brookfield Grayslake
Thomasville Buffalo Grove Gurnee

Hawaii Burnham Harrisburg
Honolulu Cahokia Harvard
Calumet Harvey
Idaho Calumet Park Hazel Crest
American Falls Canton Hickory Hills

American Falls

Blackfoot

Carbondale

Boise

Carol Stream

Hillside

Buhl

Carpentersville

Caldwell

Carterville

Hinsdale

Hodgkins

Chubbuck Cary **Hoffman Estates** Coeur d'Alene Centreville Hometown **Emmett** Champaign Huntley Garden City Channahon Joliet Heyburn Charleston Justice Homedale Chicago Kankakee Chicago Ridge Idaho Falls Kenilworth Cicero La Grange Jerome Clinton La Grange Park Lewiston Coal City McCall Lake Forest Nampa Collinsville Lake in the Hills Orofino Crestwood Lake Zurich Parma Crystal Lake Lansing

Darien

Decatur

Pocatello

Post Falls

Libertyville

Lincolnshire

Lincolnwood Roselle Highland Lockport Round Lake Indianapolis Lombard Round Lake Beach Jeffersonville Lynwood Sauk Village Kokomo Lyons Schaumburg Laporte Schiller Park Macomb Marion Marion Shorewood Michigan City Matteson Munster Skokie Maywood South Holland Richmond McHenry Springfield Shelbyville Melrose Park South Bend St. Charles Midlothian Zionsville Sterling Moline Stickney Iowa Montgomery Stone Park Mount Prospect Streamwood Altoona Mount Vernon Summit Ames Mundelein **Taylorville** Ankeny Naperville Tinley Park Bettendorf New Lenox University Park Burlington Normal Urbana Cedar Falls Norridge Vernon Hills Cedar Rapids North Aurora Villa Park Clinton Colfax North Chicago Warrenville Northfield Wauconda Coralville Council Bluffs Northlake Waukegan Oak Forest West Chicago Davenport Oak Lawn Western Springs Des Moines Oakbrook Terrace Westmount Dubuque Fort Madison Onarga Wheaton Independence

Palatine Wheeling Palos Heights Willowbrook Palos Hills Wilmington **Paris** Winfield Wood Dale Park Forest Woodstock Park Ridge Pekin Worth Peoria Zion Peoria Heights

Plainfield Indiana **Prospect Heights** Anderson Bloomington Ouincv Richton Park Elkhart Riverdale Evansville Riverside **Fishers Robbins** Fort Wayne Franklin Rock Island Rockdale Gary

Evansville
Fishers
Fort Wayne
Franklin
Gary
Greenwood
Hammond

Kansas
Coffeyville
Derby
Dodge City
El Dorado
Emporia

Indianola

Iowa City

Muscatine

Marshalltown

Lemars

Nevada

Oelwein

Storm Lake

Washington

West Burlington

Urbandale

Waterloo

Rockford

Romeoville

Fort Scott Garden City Hoisington Iola

Kansas City
Lansing
Lawrence
Leavenworth
Leawood
Lenexa
Mulvane

Ottawa
Overland Park
Parsons
Shawnee
Topeka
Valley Center
Wichita

Olathe

Kentucky

Bowling Green
Covington
Elizabethtown
Glasgow
Lawrenceburg
Lexington
London
Louisville
Maysville
Mt. Sterling
Murray
Newport
Nicholasville

Louisiana

Oak Grove

Paducah

Somerset

Winchester

Alexandria
Baker
Baton Rouge
Bogalusa
Bossier City
Ferriday
Hammond
Jackson
Kenner
Lafayette

Lake Charles Monroe New Orleans Pineville Ruston Shreveport Springhill Vidalia Zachary

Maine
Auburn
Augusta
Brunswick
Gardiner
Lewiston
Portland
Presque Isle
Sabattus
Sanford

Maryland

Baltimore Frederick Fruitland Greenbelt Laurel

Abington

Massachusetts

Auburn Bellingham Boston Bridgewater **Brookline** Cambridge Chelmsford Clinton Dartmouth Easthampton Fitchburg Gardner Greenfield Holden Holyoke Lawrence Leominster Lowell

Ludlow

Marlboro

New Bedford North Adams North Andover Palmer Pittsfield Randolph Raynham Shrewsbury South Hadley Southbridge Springfield Webster Wellesley West Boylston West Springfield Worcester Yarmouth

Michigan

Ann Arbor Battle Creek Bay City Benton Harbo

Benton Harbor City Benton Harbor Township Clinton Township Detroit

Ecorse
Flint
Grandville
Hamtramck
Holland
Lansing
Lincoln Park
Madison Heights
Muskegon
Novi
Portage
River Rouge
Sterling Heights

Troy Utica

West Bloomfield

Ypsilanti

Minnesota

Albert Lea Austin Bloomington Brooklyn Park Burnsville Cloquet Columbia Heights Cottage Grove Eagan East Grand Forks Faribault Forest Lake Hastings Jackson Lakeville Minneapolis Moorhead New Brighton Northfield Owatonna Plymouth Rochester Saint Cloud Savage South St. Paul St. Louis Park

Thief River Falls Wabasha West St. Paul Willmar Winona Worthington

Mississippi

Batesville Biloxi Clarksdale Greenville Greenwood Gulfport Hattiesburg Jackson Long Beach Meridian Moss Point Natchez Pearl Picayune **Tupelo**

Missouri

Vicksburg

Arnold Bel-Ridge Belton Blue Springs Cape Girardeau Carthage Chesterfield Clinton **Florissant Fulton** Grandview Hazelwood Higginsville Independence

Jefferson City Kansas City Moberly Nevada Normandy North Kansas City

Overland

Ozark

O'Fallon

Raymore Raytown Richmond Rolla Sikeston Springfield St. Louis **University City** Webster Groves Wentzville

Montana

Bozeman Glendive Great Falls Havre Lewistown Missoula Polson Stevensville

Nebraska Alliance Bellevue Columbus

Crete **David City** Gering Gordon

Hastings Kearney Lexington Lincoln McCook Omaha Schuyler Scottsbluff Seward Sidney

South Sioux City

Nevada

Elko Fallon Henderson Las Vegas Mesquite

North Las Vegas

Reno **Sparks** Wells

Winnemucca

New Hampshire Alton

Derry Dover Gorham Hanover Keene Lancaster Litchfield Milford Nashua Newport Pittsfield Portsmouth Salem

New Jersey

Aberdeen Asbury Park Atlantic City Belmar Bridgeton Camden Cliffside Park Deptford East Orange

Ewing Fort Lee Freehold Hamilton Holmdel Howell

Irvington Township Jackson Township Jersey City Lakewood

Middletown Monroe Township

Newark North Bergen Ocean Township Paterson Perth Amboy

Pitman Pleasantville Red Bank Teaneck Tinton Falls

Trenton Westfield

New Mexico

Albuquerque Artesia Belen Bernalillo Bloomfield Carlsbad **Deming** Farmington Gallup Grants Hobbs

Las Cruces Las Vegas Los Lunas Lovington **Portales** Raton

Rio Rancho Ruidoso Silver City Socorro **Tatum**

Truth or Consequences

Tucumcari

New York

Albany Auburn Buffalo Cheektowaga Colonie East Aurora Elmira Freeport Hempstead Long Beach Mount Vernon North Tonawanda Port Washington Rochester Schenectady

North Carolina

Troy

Watertown

Yonkers

Asheville Belhaven Burlington Chapel Hill Charlotte Concord Durham Favetteville Gastonia Greensboro Grifton Havelock Hendersonville Hickory **High Point** Kinston Lincolnton Morehead City Morganton North Topsail Beach

Pineville

Salisbury Thomasville Tryon

North Dakota

Bismarck Devils Lake Dickinson Fargo

Grand Forks Minot Wahpeton West Fargo

Ohio

Athens Blue Ash Boardman Brunswick Canton Chillicothe Cincinnati Cleveland Clyde Columbus Cuyahoga Falls

Dayton

East Cleveland

Elyria **Euclid Findlay** Galion **Grove City** Hilliard Hinckley Lakewood Lima Lorain Massillon Middletown Newark Parma Heights

Perrysburg Reynoldsburg Sandusky Springdale Tiffin Toledo Urbana Van Wert Westerville Xenia

Youngstown

Oklahoma Gresham Greensburg Altus Hermiston Harrisburg Broken Arrow Hillsboro Lancaster Chouteau **Hood River** Manheim Hubbard Pittsburgh Claremore Coweta Independence Reading Keizer Scranton Duncan Durant Lake Oswego Warminster Township Edmond Lincoln City Washington El Reno Madras Whitehall McMinnville Wilkes-Barre Elk City Frederick Medford York Grove Milwaukie Guthrie Molalla Hobart Monmouth Moore Mt. Angel Muskogee Newberg North Bend Norman Cranston Oklahoma City Nyssa Newport Okmulgee Oakridge Owasso Ontario Pocoia Providence **Oregon City** Ponca City Phoenix Shawnee Portland Reedsport Spencer Aiken Stillwater Salem Conway Tecumseh Scappoose Temple Seaside Tulsa Silverton Vinita Springfield Seneca Yukon St. Helens

Oregon

Sweet Home The Dalles Albany Amity **Tigard** Tillamook Aumsville Beaverton Toledo **Brookings** Tualatin Cannon Beach Umatilla Central Point Vale Waldport Cornelius Corvallis West Linn

Cottage Grove **Dallas**

Eugene Forest Grove Gehrhart Gladstone **Grants Pass**

Pennsylvania

Altoona **Bristol** Chester Erie

Woodburn

Stavton

Rhode Island

Central Falls Charlestown Coventry North Providence Pawtucket

South Carolina

Greenwood Myrtle Beach Rock Hill Spartanburg

South Dakota

Deadwood North Sioux City Rapid City Sioux Falls Winner Yankton

Tennessee

Ashland City **Bristol** Chattanooga Clarksville Cleveland Columbia Crossville Dyersburg

Franklin Forest Hill San Antonio Gallatin San Marcos Fort Worth Goodlettsville Fredericksburg Sherman Hendersonville Friona Somerset Temple Jackson Galveston Knoxville Garland Texarkana La Vergne Georgetown **Texas City** Martin **Grand Prairie** Tyler Maryville Greenville Victoria Memphis **Haltom City** Waco Nashville Hempstead Waxahachie Sevierville Hereford Weatherford **Union City** Hitchcock Weslaco Waynesboro Hondo Whitewright White House Hurst Wichita Falls

New Braunfels

Texas Katy
Abilene Kaufman
Addison Keller
Alamo Killeen
Amarillo Lancaster

Anthony Laredo Arlington Lewisville Austin Longview **Balch Springs** Lubbock Baytown Lufkin Beaumont Madisonville Beeville McAllen Bellaire Mesquite Big Spring Midland Bovina Mont Belvieu

Bryan North Richland Hills
Carrollton Odessa
Cedar Hill Orange
College Station Palestine
Conroe Pampa
Corpus Christi Paris
Corsicana Pasadena

Brownfield

Crockett Pearland
Danbury Pflugerville
Denton Plainview
Denver City Plano
Dimmitt Port Arthur
Duncanville Richardson

Edinburg Richland Hills
El Paso Round Rock
Euless Rowlett
Floresville San Angelo

Utah

American Fork Bountiful **Brigham** Cedar City Hurricane Kaysville Layton Logan Midvale City Monticello Murray **Naples** North Logan Ogden Orem Payson

Pleasant Grove Riverdale Roy City Salt Lake City Sandy

Sandy
South Salt Lake
Spanish Fork
Springville
Tremonton
Vernal

West Valley City

Vermont

Bellows Falls Hartford Montpelier Newport Rutland Saint Albans Springfield Woodstock

Virginia

Alexandria
Arlington
Bristol
Fairfax
Falls Church
Newport News

Norfolk Rocky Mount South Boston Suffolk

Virginia Beach Winchester

Washington

Aberdeen Anacortes Auburn Battle Ground Bellevue

Bellingham Black Diamond

Bothell
Bremerton
Burlington
Camas
Castle Rock
Centralia
Chehalis
Chelan
Cheney
Colville

Des Moines East Wenatchee Ellensburg

Everett Goldendale Grandview Granger

Issaquah Kelso Kennewick

Kent Kirkland Lacey

Lake Stevens Longview Lynden Lynnwood Mabton Marysville Medical Lake

Milton Mount Vernon

Mountlake Terrace

Oak Harbor Omak Othello

Pasco Port Angeles Port Orchard

Poulsbo Puyallup Quincy Renton Seattle Shelton Spokane Sunnyside Tacoma

Tukwila Tumwater Vancouver Walla Walla Wapato Washougal

Toppenish

Wenatchee West Richland Westport White Salmon

Yakima

West Virginia

Beckley Charles Town Parkersburg Phillippi

South Charleston

Wisconsin

Appleton Ashwaubenon Beaver Dam

Beloit Brookfield Eau Claire Green Bay La Crosse Little Chute Madison Manitowoc Marinette Marshfield Medford Menasha Monroe Mukwonago Neenah New Berlin

Platteville Prairie du Chien

Racine River Falls Sheboygan Slinger

Oshkosh

Stevens Point Sturtevant Superior Viroqua Wausau

Wyoming

Alenrock Cheyenne Evanston Laramie Rock Springs

Appendix C: County Law Enforcement Agencies Reporting Gangs

Alabama	El Dorado	Brevard
Baldwin	Fresno	Calhoun
Barbour	Glenn	Citrus
Dallas	Kern	Clay
Dekalb	Kings	Collier
Elmore	Los Angeles	Dade
Houston	Madera	Duval
Jefferson	Marin	Escambia
Lee	Mendocino	Flagler
Madison	Monterey	Hillsborough
Marshal	Orange	Indian River
Mobile	Riverside	Lake

Lee

Leon

Levy

Mobile Riverside
Russell Sacramento
Shelby San Diego
Tallapoosa San Luis Obispo
San Mateo

Manatee Arizona Santa Barbara Marion Apache Santa Cruz Monroe Cochise Shasta Okaloosa Coconino Orange Sonoma Gila Stanislaus Osceola La Paz Sutter Palm Beach Mohave Tulare Pasco Tuolumne Pinellas Navaio Pima Ventura Polk

Santa Cruz Yolo Santa Rosa Yavapai Yuba Seminole St. Johns

Arkansas Colorado St. Lucie
Craighead Adams Volusia

Crittendon Arapahoe
Cross Delta **Georgia**Faulkner Douglas Bibb
Lincoln El Paso Catoosa

MillerMesaCherokeePulaskiMontezumaCobbSt. FrancisPuebloColumbiaWashingtonWeldDade

California Connecticut Dougherty
Alameda Tolland Forsyth
Butte Gwinnett
Colusa Florida Monroe

Colusa Florida Monroe
Contra Costa Alachua Muscogee
Del Norte Bay Richmond

Indiana Louisiana Rockdale Bossier **Spalding** Allen Troup Delaware Caddo Parish Hamilton Catahoula Hawaii Marion Claiborne Hawaii Marshall De Soto Vanderburgh East Baton Rouge Idaho Lafayette Ada Iowa Lincoln Pointe Coupee Adams Butler Des Moines Rapides Bannock Blaine **Emmet** Red River Bonneville Jasper St. Tammany Lee Canyon Terrebonne Caribou Linn Union Cassia West Baton Rouge Louisa Clearwater Mahaska Webster West Feliciana Elmore Palo Alto Fremont Plymouth Maine Gem Polk Gooding Scott Cumberland Kootenai Sioux Kennebec Minidoka Van Buren Lincoln Woodbury Oneida Maryland Owynee Payette Kansas Baltimore Twin Falls Barton Charles Butler Frederick Illinois Crawford Howard Dupage Decatur Effingham Michigan Douglas Franklin Grundy Allegan Jackson Johnson Bay **Jodaviess** Labette Berrien Kane McPherson Genesee Kankakee Miami Kalamazoo Lake Montgomery Kent La Salle Saline Oakland Madison Sedgwick Wayne McHenry **Kentucky** Minnesota McLean Peoria Allen Blue Earth Rock Island Boone Cass Clay Sangamon **Bullitt** St. Clair Campbell Dakota Whiteside Jefferson **Douglas**

Marshall

Meade

Oldham

Faribault

Hennepin

Kandiyohi

Will

Williamson

Nicollet
Olmsted
Polk
Ramsey
Rice
Rock
St. Louis
Stearns
Washington
Winona

Mississippi

Chickasaw
Coahoma
Forrest
Holmes
Jackson
Lauderdale
Lowndes
Monroe
Newton
Oktibbeha
Panola
Tate

Missouri

Audrain
Camden
Christian
Clark
Douglas
Greene
Jackson
Jasper
Jefferson
Montgomery
Phelps
Pike
St. Louis
Taney
Warren

Montana

Blaine
Gallatin
Glacier
Hill
Lake
Roosevelt
Sanders

Nebraska

Buffalo
Burt
Cass
Dawson
Douglas
Garden
Hall
Lancaster
Madison
Platte
Scotts Bluff

Nevada

Carson Churchill Douglas Elko Humboldt Storey Washoe

New Hampshire

Hillsborough Rockingham

New Mexico

Bernalillo Chaves Cibola Dona Ana Grant McKinley Quay San Juan Sandoval Sierra

New York

Albany Nassau Suffolk Westchester

North Carolina

Burke Chowan Cumberland Durham Forsyth Guilford Onslow Orange Pitt

Rockingham

North Dakota

Ramsey Williams

Ohio Butler

Clark Erie Franklin Greene Hamilton Hancock Highland Huron Licking Morgan Ottawa **Pickaway** Scioto Seneca Summit Union Warren Washington

Oklahoma

Carter Cleveland Comanche Cotton Custer Kiowa Okfuskee Oklahoma Okmulgee Osage

Pottawatomie Sequoyah Tillman Tulsa **Oregon Texas** Clackamas Andrews Coos Bell Deschutes Bexar Bowie Harney Jackson **Brazos** Jefferson Cherokee Klamath Collin Lane Dawson Lincoln Denton Linn **Ector** Marion El Paso Morrow Fayette Polk Ft. Bend Sherman Galveston Tillamook Grayson Umatilla Hale Wasco Harris Washington Hays

Pennsylvania

Allegheny

Yamhill

South Carolina

Aiken Fairfield Kershaw Orangeburg Pickens

South Dakota

Bennett Custer Lawrence Minnehaha Pennington

Tennessee

Bradley
Davidson
Henderson
Maury
Montgomery
Rutherford
Shelby
Sumner

xas Washington

Adams Benton Chelan Clallam Cowlitz Douglas Franklin Island King Kitsap Klickitat Mason Okanogan **Pacific** Pend Oreille Pierce Snohomish Spokane Jefferson Walla Walla Johnson Yakima

West Virginia

Harrison Jefferson Logan Monongalia

Wisconsin

Brown Dane Douglas Green Iowa Jefferson Juneau Kenosha La Crosse Lafayette Marathon Milwaukee Oneida Outagamie Ozaukee Pierce Polk Portage

> Price Racine

UtahBox Elder

Lubbock

Rockwall

Tarrant

Travis

Victoria

Yoakum

Williamson

Montgomery Nolan

Cache
Davis
Garfield
Millard
Salt Lake
Sanpete
Summit
Uintah
Utah
Weber

Virginia

Chesterfield Fairfax Frederick Rock Rusk Sauk Shawano Sheboygan Taylor Vilas Walworth Washington Waukesha Waupaca Winnebago Wood Wyoming
Fremont
Laramie
Uinta
Washakie

Appendix D: 1995 National Youth Gang Survey Form

General Survey Instructions

- 1. Please report only for the jurisdiction served by your agency. Sheriff's departments should report only for their unincorporated service area and any contracted communities.
- 2. For the purposes of this survey, a "youth gang" is defined as: a group of youth in your jurisdiction, aged approximately 10 to 22, 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 adult gangs.
- 3. This survey form was designed to be faxed to the National Youth Gang Center at 800–385–5820, where it will automatically be entered into the survey data base. If you do not have a fax, or prefer to return the completed form by mail, please use the preaddressed envelope. If that envelope has been misplaced, please mail the survey to:

National Youth Gang Center c/o Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) Post Office Box 12729 Tallahassee, FL 32317

Agency Identification Section

Agency Name			
Street Address			
City/Town			
County		Zip Code	
Name of Person Completing Survey			
Title/Rank			
(Area Code) & Fax Numb			
		•	

FAX to 800-385-5820

Appendix D: 1995 National Youth Gang Survey Form Page 2 of 2

1.	On the basis of your personal knowledge and information you may be able to obtain from persons familiar with past time periods, please indicate when your jurisdiction experienced youth gang problems (please fill in circles for all time periods that apply):
	1970–791980–891990–94 We have had no prior gang problemsDo not know.
2.	Have any youth or street gangs been active in your jurisdiction in 1995? YesNo
	If you marked "No," skip to question 7.
3.	In your jurisdiction in 1995, on the basis of records or your best estimate, what is the number of:
	Active Youth Gangs? Youth Gang Members?Do not know.
4.	In your jurisdiction in 1995, on the basis of records or your best estimate, how many homicides involved gang members as:
	Perpetrators, Victims, Do not know.
5.	Does your agency have the following: Youth/Street Gang Unit or Officer(s)
	Gang Prevention Unit or Officer(s)
	Both Types
	One Combined Type
	None
6.	In your judgment, are your youth gang problems: Getting worse
	Getting better
	Staying about the same
7.	ANSWER ONLY IF DIRECTED BY QUESTION 2 ABOVE. In your judgment, what is the likelihood that youth gang problems will develop in your jurisdiction in the near future?
	High Medium Low None
	Please reenter your telephone number from page one. This number provides a link between your first and second pages.
	(Area Code) & Telephone Number
	Thank you for your assistance!

Publications From OJJDP

Corrections and Detention

Conditions of Confinement: Juvenile Detention and Corrections Facilities. 1994, NCJ 141873 (16 pp.).

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Desktop Guide to Good Juvenile Detention Practice. 1996, NCJ 161408 (218 pp.).

Effective Programs for Serious, Violent and Chronic Juvenile Offenders: An Examination of Three Model Interventions and Intensive Aftercare Initiatives Teleconference (Video). 1996, NCJ 160947 (120 min.), \$17.00.

Evaluation of the Disproportionate Minority Confinement (DMC) Initiative. \$15.00 each, \$39.00 for set of five.

Arizona Final Report. 1996, NCJ 161564 (111 pp.).

Florida Final Report. 1996, NCJ 161563

Iowa Final Report. 1996, NCJ 161562 (115 pp.).

North Carolina Final Report. 1996, NCJ 161561 (97 pp.).

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Cleveland Interim Report. 1996, NCJ 160928

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Mobile Interim Report. 1996, NCJ 160926

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Juvenile Detention Training Needs Assessment. 1996, NCJ 156833 (60 pp.).

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Delinquency Prevention Works. 1995, NCJ 155006 (74 pp.).

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Together for Change. 1994, NCJ 146483 (32 pp.).

Matrix of Community-Based Initiatives. 1995, NCJ 154816 (51 pp.).

Mentoring-A Proven Delinquency Prevention Strategy (Juvenile Justice Bulletin). 1997. NCJ 164386. (8 pp.).

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State Challenge Activities. 1996, NCJ 163055

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Symposium on International Child Abduction: How To Handle International Child Abduction Cases. 1993, NCJ 148137 (928 pp.), \$17.50. Court Appointed Special Advocates: A Voice for Abused and Neglected Children in Court (Juvenile Justice Bulletin). 1997. NCJ 164512. (4 pp.). Federal Resources on Missing and Exploited Children: A Directory for Law Enforcement and Other Public and Private Agencies. 1996, NCJ 161475 (126 pp.).

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Portable Guides to Investigating Child Abuse. (A publication series—contact the JJC for titles and further information.)

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State Responses to Serious and Violent Juvenile Crime. 1996, NCJ 161565 (61 pp.).

The OJJDP Brochure (NCJ 144527) offers more information about the agency.

The OJJDP Publications List (BC000115) offers a complete list of OJJDP publications.

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