

FLORIDA GANG REDUCTION STRATEGY

Findings of the 2009 OAG Gang Assessment

In 2009 the Florida Office of the Attorney General (OAG) coordinated a statewide gang assessment through the law enforcement component of the Coordinating Council and the seven Florida Gang Reduction Task Forces. The strict purpose of the assessment was to collect current baseline information on the number of gangs and gang members in Florida as one means to measure long-term progress of Florida's Gang Reduction Strategy.

Law enforcement agencies from 59 of Florida's 67 counties participated in this survey effort. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the 341 law enforcement agencies within those 60 counties participated in the survey assessment. Of the approximately 356 local law enforcement agencies in the state, 72 % contributed information to this assessment.

The accuracy of gang intelligence assessments depends upon the precision of field officers' documentation efforts and crime analysts' reporting efforts. As gang intelligence documentation and reporting procedures are becoming more uniform around the state, data integrity will improve. It is too early to tell whether these recent findings indicate a downward trend or a more accurate count. As statewide assessments continue to be conducted annually in September, trend patterns will emerge, providing a better sense of the extent of the gang problem in Florida.

Source	# of Documented Gangs	# of Documented Members & Associates F.S. 874.03	# of Other Suspected Gang Affiliates	Total Gang Persons
Gang Survey by North Region	221	2,132	699	2,831
Gang Survey by Central Region	422	12,663	3068	15,731
Gang Survey by South Region	457	16,539	3,146	19,685
Gang Survey Total	1,100	31,334	6,913	38,247
DOC Incarcerated		7,133		7,133
DOC Probation		1,604		1,604
DJJ Youth on Active Supervision			1,828	1,828
Total	1,100	40,071	8,741	48,812

(N=254 local Law Enforcement Agencies Reporting from 59 Florida Counties)