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## **Randolph County Gang Assessment**

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# Randolph County Gang Assessment

## Table of Contents

List of Tables .....	4
List of Figures .....	6
Executive Summary .....	8
Recommendations.....	14
Primary Report.....	17
Community Demographics .....	17
Law Enforcement Data: Juvenile Justice.....	21
Delinquent Profile .....	21
Gender .....	21
Race .....	21
Charge Type.....	22
Offense Type .....	23
Offense Class .....	24
Location.....	26
Gang Membership (Juvenile Justice Data).....	27
Location of Offense – Gang Membership .....	30
Gang Demographics.....	31
Adjudicated Cases .....	32
Local Law Enforcement Data.....	33
Gang members by city .....	34
Gang member characteristics .....	38
Gang Offenses .....	43
Victims .....	45
School Data .....	47
Sample .....	47
Negative Influences .....	50
Perception of norms favorable to substance use: smoking.....	51
Perception of norms favorable to substance use: underage drinking.....	52
Perception of norms favorable to substance use: using marijuana .....	52
Perception of getting caught (deterrent effect) drinking underage.....	53
Perception of getting caught using marijuana .....	55

Perceived Availability of Drugs and Firearms.....	59
Individual-Peer Domain .....	62
Risk Factor: Early Initiation of Problem Behavior .....	62
Risk Factor: Favorable Attitudes toward Antisocial Behavior .....	62
Risk Factor: Interaction with antisocial peers .....	63
Section 3: Self-Reported Delinquency .....	65
Gang Specific Questions .....	66
Personal Experiences with Gangs.....	67
Analysis of School Data.....	69
School Data Synopsis.....	77
Suspension .....	77
Being drunk or high at school .....	77
Becoming a gang member .....	78
Juvenile Court – Youth Interviews.....	78
Perception of gangs.....	79
Causes of gang problems.....	80
Self-reported criminal acts.....	80
Observed gang activity .....	81
Summary.....	82
School Discipline Data .....	83
Gang charges.....	86
SCHOOL STAFF SURVEY .....	87
Signs of gangs .....	88
Types of Gangs .....	89
Problems gangs present.....	90
When most gang activity occurs.....	90
Where gang activity occurs .....	91
Factors contributing to gang activity .....	91
Community Leaders.....	92
Indicators of Gang Problems .....	92
Reasons for Gang Activities.....	93
What needs to be done .....	94
Community Survey .....	97
Community sample.....	97
Perception of a Gang Problem .....	98

Top Three Concerns in Their Neighborhoods .....	98
Reasons for Gang Activity .....	100
What Should be Done about Gangs.....	101
Organizations responsible for dealing with gangs.....	101
Satisfaction with Authorities .....	102
Parent Surveys.....	103
Comparison of Community Responses.....	106
Conclusion.....	109
Recommendations.....	110

## List of Tables

Table 1 County demographic data: gender .....	17
Table 2 County demographic data: age.....	18
Table 3 County demographic data: race .....	18
Table 4 County demographic data: education.....	19
Table 5 County demographic data: household income.....	19
Table 6 County demographic data: family income .....	20
Table 7 Percent of households in poverty, 2009 .....	21
Table 8 Race of juvenile offenders 2006/7 – 2008/9 .....	22
Table 9 Offense types 2006/7 – 2008/9 .....	23
Table 10 Location of juvenile offenses 2006/07 .....	26
Table 11 Location of juvenile offenses 2007/08 .....	26
Table 12 Location of juvenile offenses 2008/09 .....	27
Table 13 Offenses committed by gang and non-gang members .....	28
Table 14 Percent of each crime charged against gang members .....	29
Table 15 Location of juvenile offenses by gang/non-gang member .....	30
Table 16 Gang members by gender (Juvenile Court Data) .....	31
Table 17 Gang members by race (white-non-white-Juvenile Court Data) .....	31
Table 18 Gang members by race (specific –Juvenile Court Data) .....	31
Table 19 Number and percent of juvenile cases adjudicated.....	32
Table 20 Proportion of gang and non-gang cases adjudicated 2006-2009 .....	33
Table 21 Distribution of arrestee’s city of residence .....	34
Table 22 Percent of arrestees who are gang members by city 2001 .....	35
Table 23 Percent of arrestees identified as gang members by city, 2008.....	36
Table 24 Percent of arrestees identified as gang members by city, 2009.....	36
Table 25 Percent of arrestees identified as gang members by city, 2010.....	37
Table 26 Gang members by age and race.....	38
Table 27 Gang members by city and age.....	39
Table 28 Gang members by age and race 2007.....	40
Table 29 Age and race of gang members, 2008.....	41
Table 30 Age and race of gang members 2009.....	41

Table 31 Age and race of gang members, 2010.....	42
Table 32 Offenses committed by gang members 2007-2010.....	43
Table 33 Percent of each offense type by gang membership.....	44
Table 34 Victim types by gang and non-gang membership.....	45
Table 35 Gender of Victims – gang member-non-gang member.....	46
Table 36 Race of victims – gang member-non-gang member .....	46
Table 37 Sample and system distribution by gender .....	47
Table 38 Sample and system distribution by race .....	47
Table 39 Randolph Schools weighted sample and state data comparison .....	48
Table 40 Student living arrangements.....	49
Table 41 Other living arrangements.....	49
Table 42 Father’s Education.....	49
Table 43 Mother’s Education .....	50
Table 44 Language spoken in the home .....	50
Table 45 Perception of adult attitudes about smoking cigarettes.....	51
Table 46 Perception of adult attitudes about smoking cigarettes by grade .....	51
Table 47 Perception of adult attitudes about drinking underage.....	52
Table 48 Perception of adult attitudes about drinking underage by grade .....	52
Table 49 Perception of adult attitudes about using marijuana .....	53
Table 50 Perception of adult attitudes about using marijuana by grade.....	53
Table 51 Risk of getting caught drinking underage by race.....	54
Table 52 Risk of getting caught smoking marijuana by race.....	55
Table 53 Risk of getting caught smoking marijuana by race.....	56
Table 54 Perception of getting caught carrying a gun.....	57
Table 55 Ease of getting alcohol .....	59
Table 56 Ease of getting cigarettes .....	59
Table 57 Ease of getting marijuana .....	60
Table 58 Ease of getting cocaine and other drugs .....	60
Table 59 Ease of getting a handgun .....	60
Table 60 Ease of getting marijuana by grade.....	61
Table 61 Age first engaged in deviant behaviors .....	62
Table 62 Age of first deviant behaviors – gang/non-gang members .....	62
Table 63 Friends engaged in deviant behaviors by gender, school level and race .....	64
Table 64 Perception of gangs in school .....	66
Table 65 Perception of gang activity .....	66
Table 66 Gang membership and Race.....	68
Table 67 Gang membership by gender .....	68
Table 68 School survey community risk factors for gang membership.....	70
Table 69 School survey community risk factors for gang membership (con’t).....	71
Table 70 School survey family risk factors for gang membership.....	72
Table 71 School survey school, peer and individual risk factors for gang membership.....	73
Table 72 Summary: Factors that increase the likelihood of suspension, being drunk at school and gang membership.....	74
Table 73 Age of first deviant/criminal acts and becoming a gang member .....	75
Table 74 School survey protective factors for gang membership.....	76
Table 75 Delinquent juvenile perceptions of the reasons for gangs.....	80
Table 76 Self-reported offenses by juvenile court involved youth .....	81
Table 77 School Discipline Cases 2007-2009 .....	83

Table 78 Disciplinary actions, 2009/2010.....	84
Table 79 Percent of actions disciplined 2010 by race .....	86
Table 80 Perception of gang problems in school by position .....	88
Table 81 Problems created by gangs in and around school .....	90
Table 82 Staff perception of factors contributing to gang activity .....	92
Table 83 Perceived gang problems by community leaders .....	93
Table 84 Reasons for gang involvement as seen by community leaders .....	94
Table 85 What community leaders suggest needs to be done to solve the gang problem .....	94
Table 86 Community leader responses to what they see law enforcement doing .....	96
Table 87Community leader responses to what they see schools doing about gangs.....	96
Table 88 Leader suggestions for community action.....	97
Table 89 Rank order (in percent) of community problems .....	99
Table 90 Rank order of problems presented by gangs.....	100
Table 91 Reasons for gang activity.....	100
Table 92 Written response recommendations for dealing with gangs .....	101
Table 93 Agencies/organizations responsible for dealing with gangs .....	102
Table 94 Satisfaction with authorities.....	102
Table 95 Race of parent respondents .....	103
Table 96 Problems presented by gangs – parent perceptions .....	104
Table 97 Reasons for gang activity as seen by parents .....	105
Table 98 What parents suggest should be done to reduce the gang problem.....	105
Table 99 Persons parents see as responsible for reducing the gang problem .....	106
Table 100 Comparison of views on the reasons for gang activity.....	106
Table 101 Comparison views of what should be done about gangs.....	107
Table 102 Parents and citizen perceptions of who is responsible .....	107
Table 103 Rank order of agencies that should be responsible for dealing with the gang problem .....	108

## List of Figures

Figure 1 Delinquent charge types .....	22
Figure 2 Number of felony offenses by class, 2006/07 – 2008/09 .....	25
Figure 3 Number of misdemeanor offenses by class – 2006/07-2008/09 .....	25
Figure 4 Percent of arrestees who are gang members .....	34
Figure 5 Change in percent of arrestees who are gang members – Select cities .....	37
Figure 6 Percent of gang members under 20 by race and year.....	42
Figure 7 Risk of getting caught for underage drinking by grade.....	55
Figure 8 Perception of getting caught using marijuana by grade .....	56
Figure 9 Perception of getting caught carrying a gun by grade.....	57
Figure 10 Percent of students who know adults engaging in different behaviors .....	58
Figure 11 Ease of getting marijuana, cocaine and guns by grade.....	61
Figure 12 Percent of students who believe different behaviors are wrong.....	63
Figure 13 Percent of students with friends engaging in different deviant behaviors.....	64
Figure 14 Self-reported delinquency and friends committing the same acts.....	65
Figure 15 Perception of gang activities .....	67
Figure 16 Number of discipline actions by grade 2009/2010.....	85
Figure 17 Percent of youth charged with gang activity by grade .....	87

Figure 18 Staff perceptions of types of gangs.....	90
Figure 19 Location of gang activity in and around school .....	91
Figure 20 What leaders say should be done to control gang problem .....	95

# Randolph County Gang Assessment

## Executive Summary

This project is the most comprehensive assessment of youth crime, delinquency and gangs that has been done in recent history. It was made possible by a grant from the North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency prevention and was conducted consistent with a model developed by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in Washington, DC.

The study includes multiple data sets. Data were collected from the following areas:

1. General community demographics and demographic and economic change
2. Law enforcement and juvenile justice data bases
3. Surveys of school youth and school staff
4. School disciplinary reports
5. Community surveys of community leaders, citizens and the parents of middle and high school age youth

As a community there has been an increase in the percentage of non-white population. The Hispanic population nearly doubled from 6.6% to 11.0% and the African American population, which constituted 5.6% in 2000 increased to 6.4% in 2009. 12.6% of the population is considered in poverty.

1. While there is evidence of some gang activity in the county, ***statistically the problem of gangs is relatively small but it is increasing***. The percent of persons arrested throughout the county who are identified as gang members was 2.9% in 2007 but increased to 4.5% in 2009.

2. Juvenile crimes in the county have become more serious: Since 2006/07 the proportion of **felony charges has increased 40%** from 14.4% in 2006/07 to 20.3% in 2008/09 and there has been an increase in the proportion of drug and weapons charges over the past three years. F-I felonies nearly doubled from 14.4% of charges in 2006/07 to 27.8% in 2008/09. There has been a slight but not significant increase in the percent of non-white juvenile offenders: 34.6% in 2006/07 to 36.3% in 2008/09. This change is consistent with the change in county demographics.

3. Each year the *most frequent location* of juvenile offenses is school related: school property, school bus stop or school bus. The second most frequent location is at the home of the victim. Both gang and non-gang members are likely to commit their offenses at school, on school bus or school property. Gang members, however, are more likely to commit their offenses at the home of the victim while non-gang members will commit proportionately more crimes against businesses.

4. Gang member delinquents represent a relatively small proportion of all delinquent offenses but the percent has more than doubled from 2007/08 to 2008/09. Gang member involvement increased from 7.0% in 2006/07 to 18.4% in 2008/09. In addition, gang members commit, on average, more charges per arrest than non-gang members.

5. Gang members account for 22% of all juvenile felony charges.

6. It should be noted that only a third of the cases approved for court in Randolph County Juvenile Court were adjudicated in 2008/09. This is a decrease from 413% in 2006/07 and 42.5% in 2008/09. However, gang member cases are significantly more likely to be adjudicated than non-gang delinquent cases in 2007/08 and 2008/09; the difference was not significant in 2006/07

7. 99.1% of all gang arrests are for people who are legal residents of North Carolina. Arrestees come from multiple cities but the largest proportions are shown in the table below. Asheboro accounted for 43% in 2007 and 40% in 2010. Randleman accounts for approximately 10%: 9.6% in 2007 and 10.6% in 2010. Ramseur and Trinity account for about 5% each.

8. The greatest proportion increase in gang arrestees is in Ramseur where, in 2007, 2.2% were gang members but in 2010 that percent was 6.1.

9. Gang member characteristics

Age:

- 36.9% are 18 to 20 years of age; 33.9% are between 21 and 25
  - 10.1% are under 18; 10.1% are over 30

**The proportion of gang members under 20 years of age of all races has increased significantly between 2007 and 2010**

Race:

- 51.9% are African America; 30.5% are White and 15.7% are Hispanic

- **80.9% of those arrested as gang members are under the age of 25**
- **25.5% of all gang members are African Americans between 18 and 25**
- **53.6% of Hispanic gang members are 18-20 years of age**

- Juvenile Court data show
  - 79.4% were Male; 20.6% (n=7) Female
  - 79.1 % White 5.1% Black 11.8% Hispanic 2.9 Other

10. Gang members are more likely than non gang members to commit offenses against non-white victims ( $p < .000$ ). This likely reflects the fact that gang members commit offenses against other gang members.

11. While the numbers are small, 40% of delinquent youth coming to Juvenile Court suggest that the primary reasons for gangs are family/friends in gangs, family problems, boredom, and lack of activities

School Data

Data are available for Randolph County Schools. The Asheboro School District was asked to participate but the District refused to permit the survey to be given with Passive consent citing School Board Policy and without a special human subjects review process. It is unfortunate that we do not have school data that reflect all students in the systems. The data are only generalizable to county students.

**On average, youth are engaging in risky behavior before age 13;  
Regular drinking starts most often at age 15  
Marijuana smoking starts most often by age 14**

12. School data indicate that **half of all students do not know if there are gangs in their schools or not**; only 19% of all students think that there are gangs at their schools. High School students are twice as likely as middle school students to believe that there are gangs in their schools. However, 23% of

students say that there are students in their schools who belong to gangs. (Belonging to a gang does not necessarily indicate that it is a gang in their school)

13. According to the student survey (2/3 of the students did NOT answer the question so the results are questionable) **17.4% of students say they were ever members of a gang**; 12.9% say they are currently a member of a gang. This is consistent with interviews conducted at the juvenile court. Of all persons who indicated that they had ever been a gang member, 59.3% are White, 12.7% Black and 16.1% Hispanic

- However, looking within race
  - 14% of white students had been members of a gang
  - 1/3 of the African American students in the study indicate that they had been a gang member
  - 21.6% of Hispanic students had joined a gang

14. The **strongest risk relationship factors associated with gang membership are those associated with anti-social peer relationships (especially having friends who are members of a gang)** followed by peer anti-social attitudes and then family attitudes favorable toward anti-social behavior. The younger the age at which a student engages in deviant/delinquent behavior, the greater the chance he/she will become a member of a gang. The factors having little or no influence are, in general, the measures of protective forces within the community, school or family.

15. While not part of the expectations of this research, analysis was also run on two other questions that might help the community and schools: getting drunk and getting suspended from school. A statistic known as Logistic Regression gives the increased likelihood that an act will occur if a particular condition is met. In this research the Likelihood Ratios were calculated for each act, gang membership, suspension and getting drunk at school. A few of the results are as follows:

- If a student has a sibling who has taken a gun to school he/she is 10.8 times more likely to get drunk at school and 5.1 time more likely to be in a gang; they are also 3.7 times more likely to be suspended from school
- If a student has a friend who is a member of a gang, he/she is 5.7 times more likely to be in a gang
- If a student has a family member with a serious alcohol/drug problem he/she is 3.2 times more likely to join a gang
- If a student **does not** think it wrong to take a handgun to school he/she is 4.4 times more likely to be a gang member and 3 times more likely to be suspended from school

- If a student has a sibling who smokes marijuana he/she is 6.9 times more likely to get drunk at school and 3 times more likely to be suspended
- If a student has a friend who has sold drugs he/she is 5.4 times more likely to get drunk at school
- If a student has a friend who has been suspended he/she is 4.9 time more likely to be suspended

16. The younger the age a youth first smoked marijuana the greater the chance of being a member of a gang.

17. School staff split, however, regarding whether there are gang problems in their particular schools or not: 49.5% think there are gang problems in schools and 37.5% do not; 13% do not know. ***Very few students being disciplined at school are disciplined for gang related behavior – 1%***

**While Hispanics represent 10.1% of the school population  
23.2% of youth charged with gang activity at school are Hispanic;**

The rate of disciplinary reports provided to the state per 1,000 students decreased from 7.7/1000 students in 2007/08 to 5.4/1000 in 2008/09.

Gang activity in/around school appears to be a recent phenomenon. Nearly 30% only became aware of gang problems during the 2009/2010 school year while 25% became aware of gangs in 2008; an additional 18% were aware of them in 2007.

The largest proportion of those who believe that there are gangs in the schools say their base this on student talk followed by gang symbols on books, papers etc.

School staff believes overwhelmingly that the need to belong is a major factor contributing to gang activity

18. While 40.9% of school staff say they do not see gangs [a different question than if they believe gangs are a problem] –

42.6% see Hispanic gangs  
18.7% see Black gangs

15.3% see all racial type gangs

10.0% see White gangs

19. 125 community leaders answered a survey designed for them. 85.4% (n=105) believe that gangs are a problem in their neighborhoods; 3.3% (n=4) do not think gangs are a problem; 11.4% (n=14) do not know

Leaders were offered a number of reasons for gang activity and were asked to mark their top three choices.

- The primary reason leaders see for gangs in our community is that gang members are moving into the community from other places. 53.0% feel this way.
- Over 50% see family problems and individual youth needs for love and a sense of belonging as important factors.

Leaders were also asked for their ideas about the cause of gang problems and what needs to be done:

- About a third of the leaders feel that family problems, poverty and family and friends in gangs as primary causes
- 65% of Randolph leaders say that more parental involvement is needed to reduce the problem of gangs
- 43% say is more police presence
- About a third suggest that the solution to gangs lies in jobs, job training, mentoring and more school programs

20. Community survey: There was an **extremely poor** response to the community survey. 800 citizens who voted in the 2008 election were selected at random to receive surveys. Only 85 were returned (10.6%). This gives a 95% confidence that the findings are only within  $\pm 10\%$ . One **cannot** generalize from these findings.

21. Parent survey: 54.3% of parents believe that gangs are a problem in their communities

Of the parents who responded to the parent survey, only 6.3% feel their child is at risk of gang membership.

- 20% of Hispanic parents
- 3.4% of White parents
- 0% of African American parents
- 82.3% of parents believe that to reduce the problem of gangs parents need to be more involved

- 70% of parents think recreational programs will reduce gang problems
- 89.9% of parents say that parents are the ones responsible for reducing the gang problem
- But
- 81.6% of parents *also* say the police are responsible for reducing the gang problem

## Recommendations

1. Youth need to be monitored very closely so that those who come from at-risk environments are exposed to positive social values and role models as early as possible.

2. Disrespect for authority and school rules represent the largest proportion of school discipline problems. These behaviors indirectly reflect the anti-social values and attitudes of gang-prone youth. New or creative interventions associated with these school problems might be in order to assess or evaluate gang membership potential. Creative re-integration measures as part of the disciplinary process might want to be considered such as remedial reading or other activity to break the cycle of acting-out in school. Bullying was not assessed in this study but other research suggests that it might be related and should, therefore, be monitored in the process as well. Suspension itself does not solve the community problem since these youth miss important academic training and they have more time to be involved in crime.

3. Good academic performance is the best protector against delinquent and gang involvement and therefore it is recommended that programs be initiated to reduce academic failure at the youngest ages possible. Since early age involvement in drinking, smoking, and marijuana use are highly related to later delinquency and gang involvement, school and community drug prevention programs should be initiated or enhanced to deal with the problem. Randolph County youth are at highest risk between 13 and 15 and substance abuse prevention is most needed for this age group

4. Many school staff indicated that they became more aware of gang activity after they had received training. It is strongly recommended that school staff (faculty and support staff) be given training in gang recognition and gang prevention.

5. The community should review the table that shows the likelihood of youth engaging in not only gang behavior but also getting drunk at school and being suspended. Since these are highly inter-correlated their commonalities should be addressed. These include paying very careful attention to the family experience of youth, especially as it may relate to sibling behavior and to offer early intervention and assistance to parents to help them learn how to better parent and control their children.

6. Since the number of juvenile court cases where gang behavior was identified appears to be disproportionately low compared with other indicators, the juvenile court might want to assess more carefully the reasons for the low proportion of adjudicated cases and the possibility that some juveniles with gang-related experience may be undetected.

7. Since the general public does not have a clear conception of gangs and what is and what is not gang behavior, efforts should be made through school PTA, church groups and other community processes to better educate the public on how to recognize gang behavior and what positive, prevention activities are available to communities.

8. Whatever is done needs to be done at the earliest possible intervention point in time. It is too late to wait until full-fledged gang activity emerges. The most critical first actors are parents and parenting is a significant factor – especially the ability of parents to monitor and discipline their own children. Parenting does not come “naturally” and many of those who might be criticized as being poor parents were themselves the product of poor parenting. Therefore, the community needs to find a way to assist and enable parents to parent well. This could be done through:

- Physicians and clinic personnel
- Pre-school and elementary teachers
- School counselors and Social workers
- Clergy and church groups

9 Continue to support the inter-agency Gang Task Force. The collection of these data are extremely valuable in monitoring gang behavior. It is recommended that the gang information collected by the police be shared with the District Attorney at all possible times in order for the court forcefully and early address the problem.

10. Drugs are a major factor and gangs operate as businesses. The problem of drugs in a community is not as much the availability of the drug but the **demand for the drug**. Youth find drugs “easy” to get. While drug prevention programs may be politically easy to cut, such programs can save money in the long-run. For every one dollar of prevention funds spent there is, on average, \$7 savings in criminal justice and treatment expense.

11. Community leaders and citizens tend to believe that the best response to the gang problem is to have a more punitive response; teachers and parents tend to have a more social oriented response. The reality is that there must be a balance. Offenders need to be held accountable (thus a more proactive response by the court and schools is needed) but prevention must also be a high priority to stop the flow of new offenders. The community needs to discontinue a dichotomous perspective on the solution and simultaneously deal effectively with violators and also invest in prevention programs and efforts.



# Randolph County Gang Assessment

Paul C. Friday, PhD<sup>1</sup>.

## Primary Report

This project is the most comprehensive assessment of youth crime, delinquency and gangs that has been done in recent history. It was made possible by a grant from the North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency prevention and was conducted consistent with a model developed by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in Washington, DC.

The study includes multiple data sets. Data were collected from the following areas:

1. General community demographics and demographic and economic change
2. Law enforcement and juvenile justice data bases
3. Surveys of school youth and school staff
4. School disciplinary reports
5. Community surveys of community leaders, citizens and the parents of middle and high school age youth
6. A survey of community agencies providing services to youth.

## Community Demographics<sup>2</sup>

Randolph County lies in the Piedmont region of North Carolina. In 1779 the county was formed from Guilford County. It was named for Peyton Randolph the first president of the Continental Congress. Its county seat is Asheboro. Today the 2009 Census indicates a population of about 142,151. This is a 9% since 2000.

There have been some shifts in the demographics. The county has maintained nearly the same and equal proportion of males and females over the past decade. The age distribution has shown an increase with a Mean age of 36.2 in 2000 and 38.5 in 2008. There has been some shift in the racial demographics and in the educational level of the population.

Table 1 County demographic data: gender

Gender	2000 Data	Percent		2008 Estimate	Percent
Male	64,492	49.4%		68,676	49.2%
Female	65,962	50.6%		70,965	50.8%

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<sup>2</sup> Data are from US Census and American Community Surveys. 2009 data are available for limited categories

Table 2 County demographic data: age

Age	2000 Data	Percent		2009 Estimate	Percent
<b>Median Age</b>	36.2			38.5	
18 years and over	97,851	75.0%		107,324	75.5%
21 years and over	93,402	71.6%			
62 years and over	18,911	14.5%			
65 years and over	15,802	12.1%		19,617	13.8%

The racial distribution shows the following change: In 2000 89.2% of the population identified themselves as White; in 2009 the percent White was 87.8%. The largest percent increase in the non-white population is among the Hispanic population nearly doubled from 6.6% to 11.0%. The African American population, which constituted 5.6% in 2000 increased to 6.4% in 2009.

Table 3 County demographic data: race

Race	2000 Data	Percent		2009 Estimate	Percent
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>130,454</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>142,151</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
One Race	129,077	98.00%		141,155	99.3%
Two or more races	1,377	1.10%		996	0.7%
White	116,370	89.20%		124,762	87.8%
Black or AA	7,342	5.60%		9,101	6.4%
American Indian or Alaska Native	582	0.40%		101	0.01%
Asian	830	0.60%		1,368	1.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	21	0.00%		0	0.00%
Some other race	3,932	3.00%			
Two or more races	1,377	1.10%			
<b>Hispanic or Latino and Race</b>					
<b>Total Population</b>	<b>130,454</b>	<b>100.0%</b>		<b>142,151</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
Hispanic or Latino	8,646	6.60%		15,683	11.0%
Mexican	7,245	5.60%		11,590	8.15%
Puerto Rican	147	0.10%		1,851	1.3%
Cuban	40	0.00%		332	0.23%
Source: American Community Surveys 2009					

The overall educational level of the population has increased. 74.3% have a high school degree or greater and 13.9% a bachelor's degree or higher. This compares with 70% and 11.1% respectively in 2000. The proportion of the population with less than a high school degree dropped from 30% to 25.7%.

Table 4 County demographic data: education

Education Level	2000	Percent		2009	Percent
<b>Population 25 Years and over</b>	<b>87,450</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>95,762</b>	<b>100%</b>
Less than 9th grade	9,450	10.80%		8,276	8.6%
9th-12th/No Diploma	16,809	19.20%		16,362	17.1%
High School Grad-GED	31,160	35.60%		33,363	34.8%
Some College-no degree	15,279	17.50%		17,455	18.2%
Associate Degree	5,071	5.80%		7,131	7.4%
Bachelor's Degree	7,092	8.10%		9,563	10.1%
Graduate or Profession Degree	2,589	3.00%		3,612	3.8%
Percent of HS grad or higher		70.0%			74.3%
Percent of Bachelor Degree or higher		11.1%			13.9%

There are a number of ways to look at the population. One is to look at households and another is to look at families and non-families. The data show different incomes depending upon this distinction. Households can include non-related persons. Both households and families can include workers and non-workers. Some families can have two incomes. The following tables are presented to help create a picture of the different household/family economies.

The mean household income is \$41,058. Mean family income is \$63,666, non-family \$16,189. Per capita income is shown as \$22,056. The Median income for males is \$35,573 and for females it is \$28,422.

Table 5 County demographic data: household income

INCOME AND BENEFITS (IN 2009 INFLATION-ADJUSTED DOLLARS)		
<b>Total households</b>	<b>54,224</b>	<b>44,478</b>
Less than \$10,000	4,285	7.90%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	3,893	7.20%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	7,775	14.30%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	6,851	12.60%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	9,153	16.90%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	10,590	19.50%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	6,031	11.10%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	4,110	7.60%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	549	1.00%
\$200,000 or more	987	1.80%
Median household income (dollars)	41,058	(X)
<b>Mean household income (dollars)</b>	<b>54,882</b>	<b>(X)</b>

Table 6 County demographic data: family income

<b>Families</b>	<b>38,035</b>	<b>38,035</b>
Less than \$10,000	1,880	4.90%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	1,472	3.90%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	4,630	12.20%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	4,406	11.60%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	6,950	18.30%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	8,462	22.20%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	5,088	13.40%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	3,765	9.90%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	467	1.20%
\$200,000 or more	915	2.40%
Median family income (dollars)	49,279	(X)
<b>Mean family income (dollars)</b>	<b>63,666</b>	<b>(X)</b>
<b>Per capita income (dollars)</b>	<b>22,055</b>	<b>(X)</b>
Nonfamily households	16,189	
Median nonfamily income (dollars)	23,487	(X)
<b>Mean nonfamily income (dollars)</b>	<b>32,037</b>	<b>(X)</b>
Median earnings for workers (dollars)	25,600	(X)
Median earnings for male full-time, year-round workers (dollars)	35,573	(X)
Median earnings for female full-time, year-round workers (dollars)	28,422	(X)
Source: US Census		

To round-out the economic picture it is important to also look at the poverty level. 12.6% of the 39,492 *families* (for whom poverty status could be determined in 2009) in Randolph County are considered to be below the poverty level.

- 28% of those in poverty are married couples
- 61.5% of those in poverty are female only headed households
  - 93.3% have children under 18 years of age
- 85.1% of all family units in poverty have children under 18

Table 7 Percent of households in poverty, 2009

	Randolph County, North Carolina	
	2009	Percent of total
<b>Total families for whom poverty status could be determined:</b>	<b>39,492</b>	
Income in the past 12 months below poverty level:	4,992	<b>12.6</b>
<b>Married-couple family:</b>	<b>1,397</b>	<b>28.0%</b>
With related children under 18 years	954	19.1
<b>Other family:</b>	<b>3,595</b>	<b>72.0</b>
Male householder, no wife present	527	10.5
With related children under 18 years	429	8.6
<b>Female householder, no husband present</b>	<b>3,068</b>	<b>61.5</b>
With related children under 18 years	2,864	57.4

## Law Enforcement Data: Juvenile Justice

The data in this section come from the Office of Juvenile Delinquency and Delinquency Prevention for the fiscal years 2006/07, 2007/08, and 2008/09

### Delinquent Profile

#### Gender

There has not been much change over the past few years.

- 79% are male 2006/07= 74.3%;  
2007/08= 78.1%;  
2008/09= 79.2%

#### Race

Over the past three years there has not been a major change in the race of juvenile offenders.

- **There has been a slight but not significant increase in the percent of non-white juvenile offenders: 34.6% in 2006/07 to 36.3% in 2008/09.**

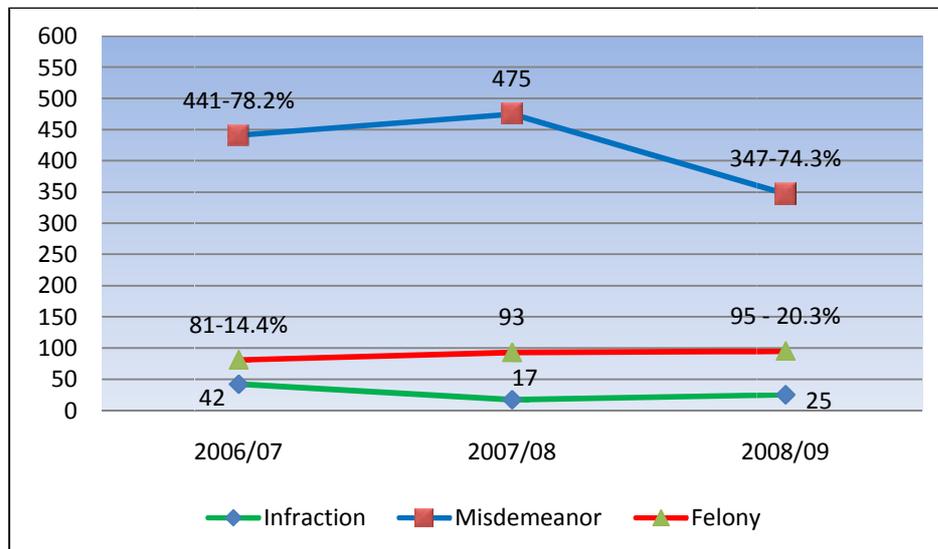
Table 8 Race of juvenile offenders 2006/7 – 2008/9

Year			Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
2007	Valid	White	368	65.2	65.4
		Non-White	195	34.6	34.6
		Total	563	99.8	100.0
	Missing	System	1	.2	
	Total		564	100.0	
2008	Valid	White	385	65.8	67.4
		Non-White	186	31.8	32.6
		Total	571	97.6	100.0
	Missing	System	11	1.9	
		Unknown	3	.5	
		Total	14	2.4	
Total		585	100.0		
2009	Valid	White	297	63.6	63.7
		Non-White	169	36.2	36.3
		Total	466	99.8	100.0
	Missing	System	1	.2	
Total		467	100.0		

### Charge Type

- Since 2006/07 the proportion of **felony charges has increased 40%** from 14.4% in 2006/07 to 20.3% in 2008/09

Figure 1 Delinquent charge types



Source: Data provided by NC Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

## Offense Type

- There has been an increase in the proportion of drug and weapons charges over the past three years

- The proportion of violent offenses has **decreased** from 32.8% in 2006/07 to 29.3% in 2008/09
- Property Offenses have **increased** from 32.8% to 38.3%
- Drug charges have **increases** from 10.1% to 11.6%
- Weapons charges have increased from 6.4% to 7.3%

Table 9 Offense types 2006/7 – 2008/9

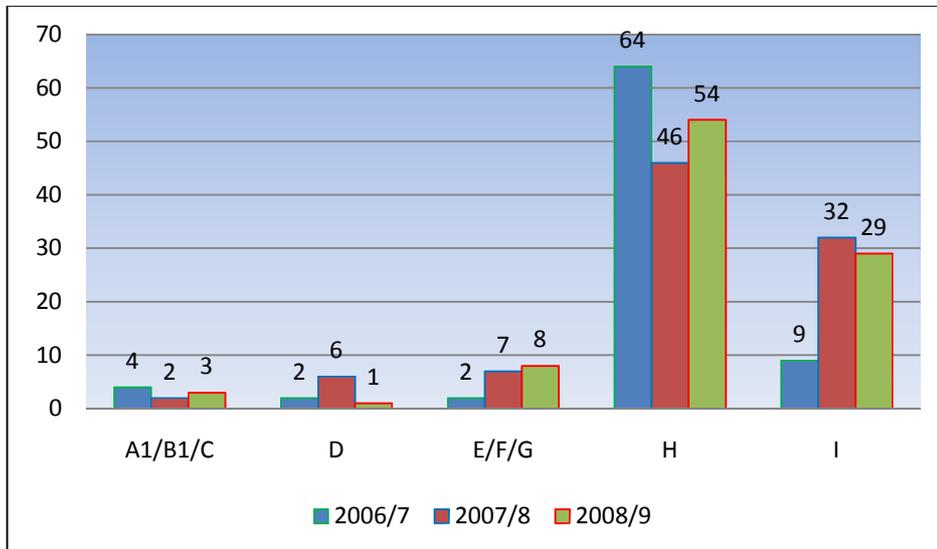
Year			Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
2007	Valid	Traffic-Ordinances	98	17.4	17.5
		Violent	183	32.4	32.7
		Property	185	32.8	33.1
		Drug-Alcohol	57	10.1	10.2
		Weapon	36	6.4	6.4
		Total	559	99.1	100.0
	Missing	System	5	.9	
	Total	564	100.0		
2008	Valid	Traffic-Ordinances	61	10.4	10.5
		Violent	173	29.6	29.8
		Property	264	45.1	45.5
		Drug-Alcohol	56	9.6	9.7
		Weapon	26	4.4	4.5
		Total	580	99.1	100.0
	Missing	System	5	.9	
	Total	585	100.0		
2009	Valid	Traffic-Ordinances	55	11.8	12.0
		Violent	137	29.3	29.8
		Property	179	38.3	38.9
		Drug-Alcohol	55	11.8	12.0
		Weapon	34	7.3	7.4
		Total	460	98.5	100.0
	Missing	System	7	1.5	
	Total	467	100.0		

## Offense Class

Year			Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
2007	Valid	Traffic	42	7.4	7.4
		1	195	34.6	34.6
		2	180	31.9	31.9
		3	34	6.0	6.0
		A1	32	5.7	5.7
		B1	2	.4	.4
		C	2	.4	.4
		D	2	.4	.4
		F	2	.4	.4
		H	64	11.3	11.3
		I	9	1.6	1.6
		Total	564	100.0	100.0
		2008	Valid	Traffic	17
1	244			41.7	41.7
2	178			30.4	30.4
3	28			4.8	4.8
A1	25			4.3	4.3
B1	1			.2	.2
C	1			.2	.2
D	6			1.0	1.0
E	2			.3	.3
F	4			.7	.7
G	1			.2	.2
H	46			7.9	7.9
I	32			5.5	5.5
Total	585	100.0	100.0		
2009	Valid	Traffic	25	5.4	5.4
		1	172	36.8	36.8
		2	126	27.0	27.0
		3	30	6.4	6.4
		A1	19	4.1	4.1
		B1	1	.2	.2
		C	2	.4	.4
		D	1	.2	.2
		E	2	.4	.4
		F	3	.6	.6
		G	3	.6	.6
		H	54	11.6	11.6
		I	29	6.2	6.2
Total	467	100.0	100.0		

- The proportion of A-E violent felonies has remained around 5%
- The greatest jump in numbers and percent between 2006/07 and 2008/09 is for class I felonies.
- F-I felonies nearly doubled from 14.4% of charges in 2006/07 to 27.8% in 2008/09

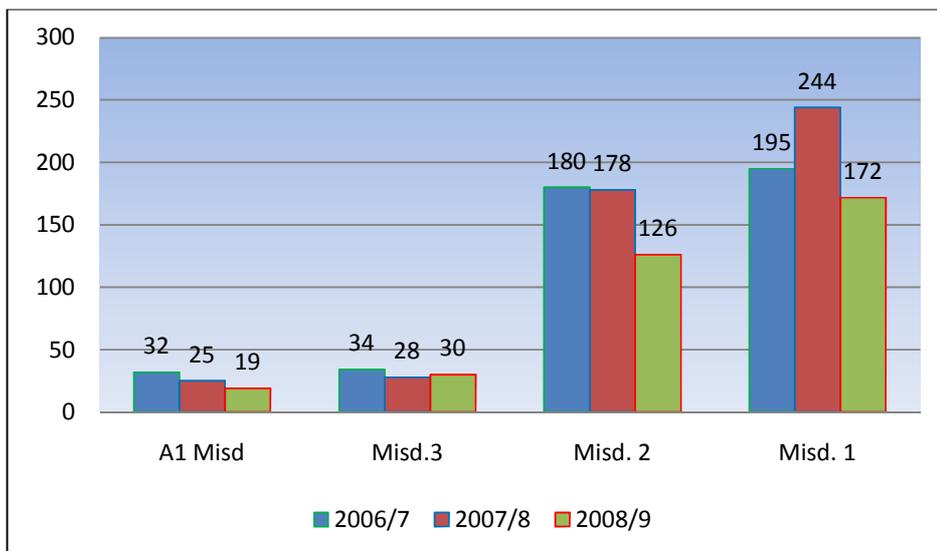
Figure 2 Number of felony offenses by class, 2006/07 – 2008/09



Source: Data provided by NC Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

- The increase in felony charges is reflected in a relative decrease in the number of misdemeanor class offenses.

Figure 3 Number of misdemeanor offenses by class – 2006/07-2008/09



Source: Data provided by NC Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

## Location

- Each year the most frequent location of juvenile offenses is school related: school property, school bus stop or school bus.
  - The second most frequent location is at the home of the victim.

- School based crimes decreased from 57.3% in 2006/07 to 47.8% in 2008/09.

Table 10 Location of juvenile offenses 2006/07

Year			Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
2007	Valid	Residence-Juvenile	20	3.5	5.2
		<b>Residence-Victim</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>11.7</b>
		Residence-Other	5	.9	1.3
		<b>School Property, Bus stop, bus</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>39.2</b>	<b>57.3</b>
		Business	34	6.0	8.8
		Highway, road	42	7.4	10.9
		Parking lot, garage	3	.5	.8
		other	12	2.1	3.1
		Field, woods	1	.2	.3
		Government Building	3	.5	.8
		Total	386	68.4	100.0
Missing	System	178	31.6		
Total		564	100.0		

Source: Data provided by NC Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Table 11 Location of juvenile offenses 2007/08

Year			Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
2008	Valid	Residence-Juvenile	21	3.6	3.6
		<b>Residence-Victim</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>12.0</b>
		Residence-Other	58	9.9	9.9
		<b>School Property, Bus stop, bus</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>45.8</b>	<b>45.8</b>
		Business	84	14.4	14.4
		Highway, road	53	9.1	9.1
		Parking lot, garage	7	1.2	1.2
		other	18	3.1	3.1
		Field, woods	2	.3	.3
		Government Building	4	.7	.7
		Total	585	100.0	100.0

Source: Data provided by NC Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

Table 12 Location of juvenile offenses 2008/09

Year		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	
2009	Valid	Residence-Juvenile	33	7.1	7.1
		Residence-Victim	73	15.6	15.6
		Residence-Other	5	1.1	1.1
		School Property ,Bus stop, bus	223	47.8	47.8
		Church, Synagogue	1	.2	.2
		Business	63	13.5	13.5
		Highway, road	32	6.9	6.9
		Parking lot, garage	2	.4	.4
		other	28	6.0	6.0
		Field, woods	6	1.3	1.3
		Government Building	1	.2	.2
		Total	467	100.0	100.0

Source: Data provided by NC Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

## Gang Membership (Juvenile Justice Data)

- Gang member delinquents represent a relatively small proportion of all delinquent offenses but the percent has more than doubled from 2007/08 to 2008/09.

- Gang member involvement increased from 7.0% in 2006/07 to 18.4% in 2008/09.

The types of crimes being committed by juveniles in Randolph County can be seen in the following tables that offer general classifications – regardless of level charged (felony or misdemeanor) for crimes charged against gang and non-gang members.

- Gang members account for 22% of all felonies

Data are available for three years. Combining those years shows a rank order of offenses committed by gang members. Of all the crimes committed by gang members:

- 15.6% are property damage
- 12.2% are fraud
- 11.1% are assaults

Table 13 Offenses committed by gang and non-gang members

			Gang Associate or Member		Total
			No	Yes	
Offense	Alcohol, incl DWI	Count	22	2	24
		% within Gang Associate or Member	1.6%	1.1%	1.6%
	Assault	Count	182	20	202
		% within Gang Associate or Member	13.5%	11.1%	13.2%
	Auto Theft/BE-Theft from auto	Count	41	0	41
		% within Gang Associate or Member	3.0%	.0%	2.7%
	Burglary/Breaking-Entering	Count	41	17	58
		% within Gang Associate or Member	3.0%	9.4%	3.8%
	Communicating threats	Count	55	8	63
		% within Gang Associate or Member	4.1%	4.4%	4.1%
	Disorderly Conduct	Count	91	12	103
		% within Gang Associate or Member	6.7%	6.7%	6.7%
	Drug Possession, paraphernalia	Count	102	6	108
		% within Gang Associate or Member	7.6%	3.3%	7.1%
	Drug Sale	Count	14	5	19
		% within Gang Associate or Member	1.0%	2.8%	1.2%
	Kidnapping	Count	0	1	1
		% within Gang Associate or Member	.0%	.6%	.1%
	Possession Stolen Property	Count	107	18	125
		% within Gang Associate or Member	7.9%	10.0%	8.2%
	Property Damage	Count	129	28	157
		% within Gang Associate or Member	9.6%	15.6%	10.3%
	Robbery	Count	3	2	5
		% within Gang Associate or Member	.2%	1.1%	.3%
	Sex Offense	Count	19	0	19
		% within Gang Associate or Member	1.4%	.0%	1.2%
	Simple affray	Count	81	13	94
		% within Gang Associate or Member	6.0%	7.2%	6.1%
	Theft/Fraud	Count	193	22	215
		% within Gang Associate or Member	14.3%	12.2%	14.1%
	Traffic/Ordinance	Count	196	9	205
		% within Gang Associate or Member	14.5%	5.0%	13.4%
	Weapons	Count	73	17	90
		% within Gang Associate or Member	5.4%	9.4%	5.9%
Total		Count	1349	180	1529
		% within Gang Associate or Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

A second way to look at the data is to ask, of each crime, what proportion is committed by gang members. This has varied over the past three years.

- Since 2006/07 gang members have accounted 40% of robberies.

- Around 30% of all breaking and entering
- 26% of drug sales.
- 18% of property damage

Table 14 Percent of each crime charged against gang members

		Gang Associate or Member		Total	
		No	Yes		
Offense	Alcohol, incl DWI	Count	22	2	24
		% within Offense	91.7%	8.3%	100.0%
	Assault	Count	182	20	202
		% within Offense	90.1%	9.9%	100.0%
	Auto Theft/BE-Theft from auto	Count	41	0	41
		% within Offense	100.0%	.0%	100.0%
	Burglary/Breaking-Entering	Count	41	17	58
		% within Offense	70.7%	29.3%	100.0%
	Communicating threats	Count	55	8	63
		% within Offense	87.3%	12.7%	100.0%
	Disorderly Conduct	Count	91	12	103
		% within Offense	88.3%	11.7%	100.0%
	Drug Possession, paraphernalia	Count	102	6	108
		% within Offense	94.4%	5.6%	100.0%
	Drug Sale	Count	14	5	19
		% within Offense	73.7%	26.3%	100.0%
	Kidnapping	Count	0	1	1
		% within Offense	.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	Possession Stolen Property	Count	107	18	125
		% within Offense	85.6%	14.4%	100.0%
	Property Damage	Count	129	28	157
		% within Offense	82.2%	17.8%	100.0%
	Robbery	Count	3	2	5
		% within Offense	60.0%	40.0%	100.0%
	Sex Offense	Count	19	0	19
		% within Offense	100.0%	.0%	100.0%
	Simple affray	Count	81	13	94
		% within Offense	86.2%	13.8%	100.0%
	Theft/Fraud	Count	193	22	215
		% within Offense	89.8%	10.2%	100.0%
	Traffic/Ordinance	Count	196	9	205
		% within Offense	95.6%	4.4%	100.0%
	Weapons	Count	73	17	90
		% within Offense	81.1%	18.9%	100.0%
Total		Count	1349	180	1529
		% within Offense	88.2%	11.8%	100.0%

## Location of Offense – Gang Membership

There is a statistically significant difference in the locations of offenses by gang and non-gang members.

- Both gang and non-gang members are likely to commit their offenses at school, on school bus or school property
- Gang members, however, are more likely to commit their offenses at the home of the victim while non-gang members will commit proportionately more crimes against businesses.

Table 15 Location of juvenile offenses by gang/non-gang member

		Gang Associate or Member		Total	
		No	Yes		
Location Type	Residence-Juvenile	Count	63	5	68
		% within Gang Associate or Member	5.3%	2.8%	5.0%
	Residence-Victim	Count	127	54	181
		% within Gang Associate or Member	10.8%	30.7%	13.3%
	Residence-Other	Count	57	11	68
		% within Gang Associate or Member	4.8%	6.3%	5.0%
	School Property, Bus stop, bus	Count	590	84	674
		% within Gang Associate or Member	50.0%	47.7%	49.7%
	Church, Synagogue	Count	1	0	1
		% within Gang Associate or Member	.1%	.0%	.1%
	Business	Count	159	10	169
		% within Gang Associate or Member	13.5%	5.7%	12.5%
	Highway, road	Count	111	5	116
		% within Gang Associate or Member	9.4%	2.8%	8.6%
	Parking lot, garage	Count	11	0	11
		% within Gang Associate or Member	.9%	.0%	.8%
	other	Count	48	5	53
		% within Gang Associate or Member	4.1%	2.8%	3.9%
	Field, woods	Count	8	1	9
		% within Gang Associate or Member	.7%	.6%	.7%
	Government Building	Count	5	1	6
		% within Gang Associate or Member	.4%	.6%	.4%
Total		Count	1180	176	1356
		% within Gang Associate or Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

SOURCE: Data provided by NC Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

## Gang Demographics

- The highest proportion of gang members is male

Table 16 Gang members by gender (Juvenile Court Data)

			Gang Associate or Member		Total
			No	Yes	
Gender	Male	Count	1018	166	1184
		% within Gang Associate or Member	75.5%	92.2%	77.4%
	Female	Count	331	14	345
		% within Gang Associate or Member	24.5%	7.8%	22.6%
Total		Count	1349	180	1529
		% within Gang Associate or Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- 93.3% of juvenile court gang members is non-white

Table 17 Gang members by race (white-non-white-Juvenile Court Data)

			Gang Associate or Member		Total
			No	Yes	
Race	White	Count	980	12	992
		% within Gang Associate or Member	73.5%	6.7%	65.6%
	Non-White	Count	353	168	521
		% within Gang Associate or Member	26.5%	93.3%	34.4%
Total		Count	1333	180	1513
		% within Gang Associate or Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- 43 % of gang members are Black and 30.0% are Hispanic

Table 18 Gang members by race (specific –Juvenile Court Data)

			Gang Associate or Member		Total	
			No	Yes		
Race	White	Count	980	12	992	
		% within Gang Associate or Member	72.6%	6.7%	64.9%	
	Black	Count	198	79	277	
		% within Gang Associate or Member	14.7%	43.9%	18.1%	
	Hispanic	Count	121	54	175	
		% within Gang Associate or Member	9.0%	30.0%	11.4%	
	Other	Count	47	35	82	
		% within Gang Associate or Member	3.5%	19.4%	5.4%	
	Unknown	Count	3	0	3	
		% within Gang Associate or Member	.2%	.0%	.2%	
	Total		Count	1349	180	1529
			% within Gang Associate or Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## Adjudicated Cases

- Only a third of the cases approved for court in Randolph County Juvenile Court were adjudicated in 2008/09.
  - This is a decrease from 41.3% in 2006/07 and 42.5% in 2008/09

Table 19 Number and percent of juvenile cases adjudicated

Of cases accepted for court				
Year			Frequency	Percent
2007	Valid	No	182	58.7
		Yes	128	41.3
		Total	310	100.0
2008	Valid	No	226	57.5
		Yes	167	42.5
		Total	393	100.0
2009	Valid	No	209	63.1
		Yes	122	36.9
		Total	331	100.0

- Gang member cases are significantly more likely to be adjudicated than non-gang delinquent cases in 2007/08 and 2008/09; the difference was not significant in 2006/07
  - 48.1% of gang cases compared with 35.9% of non-gang cases were adjudicated in 2008/09

Table 20 Proportion of gang and non-gang cases adjudicated 2006-2009

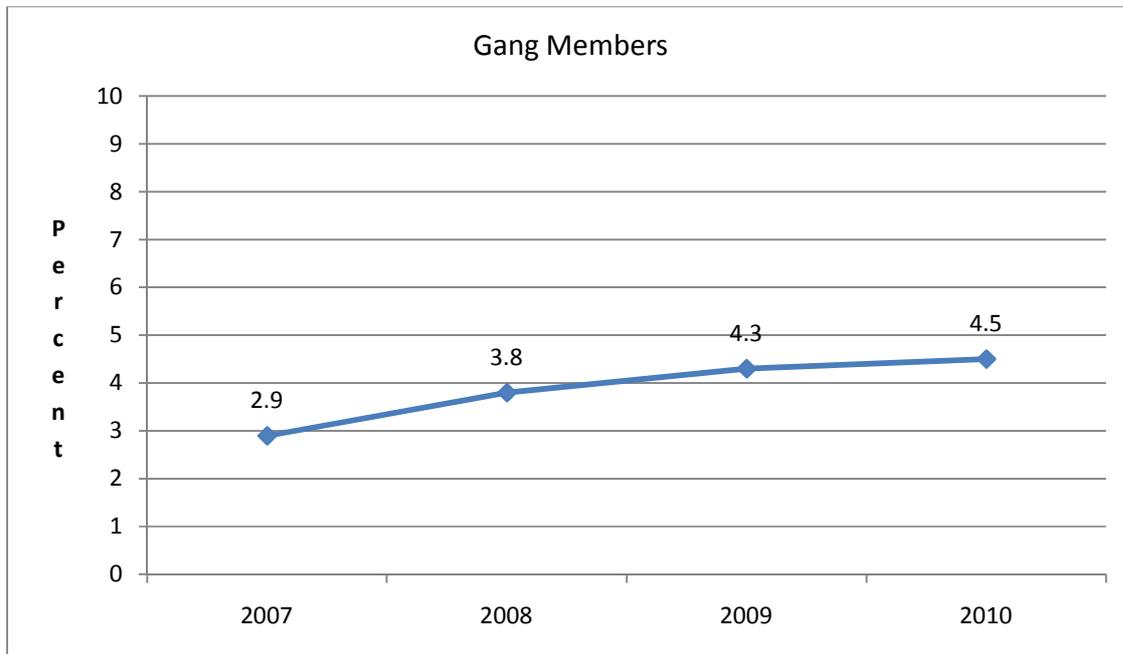
Year			Gang Associate or Member		Total	
			No	Yes		
2007	Was Adjudicated	No	Count	155	16	171
			% within Gang Associate or Member	59.8%	45.7%	58.2%
		Yes	Count	104	19	123
			% within Gang Associate or Member	40.2%	54.3%	41.8%
	Total		Count	259	35	294
			% within Gang Associate or Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
2008	Was Adjudicated	No	Count	200	20	220
			% within Gang Associate or Member	61.3%	33.9%	57.1%
		Yes	Count	126	39	165
			% within Gang Associate or Member	38.7%	66.1%	42.9%
	Total		Count	326	59	385
			% within Gang Associate or Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
2009	Was Adjudicated	No	Count	148	40	188
			% within Gang Associate or Member	64.1%	51.9%	61.0%
		Yes	Count	83	37	120
			% within Gang Associate or Member	35.9%	48.1%	39.0%
	Total		Count	231	77	308
			% within Gang Associate or Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

### Local Law Enforcement Data

It needs to be noted that we have received exceptional support and assistance from all of the Randolph County law enforcement agencies. Without their support, this profile could not have been developed. The identification of gang membership was not restricted to juveniles.

**The percent of persons arrested throughout the county who are identified as gang members is small but has increased from 2.9% in 2007 to 4.5% in 2009.**

Figure 4 Percent of arrestees who are gang members



### Gang members by city

99.1% of all gang arrests are for people who are legal residents of North Carolina. Arrestees come from multiple cities but the largest proportions are shown in the table below. Asheboro accounted for 43% in 2007 and 40% in 2010. Randleman accounts for approximately 10%: 9.6% in 2007 and 10.6% in 2010. Ramseur and Trinity account for about 5% each.

Table 21 Distribution of arrestee's city of residence

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Asheboro	43.4	43.2	43.7	40.2
Randleman	9.2	10.1	10.2	10.6
Ramseur	5.2	4.9	4.9	4.8
Trinity	5.0	5.7	5.8	5.6
Archdale	4.8	4.8	4.0	4.7
Liberty	3.1	2.8	2.3	4.0
Other	29.3	28.5	29.1	30.1

The percent of arrestees identified as gang members, over all, has increased from 2.9% in 2007 to 4.5% in 2010. The distribution varies by city and year.

Table 22 Percent of arrestees who are gang members by city 2001

Year				Gang Member		Total
				No	Yes	
2007	City	Asheboro	Count	2157	<b>108</b>	2265
			% within City	95.2%	<b>4.8%</b>	100.0%
		Randleman	Count	469	<b>12</b>	481
			% within City	97.5%	<b>2.5%</b>	100.0%
		Ramseur	Count	264	<b>6</b>	270
			% within City	97.8%	<b>2.2%</b>	100.0%
		Archdale	Count	247	<b>3</b>	250
			% within City	98.8%	<b>1.2%</b>	100.0%
		Liberty	Count	157	<b>3</b>	160
			% within City	98.1%	<b>1.9%</b>	100.0%
		Trinity	Count	259	<b>2</b>	261
			% within City	99.2%	<b>.8%</b>	100.0%
		Other NC	Count	1528	<b>20</b>	1548
			% within City	98.7%	<b>1.3%</b>	100.0%
		Other	Count	57	<b>0</b>	57
			% within City	100.0%	<b>.0%</b>	100.0%
		Total	Count	5138	<b>154</b>	5292
			% within City	97.1%	<b>2.9%</b>	100.0%

- In 2007 4.8% of arrestees in Asheboro were identified as gang members
- In 2010 5.2% of arrestees in Asheboro were identified as gang members
  
- In 2007 2.5% of arrestees in Randleman were considered gang members
- In 2010 4.3% of arrestees in Randleman were considered gang members
  
- The town with the lowest proportion of gang arrestees is Trinity with 0.8% in 2007; Trinity had 0.7% of its arrestees as gang members in 2010.

Table 23 Percent of arrestees identified as gang members by city, 2008

Year				Gang Member		
				No	Yes	
2008	City	Asheboro	Count	4499	<b>309</b>	4808
			% within City	93.6%	<b>6.4%</b>	100.0%
		Randleman	Count	1086	<b>39</b>	1125
			% within City	96.5%	<b>3.5%</b>	100.0%
		Ramseur	Count	530	<b>20</b>	550
			% within City	96.4%	<b>3.6%</b>	100.0%
		Archdale	Count	535	<b>2</b>	537
			% within City	99.6%	<b>.4%</b>	100.0%
		Liberty	Count	312	<b>1</b>	313
			% within City	99.7%	<b>.3%</b>	100.0%
		Trinity	Count	629	<b>7</b>	636
			% within City	98.9%	<b>1.1%</b>	100.0%
		Other NC	Count	3133	<b>53</b>	3186
			% within City	98.3%	<b>1.7%</b>	100.0%
		Other	Count	77	<b>1</b>	78
			% within City	98.7%	<b>1.3%</b>	100.0%
		Total	Count	10801	<b>432</b>	11233
			% within City	96.2%	<b>3.8%</b>	100.0%

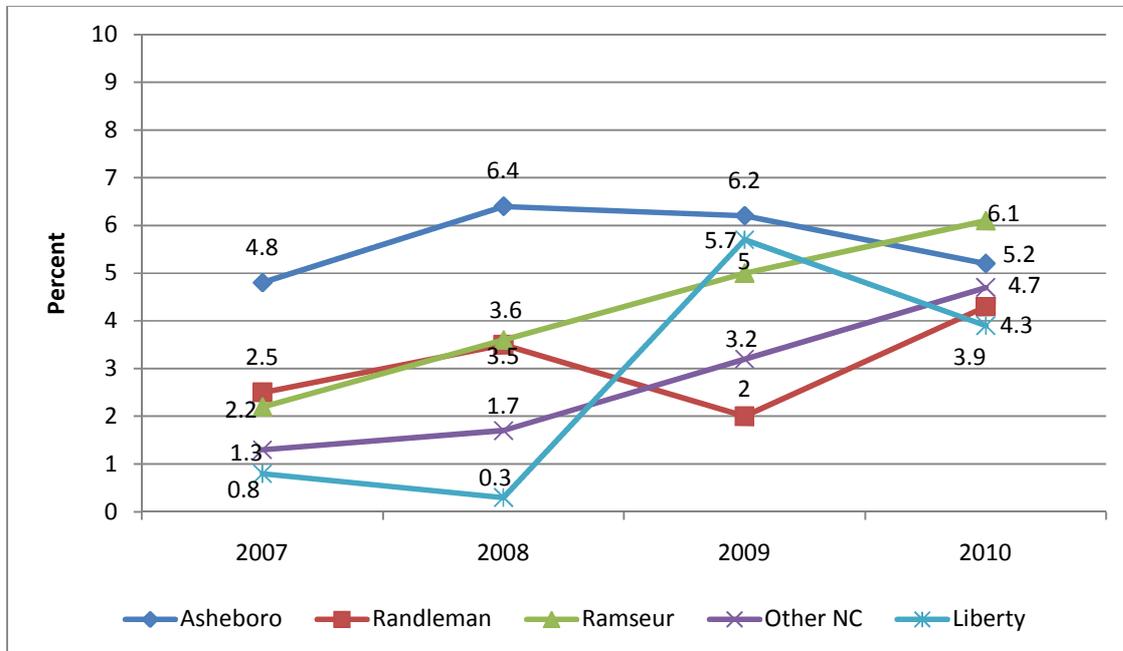
Table 24 Percent of arrestees identified as gang members by city, 2009

Year				Gang Member		
				No	Yes	
2009	City	Asheboro	Count	4317	<b>286</b>	4603
			% within City	93.8%	<b>6.2%</b>	100.0%
		Randleman	Count	1050	<b>21</b>	1071
			% within City	98.0%	<b>2.0%</b>	100.0%
		Ramseur	Count	493	<b>26</b>	519
			% within City	95.0%	<b>5.0%</b>	100.0%
		Archdale	Count	413	<b>3</b>	416
			% within City	99.3%	<b>.7%</b>	100.0%
		Liberty	Count	231	<b>14</b>	245
			% within City	94.3%	<b>5.7%</b>	100.0%
		Trinity	Count	609	<b>7</b>	616
			% within City	98.9%	<b>1.1%</b>	100.0%
		Other NC	Count	2984	<b>98</b>	3082
			% within City	96.8%	<b>3.2%</b>	100.0%
		Other	Count	123	<b>0</b>	123
			% within City	100.0%	<b>.0%</b>	100.0%
		Total	Count	10220	<b>455</b>	10675
			% within City	95.7%	<b>4.3%</b>	100.0%

Table 25 Percent of arrestees identified as gang members by city, 2010

Year				Gang Member		
				No	Yes	
2010	City	Asheboro	Count	1928	<b>105</b>	2033
			% within City	94.8%	<b>5.2%</b>	100.0%
		Randleman	Count	515	<b>23</b>	538
			% within City	95.7%	<b>4.3%</b>	100.0%
		Ramseur	Count	230	<b>15</b>	245
			% within City	93.9%	<b>6.1%</b>	100.0%
		Archdale	Count	232	<b>4</b>	236
			% within City	98.3%	<b>1.7%</b>	100.0%
		Liberty	Count	195	<b>8</b>	203
			% within City	96.1%	<b>3.9%</b>	100.0%
		Trinity	Count	283	<b>2</b>	285
			% within City	99.3%	<b>.7%</b>	100.0%
		Other NC	Count	1451	<b>71</b>	1522
			% within City	95.3%	<b>4.7%</b>	100.0%
		Other	Count	35	<b>0</b>	35
			% within City	100.0%	<b>.0%</b>	100.0%
		Total	Count	4869	<b>228</b>	5097
			% within City	95.5%	<b>4.5%</b>	100.0%

Figure 5 Change in percent of arrestees who are gang members – Select cities



- The greatest proportion increase in gang arrestees is in Ramseur where, in 2007, 2.2% were gang members but in 2010 that percent was 6.1.
- The proportion of gang members arrested in Randolph County from other North Carolina cities increased from 1.3% in 2007 to 4.7% in 2010.
- Liberty has also shown a major increase from 0.3% in 2007 to 5.7% in 2009 and, through the first nine months of 2010 - 3.9%.

### Gang member characteristics

- 80.9% of those arrested as gang members are under the age of 25
- 25.5% of all gang members are African Americans between 18 and 25
- 53.6% of Hispanic gang members are 18-20 years of age

#### Age:

- 36.9% are 18 to 20 years of age; 33.9% are between 21 and 25
  - 10.1% are under 18; 10.1% are over 30

#### Race:

- 51.9% are African American; 30.5% are White and 15.7% are Hispanic

Table 26 Gang members by age and race

		Age							Total
		Under 18	18-20	21-25	26-30	31-39	40-49	50-65	
White	Count	37	124	145	40	23	5	2	376
	% within Race	9.8%	33.0%	38.6%	10.6%	6.1%	1.3%	.5%	100.0%
	% within Age	29.8%	27.3%	34.7%	35.7%	21.5%	33.3%	100.0%	30.5%
	% of Total	3.0%	10.1%	11.8%	3.2%	1.9%	.4%	.2%	30.5%
African American	Count	61	223	215	53	82	7	0	641
	% within Race	9.5%	34.8%	33.5%	8.3%	12.8%	1.1%	.0%	100.0%
	% within Age	49.2%	49.0%	51.4%	47.3%	76.6%	46.7%	.0%	52.0%
	% of Total	4.9%	18.1%	17.4%	4.3%	6.7%	.6%	.0%	52.0%
Hispanic	Count	23	103	43	18	2	3	0	192
	% within Race	12.0%	53.6%	22.4%	9.4%	1.0%	1.6%	.0%	100.0%
	% within Age	18.5%	22.6%	10.3%	16.1%	1.9%	20.0%	.0%	15.6%
	% of Total	1.9%	8.4%	3.5%	1.5%	.2%	.2%	.0%	15.6%
Other	Count	3	5	15	1	0	0	0	24
	% within Race	12.5%	20.8%	62.5%	4.2%	.0%	.0%	.0%	100.0%
	% within Age	2.4%	1.1%	3.6%	.9%	.0%	.0%	.0%	1.9%
	% of Total	.2%	.4%	1.2%	.1%	.0%	.0%	.0%	1.9%
Total	Count	124	455	418	112	107	15	2	1233
	% of Total	10.1%	36.9%	33.9%	9.1%	8.7%	1.2%	.2%	100.0%

The table above shows the following:

- 25.5% of all gang members are African Americans between 18 and 25
- 38.6% of white gang members are 21-25
- 53.6% of Hispanic gang members are 18-20 years of age
- 76.6% of gang members 31-39 are African American

Gender:

- 96.3% are male

City

- 63.7% of gang arrestees are from Asheboro

**Table 27 Gang members by city and age**

Age		City								Total
		Asheboro	Randleman	Ramseur	Archdale	Liberty	Trinity	Other NC	Other	
Under 18	Count	80	2	13	0	2	0	27	0	124
	% within City	10.3%	2.1%	19.7%	.0%	7.7%	.0%	11.3%	.0%	10.1%
18-20	Count	300	52	10	0	7	5	81	0	455
	% within City	38.7%	54.7%	15.2%	.0%	26.9%	27.8%	33.8%	.0%	36.9%
21-25	Count	283	13	28	7	1	9	76	1	418
	% within City	36.5%	13.7%	42.4%	58.3%	3.8%	50.0%	31.7%	100.0%	33.9%
26-30	Count	45	28	7	1	0	3	28	0	112
	% within City	5.8%	29.5%	10.6%	8.3%	.0%	16.7%	11.7%	.0%	9.1%
31-39	Count	55	0	8	2	16	0	26	0	107
	% within City	7.1%	.0%	12.1%	16.7%	61.5%	.0%	10.8%	.0%	8.7%
40-49	Count	10	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	15
	% within City	1.3%	.0%	.0%	16.7%	.0%	5.6%	.8%	.0%	1.2%
50-65	Count	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	% within City	.3%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.2%
Total	Count	775	95	66	12	26	18	240	1	1233
	% within City	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- For most cities the largest proportion of gang members are 21-25 years old
- 54.7% of gang members from Randleman are 18-20 years of age; 38.7% from Asheboro are 18-20
- 61.5% of gang members from Liberty are 31-39 years of age

**The proportion of gang members under 20 years of age of all races has increased significantly between 2007 and 2010**

**Table 28 Gang members by age and race 2007**

Year	Age		Race				Total
			White	African American	Hispanic	Other	
2007	Under 18	Count	0	3	1		4
		% within Race	.0%	3.5%	5.9%		2.7%
	18-20	Count	16	32	10		58
		% within Race	34.0%	37.2%	58.8%		38.7%
	21-25	Count	22	34	2		58
		% within Race	46.8%	39.5%	11.8%		38.7%
	26-30	Count	5	5	2		12
		% within Race	10.6%	5.8%	11.8%		8.0%
	31-39	Count	4	12	0		16
		% within Race	8.5%	14.0%	.0%		10.7%
	40-49	Count	0	0	2		2
		% within Race	.0%	.0%	11.8%		1.3%
	Total	Count	47	86	17		150
		% within Race	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		100.0%

- 34% of white gang members were under 20 in 2007
  - In 2010 49.4% of white gang members were under 20
- 40.7% of Black gang members were under 20 in 2007
  - In 2010 54.9% of African American gang members were under 20
- 58.8% of Hispanic gang members were under 20 in 2007
  - In 2010 69.5% of Hispanic gang members were under 20

Table 29 Age and race of gang members, 2008

Year				Race				Total
				White	African American	Hispanic	Other	
2008	Age	Under 18	Count	5	17	7	1	30
			% within Race	4.2%	7.7%	10.0%	12.5%	7.2%
		18-20	Count	44	88	36	0	168
			% within Race	37.3%	39.8%	51.4%	.0%	40.3%
		21-25	Count	50	78	20	7	155
			% within Race	42.4%	35.3%	28.6%	87.5%	37.2%
		26-30	Count	15	18	4	0	37
			% within Race	12.7%	8.1%	5.7%	.0%	8.9%
		31-39	Count	2	17	2	0	21
			% within Race	1.7%	7.7%	2.9%	.0%	5.0%
		40-49	Count	2	3	1	0	6
			% within Race	1.7%	1.4%	1.4%	.0%	1.4%
		Total	Count	118	221	70	8	417
			% within Race	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

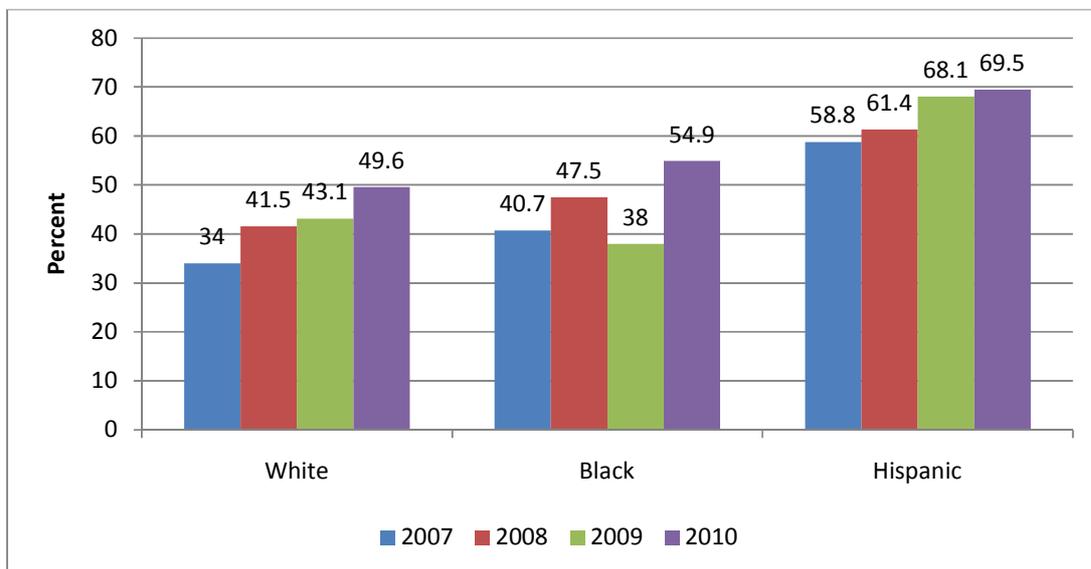
Table 30 Age and race of gang members 2009

Year				Race				Total
				White	African American	Hispanic	Other	
2009	Age	Under 18	Count	16	25	9	1	51
			% within Race	12.3%	10.8%	13.0%	7.7%	11.5%
		18-20	Count	40	63	38	5	146
			% within Race	30.8%	27.2%	55.1%	38.5%	32.9%
		21-25	Count	51	82	15	6	154
			% within Race	39.2%	35.3%	21.7%	46.2%	34.7%
		26-30	Count	11	17	7	1	36
			% within Race	8.5%	7.3%	10.1%	7.7%	8.1%
		31-39	Count	11	43	0	0	54
			% within Race	8.5%	18.5%	.0%	.0%	12.2%
		40-49	Count	0	2	0	0	2
			% within Race	.0%	.9%	.0%	.0%	.5%
		50-65	Count	1	0	0	0	1
			% within Race	.8%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.2%
Total	Count	130	232	69	13	444		
	% within Race	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%		

Table 31 Age and race of gang members, 2010

Year			Race				Total	
			White	African American	Hispanic	Other		
2010	Age	Under 18	Count	16	16	6	1	39
			% within Race	19.8%	15.7%	16.7%	33.3%	17.6%
	18-20	Count	24	40	19	0	83	
		% within Race	29.6%	39.2%	52.8%	.0%	37.4%	
	21-25	Count	22	21	6	2	51	
		% within Race	27.2%	20.6%	16.7%	66.7%	23.0%	
	26-30	Count	9	13	5	0	27	
		% within Race	11.1%	12.7%	13.9%	.0%	12.2%	
	31-39	Count	6	10	0	0	16	
		% within Race	7.4%	9.8%	.0%	.0%	7.2%	
	40-49	Count	3	2	0	0	5	
		% within Race	3.7%	2.0%	.0%	.0%	2.3%	
	50-65	Count	1	0	0	0	1	
		% within Race	1.2%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.5%	
	Total	Count	81	102	36	3	222	
		% within Race	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Figure 6 Percent of gang members under 20 by race and year



## Gang Offenses

It should be noted that the offense listed is the offense charge to a person who was known to be a gang member. It does not imply that these offenses were actually committed as part of gang activity. The numbers reflect all arrests from 2007 through September, 2010 in Randolph County.

- Assaults are the single largest percent of offense but they are only 13.9% of all charges

**Table 32 Offenses committed by gang members 2007-2010**

Offense		
	Frequency	Percent
Homicide	3	.2
<b>Assault</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>13.9</b>
Affray	21	1.7
Threats	19	1.5
Harassing Telephone	8	.6
Disorderly	49	3.9
Resisting Arrest	31	2.4
Trespass	41	3.2
Weapons	40	3.2
Robbery	51	4.0
Burglary	68	5.4
MV Theft-Theft from Auto	3	.2
Fraud-embezzlement	80	6.3
Larceny	4	.3
Possession stolen goods	14	1.1
Injury to property	35	2.8
Drug Possession	87	6.9
Drug Sales	7	.6
Drug manufacture	28	2.2
Drug Trafficking	4	.3
Alcohol related incl DWI	32	2.5
Contributing to del of minor	2	.2
Administrative-Bill-OFA	97	7.6
Probation-Parole violation	12	.9
Traffic-not DWI	38	3.0
Ordinance violation	3	.2
Public Health	1	.1
Other	315	24.8
Total	1269	100.0

To look at the types of offenses perpetrated by gang members, the types of offenses were condensed to a few general types and cross-tabulated with whether the arrestee was a gang member or

not. There are two percents shown in the table below. One is the percent of the each offense type committed by gang members compared with non-gang arrestees. The second is the percent of the type of offense that is committed by the gang and non-gang members. Thus, violent offenses reflect 29.2% of all offenses perpetrated by gang members. They are also responsible for 6.6% of all violent offenses. Gang members also account for 11.9% of all weapons charges.

**Table 33 Percent of each offense type by gang membership**

		Gang Member		Total
		No	Yes	
Personal-Violent	Count	5265	370	5635
	% within Offense_Type	93.4%	6.6%	100.0%
	% within Gang Member	17.0%	29.2%	17.5%
Property	Count	6525	225	6750
	% within Offense_Type	96.7%	3.3%	100.0%
	% within Gang Member	21.0%	17.7%	20.9%
Drugs-Alcohol	Count	3746	158	3904
	% within Offense_Type	96.0%	4.0%	100.0%
	% within Gang Member	12.1%	12.5%	12.1%
Probation-Parole-Adm	Count	3333	109	3442
	% within Offense_Type	96.8%	3.2%	100.0%
	% within Gang Member	10.7%	8.6%	10.7%
Weapons	Count	295	40	335
	% within Offense_Type	88.1%	11.9%	100.0%
	% within Gang Member	1.0%	3.2%	1.0%
Other	Count	10312	329	10641
	% within Offense_Type	96.9%	3.1%	100.0%
	% within Gang Member	33.2%	25.9%	33.0%
Traffic	Count	1542	38	1580
	% within Offense_Type	97.6%	2.4%	100.0%
	% within Gang Member	5.0%	3.0%	4.9%
Total	Count	31018	1269	32287
	% within Offense_Type	96.1%	3.9%	100.0%
	% within Gang Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Gang members commit, on average, more charges per arrest than non-gang members.**

- 54.7% of non-gang members have one charge
- 48.3% of gang members have only one charge
  - Mean Charges – Gang: 3.3  
Non-Gang: 2.6
  - Median Charges Gang: 2  
Non-Gang: 1

**Victims**

Data on victims was combined for the 2007-2010 time period. The data show a strong similarity between the types of victims by gang and non-gang members; 47% of gang victims are persons as is 45% of non-gang victims. Gang members are more likely to commit crimes against the public 39% compared with 30% by non-gang members.

**Table 34 Victim types by gang and non-gang membership**

Victim Type					
Gang Member			Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
<b>No</b>		<b>Person</b>	<b>3492</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>45.3</b>
		Business	1858	6.0	24.1
		Public	2352	7.6	30.5
		Total	7702	24.8	100.0
	Missing	System	23326	75.2	
	Total		31028	100.0	
<b>Yes</b>		<b>Person</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>47.0</b>
		Business	73	5.8	14.0
		Public	204	16.1	39.0
		Total	523	41.2	100.0
	Missing	System	746	58.8	
	Total		1269	100.0	

There is a significant difference in the demographic characteristics of victims by whether the offender is a gang member or not.

- o Gang members are more likely to commit their crimes against males than are non-gang members ( $p < .01$ )
- o Gang members are more likely than non gang members to commit offenses against non-white victims ( $p < .000$ ). This likely reflects the fact that gang members commit offenses against other gang members. The reports, however, do not identify if victims are gang members.

Table 35 Gender of Victims – gang member-non-gang member

Victim Gender		Gang Member		Total
		No	Yes	
Male	Count	1632	<b>132</b>	1764
	% within Gang Member	47.3%	<b>55.0%</b>	47.8%
Female	Count	<b>1816</b>	108	1924
	% within Gang Member	<b>52.7%</b>	45.0%	52.2%
Total	Count	3448	240	3688
	% within Gang Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Table 36 Race of victims – gang member-non-gang member

Victim Race		Gang Member		Total
		No	Yes	
White	Count	<b>2719</b>	160	2879
	% within Gang Member	<b>78.8%</b>	66.7%	78.0%
Black	Count	436	<b>50</b>	486
	% within Gang Member	12.6%	<b>20.8%</b>	13.2%
Hispanic	Count	267	<b>29</b>	296
	% within Gang Member	7.7%	<b>12.1%</b>	8.0%
Asian	Count	7	1	8
	% within Gang Member	.2%	.4%	.2%
Amer. Indian	Count	13	0	13
	% within Gang Member	.4%	.0%	.4%
Other	Count	8	0	8
	% within Gang Member	.2%	.0%	.2%
Total	Count	3450	240	3690
	% within Gang Member	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## School Data

Data are available for Randolph County Schools. The Asheboro School District was asked to participate but the District refused to permit the survey to be given with Passive consent citing School Board Policy. Since all other school districts with whom the researchers have worked agreed to permit passive consent by parents it was believed that the results would be skewed. It was agreed, however, to proceed using active consent but a second requirement proved impossible to overcome. The Asheboro Schools insisted that the study be reviewed by the Researcher’s Human Subjects Review Committee. Since this project was analyzed by a private research business, no such review board was constituted and the school system would not accept the results of the review Board’s decision for another county despite the fact that the instrument and procedures would be exactly the same.

It is unfortunate that the Asheboro Schools are not included and therefore the results can only be generalized to the Randolph County Schools.

## Sample

The sample over-represented females.

The racial distribution was not significantly different from the actual, official distributions.

**Table 37 Sample and system distribution by gender**

	<b>Official</b>	<b>Sample</b>
<b>Male</b>	51.5%	47.0%
<b>Female</b>	49.5%	53.0%
<b>Total</b>	100	100

**Table 38 Sample and system distribution by race**

	<b>Official</b>	<b>Sample</b>
<b>White</b>	81.1%	79.0%
<b>Black</b>	7.0%	5.7%
<b>Hispanic</b>	10.1%	10.0%
<b>Other</b>	1.8%	5.3%

- Note, the survey instrument permitted the racial option “mixed” and this might account for some of the difference

The sample over-represented the high school grades and under-represented the middle school grades. Previous research has not shown significant differences in most questions based on gender, but experiences relative to gangs have shown differences by grade. To reduce the possible error, the data have been ***weighted*** to better reflect the actual grade distribution in the system. When data are weighted, the sample distribution sizes are multiplied by the weighting factor and will show numbers greater than the actual sample. However, the results can be interpreted as being 95 percent confident that the results are within  $\pm 2\%$

**Table 39 Randolph Schools weighted sample and state data comparison**

	Grade	Sample Percent	State Percent	Weighted Sample
<b>Valid</b>	6	12.1	15.2	15.2
	7	9.9	14.4	14.5
	8	11.2	14.9	14.6
	9	17.2	16.7	16.9
	10	16.1	14.3	14.4
	11	14.7	12.9	13.0
	12	18.7	11.4	11.5

- The average age of the respondents is 14.1 years

For those who identified themselves as Hispanic:

- 63.9% are Mexican
- 27.0% “other Spanish speaking”
- 4.7% Cuban
- 4.4% Puerto Rican

**Living Arrangements:** Students were asked to check all of the persons living with them where they live most of the time.

- 86.1% live with a biological mother and 5.8% with a step mother in the house
- 62.5% live with a biological father and 13.9% with a step father
- About 40% have brothers and/or sisters

**Table 40 Student living arrangements**

Mother	Father	Stepmother	Stepfather	Brothers	Step brothers	Sisters	Step sisters
86.1	62.5	5.8	13.9	42.7	4.0	38.5	4.1

- 10% have a grandparent or grandparents living with them
- Less than 1% are in some form of foster care
- 2.8% live with non-related adults in the house

**Table 41 Other living arrangements**

Grandmother	Grandfather	Aunt	Uncle	Other Adults	Foster Mother	Foster Father
10.0	5.7	3.5	4.3	2.8	0.8	0.8

- 7.7% of the children are only children
- The average number of older siblings is 1.5 and younger siblings is 1.2.
- 30.6% have only one older sibling and 32.4% have only one younger sibling

**Parent Education**

- 15.0% of fathers and 12.9% of mothers have not completed high school
- 27.7% of fathers and 22.8% of mothers have high school diplomas
- 21.3% of fathers and 32.3% of mothers have college degrees or post graduate education.

**Table 42 Father's Education**

Father's Education					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	grade school or less	51	2.9	3.0	3.0
	some high school	203	11.5	12.0	15.0
	high school	469	26.6	27.7	42.6
	some college	183	10.4	10.8	53.4
	college	304	17.2	17.9	71.4
	graduate of prof school	58	3.3	3.4	74.8
	does not apply	18	1.0	1.0	75.8
	don't know	410	23.2	24.2	100.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1697</b>	<b>96.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	
Missing	System	69	3.9		
<b>Total</b>		<b>1766</b>	<b>100.0</b>		

**Table 43 Mother's Education**

Mother's Education					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	grade school or less	49	2.8	2.9	2.9
	some high school	171	9.7	10.0	12.9
	high school	388	22.0	22.8	35.7
	some college	237	13.4	13.9	49.6
	college	428	24.2	25.1	74.7
	graduate of prof school	123	7.0	7.2	82.0
	does not apply	16	.9	1.0	82.9
	don't know	291	16.5	17.1	100.0
	Total	1703	96.4	100.0	
Missing	System	63	3.6		
Total		1766	100.0		

**Language**

- 90.6% of children have English as the primary language
- 7.4% speak Spanish at home
- 2.0% speak another language at home

**Table 44 Language spoken in the home**

Language					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	English	1580	89.5	90.6	90.6
	Spanish	130	7.3	7.4	98.0
	Another	35	2.0	2.0	100.0
	Total	1745	98.8	100.0	
Missing	System	21	1.2		
Total		1766	100.0		

**Negative Influences**

**Laws and Norms**

The first set of questions asks about the perceptions youth have of adult approval for the use of substances – cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana. The higher the proportion of youth who believe that

adults would think it only a little wrong or not wrong at all sends the message of norms favorable to such behavior – a risk factor for youth. There are differences by grade.

### Perception of norms favorable to substance use: smoking

- 18.4% of students think that adults see nothing wrong or think it’s only “a little wrong” for someone their age to smoke.

Table 45 Perception of adult attitudes about smoking cigarettes

Adults think OK for kids your age to smoke cigarettes					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	very wrong	1034	58.5	64.2	64.2
	wrong	279	15.8	17.3	81.5
	a little wrong	184	10.4	11.4	93.0
	not wrong at all	113	6.4	7.0	100.0
	Total	1610	91.2	100.0	
Missing	System	156	8.8		
Total		1766	100.0		

This varies significantly by grade.

- 91.5% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students feel that adults would think it is wrong for them to smoke cigarettes compared with 63.3% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students (p<.000).

Table 46 Perception of adult attitudes about smoking cigarettes by grade

Wrong to smoke cigarettes		Grade							Total
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Not Wrong	Count	20	19	23	44	56	67	69	298
	% within Grade	8.5%	8.6%	9.6%	15.8%	23.1%	32.5%	36.7%	18.5%
Wrong	Count	215	203	217	234	186	139	119	1313
	% within Grade	91.5%	91.4%	90.4%	84.2%	76.9%	67.5%	63.3%	81.5%
Total	Count	235	222	240	278	242	206	188	1611
	% within Grade	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$$X^2 = 115.728 \text{ df} = 6 \text{ p} < .000 \text{ phi} = .25$$

- There are no differences by race regarding what adults would think it was wrong to smoke.

### Perception of norms favorable to substance use: underage drinking

- 16.6% of students think that adults would think it is not wrong or only a little bit wrong for them to drink alcohol.

Table 47 Perception of adult attitudes about drinking underage

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	very wrong	1039	58.8	64.4	64.4
	wrong	307	17.4	19.0	83.4
	a little wrong	174	9.8	10.8	94.2
	not wrong at all	94	5.3	5.8	100.0
	Total	1614	91.4	100.0	
Missing	System	152	8.6		
Total		1766	100.0		

This varies, as it does with smoking cigarettes, significantly by grade.

- 91.2% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students feel that adults would think it is wrong for them to drink alcohol at their age compared with 67.6% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students ( $p < .000$ ).

Table 48 Perception of adult attitudes about drinking underage by grade

Wrong to drink alcohol		Grade							Total
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Not Wrong	Count	21	15	26	38	54	53	61	268
	% within Grade	8.8%	6.8%	10.9%	13.6%	22.1%	25.7%	32.4%	16.6%
Wrong	Count	218	204	213	241	190	153	127	1346
	% within Grade	91.2%	93.2%	89.1%	86.4%	77.9%	74.3%	67.6%	83.4%
Total	Count	239	219	239	279	244	206	188	1614
	% within Grade	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$$X^2 = 84.891 \text{ df} = 6 \text{ } p < .000 \text{ } \phi = .22$$

- Race is not related to the perception of what adults would think about youth drinking alcohol at their age.

### Perception of norms favorable to substance use: using marijuana

- Only 3.8% of students think adults would not think it is wrong for them to use marijuana; 5.6% think adults would think it was only a little bit wrong for a cumulative percent of 9.4% feeling there are norms favorable to the use of marijuana.

**Table 49 Perception of adult attitudes about using marijuana**

Adults think OK for kids your age to use marijuana					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	very wrong	1241	70.3	76.3	76.3
	wrong	231	13.1	14.2	90.6
	a little wrong	91	5.2	5.6	96.2
	not wrong at all	62	3.5	3.8	100.0
	Total	1626	92.0	100.0	
Missing	System	140	8.0		
Total		1766	100.0		

This varies significantly by grade, gender and race.

- 93.7% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students think that adults would think that it is wrong for them to use marijuana compared with 83.1% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Table 50 Perception of adult attitudes about using marijuana by grade**

Wrong to use marijuana		Grade							Total
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Not Wrong	Count	15	9	13	21	29	34	32	153
	% within Grade	6.3%	4.0%	5.4%	7.5%	11.9%	16.3%	16.9%	9.4%
Wrong	Count	223	217	227	259	215	175	157	1473
	% within Grade	93.7%	96.0%	94.6%	92.5%	88.1%	83.7%	83.1%	90.6%
Total	Count	238	226	240	280	244	209	189	1626
	% within Grade	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 42.023$  df = 6 p < .000 phi = .19

- There is no difference by gender
- There is no difference by race

**Perception of getting caught (deterrent effect) drinking underage**

The second set of questions asks about the likelihood of getting caught by the police for engaging for using substances and carrying a gun. This set of questions measures the perceived impact of law.

- Only about a third (32.5%) of students thinks they would likely be caught by the police if they drank alcohol (underage drinking).
- Only 13.5% are absolutely certain they would not get caught by the police.

Risk of getting caught for underage drinking

Risk of getting caught for underage drinking					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	NO!	421	23.8	26.3	26.3
	no	661	37.4	41.3	67.5
	yes	304	17.2	19.0	86.5
	YES!	216	12.3	13.5	100.0
	Total	1602	90.7	100.0	
Missing	System	164	9.3		
Total		1766	100.0		

Differences in perception are found for grade.

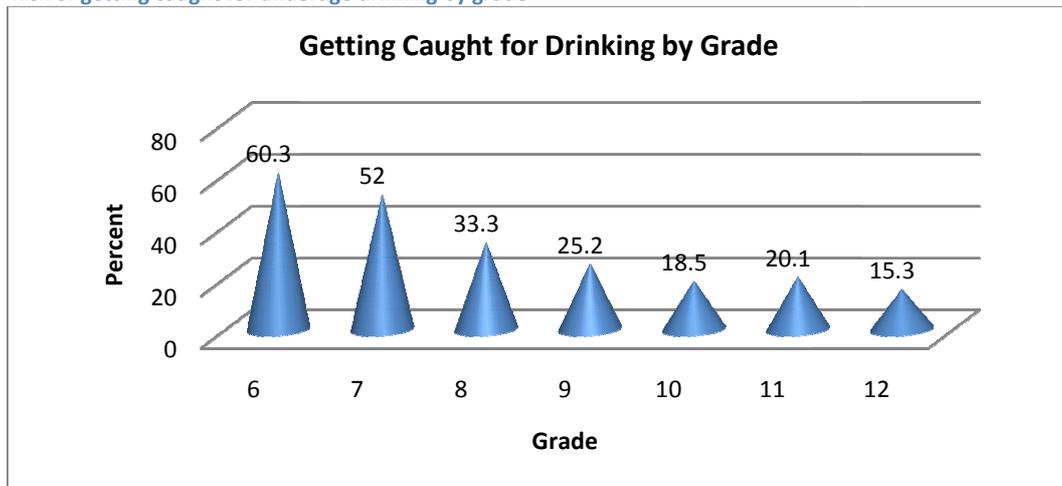
- The perception of getting caught by the police for underage drinking **decreases significantly** by age as measured by grade in school.
  - 60% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students think they would get caught
  - 25% of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students think they would get caught
  - 15% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students think they would get caught
- There are differences by race: Black and Hispanic students are less likely than white students to think they would be caught drinking underage.

Table 51 Risk of getting caught drinking underage by race

Risk getting caught underage drinking		Race				Total
		White	Black	Hispanic	Other	
No	Count	837	65	115	51	1068
	% within Race	66.3%	78.3%	75.7%	63.0%	67.6%
Yes	Count	426	18	37	30	511
	% within Race	33.7%	21.7%	24.3%	37.0%	32.4%
Total	Count	1263	83	152	81	1579
	% within Race	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

$\chi^2 = 10.67$  df = 3 p<.014

Figure 7 Risk of getting caught for underage drinking by grade



$\chi^2 = 189.38$   $df = 6$   $p < .000$   $\phi = .34$

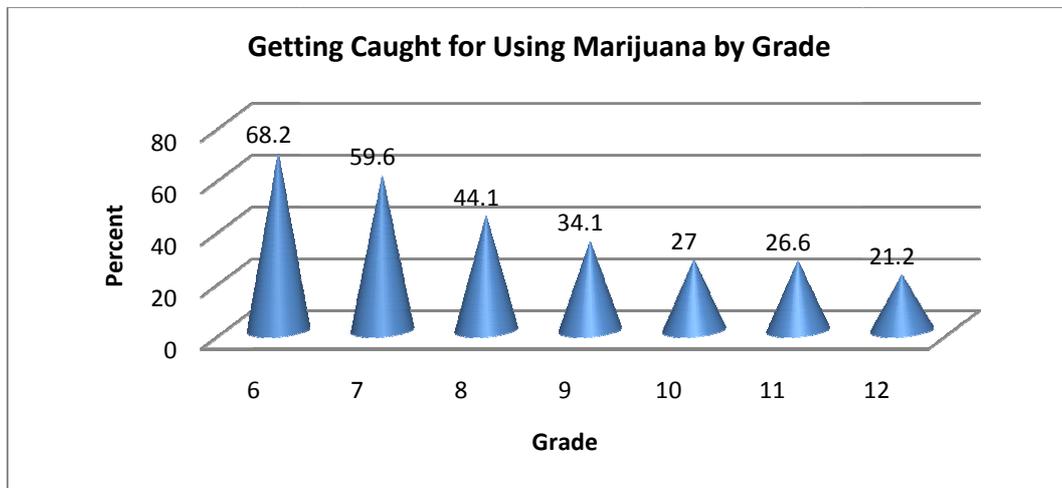
### Perception of getting caught using marijuana

- 59.4% of students **do not** think they would get caught for smoking marijuana
  - 21% emphatically say they would not get caught by the police.
- 2/3 (68.2%) of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students think they would get caught using marijuana but only 21.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students think they would get caught.
- There are no differences by gender
- Black students (29.6%) and Hispanic students (30.5%) are proportionately less likely to think they would get caught for using marijuana than White (42.3%)

Table 52 Risk of getting caught smoking marijuana by race

Risk of getting caught for smoking marijuana					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	NO!	339	19.2	21.2	21.2
	no	612	34.6	38.2	59.4
	yes	343	19.4	21.4	80.8
	YES!	307	17.4	19.2	100.0
	Total	1600	90.6	100.0	
Missing	System	166	9.4		
Total		1766	100.0		

Figure 8 Perception of getting caught using marijuana by grade



$\chi^2 = 179.025$   $df = 6$   $p < .000$   $\phi = .33$

Table 53 Risk of getting caught smoking marijuana by race

Risk getting caught smoking marijuana		Race				Total
		White	Black	Hispanic	Other	
No	Count	728	57	105	47	937
	% within Race	57.7%	70.4%	69.5%	58.8%	59.5%
Yes	Count	534	24	46	33	637
	% within Race	42.3%	29.6%	30.5%	41.3%	40.5%
Total	Count	1262	81	151	80	1574
	% within Race	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

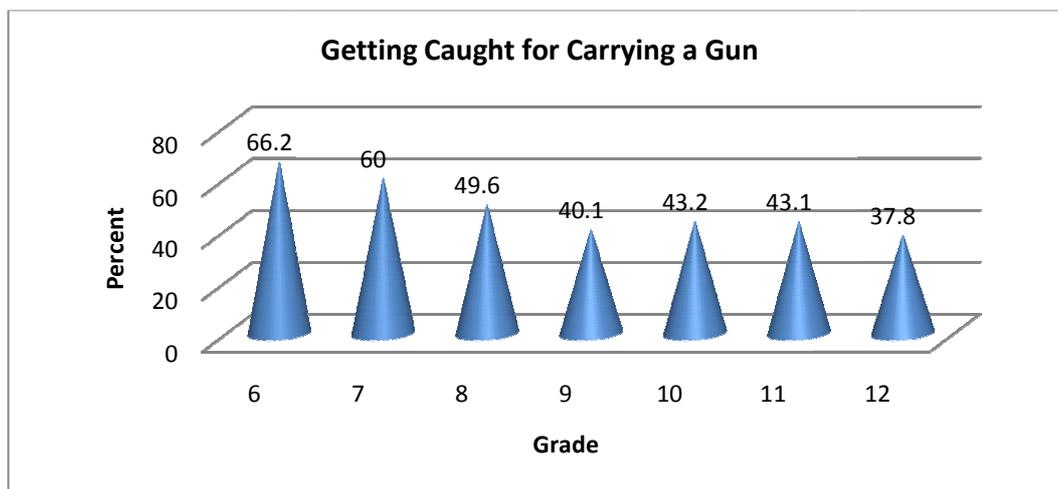
$\chi^2 = 12.028$   $df = 3$   $p < .007$   $\phi = .08$

- About 50% of students **do not** think they would get caught carrying a gun.
- The proportion thinking they would get caught by the police for carrying a gun decreases with age (grade).
  - 66.2% of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students think they would get caught while only 1/3 (37.8%) of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students think they would get caught carrying a gun.
- There are no differences in perceptions of getting caught carrying a gun by gender or race.

Table 54 Perception of getting caught carrying a gun

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	NO!	300	17.0	18.8	18.8
	no	521	29.5	32.6	51.4
	yes	444	25.1	27.8	79.1
	YES!	333	18.9	20.9	100.0
	Total	1598	90.5	100.0	
Missing	System	168	9.5		
Total		1766	100.0		

Figure 9 Perception of getting caught carrying a gun by grade



$\chi^2 = 63.09$   $df = 6$   $p < .000$   $\phi = .12$

The proportion of students who think they would get caught for using marijuana, drinking underage or carrying a gun is relatively small but does vary by age. Younger students see higher probabilities of getting caught.

**Getting caught by the police as deterrent is not strong.**

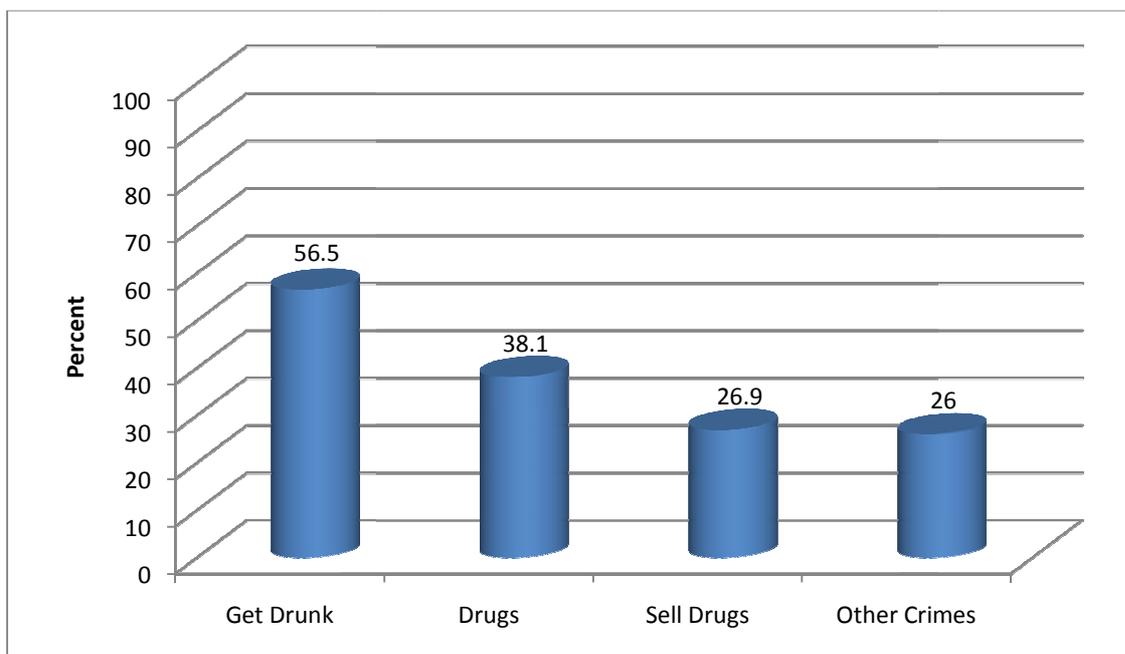
- 30% think they would get caught drinking alcohol
- 40% think they would get caught using marijuana
- 50% think they would get caught carrying a gun

*The number of adults personally known who engage in deviant/criminal behaviors*

This is another method of determining the community environment where students live. The greater the number of persons personally known to the students who have engaged in different deviant and criminal behaviors the more the student is exposed to norms favorable to the violation of law. The basic frequencies are not weighted.

- Over half of the students personally know adults who have gotten drunk
  - Nearly 25% know 5 or more adults who have gotten drunk
- About 1/3 know adults who use drugs
- About 1/4 know adults who have either sold drugs or engaged in other criminal behavior

Figure 10 Percent of students who know adults engaging in different behaviors



## Perceived Availability of Drugs and Firearms

This risk factor is measured by four questions, all measured by asking “If you wanted to get .... how easy would it be for you?”

- 39% of students feel it is easy to alcohol – 21% say it is very easy.
- 45% of students feel it is easy to get cigarettes – 29% say it is very easy
- 35% of students feel it is easy to get marijuana – 25% feel it is very easy
- 19% of students feel it is easy to get other drugs like cocaine – 10% say it is very easy
- 27% of students feel it is easy to get a handgun – 15% say it is very easy

Table 55 Ease of getting alcohol

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	very hard	647	36.7	40.3	40.3
	sort of hard	330	18.7	20.6	60.9
	sort of easy	291	16.5	18.1	79.0
	very easy	337	19.1	21.0	100.0
	Total	1606	90.9	100.0	
Missing	System	160	9.1		
Total		1766	100.0		

Table 56 Ease of getting cigarettes

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	very hard	628	35.6	39.3	39.3
	sort of hard	252	14.3	15.7	55.0
	sort of easy	248	14.0	15.5	70.5
	very easy	472	26.7	29.5	100.0
	Total	1600	90.6	100.0	
Missing	System	166	9.4		
Total		1766	100.0		

Table 57 Ease of getting marijuana

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	very hard	858	48.6	53.9	53.9
	sort of hard	179	10.1	11.2	65.1
	sort of easy	164	9.3	10.3	75.4
	very easy	392	22.2	24.6	100.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1593</b>	<b>90.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>	
Missing	System	173	9.8		
<b>Total</b>		<b>1766</b>	<b>100.0</b>		

Table 58 Ease of getting cocaine and other drugs

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	very hard	1075	60.9	67.5	67.5
	sort of hard	211	11.9	13.2	80.8
	sort of easy	147	8.3	9.3	90.0
	very easy	159	9.0	10.0	100.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1592</b>	<b>90.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	
Missing	System	174	9.9		
<b>Total</b>		<b>1766</b>	<b>100.0</b>		

Table 59 Ease of getting a handgun

Ease of Getting a Gun					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
	very hard	895	50.7	55.9	55.9
	sort of hard	268	15.2	16.7	72.7
	sort of easy	191	10.8	11.9	84.6
	very easy	246	14.0	15.4	100.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1601</b>	<b>90.6</b>	<b>100.0</b>	
Missing	System	165	9.4		
<b>Total</b>		<b>1766</b>	<b>100.0</b>		

For all substances and guns the ease of access is greatest by grade. There are no differences by gender.

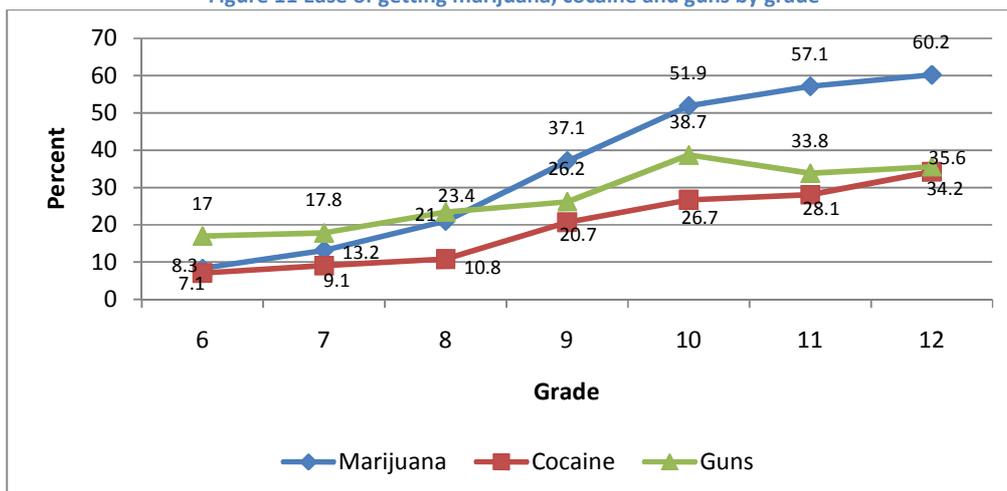
The most significant concerns for this study are marijuana and guns.

- 60.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in Randolph County schools feel it is easy to get marijuana
  - Overall, 14.1% of middle school students find marijuana easy to get
  - 50.2% of high school students find marijuana easy to get
- 35.6% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students think it is easy to get a gun
- 34.2% of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students think it is easy to get cocaine and other drugs
  - Black and Hispanic youth find it easier than white students to get cocaine and other drugs

**Table 60 Ease of getting marijuana by grade**

Ease of Getting Marijuana		Grade							Total
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Hard	Count	209	191	181	176	117	87	76	1037
	% within Grade	91.7%	86.8%	79.0%	62.9%	48.1%	42.9%	39.8%	65.1%
Easy	Count	19	29	48	104	126	116	115	557
	% within Grade	8.3%	13.2%	21.0%	37.1%	51.9%	57.1%	60.2%	34.9%
Total	Count	228	220	229	280	243	203	191	1594
	% within Grade	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

**Figure 11 Ease of getting marijuana, cocaine and guns by grade**



## Individual-Peer Domain

### Risk Factor: Early Initiation of Problem Behavior

- For those who engage in various deviant acts, the average age is 12-13.

Table 61 Age first engaged in deviant behaviors

Age	Mean*	Median**	Mode***	Cumulative
First smoked marijuana	13.2	13	14	73% by age 14
First smoked cigarettes	12.4	12	10	68% by age 13
First sipped alcohol	13	13	14	54% by age 13
First drank alcohol one/twice a month	13.7	14	15	75% by age15
First suspended	12.2	12	10	73% by age 13
First arrested	13.3	13	10	53% by age 13
First carried handgun	11.9	11	10	78% by age 13
First attacked someone with intent to harm	12.2	12	10	70% by age13

\* Average \*\* Midpoint \*\*\* Most frequent

**On average, youth are engaging in risky behavior before age 13;  
Regular drinking starts most often at age 15  
Marijuana smoking starts most often by age 14**

- Gang members begin the deviant behaviors at a slightly younger age than others.

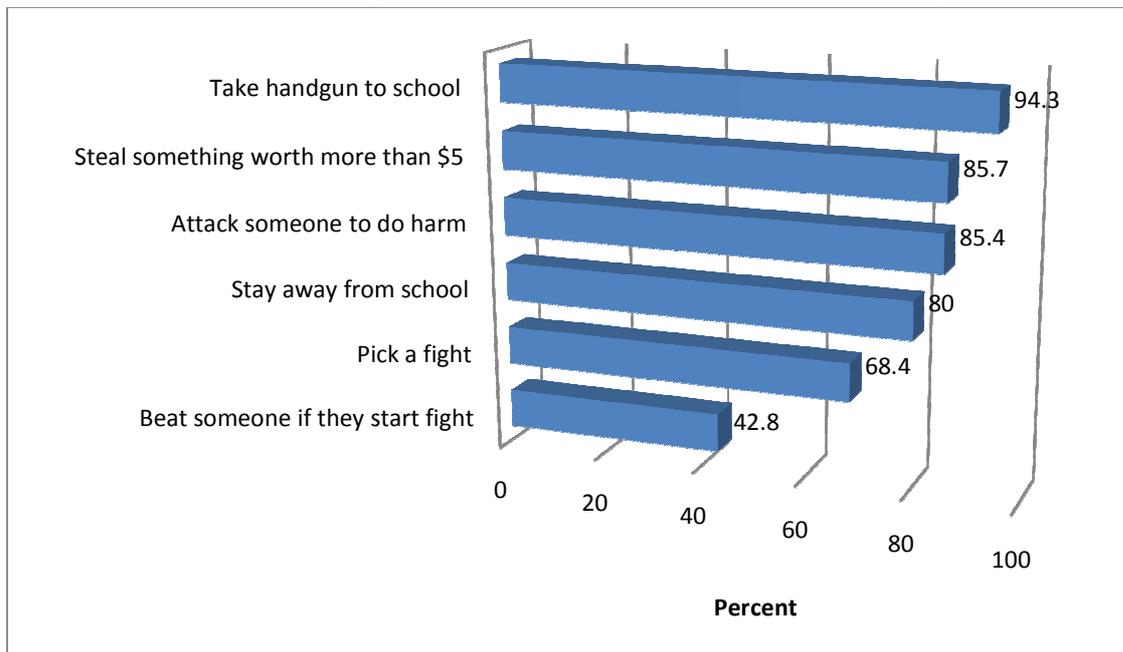
Table 62 Age of first deviant behaviors – gang/non-gang members

Age	Never Gang Member	Ever Gang Member
First smoked marijuana	13.3	12.2
First smoked cigarettes	12.4	11.8
First sipped alcohol	12.7	12.0
First drank alcohol one/twice a month	13.5	12.8
First suspended	12.0	12.2
First arrested	13.4	12.9
First carried handgun	11.7	12.4
First attacked someone with intent to harm	12.1	12.3

### Risk Factor: Favorable Attitudes toward Antisocial Behavior

- Nearly all students (94.3%) think that taking a handgun to school is wrong
- Only 42.8% believe it is wrong to beat someone up if they start a fight

Figure 12 Percent of students who believe different behaviors are wrong

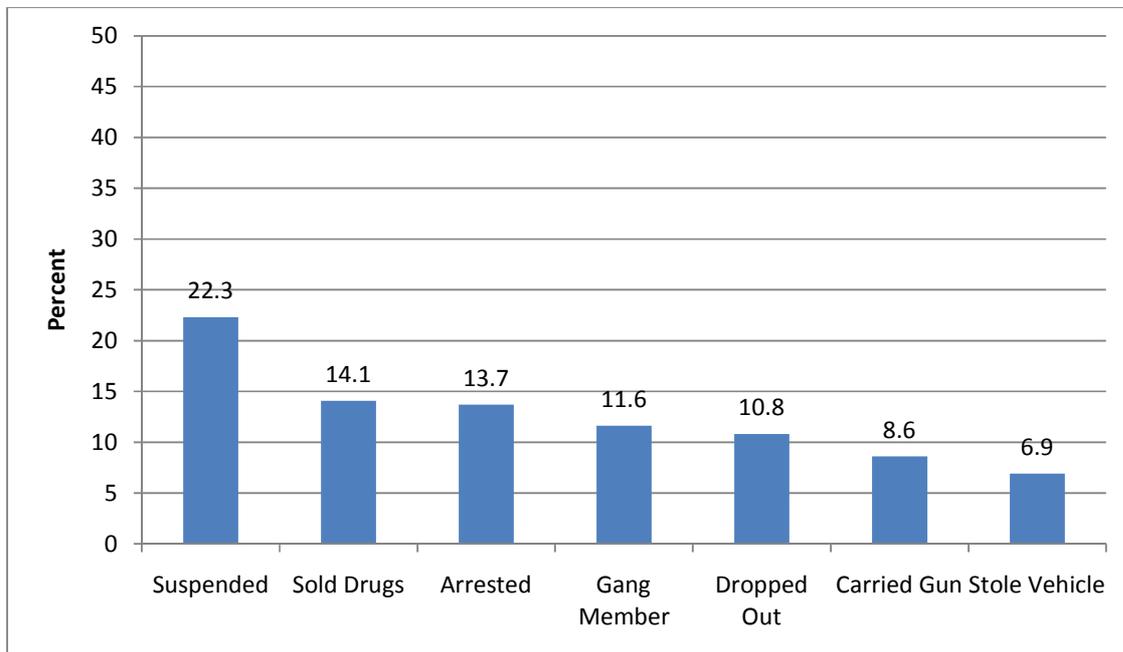


### Risk Factor: Interaction with antisocial peers

The majority of students **do not** have delinquent peers.

- 22.3% have friends who have been suspended
- 14.1% have friends who have sold drugs
- 11.6% have friends who are gang members

Figure 13 Percent of students with friends engaging in different deviant behaviors



Proportionately more *male* students and *high school minority* students know other students who have engaged in criminal behavior and/or been suspended or dropped out of school.

There are some major differences by race, gender, and grade regarding friends who have engaged in criminal behavior or who have been suspended or dropped out of school.

Table 63 Friends engaged in deviant behaviors by gender, school level and race

Friends who:	Gender		Level		Race		
	Female	Male	Middle	High	White	Black	Hispanic
Suspended	15.6	30.3	19.5	24.5	21.6	25.3	27.9
Sold Drugs	12.5	15.8	6.3	20.3	12.9	18.9	19.3
Arrested	10.4	17.1	7.1	18.9	13.1	18.8	13.5
Gang Member	8.9	14.4	8.1	14.4	8.4	24.2	27.1
Dropped Out	10.1	11.4	5.0	15.4	9.4	16.1	17.0
Carried Gun	3.8	13.9	5.8	10.8	7.2	16.1	11.7
Stole Vehicle	4.4	10.0	4.1	9.1	5.7	11.6	11.6

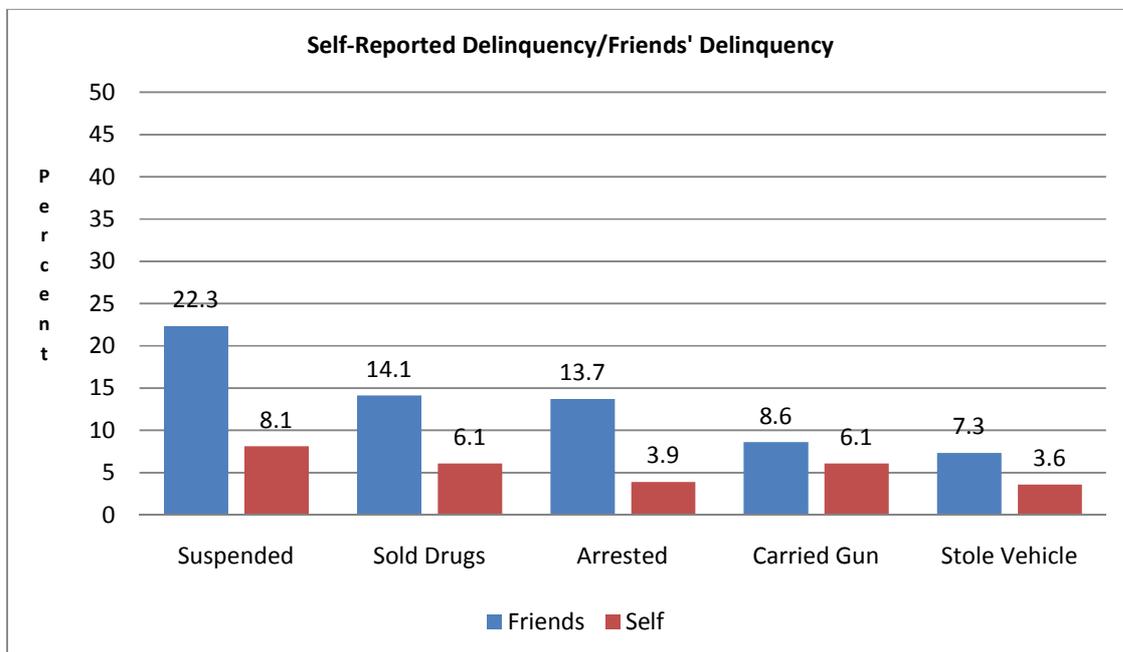
Significant differences are highlighted in yellow

- Black students are more likely to have a friend who has been arrested
- Black and Hispanic students are more likely than White students to know someone who is a gang member, sold drugs, dropped out of school or stole a vehicle.

### Section 3: Self-Reported Delinquency

- 8.1% of students admit to having been suspended
- About 6% admit to selling drugs or carrying a handgun
  - 2.7% admit to taking a gun to school
- 12.3% of student admit to being drunk or high at school
- 13.6% admit to fighting with someone to harm them

Figure 14 Self-reported delinquency and friends committing the same acts



## Gang Specific Questions

- 55% of students **do not know** if there are gangs in their schools or not
- Only 19% of students think there are gangs in their
  - 12.7% in middle school
  - 24.0% in high school

Table 64 Perception of gangs in school

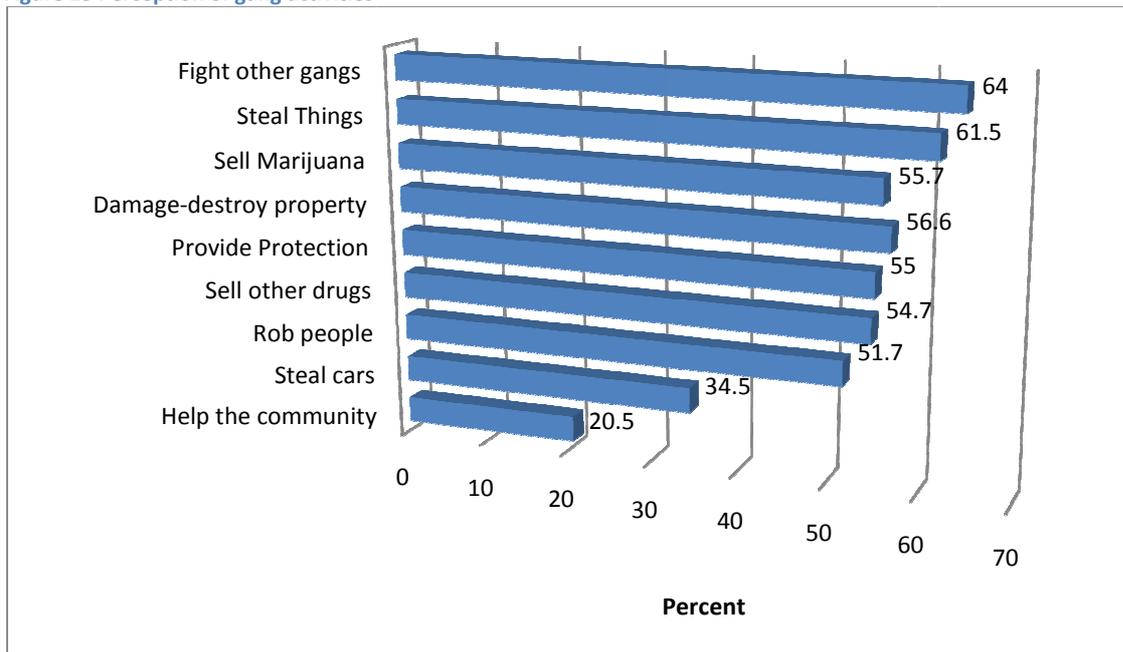
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Valid	No	433	24.5	25.7
	Yes	322	18.2	19.1
	Don't know	934	52.9	55.3
	Total	1690	95.7	100.0
Missing	System	76	4.3	
Total		1766	100.0	

- 23% of students say that there are students in their schools who belong to gangs. (Belonging to a gang does not necessarily indicate that it is a gang in their school)
- Only 6% believe that non-school gangs come around the school
- 64% of students think that gangs steal cars and 61.5% think they steal things
- Around 55% think that gangs sell marijuana and other drugs
- Only 20.5% of students think that gangs help in the community

Table 65 Perception of gang activity

Gang Activity –last 6 months	No	Yes	Don't Know
Fights at school	43.9	15.0	41.1
Sale of drugs at school	30.8	19.4	49.8
Brought guns to school	34.2	6.8	59.0

Figure 15 Perception of gang activities



### Personal Experiences with Gangs

#### Gang Membership

- 17.5% of students say they were ever members of a gang
- 12.9% say they are currently a member of a gang

#### Current Gang Membership:

- Of all persons who indicated that they had ever been a gang member, 59.3% are White, 12.7% Black and 16.1% Hispanic
- However, looking within race
  - 14% of white students had been members of a gang
  - 1/3 of the African American students in the study indicate that they had been a gang member
  - 21.6% of Hispanic students had joined a gang

Table 66 Gang membership and Race

			Ever in a gang		Total
			no	yes	
Race	White	Count	431	70	501
		% within Race	86.0%	14.0%	100.0%
		% within Ever in a gang	77.7%	59.3%	74.4%
	Black	Count	28	15	43
		% within Race	65.1%	34.9%	100.0%
		% within Ever in a gang	5.0%	12.7%	6.4%
	Hispanic	Count	69	19	88
		% within Race	78.4%	21.6%	100.0%
		% within Ever in a gang	12.4%	16.1%	13.1%
	Other	Count	27	14	41
		% within Race	65.9%	34.1%	100.0%
		% within Ever in a gang	4.9%	11.9%	6.1%
Total		Count	555	118	673
		% within Race	82.5%	17.5%	100.0%
		% within Ever in a gang	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- Nearly 40% (39.7%) of those admitting gang involvement are female; 60.3% male
  - However, only 14% of females answering the survey admitted to gang involvement
  - 20.4% of males admit gang membership

Table 67 Gang membership by gender

Gender		Ever in a gang		Total	
		no	yes		
Female	Count	282	46	328	
	% within Gender	86.0%	14.0%	100.0%	
	% within Ever in a gang	50.8%	39.7%	48.9%	
Male	Count	273	70	343	
	% within Gender	79.6%	20.4%	100.0%	
	% within Ever in a gang	49.2%	60.3%	51.1%	
Total		Count	555	116	671
		% within Gender	82.7%	17.3%	100.0%
		% within Ever in a gang	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## Analysis of School Data

The school data provide a wealth of information on the risk and protective factors for youth behavior. While the number of students who answered the questions about their own gang involvement was small, correlation statistics and Regression analysis provide some insight into the factors associated with such behavior.

The data were collected included a variety of domains that have often been related to delinquent behavior. For analytical purposes, each domain was used as a block of variables and measured against three **dependent variables**. Dependent variables are factors that are of primary concern. **Independent variables** are those factors which are believed to cause change in the dependent variables.

This research focuses on one specific dependent variable: whether a youth has ever been a member of a gang or not. Gang was defined in the survey as “a ‘crew’ or ‘posse’.” However, delinquency is, itself, an important concern for the community and delinquency can lead to gang involvement. Therefore, two additional dependent variables were assessed: 1) if the student had ever been suspended and 2) if the student admitted to being drunk or high at school.

In the tables that follow, each of the research domains are identified with the survey item number in the first column. To the far right are the three dependent variables. The statistic used was Logistic Regression Analysis. This procedure takes each independent variable and measures its relationship to the dependent variable controlling for the effects of the other independent variables. The result is a statistic that determines if the relationship is statistically significant. Statistical significance means that reader can have confidence 95% of the time that the relationship observed could only have been found by “chance” less than once in a thousand. Each statistically significant relationship is marked by \* in the table cell. In addition to the statistical significance of a relationship, Logistic Regression also tells us how much we increase our ability to predict the outcome (suspended, drunk or high, gang member) by knowing the student’s answer to the specific question. This likelihood is listed as a number such as the relationship between Number 144 “I’d like to get out of my neighborhood” and “Have you ever been drunk or high at school?” (Table 65) In this instance, knowing that a student says he/she would like to get out of their neighborhood increases the chances by 1.6 times that the student will have answered yes to the question of having been drunk or high at school. Another example is Number 34 “Has one or more of your friends been a member of a gang” and the survey question “have you ever been a member

of a gang.” (Table 68) If a student said ‘Yes’ that he/she had a friend who was a member of a gang, there is a 5.7 times greater likelihood that the student him/herself will answer “yes” to ever having been a member of a gang.

There is one other statistic in the chart. It is  $R^2$ .  $R^2$  is the percent of the dependent variable that can be explained if you know the answers to the independent variables. Thus, with an  $R^2=.287$ , if you know the information on the PEER-INDIVIDUAL: Interaction with Antisocial Peers (Risk Factor) domain, you can explain 28.7% the reasons a youth is or is not in a gang. However, knowing the answers to the COMMUNITY: Low Neighborhood Attachment (Risk Factor) Domain items explains less than 1% of the variance in getting drunk or high at school.

All of these results should be beneficial in identifying where to focus efforts to reduce the probabilities that a youth will get suspended, be drunk or high at school or become a member of a gang.

**Table 68 School survey community risk factors for gang membership**

No.	Risk Factor Item	Suspe nded	Drunk -high	Ever Gang
<b>COMMUNITY: Low Neighborhood Attachment (Risk Factor)</b>		$R^2=$	$R^2=$	$R^2=$
		.005	.021	.217
144	I'd like to get out of my neighborhood.		1.7	
127	I like my neighborhood			
125	If I had to move, I would miss the neighborhood I now live in.			
<b>COMMUNITY: Community Disorganization (Risk Factor)</b>		$R^2=$	$R^2=$	$R^2=$
		.15	.169	.146
129	Crime and/or drug selling.	2.1	3.0	2.0
130	Fights	2.7	2.3	1.9
131	Lots of empty or abandoned buildings.	1.8		
132	Lots of graffiti	2.0	3.1	2.9
143	I feel safe in my neighborhood.			
<b>COMMUNITY: Personal Transitions and Mobility (Risk Factor)</b>		$R^2=$	$R^2=$	$R^2=$
		.054	.089	.052
142	Have you changed homes in the past year (the last 12 months)?	2.4	2.1	
133	Have you changed homes more than twice since kindergarten?	1.2	1.4	1.3
<b>COMMUNITY: Community Transitions and Mobility (Risk Factor)</b>		$r^2=$	$r^2=$	$r^2=$
124	People move in and out of my neighborhood a lot.	*	*	*

Table 69 School survey community risk factors for gang membership (con't)

No.	Risk Factor Item	Suspe nded	Drunk -high	Ever Gang
<b>COMMUNITY: Laws and Norms Favorable to Drug Use, Firearms, and Crime – (Risk Factor).</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .146	R <sup>2</sup> = .355	R <sup>2</sup> = .264
<i>How <u>wrong</u> would most adults in your neighborhood think it was for kids your age:</i>				
117	To use marijuana	*	*	
118	To drink alcohol			
119	To smoke cigarettes		*	*
<b><i>If a kid:</i></b>				
114	Smoked marijuana in your neighborhood would he or she be caught by the police		*	
116	Carried a handgun in your neighborhood would he or she be caught by the police?			
115	Drank some beer, wine or hard liquor in your neighborhood would he or she be caught by the police?			
<b><i>Do you personally know more than two adults who in the past year have:</i></b>				
120	Used marijuana, crack, cocaine, or other drugs?			
121	Sold or dealt drugs?	1.5	2.0	
122	Done other things that could get them in trouble with the police like stealing, selling stolen goods, mugging or assaulting others, etc.			1.4
123	Gotten drunk or high?		1.6	
<b>COMMUNITY: Perceived Availability of Drugs &amp; Handguns (Risk Factor)</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .103	R <sup>2</sup> = .294	R <sup>2</sup> = .228
109	If you wanted to get some beer, wine or hard liquor how easy would it be for you to get some?	1.3		
110	If you wanted to get some cigarettes, how easy would it be for you to get some?		1.4	
113	If you wanted to get some marijuana, how easy would it be for you to get some?	1.3	1.8	1.5
111	If you wanted to get a drug like cocaine, LSD, or amphetamines, how easy would it be for you to get some?			1.3
112	If you wanted to get a handgun, how easy would it be for you to get one?	1.2		1.4

\* Relationship is statistically significant but knowledge does not increase likelihood of predictability

Table 70 School survey family risk factors for gang membership

No.	Item	Suspended	Drunk	Gang
<b>FAMILY: Poor Family Supervision (Risk Factor)</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .102	R <sup>2</sup> = .092	R <sup>2</sup> = .089
174	My parents ask if I've gotten my homework done		*	*
176	Would your parents know if you did not come home on time?		*	
157	When I am not at home, one of my parents knows where I am and who I am with	*	*	
154	The rules in my family are clear.		*	
160	My family has clear rules about alcohol and drug use.	*		
<b>FAMILY: Poor Family Discipline (Risk Factor)</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .087	R <sup>2</sup> = .203	R <sup>2</sup> = .154
159	If you drank some beer or wine or liquor without your parents' permission, would you be caught by your parents?	*	*	
162	If you skipped school would you be caught by your parents?	*	*	*
161	If you carried a handgun without your parents' permission, would you be caught by your parents?	*	*	*
<b>FAMILY: Family Conflict (Risk Factor)</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .055	R <sup>2</sup> = .076	R <sup>2</sup> = .060
156	People in my family often insult or yell at each other.	2.3	1.9	2.0
175	People in my family have serious arguments.		1.5	
158	We argue about the same things in my family over and over		1.7	
<b>FAMILY: Family History of Antisocial Behavior (Risk Factor)</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .139	R <sup>2</sup> = .290	R <sup>2</sup> = .191
155	Has anyone in your family ever had a severe alcohol or drug problem? <b>If you have siblings, have any of your brothers or sisters ever:</b>	2.1	2.1	3.2
149	Drunk beer, wine or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey or gin)?			
150	Smoked marijuana?	3.0	6.9	
151	Smoked cigarettes?			
152	Taken a handgun to school?	3.7	10.8	5.1
153	Been suspended or expelled from school?	2.3		1.9
<b>FAMILY: Parental Attitudes Favorable to Antisocial Behavior (Risk Factor)</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .165	R <sup>2</sup> = .217	R <sup>2</sup> = .158
<b>Do you think your parents would feel it would be <u>wrong</u> for you to:</b>				
146	Steal anything worth more than \$5?	1.4		
147	Draw graffiti, or write things or draw pictures on buildings or other property (without the owner's permission)?	1.9	1.8	
148	Pick a fight with someone?	1.3	1.8	1.8

Table 71 School survey school, peer and individual risk factors for gang membership

No.	Item	Suspended	Drunk	Gang
<b>SCHOOL: Academic Failure (Risk Factor)</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .073	R <sup>2</sup> =	R <sup>2</sup> = .028
13	Grades mostly A and B	*		
13	Grades mostly D and F	2.0	2.8	2.9
21	Are your school grades better than the grades of most students in your class?	*		
<b>SCHOOL: Little Commitment to School (Risk Factor)</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .100	R <sup>2</sup> = .132	R <sup>2</sup> = .094
22	How often do you feel that the school work you are assigned is meaningful and important		1.4	1.4
23	How interesting are most of your courses to you?			
24	How important do you think the things you are learning in school are going to be for your later life?	1.2		
<i>Now, thinking back over the past year in school, how often did you..</i>				
25	Enjoy being in school?	*		
26	Hate being in school?		1.3	1.3
<b>PEER-INDIVIDUAL: Favorable Attitudes Toward Antisocial Behavior (Risk Factor)</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .201	R <sup>2</sup> = .296	R <sup>2</sup> = .241
<i>Do you think it is <u>wrong</u> for someone your age to:</i>				
44	Take a handgun to school?	2.6		4.4
45	Steal anything worth more than \$5?		1.8	
46	Pick a fight with someone?			
47	Attack someone with the idea of seriously hurting them?		1.8	1.9
48	Stay away from school all day when their parents think they are at school?		2.7	
49	It is all right to beat up people if they start the fight	1.5	3.4	
50	It is important to be honest with your parents, even if they become upset or you get punished			
51	I think it is okay to take something without asking if you can get away with it.			
<b>PEER-INDIVIDUAL: Interaction with Antisocial Peers (Risk Factor)</b>		R <sup>2</sup> = .269	R <sup>2</sup> = .364	R <sup>2</sup> = .287
<i>Think of your four best friends (the friends you feel closest to). In the past year (12 months), has one or more of your friends:</i>				
28	Been suspended from school?	4.9		
29	Carried a handgun?			
30	Sold illegal drugs?		5.4	
31	Stolen or tried to steal a motor vehicle such as a car or motorcycle?	2.1		2.2
32	Been arrested?		3.1	
33	Dropped out of school?			
34	Been members of a gang?			5.7

The following is a brief summary table of the factors that increase the likelihood of each activity by at least twice.

- If a student has a sibling who has taken a gun to school he/she is 10.8 times more likely to get drunk at school and 5.1 time more likely to be in a gang; they are also 3.7 times more likely to be suspended from school
- If a student has a friend who is a member of a gang, he/she is 5.7 times more likely to be in a gang
- If a student has a family member with a serious alcohol/drug problem he/she is 3.2 times more likely to join a gang
- If a student **does not** think it wrong to take a handgun to school he/she is 4.4 times more likely to be a gang member and 3 times more likely to be suspended from school
- If a student has a sibling who smokes marijuana he/she is 6.9 times more likely to get drunk at school and 3 times more likely to be suspended
- If a student has a friend who has sold drugs he/she is 5.4 times more likely to get drunk at school
- If a student has a friend who has been suspended he/she is 4.9 time more likely to be suspended

**Table 72 Summary: Factors that increase the likelihood of suspension, being drunk at school and gang membership**

Factor	Increased Likelihood		
	Suspend	Drunk	Gang
<b>COMMUNITY: Community Disorganization (Risk Factor)</b>			
Crime and/or drug selling.	2.1	3.0	2.0
Fights	2.7	2.3	1.9
Lots of graffiti	2.0	3.1	2.9
People in my family often insult or yell at each other.	2.3	1.9	2.0
Has anyone in your family ever had a severe alcohol or drug problem?	2.1	2.1	3.2
<b>If you have siblings, have any of your brothers or sisters ever:</b>			
Smoked marijuana?	3.0	6.9	
Smoked cigarettes?			
Taken a handgun to school?	3.7	10.8	5.1
Been suspended or expelled from school?	2.3		1.9
<b>Do you think it is wrong for someone your age to:</b>			
Pick a fight with someone?		1.8	1.8
<b>School performance</b>			
Grades mostly D and F	2.0	2.8	2.9
<b>Do you think it is wrong for someone your age to:</b>			
Take a handgun to school?	2.6		4.4
Steal anything worth more than \$5?		1.8	
Attack someone with the idea of seriously hurting them?		1.8	1.9
Stay away from school all day when their parents think they are at school?		2.7	
It is all right to beat up people if they start the fight	1.5	3.4	
<b>Think of your four best friends (the friends you feel closest to). In the past year (12 months), has one or more of your friends:</b>			
Been suspended from school?	4.9		
Sold illegal drugs?		5.4	
Stolen or tried to steal a motor vehicle such as a car or motorcycle?	2.1		2.2
Been arrested?		3.1	
Been members of a gang?			5.7

An additional peer-individual risk, age, has been identified in the literature. This is the age at which one starts engaging in delinquent-type behavior. The survey asked the age at which the student started smoking, using marijuana, getting suspended from school etc. These variables were correlated with whether one had ever been a member of a gang or not. The following are the correlations: the higher the number the stronger the relationship. The strongest relationship is between the age the student first smoked marijuana ( $r = -.253$ ); this means that the younger the age the youth first smoked marijuana the greater the chance of being a member of a gang. All are significantly related.

**Table 73 Age of first deviant/criminal acts and becoming a gang member**

Variable	Correlation	Ever in a gang
Age first smoked marijuana	Pearson Correlation	-.253
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.001
Age first smoked cigarettes - even a puff	Pearson Correlation	-.138
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.037
Age first sip or two of alcohol	Pearson Correlation	-.144
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.009
Age first drank alcohol once or twice a month	Pearson Correlation	-.135
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.097

The ***strongest risk*** relationship factors associated with gang membership are those associated with anti-social peer relationships (especially having a friend who is a member of a gang) followed by peer anti-social attitudes and then family attitudes favorable toward anti-social behavior.

The younger the age at which a student engages in deviant/delinquent behavior, the greater the chance he/she will become a member of a gang.

The factors having little or no influence are, in general, the measures of protective forces within the community, school or family.

Table 74 School survey protective factors for gang membership

No.	Protective Factor Item	Suspended	Drunk	Gang
	<b>COMMUNITY: Opportunities for Prosocial Involvement (Protective Factor)</b>	R <sup>2</sup> = .030	R <sup>2</sup> = .029	R <sup>2</sup> = .027
128	There are lots of adults in my neighborhood I could talk to about something important <i>Which of the following activities for people your age are available in your community?</i>			
135	Sports Teams			*
136	Scouting			
137	Boys & Girls Cubs			
138	4-H Clubs		1.8	
139	Service Clubs			
	<b>COMMUNITY: Rewards for Prosocial Involvement (Protective Factor)</b>	R <sup>2</sup> = .016	R <sup>2</sup> = .017	R <sup>2</sup> = .015
126	My neighbors notice when I am doing a good job and let me know.			
145	There are people in my neighborhood who encourage me to do my best.	*	*	*
134	There are people in my neighborhood who are proud of me when I do something well			
	<b>FAMILY – Family Opportunities for Positive Involvement (Protective Factor)</b>	R <sup>2</sup> = .026	R <sup>2</sup> = .052	R <sup>2</sup> = .024
166	My parents ask me what I think before most family decisions affecting me are made		*	
173	My parents give me lots of chances to do fun things with them.	*	*	
	<b>FAMILY – Family Rewards for Positive Involvement (Protective Factor)</b>	R <sup>2</sup> = .046	R <sup>2</sup> = .068	R <sup>2</sup> = .029
163	My parents notice when I am doing a good job and let me know about it.		*	
167	Your parents tell you they're proud of you for something you've done?		*	
	<b>FAMILY – Family Attachment (Protective Factor)</b>	R <sup>2</sup> = .081	R <sup>2</sup> = .086	R <sup>2</sup> = .059
164	Do you feel very close to your mother?		*	
165	Do you share your thoughts and feelings with your mother?			
168	Do you share your thoughts and feelings with your father?			
169	Do you enjoy spending time with your mother?	*		
170	Do you enjoy spending time with your father?			
171	If I had a personal problem, I could ask my mom or dad for help.		*	
172	Do you feel very close to your father?	*	*	
	<b>SCHOOL: School Opportunities for Prosocial Involvement (Protective Factor)</b>	R <sup>2</sup> = .083	R <sup>2</sup> = .063	R <sup>2</sup> = .080
14	In my school, students have lots of chances to help decide things like class activities and rules.			
15	Teachers ask me to work on special classroom projects.			
17	There are lots of chances for students in my school to talk with a teacher one-on-one	*	*	
18	I feel safe in my school.	*	*	*

## School Data Synopsis

### Suspension

The data suggest that the following are significantly related to a youth being suspended from school:

- Disorganized neighborhood
  - Youth from neighborhoods with crime, drugs and fights are 2-3 more times likely to get suspended from school
  - Youth from neighborhoods where it is easy to get marijuana and/or guns are more likely to get suspended
- Family dysfunction
  - Youth from families with continuous conflict are twice as likely to get suspended
  - Youth with siblings who smoke marijuana are 3 times more likely to be suspended and if they have a sibling who has taken a gun to school they are 3.7 times more likely to be suspended
  - Being alienated from mother and father or not being able to go to a parent if they had a problem increases the chances to be drunk or high at school
- Poor school performance
  - Students with D/F grades are twice as likely to be suspended and 1.2 times more likely if they believe that school work is irrelevant
- Antisocial attitudes/ delinquent peers
  - Youth who feel it is not wrong to take a gun to school are 2.6 times more likely to be suspended and 1.5 times more likely if they feel it is OK to beat someone up if they start a fight
  - Youth are 4.9 time more likely to be suspended if they have friends who have been suspended

### Being drunk or high at school

The data suggest that the following are significantly related to a youth being drunk or high at school:

- Disorganized neighborhood
  - Youth from neighborhoods with crime, drugs and fights are 2-3 more times likely to be drunk or high at school
  - Youth from neighborhoods where it is easy to get marijuana and cigarettes are more likely to be drunk or high at school
  - The more adults students know who sold drugs are twice as likely to be drunk or high at school and they are 1.6 times more likely the more adults they know who get drunk
- Family dysfunction
  - Youth from families with continuous conflict are twice as likely to be drunk or high at school
  - If a youth has someone in the family who has an alcohol or drug problem he/she is twice as likely to be drunk or high at school
  - Youth with siblings who smoke marijuana are 6 times more likely to be drunk or high at school and if they have a sibling who has taken a gun to school they are 10 times more likely to be drunk or high at school

- Youth are more likely to be drunk or high at school if they feel their families would not think it wrong of they picked a fight, beat someone up, or drew graffiti
- Poor family supervision
  - Students who indicate that their parents do not ask about their school work or do not have clear rules or other measures of good family supervision are more likely to be drunk or high at school
- Poor school performance
  - Students with D/F grades are nearly three times more likely to be drunk or high at school
- Antisocial attitudes/ delinquent peers
  - Youth who have friends who have sold drugs are 5.4 times more likely to be drunk or high at school
  - Youth who have friends who have been arrested are 3.1 times more likely to be drunk or high at school

### Becoming a gang member

**The likelihood of becoming a member of a gang is increased:**

- **2-3 times if coming from a disorganized neighborhood**
- **1.5 times if it is easy to get marijuana or guns in their neighborhoods**
- **3 times if they have a family member with a drug or alcohol problem**
- **5 times if they have a sibling who has taken a gun to school**
- **4 times if they don't think it is wrong to take a gun to school**
- **The younger the age they first smoked cigarettes, drank alcohol and smoked marijuana**

### Juvenile Court – Youth Interviews

The Randolph County Juvenile Court was asked to conduct interviews with youth they screened to be a gang member. The definition of a gang that was to be used was:

*A gang is a group or association of three or more persons who may have a common identifying sign, symbol, or name, and who individually or collectively engage in, or have engaged in, criminal activity which creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation. Criminal activity includes juvenile acts that, if committed by an adult, would be a crime.<sup>3</sup>*

The Court was asked to select youth for interviews based on any one of the following criteria:

- When a reliable informant identifies an individual as a gang member

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<sup>3</sup> OJJDP p.19 A Guide to Assessing Your Community's Youth Gang Problem, May 2009

- When an informant of previously untested reliability identifies an individual as a gang member and identity is corroborated by independent information
- When an individual resides in or frequents a particular gang's area; or affects their style of dress, use of hand signs, symbols, or tattoos; or maintains ongoing relationships with known gang members; and where the law enforcement officer documents reasonable suspicion that the individual is involved in gang-related activity or enterprise
- When an individual has been arrested in the company of identified gang members for offenses that are consistent with usual gang activity

Thirty-two juveniles were interviewed.

- 79.4% were Male; 20.6% (n=7) Female
- 79.1 % White 5.1% Black 11.8% Hispanic 2.9 Other
- 93.1% use English as their primary language at home; 6.1% speak Spanish at home\
- 30 -88% were currently in school
- 88.2% say they have been suspended at one time from school
- 11.8% say they have been expelled at one time from school
- Only 12.6% indicate that their grades are D/F;
  - 40.6% say they are getting mostly C grades
  - 46.9% say their grades are A or B

**NONE of the youth interviewed by Juvenile Court admit being a gang member**

- 21.2% (n=7) have friends who are gang members

### Perception of gangs

- 33.3% think that gangs are a problem in the community
- 54.5% do not think that gangs are a problem
- 12.1% did no know

**1/3 of youth interviewed at Juvenile Court think that gangs are a problem  
54.5% do not**

## Causes of gang problems

While the numbers are small, 40% of delinquent youth suggest that the primary reasons for gangs are family/friends in gangs, family problems, boredom, and lack of activities

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Table 75 Delinquent juvenile perceptions of the reasons for gangs

Reasons for Gangs	% of Interviewees
Family/friends in gangs	40
Family Problems	40
Boredom	40
Lack of activities	40
To feel loved/sense of belonging	30
Power	30
Poverty	30
Gang members from move from other areas	20
Police labeling	20
School Problems	10
Prejudice	10

## Self-reported criminal acts

- The most frequently admitted delinquent act was destruction of property valued less than \$300
- The second most frequent offense was shoplifting

**Table 76 Self-reported offenses by juvenile court involved youth**

Offense	N	%
Destroyed property worth less than \$300	8	23.5
Shoplifted	7	20.6
Thrown rocks or bottles at persons, vehicles, or property	6	17.6
Threatened to attack a person <u>without</u> using a gun, knife, or other dangerous weapon	6	17.6
Beaten up or battered someone <u>without</u> using a dangerous weapon?	6	17.6
Destroyed property worth \$300 or more?	4	11.8
Fenced or sold stolen goods (other than weapons)?	4	11.8
Entered a house, store, or building to commit a theft	3	8.8
Set fire to building or property?	3	8.8
Stolen bicycle or bike parts?	3	8.8
Written gang graffiti on school property, neighborhood houses, stores, etc.?	2	5.9
Threatened to attack a person using a gun, knife, or other dangerous weapon	2	5.9
Fenced or sold weapons or firearms?	1	2.9
Stolen a motor vehicle	1	2.9
Beaten up or battered someone using a dangerous weapon	1	2.9
Broken into a house, store, or building to commit a theft	0	0
Robbed someone by force or by threat of force <u>without</u> using a weapon?	0	0
Robbed someone by force or by threat of force using a weapon	0	0
Stolen parts or property from a vehicle (hubcaps, stereo, cell phone, etc.)?	0	0
Forced someone to have sex with you (rape)?	0	0
Participated in a drive-by shooting	0	0
Participated in a homicide	0	0

### Observed gang activity

The youth were given some gang activities and asked how often they have observed them. If they saw the activity it was generally three or more times.

Gang intimidation	44.0%
Gang recruiting	37.5%
Selling drugs	37.5%
Fights between different gangs	36.0%
Fights within gangs	6.3%
Drive by shooting	4.3%

### Summary

Overall, the youth entering the juvenile court do not identify themselves as gang members although they were screened by juvenile counselors as potential gang members. Only 1/3 see gangs as a problem. To them, the causes of gang activity are family/ friends in gangs, boredom and lack of activities.

## School Discipline Data

School discipline data were collected from the state’s website for 2007/08 and 2008/09 and from data provided to the researcher by the schools for the 2009/10 academic year.

There are 16 reportable offenses to the state:

1. Assault Resulting in Serious Personal Injury
2. Assault Involving Use of a Weapon
3. Assault on School Officials, Employees, and Volunteers
4. Bomb Threats or Engaging in Bomb Hoaxes
5. Willfully Burning a School Building
6. Homicide
7. Kidnapping
8. Unlawful, underage sales, purchase, provision, possession, or consumption of alcoholic beverages
9. Possession of Controlled Substance in Violation of Law
10. Possession of a Firearm
11. Possession of a Weapon
12. Rape
13. Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon
14. Sexual Assault (not involving rape or sexual offense)
15. Sexual Offense
16. Taking Indecent Liberties with A Minor

The rate of disciplinary reports provided to the state per 1,000 students *decreased* from 7.7/1000 students in 2007/08 to 5.4/1000 in 2008/09.

Table 77 School Discipline Cases 2007-2009

Offense	2007/8	2008/9
Assault on school officials	5	2
Bomb Threat		
Possession of alcoholic beverage	10	18
Possession of controlled substance	83	46
Possession of firearm	1	2
Possession of a weapon	44	32
Sexual Offense	1	0
Total	144	100
<b>Rate per 1000 students</b>	<b>7.675</b>	<b>5.372</b>

Source: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/research/discipline/reports/consolidated/2007-08/crimeviolence-c5.pdf> ;  
<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/research/discipline/reports/consolidated/2007-08/crimeviolence-c5.pdf>

Using the 2009/2010 data provided by the schools, analysis was performed on all disciplinary incidents and not just the incidents reported to the state. The majority of infractions are for disruptive, disrespectful and school rule violations followed by assaults, bullying and violence.

- Drug violations represent less than 1 percent of the disciplined behaviors.
- Gang related actions disciplined were 0.4% in 2009 and 1.0% in 2010

- **About 40% of disciplinary actions in Randolph County Schools are for disrespectful/disruptive behaviors.**
- **About 40% of disciplinary actions are for the violation of miscellaneous school rules.**

**Table 78 Disciplinary actions, 2009/2010**

School Offense	2009		2010	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Drugs	44	.8	52	.9
Assault, Bullying, Violence	427	7.6	466	7.9
Disrespectful, Disruptive	2459	43.5	2463	41.7
Violation of school rules	2258	40.0	2485	42.1
<b>Gang Behavior</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>.4</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Theft, property damage	75	1.3	84	1.4
Tobacco violations	202	3.6	151	2.6
Weapons, bomb threat	21	.4	13	.2
Sex offense, sexual harassment	3	.1	52	.9
Other	136	2.4	466	7.9
Total	5648	100.0	5908	100

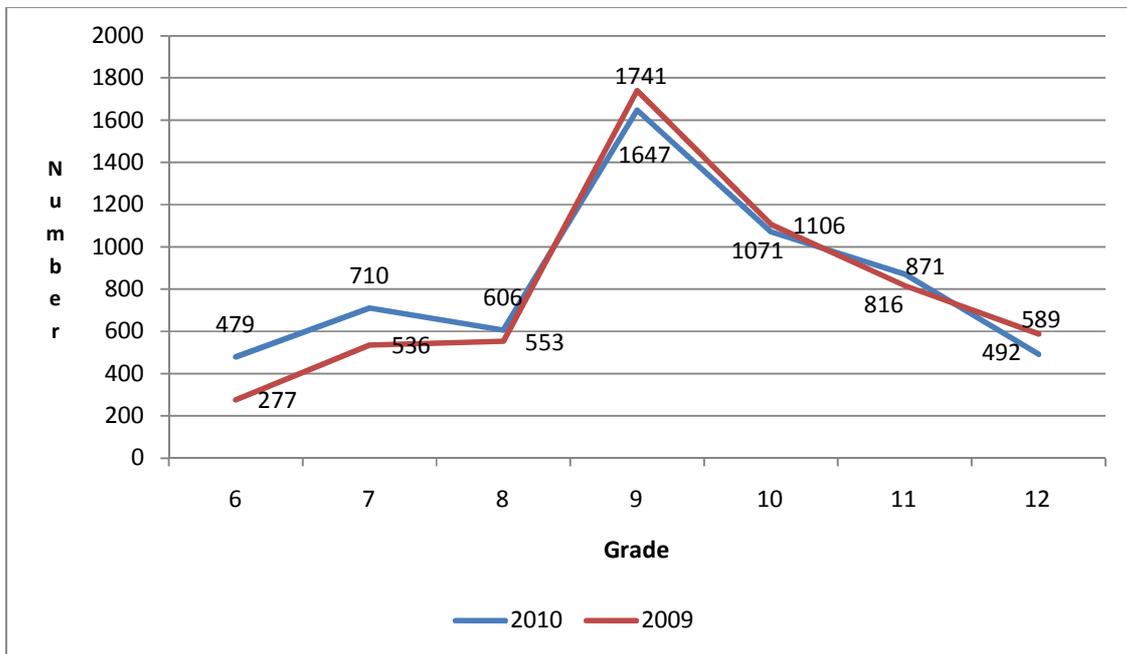
**2010**

- **69.9% of disciplined students are male; 30.1% are female**
- **76.2% of disciplined students are Black; 8.9% White and 10.9% Hispanic**
- **30.5% of disciplined students are in middle school; 69.5% are in high school**

- The proportion of females increased between 2009 and 2010 from 28.3% to 30.1%
- The proportion of disciplinary actions in middle school increased from 24.5% in 2009 to 30.5% in 2010

The peak grade for the number of discipline actions is 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

Figure 16 Number of discipline actions by grade 2009/2010



The 200r disruptive and 10 data were analyzed. The chart below shows the *proportion of each offense* that is committed by the different racial groups in 2010. The greatest proportion of violations by Black and “Other” students is for disrespectful, disruptive behavior while the greatest proportion of offenses by White students is for violation of school rules.

For the following disciplined actions, **White students** are most likely charged:

- Violation of school rules 41.6%
- Disrespectful, disruptive 41.6%
- Assault, bullying 7.7%

For the following disciplined actions, **Black students** are most likely charged:

- Disrespectful, disruptive 46.2%
- Violation of school rules 38.7%
- Assaults, bullying, violence 10.1%

For the following disciplined actions, **Hispanic students** are most likely charged:

- Violation of school rules 49.5%
- Disrespectful, disruptive 35.8%
- Assaults, bullying, violence 7.6%

Table 79 Percent of actions disciplined 2010 by race

School Offense		Ethnicity				Total
		White	Black	Hispanic	Other	
Drugs	Count	43	5	3	1	52
	% within Ethnicity	1.0%	1.0%	.5%	.4%	.9%
Assault Bullying, Violence	Count	345	53	49	19	466
	% within Ethnicity	7.7%	10.1%	7.6%	7.9%	7.9%
Disrespectful, Disruptive	Count	1872	242	231	118	2463
	% within Ethnicity	41.6%	46.2%	35.8%	49.2%	41.7%
Violation of school rules	Count	1870	203	319	93	2485
	% within Ethnicity	41.6%	38.7%	49.5%	38.8%	42.1%
Gang Behavior	Count	45	2	11	1	59
	% within Ethnicity	1.0%	.4%	1.7%	.4%	1.0%
Theft, property damage	Count	62	10	10	2	84
	% within Ethnicity	1.4%	1.9%	1.6%	.8%	1.4%
Tobacco violations	Count	142	0	6	3	151
	% within Ethnicity	3.2%	.0%	.9%	1.3%	2.6%
Weapons, bomb threat	Count	12	1	0	0	13
	% within Ethnicity	.3%	.2%	.0%	.0%	.2%
Sex offense, sexual harassment	Count	9	1	3	0	13
	% within Ethnicity	.2%	.2%	.5%	.0%	.2%
Other	Count	99	7	13	3	122
	% within Ethnicity	2.2%	1.3%	2.0%	1.3%	2.1%
Total	Count	4499	524	645	240	5908
	% within Ethnicity	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

There are also differences by gender but the majority of violations are still dominated by the same two: disrespectful/disruptive and violation of school rules.

- 43.9% of males are charged with disrespectful/disruptive; females: 36.5%
- 51.9% of females are charged with violation of school rules; males: 37.8%

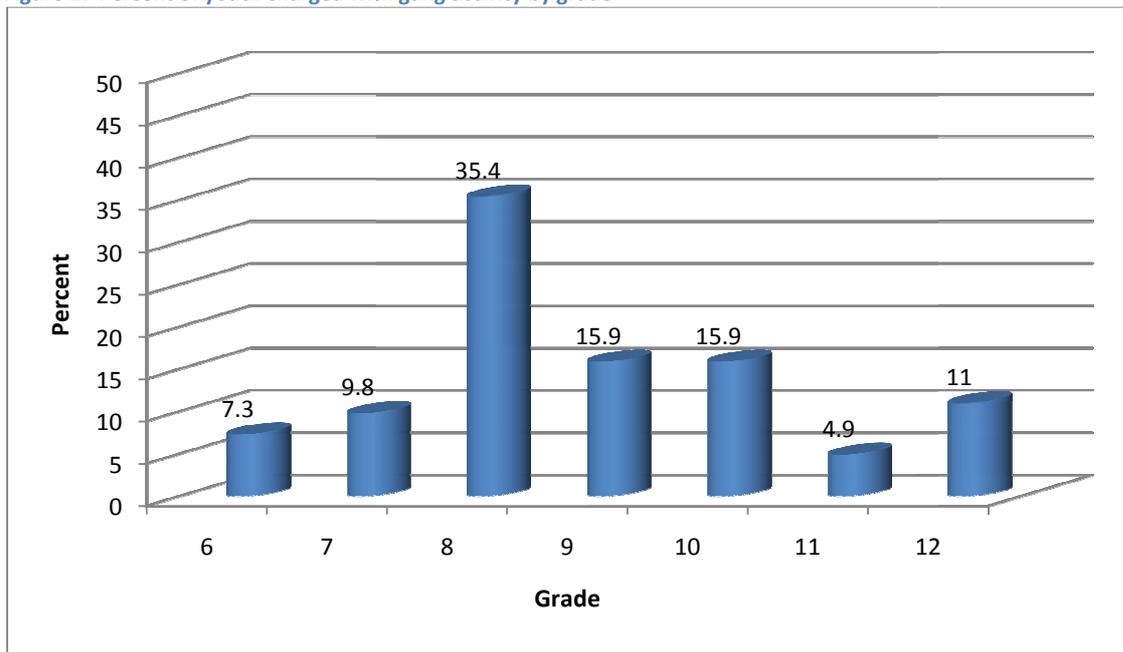
### Gang charges

**While Hispanics represent 10.1% of the school population  
23.2% of youth charged with gang activity at school are Hispanic;**

Profile of those charged with gang activity at school:

- 63.4% male; 36.6% female
- 68.3% White; 3.7% Black; 23.2% Hispanic
- 32% are age 14
- 35.5% are in 8<sup>th</sup> grade; 15.9% 9<sup>th</sup> grade; 15.9% 10<sup>th</sup> grade

Figure 17 Percent of youth charged with gang activity by grade



## SCHOOL STAFF SURVEY

Staff surveys were distributed to each school with enough surveys for 50% of all staff – teachers, administrators, and other staff. 277 surveys were returned.

- 83.9% were teachers
- 11.7% were support staff
- 0.7% (N=2) were bus drivers
- 3.6% were administrators

- **Almost half (49.5%) of the respondents do not believe gangs are a problem in their schools**

Do you believe gangs are a problem in your school?

- Yes—37.5%
- No—49.5%
- Don't Know—13%

There is no significant difference in the perception of gang problems by position. However, administrators are somewhat less likely than staff or faculty to see gangs as a problem.

**Table 80 Perception of gang problems in school by position**

Do you believe gangs are a problem in your school?						
Do you believe gangs are a problem in your school?		Position				Total
		Faculty	Support Staff	Bus Driver	Administrator	
Yes	Count	86	13	1	3	103
	% within Position	37.4%	40.6%	50.0%	30.0%	37.6%
<b>No</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>136</b>
	<b>% within Position</b>	<b>48.7%</b>	<b>53.1%</b>	<b>50.0%</b>	<b>60.0%</b>	<b>49.6%</b>
Do Not Know	Count	32	2	0	1	35
	% within Position	13.9%	6.3%	.0%	10.0%	12.8%
Total	Count	230	32	2	10	274
	% within Position	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- 41% of school support staff believes there are gangs while 37% of teachers think there are gangs. Only 30% of the administrators who answered believe there are gangs.
- Middle school faculty and staff are more likely than high school staff to feel there are gangs in their schools but the difference is not statistically significant:
  - 43.4% of middle school staff think there are gangs and 34.3% of high school staff believe there are gangs

### Signs of gangs

Gang activity in/around school appears to be a recent phenomenon. Nearly 30% only became aware of gang problems during the 2009/2010 school year while 25% became aware of gangs in 2008; an additional 18% were aware of them in 2007.

The largest proportion of those who believe that there are gangs in the schools say their base this on student talk followed by gang symbols on books, papers etc. The reasons are:

<b>68.4%</b>	<b>Students talk about it</b>
<b>59.2%</b>	<b>Gang symbols on books, clothes, papers, self</b>
<b>57.1%</b>	<b>Wearing certain jewelry</b>
<b>53.1%</b>	<b>Hand signs</b>
<b>31.6%</b>	<b>Increased drug use/sales</b>
<b>26.5%</b>	<b>Wearing certain clothes/colors</b>
<b>22.4%</b>	<b>Gang related tattoos</b>
<b>18.4%</b>	<b>Graffiti in/around school</b>

Those aware of gangs became aware from multiple sources- 52% from their own observations, 42% also indicated awareness came from other faculty/staff while a third attributed awareness to information from administrators and training.

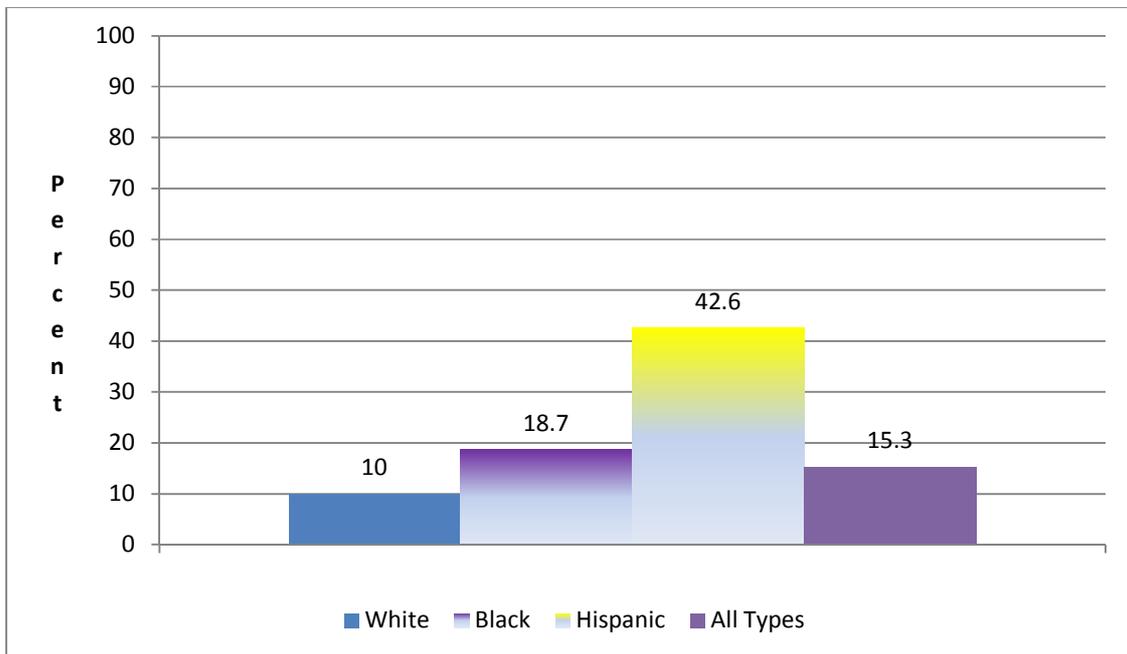
### Types of Gangs

While 40.9% say they do not see gangs [a different question than if they believe gangs are a problem] –

- 42.6% see Hispanic gangs
- 18.7% see Black gangs
- 15.3% see all racial type gangs
- 10.0% see White gangs

- While 16% see gang activity as increasing, 21.5% feel it is decreasing in the last year.
  - 62.5% see gang activity the same this year as last year.

Figure 18 Staff perceptions of types of gangs



### Problems gangs present

Negative influence on peers leads the rank order of problems in created by gangs and around school.

Table 81 Problems created by gangs in and around school

Problems created by gangs	Percent
Gangs are not a problem	40.1
Negative influence on peers	48.1
Disrespect for authority	39.8
Bullying/fighting	38.9
Intimidation of others	38.0
No motivation for school	38.9
Drugs – selling/using	32.9
Graffiti	17.6
Weapons at school	7.4

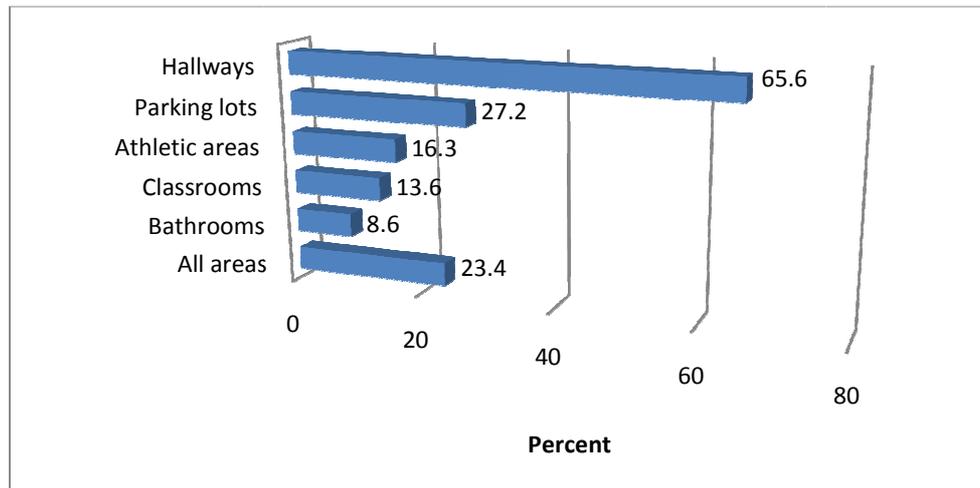
### When most gang activity occurs

- 35.1% indicate that they do not think that gang activity occurs at school
- 29.3% indicate gang activity occurs during class changes
- 20.4% indicate the activity occurs after school
- 9.3% indicate gang activity occurs before school
- 21.2% believe that gang activity occurs at all of the times

### Where gang activity occurs

- The majority of school staff believes that most of the gang activity that might occur in and around school occurs in hallways.

Figure 19 Location of gang activity in and around school



### Factors contributing to gang activity

- **School staff believes overwhelmingly that the need to belong is a major factor contributing to gang activity**

- Over 2/3 place the etiology of gang activity with factors surrounding the family:
  - Moving into the community
  - Family/friends in gangs
  - Poverty and family problems
- The desire for power and protection and the lack of activities are seen as factors by about 1/3 of the staff.
- Factors surrounding the laxity of the legal system and school problems constitute factors for about ¼ of the staff
- Very few staff attribute the lack of school response to gang activity as a factor contributing to gang activity

Table 82 Staff perception of factors contributing to gang activity

Factors	Percent
Need to belong	89.2
Gang members moving in from other communities	70.8
Family/friends in gangs	70.8
Poverty	70.3
Family problems	63.7
Desire for power	47.6
Desire for protection	35.8
Lack of activities	33.5
School problems	23.1
Legal system too lax	22.7
Discrimination / labeling	21.2
No school consequences for gang behavior	13.7
School administration not proactive	8.0

## Community Leaders

Five hundred Community Leader surveys were distributed by JCPC members. They were distributed as convenience surveys. The sample was very broad and representative of the county. 125 answered. There was at least one response from the following groups: 4H Board, 4H, Archdale City Council, Asheboro Board of Education, Asheboro City Council, Asheboro police, other law enforcement, Board of Health, Chamber of Commerce, City of Randleman, Cooperative Extension Office, County Employee, Court system, DSS, Health Dept., , Jaycees, JCPC, Juvenile Day Reporting Center, Kiwanis, Liberty City Council, Lions, Municipal attorney, Ramseur City Council, Randolph County Bd. of Education, Randleman board of aldermen, Rotary, Trinity City Council, YMCA. (Two persons did not give their affiliations)

- **85.4% (n=105) of community leaders surveyed believe that gangs are a problem in their neighborhoods**
  - 3.2% (n=4) do not think gangs are a problem
  - 11.4% (n=14) do not know

## Indicators of Gang Problems

The survey instrument offered a number of different indicators that gangs were a problem. Respondents were asked to give their three top reasons.

- 60% of Randolph County leaders see an increase in graffiti and vandalism as indicators of gang activity
- Over half of the leaders see an increase in drug crimes as indicators of gang activity
- About 1/3 listed school disruption and increased fear for safety
- Less than 20% feel that an increase in weapons crimes is a sign of gang problems.

The types of problems gangs present (in rank order) are shown in the table below.

**Table 83 Perceived gang problems by community leaders**

Perceived Gang Problems	% of Leaders
Increase in vandalism/graffiti	61.6
Increase in drug crimes	56.3
Increase in property crimes	43.8
School disruption	38.4
Increased fear for safety	32.1
Increase in violent crime against persons	26.8
Increased fear in community	23.2
Increase in weapon crimes	17.0
Public nuisance	12.5
Family disruption	12.5

### Reasons for Gang Activities

Leaders were offered a number of reasons for gang activity and were asked to mark their top three choices.

- The primary reason leaders see for gangs in our community is that gang members are moving into the community from other places. 53.0% feel this way.
- Over 50% see family problems and individual youth needs for love and a sense of belonging as important factors.
- About a third of the leaders feel that family problems, poverty and family and friends in gangs as primary causes
- Only 2.6% see police labeling or prejudice as factors

**Table 84 Reasons for gang involvement as seen by community leaders**

Reasons for Gangs	% of Leaders
Gang members from move from other areas	53.0
To feel loved/sense of belonging	52.1
Family/friends in gangs	38.5
Power	37.6
Poverty	35.0
Family Problems	34.2
Boredom	20.5
Lack of activities	15.4
School problems	11.1
Protection	6.0
Police labeling	2.6
Prejudice	2.6

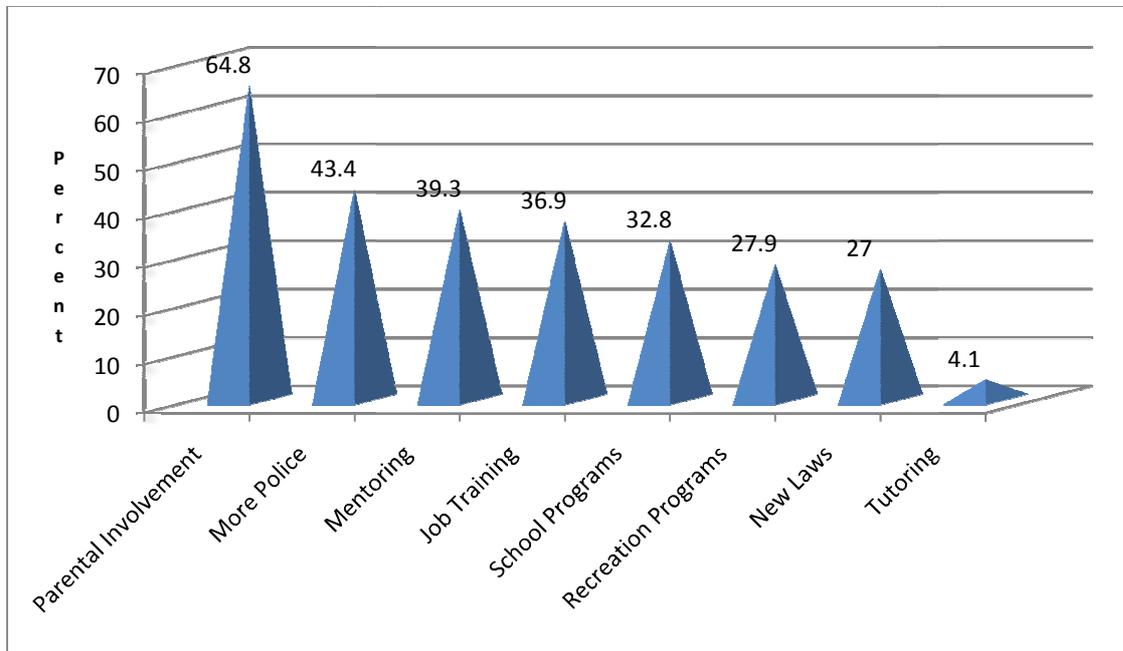
**What needs to be done**

- 65% of Randolph leaders say that more parental involvement is needed to reduce the problem of gangs
- 43% say is more police presence
- About a third suggest that the solution to gangs lies in jobs, job training, mentoring and more school programs
- The least often selected solutions are tutoring (10.4%) and recreation programs (10.4%)

**Table 85 What community leaders suggest needs to be done to solve the gang problem**

What Should be Done	% of Leaders
More parental involvement	64.8
More police presence	43.4
Mentoring	39.3
Jobs and job training	36.9
School programs	32.8
Recreation programs	27.9
New laws/ordinances	27.0
Tutoring	4.1

Figure 20 What leaders say should be done to control gang problem



The leaders were given a number of “open-ended” questions. One set of questions asked if they were aware of any specific responses to gangs by three groups: law enforcement, schools, and community groups.

**Law Enforcement:** A large number of responses were given but most frequently cited was the formation of the Gang Task Force and the cooperation between local agencies and the Sheriff’s Office. Others mentioned the training and education efforts by law enforcement.

The following is a condensed version of the comments by the leaders surveyed regarding law enforcement responses to gangs:

**Table 86 Community leader responses to what they see law enforcement doing**

Asheboro PD created new gang officer
Community awareness and education/trainings
Educational programs for schools and DSS
Eliminate graffiti
Enforcement activity
G.R.E.A.T program in 6th grade taught by Sheriffs Deputy
Gang investigators/Task force
Groups like CARE and DARE
Identifying gang members
Increased training in responding to gangs
Identify gang members and arrest them when they commit crimes
Local PD are working with county law enforcement
Preventing/cleanup of graffiti
Tracking
Training for community professionals
Trying to be proactive

**Schools:** Leaders were aware of school activities to deal with gangs. A large number cited the trainings and especially emphasized the dress code regulations prohibiting gang signs and symbols. Many also gave the schools credit for having SRO officers in the schools.

**Table 87 Community leader responses to what they see schools doing about gangs**

Awareness Campaigns
Brought in gang expert to work w/parents
D.A.R.E program
Dealing with clothing and other gang symbols
Dress code
Educating students
Gang intervention
Gang program like "GREAT" in schools
Gang specific SRO
GREAT taught to all 7th graders
Identify gang members in schools and get them out
Lack of funds reduce school ability to respond
More awareness training has been done
Police officers are in schools
Provided parent and student seminars about gangs
Teacher/staff awareness trainings

**Community Groups:** Community leaders indicated that they felt that there were a number of community-based anti-gang activities. These included the Boys/Girls Clubs and church related programs. In addition, they felt that community awareness was significant.

The following is a condensed list of responses:

**Table 88 Leader suggestions for community action**

Active community awareness groups
After school programs at churches
Boys/Girls club
Churches involved in awareness
CIS is working to mentor and tutor young children
Community awareness and education
Conducting this survey
Drug and gang task force--city of Asheboro
Education sessions have increased prejudice against certain grps
Gang task force
Neighborhood watch ID gangs
Outreach activities for kids
Rotary club gets rid of graffiti
Special trainings
YMCA Boys/Girls club

### Community Survey

There was an **extremely poor** response to the community survey. 800 citizens who voted in the 2008 election were selected at random to receive surveys. Only 85 were returned (10.6%). This gives a 95% confidence that the findings are only within  $\pm 10\%$ . One **cannot** generalize from these findings.

### Community sample

- 59.8% of the respondents were female
- 96.5% White
- Only 10.6% of the respondents were under the age of 35; 58.8% were over 55

## Perception of a Gang Problem

- **65.9% of citizens who answered believe there is a gang problem in Randolph County**
- **9.4% do not see a gang problem**
- **24.7% do not know if there is a problem**

- 88.2% of citizens feel less safe now than they did last year
- 78.4% **do not** feel safer this year
  - Only 28.9% attribute their feelings to gang activity

## Top Three Concerns in Their Neighborhoods

Thirteen community problems were listed on the survey and residents were asked to list their top three. County-wide the number one problem seen by residents is burglary and robbery (69.6%). No one listed Homicide as a problem. Gang activity ranked number 7 of 13.

- **Gang activity is a concern to more residents in Asheboro than for residents in other areas of the county**

- A third of all residents see unemployment as a problem
- About 1/3 of Asheboro respondents and 40% of County residents see drug dealing as a problem
- About a third of County residents responding believe that low police activity is a problem; only about 20% of Asheboro and other town residents see this as a problem

Table 89 Rank order (in percent) of community problems

Top Concerns	Overall	Asheboro	Other Town	County
1. Burglary/robbery	69.6	75.0	61.5	68.4
2. Drug Dealing	36.7	35.7	23.1	42.1
3. Unemployment	34.2	35.7	30.8	34.2
4. Low police activity	29.1	21.4	23.1	36.8
5. Unkempt property	22.8	28.6	7.7	23.7
6. Vandals	19.0	21.4	15.4	18.4
7. Gang activity	15.2	28.6	7.7	7.9
8. Insufficient lighting	13.9	7.1	15.4	18.4
9. Loud music	12.7	14.3	15.4	10.5
10. Domestic violence	5.0	0	7.7	7.9
11. Truancy	2.5	0	0	5.3
12. Graffiti	1.3	0	0	2.6
13. Homicide	0	0	0	0

- For those who believe there are gangs, they do not know if they have increased in the past year or have merely remained the same.

- **29.0% of Asheboro respondents feel gangs are a problem in their neighborhoods**
- **20.0% of other town residents feel there are gangs in their neighborhoods**
- **25.6% of County residents think there are gangs in their neighborhoods**

- 58.3% of those who think there are gangs in their neighborhoods say that the gangs are of all racial groups.
- 16.7% of all residents responding think there are Hispanic gangs but 37.5% of Asheboro residents say the gangs are Hispanic
- 12.5% think there are Black gangs
- None think there are White gangs
- 2/3 of all residents and 73.5% of county residents think that the major problem presented by gangs is an increase in drug related crimes.

Table 90 Rank order of problems presented by gangs

Problems Presented by Gangs	Percent
Increase in drug crimes	74.4
Increase in violent crimes	60.5
Increased fear for safety	46.5
Increase in weapons crimes	41.9
School disruption	34.9
Public nuisance	23.3
Fighting	11.6
Family disruption	11.6

### Reasons for Gang Activity

- The primary reason Randolph citizens believe that gang activity exists is poverty (62.5%) followed by the belief that gang members move to the community from other areas (45.0%)
  - The fewest number of residents (7.5%) believe that police labeling is a factor

Table 91 Reasons for gang activity

Reasons for Gang Activity	Percent
Poverty	62.5
Gang members from move from other areas	45.0
Power	35.0
School problems	32.5
Family/friends in gangs	30.0
Boredom	25.0
Lack of activities	25.0
Protection	20.0
Family Problems	20.0
To feel loved/sense of belonging	17.5
Police labeling	7.5

## What Should be Done about Gangs

Given five options from which to select,

- 59.0% selected more police protection
- 51.8% selected creating job opportunities/job training
- 51.8% said that there should be mentoring to reduce gang activity
- 16.9% recommended school tutoring

There were a few written suggestions and the majority focuses on stronger law enforcement and a strong response to illegal immigrants

**Table 92** Written response recommendations for dealing with gangs

Written Comments
Crack down on drugs
deport illegals
get rid of drug dealers and illegals
ICE and border security
illegal immigrants
longer, tougher sentences for crimes
put them in jail for a long time
remove illegal aliens
Stiffer sentences by judges
stricter laws
stronger punishments for crime
tougher laws, longer sentences
parental guidance
Schools should admit it is a problem and address it
Bring discipline back to schools
education

## Organizations responsible for dealing with gangs

Residents were given thirteen different social agencies and organizations and asked to rank order from 1 to 13 how responsible each was. Not all organizations were ranked each time but some clarity emerged:

Police are considered to be the most responsible; Housing Authorities were considered least responsible. The following is the rank order by average rating. The lower the number the more important the agency/organization is considered.

The first group seen to be responsible include the police, families and court system. The second layer of responsibility is given to schools and community organizations including immigration. The lowest level of responsibility is attributed to helping and service organizations

**Table 93 Agencies/organizations responsible for dealing with gangs**

Rank	Agency/Organization
2.7	Police
3.4	Families
4.3	Court/criminal justice system
6.2	Schools
6.6	Immigration authorities
6.9	Neighborhood associations
7.4	Churches
7.5	Community residents themselves
8.1	Randolph Juvenile Prevention Council
8.3	Mental Health/Substance Abuse providers
8.4	Dept. of Social Services
9.1	Service providers
9.3	Housing authority

**Satisfaction with Authorities**

- Residents are about evenly divided on how they assess how the police are dealing with gangs
- 60.2% are dissatisfied with how the courts are dealing with th eproblem
- 46.8% are dissatisfied with how the schools are dealing with gangs.

**Table 94 Satisfaction with authorities**

	Police	Courts	School
Satisfied	31.3	14.5	16.5
Neutral	38.6	25.3	36.7
Dissatisfied	30.1	60.2	46.8

## Parent Surveys

The Randolph County Schools were sent approximately 1,000 surveys to randomly distribute. Only 116 were returned.

- 36.2% had children in middle school only
- 38.8% had children in both middle and high school
- 25.0% had children in high school only

The race of responding parents is distributed as follows:

- 78.4% White
- 13.8% Hispanic
- 4.3% African American

Table 95 Race of parent respondents

Race	Percent
White	78.4
African American	4.3
Hispanic/Latino	13.8
Asian	2.6
Other	0.9

**54.3% of parents believe that gangs are a problem in their communities**

- 28.4% of parents do not believe there is a gang problem
- 17.2% do not know

**Of the parents who responded to the parent survey, only 6.3% feel their child is at risk of gang membership.**

- 20% of Hispanic parents
- 3.4% of White parents
- 0 % of African American parents

- 84.5 percent of parents see an increase in drug crimes and 76.1% see an increase in vandalism/graffiti as problems presented by gangs in the community

**Table 96 Problems presented by gangs – parent perceptions**

<b>Problems Presented by Gangs</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Increase in drug crimes	84.5
Increase in vandalism/graffiti	76.1
Increased fear for safety	69.0
Increase in property crimes	66.2
School disruption	66.2
Increase in violent crime against persons	64.8
Increased fear in community	62.0
Increase in weapon crimes	59.2
Public nuisance	54.9
Family disruption	46.5

- 63.5% of parents say that the reason for gangs is problems at home
- 56.5% of parents feel that lack of activities and family/friends in gangs are the reasons for gangs
- Police labeling and prejudice are the least often indicted reason for gangs

Table 97 Reasons for gang activity as seen by parents

Reason for Gang Activity	Percent
Family problems	63.5
Family/friends in gangs	56.5
Lack of activities	54.1
Poverty	52.9
Power	49.4
To feel loved/sense of belonging	49.4
Gang members move to community from other places	48.2
Boredom	42.4
School problems	37.6
Protection	31.8
Prejudice	24.7
Police labeling	20.0

- 82.3% of parents believe that to reduce the problem of gangs parents need to be more involved
- 70% of parents think recreational programs will reduce gang problems

Table 98 What parents suggest should be done to reduce the gang problem

What should be done	Percent
More parental involvement	82.3
Recreation programs	70.8
Mentoring	60.4
Jobs and job training	58.3
School programs	57.3
More police presence	56.8
Tutoring	41.7

- 89.9% of parents say that parents are the ones responsible for reducing the gang problem  
But
- 81.6% of parents *also* say the police are responsible for reducing the gang problem

Table 99 Persons parents see as responsible for reducing the gang problem

Responsible for Taking Action	Percent
Parents	89.9
Police	81.6
Youth themselves	68.4
Schools	67.3
Neighborhoods/local communities	63.3
Social Services	32.0

## Comparison of Community Responses

There is no single, consistent perspective on the gang situation in Randolph County. The perceptions of citizens, parents, school staff and community leaders do not have consistent views.

Table 100 Comparison of views on the reasons for gang activity

Reasons for Gang Activity	Citizens	Parents	Staff	Leaders
Poverty	62.5	52.9	70.3	35.0
Gang members from move from other areas	45.0	48.2	70.8	53.0
Power	35.0	49.4	47.6	37.6
School problems	32.5	37.6	23.1	11.1
Family/friends in gangs	30.0	56.5	70.8	38.5
Boredom	25.0	42.4	x	20.5
Lack of activities	25.0	54.1	33.5	15.4
Protection	20.0	31.8	35.8	6.0
Family Problems	20.0	63.5	63.7	34.2
To feel loved/sense of belonging	17.5	49.4	89.2	52.1
Police labeling	7.5	20.0	21.2	2.6

**Table 101 Comparison views of what should be done about gangs**

<b>What should be done</b>	<b>Parents</b>	<b>Citizens</b>	<b>Leaders</b>
More parental involvement	82.3		64.8
Recreation programs	70.8		27.9
Mentoring	60.4	51.8	39.3
Jobs and job training	58.3	51.8	36.9
School programs	57.3		32.8
More police presence	56.8	59.0	43.4
Tutoring	41.7	16.9	4.1

**CITIZENS**

Given five options from which to select,

- 59.0% selected more police presence
- 51.8% selected creating job opportunities/job training
- 51.8% said that there should be mentoring to reduce gang activity
- 16.9% recommended school tutoring

**Table 102 Parents and citizen perceptions of who is responsible**

<b>Responsible for Taking Action</b>	<b>Parents</b>	<b>Citizen Rank</b>
Parents	89.9	2
Police	81.6	1
Youth themselves	68.4	
Schools	67.3	4
Neighborhoods/local communities	63.3	6
Social Services	32.0	10

**COMMUNITY:**

- The community wants the police to be the most important responder to gang behavior followed by families and the court
- The lowest weight is placed on the JCPC (perhaps since many do not know what it does) mental health and other social services

Table 103 Rank order of agencies that should be responsible for dealing with the gang problem

Rank	Agency/Organization
2.7	Police
3.4	Families
4.3	Court/criminal justice system
6.2	Schools
6.6	Immigration authorities
6.9	Neighborhood associations
7.4	Churches
7.5	Community residents themselves
8.1	Randolph Juvenile Prevention Council
8.3	Mental Health/Substance Abuse providers
8.4	Dept. of Social Services
9.1	Service providers
9.3	Housing authority

The irony in this list is the fact that with the exception of families, the police and court authorities are not in a position to reduce the risks of becoming a gang member; they can only react to it. Parents and school staff are more inclined to see social actors rather than legal factors as the keys to solving the problems.

## Conclusion

1. There appears to be a gang problem in Randolph County defined in terms of official law enforcement and juvenile justice data and in the perception of the problem by youth, teachers, parents and the community. However, ***statistically the problem of gangs is relatively small but it is increasing.***

2. The seriousness of crime, especially juvenile crime is increasing.

3. ***Gang member delinquents represent a relatively small proportion of all delinquent offenses*** but the percent has *more than doubled from 2007/08 to 2008/09.* In addition, gang members commit, on average, more charges per arrest than non-gang members.

4. ***Gang members are getting younger.***

5. School data indicate that ***half of all students do not know if there are gangs in their schools or not.***

6. According to the student ***17.4% of students say they were ever members of a gang***; 12.9% say they are currently a member of a gang. 59.3% are White, 12.7% Black and 16.1% Hispanic

- However, looking within race
  - 14% of white students had been members of a gang
  - 1/3 of the African American students in the study indicate that they had been a gang member
  - 21.6% of Hispanic students had joined a gang

7. The ***strongest risk*** relationship factors associated with gang membership are those associated with ***anti-social peer relationships (especially having friends who are members of a gang)*** followed by peer anti-social attitudes and then family attitudes favorable toward anti-social behavior. The younger the age at which a student engages in deviant/delinquent behavior, the greater the chance he/she will become a member of a gang. The factors having little or no influence are, in general, the measures of protective forces within the community, school or family.

8. School staff split, however, regarding whether there are gang problems in their particular schools or not. ***Very few students being disciplined at school are disciplined for gang related behavior (1%).***

- ***69.9% of disciplined students are male; 30.1% are female***
- ***76.2% of disciplined students are Black; 8.9% White and 10.9% Hispanic***
- ***30.5% of disciplined students are in middle school; 69.5% are in high school***

9. The reasons people believe there are gangs varies but, for community leaders the primary reason is that gang members are moving into the community from other places

10. Analysis of the data show that the primary reasons for involvement in gang behavior are

- Gang youth know persons who are gang members and they associate with friends who are involved in criminal activity. They, themselves, have anti-social attitudes and values.
- Youth come from families that do not affirm strong positive social values and from families with considerable yelling and where there are no clear rules regarding the use of alcohol and drugs. Gang youth are also more likely to have siblings who smoke, have been expelled from school and who have taken weapons to school.
- The younger a person starts to smoke cigarettes and smoke marijuana the greater the likelihood of becoming a gang member.
- Youth who know one or more adults who sell drugs or are otherwise involved in criminal activity.
- Youth coming from blighted neighborhoods with many vacant buildings and graffiti and from neighborhoods where there are often fights.

11. **The Community response to the survey was extremely poor.** The general public does not have a clear conception of gangs and what is and what is not gang behavior. There is no single, consistent perspective on the gang situation in Randolph County. The perceptions of citizens, parents, school staff and community leaders do not have consistent views.

12. Gang membership is also related to other deviant behaviors such as being suspended from school and getting drunk at school.

13. The irony in comparing the perceived solutions to gangs is that with the exception of families, the expectation of the police and court authorities to solve the gang problem is that legal authorities are not in a position to reduce the risks of becoming a gang member; they can only react to it. Parents and school staff are more inclined to see social actors rather than legal factors as the keys to solving the problems.

## Recommendations

1. Youth need to be monitored very closely so that those who come from at-risk environments are exposed to positive social values and role models as early as possible. Programs that include *both parents and delinquent youth are most effective*. The county should investigate the implementation of these.

2. Disrespect for authority and school rules represent the largest proportion of school discipline problems. These behaviors indirectly reflect the anti-social values and attitudes of gang-prone youth. New or creative interventions associated with these school problems might be in order to assess or evaluate gang membership potential. Creative re-integration measures as part of the disciplinary process might want to be considered such as remedial reading or other activity to break the cycle of acting-out in school. Bullying was not assessed in this study but other research suggests that it might be related and should, therefore, be monitored in the process as well. Suspension itself does not solve the community problem since these youth miss important academic training and they have more time to be involved in crime.

3. Good academic performance is the best protector against delinquent and gang involvement and therefore it is recommended that programs be initiated to reduce academic failure at the youngest ages possible. Since early age involvement in drinking, smoking, and marijuana use are highly related to later delinquency and gang involvement, school and community drug prevention programs should be initiated or enhanced to deal with the problem. Randolph County youth are at highest risk between 13 and 15 and substance abuse prevention is most needed for this age group

4. Many school staff indicated that they became more aware of gang activity after they had received training. It is strongly recommended that school staff (faculty and support staff) be given training in gang recognition and gang prevention.

5. The community should review the table that shows the likelihood of youth engaging in not only gang behavior but also getting drunk at school and being suspended. Since these are highly inter-correlated their commonalities should be addressed. These include paying very careful attention to the family experience of youth, especially as it may relate to sibling behavior and to offer early intervention and assistance to parents to help them learn how to better parent and control their children.

6. Since the number of juvenile court cases where gang behavior was identified appears to be disproportionately low compared with other indicators, the juvenile court might want to assess more carefully the reasons for the low proportion of adjudicated cases and the possibility that some juveniles with gang-related experience may be undetected.

7. Since the general public does not have a clear conception of gangs and what is and what is not gang behavior, efforts should be made through school PTA, church groups and other community processes to better educate the public on how to recognize gang behavior and what positive, prevention activities are available to communities.

8. Whatever is done needs to be done at the earliest possible intervention point in time. It is too late to wait until full-fledged gang activity emerges. The most critical first actors are parents and parenting is a

significant factor – especially the ability of parents to monitor and discipline their own children. Parenting does not come “naturally” and many of those who might be criticized as being poor parents were themselves the product of poor parenting. Therefore, the community needs to find a way to assist and enable parents to parent well. This could be done through:

- Physicians and clinic personnel
- Pre-school and elementary teachers
- School counselors and Social workers
- Clergy and church groups

9 Continue to support the inter-agency Gang Task Force. The collection of these data are extremely valuable in monitoring gang behavior. It is recommended that the gang information collected by the police be shared with the District Attorney at all possible times in order for the court to forcefully and early address the problem.

10. Drugs are a major factor and gangs operate as businesses. The problem of drugs in a community is not as much the availability of the drug but the **demand for the drug**. Youth find drugs “easy” to get. While drug prevention programs may be politically easy to cut, such programs can save money in the long-run. For every one dollar of prevention funds spent there is, on average, \$7 savings in criminal justice and treatment expense.

11. Community leaders and citizens tend to believe that the best response to the gang problem is to have a more punitive response; teachers and parents tend to have a more social oriented response. The reality is that there must be a balance. Offenders need to be held accountable (thus a more proactive response by the court and schools is needed) but prevention must also be a high priority to stop the flow of new offenders. The community needs to discontinue a dichotomous perspective on the solution and simultaneously deal effectively with violators and also invest in prevention programs and efforts.