Guilford County Gang Assessment:
The OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model

Section: Community Voices - Youth Perception Survey, Community Resident Survey, School Resource Officer Survey, & Gang Member Interviews

Community Voices

One essential element of the OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model is receiving feedback directly from the community that is being assessed. To that end, the assessment team developed and administered a series of three surveys, including a Youth Perception Survey, a Community Resident Survey, and a School Resource Officer (SRO) Survey. The Youth Perception Survey (administered to youth ages 22 years and under) and the Community Resident Survey (administered to those 18-years and older) were both distributed throughout the community and through community agencies in order to assess youth and community perceptions of gangs in neighborhoods and schools. Some community agencies also included a link to the survey on their website in order to gather a higher response rate. Surveys were available in English and Spanish. The SRO Survey was distributed via email directly to the SROs across Guilford County. Copies of all surveys are provided in the Appendix of this report and results for each survey are summarized below.

Youth Perception Survey

Youth Perception Surveys were distributed by community agencies to individuals ages 22 years and under in order to assess youth perceptions of gangs in neighborhoods and schools. Surveys were available in English and Spanish. A total of 608 responses were received from various locations throughout Guilford County. Figure 25 depicts the youth survey respondents by the zip code in which they live. Demographic information from this sample is provided below. Missing values are not represented in these percentages, but sample totals for each question are provided. Survey responses were also examined for differences in response types by age, gender, race, school status, and employment status.

Figure 25: Youth Survey Responses by Zip Code
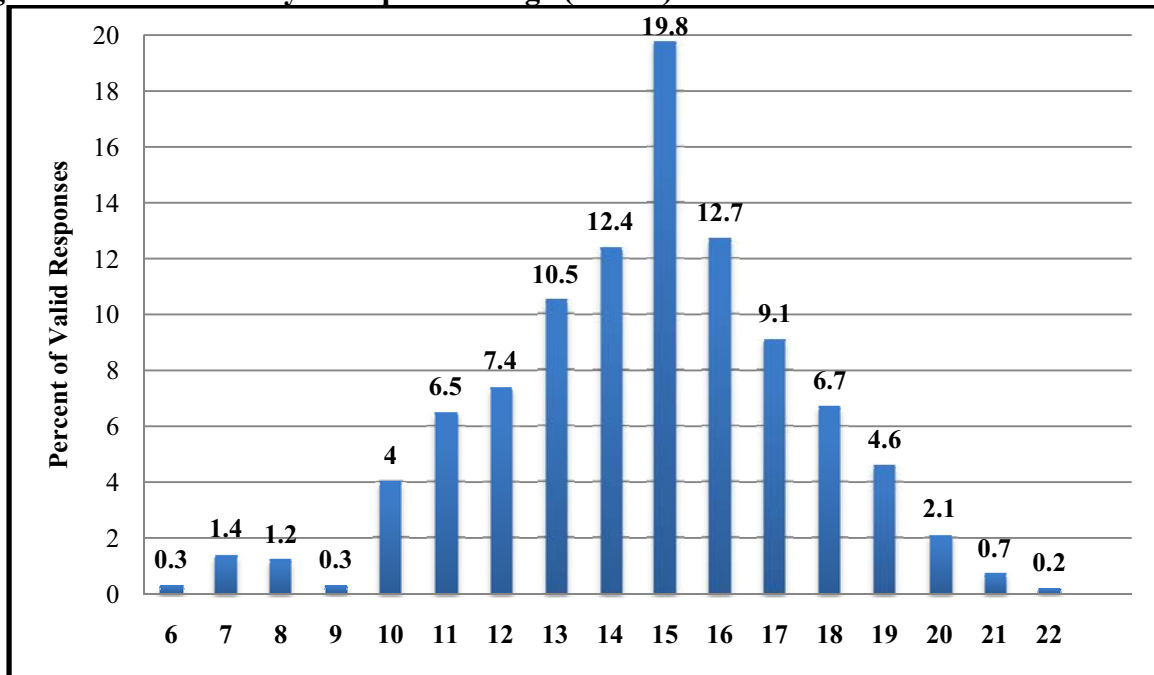

Number of Youth Survey Responses by Zip Code
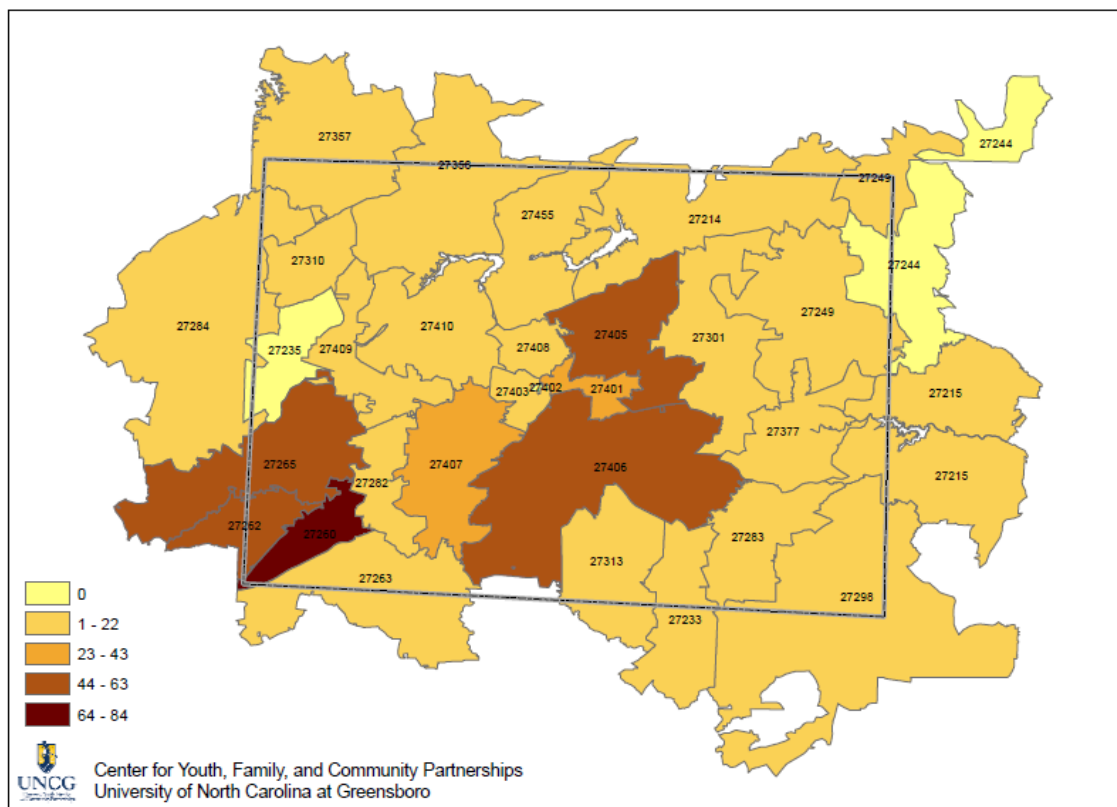
Demographics

How old are you?

Of the respondents who indicated their age, the average age was 14.6 years, with a range of 6 to 22 years.
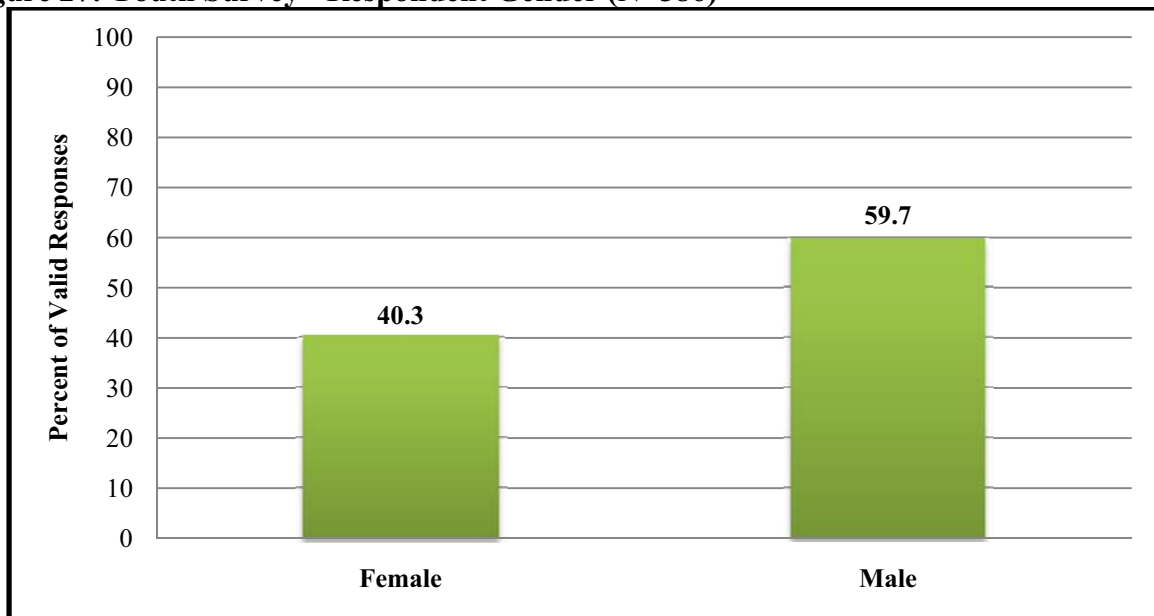
Figure 26: Youth Survey – Respondent Age (N=581)

What is your gender?

Of the respondents who indicated their gender, 40.3% of the respondents were female and 59.7% of the respondents were male.
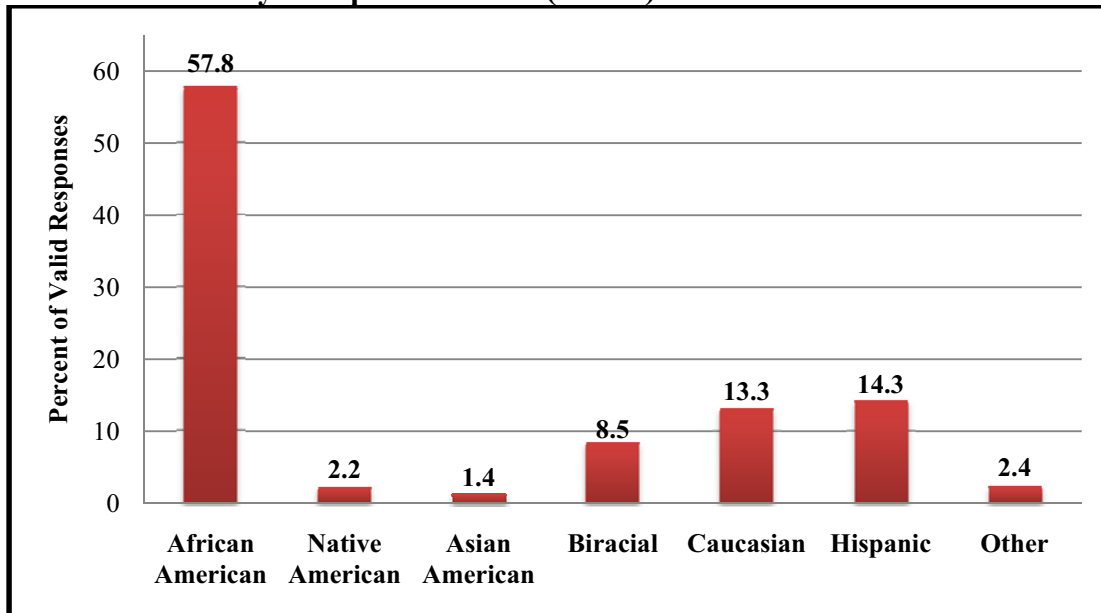
Figure 27: Youth Survey - Respondent Gender (N=586)

What is your race/ethnicity?

Of the respondents who indicated their ethnicity, 57.8% of the respondents were African American, 14.3% were Hispanic, 13.3% were Caucasian, 8.5% were Biracial, 2.4% reported "other" as their race, 2.2% were Native American, and 1.4% were Asian American.
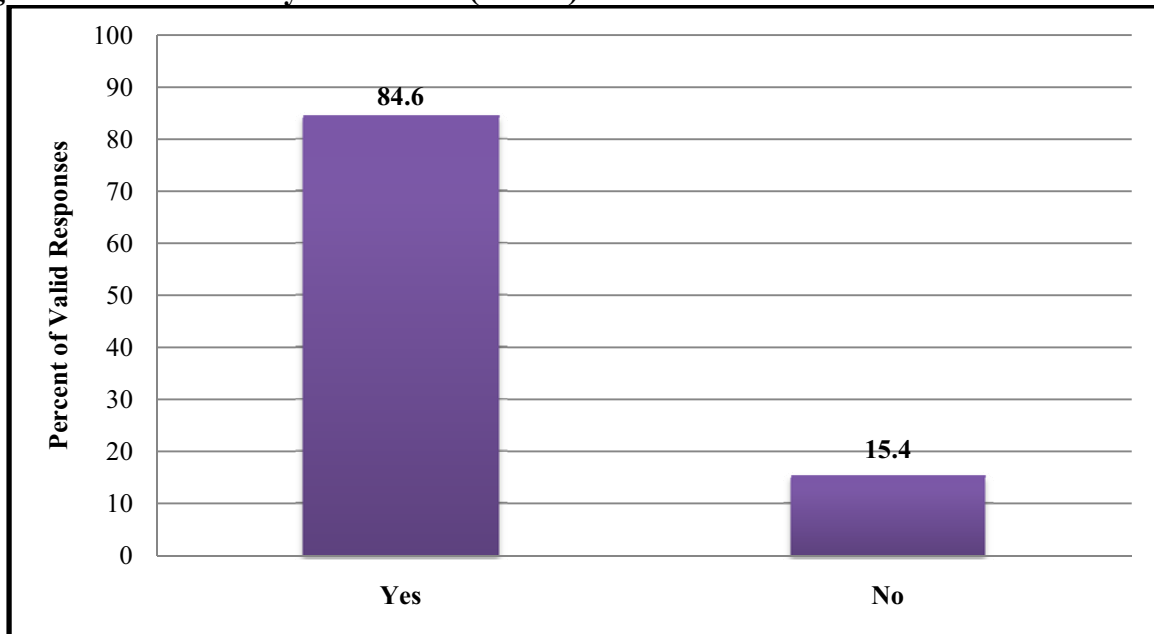
Figure 28: Youth Survey - Respondent Race (N=586)

Are you currently in school?

Of the respondents who indicated their school status, 84.6% of the respondents were currently enrolled in school and 14.8% of the respondents were not currently enrolled.
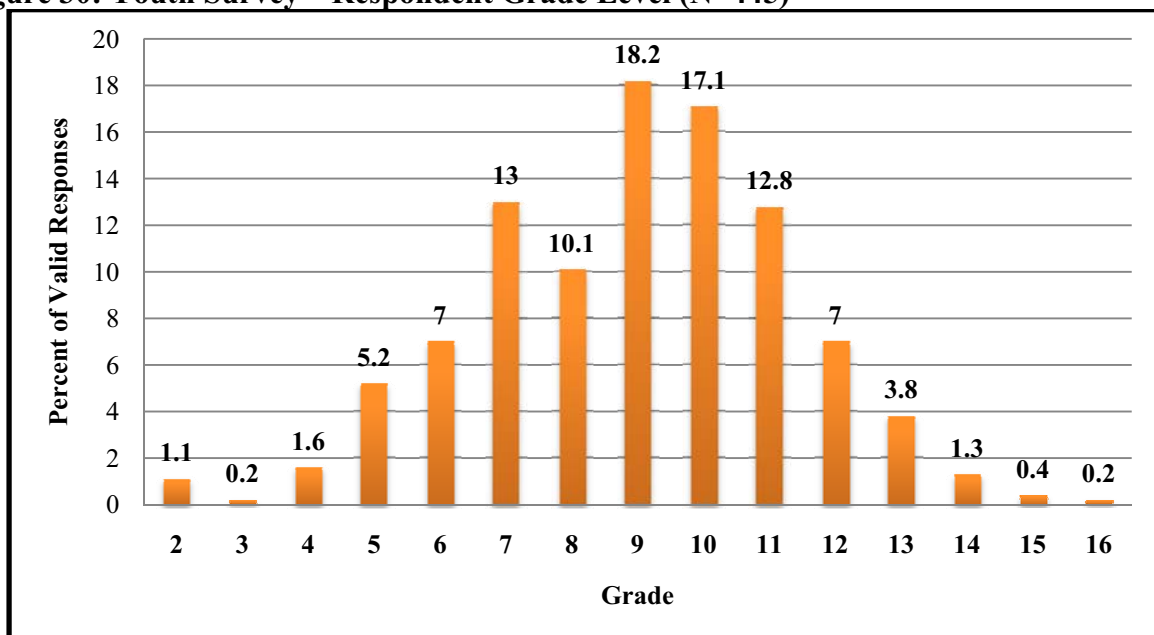
Figure 29: Youth Survey – In School (N=586)

What grade are you in?

A total of 106 different schools were represented by respondents who took this survey, spanning from second grade through college. The average grade of respondents was between 8th and 9th grade.

Figure 30: Youth Survey – Respondent Grade Level (N=445)

If you are not in school, why not?

Of the respondents who indicated that they were not currently in school, reasons for not being in school included the individual was expelled (19.4%), the individual chose it (16.1%), or other reasons (64.5%). Other reasons included that the respondent graduated, they were on summer vacation, they were suspended, they had a baby, or they needed money.

Figure 31: Youth Survey - If you are not in school, why not? (N=62)
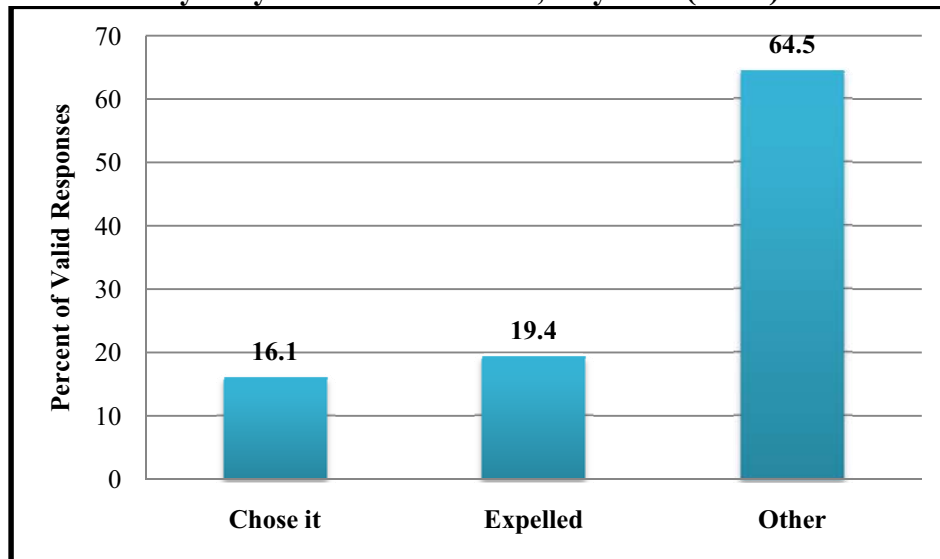
Grades

Of the respondents who indicated their grades, 26.2% reported that they make mostly A's, 6.6% make mostly A's and B's, 36.3% make mostly B's, 4.6% make mostly B's and C's, 18.9% make mostly C's, 2.2% make mostly C's and D's, 2.9% make mostly D's, .3% make mostly D's and F's, and 2.0% make mostly F's.

Figure 32: Youth Survey – Generally, what are/were your grades like? (N=546)
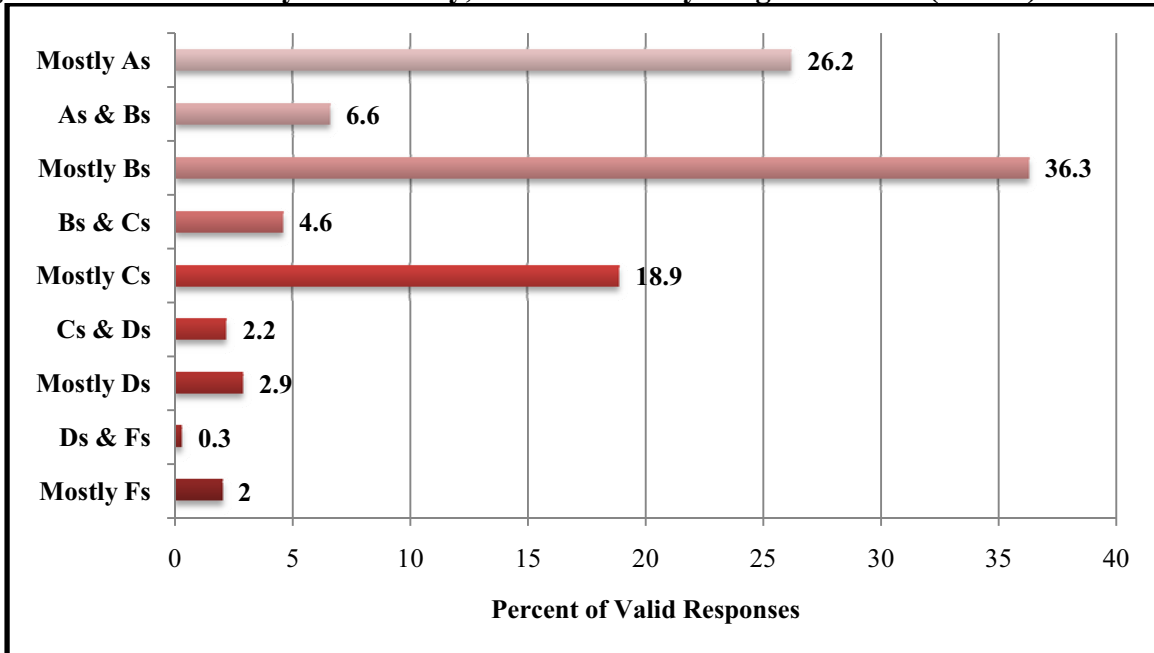
Employment Status

Of the respondents who indicated their employment status, 25.4% were employed, 42.0% were not employed, and 32.6% of the respondents reported that they were not old enough to work yet. Of those employed, 82.1% worked part-time and 17.9% worked full-time.

Figure 33: Youth Survey – In the past year, have you had a job? (N=571)
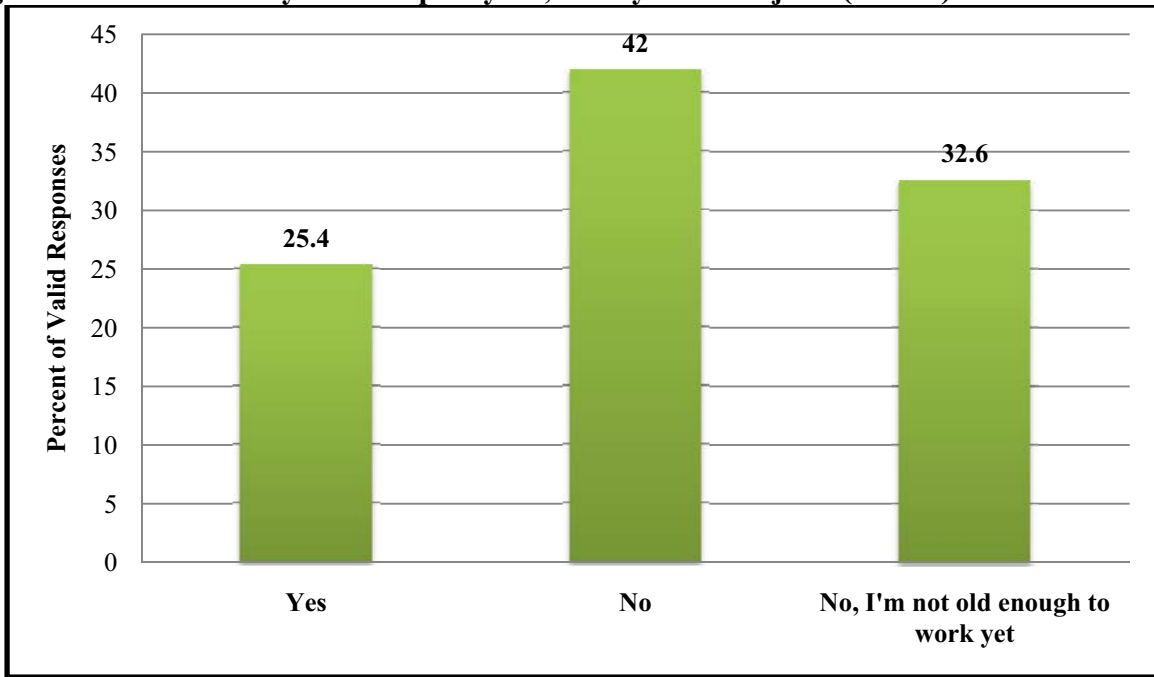
What kind of job?

Of employed respondents, places of employment included:

- Daycare/summer camp
- Retail
- Food Services
- Barbershop
- City of Greensboro
- Supermarket
- Lawn services
- Construction

Respondents' job duties included:

- Babysitting
- Cleaning
- Cook
- Cashier
- Construction
- Cutting grass/trees
- Paperwork
- Sales
- Hostess/waitress
- Mechanic

What did you do there?

Extracurricular Activities

Of the respondents who indicated their extracurricular involvement, 69.7% reported extracurricular involvement and 30.3% reported none.

Figure 34: Youth Survey – Have you participated in any extracurricular activities in the past year? (N=554)
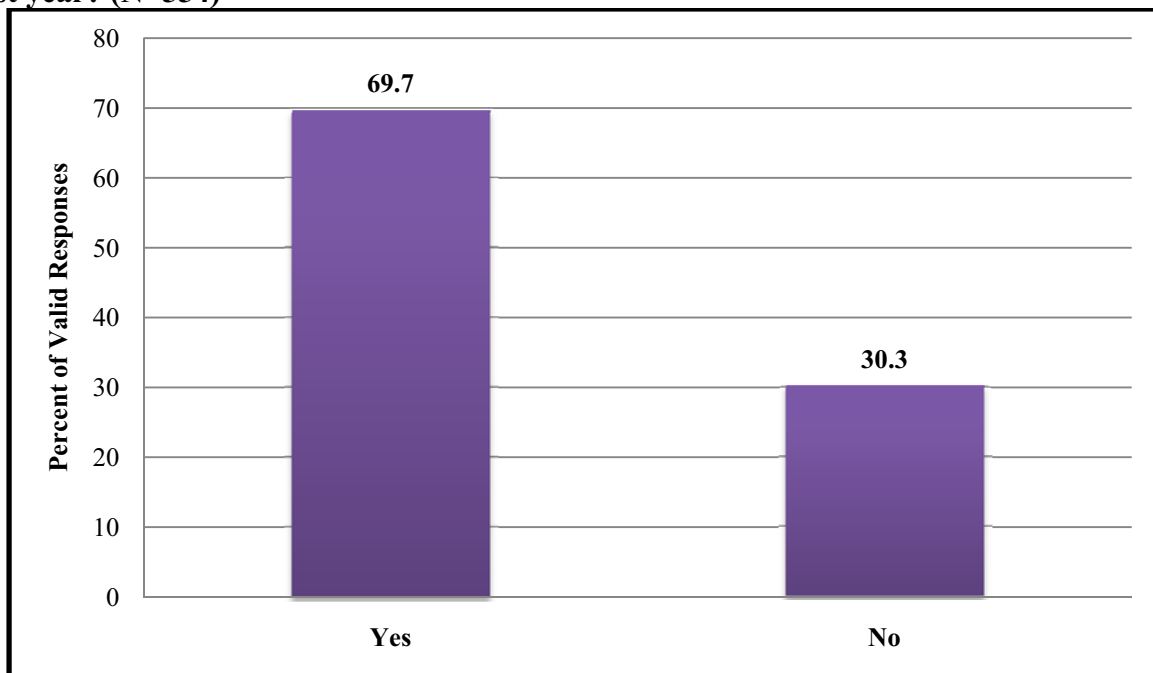
Types of Extracurricular Activities

Of the respondents who engage in extracurricular activities, activities included:

- Sports
- Church
- Music/theatre clubs
- Scouts

- Life skills
- Student/teen council
- Youth group
- Volunteering

Why not?

Reasons why youth did not engage in extracurricular activities included:
- Lack of interest
- Lack of time
- Parents didn't sign youth up/parents didn't give permission
- Poor behavior/poor grades

Suspensions

Of the respondents who reported their suspension history, 43.5% had been suspended during the past school year. The average number of times students reported being suspended in the past year was approximately 4 times, with a minimum of 0 and a maximum of 50 suspensions during the past year. Reasons that respondents provided for being suspended in the past year included: alcohol or drug use, fighting, being disruptive or disrespectful, bringing a weapon (gun/knife) to school, cursing, not completing homework, stealing, and skipping class. There were no differences in suspension history based on employment status or age.

Significantly more males were likely to be suspended in the past year than females, (χ^2(1, N = 559) = 11.66, p <.001. There also were significant differences in responses to this question by ethnicity, χ^2 (6, N = 558) = 35.56, p <.001. Native American students were more likely to report being suspended in the past year whereas Hispanic students were less likely to report suspension in the past year.

Figure 35: Youth Survey – During the past school year, were you ever suspended from school? (N=565)
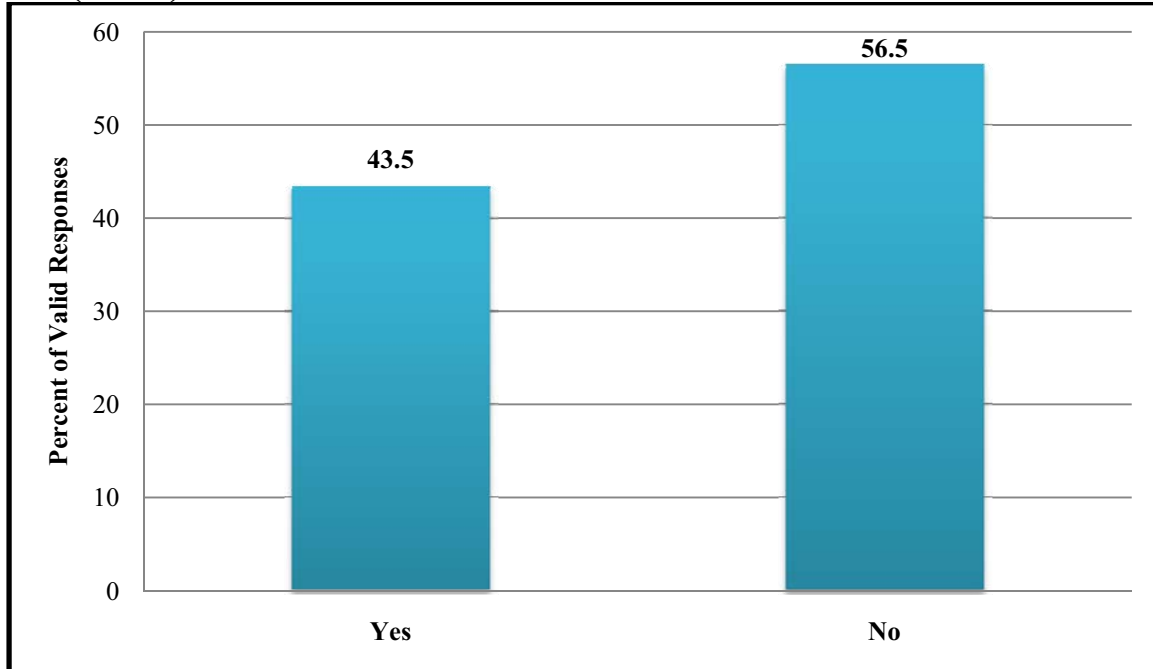

Stopped and/or questioned by the police

Of the respondents who indicated whether they had ever been questioned by the police, 45.8% had been questioned and 54.2% had not. The average number of times respondents reported being questioned by the police was approximately 11 times, with a minimum of 0 and a maximum of 100 times. Reasons that respondents provided for being questioned by the police included: buying/selling drugs, being at a party, being asked whether they were in a gang, looking suspicious, fighting, participating in gang activity, running away, shooting, stealing, and walking at night.

There were no differences in responses by employment status.

There were significant differences in questioning by the police by age, $t(468) = 4.61$, $p < .001$, gender, $\chi^2(6, N = 474) = 38.54$, $p < .001$, and school status, $\chi^2(1, N = 475) = 4.16$, $p < .05$. Respondents that had been questioned by the police were significantly older than respondents who had not been questioned. Females were less likely than males to report being stopped and/or questioned by the police. Respondents that were not in school were slightly more likely to be stopped or questioned by the police as compared to respondents that were currently in school. There were significant differences in responses to this question by ethnicity, $\chi^2(6, N = 474) = 38.54$, $p < .001$. Hispanic students were more likely than other ethnic groups to report bet being questioned by the police.

Figure 36: Youth Survey – Have you ever been stopped and/or questioned by the police? (N=480)
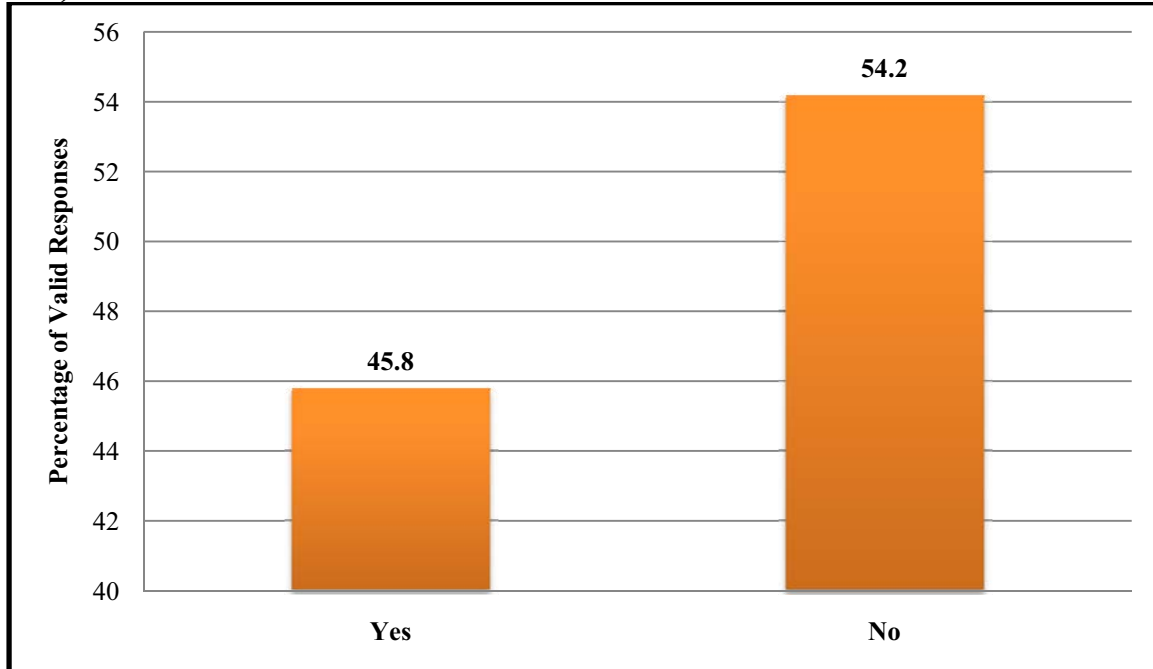

Arrests

Of the respondents who indicated their arrest history, 35.3% have ever been arrested and 64.7% have not. The average number of times respondents reported being arrested was approximately 3 times, with a minimum of 0 and a maximum of 36 times. Reasons that respondents provided for being arrested included: robbery, assault, breaking and entering, disturbing the peace, fighting, shoplifting, larceny, possession of an illegal substance, running away, sex offense, trespassing, and warrant for arrest. Of those respondents who have been arrested, the average number of felony charges was 1.09 with a minimum of 0 and a maximum of 36, and the average number of misdemeanor charges was 1.68 with a minimum of 0 and a maximum of 12. There were no differences in responses by school status or employment status.

There were significant differences in questioning by the police by age, $t(457) = 3.19$, $p < .01$, and gender, $\chi^2 (1, N = 462) = 12.34$, $p < .001$. Respondents who were ever arrested were significantly older than respondents who had not been arrested. Males were more likely than females to have ever been arrested. There were significant differences in arrest history by ethnicity, $\chi^2 (6, N = 463) = 24.18$, $p < .001$, with Hispanic students being more likely than other ethnicities to report not having been arrested.

Figure 37: Youth Survey – Have you even been arrested by the police (N=467)
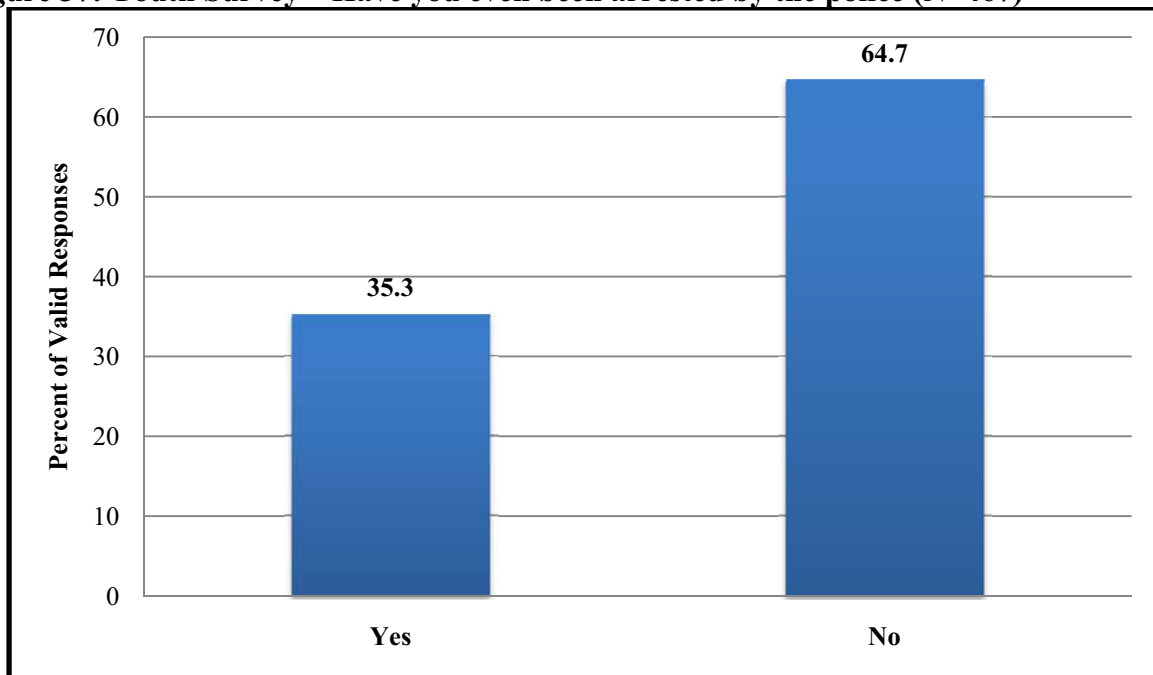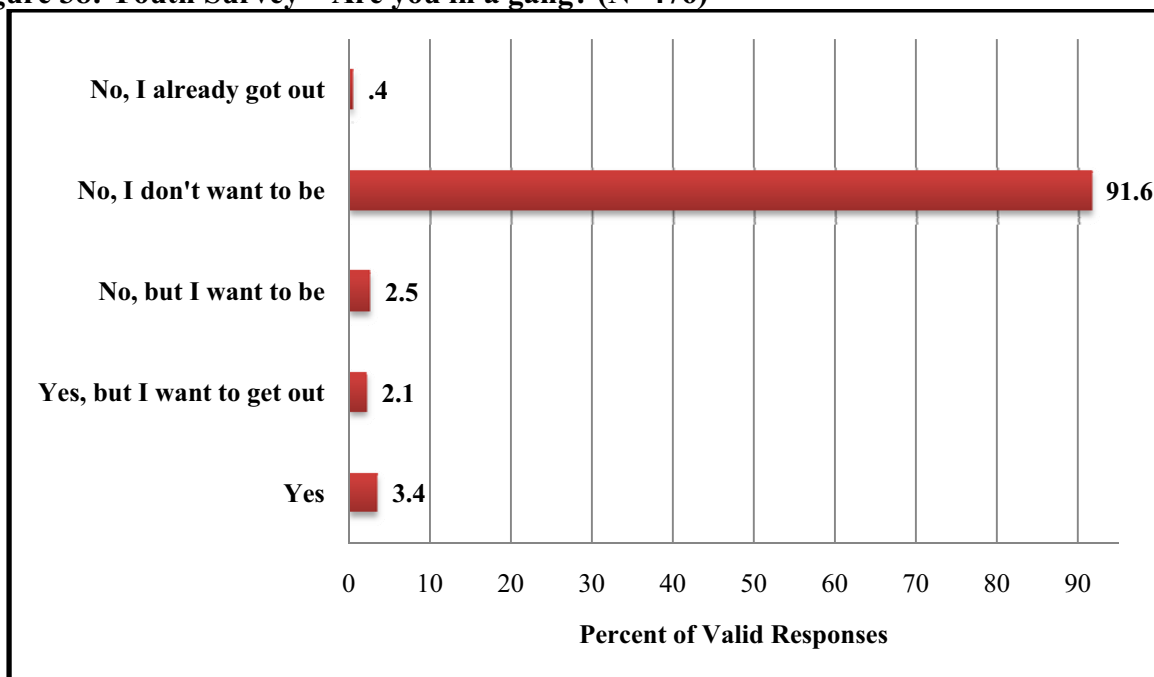

Are you in a gang?

Of the respondents that indicated whether or not they were in a gang, 3.4% were in a gang, 2.1% were in a gang, but wanted out, 2.5% were not in a gang, but wanted to be, 91.6% were not in a gang and did not want to be, and 0.4% were previously in a gang, but had gotten out. For those that were currently in a gang and wanted to get out, some respondents indicated that they could not get out or they did not know what type of help they needed.

There were no differences in responses by age, gender, school status, or employment status, or ethnicity.

Figure 38: Youth Survey – Are you in a gang? (N=476)

Horizontal bar chart showing percent of valid responses:
- No, I already got out: .4
- No, I don't want to be: 91.6
- No, but I want to be: 2.5
- Yes, but I want to get out: 2.1
- Yes: 3.4

X-axis: Percent of Valid Responses (0 to 90)

Friends in gangs

Of the respondents that indicated whether or not any of their friends were in a gang, 35.3% had friends in a gang, 45.7% reported did not, and 18.9% did not know if their friends were in a gang.

There were no differences in responses by age, gender, or school status.

There were significant differences in responses by employment status. $x^2(4, N = 463) = 12.70$, p <.05 and ethnicity, $x^2(12, N = 473) = 26.14$, p <.05. Individuals that are not old enough to work yet were more likely than respondents of other employment statuses to not know if their friends were in a gang. In addition, Caucasian respondents were more likely than other ethnicities to report that none of their friends were in gangs.

Figure 39: Youth Survey – Are any of your friends in gangs (N=481)
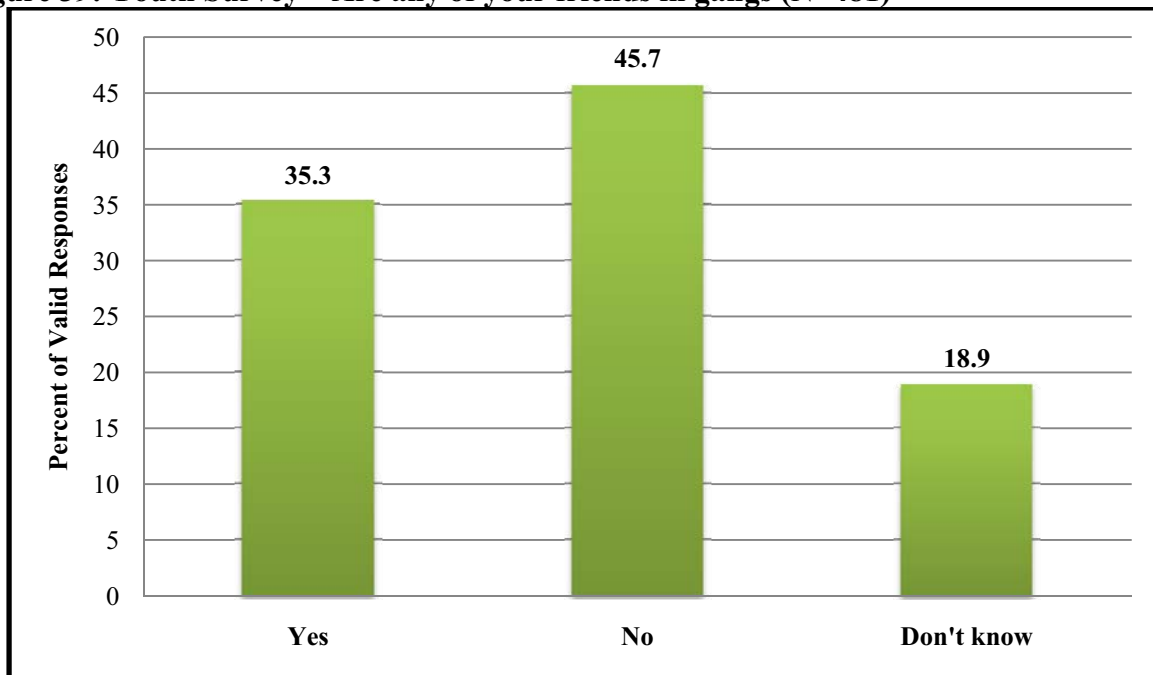
How did you know?

Reasons that respondents provided for knowing their friend was in a gang included:

- They told me
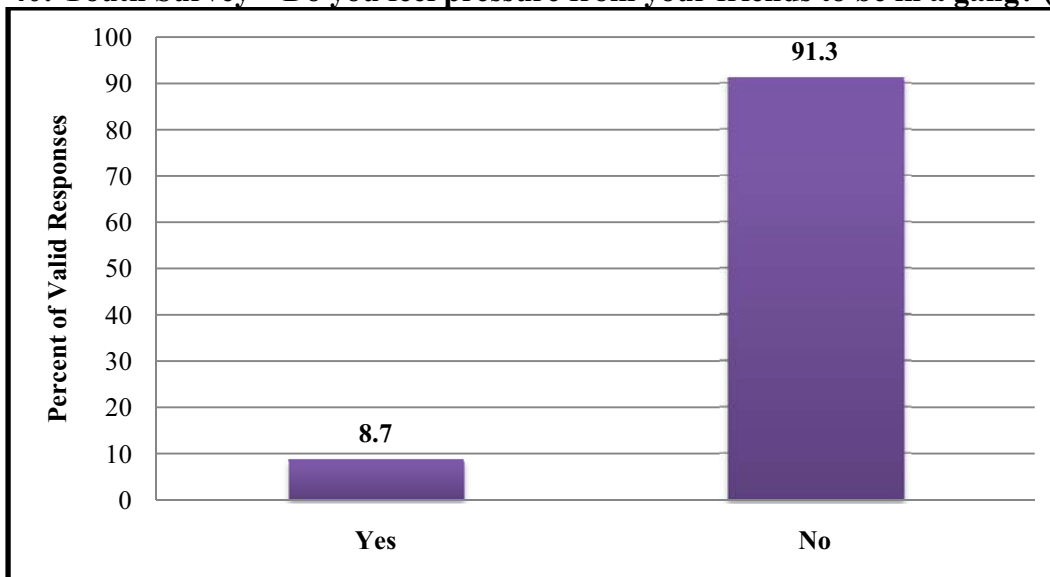- Clothes, tattoos, signs, colors
- We are in the same gang

Pressure from friends to be in a gang

Of the respondents that indicated if they felt pressure from their friends to be in a gang, 8.7% felt pressure and 91.3% did not.

There were no differences in responses by age, gender, school status, or employment status.

Hispanic respondents were more likely than other ethnicities to report feeling pressure to join a gang, $x^2(6, N = 466) = 17.71, p < .01$.

Figure 40: Youth Survey – Do you feel pressure from your friends to be in a gang? (N=481)


How often you feel pressure from friends?

Of the respondents that indicated how often they felt pressure from their friends to be in a gang, 56.5% reported never feeling pressure, 12.0% reported seldom feeling pressure, 15.2% reported sometimes feeling pressure, 9.8% reported often feeling pressure, and 6.5% reported always feeling pressure.

There were no differences in responses by age, gender, school status, employment status, or ethnicity

Figure 41: Youth Survey - If yes, how often do you feel pressure from friends? (N=92)
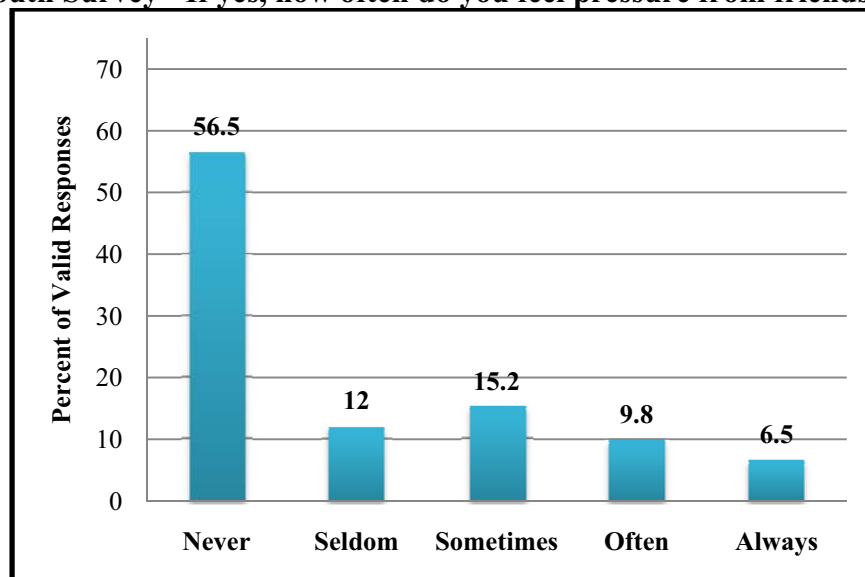
Family members in gangs

Of the respondents that indicated whether or not any of their family members were in a gang, 16.8% had family member in a gang, 65.1% did not, and 18.1% did not know.
There were no differences in responses by age, gender or school status

There were significant differences in responses by employment status, $x^2(4, N = 457) = 14.07$, $p <.01$, and ethnicity, $x^2(6, N = 466) = 17.71$, $p <.01$. Respondents that were not old enough to work yet were less likely to have family members in gangs and more likely to report not knowing if they have family members in gangs. African American respondents were more likely than other ethnicities to have family members in gangs, whereas Caucasian respondents were more likely to not have family members in gangs. In addition Native American respondents were more likely to respond that they did not know and Hispanic respondents were less likely to have family members in gangs.

Figure 42: Youth Survey - Are any of your family members in gangs? (N= 475)
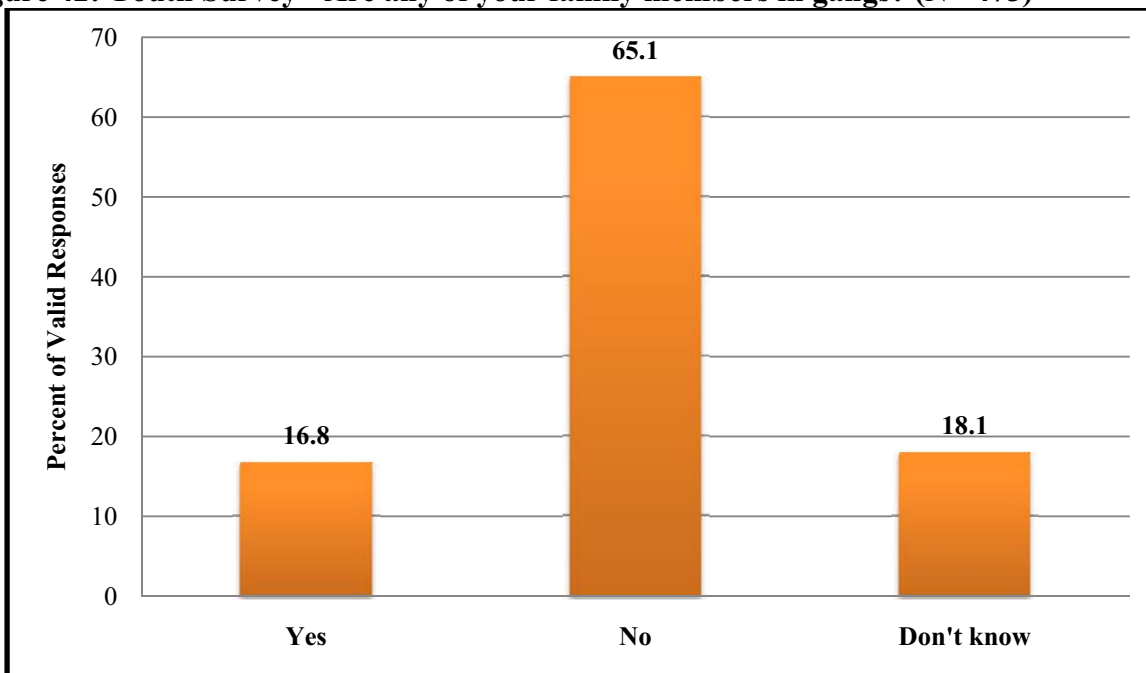
How do you know?

Reasons that respondents provided for knowing their family member was in a gang included:

- They told me
- Clothes, tattoos, flags, colors
- We are in the same gang
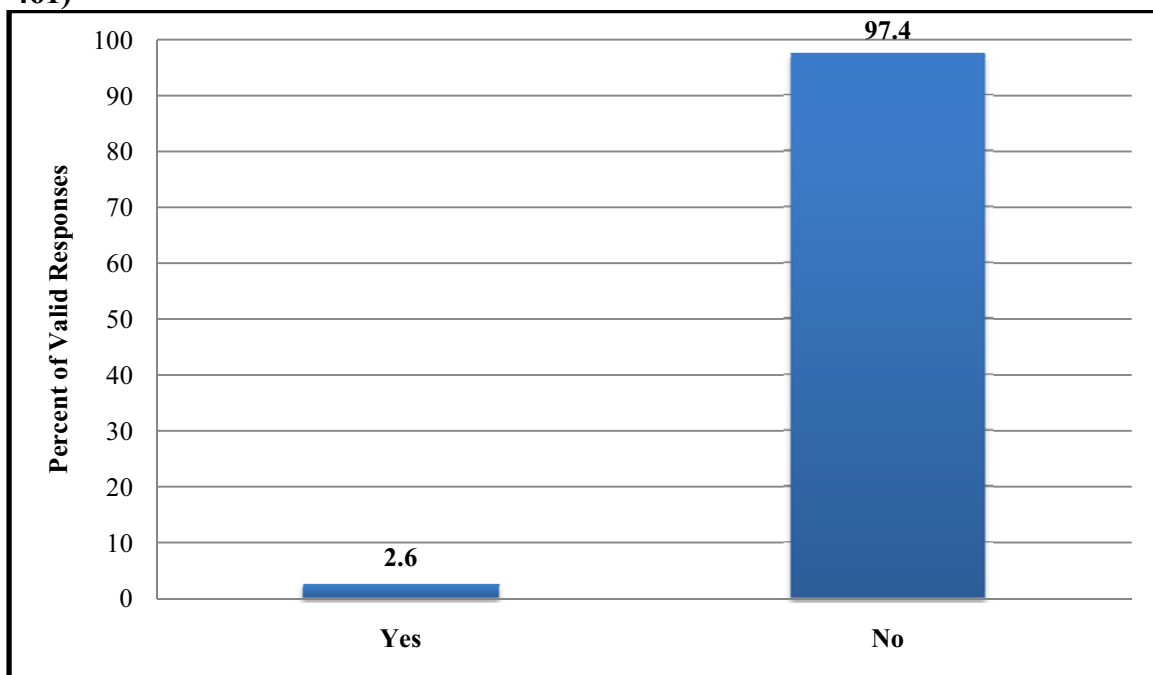- We live together
- I asked

Pressure from family to be in a gang

Of the respondents that indicated if they felt pressure from family members to be in a gang, 2.6% reported feeling pressure and 97.4% did not.

There were no differences in responses by gender, school status, employment status, or ethnicity.

There were significant differences in responses by age, $t(449) = 3.54$, $p < .001$. Respondents that did not feel pressure were significantly older than respondents that did feel pressure. Despite this difference, there were only 10 respondents that indicated that they did feel pressure.

Figure 43: Youth Survey - Do you feel pressure from family members to be in a gang? (N=461)

How often you feel pressure from family members

Of the respondents that indicated how often they felt pressure from their family members to be in a gang, 85.9% reported never feeling pressure, 1.6% reported seldom feeling pressure, 3.1% reported sometimes feeling pressure, 7.8% reported often feeling pressure, and 1.6% reported always feeling pressure.

There were no differences in responses by age, gender, school status, or employment status.

Figure 44: Youth Survey - If yes, how often do you feel pressure from family? (N=64)
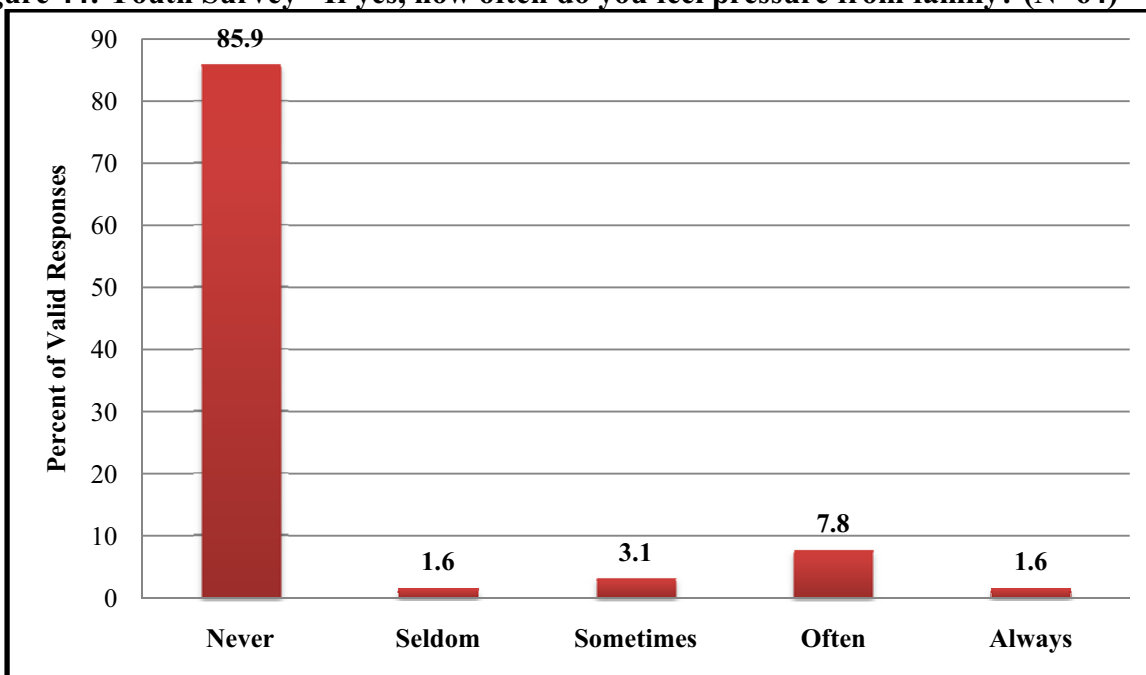
Additional comments

Respondents were asked to provide additional comments about their experiences with gangs, why people join gangs, and what people can do to address gang issues. Some responses are included below by category.

Your experiences with gangs
- It is a choice
- Starts at home
- I get pressured by them
- I stay away from them
- I know them, but they don't bother me

Why people join gangs
- Love
- Protection/safety
- Brotherhood/sisterhood
- Lack of family support/role models
- Lack of education
- Popularity
- Friends joined
- Attention
- Respect
- Power
- Because they think it's cool

What people can do to address gang issues
- Have youth who were in gangs and are no longer in gangs talk to people in gangs
- Talk with parents

- Engage young children in extracurricular activities
- Show more love to the community
- People are going to do what they want

Neighborhood Gang Presence

Of the respondents that indicated whether or not there are gangs in their neighborhood, 40.8% reported gang presence, 35.1% reported no gang presence, and 24.1% did not know if there was a gang presence. There were no differences in responses by age, gender, and whether or not the individual was currently in school.

There were significant differences in neighborhood gang presence by ethnicity, $x^2(12, N = 584) = 63.34, p <.001$. Hispanic respondents were more likely to report a neighborhood gang presence, whereas Caucasian and Asian American respondents were more likely to report not having a neighborhood gang presence. There were also differences in responses by employment status, $x^2(4, N = 569) = 18.47, p <.001$. Individuals that were not old enough to work were more likely to respond that they did not know if they had a neighborhood gang presence.

Figure 45: Youth Survey - Are there gangs present in your neighborhood? (N=606)
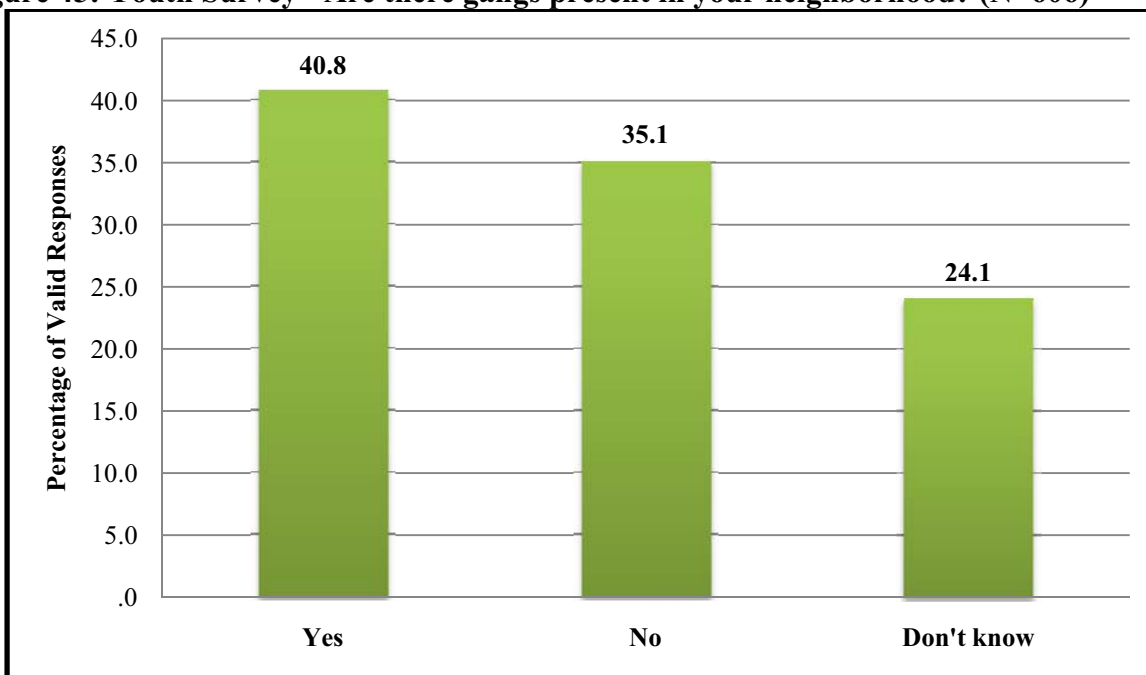
Are there places right now in your neighborhood where it isn't safe to go because of gangs and gang members?

Of the respondents that indicated whether or not there are places in their neighborhood that are not safe, 31.0% responded that there are unsafe areas, 68.8% responded that there are not unsafe areas, and 0.2% responded that they did not if there were unsafe areas .

There were no differences in responses by age, gender, or school status.

There were significant differences in responses by employment status, $x^2(2, N = 560) = 7.32$, $p <.05)$, and ethnicity, $x^2(6, N = 575) = 41.31$, $p <.001$. Respondents that are not old enough to work yet are slightly less likely to report having unsafe areas. Hispanic respondents were more likely than other ethnicities to report having unsafe areas.

Figure 46: Youth Survey - Are there places right now in your neighborhood where it isn't safe to go because of gangs and gang members? (N=596)
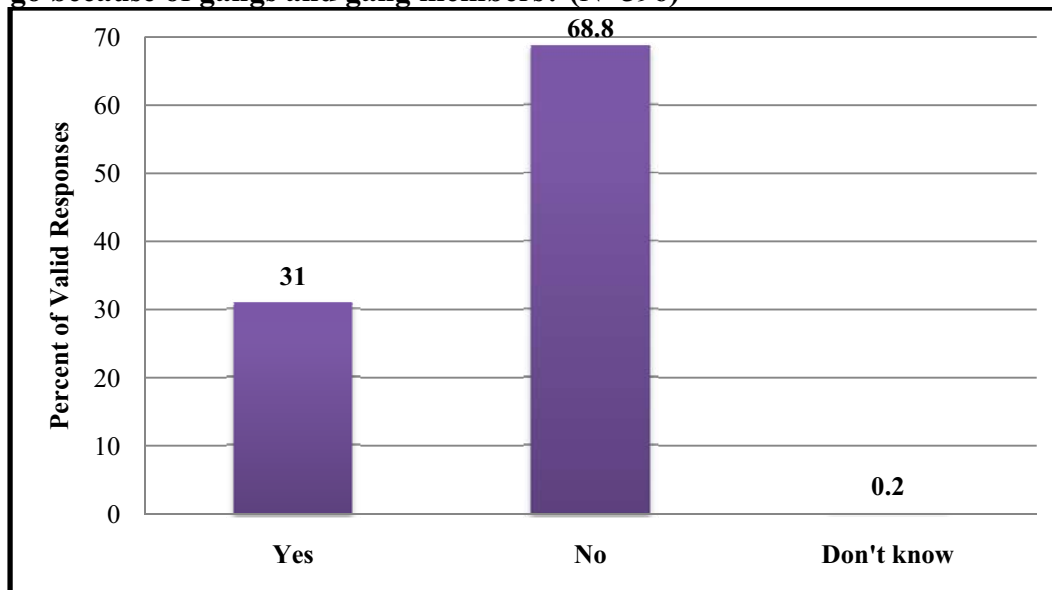
Do gangs in your neighborhood do the following things?

Below are the percentages of valid responses of neighborhood activities that gangs engage in according to respondents.

Figure 47: Youth Survey - Do gangs in your neighborhood do the following things?
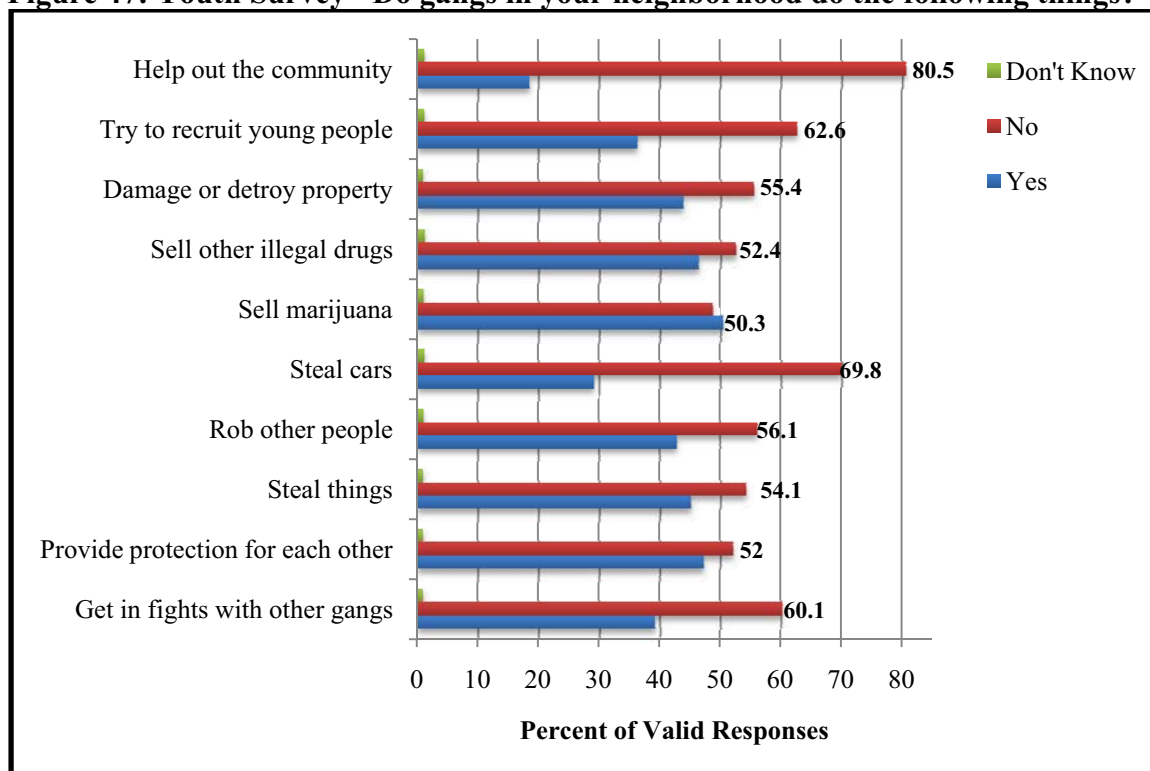
In the PAST YEAR, how have rates of gang activity in your neighborhood changed?

Of the respondents that indicated the level of gang activity in their neighborhood, 19.6% responded that gang activity has increased, 29.4% reported a decrease, 50.3% responded that activity stayed about the same, and .7% responded that they did not know.

There were no differences in responses by age, gender, school status, or employment status.

There were significant differences in responses by ethnicity, $x^2(18, N = 535) = 67.99$, $p < .001$. Hispanic respondents were more likely to respond 'yes' and were less likely to respond that gang activity had stayed about the same.

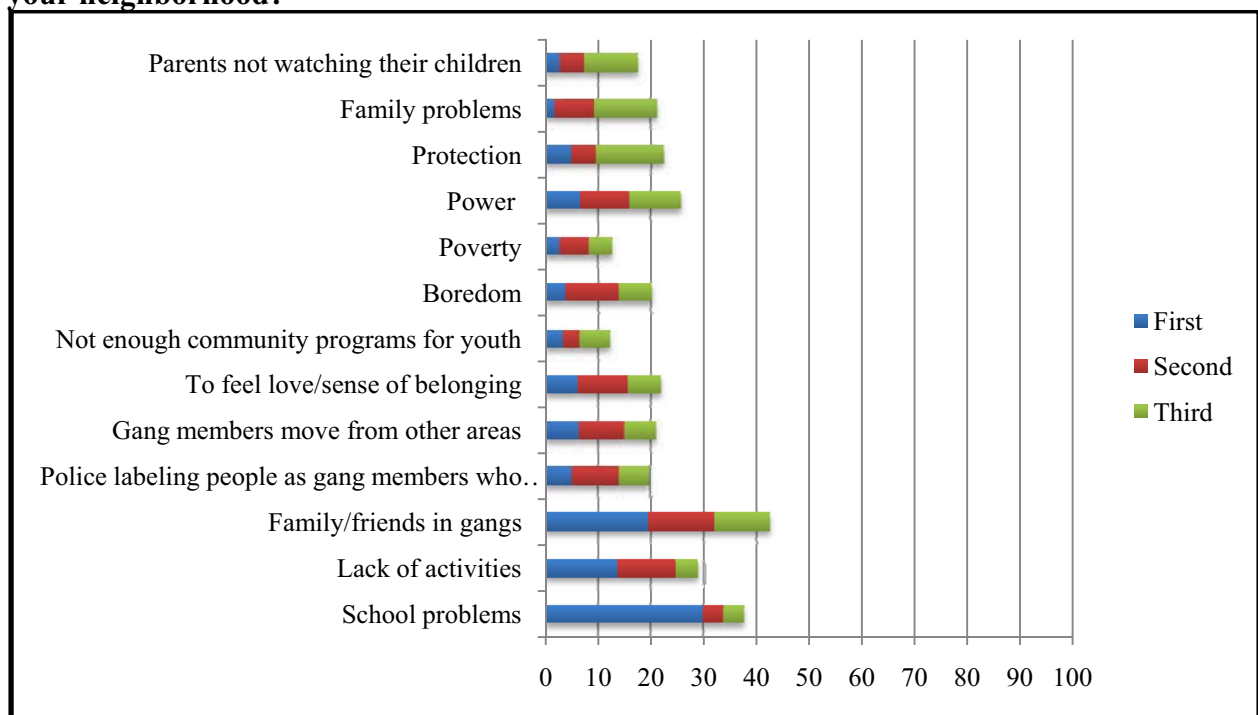**Figure 48: Youth Survey - In the past year, has gang activity in your neighborhood... (N=551)**
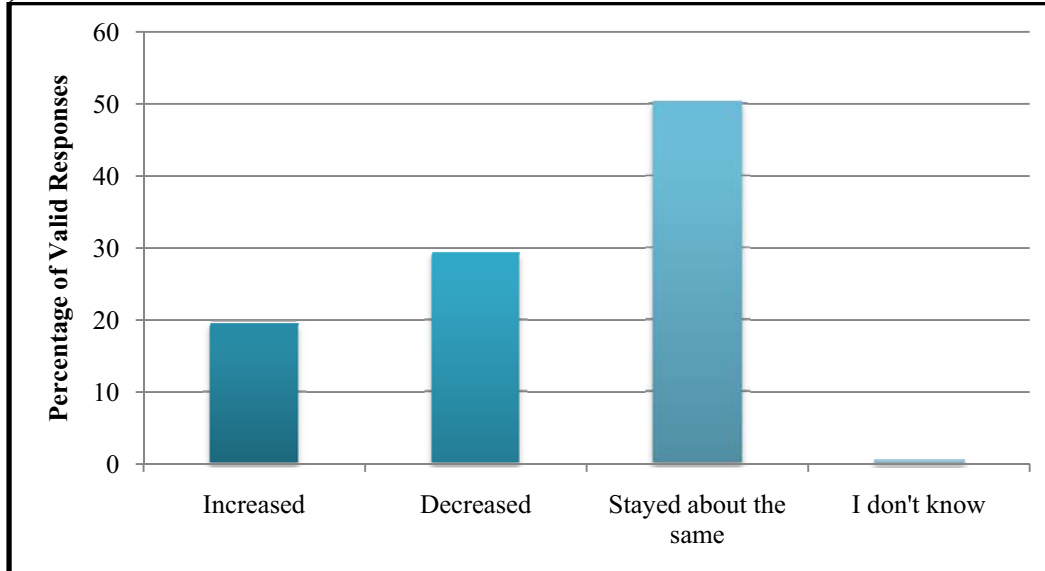
Causes of neighborhood activity

Below are the percentages of valid responses of the main causes of gang activity in respondents' neighborhoods.

Figure 49: Youth Survey - What do you think are the top three causes of gang activity in your neighborhood?

If you see gang activity occurring, is there a person you trust that you can call?

Of the respondents who indicated whether there is a person they can trust to call in the event of gang activity occurring, 74.1% responded "yes" and 25.9% responded "no."
There were no differences in responses by age, gender, ethnicity, school status, or employment status.

There were significant differences in responses by school status, $x^2(1, N = 568) = 17.38, p < .001$, and employment status, $x^2(2, N = 555) = 8.20, p < .05$. Respondents that were not currently in school were more likely to report not having a trusted person in their neighborhood. In addition, respondents that were not old enough to work yet were less likely to not having a trusted person in their neighborhood.

Figure 50: Youth Survey - If you see gang activity occurring is there a person you trust that you can call? (N=587)
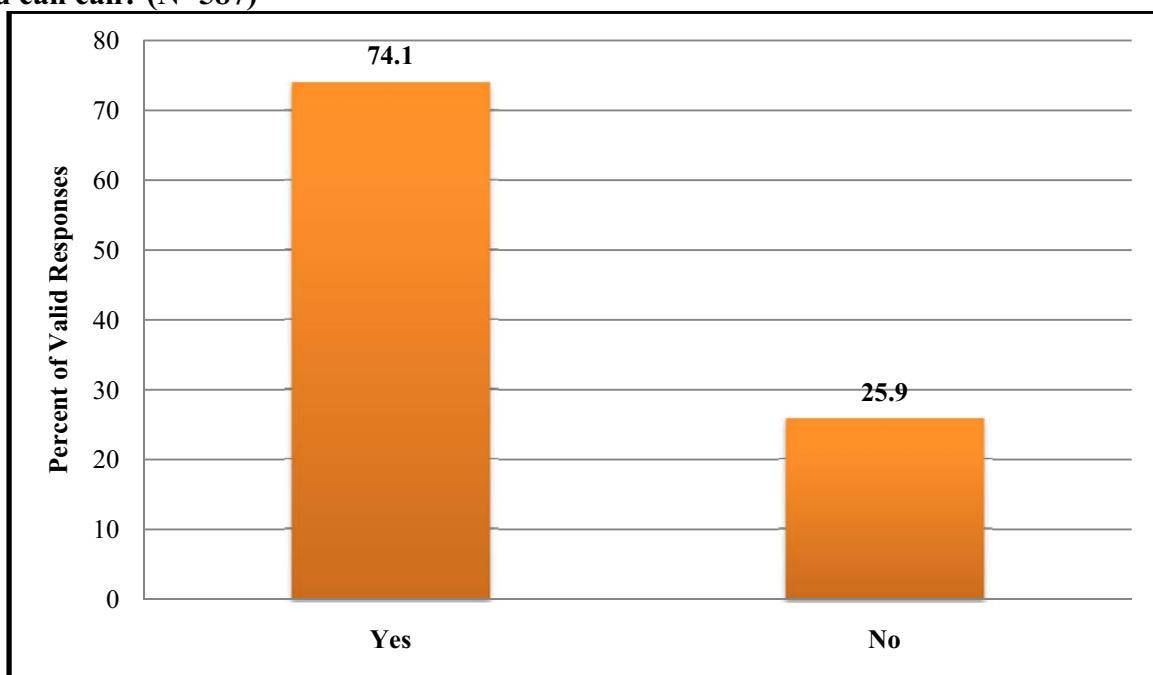
If respondents indicated yes, responses included:

- 911
- Parent
- Police
- Extended Family (cousin, grandparent, uncle, aunt)
- Siblings
- Friend

- Gang Member
- Godparent
- Emergency personnel
- Pastor
- Crime Stoppers
- School Resource Officer
- Program Manager

School Gang Presence

Of the respondents who indicated how safe they felt at school, 6.8% responded "not at all safe," 40.1% responded "somewhat safe," and 53.0% responded "very safe."
There were no differences in responses by age, gender or employment status.

There were significant differences in responses by ethnicity, $x^2(12, N = 531) = 46.68, p<.001$. Asian American students were more likely to report feeling 'not at all safe' whereas Hispanic respondents were more likely to report feeling 'somewhat safe' and were less likely to report feeling 'very safe'.

Figure 51: Youth Survey - How safe do you feel at school? (N=543)
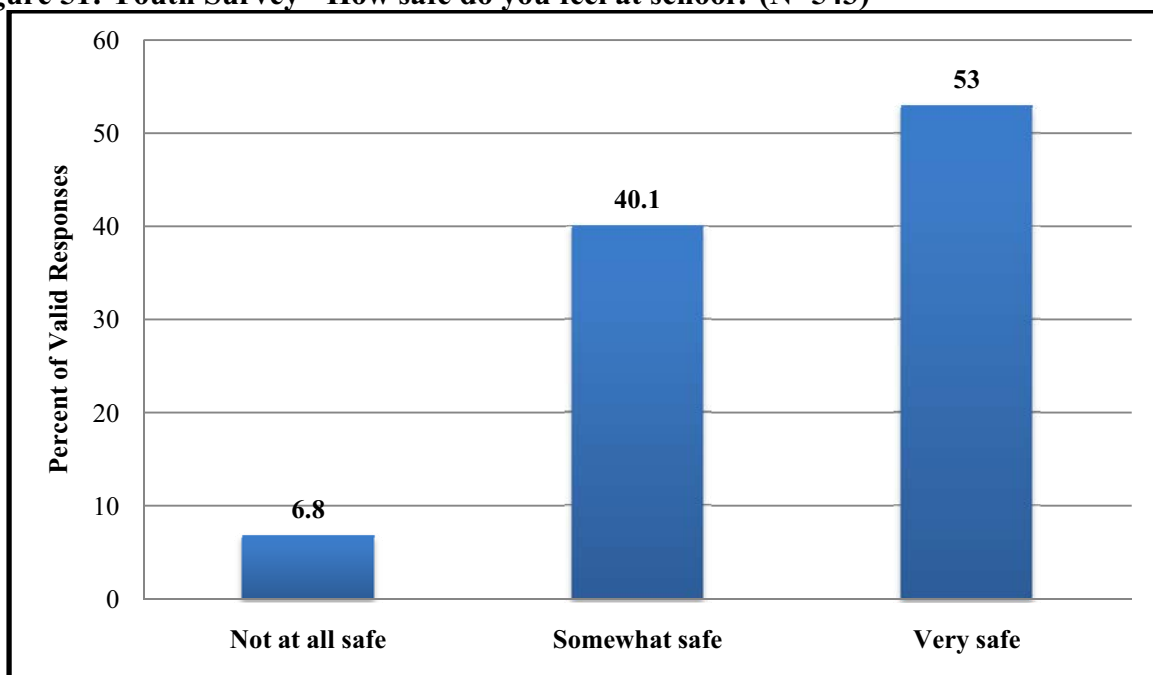
Gangs at your school

Of the respondents that indicated whether or not there are gangs in their school, 52.2% had gangs, 22.9% did not have gangs, and 24.9% did not know.

There were no differences in responses by gender or school status.

There were significant differences in responses by age, $F(2, 529) = 2.26, p <.001$, employment status, $x^2(4, N = 520) = 18.69, p <.01$, and ethnicity, $x^2(4, N = 569) = 18.47, p <.001$. Respondents with gangs in their schools were significantly older than respondents that did not have a school gang presence and respondents that did not have a school gang presence were significantly younger than those who did not know if there were gangs in their school.

Respondents that were not old enough to work yet were less likely to report a gang presence. In addition, respondents that were Hispanic were more likely than other ethnicities to report a school gang presence.

Figure 52: Youth Survey - Are there gangs in your school? (N=546)
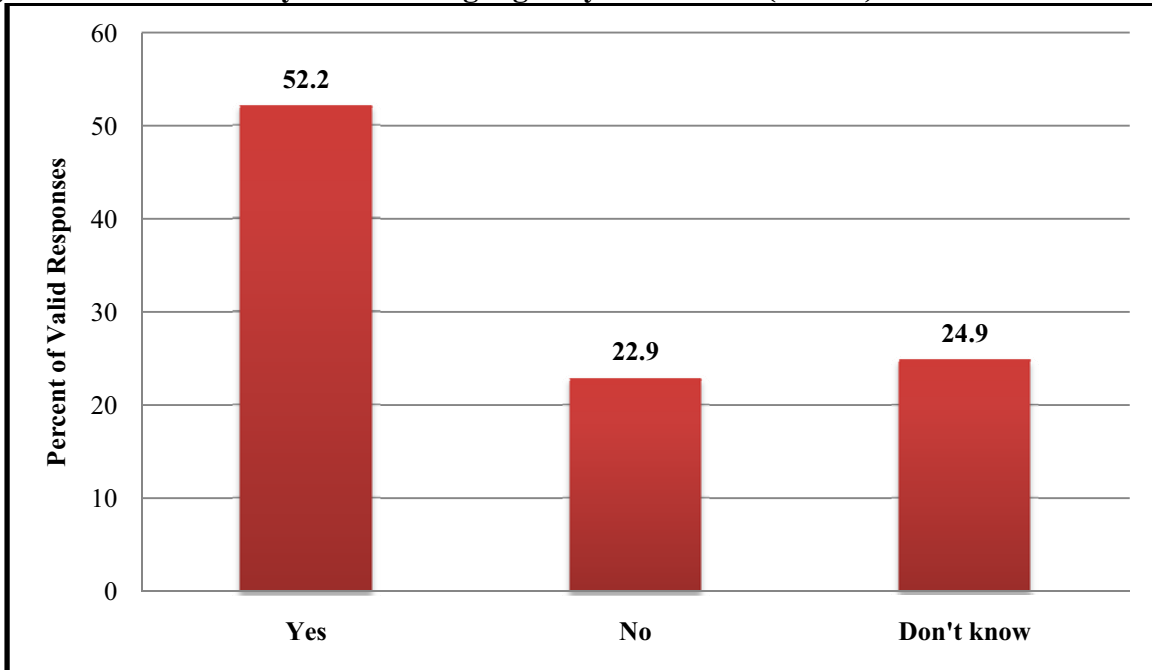
How do you know?

Respondents who indicated "yes" to the presence of gangs at their school indicated the following reasons for knowing:
- Gang signs/handshakes/calls
- Flags
- Tattoos
- Clothes-bandanas, beads, colors
- Graffiti
- Destroying property
- Violence (jumping other kids, fighting)
- Selling drugs
- Word of mouth (people talk or brag about it)
- Know them (friends with gang members or are family members)

Do gangs in your school do the following things?
Below are the percentages of valid responses of school activities that gangs engage in according to respondents.

Figure 53: Youth Survey - Do gangs in your school do the following things?
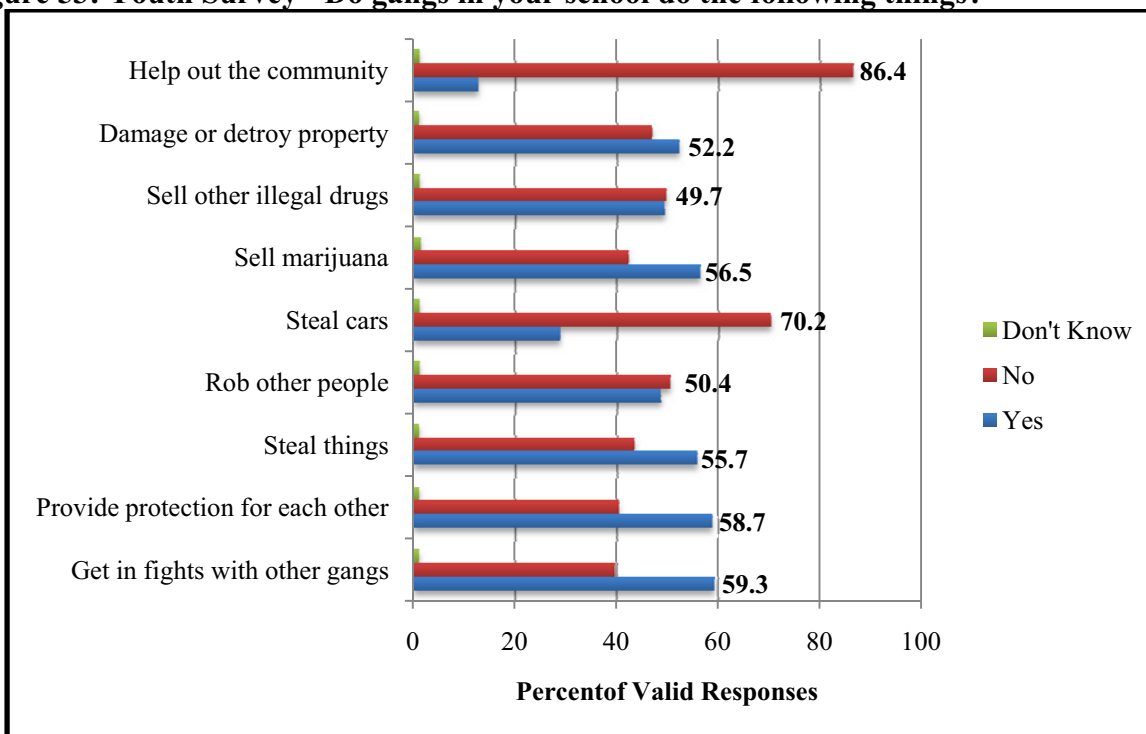
How often do gangs cause trouble at your school?

Of the respondents that indicated how often gangs cause trouble at their school, 22.0% reported 'daily', 17.5% reported 'at least once a week', 10.6% reported 'at least once a month', 23.8% reported 'on occasion', and 26.0% reported 'never'.

There were no differences in responses by gender or school status.

There were significant differences in responses by age, $F(4, 498) = 9.12, p < .001$), employment status, $x^2(8, N = 487) = 21.17, p < .01$, and ethnicity, $x^2(24, N = 502) = 53.19, p < .01$. Younger respondents reported that gangs never cause trouble at their school significantly more than older respondents. In addition, older respondents reported that gangs cause trouble on occasion significantly more than younger respondents. Respondents that are employed were more likely to report that gangs cause trouble at least once a week, whereas respondents that were not old enough to work yet were more likely to respond that gangs never cause trouble at their school. In addition, Hispanic respondents were more likely to report that gangs cause trouble at least once a month, whereas African American respondents were marginally more likely to report that gangs cause trouble daily at their school.

Figure 54: Youth Survey - How often to gangs cause trouble at your school? (N=508)
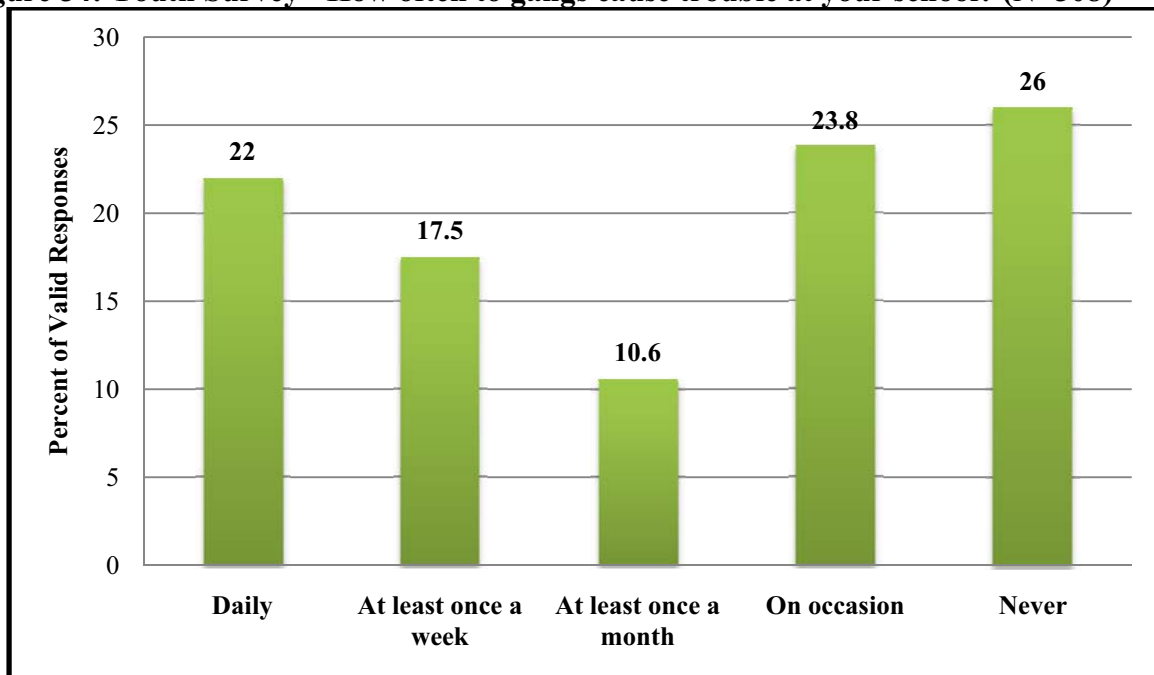
Community Resident Survey Summary

Community resident surveys were distributed in paper format across community agencies and administered online to residents ages 18 and older through Survey Monkey. A snowball sampling technique was used among community partners and several agency partners posted an online link to the surveys on their websites. A total of 209 community residents responded to the survey. Figure 55 depicts community resident respondents by the zip codes in which they live. Demographic information from this sample is provided below. All percentages are based on valid percents of the data (individuals that provided a response to the question at hand). Graphs for questions regarding the selection of the top three choices among a set of items reflect frequencies of responses. Below these graphs are descriptions of the valid percentages of responses for each category.

Figure 55: Community Resident Survey Responses by Zip Code

Number of Community Survey Responses by Zip Code
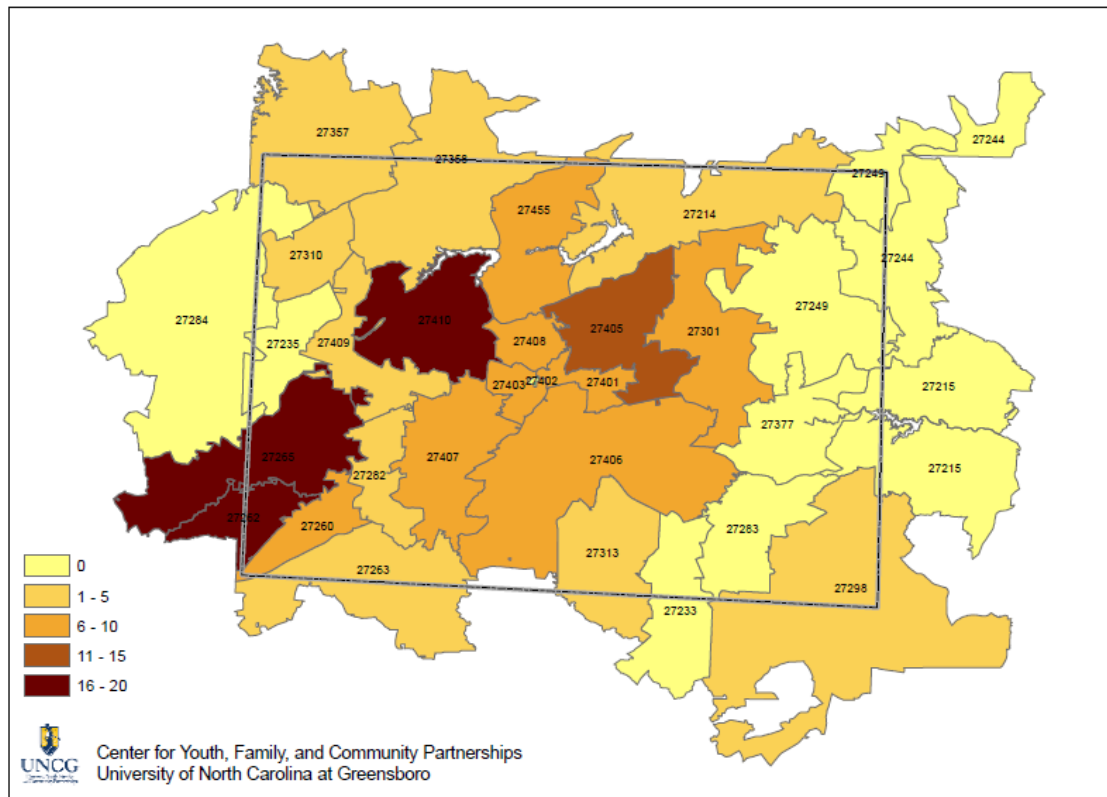
Demographics

What is your gender?

More than two-thirds (69.7%) of community resident respondents were female and 30.3% of community residents that responded were male.

Figure 56: Community Resident Survey - Respondent Gender (N=165)
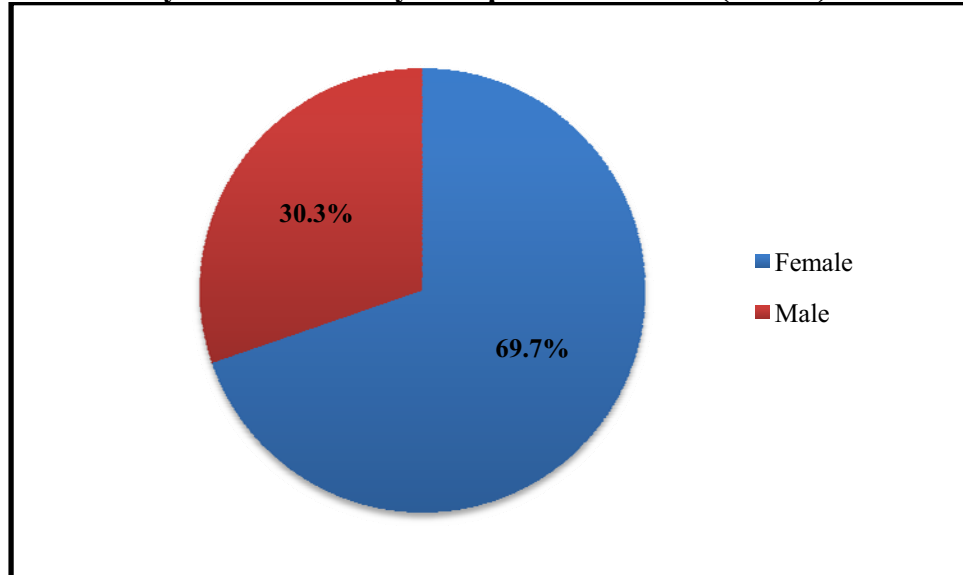
What is your race/ethnicity?

Community residents who identified as Caucasian/White (43.4%) accounted for the highest percentage of survey respondents. Community residents who identified as Hispanic/Latino (26.5%) and African American/Black (22.3%) were the next highest respondents. Community residents who identified as Biracial/Multiracial accounted for 3.6% of respondents, Asian Americans accounted for 1.2% of respondents, 0.6% of community resident respondents identified as American Indian/Native American, and the remaining 2.4% identified as 'Other' race/ethnicity category.

Figure 57: Community Resident Survey - Respondent Race/Ethnicity (N= 166)
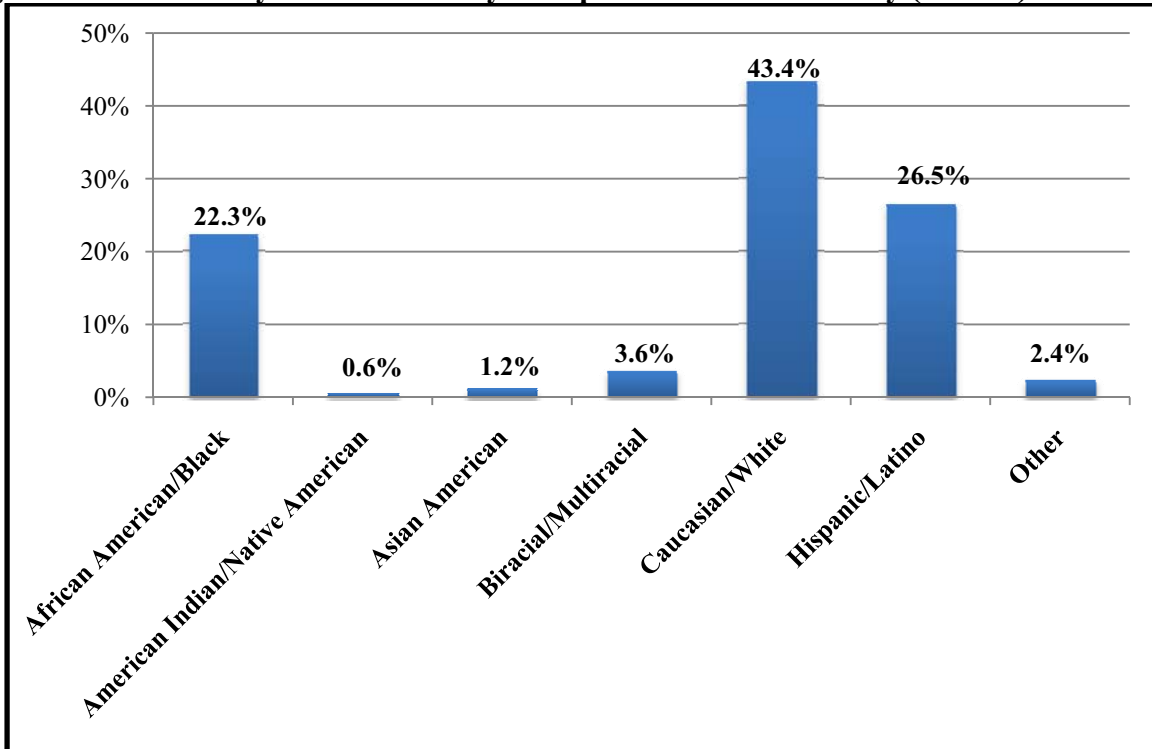
What is your age?

Community residents in the 31-40 year-old age group (32.7%) accounted for the highest percentage of survey respondents. Community resident survey respondents in the 41-50 year-old (18.9%), in the 51-60 year-old (17.6%), and in the 21-30 (17.0%) year-old age groups were almost equally represented. Survey respondents in the 61-70 year-old age group accounted for 8.2% of survey respondents, those in the under 20 years age group accounted for 5.0%, and those in the 71-80 year-old age group accounted for only 0.6%. None of the respondents for the community resident survey were above 80 years of age.

Figure 58: Community Resident Survey: Respondent Age (N=159)
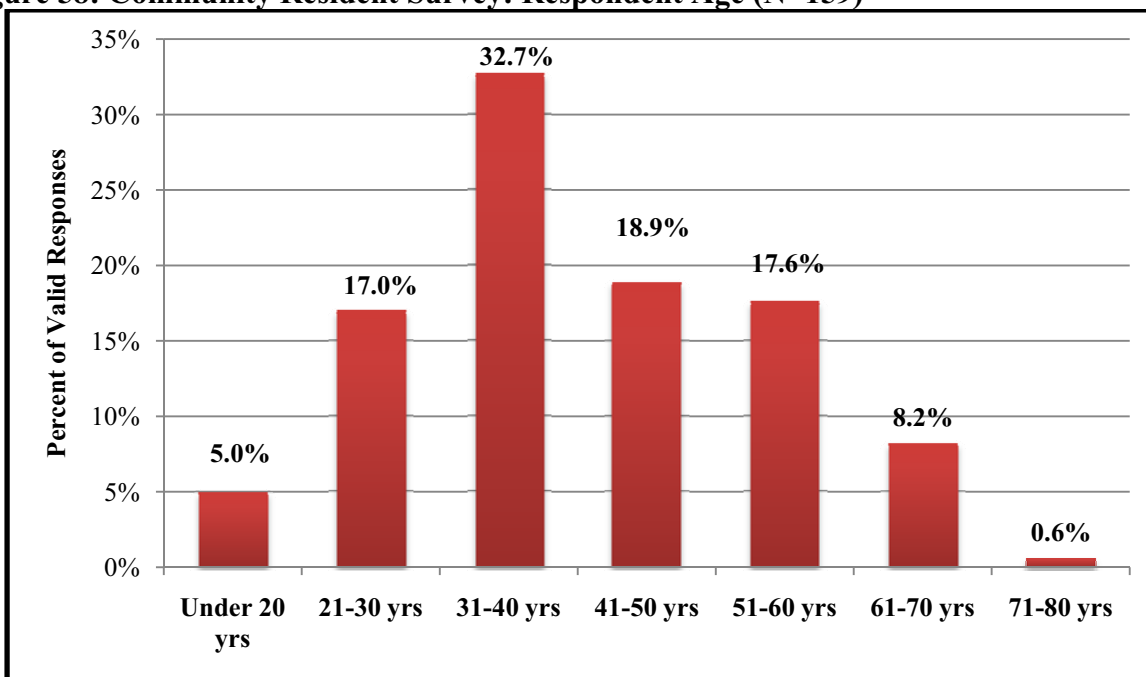
What is the highest level of schooling you have completed?

Nearly a third (32.9%) of community resident survey respondents reported having completed a graduate or professional school after college. Community residents who reported completing college were the next largest group, accounting for nearly a quarter (23.2%) of respondents. Survey respondents who reported completing some college accounted for 18.9%, while 11% reported having completed high school. The remaining respondents reported completing some high school (7.9%), completing grade school or less (5.5%), and completing vocational or technical training (0.6%).

Figure 59: Community Resident Survey - Respondent Education Attainment (N=164)
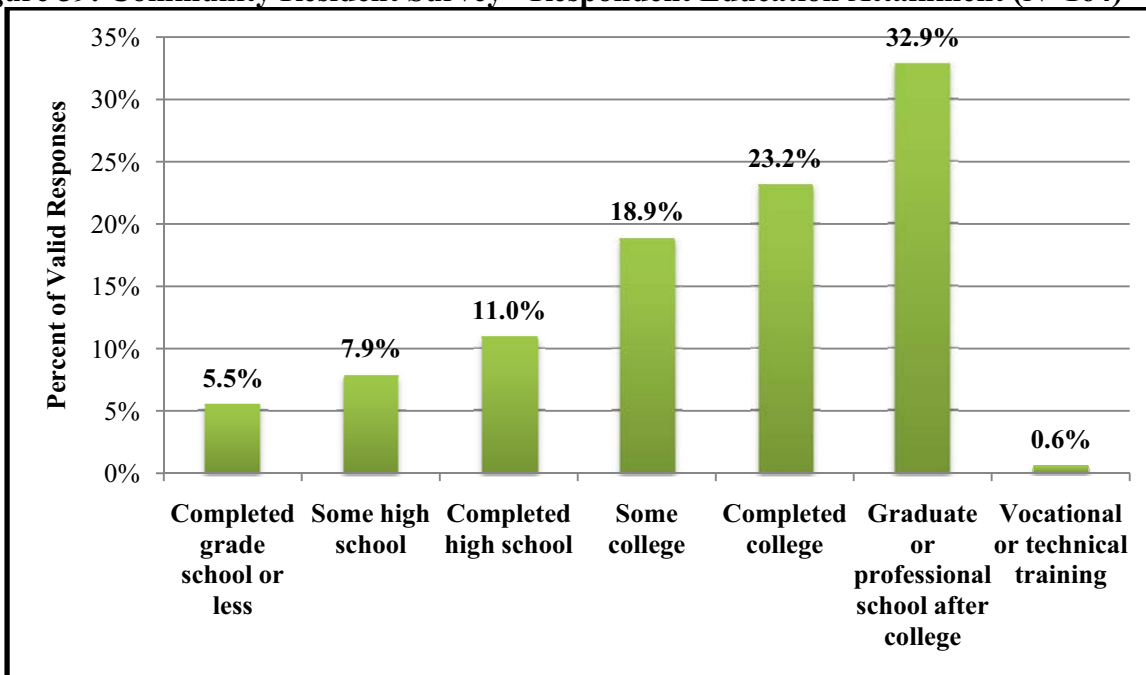
How long have you lived in Guilford County?

When asked how long they had lived in Guilford County, answers ranged from less than a year to 66 years. The average community resident reported living in Guilford County for 16 years.

Community concerns

Unemployment was selected as the primary concern for community resident respondents (65.2%), followed by burglary or robbery at 40%, gang activity at 34.2% and drug dealing at 34.2%. Other concerns were selected as follows: unkempt property (17.9%), low police activity (14.7%), homicide (13.7%), domestic violence (12.6%), vandalism (12.1%), insufficient street lighting (10.5%), truancy (6.8%), none (5.8%), loud music (5.8%), other (5.3%), and graffiti (3.2%).

Figure 60: Community Resident Survey - Please select the top three concerns that you have about your community, if any. (N=190)
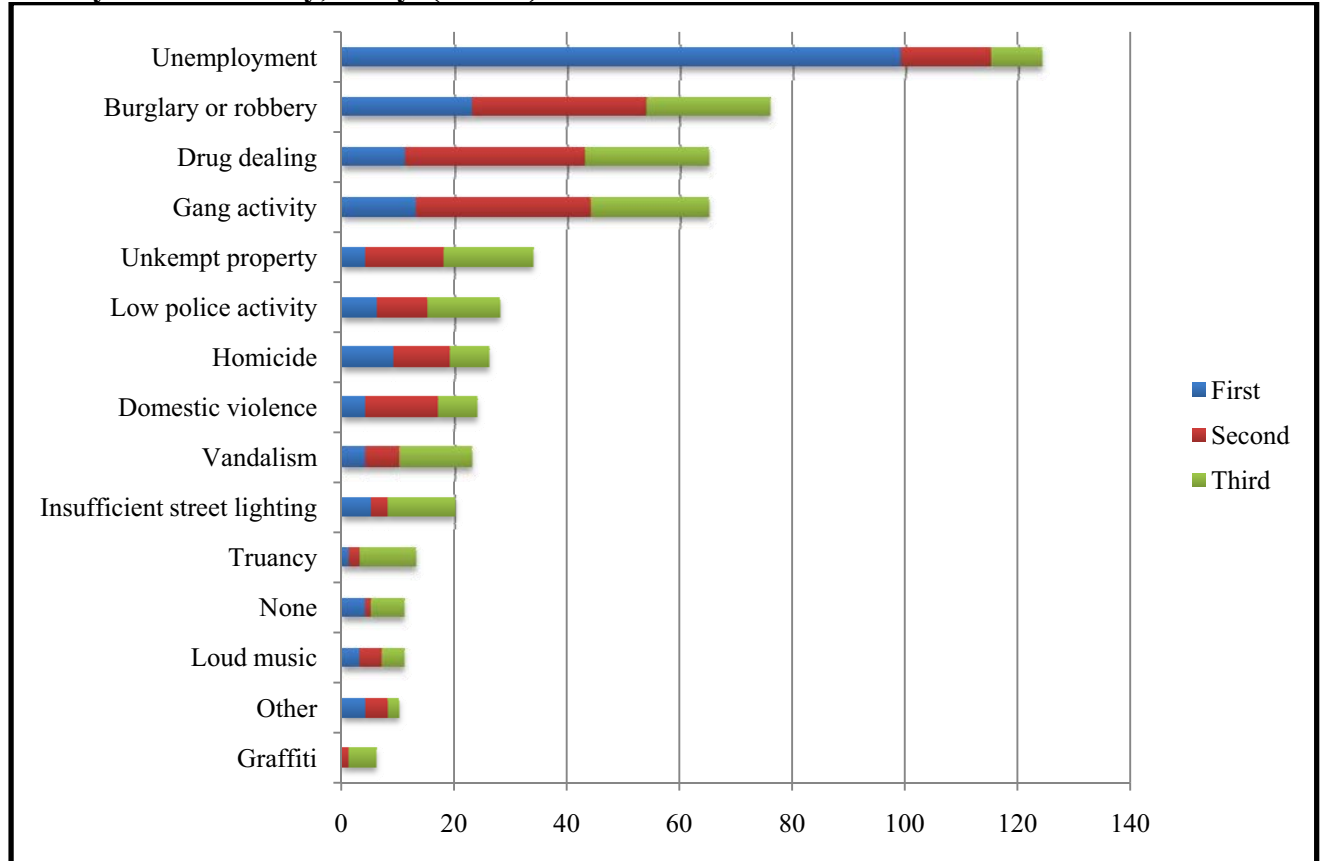
Community safety

About half (51.6%) of the community residents reported feeling somewhat safe in their community, almost half (41.7%) reported definitely feeling safe in their community, and the remaining one-tenth (6.8%) of respondents reported not feeling safe at all.

Figure 61: Community Resident Survey - Do you feel safe in your community? (N=192)
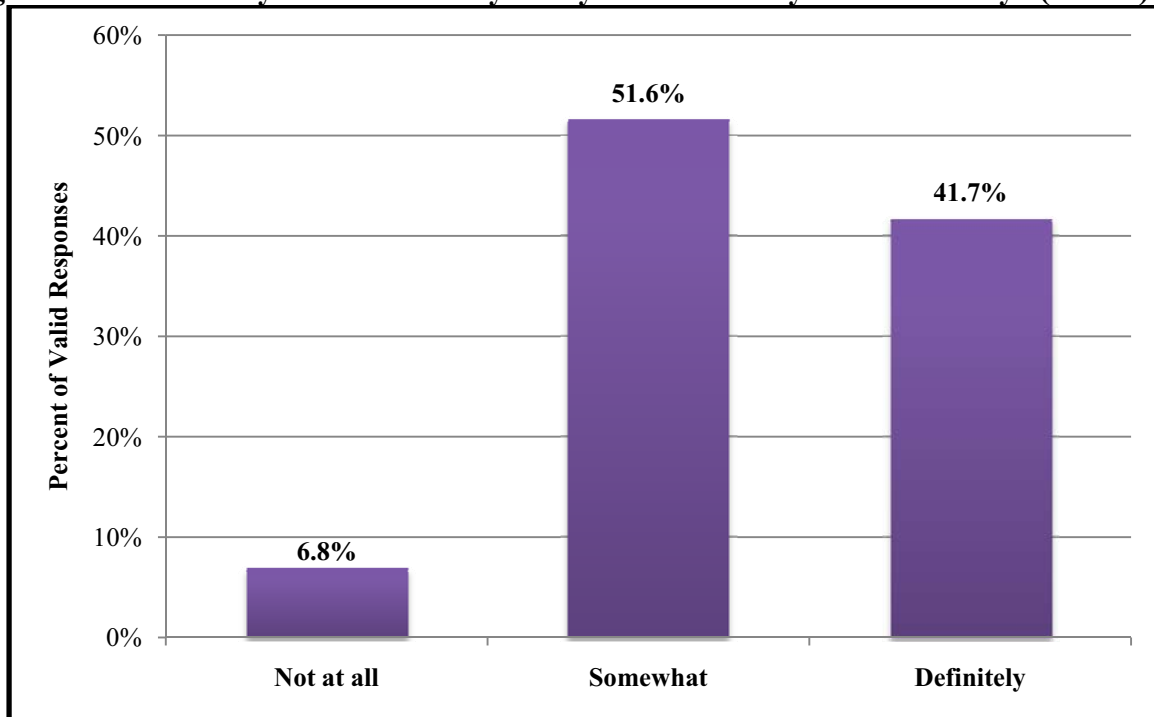
Gangs in community

Most (60.9%) of community residents believe gangs are a problem in their community, with the remainder feeling that gangs are not a problem in their community.

Figure 62: Community Resident Survey - Do you believe gangs are a problem in your community? (N=192)
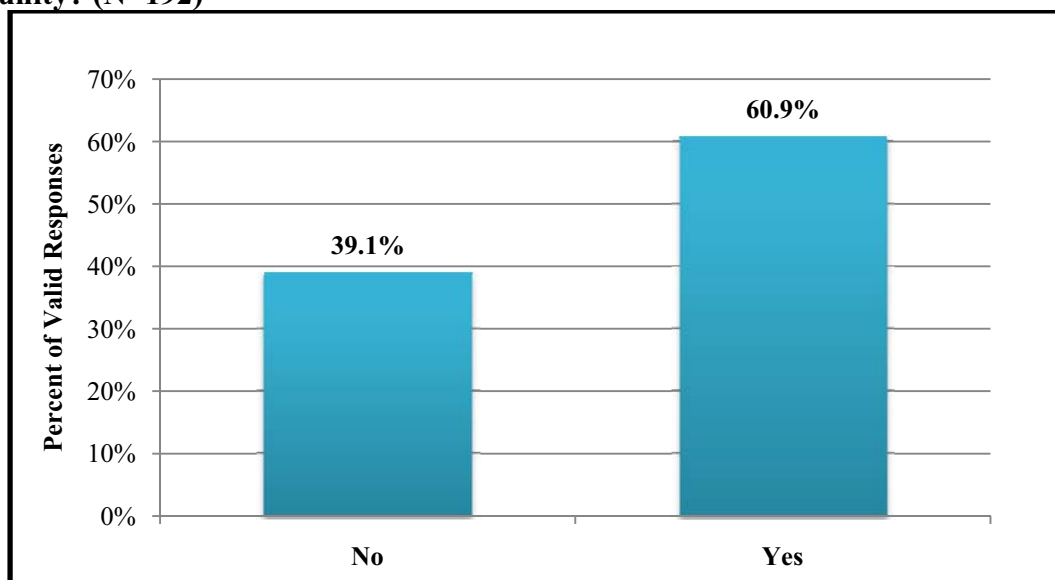
**In the past year, has gang-related activity in your community…**

Half of the community respondents (50.4%) reported that the rate of gang-related activity in their community stayed the same in the past year, while 41.9% reported an increase in gang-related activity, and 7.7% reported a decrease in gang-related activity in their community.

Figure 63: Community Resident Survey - In the past year, has gang-related activity in your community... (N=117)
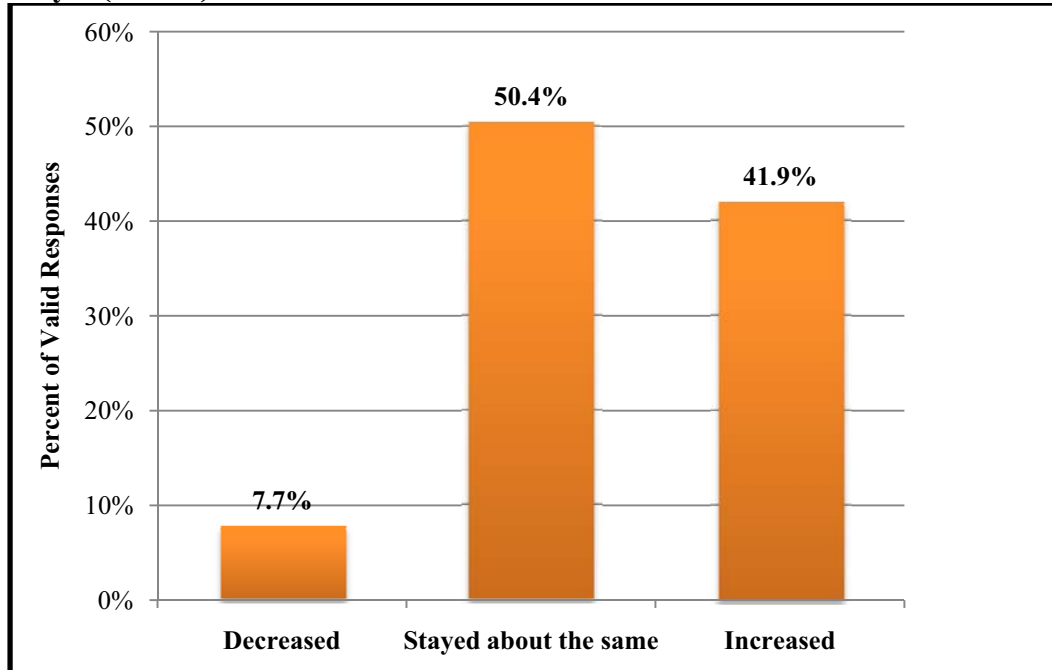
**Top three problems that gangs present**

The largest proportion (40.4%) of community resident respondents reported one of the top three problems gangs present is an increase in violent crime in their community. An increase in drug crimes was the next problem selected by 34.0%, followed by an increase in fear for safety selected by 32.0%. In addition, nearly 30% of community respondents reported that gangs are not a problem in their community, 29.0% reported that school disruption, 22.9% reported an increase in weapon crimes, 20.2% reported public nuisance, 20.2% reported fighting, 16.0% reported family disruption, and 4.3% reported other as one of the top three problems gangs represent in their community.

**Figure 64: Community Resident Survey - Please select the top three problems, if any, that gangs present in your community. (N=188)**
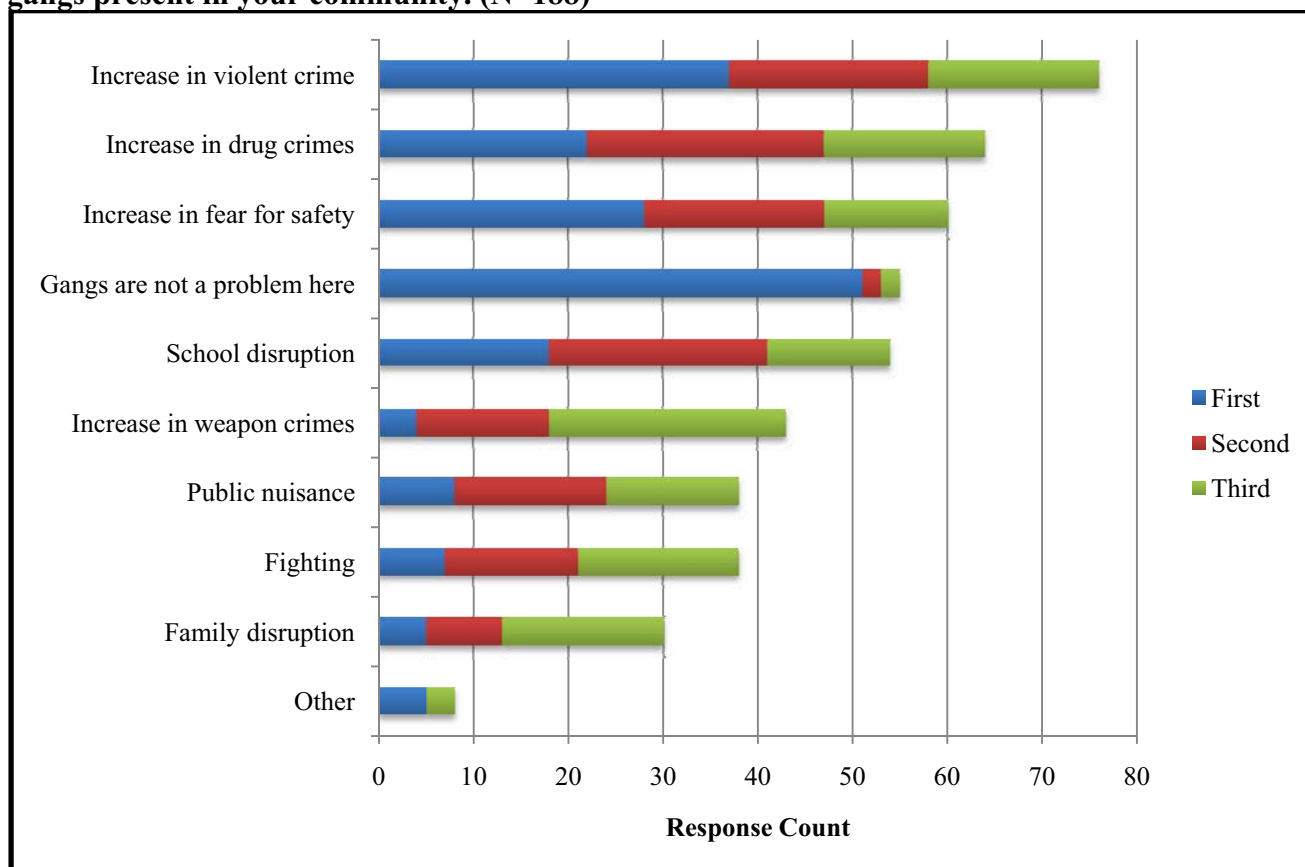
Frequency of witnessing gang-related activities

Of the respondents who have seen gang-related activities, the largest percentage (32%) witnessed new gang graffiti being posted 1-3 times a year and 16% witnessed the same activity about once a month. About one-tenth of the respondents witnessed each of the following gang-related activities 1-3 times each year: gang members selling drugs (13%), fights between gang members of different gangs (11%), fights between members of the same gang (14%), a drive-by shooting (14%), gang intimidation (10%), and gang recruiting (10%). Close to one-tenth of the respondents reported witnessing gang members selling drugs (8%) and fights between gang members of different gangs (7%) about once a month, and between 7-8% of the respondents witnessed the same activities more than once per month. Approximately one-tenth (10%) of the respondents also reported witnessing gang members selling drugs (9%), gang intimidation (7%), and gang recruiting once a week or more (9%).

Table 34: Community Resident Survey - Frequency of gang-related activities in the community. (N=184)

	Never/ No times	A few times (1-3 times over 1 year)	More than a few times (about once per month)	Often (more than once per month)	Frequently (once a week or more)
New gang graffiti being posted	**46%** (84)	32% (58)	16% (29)	4% (7)	3% (6)
Gang members selling drugs	**62%** (114)	13% (24)	8% (14)	8% (15)	9% (17)
Fights between members of different gangs	**71%** (130)	11% (21)	7% (13)	7% (12)	4% (8)
Fights between members of the same gang	**76%** (139)	14% (26)	3% (5)	5% (10)	2% (4)
A drive-by shooting	**82%** (150)	14% (25)	3% (6)	1% (2)	0.5% (1)
Gang intimidation	**72%** (133)	10% (19)	5% (10)	5% (10)	7% (12)
Gang recruiting	**71%** (130)	10% (18)	6% (11)	5% (9)	9% (16)

Top three reasons gang activity exists

The largest proportion (33.0%) of community respondents reported lack of parental supervision as one of the top three reasons they believe gang activity exists in their community. Poverty was selected by 28.1%, family problems was selected by 26.4%, to feel love or a sense of belonging was selected by 25.0%, and lack of community resources or programs was selected by 24.0%. About a quarter of respondents (23.0%) reported that gangs are not a problem in their community. Family/friends in gangs was selected by 20.2%, school problems was selected by 18.5%, gang members move from other areas was selected by 17.4%, power was selected by 14.6%, boredom was selected by 11.2%, lack of activities was selected by 9.0%, protection was selected by 8.4%, other was selected by 3.3%, and police labeling was selected by 3.0%.

Figure 65: Community Resident Survey - Please select the top three reasons why you believe gang activity exists in your community (N=178)
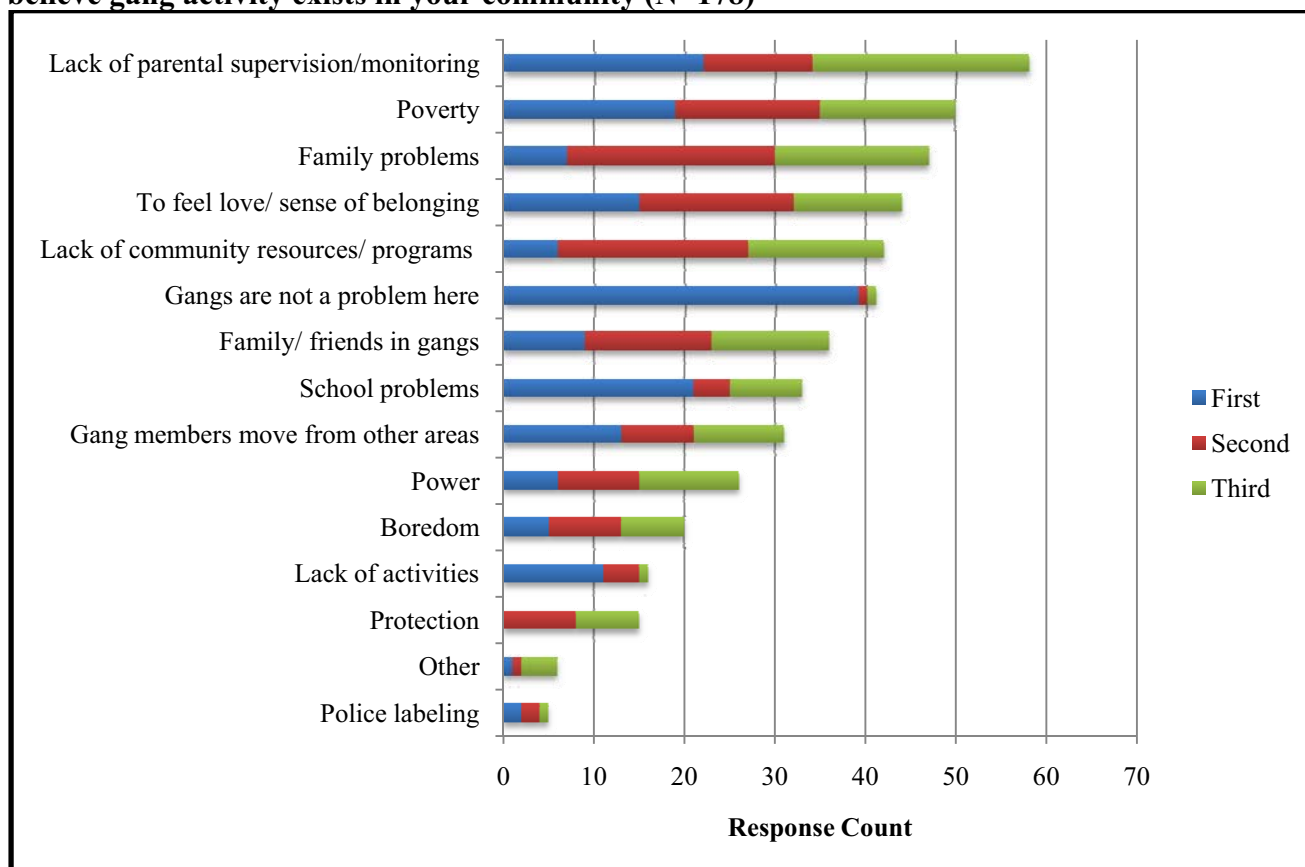
Top three things to be done about gangs and gang-related activity

The largest proportion (57.0%) of community respondents reported more parental involvement as one of the top three things they believe should be done about gangs and gang-related activity in their community. Mentoring was selected by 39.3%, jobs and job training was selected by 37.0%, recreation programs was selected by 31.5%, school programs was selected by 30.3%, and more police presence was selected by 26.4%. 21.3% of respondents reported that gangs were not a problem in their community. In addition, 11.8% reported new laws/ordinances, 10.1% reported tutoring, and 3.4% reported other as their top three things they believe should be done about gangs and gang-related activity in their community.

Figure 66: Community Resident Survey - Please select the top three things you believe should be done about gangs and gang-related activity in your community (N=178)
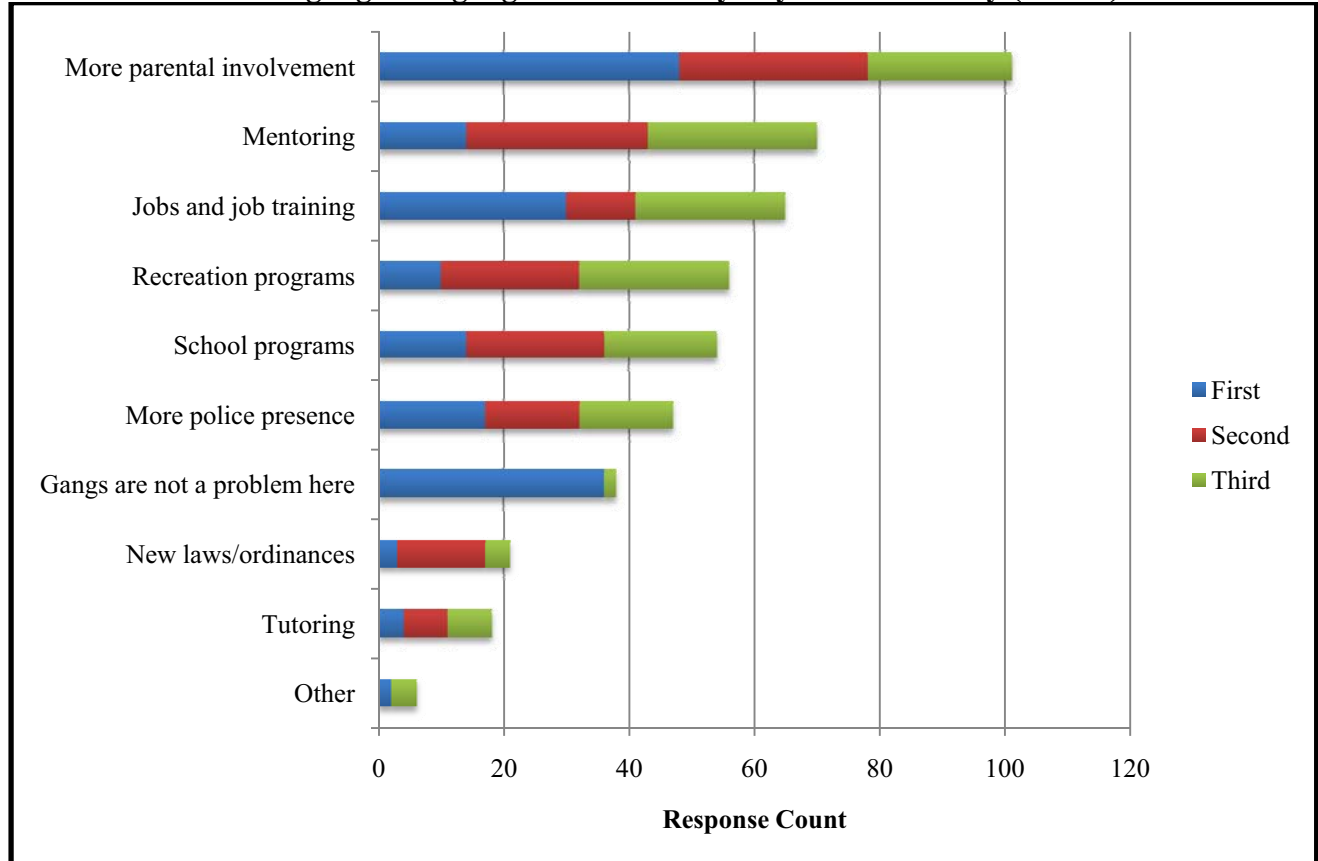
Top three organizations most responsible for dealing with gangs and gang-related activity

The largest proportions (71.0%) of community respondents reported in their top three organizations for dealing with gangs that the police are responsible, 67% reported that families are responsible and 45% reported that the court/criminal justice system is responsible. Other response selections were as follows: schools (32.0%), community residents (22.5%), churches (18.0%), service providers (11.2%), neighborhood association (9.6%), treatment providers (8.4%), housing authority (6.7%), and other (2.2%) organizations.

Figure 67: Community Resident Survey - Please select the top three organizations you believe are most responsible for dealing with gangs and gang-related activity (N=178)

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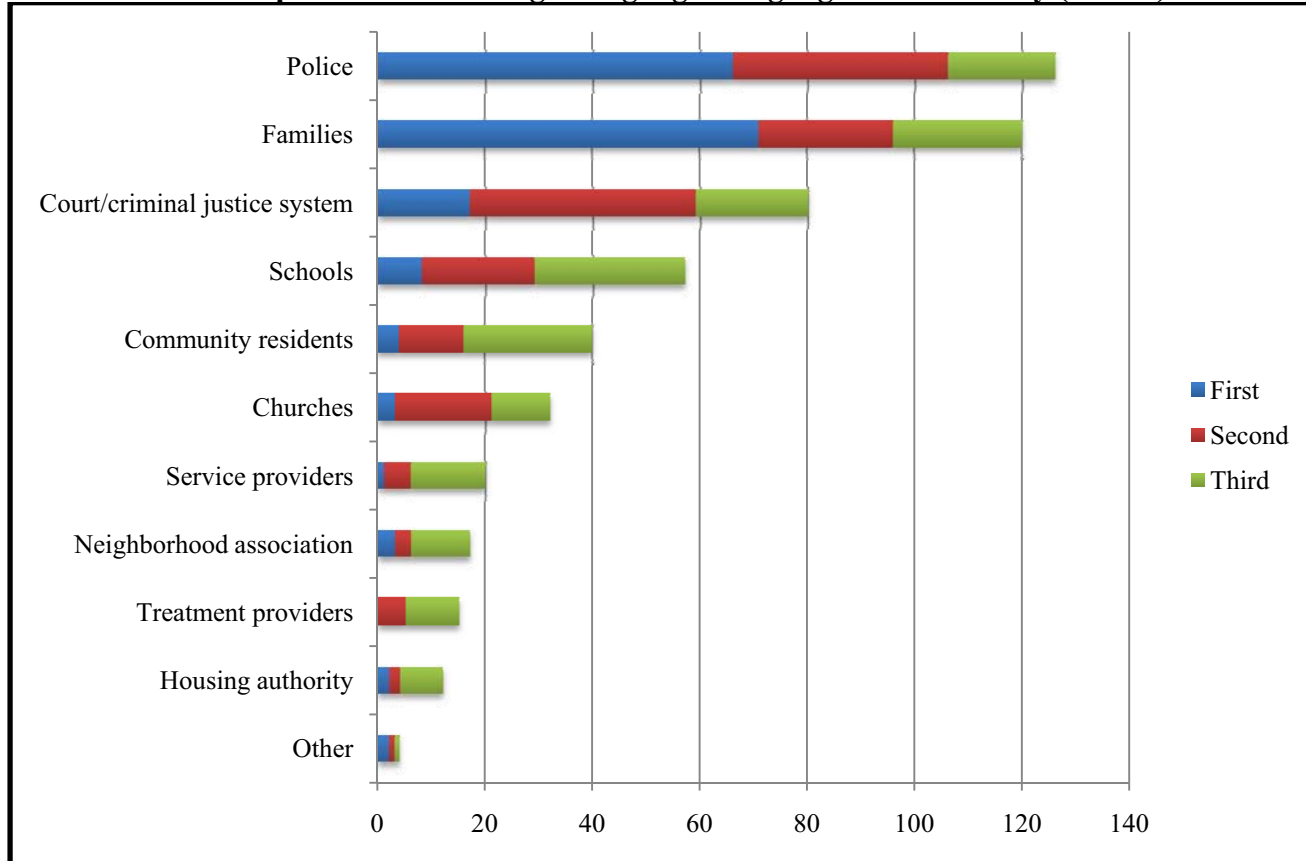
Community resources available to help young people (22 years old and under) involved in gangs

The highest percentage (59.6%) of the community respondents did not know if there are resources available to help young people involved in gangs in the community. Nearly a quarter (23%) of the respondents reported that resources exist in the community to help the youth involved in gangs, and one-sixth (17.4%) of the respondents reported that no resources exist.

Figure 68: Community Resident Survey - Are there any resources available to help young people (22 years old and under) involved in gangs in the community? (N=178)
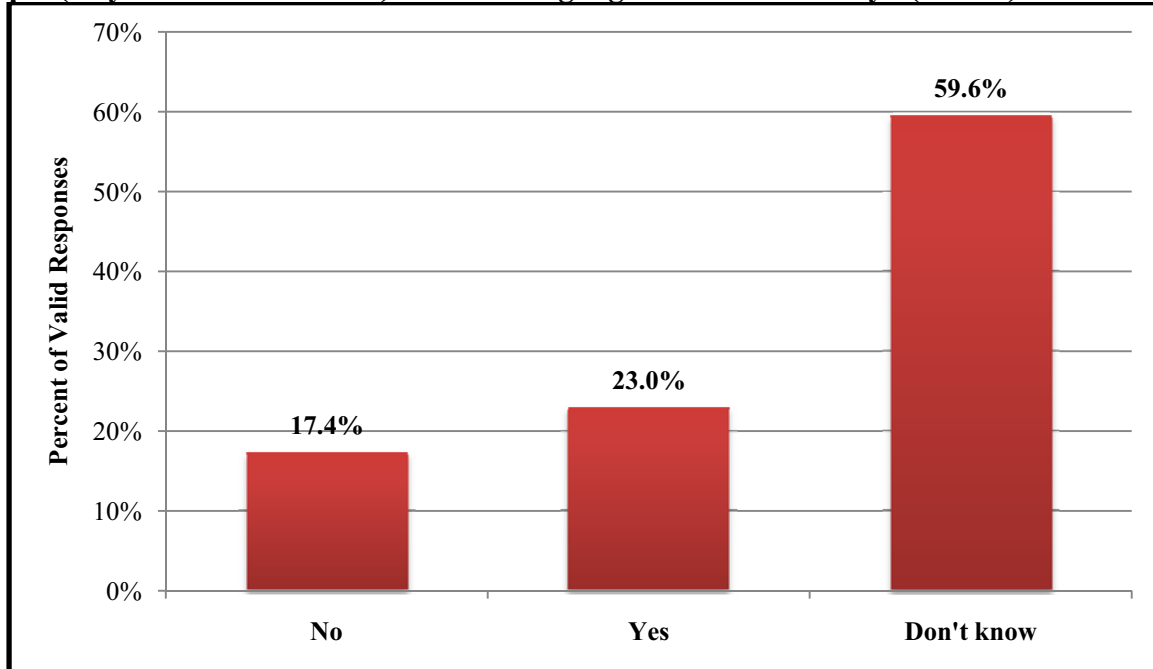
**Community resources to help the families young people (22 years old and under) involved in gangs**

Almost two-thirds (62.9%) of the community respondents did not know if there are resources available to help families of youth involved in gangs in the community. One-fifth (20.8%) of the respondents reported that resources exist in the community to help families of youth involved in gangs, and almost one-sixth (16.3%) of the respondents reported that no resources exist.

Figure 69: Community Resident Survey - Are there any resources available to help the families of young people (22 years old and under) involved in gangs in the community? (N=178)
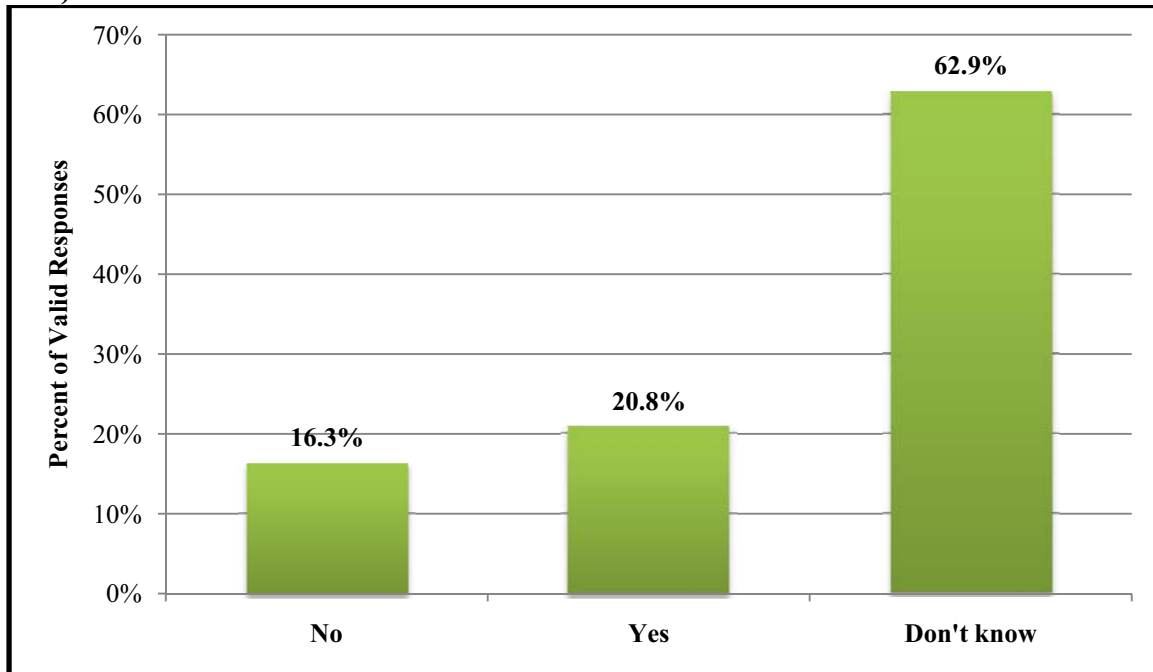
___Community resources to prevent young people from becoming involved in gangs___

The highest percentage (66.3%) of community respondents did not know if there are resources available that help prevent youth from becoming involved in gangs in the community. One-fifth (20.2%) of the respondents reported that resources exist in the community to help prevent youth from becoming involved in gangs, and slightly under one-sixth (13.5%) of the respondents reported that no preventive resources exist.

Figure 70: Community Resident Survey - Are there any resources in the community that help prevent young people (22 years old and under) from becoming involved in gangs? (N=178)
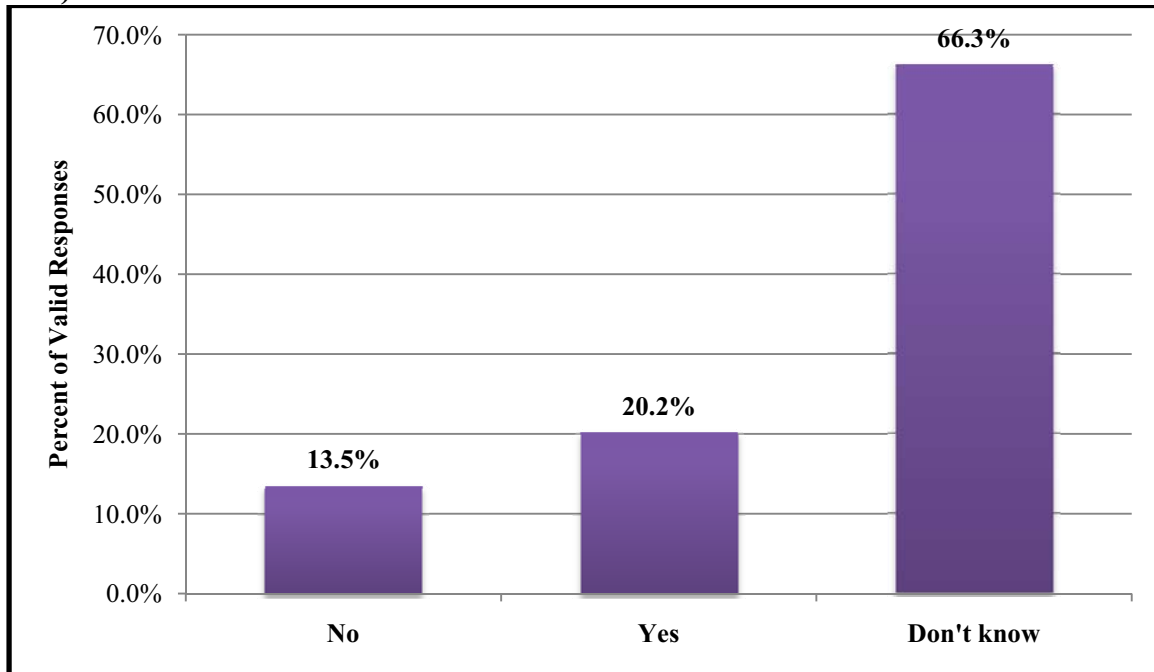
**Satisfaction with current law enforcement response to gangs**

Approximately one-third (30%) of community respondents reported being satisfied with the current response to gangs by law enforcement, 28% reported being unsure of how they felt, and 28% reported being very dissatisfied with the current response to gangs by law enforcement. Less than ten percent (8.5%) were very dissatisfied and the lowest percentage (6%) was very satisfied with the current response to gangs by law enforcement.

Figure 71: Community Resident Survey - How satisfied are you with the current response to gangs by law enforcement? (N=176)
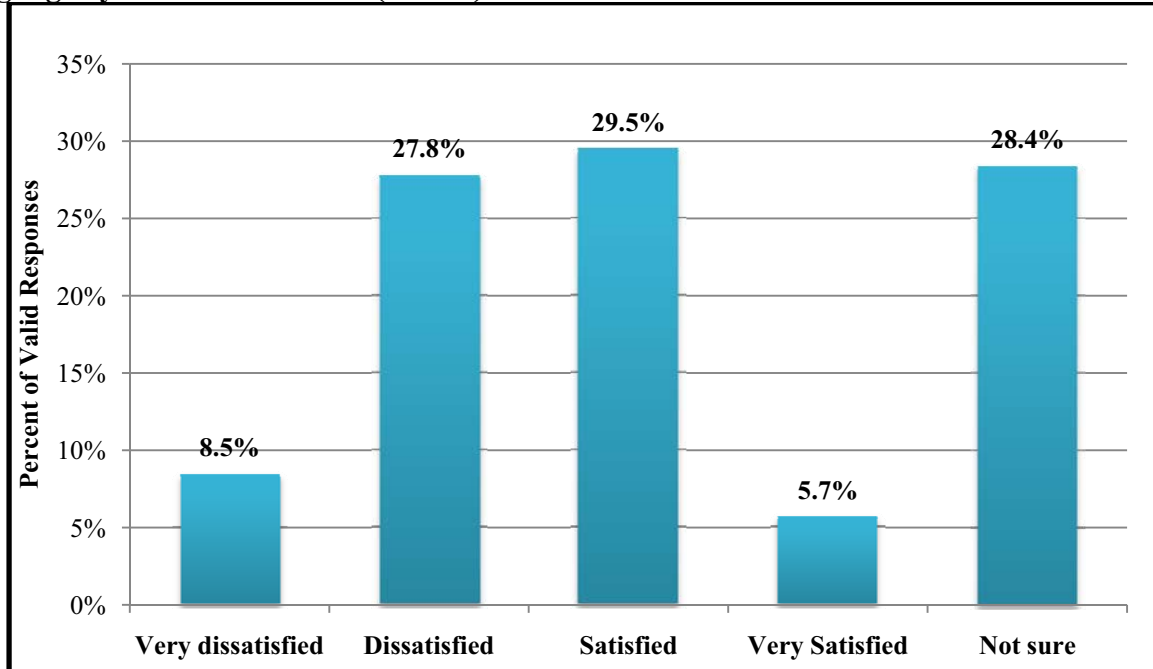
Satisfaction with current social services agencies' response to gangs

Approximately one-third (36.4%) of the community residents responded that they are dissatisfied with the current response to gangs by social service agencies. One-third (33.0%) were unsure of how they felt. Approximately one-fifth of respondents reported that they are satisfied (21.0%), less than one-tenth (8.5%) reported being very dissatisfied, and 1.1% reported being very satisfied with the current response to gangs by social service agencies.

Figure 72: Community Resident Survey - How satisfied are you with the current response to gangs by social services agencies? (N=176)
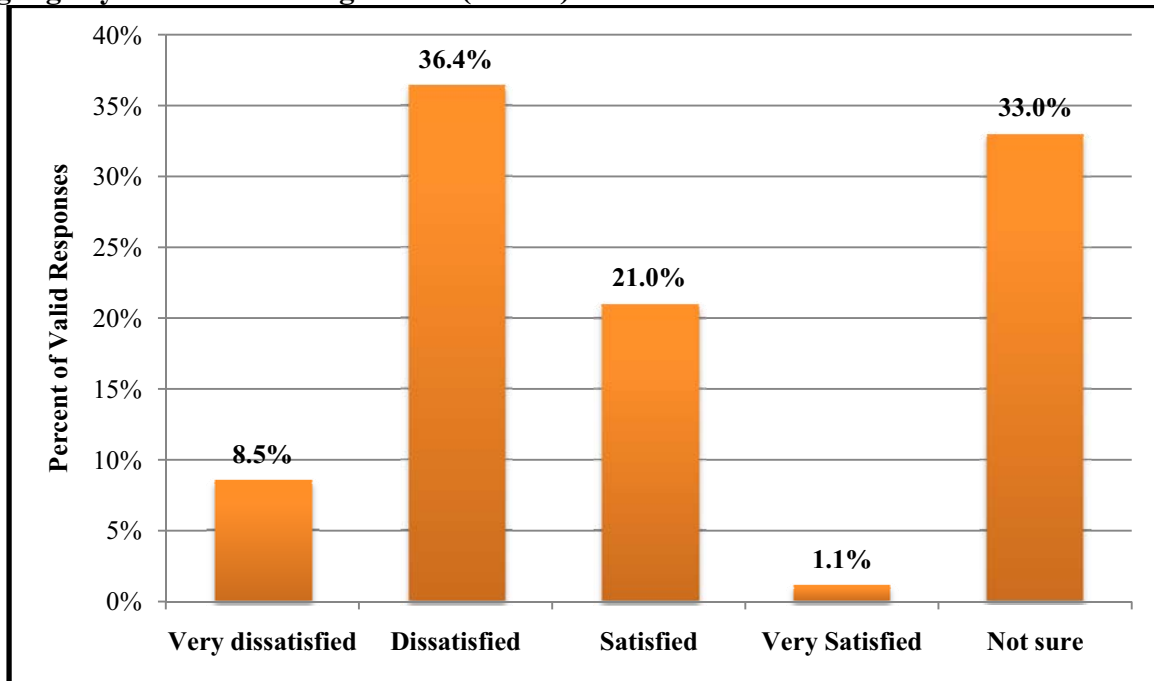
Satisfaction with current school response to gangs

The highest proportion (38%) of community respondents reported that they are dissatisfied with the current response to gangs by schools. Nearly 27% were unsure of how they felt, 16.5% of respondents reported that they are very dissatisfied, and 17% reported that they are satisfied with the current response to gangs by schools. Finally, the smallest percentage (1.7%) reported being very satisfied.

Figure 73: Community Resident Survey - How satisfied are you with the current response to gangs by schools? (N=176)
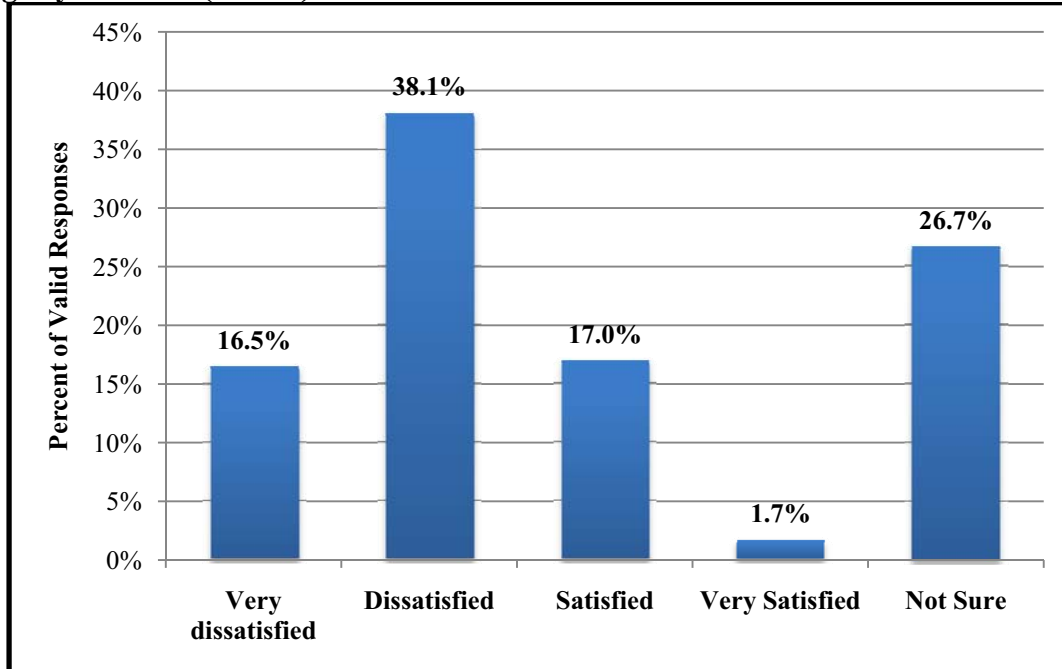
Are you a parent?

Slightly over half (57.4%) of the community resident respondents are parents.

Figure 74: Community Resident Survey - Are you a parent? (N=176)
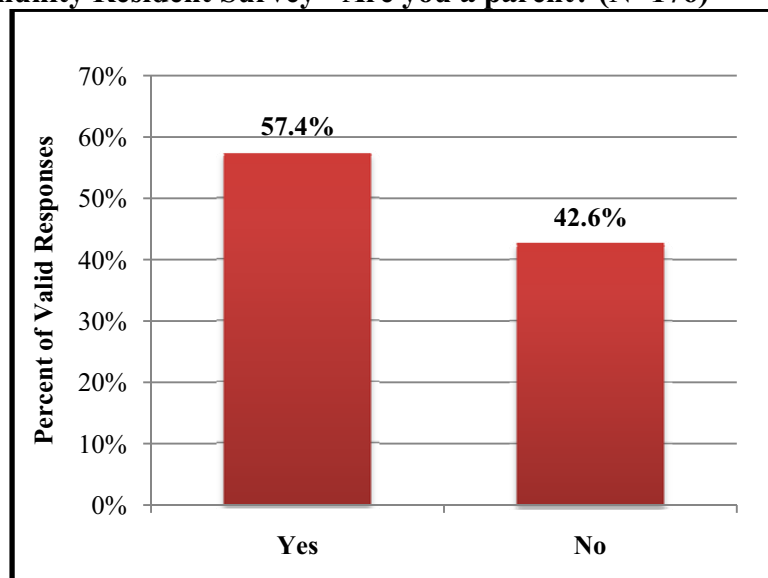
Gang involvement of child(ren)

Of the community resident respondents that had children, the vast majority (87.5%) of the community respondents reported that their child or children are not involved in a gang, with approximately 10% responding that they did not know and 2% responding that their child or children are involved in a gang.

Figure 75: Community Resident Survey - To your knowledge, are your child(ren) involved in a gang? (N=96)
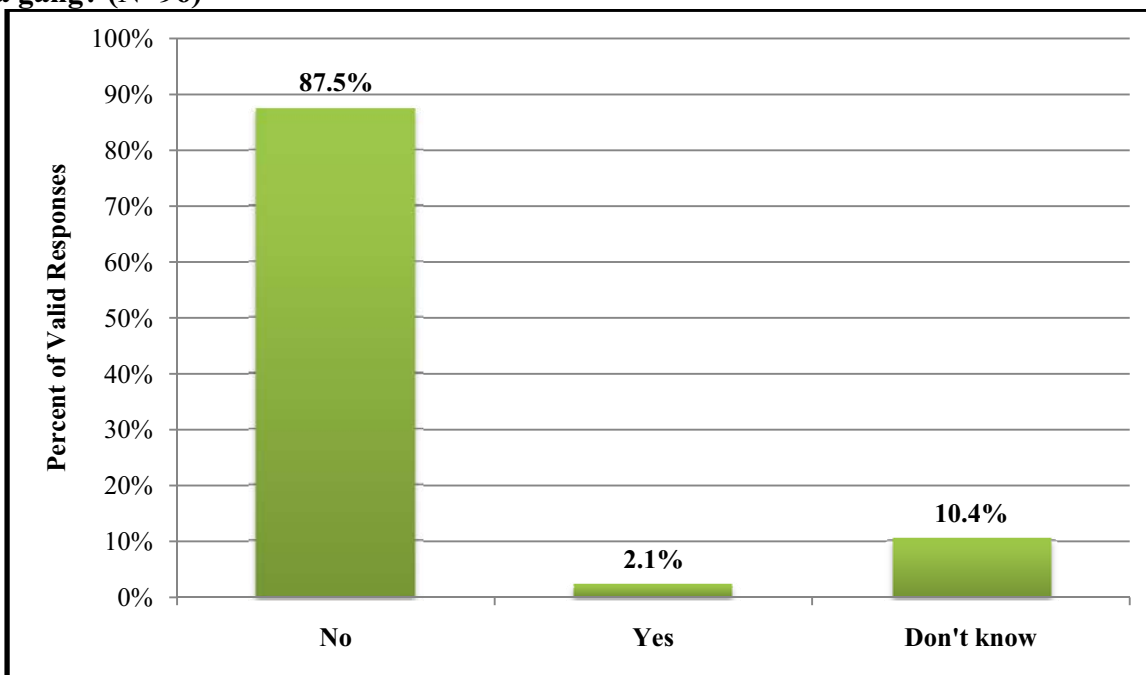
Child(ren) risk of gang involvement

Of the community resident respondents that had children, the largest proportion (72.9%) of respondents reported that they did not think that their child or children are at risk of becoming involved in a gang, 13.5% of community respondents reported that they did not know and an additional 13.5% reported that they think that their child or children are at risk of becoming involved in a gang.

Figure 76: Community Resident Survey - Do you think your child(ren) are at risk of becoming involved in a gang? (N=96)
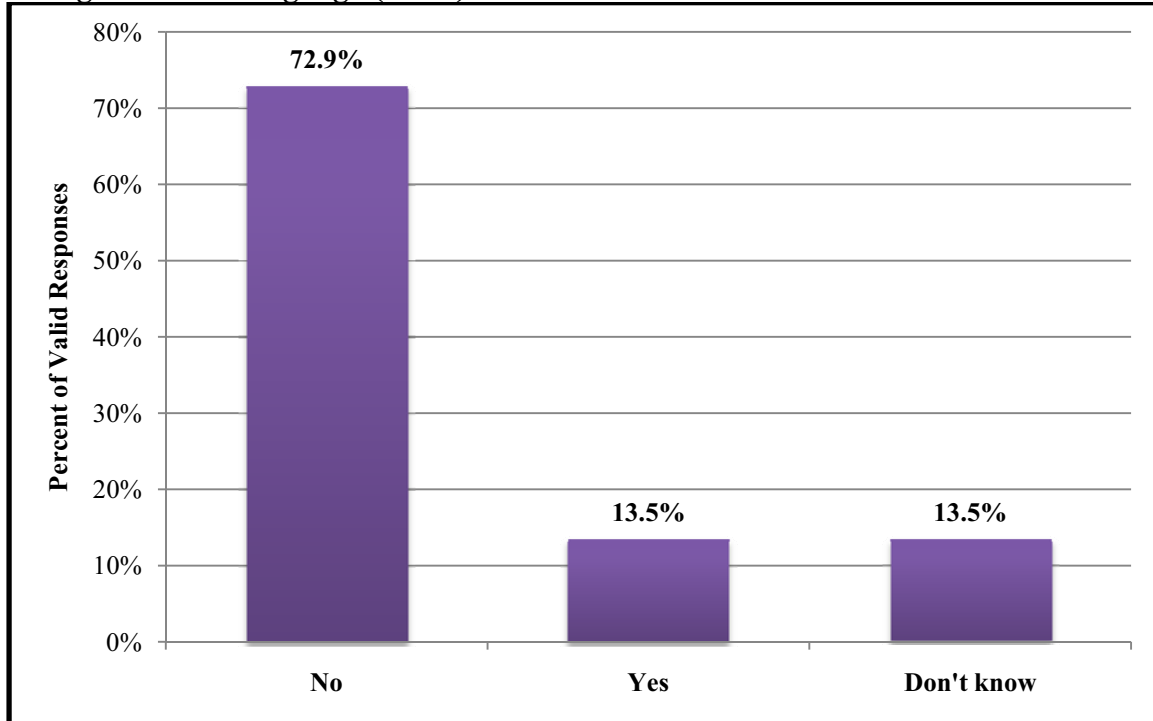
Child(ren)'s friends gang involvement

Of the community resident respondents that had children, the highest percentage (67%) of community residents responded that their children's friends are not involved in gangs, while about one-sixth of the respondents reported that their children's friends are involved in gangs and about 19% responded that they did not know.

Figure 77: Community Resident Survey - To your knowledge, are any of your child(ren)'s friends involved in gangs? (N=96)
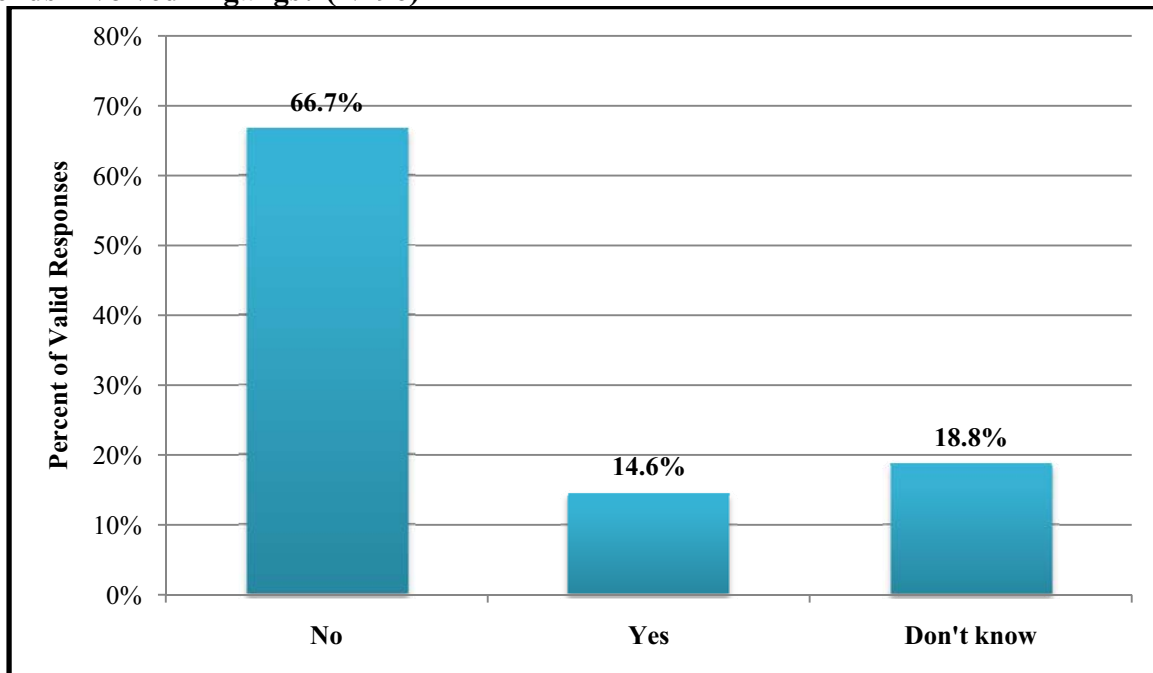
**Availability of resources for parents of youth involved in gangs**

The largest proportion (74%) of community respondents reported that they did not know if there are any resources available to help parents of youth who are involved in gangs. Close to one-sixth of the respondents (13.5%) reported that resources exist, and 12.5% responded that resources do not exist to help parents of youth who are involved in gangs.

Figure 78: Community Resident Survey - Are there any resources available to help parents of youth who are involved in gangs? (N=96)
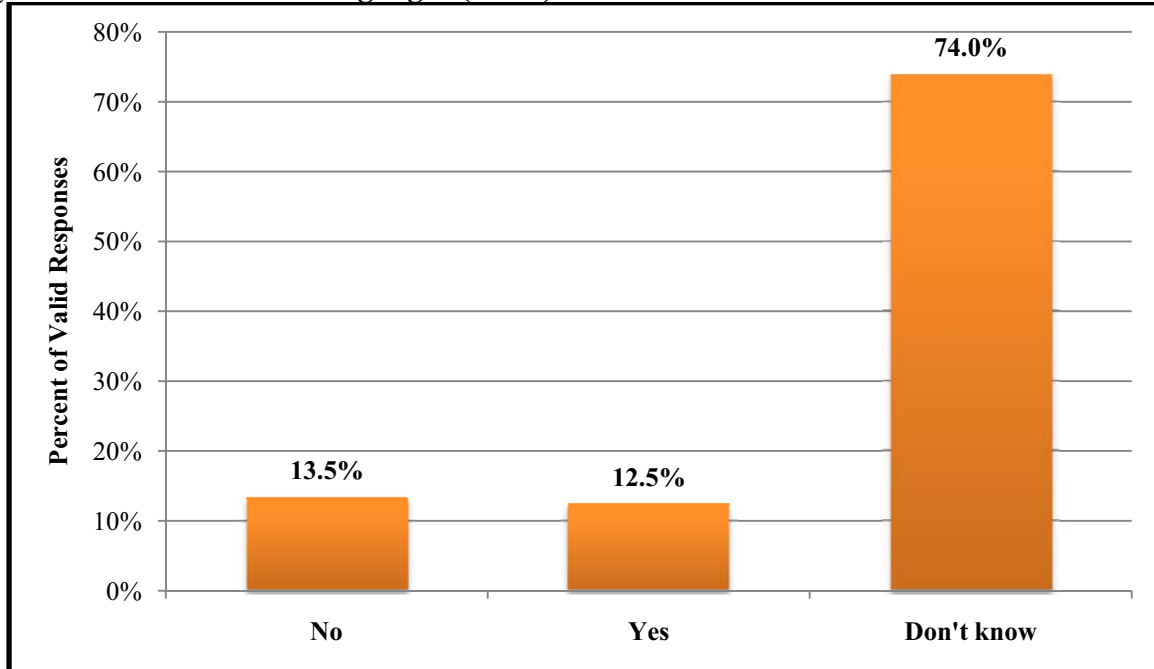
Gangs in child(ren)'s schools

A little more than half (53%) of the community residents responded that they think there are gangs in their child(ren)'s schools. 27% of respondents reported that they did not think there are gangs in their child(ren)'s schools and about 20% responded that they did not know.

Figure 79: Community Resident Survey – Do you think there are gangs at your child(ren)'s school(s)? (N=96)
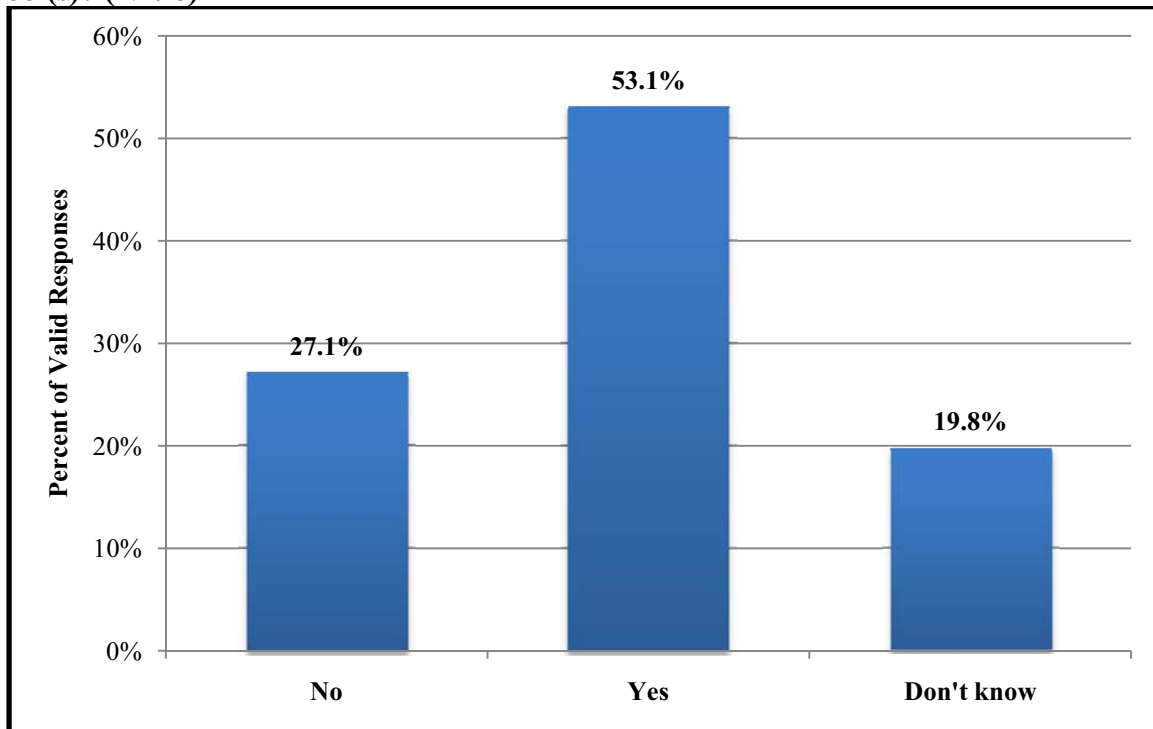
Gang awareness programs offered for parents at school

The majority of community residents (58.3%) responded that there are gang awareness programs offered for parents at their child(ren)'s school, while slightly over one-third (35.4%) responded that there are not. Less than one-tenth (6.3%) reported that they did not know if programs were offered.

Figure 80: Community Resident Survey - Are any gang awareness programs offered for parents at your child(ren)'s school? (N=96)
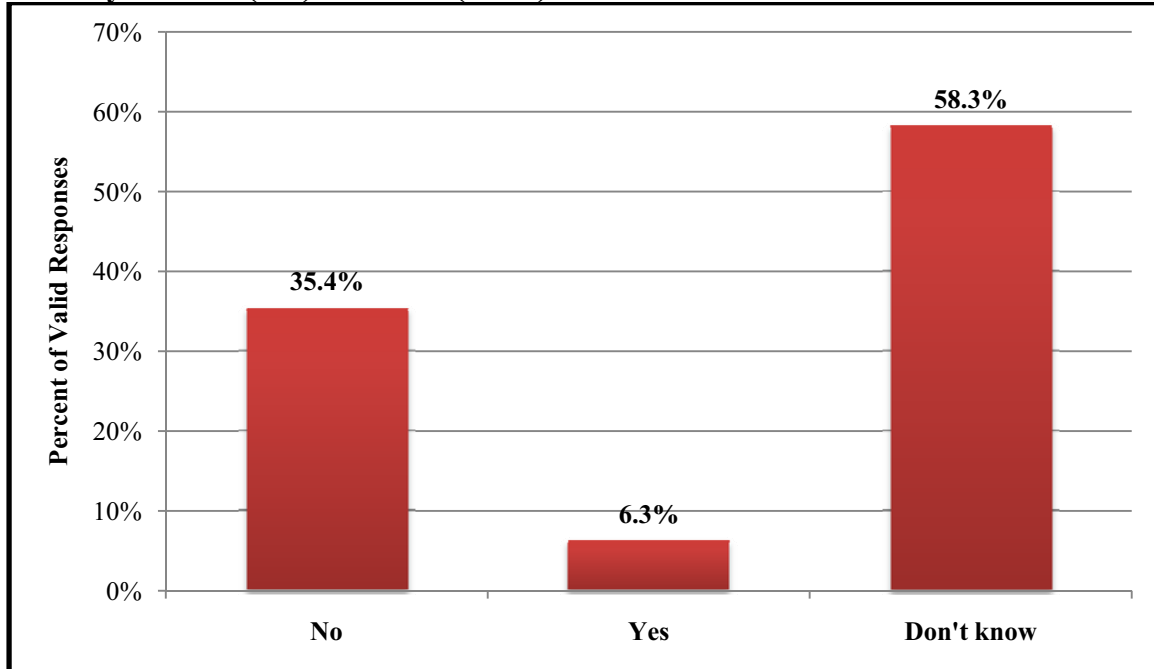
School safety

Approximately 46% of the community respondents reported that they think their child(ren)'s school is somewhat safe. Almost one-third of the respondents (32.3%) think their child(ren)'s school is very safe, while about 16% think their child(ren)'s school is unsafe.

Figure 81: Community Resident Survey - How safe do you think your child(ren)'s school is? (N=96)
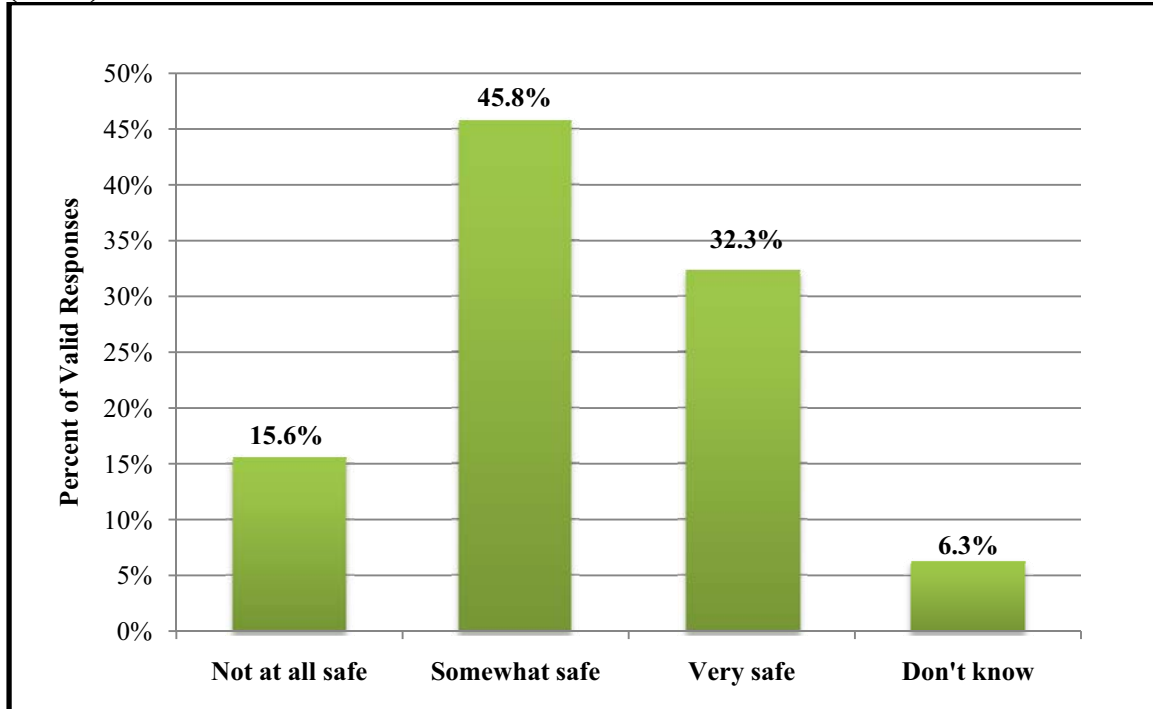
What do you think could make your child(ren)'s school more safe?
Below are responses from 40 community residents regarding what could make their child(ren)'s school more safe. Responses are categorized by school, community, parent, and other changes.

School
- They should put more teachers and staff in charge of monitoring and helping with drug and gang problems
- Education about gangs and how to get out of the gang if the child wants to
- More School Resource Officers (SROs)
- More programs after school
- Mandatory dress codes, more parent involvement, stricter discipline
- Alarms - more drills
- More vigilance by teachers
- More security guards that have the authority to enforce the laws of the school (security officers and monitors and entrances and hallways)
- More security, locked doors, police, etc. with equipment to deal with bad situations - zero tolerance for gangs
- More counselors (more than 1 at schools).
- More police presence-have safe zones for people to report activity
- School leaders who recognize that they have to be part of the communities that they are in and not be defensive about assistance from leaders, volunteers, mentors, and groups

that wish to work together. Schools continue to concentrate on the high achievers and push the under achievers out onto the streets to create problems.

Community
- Identification of gangs and immediate intervention against gang behavior and bullying
- Sports, youth clubs
- More vigilance by police
- More police presence and fair punishment for those who break the law
- Put the gangs in jail and increase police and security
- More rules

Parent
- More educational programs for parents who are unaware of the issues
- We need to get the parents involved and hold them responsible for their children's' actions

Other
- All parties being involved in developing the children's lives, activity being taken seriously, gang awareness for all who interact with children, involving children in the process
- More awareness
- No tolerance for gang, or gang activity
- I don't know. I think schools are doing the best they can with what they have to work with.

School addressing gang-related problems

Almost half (47%) of community respondents reported that they think their child(ren)'s school could do better at addressing gang-related problems. Slightly over one-third of the respondents (34%) do not know what they think about the issue, while about 19% do not think their child(ren)'s school could address gang-related problems better.

Figure 82: Community Resident Survey - Do you think your child(ren)'s school could do better at addressing gang-related problems? (N=96)
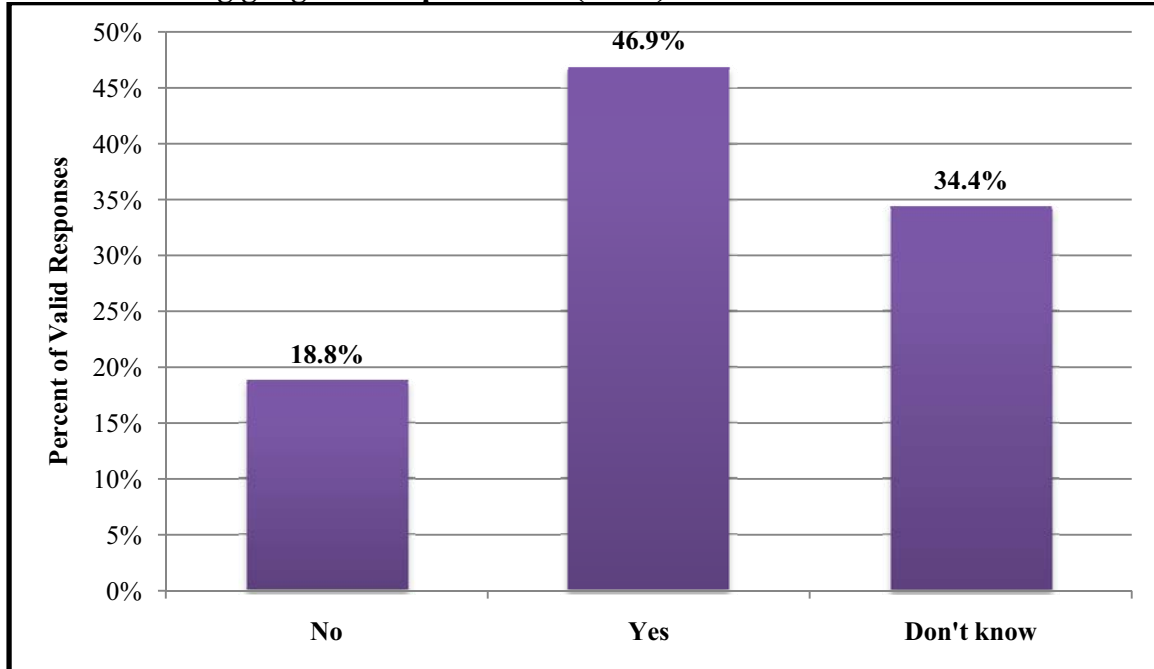
Help dealing with gang-related activity in the community

About 35% of community respondents would be willing to participate in a neighborhood outreach to help deal with gangs and gang-related activity. 27%) would donate money/material items or mentor. Others would be willing to teach skills (e.g. auto mechanics, crafts, music, computer skills, and electronics) (23%) or lead a youth group (22%).

Figure 83: Community Resident Survey - What would you be willing to do to help deal with gangs and gang-related activity in your community? (N=96)

Response	Percent
Neighborhood outreach	35.4%
Donate money or material items	27.1%
Mentor	27.1%
Teach skills	22.9%
Lead a youth group	21.9%
Help with sports leagues/teams	19.8%
Tutor	14.6%
Nothing	12.5%
Other	9.4%

Percent of Valid Responses
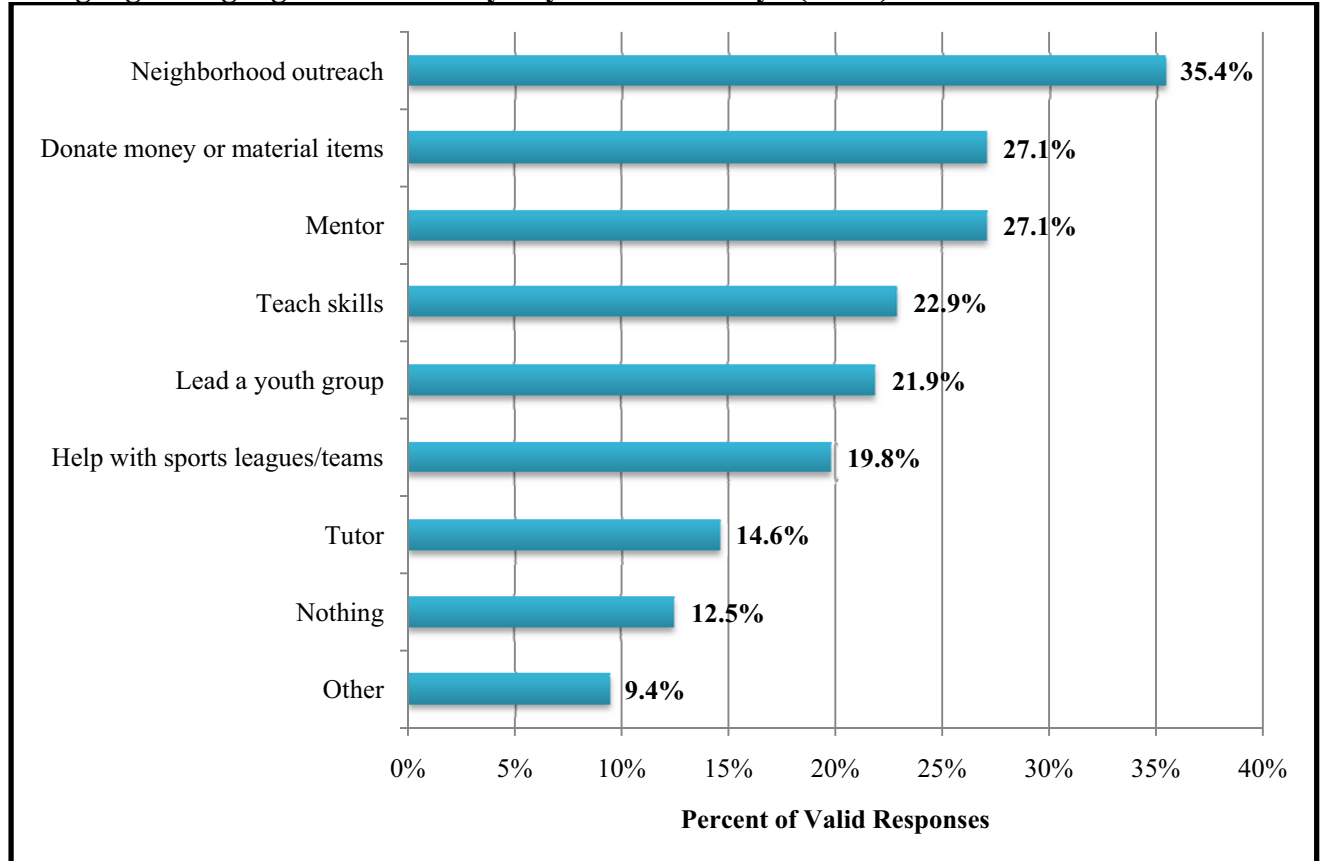
School Resource Officer Survey Summary

School Resource Officers (SROs) are school-based law enforcement officers. According to the Greensboro Police Department (GPD), "The School Resource Officer Program was initiated within the Guilford County School System in an effort to provide a safe environment conducive to learning. The program focuses on safety for students, staff, and visitors at the various campuses throughout the city and county. This program is a cooperative effort between the Guilford County Sheriff's Department, High Point Police Department, Greensboro Police Department, and Guilford County Schools."[109]

Further, also according to the GPD, "SROs work closely with school staff to ensure a safe, orderly learning environment. While SROs have different responsibilities, they form a partnership with the principal and support staff by enforcing relevant laws, referring students to social agencies for assistance, and working with court officials to determine fair and reasonable consequences."**[110]**

In order to gather information about gang membership and gang-activity within the school setting, a School Resource Officer (SRO) survey was created. The SRO survey was created using questions from the School Staff Questionnaire in OJJDP's Gang Assessment Guide and from the 2008 SRO survey created by the North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Center for the Prevention of School Violence (DJJDP – CSV)[111]. The SRO survey contained questions about perceptions of school safety and experiences with students involved in gangs and gang activity within the school at which they work. All SROs working in Guilford County were sent the online Guilford County Gang Assessment SRO Survey via email.

Due to the timing of the Guilford County gang assessment research, the SRO survey was sent out during the summer of 2010. Thus, the SRO responses most likely reflect perceptions and experiences from the 2009-2010 academic year.

Of the 39 active SROs contacted from middle and high schools across Guilford County, 26 (66.6%) responded to the Guilford County Gang Assessment SRO Survey. A summary of their responses can be found below.

Figure 82 depicts SRO respondents by the zip code of the school in which they work.

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[109]City of Greensboro, Greensboro Police Department. (2010) *Operational Support Division Information Page.* Retrieved from the City of Greensboro website: http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/departments/Police/Operations/western/operationalsupport.htm

[110] City of High Point, High Point Police Department. (2010). *School Resource Officers Information Page.* Retrieved from the City of High Point website: http://www.high-point.net/police/sro.cfm

[111] North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention & North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. (2008). *School Violence Gang Activity Study.* Retrieved from North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention website: http://www.ncdjjdp.org/news/2009/january/JLEOC.pdf.

Figure 84: SRO Respondents by zip code of schools where they work

Number of Student Resource Officer Survey Responses by Zip Code

Legend:
- 0
- 1
- 2 - 3
- 4 - 7

Center for Youth, Family, and Community Partnerships
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
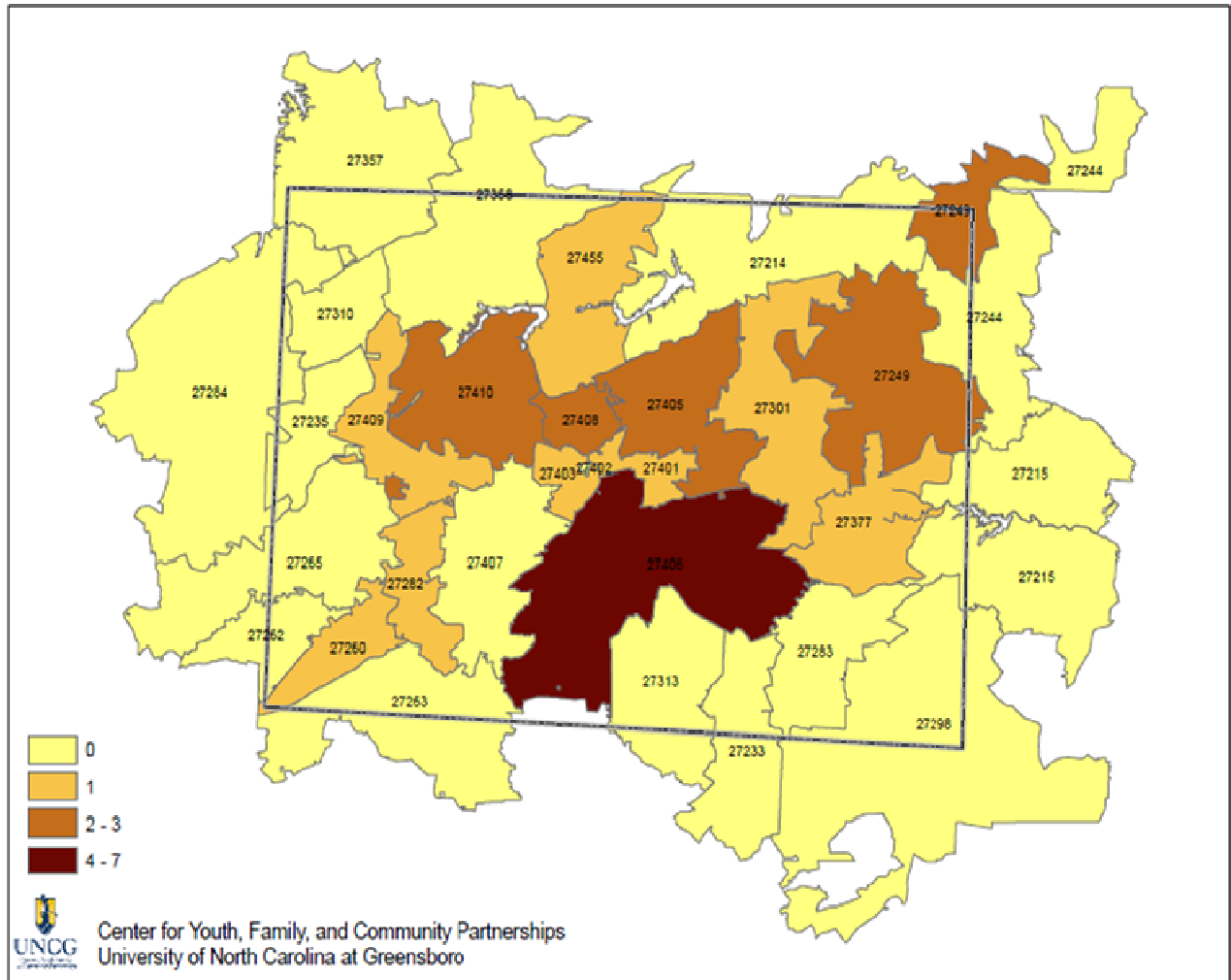
Demographics

Gender

Over three-quarters of the SRO survey respondents were male (78.3%) and 21.7% were female.

Figure 85: SRO Survey - Respondent Gender (N=23)
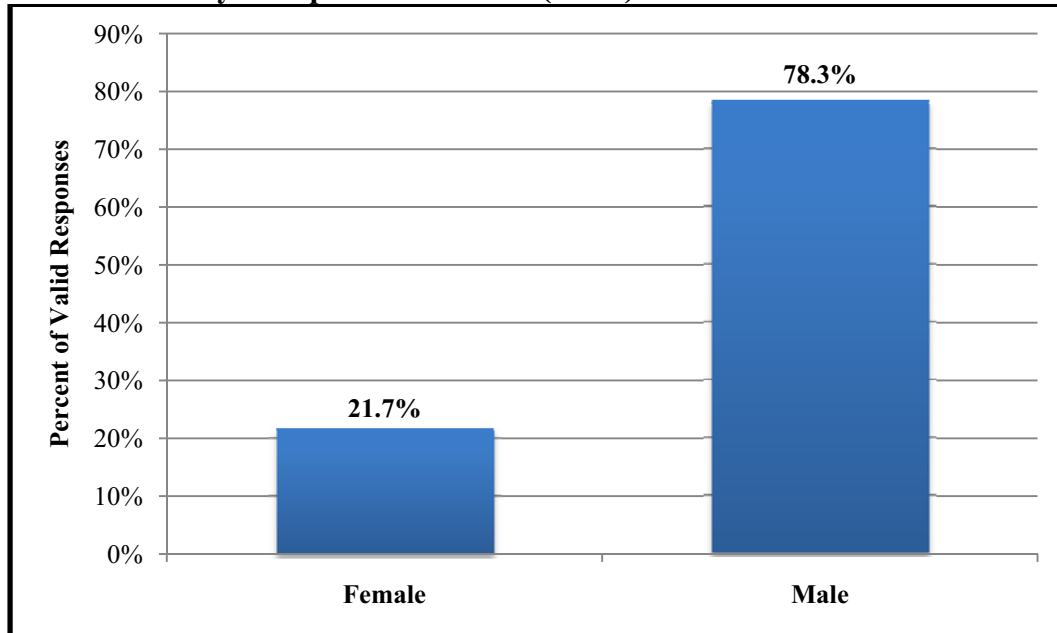
Age

Almost 40% of the SRO survey respondents ranged in age from 31-40 years old. SRO survey respondents between the ages 21-30 years accounted for 26.1% of respondents, those ages 41-50 accounted for 21.7%, and those ages 51-60 accounted for 13%.

Figure 86: SRO Survey - Respondent Age (N=23)
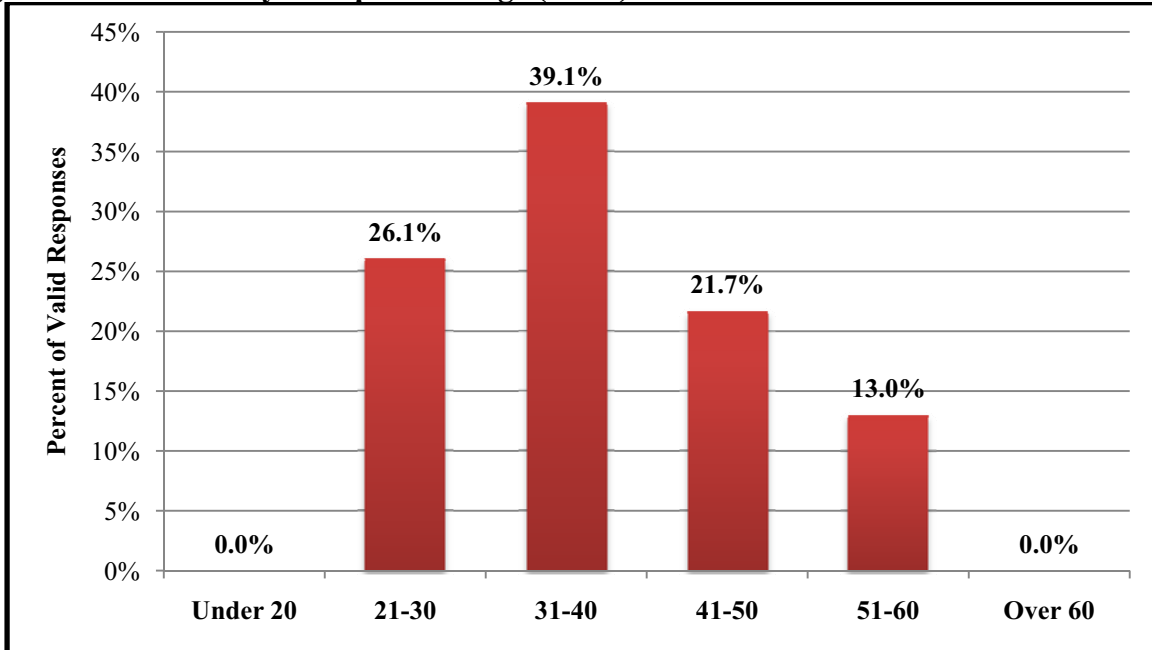
Race/Ethnicity

A little more than half of SRO survey respondents identified themselves as being Caucasian/White (54.5%). The other half of SRO survey respondents identified as African/American (40.9%) and Hispanic/Latino (4.5%).

Figure 87: SRO Survey - Respondent Race/Ethnicity (N=22)

Chart showing Percent of Valid Responses by race/ethnicity: African American/Black 40.9%, American Indian/Native.. 0.0%, Asian American 0.0%, Biracial/Multiracial 0.0%, Caucasian/White 54.5%, Hispanic/Latino 4.5%, Other (please specify) 0.0%
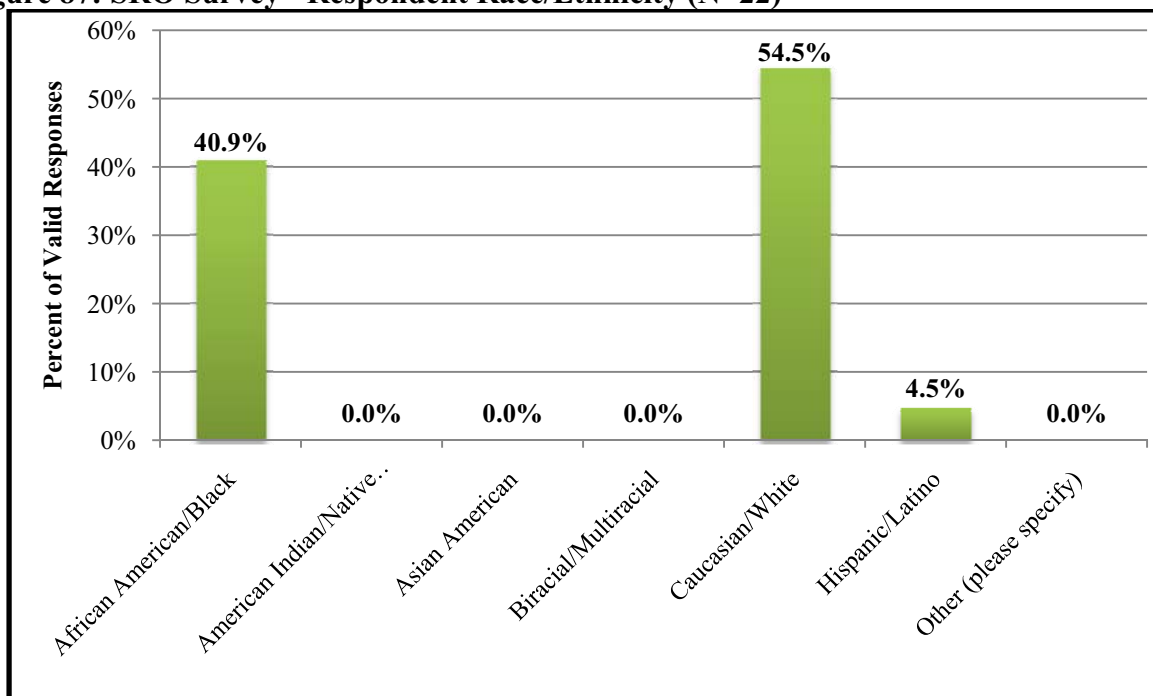
School-Level

Half of SROs (50%) reported being currently assigned to a traditional middle school in Guilford County. SROs assigned to traditional high schools accounted for 37.5% of respondents while those being assigned to some other type of school accounted for 12.5% of respondents. For three SROs (12.5%) who reported being assigned to some other type of school, the other types specified were a high school program, a magnet school, and a magnet middle/high school.

Figure 88: SRO Survey – What level of school are you currently assigned to? (N=24)
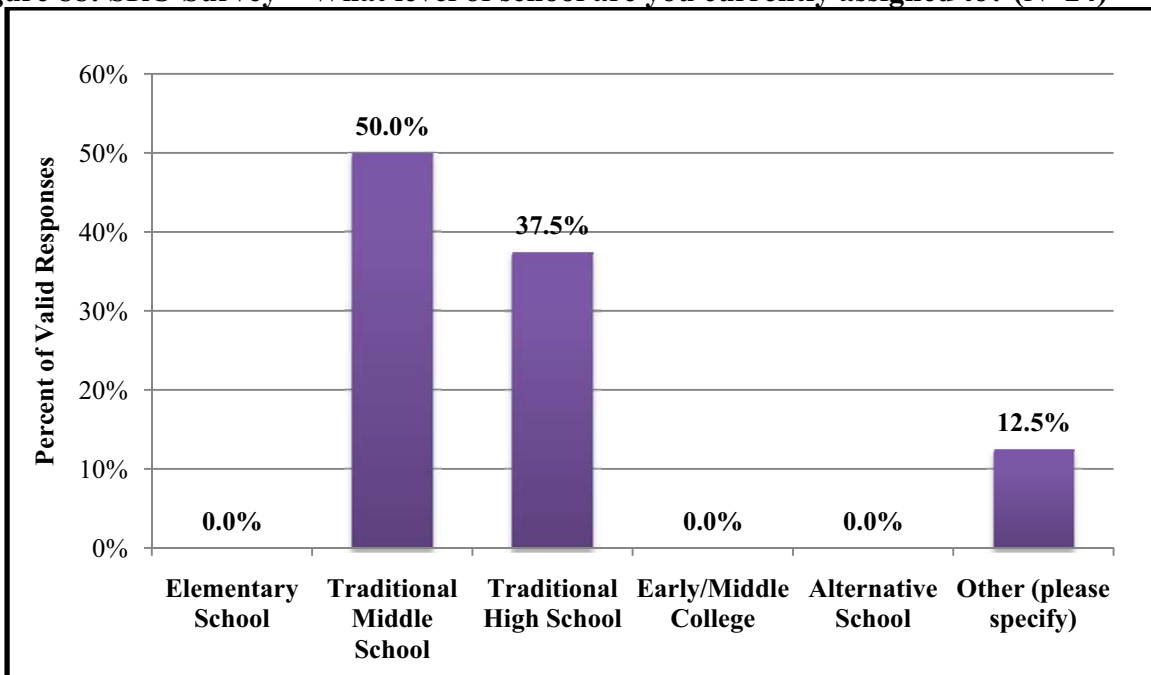
How many years have you worked as a School Resource Officer (SRO)?

Of the 22 SROs who responded to this question, reported years of experience as an SRO ranged from less than one year to 16 years, with an average of 3.7 years.

How many years have you worked as a law enforcement officer?

Of the 22 SROs who responded to this question, reported number of years of experience as a law enforcement officer ranged from less than a year to 24 years, with an average number of 11.4 years.

Gang presence in school

The majority of SRO respondents (80.8%) reported a gang presence in the schools where they work.

Figure 89: SRO - Is there a gang presence in the school where you work? (N=26)
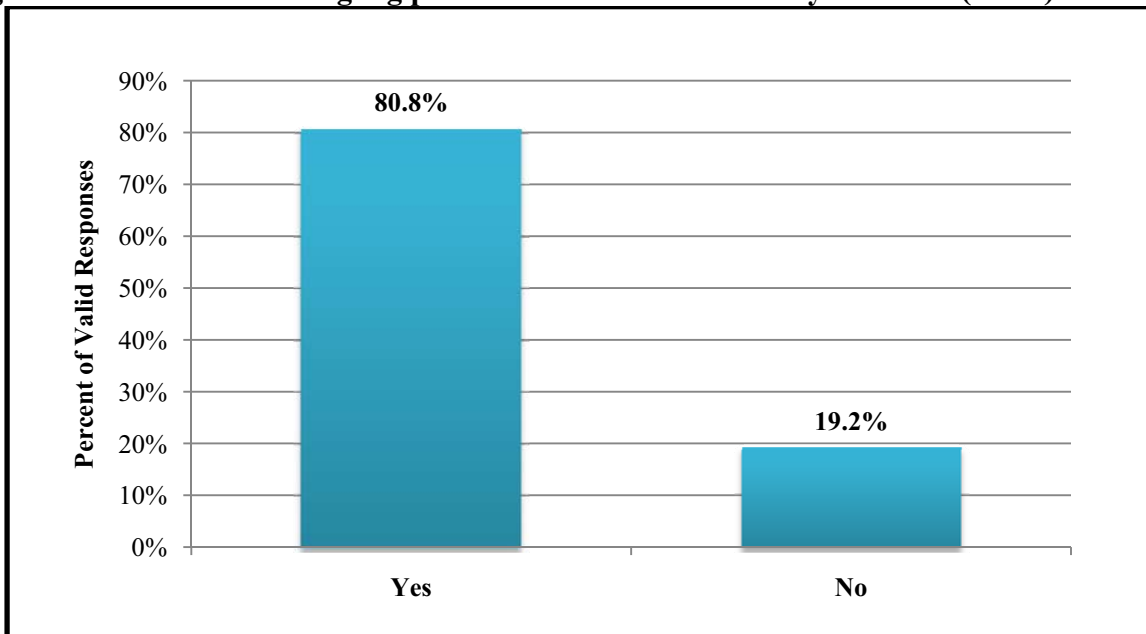
Indications of gang presence in school

Of the SROs who reported a gang presence in the school where they work, 85.7% reported observing student behavior, interactions, and other indicators and 76.2% reported student disclosure as ways the gang presence came to their attention.

About a third of SRO respondents stated that formal delinquent behavior reports (33.3%) brought the gang presence in their school to their attention.

Other SROs (23.8%) reported the gang presence in the school came to their attention through:
  ➢ Graffiti on school and student property, clothing
  ➢ Parent notification.
  ➢ Graffiti in the restrooms and some attire..ie; bandanas, drawings, language, and hand signs
  ➢ Mode of dress, beads they wear.
  ➢ Student attire

Figure 90: SRO Survey - In what ways has the gang presence come to your attention? (N=21)
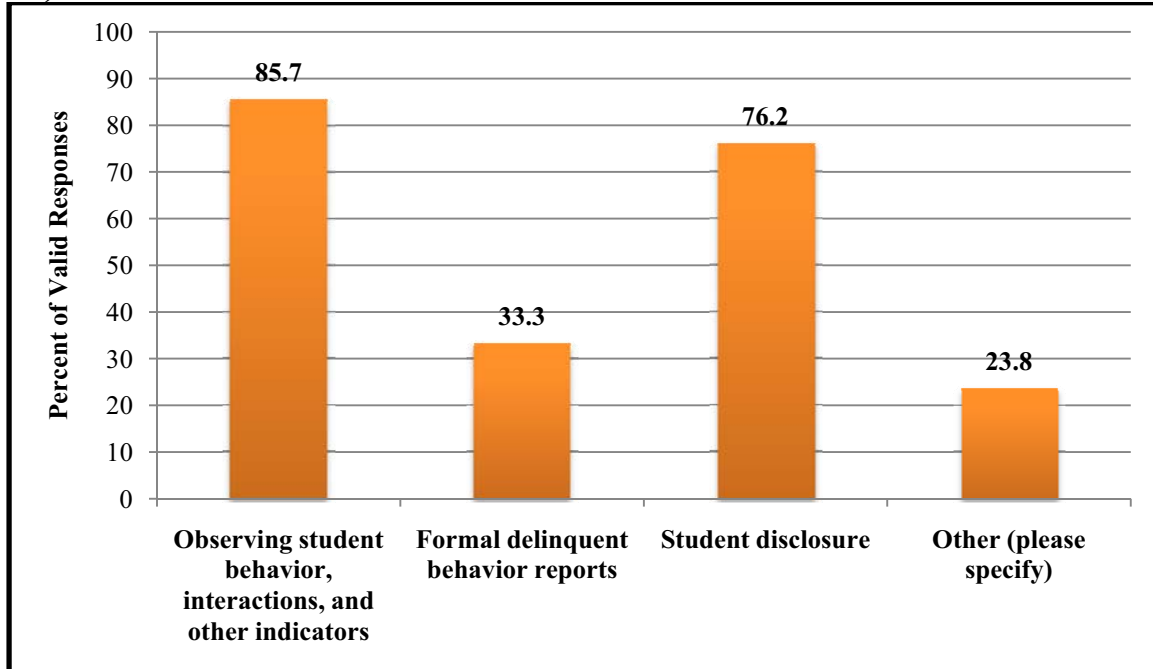
Level of gang activity in school

The majority of SRO respondents (61.9%) reported a slight level of gang-related activity in the school where they work. The remaining (38.1%) reported a moderate level of gang-related activity, while none of the SRO respondents classified the level of gang-related activity in their school as heavy.

Figure 91: SRO Survey - Please indicate the level of gang-related activity in the school where you work (N=21)
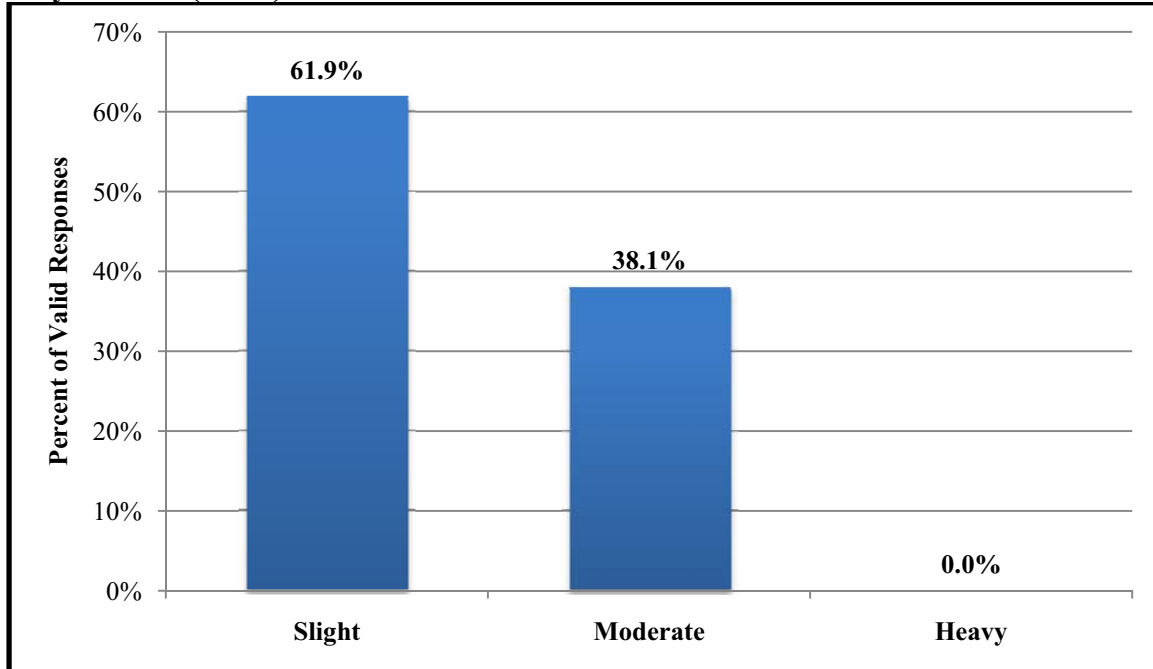
Frequency of gang activity in school

The majority of SROs (66.7%) reported that gang activity occurs in the schools were they work 'on occasion.' Nearly one-fifth (19%) of SRO respondents reported that gang activity occurs in the schools where they work 'at least once a week.' The remaining SRO respondents reported gang activity as occurring in the schools where they work 'at least once a month' (9.5%) or 'daily' (4.8%).

Figure 92: SRO Survey - How often does gang-related activity occur in the school where you work? (N=21)
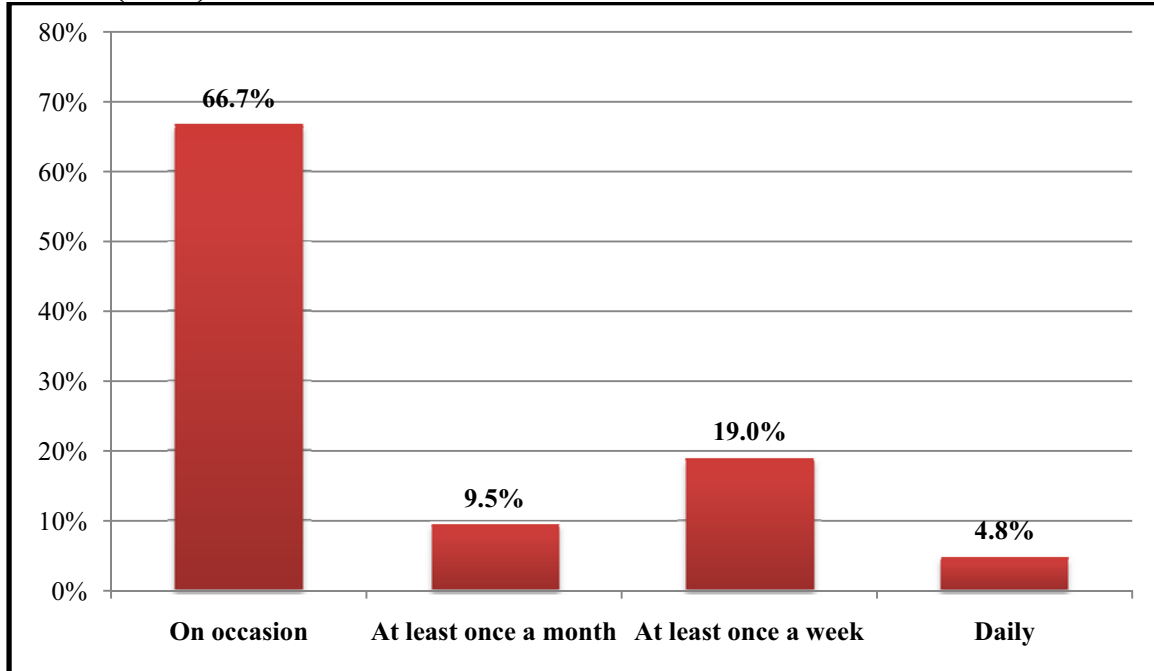
Percent of gang involved students

The majority of SRO respondents (66.7%) estimated less than 10% of students in the school where they work are gang involved. Almost one-fifth (19.0%) of SRO respondents estimated between 10%-20% of students in the school where they work are gang involved. Nearly one-tenth (9.5%) of SRO respondents estimated between 21%-30% of students in the school where they work are gang involved. Only 4.8% of SRO respondents estimated between 41%-50% of students in the school where they work are gang involved.

Figure 93: SRO Survey - What percent of students in the school where you work do you think or know are gang involved? (N=21)
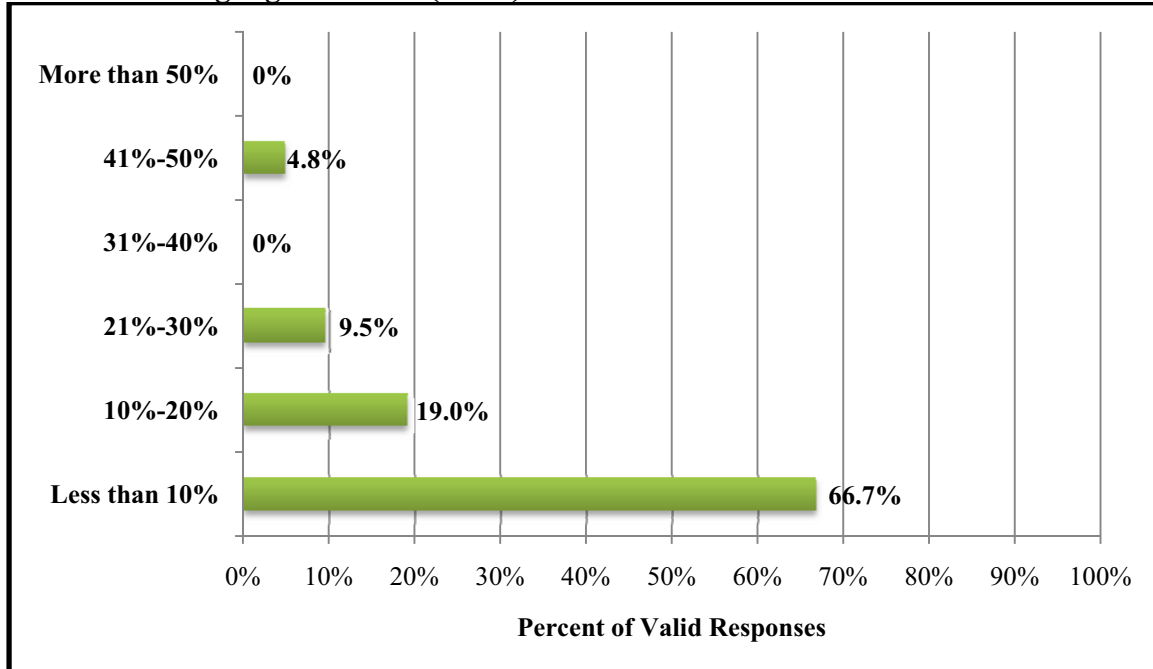
Time of day gang-related activities occur at school

The majority of SRO respondents reported that gang-related activities most frequently occur either during school hours (45%) or after school (40%). Only 15% of SRO respondents reported that gang-related activities most frequently occur before school.

Figure 94: SRO Survey - WHEN do gang-related activities most frequently occur at the school where you work? (N=20)
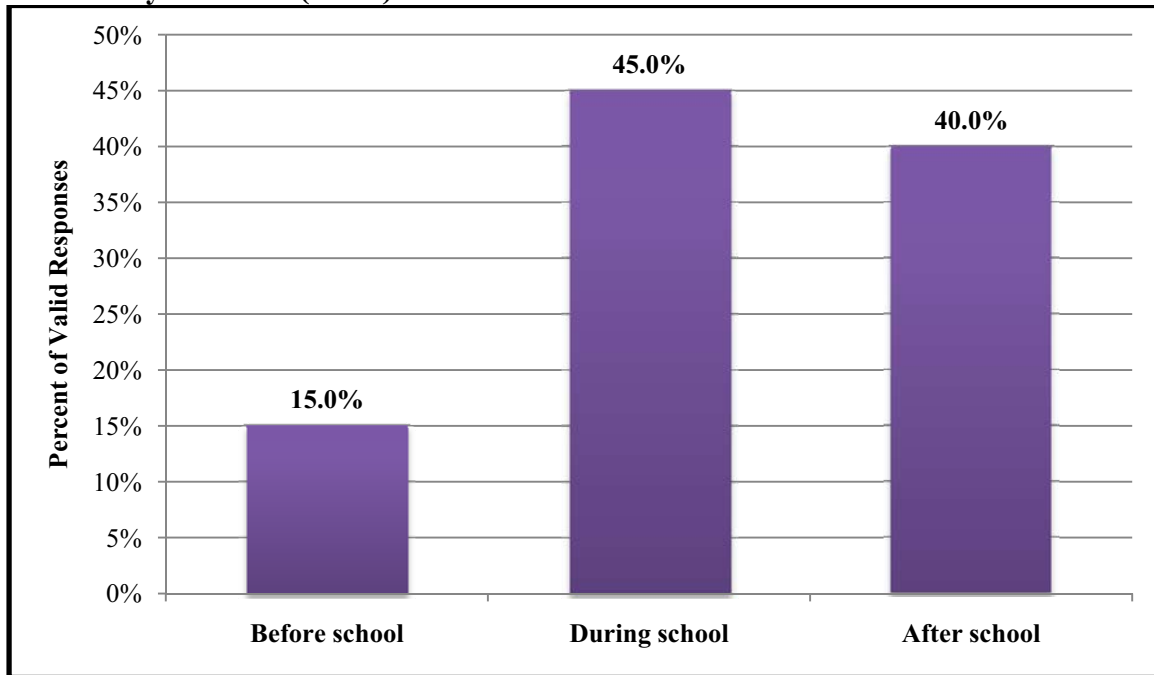
Location of gang-related activities at school

When asked where gang-related activities occur most frequently at their schools, the majority of SRO respondents (75%) reported gang-related activities occurred most frequently in the school building, including inside classrooms, lunchrooms, hallways, etc. On the school bus (10%) and in the school parking lot (10%) were equally reported by SRO respondents as locations where gang-related activities most frequently occur.

Figure 95: SRO Survey - WHERE do gang-related activities most frequently occur at the school where you work? (N=20)
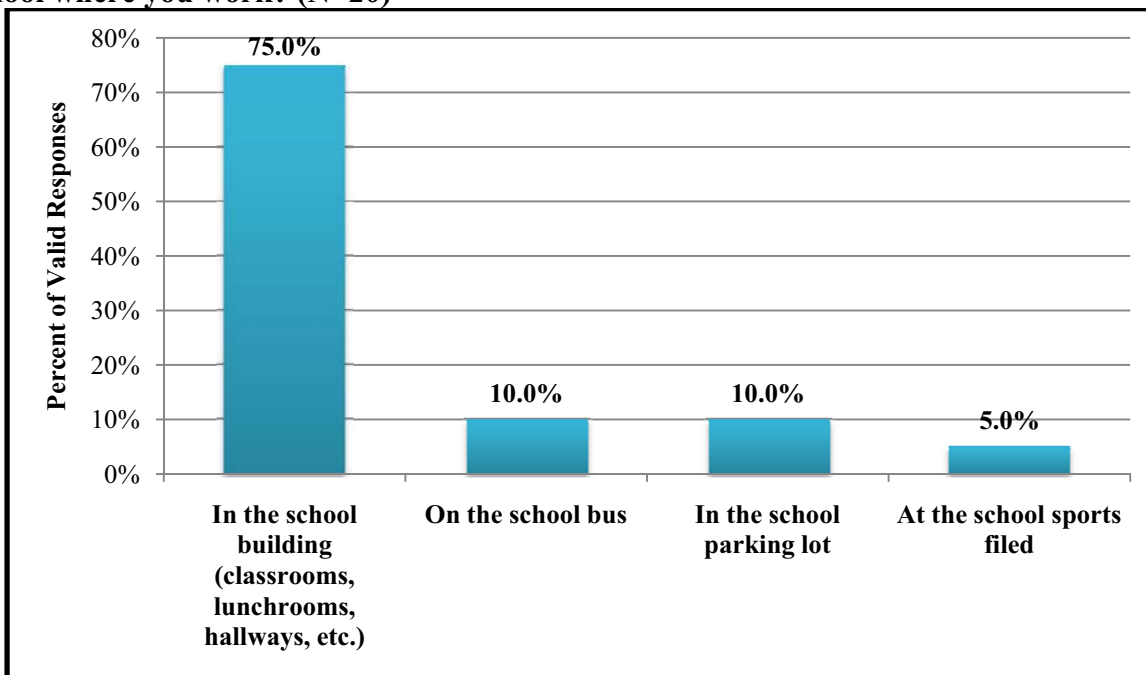
Most common offenses committed by student who are gang involved

When asked about the three most common offenses committed by students who are gang involved, SRO respondents reported possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law, possession of a weapon excluding firearms and powerful explosives and other offenses not listed (See Figure 93). The other offenses not listed were specified by SRO survey respondents as:

➢ Disorderly Conduct
➢ Simple assaults
➢ Affray
➢ Larceny
➢ Fights between rival gangs
➢ Graffiti
➢ Gang involvement
➢ Gang jump ins or fights with another rival gang member to be initiated

Reasons for gang activity in schools

Family/friends being in gangs and a perceived lack of parental supervision/monitoring were the most frequently chosen reasons SROs reportedly believed gang activity existed at their schools (See Figure 94). To feel love and/or a sense of belonging and family problems were the next most frequently chosen reasons.

Figure 96: SRO Survey - Please select the THREE MOST COMMON OFFENSES of students who are gang involved at the school where you work. (N=20)
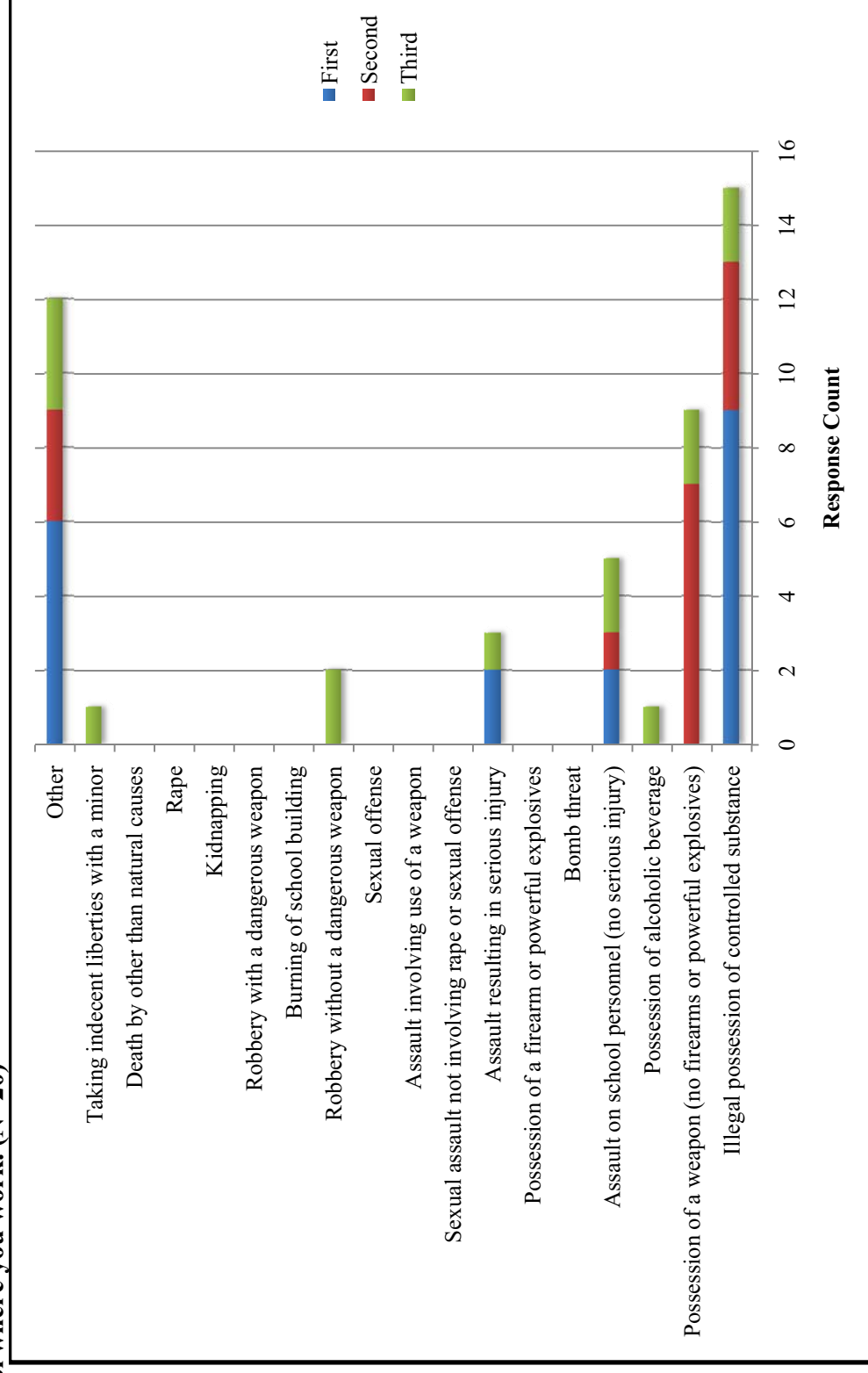
Figure 97: SRO Survey - Please select the TOP THREE REASONS you believe gang activity exists in the school where you work. (N=20)

Legend:
- Third (green)
- Second (red)
- First (blue)

Y-axis: Response Count (0 to 16)

Categories:
- Other
- Lack of parental supervision/monitoring
- Family problems
- Protection
- Power
- Poverty
- Boredom
- Lack of community resources/programs for youth
- To feel love/sense of belonging
- Gang members move from other areas
- Law enforcement labeling
- Family/friends in gangs
- Lack of extracurricular activities
- Academic challenges
- Gangs are not a problem in the school where I work

Gang-related activity compared to previous years

Over half (55%) of the SRO respondents reported that gang-related activity during the 2009-2010 school year had decreased in comparison to previous school years. One quarter (25%) of SRO respondents reported that gang-related activity during the 2009-2010 school year stayed about the same, while one-fifth (20%) reported that gang-related activity increased when compared to previous school years.

Figure 98: SRO Survey - When compared to previous school years, gang-related activity during this school year... (N=20)
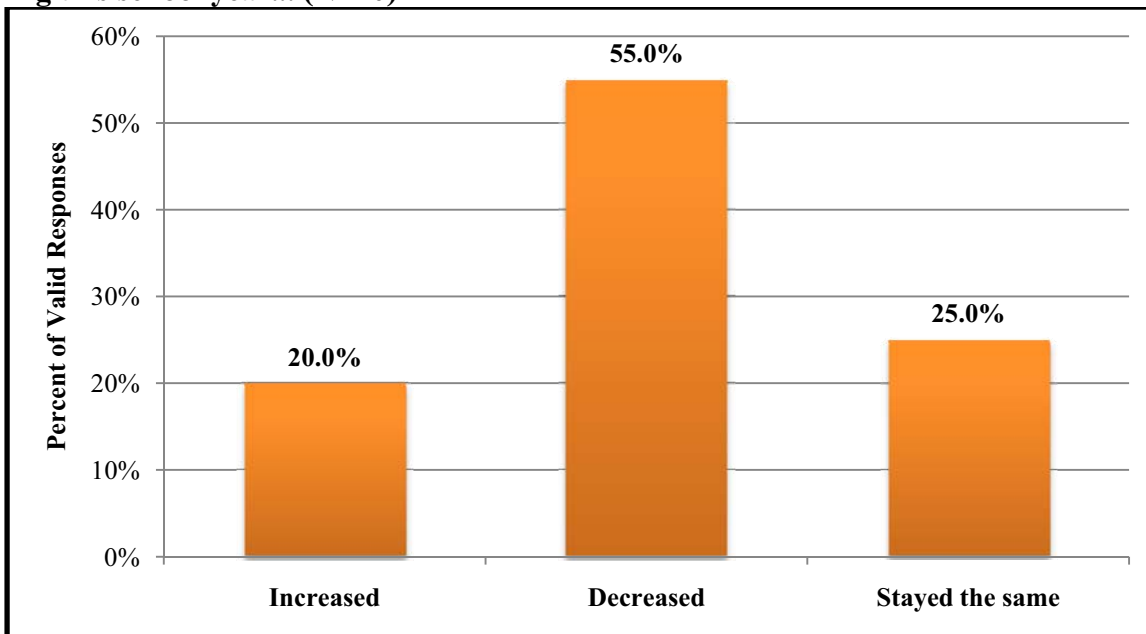
School toleration of gang-related behavior

Three-quarters (75%) of the SRO respondents reported that the schools they work in do not tolerate gang-related behavior at all. The remaining quarter (25%) of SRO respondents reported that the school they work in somewhat tolerates gang-related behavior.

Figure 99: SRO Survey - Does the school you work at tolerate gang-related behavior? (N=20)
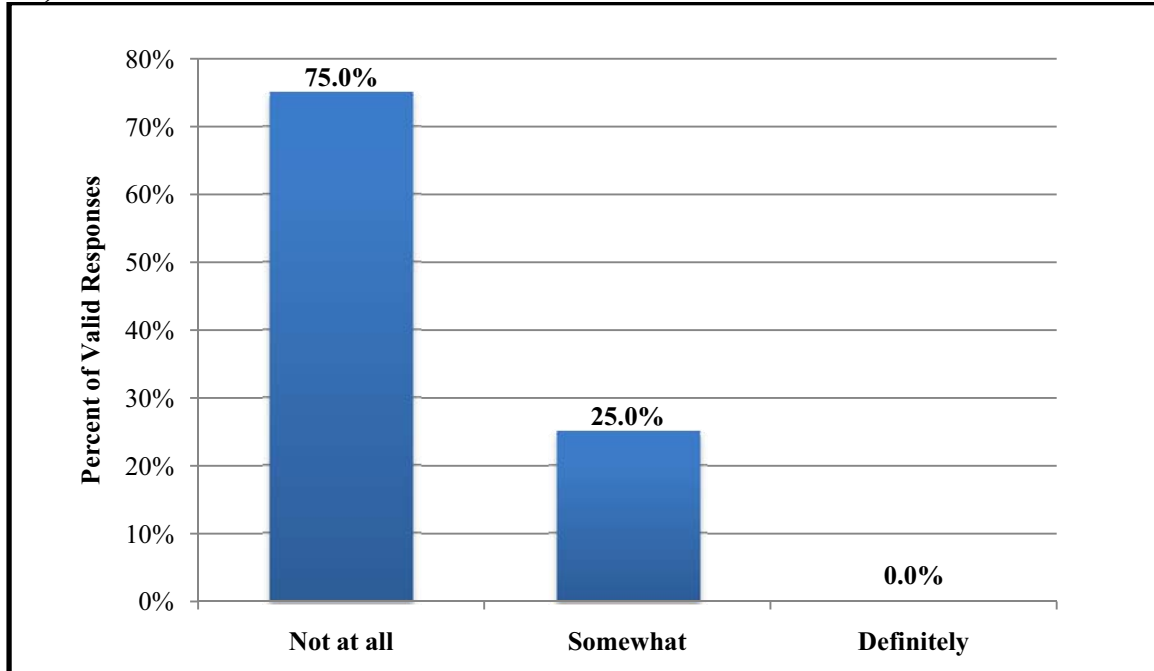
Down-playing of gang problems in school

The majority (60%) of SRO respondents reported believing that the schools they work in do not down-play gang problems at all. Slightly more than a third (35%) of SRO respondents reported believing the school they work in somewhat down-plays gang problems that may exist. Only 5% of SRO respondents reported believing that the schools they work in definitely down-play gang problems that may exist.

Figure 100: SRO Survey - Do you believe gang problems are down-played in the school were you work? (N=20)
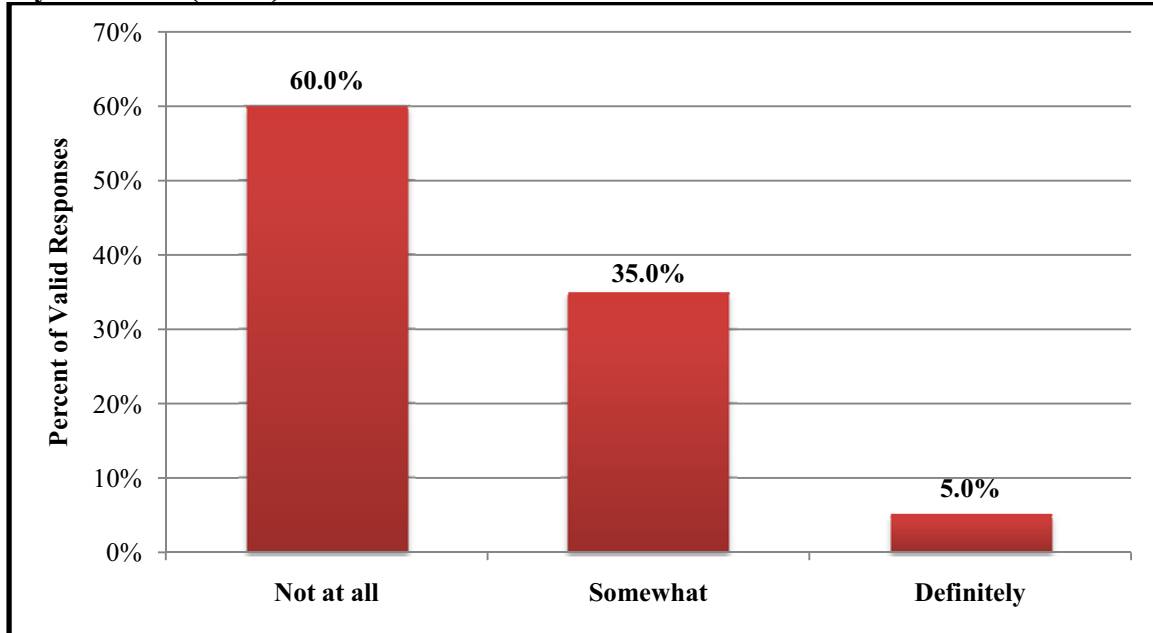
**Exaggeration of gang-related problems at school**

The majority (80%) of SRO respondents believe that gang-related problems are not at all exaggerated in the school where they work. The remaining 20% believe gang-related problems are somewhat exaggerated in the schools where they work.

Figure 101: SRO Survey- Do you believe gang-related problems are exaggerated in the school where you work? (N=20)

Chart: Percent of Valid Responses
- Not at all: 80.0%
- Somewhat: 20.0%
- Definitely: 0.0%
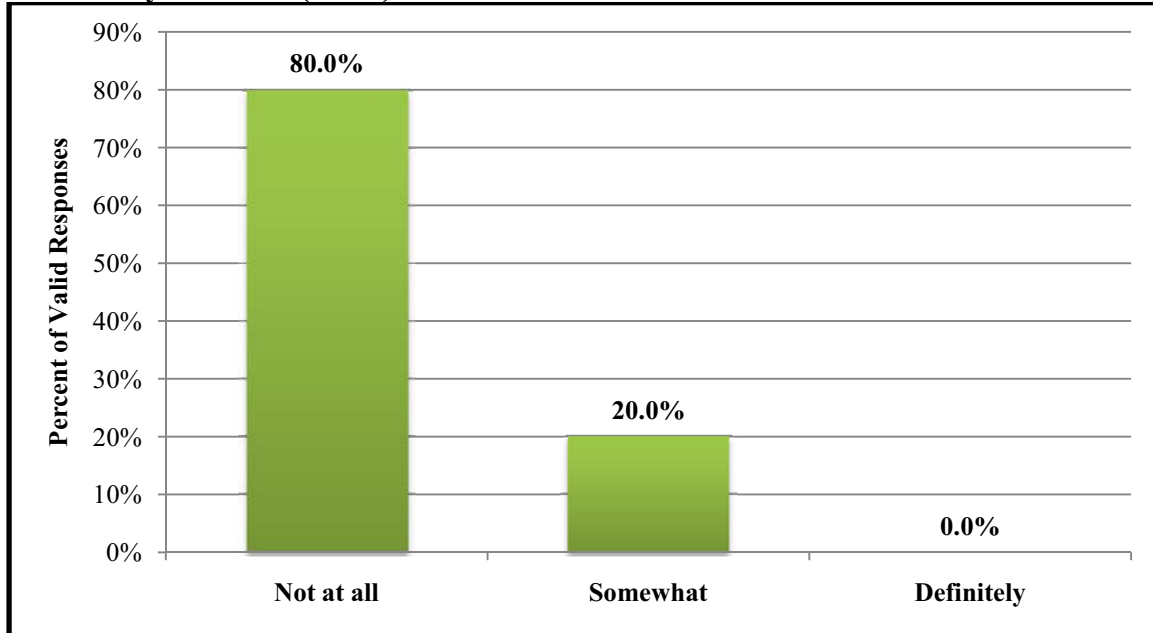
Administrative support

The majority (85%) of SRO respondents reported definitely feeling supported by the principal and administrative staff at the schools where they work. The remaining (15%) SROs reported feeling somewhat supported by the principal and administrative staff at the schools where they work.

Figure 102: SRO Survey - Do you feel supported by the principal and administrative staff of the school where you work? (N=20)
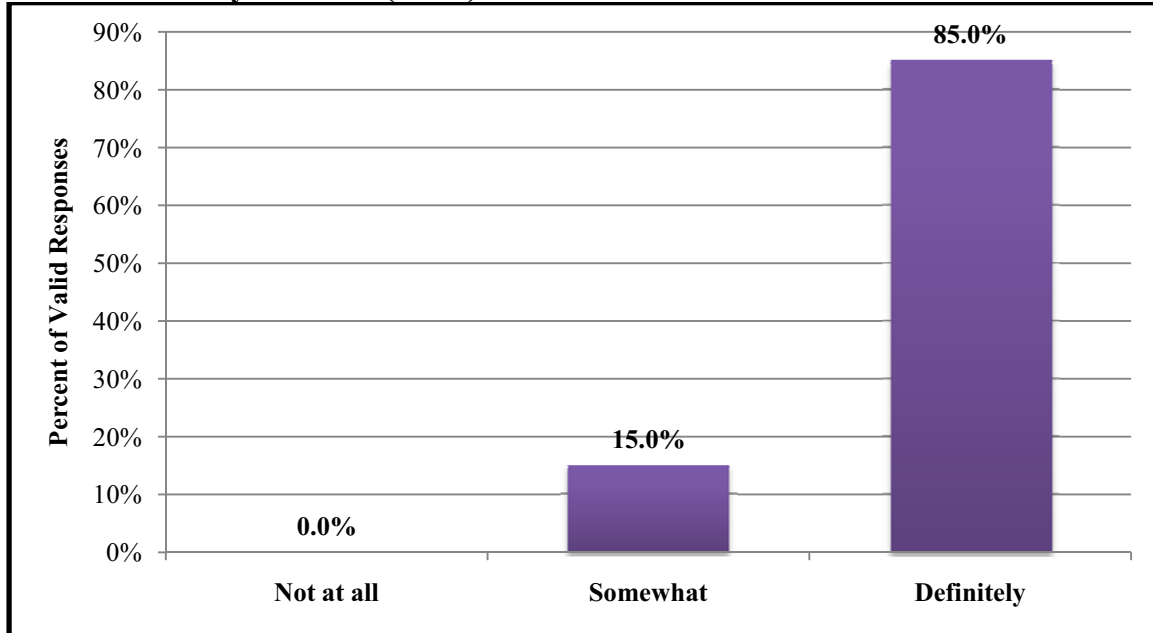
Teachers equipped to work with students who are gang involved

The majority (65%) of SRO respondents believe that teachers in the schools where they work are somewhat equipped to work with gang involved students. About one-third (30%) of SRO respondents believe that teachers in the schools where they work are not at all equipped to work with gang involved youth, while 5% of SRO respondents believed that the teachers were definitely equipped to work with gang involved students.

Figure 103: SRO Survey- Do you believe teachers in the school where you work are equipped to work with gang involved students? (N=20)
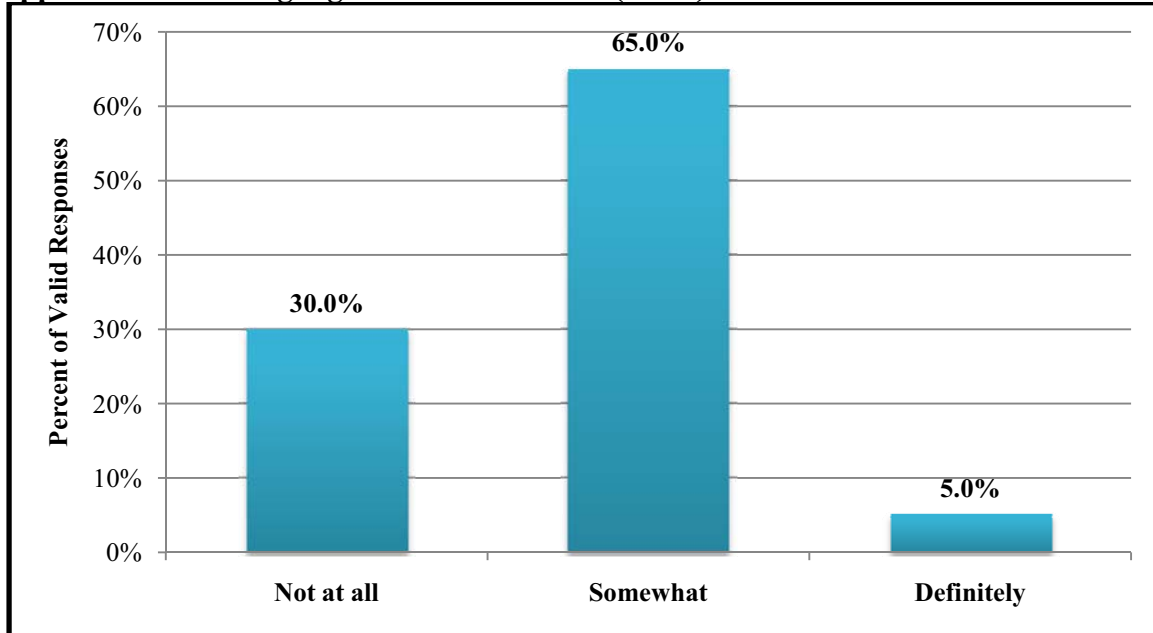
Gang awareness programs for school personnel

SRO respondents were nearly equally divided in responses when asked if, in the schools where they work, there were currently any gang awareness programs offered to school personnel with 35% reporting no, 35% reporting yes, and 30% reportedly not knowing if there were any gang awareness programs offered in the school they worked in.

Of the SROs who reported that gang awareness programs were offered to school personnel at the school where they work, the gang awareness programs identified were:
> ➢ "No formal program. I do a 30 minute presentation on gangs each year that I update annually each summer"
> ➢ Introduction to Gangs
> ➢ The Hope Project
> ➢ Former SRO speaks to teachers
> ➢ SRO meeting involving staff

Figure 104: SRO Survey - Are there currently any gang awareness programs offered to school personnel at the school where you work? (N=20)
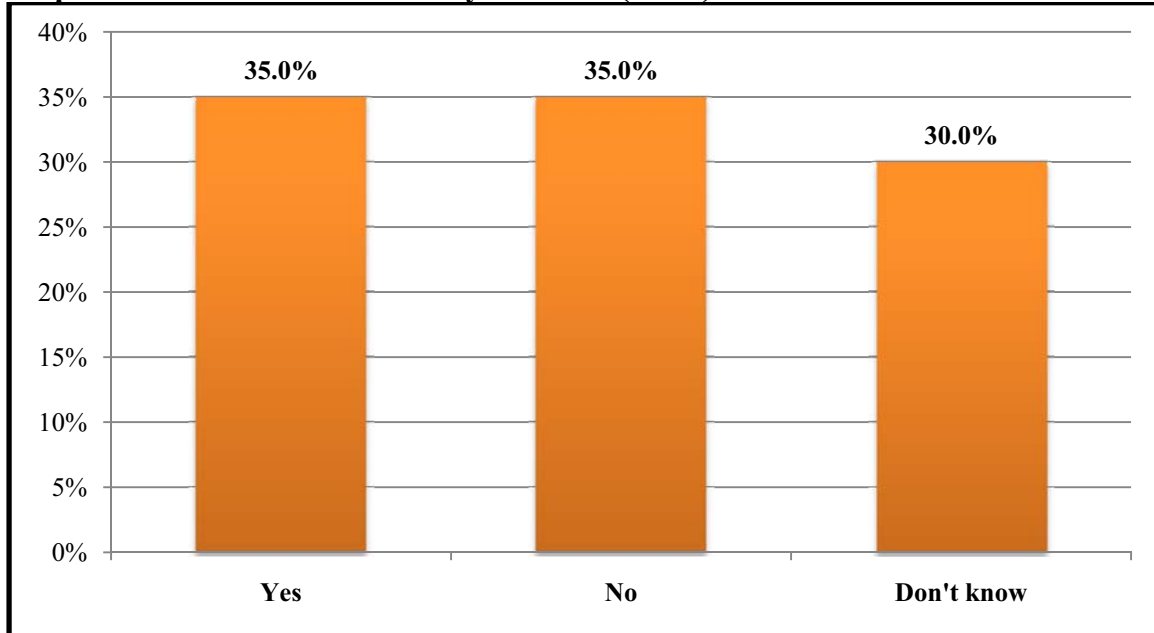
Parent awareness of gang-related problems in schools

When asked if parents were aware of gang-related problems in the schools where they work, the majority (80%) of SRO respondents believe that parents are somewhat aware. The remaining 20% of SRO respondents believe that parents are not at all aware of gang-related problems in the schools.

Figure 105: SRO Survey- Do you believe parents are aware of gang-related problems in the school where you work? (N=20)
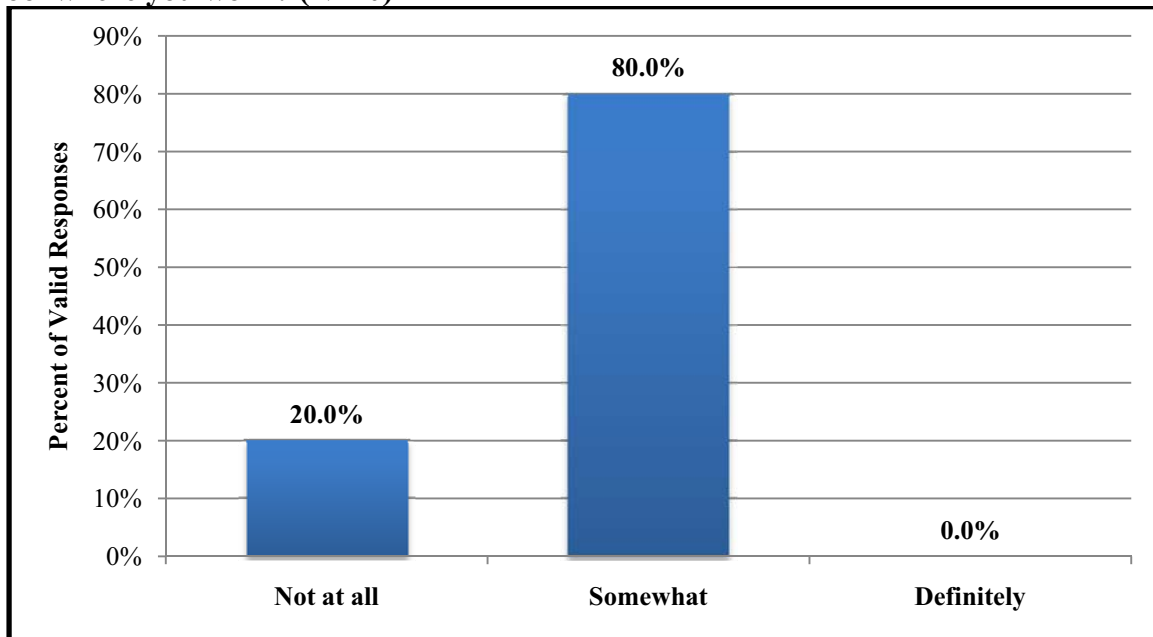
Gang awareness programs for parents

Over half (55%) of SRO respondents reported there were no gang awareness programs offered to parents by the schools where they work. Almost one-third (30%) of SRO respondents reported not knowing if any gang awareness programs are offered to parents, while 15% of SRO respondents reported that the schools where they work do offer gang awareness programs to parents.

Gang awareness programs SRO respondents identified as being offered to parents at schools where they work were:
  ➢ Introduction to Gangs
  ➢ The Hope Project
  ➢ Keep It Real program

Figure 106: SRO Survey - Are there currently any gang awareness programs offered to parents at the school where you work? (N=20)
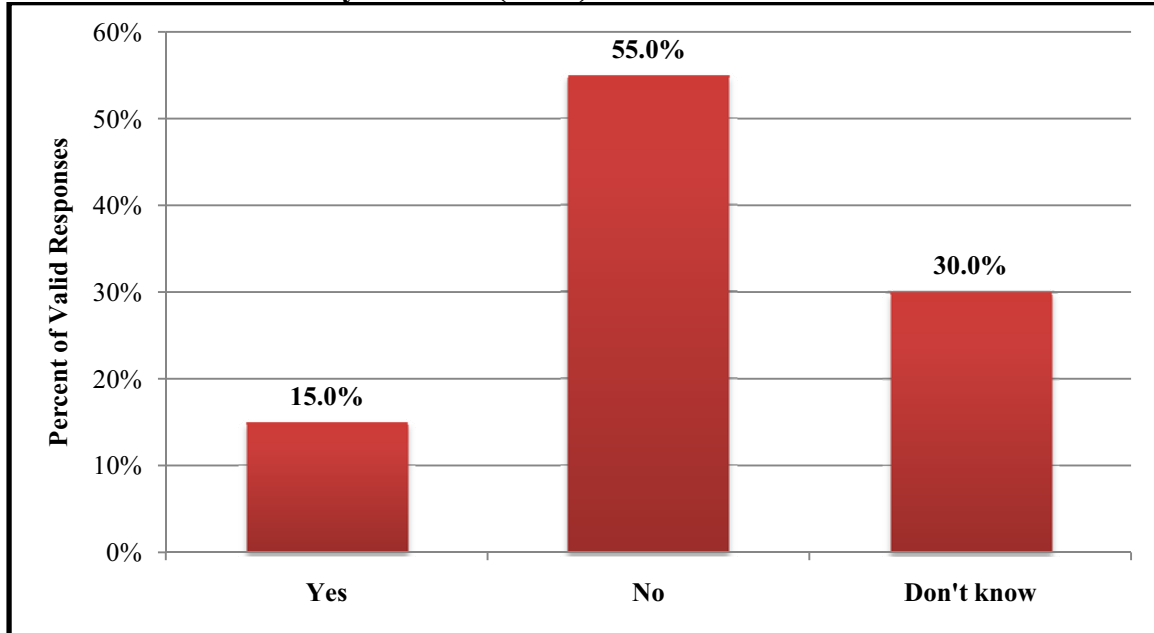
Resources available to students who are gang involved

The majority (70%) of SRO respondents reported that there are resources available to help students who are gang involved in the schools where they work. The remaining 30% of SRO respondents reported that their schools do not have resources available for those students who are gang involved.

Figure 107: SRO Survey - Are there resources available to help students who are gang involved at the school where you work? (N=20)
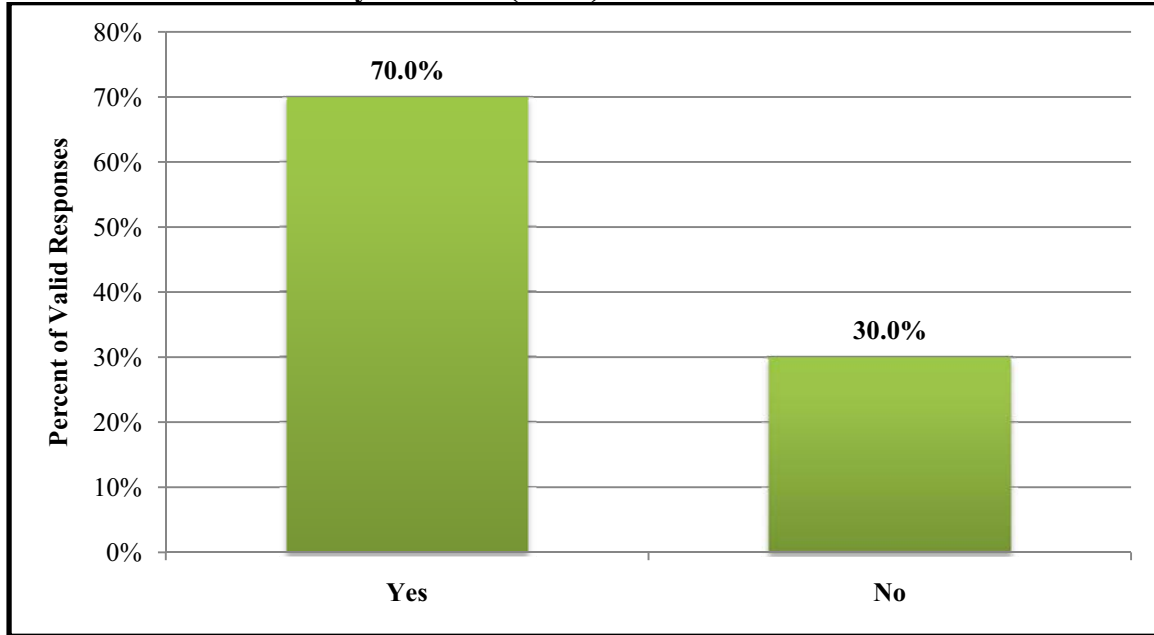
Ability to refer students to support services

The vast majority (92.9%) of SRO respondents reported they were able to refer students to appropriate supports. Only 7.1% of SRO respondents reported not being able to refer students to appropriate supports.

Figure 108: SRO Survey- Are you able to refer students to the appropriate supports? (N=14)
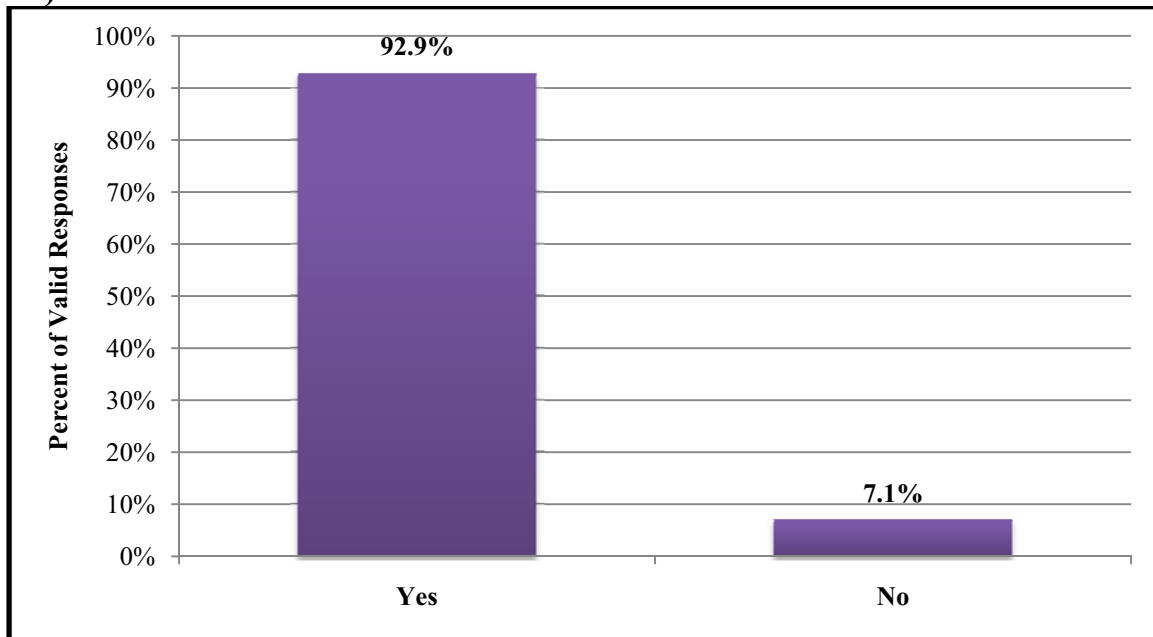
Supportive resources for students

The majority (60%) of SRO respondents reported that there were no specific resources lacking in the schools where they work to support students who were either gang involved or at risk of becoming gang involved. The remaining (40%) SRO respondents reported that there were specific resources lacking to support students who were either gang involved or at risk for becoming gang involved.

SROs were asked to specify what resources they felt were lacking to support students who were either gang involved or at risk for gang involvement the resources they identified verbatim, were:

> ➢ Awareness and intervention programs;
> ➢ No programs in place to prevent kids from getting into trouble all programs are set in place to help the ones that are currently in the system;
> ➢ "Scared straight" type programs that allow students access to courtrooms, jails, etc. Speakers with prior gang involvement and mentors who have been influenced by the system but succeeded. Kids with current or prospective gang involvement only really listen to those that have been there before;
> ➢ Community resources and family support;
> ➢ I feel that there are not enough groups or support for students who are involved in gangs for this area;
> ➢ Support groups or just staff members who possess adequate knowledge about gangs;
> ➢ adult mentoring and building relationships with successful males; and
> ➢ There need to be far more community programs to give youth an opportunity for

involvement in something positive. Lack of family involvement is the biggest reason kids turn to gangs, if we could only teach parents to parent their children there would be less kids looking for attention elsewhere and finding it in gangs.

Figure 109: SRO Survey - Are there any specific resources you see lacking to support students who are either gang involved or at risk for gang involvement? (N=20)
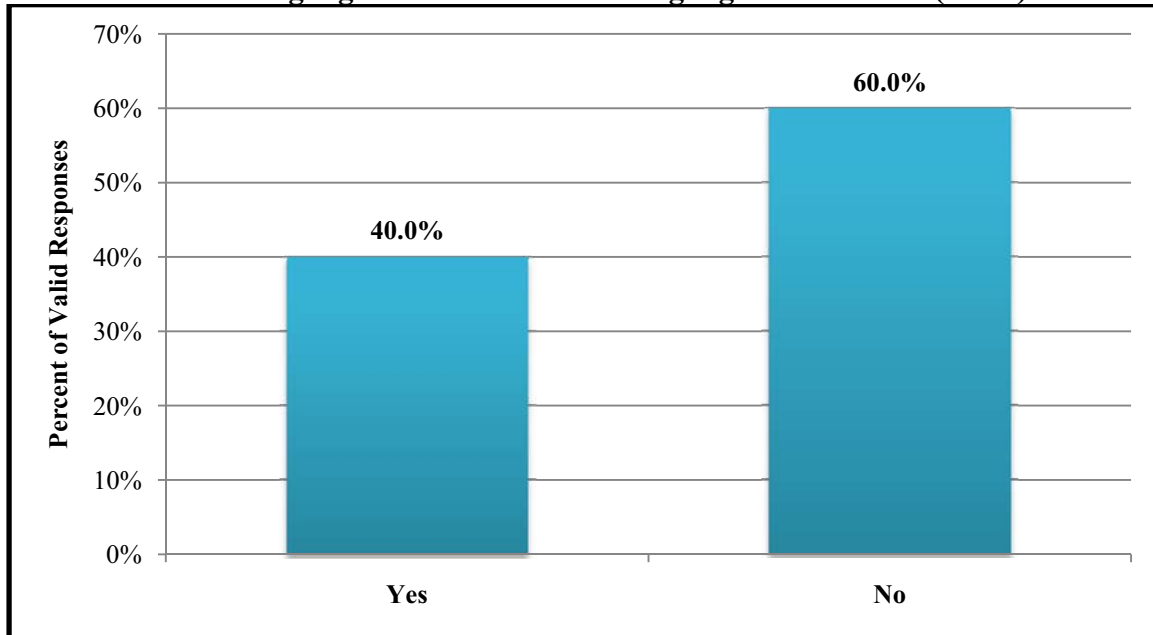
Adequate training

The majority (60%) of SRO respondents reported that they definitely felt adequately trained to handle school-related gang activity. Close to a third (35%) of SROs reported feeling somewhat adequately trained, while the remaining 5% reported feeling not at all adequately trained to handle school-related gang activity.

SRO respondents were subsequently asked to provide additional trainings topics/activities that they felt could improve their ability to handle school-related gang activity. The following were their responses:
  ➢ Gang signs and language
  ➢ Understanding gang language and signs.
  ➢ Any type of training that could be provided to parents would be of great assistance
  ➢ More training as a law enforcement officer to handle gang activities
  ➢ Classes to help raise awareness to the gangs and how to pick out gang members.
  ➢ Gang recognition
  ➢ We don't have gang activity at our school but we definitely have students who are active gang members at our school. It would be nice to have some training on how to recognize gang members and how to encourage students who are not in but

surrounded by gangs in their neighborhood how to say no to the gangs and still stay safe.

➤ Information on local gangs, not the typical but local gangs sets we all know about Blood and Crip but not local sets. Would like to know there colors, symbols and members.

Figure 110: SRO Survey - Do you feel adequately trained to handle school-related gang activity? (N=20)
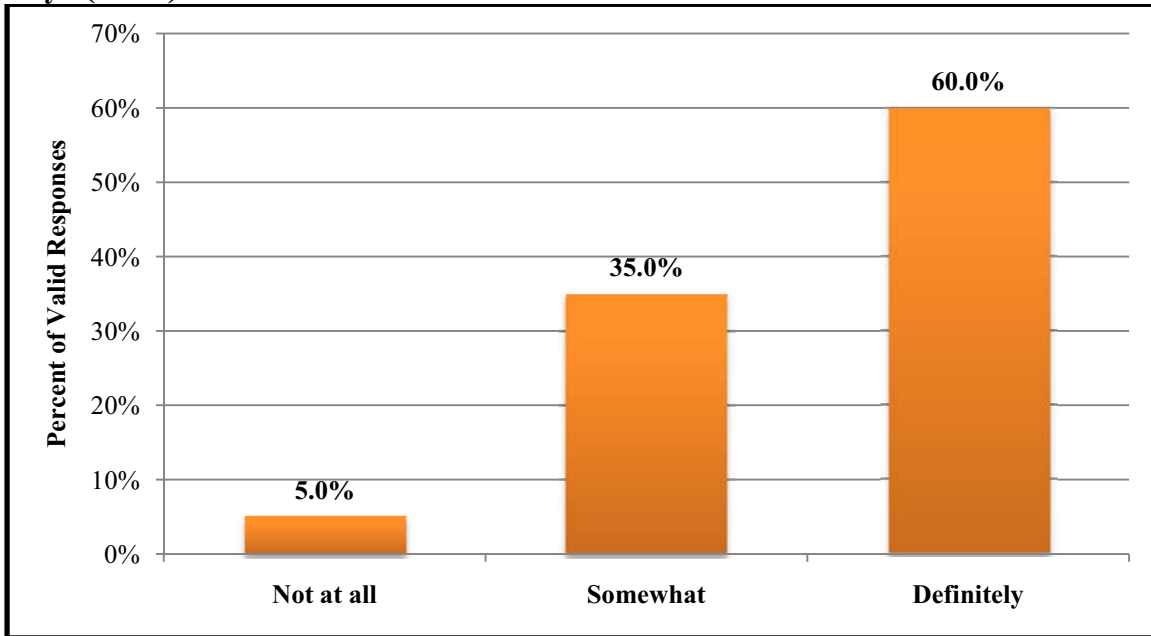
What would you like to see done differently in the school system related to gang activity and/or violence?

- I would like for the school system to take a harder stance and enforce the school board policy consistently at each school
- Remove known Gang Members from the school system.
- Principals, and teachers have their hands tied they scared to react because fear and will their administration back them.
- Call a spade a spade, acknowledge that we have a problem, and institute tougher punishment for gang related activities in school. Equip our administrators and teachers to better recognize gang activity and help them realize that it is the underlying factor behind a vast majority of our violent and drug related crime in schools. Equip counselors with training and tools to involve parents and community resources in helping deal with present and potential future gang members.
- I would like to see the Guilford County School System take a stand and admit there is a gang problem and work with the community and law enforcement for a solution.
- Stricter consequences for rule violations as it relates to gang activity....
- Stricter consequences and consistency in addressing gang issues.

- No tolerance for any gang related activities and paraphernalia
- I would like to see school safety keep a running list of potential or possible gang members given the incidents law enforcement report, so if that student transfers everyone knows there affiliations and can head off potential problems
- For the staff to be more trained and more aware of the gang activity in the school system
- When an activity or offense if brought in front of the hearing officer for long term suspensions, have the hearing officer be accountable for his decisions. This year, I have had several students who are active gang members, bring weapons such as brass knuckles, switch blade knives and regular knives or box cutters and the hearing officer put them back in the school instead of the Scales Program.
- Harsher penalties.
- Just more education on gang activity and what signs to look for
- Not allowing students who show repeated gang behaviors or violent tendencies to return to school and participate with the general population.
- I like the way it is handled so far.
- Zero Tolerance. First time.....10 days out. Second time 365 out.
- The school board needs to take a stronger stance against weapons in schools and supports schools' decisions to expel students who bring weapons to school instead of overturning schools' decisions and sending students back to school. I believe schools are doing a decent job battling gang activity, but sometimes they're not backed up by the board which is very frustrating.
- I want the school system to realize that when gang members are in public schools and commit violent crimes in school or outside of school that they need to attend an alternative school.
- A way to make gang life less glamorized. Showing the results of joining a gang the violence and the eventual jail time. Now a days the most popular kids in school are the gang members and thugs not the athletes. So students look up to the students that are always in trouble and gang members. The students that get good grades and do not get in trouble are looked down on for being good students. Students intentionally fail to fit in with the troubled students to fit in with the more popular gang members.

Gang Member Interviews

As a unique part of the OJJDP comprehensive gang assessment model, interviews with gang members are suggested as a way to obtain profile information about the population of young people some community agencies and programs are trying to reach.

OJJDP suggests that conducting 25-50 gang member interviews is sufficient to obtain a good sample from which to draw conclusions regarding demographic profiles, criminal involvement, and history with gangs. While the current assessment team was unable to obtain firsthand interviews with that number of gang members, three gang member interviews were completed by a partnering agency, One Step Further, Inc. (see http://www.onestepfurther.com/ for program information). While the findings from those three interviews are not generalizable to the larger population of young people who are gang-involved, they are summarized below to provide some initial insight regarding challenges the young people interviewed discussed which others might also be facing.

Gang Member Demographics

Age
- All three of the young people interviewed were under 18 years of age.
- One was 14 years-old, one was 15 years-old, and one was 16 years-old.

Gender
- All three of the young people interviewed were males.

Race/Ethnicity
- Two of the young people interviewed identified themselves as Black/African American
- One identified himself as Hispanic/Latino

Marital Status & Parenting
- All three young people interviewed reported their marital status as "Do not know"
- None of the three young people interviewed reported having any children.

Family Gang Involvement
- Two out of the three young people interviewed reported having family members that were/are in a gang.

Employment
- All three young people interviewed reported being currently unemployed

Enrolled in School
- All three young people interviewed reported currently being in school.
- Two reported being in grade school (8th and 9th grades) and one reported currently attending Guilford Technical Community College

Grades
- When the young people interviewed were asked what their grades were like:
    - One reported Mostly C's
    - One reported Mostly D's
    - One reported Mostly F's

Opinions of School

Table 35: Gang Member Interviews - For your current/most recent school, how much do you agree/disagree with the following statements:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Disagree nor Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
If I have/had a problem, there is/was a teacher or staff member I could talk to.	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)
I often feel/felt that no one at school cares/cared about me.	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)
Even though there are lots of students around, I often feel/felt lonely	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0%)
I do not/did not feel that I am/was part of this school.	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
I often feel/felt like my teachers respect/respected me.	0 (0.0%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)
In school, I often feel/felt put down by other students.	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0.0%)
Most of my teachers really listen/listened to what I have/had to say.	2 (66.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)
Most of my teachers are/were fair in supervising me if I step/stepped out of line.	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)

Dropped Out
- None of the three young people interviewed reported ever dropping out of school.

Suspensions
- All three young people interviewed reported having been suspended from school.
- All three reported fighting as the reasons for their most recent suspension.

Expulsions
- Two out of the three young people interviewed reported having been expelled from school.

- Of them, one reported fighting and the other reported not going to class as reasons for their most recent expulsion.

Table 36: Gang Member Interviews - In the past year, how often have you witnessed any of the following gang activities at your school or on school grounds?

	Never/No Times	1-3 times	4-10 times	11-26 times	More than 26 times	Do not know	No response
Gang members selling drugs	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)
Fights between members of different gangs	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Fight between members of your own gang	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)
A drive-by shooting	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Gang intimidation	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Gang recruiting	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)
Not in school	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

**Are there areas right now in your community where you are afraid to walk alone?**
- None of the three young people interviewed reported being afraid to walk alone in their community.

**Supportive Adults**
- All three young people interviewed reported there being no adults in their neighborhoods that they could talk to about something important.

Table 37: Gang Member Interviews - In the past year, how often have you witnessed any of the following gang activities in your community?

	Never/No Times	1-3 times	4-10 times	11-26 times	More than 26 times	Do not know	No response
Gang members selling drugs	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)
Fights between members of different gangs	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)
Fight between members of your own gang	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)
A drive-by shooting	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)
Gang intimidation	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)
Gang recruiting	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)

Community Gang Problem
- Two out of the three young people interviewed reported that they did NOT think there was a gang problem in their community.
- One of the young people interviewed thought that their community DID have a gang problem. When asked to identify the top three causes of the gang problem in their community from a list provided, they chose:
    o Police labeling
    o Gang members move to community from other places
    o Family/friends in gangs

Adults in the Community
- All 3 young people interviewed reported personally knowing at least one adult who in the past year has used marijuana, crack, cocaine, or other drugs. One young person reported knowing 5, another reported knowing 4, and another reported knowing 1 adult who had used illegal drugs in the past year.
- 2 of the 3 young people interviewed reported personally knowing at least one adult who had sold or dealt drugs in the past year.
- 1 of the 3 young people interviewed reported personally knowing adults who had done other things that could get them into trouble with police such as stealing, selling stolen goods, mugging, or assaulting others in the past year.
- 2 of the 3 young people interviewed reported personally knowing at least 2 adults who had gotten drunk in the past year.

Friends
- 2 of the three young people interviewed reported having friends who were gang members

Table 38: Gang Member Interviews - In the last year, for each crime, please rate how serious a crime problem you think this is in your community?

	No problem	A small problem	A moderate problem	A serious problem	A very serious problem	Do not know	No response
Vandalism/Graffiti	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Burglary	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Car theft	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Robbery	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Threats / intimidation	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Gang-to-Gang confrontation	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Drug dealing	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Alcohol use	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Drive-by shooting	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Possession of knife	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Possession of gun	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Firearms use	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Firearms dealing	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Arson	2 (66.6%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Assault/battery	2 (66.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Homicide/murder	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
School disruption	2 (66.6%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)
Other	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)

Table 39: Gang Member Interviews - Access to Illegal Items

	Very hard	Somewhat hard	Somewhat easy	Very easy	Do not know	No response
If you wanted to get a handgun, how easy would it be for you to get one?	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)
If you wanted to get drugs like cocaine, LSD, amphetamines, crack, etc., how easy would it be for you to get some?	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0.0%)

Current Gang Membership
- Two out of the three young people interviewed reported not currently being members of a gang.
- When asked if they had been active gang members in the past 6 months, two out of the three responded "Yes."

Position or Rank
- When asked what their most recent position or rank in the gang was, two out of the three young people interviewed identified themselves as a "Core member/influential (with gang all of the time)."

Reasons for joining or associating with a gang
- When asked to rank reasons for joining or associating with a gang from 1 – most important to 9 – least important, the most important reasons chosen by the three young people interviewed were:
    o For fun
    o A brother or sister were in the gang
    o To get respect
    o A friend was in the gang
    o For money

Age
- When asked their age when they first belonged to a gang, two out of the three young people interviewed responded.
    o One reported 13 years old
    o One reported 12 years old

Table 40: Gang Member Interviews - How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Do not know	No response
Being in my gang makes me feel important.	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)
My gang members provide a good deal of support and loyalty for one another.	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)
Being a member of a gang make me feel respected.	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)
Being a member of a gang makes me feel like I am a useful person to have around.	1 (33.3%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)
Being a member of a gang makes me feel like really belong somewhere.	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
I enjoy being a member of my gang.	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)
My gang is like a family to me.	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Being in a gang is a good way to make money.	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

Activities Involving Crime, Drugs, and Alcohol

Table 41: Gang Member Interviews - In the past year have you...

	Yes	No	Do not know	No response
Written gang graffiti on school property, neighborhood houses, stores, etc.?	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Thrown rocks or bottles at person, vehicles, or property?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Destroyed property worth less than $300?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Destroyed property worth more than $300?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Set fire to building or property?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Stolen bicycle or bike parts?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Stolen a motor vehicle?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Stolen parts or property from a vehicle (hubcaps, stereo, cell phone, etc.)?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Fenced or sold stolen goods (other than weapons)?	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Shoplifted?	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Entered a house, store or building to commit a theft?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Broken into a house, store, or building to commit a theft?	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Fenced or sold weapons or firearms?	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Threatened to attack a person <u>without</u> using a gun, knife, or other dangerous weapon?	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Threatened to attack a person using a gun, knife, or other dangerous weapon?	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Robbed someone by force or by threat of force <u>without</u> using a weapon?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Robbed someone by forced or by threat of force using a weapon?	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Beaten up or battered someone <u>without</u> using a dangerous weapon?	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Beaten up or battered someone using a dangerous weapon?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Forced someone to have sex with you (rape)?	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

Participated in a drive-by shooting?	0 (0%)	**2 (66.6%)**	0 (0%)	**1 (33.3%)**
Participated in a homicide?	0 (0%)	**3 (100%)**	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Participated in other crimes (please specify)?	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	**3 (100%)**

Substance Use

- ***In the past year, have you used or tried any drugs?***
  - All three young people who were interviewed reported having used or tried drugs in the past year.
  - When asked about frequency of use, one young person reported using drugs approximately 20 days per month.
  - Two reported not knowing how many days per month they used any drugs.
- ***In the past year, have you sold any drugs?***
  - One out of the three young people interviewed reported selling drugs in the past year. The remaining two young people did not.
    - When asked where the money from selling drugs went, the one young person reported that it went to personal use.
- ***In the past year, have you used any kind of alcohol?***
  - Two out of the three young people interviewed reported using alcohol in the past year.
    - When asked what type of alcohol they used, one reported drinking beer and hard liquor and the other reported drinking just hard liquor.

Contact with Law Enforcement

- ***In the past year have you had any arrests or police contacts? This may include being stopped, searched, questioned, or being brought to the police station at any time.***
  - Two out of the three young people interviewed reported having contact with the police in the past year.
    - When asked how many times, one reported having contact two times and the other reported having contact once.
    - When asked about the reason for police contact:
      - One reported tints on a car
      - One reported, "walking through a neighborhood in the dark"
    - When asked to rate how fairly they were treated by the police during their most recent contact with them, both young people reported that they were treated fairly by the police SOME of the time.

Leaving the Gang

- Two out of the three young people interviewed reported "Yes" to whether they think they will ever leave the gang. The remaining one reported not being in a gang.

Reasons to Get Out of the Gang

Table 42: Gang Member Interviews - If you would leave the gang, which of the following are reasons likely to get you out of a gang?

	Yes	No	Do not know	No response
Advice/pressure from a family member/relative	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Advice/pressure from someone else (specify who)	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Move out of neighborhood	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Because of a steady girlfriends/boyfriend/spouse	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Get married	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Become a parent	0 (0%)	3 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Family responsibilities (specify what)	0 (0%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	1 (33.3%)
Obtain a job	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Get into school/education program	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Recreation/sports program	2 (66.6%)	1 (33.3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Go to jail/prison	1 (33.3%)	2 (66.6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

Of the young people who responded that advice/pressure from someone else would be a likely reason for them to get out of a gang, one young person specified a Teacher as being that person.

Survey Comparisons

Youth, community resident, and SRO survey questions were compared in order to assess similarities and differences in responding. Questions that were asked in the same format were compared to determine whether or not there were differences in group perceptions.

Perceived gang activity within the past year

There were significant differences between responses on the perception of gang activity within the past year between youth, the community, and SROs, $x^2(4, N = 684) = 49.36$, p <.001. Youth were less likely to report an increase in gang activity within the past year whereas community residents were more likely to report an increase in gang activity. SROs were more likely to report a decrease in gang activity within the past year.

Figure 111: Survey Comparisons - Perceived gang activity within the past year across survey respondents.
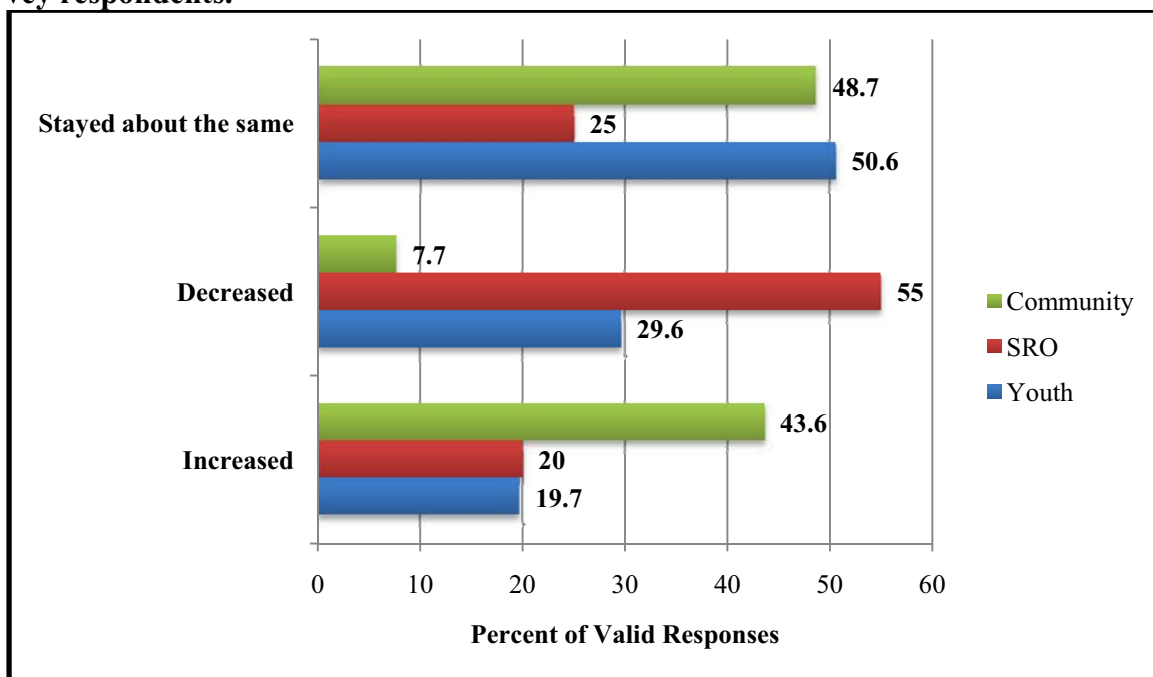
Perceived school safety

There were significant differences between responses on the perception of school safety between youth and community residents, $X^2(2, N = 586) = 14.89$, p <.01. Community residents were more likely than youth to report that they perceived their child's school to be 'not at all safe'.

Figure 112: Survey Comparisons - Perceived school safety across survey respondents
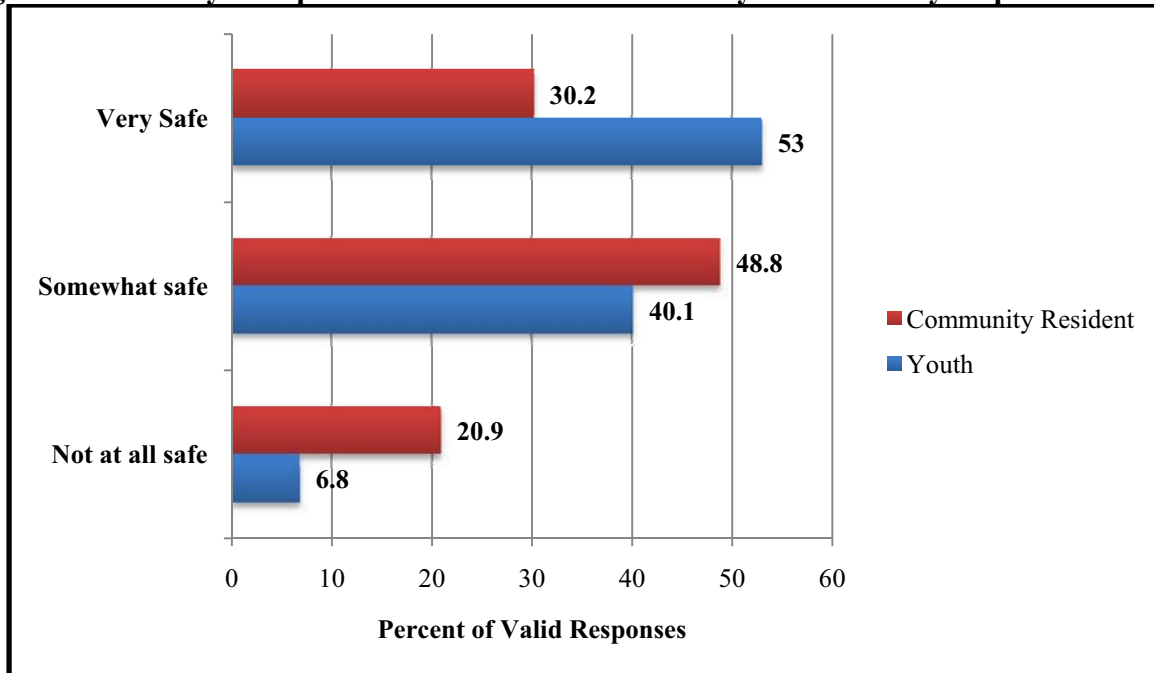
Gang presence in schools

There were no significant differences in responses regarding perceived gang presence in schools between youth and SRO surveys.