

# Gang Violence In The Community

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## Intro

Gang violence has been prevalent in larger cities across the nation. Our goal was to bring awareness to this issue within the local community. Over the course of 7 months our group has conducted research regarding the issue of gang violence in our communities. We can that say our research was successful and today we are here to show you that.

FROM INFO PROVIDED BY  
THE JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

## FACTS ABOUT GANGS

[www.nationalgangcenter.gov](http://www.nationalgangcenter.gov)

### WHY?

Youth join gangs for a variety of reasons. The most notable include gaining money or status, desire to show cultural pride, find a sense of belonging, fear of harm or expectation of protection. Unfortunately - most of these perceived gains are not reality.

### IMPACT

Youth who are involved in gang activity are more likely to commit crimes, which puts them at a higher risk of being arrested, incarcerated or becoming victims of violence. Girls are more likely to become sexually victimized. Youth are also less likely to graduate from high school and get a stable job, and more likely to have drug, alcohol or health problems later in life.

### THREE IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**12-14**

The average age when youth begin to consider joining a gang.

**15**

The common age youth joins gangs.

**LIFELONG**

The potential mental, physical, financial and social affects of gang activity.

### HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

**CONVERSATION**  
TALK to your kids about the consequences of gang activity.

**FAMILY TIME**  
Spend quality time with your family in order to help your child have a sense of belonging and encourage trust.

**STAY INFORMED**  
Stay abreast of online trends that may indicate gang activity. It is important to be aware of your child's social media activity, as well.



Information by  
[www.nationalgangcenter.gov](http://www.nationalgangcenter.gov)  
Made by  
Grady NewsSource

## Data collection and analysis

Due to the danger of our topic, we spoke with the CPD and FBI gang task force about current trends with gang violence.

## Findings

- The largest incentive to joining a gang is financial (Money)

## Survey

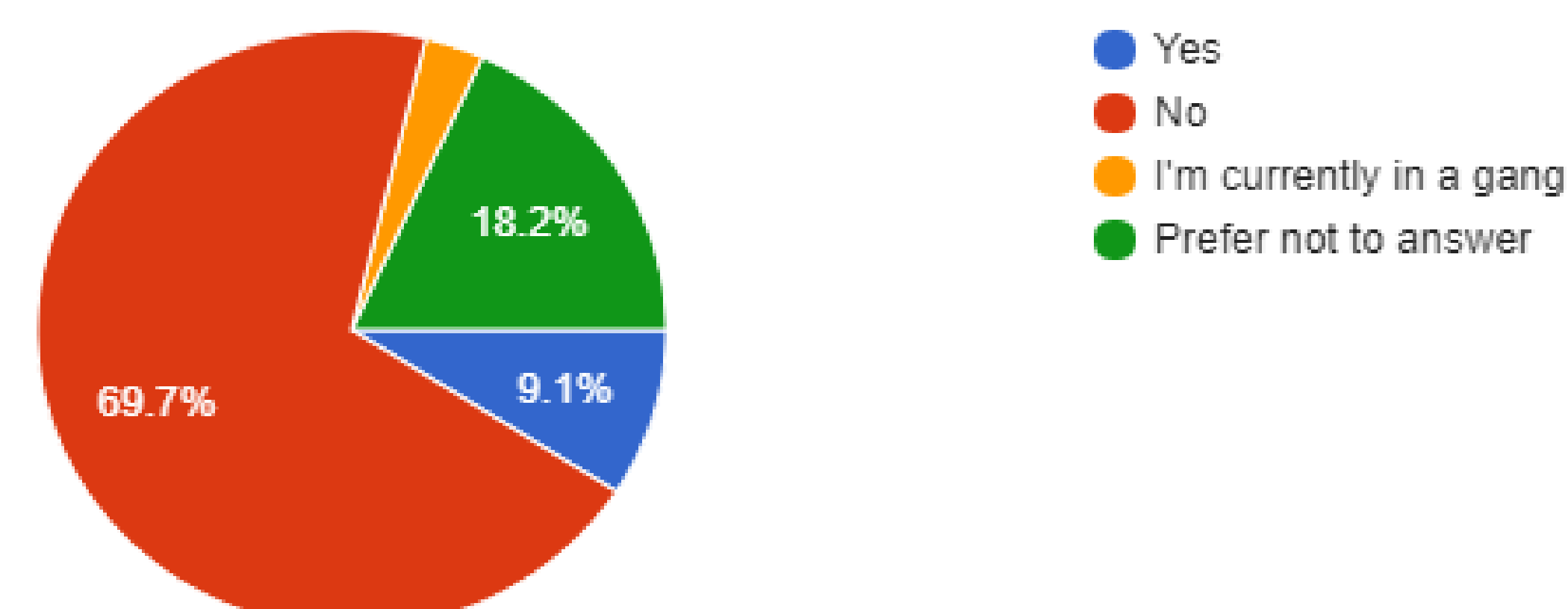
We conducted a survey to high school aged students in the Cleveland asking how gang activity affect them and their community.

## Survey Data

- **64%** of students we survey was or knew someone affiliated with a gang
- **40%** of students rated the severity of gang violence in their

have you ever considered being in a gang?

33 responses



## Recommendation

- i. Peer to Peer advocacy against gang affiliation
- ii. Educational awareness programs for at-risk students
- i. Lobby issues to local government officials to take action.
- ii. Yearly check ups on gang related statistics, community engagement, and mentorship programs.
- iii. Increase job opportunities in communities plague with gang violence

## Main References

- Cleveland police Gang Unit: Sargent Putnam
- FBI Gang Task Force: Agent Mccafferty
- Cleveland.com