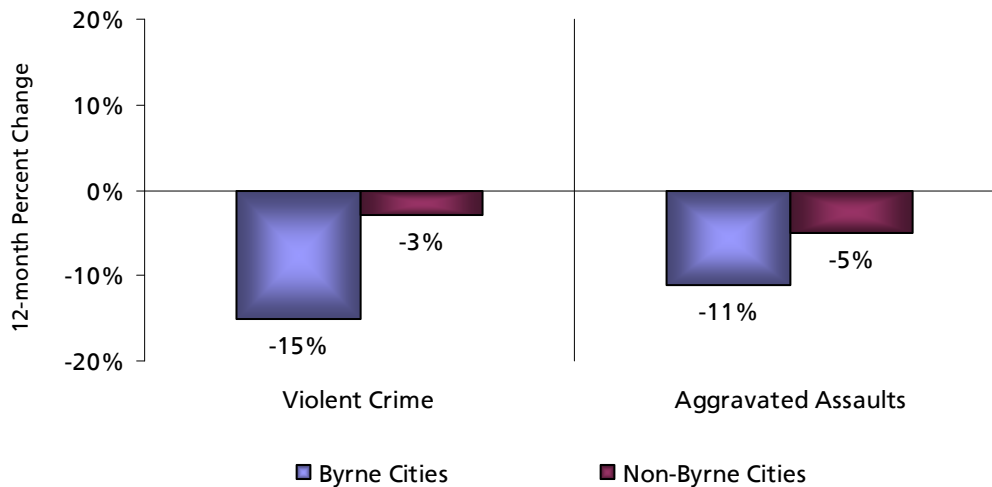


Cross-Jurisdictional Collaboration Helps North County Cities Fight Gang-Related Crime

In an effort to maintain safe communities and prevent gang-related and violent crime, six jurisdictions in the northern region of San Diego County (Carlsbad, Escondido, Fallbrook, Oceanside, San Marcos, and Vista) came together in 2007 to collaborate on a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. In doing so, they established the North County Gang Enforcement Collaborative (NCGEC) with the goal of addressing the issues of gangs and violence through increased communication and collaboration¹. As part of this effort, SANDAG documented program implementation and measured a number of impacts and outcomes.

With the intention of increasing law enforcement visibility, implementing directed patrols, and sharing intelligence across jurisdictions, the NCGEC conducted 27 suppression operations with an average of 61 representatives from 12 agencies. The operations resulted in 585 arrests, 198 convictions, and intelligence on 158 gang members and associates (not shown). In addition, comparisons of reported violent crimes overall and aggravated assaults in particular revealed a larger decrease in these crimes between 2007 and 2008 in the NCGEC area (15% and 11%, respectively), compared to the rest of the county (3% and 5%, respectively) (Figure 1).

Figure 1
NCGEC JURISDICTIONS EXPERIENCED A GREATER DECREASE IN CRIME
BETWEEN 2007 AND 2008 COMPARED TO THE REST OF THE REGION



SOURCE: SANDAG

The cross-jurisdictional information sharing established during the grant period has continued and is even more important as resources have diminished significantly since two years ago. To learn more about the activities and outcomes of the NCGEC, visit www.sandag.org/cj to view SANDAG's final evaluation report.

¹ In addition to the law enforcement agencies in these six jurisdictions, other partners included the California Highway Patrol; San Diego County Probation Department, Health and Human Services Children's Services Bureau, and District Attorney's Office; Immigration and Customs Enforcement; Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF); California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (i.e., Parole); and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).