

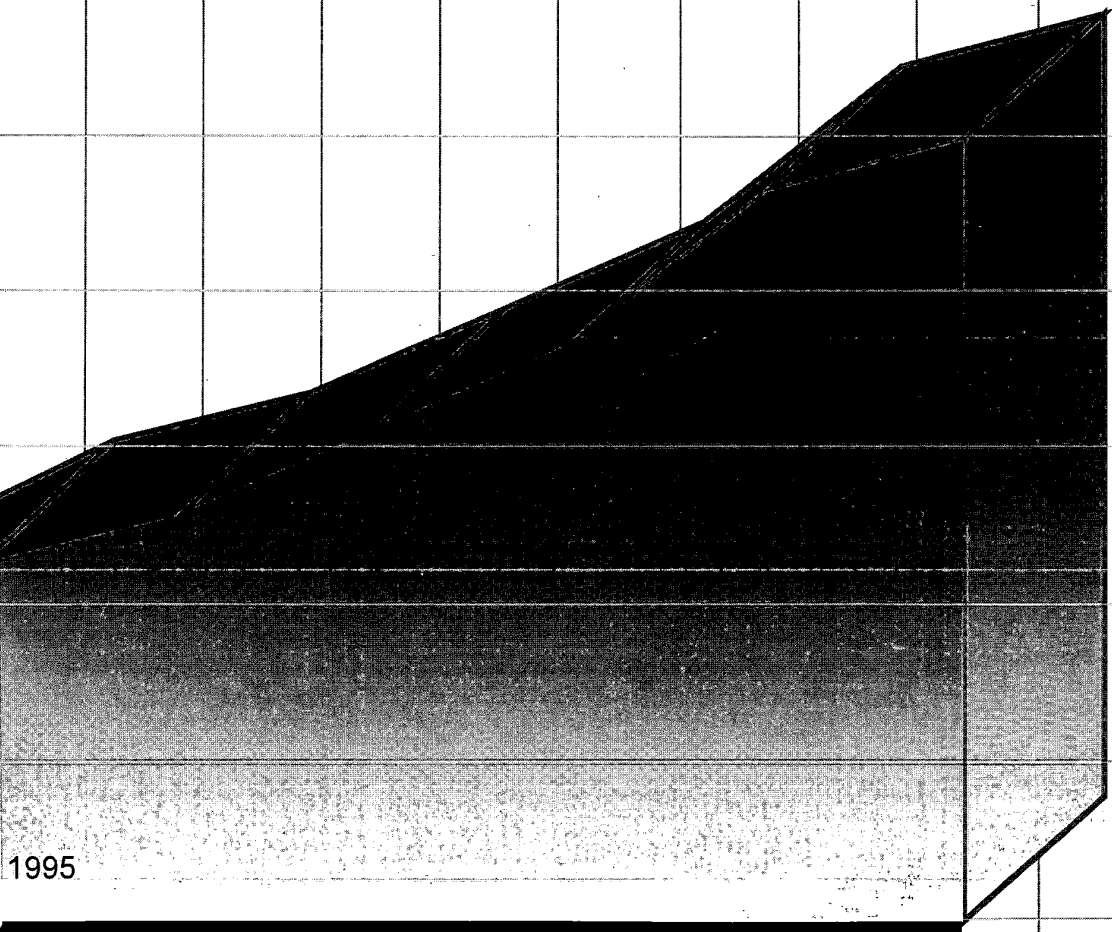
THE REGIONAL INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEMS PROGRAM

Summary Report

**Membership and Service Activity
of the
RISS Projects
1992 - 1994**



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RISS Projects
1992 - 1994**

NOVEMBER 1995

Institute for Intergovernmental Research
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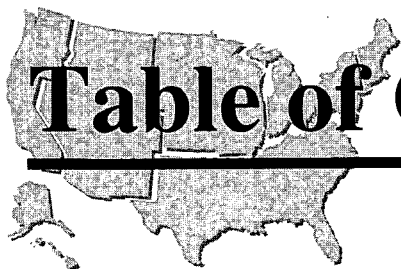
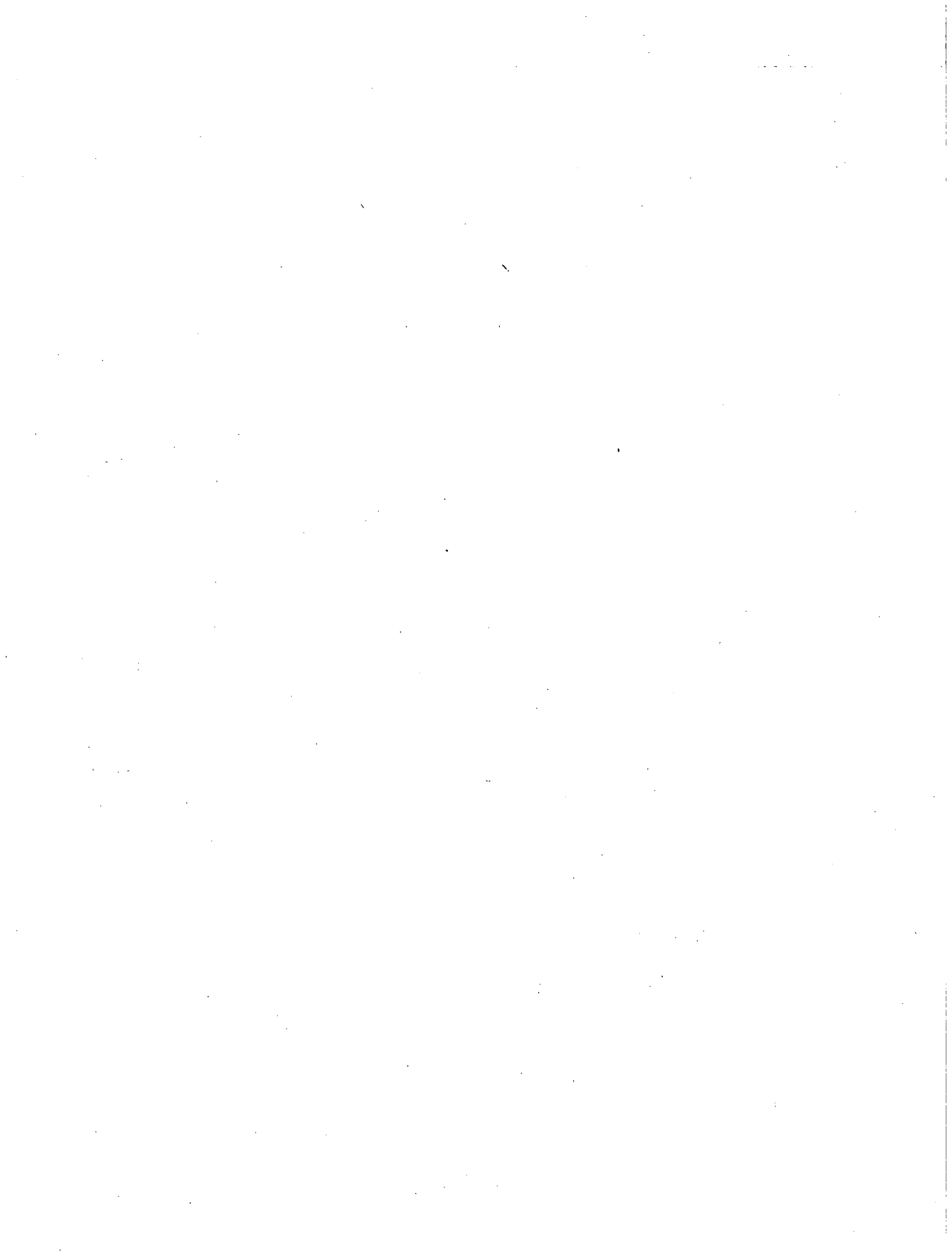


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The Office of Justice Programs Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Program is a federally funded program to support law enforcement efforts to combat drug trafficking and organized criminal activity. Six regional projects provide criminal information exchange and other related operational support services to local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies located in all fifty states. These projects are:

- The Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network (MAGLOCLLEN);
- The Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center (MOCIC);
- The New England State Police Information Network (NESPIN);
- The Regional Organized Crime Information Center (ROCIC);
- The Rocky Mountain Information Network (RMIN); and
- The Western States Information Network (WSIN).



The Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) provides management review, performance assessment, and operations analysis services to the Regional Information Sharing Systems Program through grant awards received from the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA).

This report contains a summary analysis of RISS project activity addressed by the RISS Program Guideline established by OJP. RISS project data are routinely collected and analyzed with the cooperation and assistance of the projects. The activity data in this report cover the years 1992, 1993, and 1994. The summary briefly describes the RISS Program, presents project service components and activity data describing the various service components, and gives examples of member agency case investigations supported by project services. A summary of project service and activity growth trends is also discussed.

Additional, more detailed analyses of project activity are contained in other reports prepared by IIR and are available upon request.



Overview of the RISS Program

The Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Program supports multi-agency coordination and cooperation among local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. The operation of a regional information sharing project was first supported by U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) grant funding in 1974. Six regional projects (MAGLOCLLEN, MOCIC, NESPIN, RMIN, ROCIC, and WSIN) are currently operational and together they provide their member agencies throughout the United States with a broad range of criminal intelligence and investigative support services.

DOJ funding oversight and program management responsibilities are described in the RISS Program Guideline which sets out program goals and objectives, strategy, project components, program administration, characteristics, and funding.

Program Goal

The overall goal of the RISS Program is to enhance the ability of state and local criminal justice agencies to identify, target, and remove criminal conspiracies and activities spanning jurisdictional boundaries.

Projects

The Regional Information Sharing Systems projects span the United States, from NESPIN in the Northeast to WSIN in the West. By providing information otherwise unavailable or too time-consuming to obtain, the RISS projects have facilitated law enforcement agency activities across the country and have made a significant difference in the fight against crime.

The geographical profile of the projects is shown on the following page.

Project Oversight

Each RISS project has established an oversight group (policy board or executive committee) composed of representatives from state and local member agencies in the project's multi-state region. The primary purpose of the oversight group is to provide policy and direction regarding project operations and administration. Each project policy board group holds regular meetings for this purpose.

Service Components

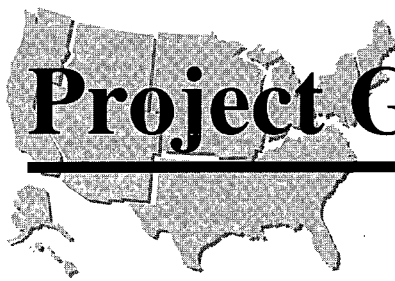
Each project funded under the RISS Program has implemented both required and optional service components. Optional components are designed to support the required service components.

Required Service Components:

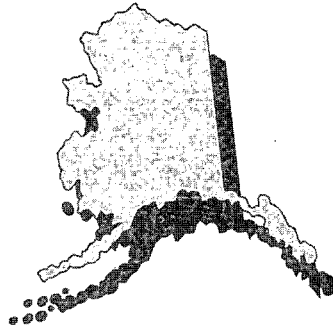
Information Sharing
Analytical Services
Telecommunications

Optional Service Components:

Investigative Support
Specialized Equipment
Technical Assistance
Training

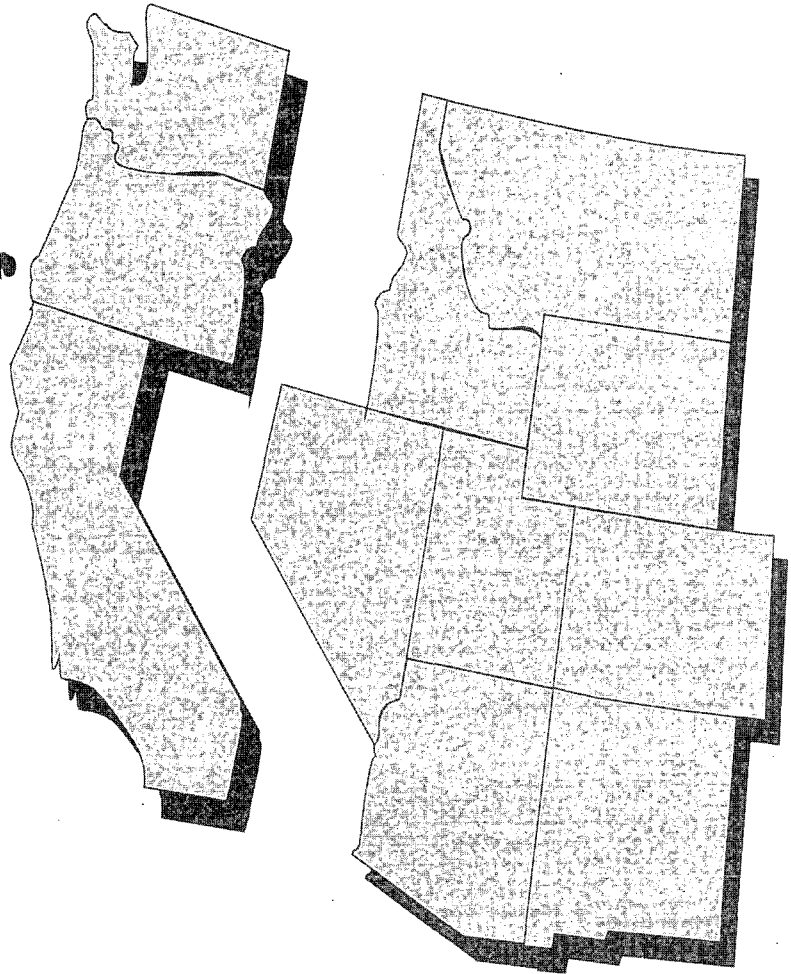


Project Geographical Profile



WSIN

The **Western States Information Network** project is headquartered in Sacramento, California, with member agencies in Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington as well as Canada. The criminal activity focus of the WSIN project is narcotics, narcotics trafficking, and other criminal activity involving members of organizations or associations.



RMIN

The **Rocky Mountain Information Network** project headquarters are located in Phoenix, Arizona. The project serves member agencies in the states of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming as well as Canada. The RMIN project focus is narcotics trafficking and associated criminal activity.

ROCIC

The **Regional Organized Crime Information Center** project is headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee, and serves member agencies in fourteen states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. ROCIC's priority is narcotics trafficking, professional traveling criminals, and organized crime.

MOCIC

The **Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center** project headquarters are located in Springfield, Missouri. The project serves member agencies in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin as well as Canada. Narcotics trafficking, professional traveling criminals, and organized crime are the focus of project service activity.

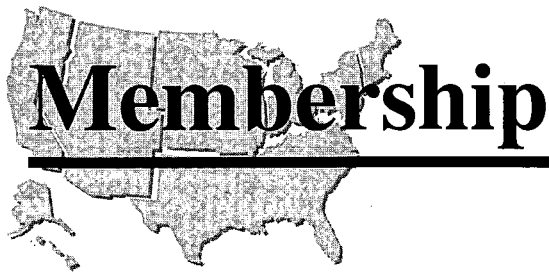


NESPIN

Headquartered in Needham, Massachusetts, the **New England State Police Information Network** project encompasses the states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont as well as Canada. NESPIN focuses on organized crime, narcotics trafficking, and major criminal activity.

MAGLOCLEN

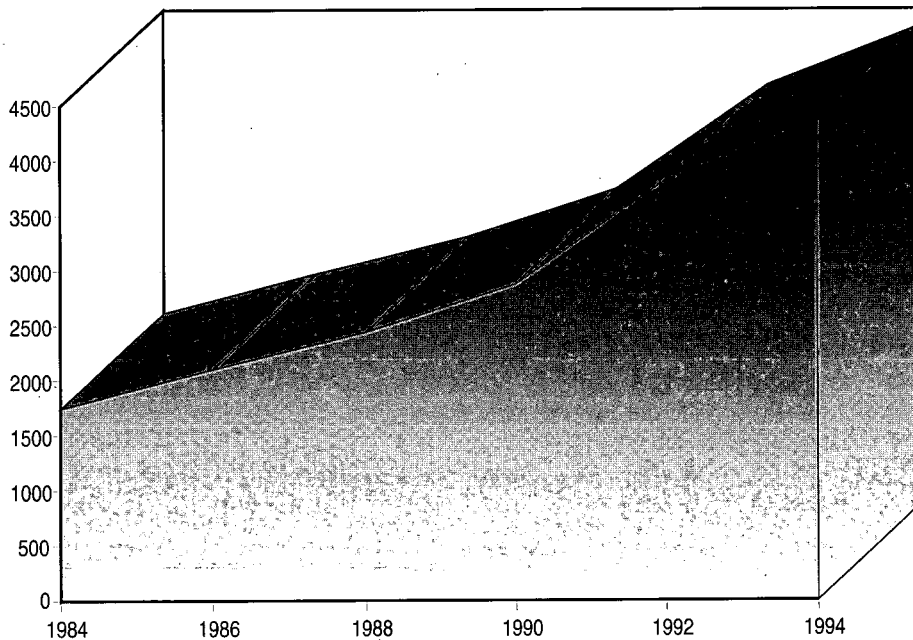
The **Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network** project is headquartered in Newtown, Pennsylvania. The project covers the states of Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, in addition to the District of Columbia and the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, Canada. The project focus is organized criminal activity and narcotics trafficking.



Membership

Each RISS project has developed its own criteria for membership. The projects are comprised of local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, prosecution agencies, and others such as multijurisdictional task forces or regulatory agencies with law enforcement or criminal investigative authority.

Project membership continues to grow at a steady rate. At year end 1994, the total agency membership was 4,344.



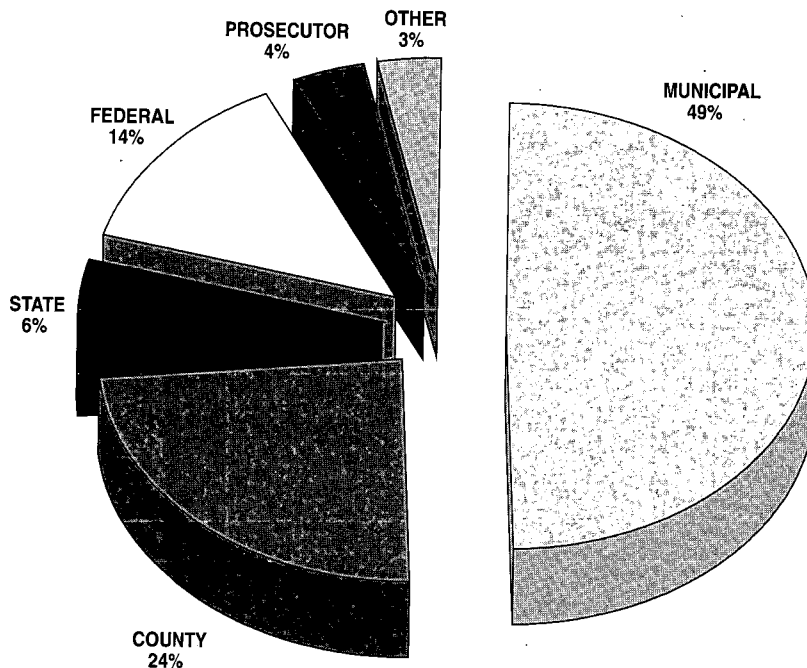
RISS MEMBERSHIP
*Steady Growth from
 1,746 agencies in 1984 to 4,344 in 1994*

The current membership for each project, as of September 30, 1995, is as follows:

MAGLOCLLEN	434
MOCIC	871
NESPIN	361
RMIN	699
ROCIC	1132
WSIN	1069
<hr/>	
TOTAL	4566

For all six projects combined, local (municipal and county) law enforcement agencies represent 73% of the total membership. There are currently 589 federal agencies which are project members. All six RISS projects have federal agency members.

**RISS MEMBERSHIP
BY TYPE OF AGENCY
1994 Percent Distribution**



The MAGLOCLLEN, MOCIC, NESPIN, RMIN, and WSIN project membership criteria allow Canadian agencies to participate as limited members. Currently, 21 agencies in the Canadian provinces participate in these five RISS projects.

Data regarding member agency participation in RISS project activities, including database submissions and service usage, are collected and analyzed to measure the extent to which member agencies become involved in project activities.

Member agency participation was tracked for each of the four quarters in 1994. Due to technical problems, the ROCIC project was unable to capture this information. Of the combined member agencies in the MAGLOCLLEN, MOCIC, NESPIN, RMIN, and WSIN projects, 84% participated in project services during at least one quarter out of four quarters in 1994. Federal member agencies in these five projects show a 72% rate of participation for the same period.

Over the past several years, the policy boards of the RISS projects have explored alternative funding sources other than federal grant support. Five of the six projects have adopted membership fees as an additional source of income. All projects also share in asset recovery in member agency investigations where project services are used. These funds are used for purchases and services that benefit the member agencies, such as specialized training and purchase of specialized investigative equipment for loan to member agencies. Federal guidelines which apply to the federal funding contribution to the RISS projects also apply to project income from these additional funding sources.

Services Provided

Under the Program Guideline, three law enforcement service components must be maintained by each RISS project. These are information sharing, analytical, and telecommunications services.

Information Sharing

The primary function of the RISS Program is sharing of information about crimes, criminals, and criminal activity. The information sharing component operated by each project is multifaceted and consists primarily of a database with a system for submitting information and for inquiring about records in the database. The projects supplement and enhance their information sharing through membership conferences and formal publications.

All six projects have established automated criminal intelligence databases which contain information pertaining to known or suspected criminals or criminal activity. Project intelligence databases are utilized to respond to member agency intelligence information inquiries and needs. All projects have adopted formal guidelines setting forth operational procedures for information submission, inquiry, and file review which have been approved by the Bureau of Justice Assistance program management.

Detailed descriptive information on subjects engaged in multijurisdictional offenses and criminal conspiracies is submitted to project databases by member agencies according to established procedures and criteria. Each project provides a submission form or format for this purpose. The type and amount of data captured vary from project to project based on submission criteria established by project policy.

The number of criminal subjects maintained in the individual project databases for the three-year period 1992-1994 is displayed in Exhibit 1. A subject is defined as an individual, business, group, or associate.

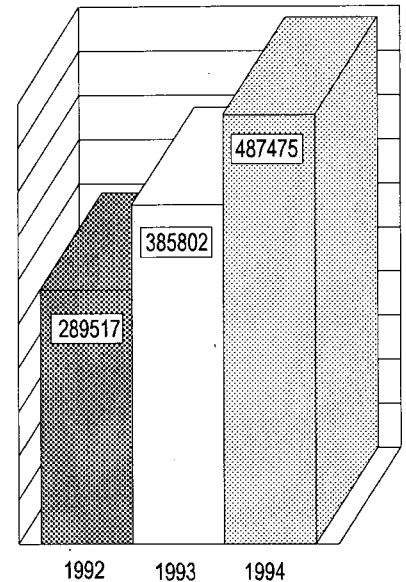
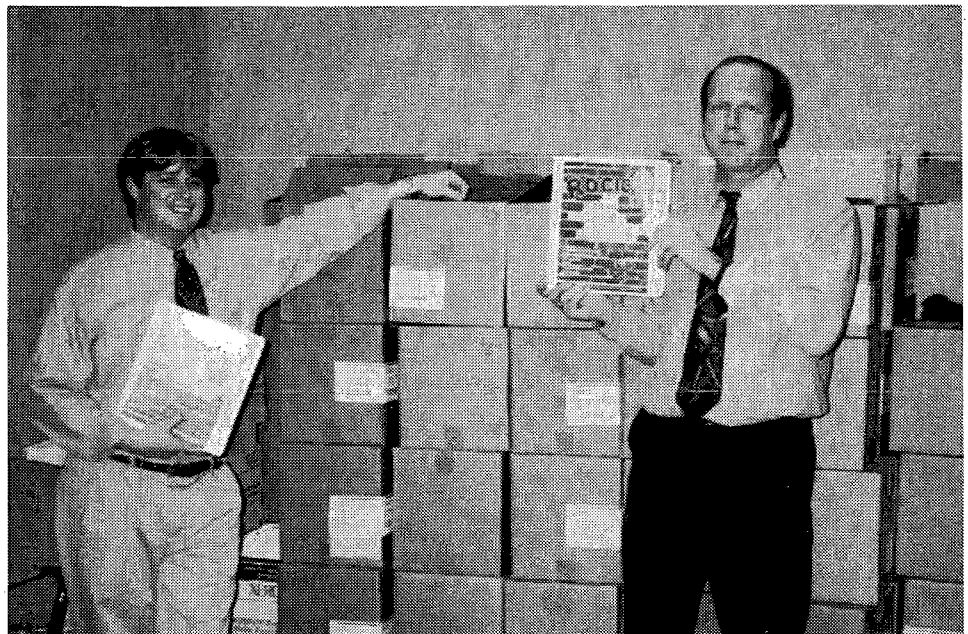


Exhibit 1
RISS Databases Total
Subjects

ROCIC staff prepare to mail a special criminal activity publication to each member agency.



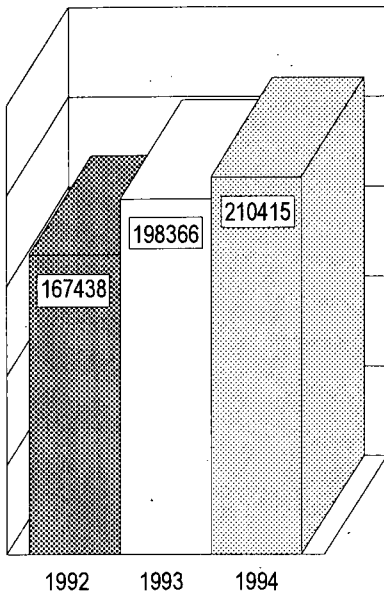


Exhibit 2
RISS Database Inquiries

RISS participating agencies actively exchange information on criminal subjects through the regional networks. Currently, access to database information by the participating agencies and among the six projects is accomplished primarily by telephone calls between authorized individuals using WATS/patch telecommunications services.

Inquiries to project criminal intelligence databases represent the most important use of this critical project service by members and other qualified agencies. The centralized databases are designed to encourage exchange of information and coordination among member agencies investigating the same individuals or organizations. Member agencies obtaining information on criminal subjects from project databases are referred to other agencies that have information on the subject. Inquiry service activity is displayed in Exhibit 2.

Member agency inquiries generate various types of activity by each project, including database searches in the project information system and contact with member agencies or other agencies for searches in their files. The projects record the number of "hits" (information found) on the subject of the inquiry.

Exhibit 3 displays "hits" in project and other agency files for the three years. The total number of hits in project and other agency files during 1994 for all projects combined was 111,436.

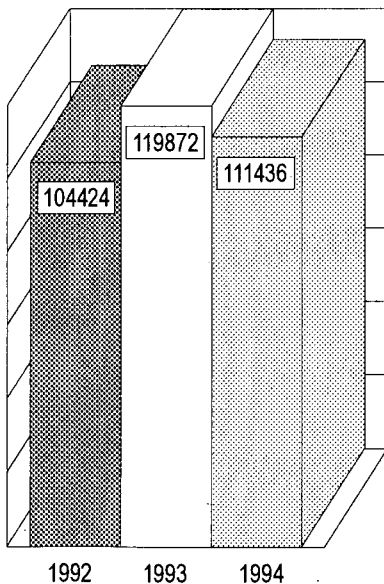


Exhibit 3
Hits in RISS Project and Other Agency Files

In addition to the databases, each project has implemented other services to enhance the required information sharing component. These services encompass project publications, conferences, and meetings held for the purpose of sharing information on specific investigations or emerging criminal groups. Although the training service component is an optional component under the Program Guideline, project conference formats often provide a mixture of information sharing and training activities.

Types of conferences sponsored by the projects include subject areas related to: specialized investigative equipment; analytical techniques; surveillance techniques; techniques for investigating narcotics trafficking, organized crime, economic crime, and terrorism; as well as project orientation and overview of services.

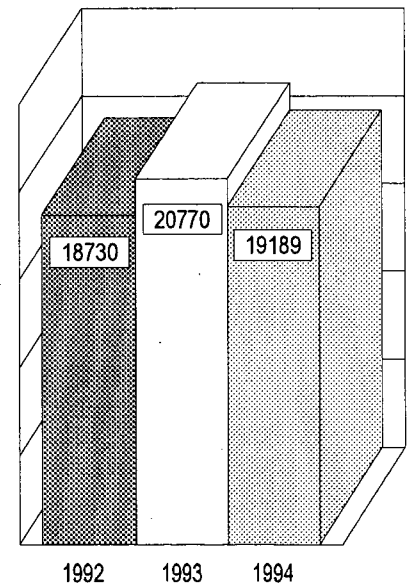
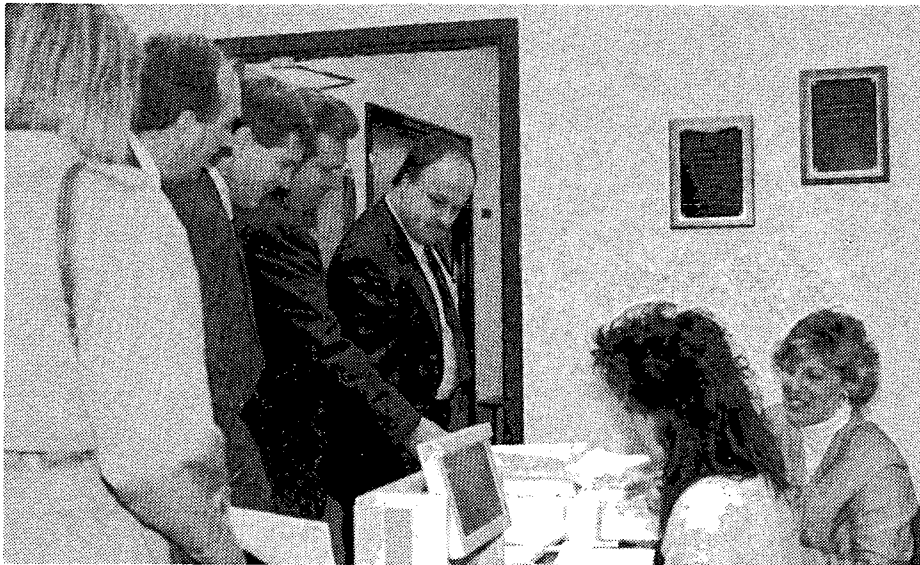


Exhibit 4
Attendance at RISS Information Sharing/Training Conferences

Exhibit 4 displays information on the number of agency representatives in attendance at project sponsored information sharing/training programs during the three-year period. Fluctuations in attendees at information sharing/



*Registration at the
MAGLOCLLEN 1994
Annual Conference.*



*Awards ceremony at the
1994 WSIN Annual
Narcotics Training and
Information Sharing
Conference.*



*Information on RISS services is
provided by project personnel
attending law enforcement
conferences throughout the year.*

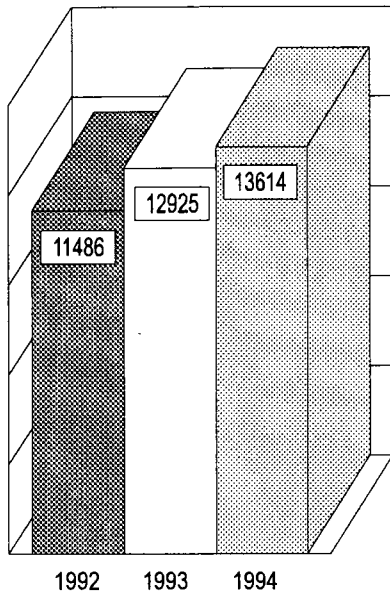


Exhibit 5
Analytical Products

training programs may occur due to changes in project policy on the provision of training, as well as budget constraints at both the project level and member agency level which result in reduction of funds for travel and training.

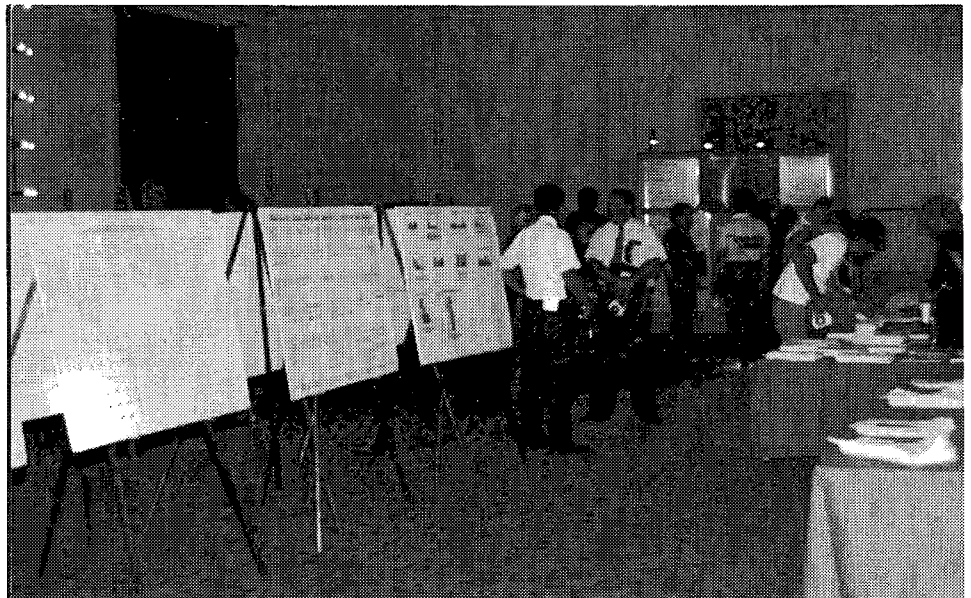
Analytical Services

The analytical component consists of investigative data compilation and analysis services to assist members in multijurisdictional investigations.

Each RISS project makes information analysis services available to its member agencies. All projects have the capability to provide traditional analytical service activities (telephone toll analysis, investigative case analysis, financial analysis, and criminal activity trend analysis) which result in the dissemination of various products such as investigative charts, link diagrams, special criminal activity reports, and automated listings of investigative data and telephone call data. The implementation of these analytical service activities differs among the projects primarily because of differences in member needs and service requirements and project management policies.

Exhibit 5 displays analytical products delivered to member agencies as a result of various analytical service activities, including telephone toll analysis, investigative case analysis, financial analysis, and criminal activity trend analysis.

Analytical products on display at the MOCIC project 1994 Annual Conference and Training Session.



Telecommunications

All six projects operate long distance telecommunications (WATS) systems for the primary purpose of facilitating information sharing and exchange among project member agencies. Project telecommunications services include the optional service of call patching capabilities for interstate patch calls. The telecommunications systems are operated at no cost to member

agencies and support the operations of the information sharing and analytical components of each project, as well as project supported investigations and activities.

Usage of project telecommunications systems varies widely among the projects and is based on the need of member agencies for such services or the management policy in each project region, and is not related to the total number of members in each project. RISS WATS/patch service activity is displayed in Exhibit 6. Over the 1992-1994 period, project policy boards initiated actions to curtail member agency patch call usage and reduce WATS telephone costs due to project budget constraints. These actions have resulted in reduced usage.

Optional Services

Other services provided by the projects to participating member law enforcement agencies include the optional service components of investigative support (confidential funds), specialized investigative equipment, technical assistance, and training.

Confidential Funds

All of the RISS projects have confidential funds available for use by member agencies for the purchase of investigative information, contraband, stolen property, and other items of an evidentiary nature, or to provide for other investigative expenses. The availability and use of confidential funds are strictly controlled by federal guidelines and internal policies and procedures developed by the projects. The projects require member agencies to report on the use and benefits of the confidential funds in supporting their investigative activity. These reports also include information for submission to project databases.

Information on the number of RISS confidential funds transactions is displayed in Exhibit 7. The net amount of confidential funds provided (confidential funds lent less the return of unused funds) by the projects to member agencies totaled \$278,196 for calendar year 1994. Provision of confidential fund support services varies depending on individual project management policy and budget constraints.

Investigative Equipment

Pools of specialized investigative equipment for loan to participating member agencies are maintained by each of the six projects. These project equipment pools generally contain the same types of investigative equipment (photographic, communications, surveillance, etc.), differing primarily in the number of each type of equipment and the age of the various pieces. Each project has developed criteria to process requests by member agencies for loans of equipment, and each has implemented inventory controls and procedures for operation of this service activity. The projects require member

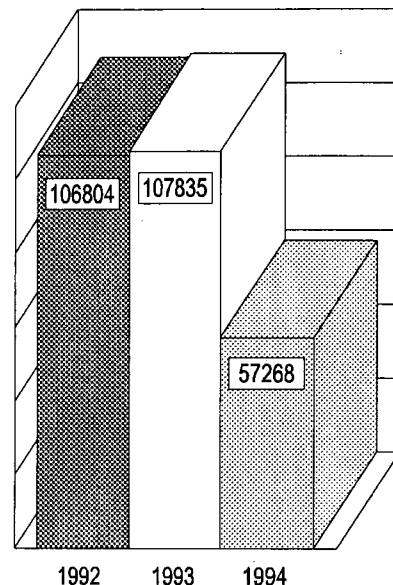


Exhibit 6
RISS WATS/Patch Calls

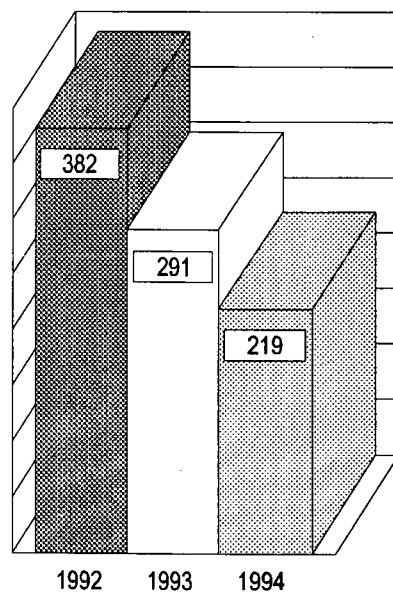


Exhibit 7
RISS Confidential Funds Transactions

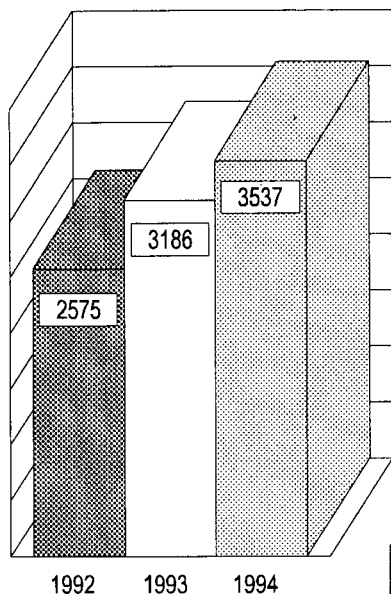
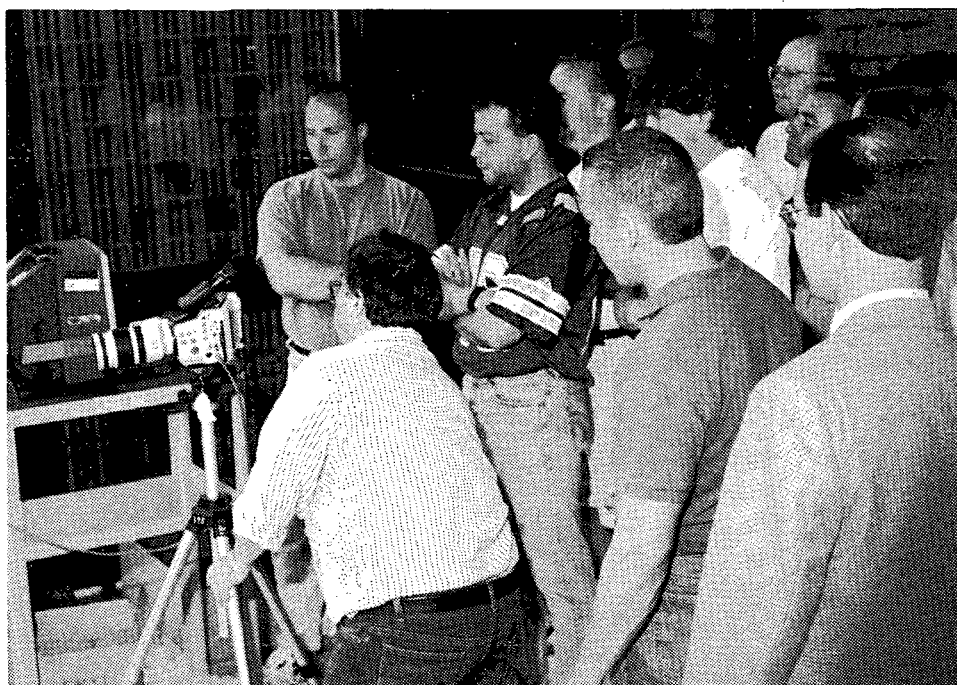


Exhibit 8
Equipment Loans

Staff at the NESPIN project demonstrate specialized investigative equipment available for loan to participating member agencies.



agencies to provide reports on the use and benefits of the equipment in supporting their investigative activity. As in the use of confidential funds, these reports also provide information for submission to the project databases.

Equipment services vary at each project depending on service priorities established by project management, type and condition of equipment available for loan, and extent of equipment orientation and usage training of member agency personnel. The number of investigative equipment loans by the combined RISS projects is displayed in Exhibit 8 for each of the three years.

Technical Assistance

The technical assistance service component encompasses consultation, advice, and information regarding: submission of data to the project database; use of specialized equipment; investigative procedures; confidential funds in support of multijurisdictional investigations; and information analysis. Technical assistance may be rendered by project staff to member agencies, or at times a project may facilitate assistance to another RISS project.

All six projects have established active field staff units to support the implementation of the technical assistance component. While project staff members are prohibited from participating in member agency investigative activity, field staff personnel from the six projects are generally provided as needed to familiarize member agencies with the utilization of project information, equipment, and other services.

Training

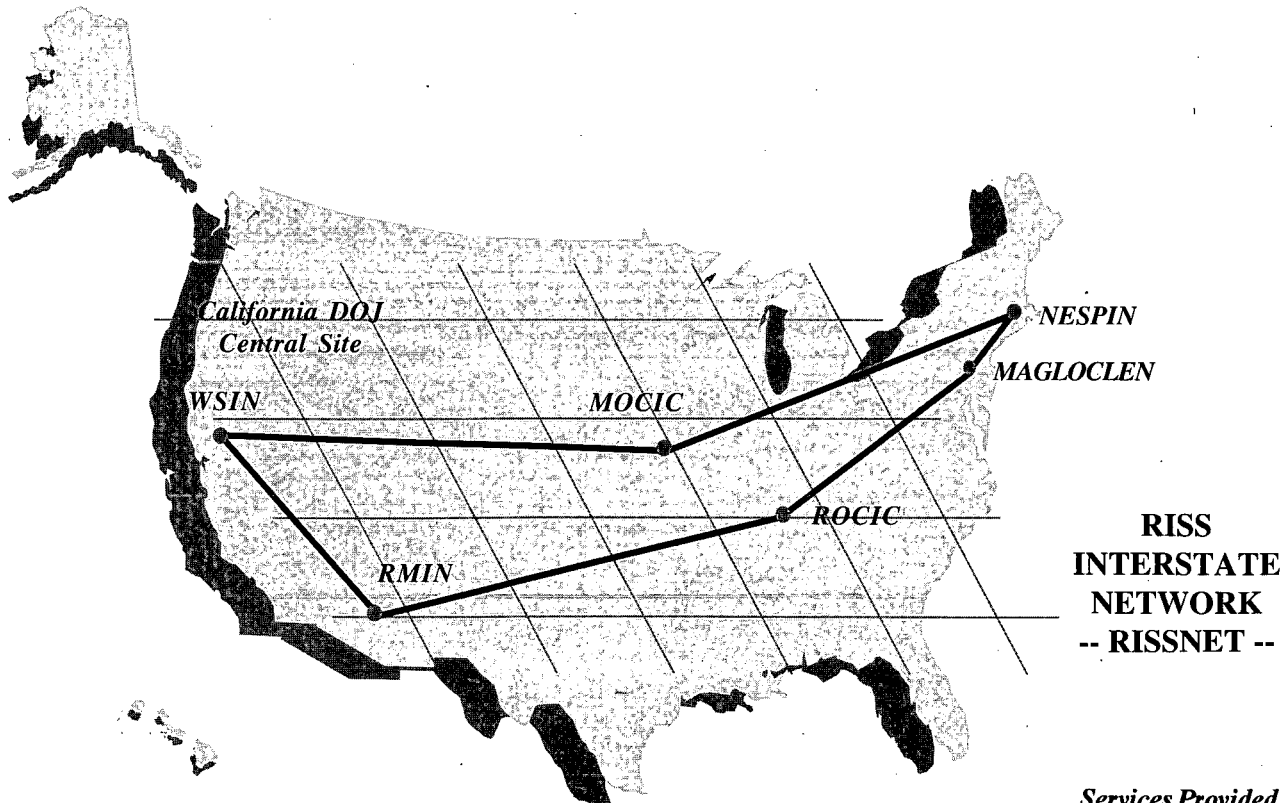
Each of the projects has established a training service component to enhance investigative and information sharing skills of member agency personnel. This service activity is reported in the section of this report which describes information sharing services.

RISSNET -- RISS Network Connectivity

In considering enhancements to their information sharing systems and the manner in which projects deliver their many services, the RISS project directors adopted a goal of electronically connecting the six RISS computer systems for direct database access and administrative communication.

To achieve this goal, project officials adopted the technology of the California Statewide Investigative Narcotics System (SINS) to connect the project database systems. SINS is an automated law enforcement information system implemented in California which provides law enforcement users with electronic access to database information, imaging capabilities, and geographic mapping functions.

During the period of this report, RISS project representatives have conferred on the development of a uniform criminal intelligence database application. The application, called RISSNET II, was adopted as the criminal intelligence database component of SINS and of the RISS projects. All six projects are currently implementing the RISSNET II database application and a wide area network to electronically connect with each other, as displayed below. The California Department of Justice, Hawkins Data Center, is providing system and security management support for the California SINS network and for the RISS wide area network.



RISS project representatives formed a group called the RISSNET Users Group to address project database system needs, including uniform software, technology, and functions. The RISSNET Users Group met periodically during the period of this report with two meetings held in 1994. Representatives from each of the six RISS projects were in attendance at the meetings which were held in April and November in Sacramento, California. At the April 1994 meeting, project staff worked on a test version of the RISSNET II intelligence database application. Staff addressed technical issues, reviewed documentation of the application features and functions, and began discussions of enhancements to the application. At the November 1994 meeting, project staff spent time working with the production version of the RISSNET II intelligence database application installed at the WSIN project. Additionally, a list of development and enhancement priorities were identified and agreed to by the group.

Staff at the RMIN project testing the RISSNET II intelligence database application.





Member Agency Investigations Supported by Project Services

The many services provided by the RISS projects assist their member law enforcement agencies in investigating multijurisdictional criminal activities spanning the project regions. The RISS Program facilitates contact and information exchange among agencies both within the respective regions, as well as throughout the RISS network, and often results in solved cases. Examples of member agency investigations supported by RISS project services are summarized below.

Criminal Information Database

In April 1994, a representative from the Indianapolis, Indiana, Police Department called the MAGLOCLEN project and asked for any available information that could help the police department prepare for an impending extremist group rally in which violent activity was anticipated. A significant list of names was checked against the project criminal information database. Additional information was gathered by an analyst within MAGLOCLEN's analytical section specializing in extremist group activity and was forwarded to the department.

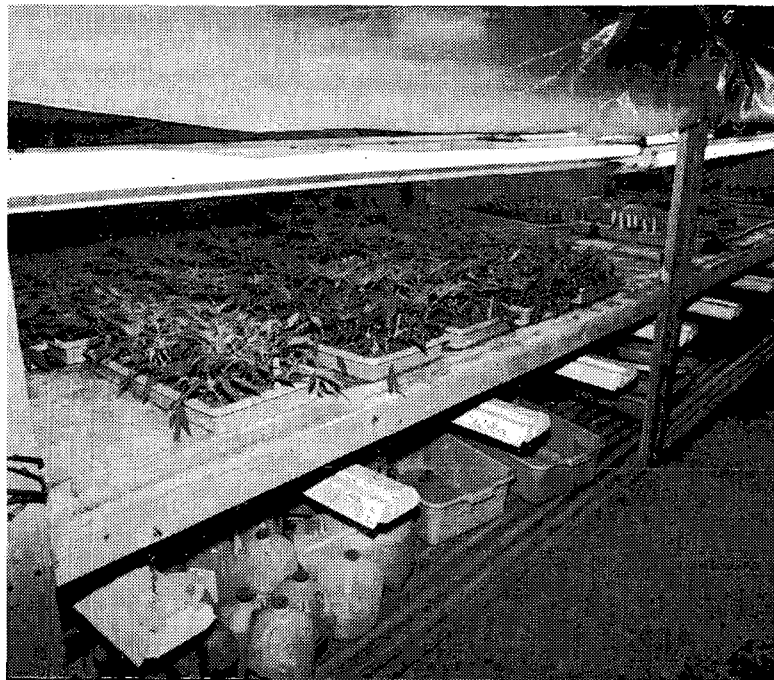
In March of 1994, NESPIN project personnel responded to a request from an investigator at the North Andover, Massachusetts, Police Department, who was conducting a marijuana trafficking/organized crime investigation. Several suspect names were checked in the NESPIN database. As a result, information was found in the database (a hit) which had been submitted by an officer of the Massachusetts State Police. The officer had requested analytical assistance and submitted the name of one of the suspects as a target in his investigation. The two officers were put in contact to share information. A subsequent joint investigation by these agencies resulted in identifying other subjects involved in the operation.

<i>ARRESTS, SEIZURES, AND RECOVERIES</i>	
<i>RISS Member Agency Investigations</i>	
<i>Supported by the RISS Projects</i>	
<i>1992 - 1994</i>	
<i>ARRESTS</i>	<i>22,963</i>
<i>NARCOTICS</i>	<i>\$8 BILLION</i>
<i>CURRENCY</i>	<i>\$58 MILLION</i>
<i>PROPERTY</i>	<i>\$72 MILLION</i>

The RMIN project's assistance was requested by one of its member agencies, the Gillette, Wyoming, Police Department, in providing information which resulted in the identification of a suspect in a narcotics investigation. The information allowed the police department to obtain a warrant for the subject and make an arrest for delivery of a controlled substance. The department then provided information to the Logan County, Colorado, Sheriff's Department which enabled them to obtain a search warrant for the subject's

residence in Colorado. The Logan County department executed the search warrant and discovered and dismantled an indoor marijuana grow operation.

A member agency contacted the ROCIC project and advised that it was conducting a white collar crime investigation in conjunction with local and federal agencies. The focus of the investigation was on a corporate employee who had broken security codes in the corporation's computer system. The employee was obtaining customer information and using it to file false updated claims without the customers' knowledge. The employee was receiving thousands of dollars in false claims. The ROCIC project was asked to prepare an in-depth criminal history on the suspect and aid in identifying over five hundred victims throughout the United States. All victims were identified and the corporate employee was indicted.



Seizure of marijuana by a WSIN project member agency during an indoor marijuana grow investigation.

As an enhancement to information sharing activities, each of the RISS projects publishes criminal activity bulletins and special flyers which are disseminated to law enforcement agencies. The following are examples of successful use of this service by project members.

The MAGLOCLLEN project publishes a criminal activity bulletin called the *Network* which is sent to every member agency each month with information about crimes and criminals within the MAGLOCLLEN geographic region. In a recent serial rapist investigation, the New Castle County, Delaware, Police Department submitted information to be placed in the *Network*. After reading this member investigation article, an Ocean City, Maryland, police officer made the important connection between the New Castle case and an unusual rape that occurred in his jurisdiction. Together the two police departments were able to arrest the serial rapist.

The MOCIC criminal information database and criminal activity bulletin proved beneficial to the Springfield, Missouri, Police Department on two separate sexual assaults/robberies that resulted in an investigation of an unknown subject. The department requested an inquiry to the MOCIC database and details of the inquiry evolved into an article published in the MOCIC criminal activity bulletin, which featured a composite sketch prepared from a description provided by the victims. The article eventually received nationwide coverage when it was reprinted in the criminal activity bulletins of the other RISS projects. An identification of the suspect was accomplished after a detective with the Buffalo Grove, Illinois, Police Department reviewed the article and composite drawing. Working with a detective from the Springfield, Missouri, Police Department, the two agencies developed a time line of events covering six states. This individual was considered a serial rapist whose violence had rapidly escalated as he traveled across the country. Police officers from California ultimately shot and killed the suspect while he was attempting to kidnap a victim he had just raped. Through the cooperative efforts of the Springfield, Missouri, Police

Department, the Buffalo Grove, Illinois, Police Department, and three RISS projects (MOCIC, RMIN, and ROCIC), several agencies have connected this suspect to unsolved crimes in their jurisdictions.

An example of a successful result of a special flyer publication occurred in the NESPIN project region. In August 1994, a special flyer was issued on behalf of the Massachusetts State Police seeking the identity of an unidentified bank robber. The flyer was issued showing a surveillance photo taken from inside the bank, and was disseminated to all NESPIN member agencies and to the other RISS projects. The NESPIN flyer was published in the September 1994 ROCIC bulletin. From the ROCIC publication, a detective from a central Florida police department believed that the unidentified subject in NESPIN's flyer was the so-called "Federal Express Bandit" wanted in central Florida for some twenty bank robberies. Investigators in Massachusetts and Florida identified the suspect, who was arrested in November 1994 in Plant City, Florida, following a robbery of a clothing store.

Analytical Services

MOCIC's analytical expertise proved helpful in a narcotics investigation conducted by local, state, and federal agencies in Springfield, Missouri, involving a motorcycle gang. During the course of the investigation, MOCIC's analytical assistance was requested. A link analysis chart was provided, as well as courtroom graphics for the United States Attorney's Office, who subsequently obtained convictions on several subjects. Cooperating agencies in the investigation included the Springfield, Missouri, Police Department, the Greene County Sheriff's Office, the United States Attorney's Office, and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Analytical services of the NESPIN project aided in an investigation which spanned over two years. In January of 1993, Boston, Massachusetts, Police Department detectives submitted a telephone toll analysis request to the NESPIN project. The Boston officers were part of a task force which included the Boston offices of the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Internal Revenue Service, plus the Massachusetts State Police. The task force was investigating a gang supplying heroin into the Boston area. As the investigation progressed, the NESPIN analytical product provided investigative leads for the task force. From the large amounts of telephone toll information, the NESPIN analytical staff provided a graphic representation of the gang and its operation which led investigators to key subjects in Atlanta, Georgia, and in Rhode Island. Leads were also provided to investigators as to possible locations of hidden assets. In early 1995, raids were conducted by members of the task force and police departments in Georgia and Rhode Island. In all, thirty-two subjects were arrested, along with the confiscation of numerous weapons and narcotics. Investigators stated that without the assistance of the NESPIN project, they would have been hard pressed to have sifted through the volume of records generated by the case.

Another example of the usefulness of telephone toll analysis in investigations occurred at the RMIN project. The United States Attorney's Office in Arizona requested the RMIN project to conduct a telephone toll analysis for a multistate drug conspiracy. Over 48,000 phone calls were analyzed and hundreds of charts were prepared for the pretrial and trial. The charts provided a means to develop the leads to corroborate the numerous marijuana deliveries, which the witnesses did not recall at first. The defendant was tried in federal court and convicted of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute over 1,000 kilograms of marijuana, resulting in a criminal forfeiture of \$2.5 million in assets. Fifteen other defendants pled guilty in the same case.

The Montana Department of Justice requested the RMIN project's assistance in the investigation of a husband and wife who committed welfare and public assistance fraud against the state of Montana and the

federal government. Analytical time line charts were prepared that showed how the couple received Social Security payments, HUD Utility Allowances, Montana State Fund Payments, and Wage Loss Benefits based on fraudulent claims. The couple pled guilty after their attorney saw the charts which were prepared by the RMIN project.

ROCIC's analytical expertise proved beneficial to a state agency working a white collar crime investigation. The project's analytical staff prepared charts outlining the chronological activities of suspects involved in fraudulent management agreements, license regulations, and undisclosed ownership of food and beverage establishments. The dual roles played by the principals involved were emphasized, and the charted information was corroborated with state documents and courtroom exhibits. Current statistics indicate regulation of licenses is a fundamental law enforcement tool in proactive measures against organized crime. Following a hearing, the suspect withdrew the request for licensing, eliminating the need for costly prosecution. This same suspect, again under investigation, was found to have reapplied under another assumed corporate identity.

An ROCIC analyst prepared a series of charts for a state agency working a joint investigation with two federal agencies. The case involved the arrest of a multimillionaire suspect charged with worldwide fraudulent bank holdings and the attempted homicide of his wife. The charts summarized the multiple bank accounts, aliases, signatures, and corporations involved using information obtained from the daily planner and notes seized upon arrest of the suspect. The charts were completed just after jury selection. Two days into the trial, the defendant pled guilty to ten felony counts after reviewing the charts prepared by the ROCIC project. The maximum sentence and fine for this crime is forty-eight years and \$2.25 million.

During 1994, the WSIN project provided analytical services to the Columbia River Task Force in Wenatchee, Washington. A major family organization was trafficking large quantities of drugs from Mexico to Washington and Canada. This organization was also involved in kidnapping. Once an analytical chart of the organization was completed, the task force held an information sharing meeting which resulted in the eventual arrest of one of the targets by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. At the time of the arrest, the subject had several kilos of cocaine. Other spin-off investigations have resulted from the initial meeting and analytical product.

The WSIN Analytical Unit has provided assistance over a ten-year period to the Oregon Department of Justice and the Washington County, Oregon, Department of Public Safety on a murder case that occurred in 1977. The main target in the murders was a government witness against a member of the Hells Angels gang in a San Francisco Bay-area prostitution case. The government witness had gone to Oregon to hide, but gunmen found her and killed her. In addition, her twin six-year-old daughters and the 19-year-old son of her boyfriend were also killed. In June 1994, a suspect was convicted of the murders and sentenced to four consecutive life terms. The organization responsible for the murders was known to have produced and distributed hundreds of pounds of methamphetamine during the second half of the 1980's, and the WSIN project provided ninety-five charts and reports for the investigation and the prosecution of the case. This investigation is continuing at the present time.

Information Sharing and Training Conferences

After attending a NESPIN-sponsored information sharing conference, a detective from Cape Elizabeth, Maine, and a detective from Portland, Maine, were traveling through New York County to a meeting concerning gypsies and transient criminal conspiracies. The officers noticed a late model pickup truck with heavy equipment in the bed of the truck. The equipment matched the description given by an inves-

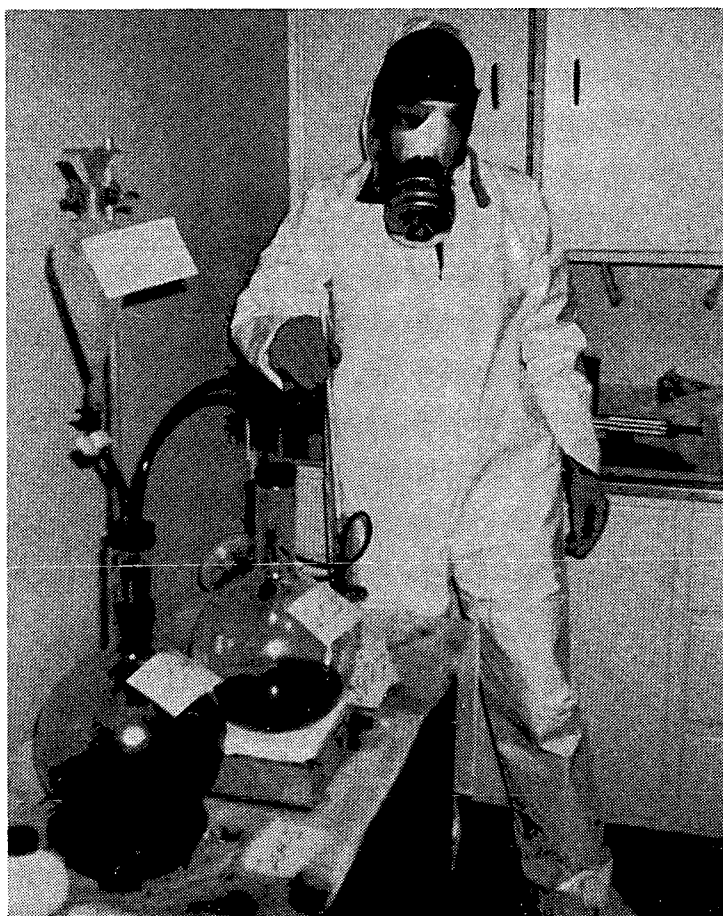
tigator from the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division, a speaker at the NESPIN-sponsored conference on traveling criminals. The officers followed the truck to an automotive repair shop and it was later discovered that the suspects offered to sell the equipment to the person at the shop. The officers requested assistance from the Maine State Police which resulted in the arrest of the two occupants of the truck who were from Murphy's Village, South Carolina. Another detective from Wells, Maine, went to the motel where the two subjects from the truck were staying and found that many other transient criminals were also temporarily living there. The detective called the NESPIN project with information on the subjects. NESPIN project staff put the detective in contact with the investigator from the South Carolina State Law Enforcement Division who was able to identify the subjects.

Loan of Specialized Equipment

MOCIC camera equipment was requested for surveillance purposes by the Dickinson Police Department in North Dakota, which was conducting a narcotics investigation initially targeting one suspect. The investigation eventually led to a second target and the investigation grew into a major multistate case which resulted in eight arrests, with the principal defendants receiving 20-year sentences. Seizures were made of approximately \$125,000 in cash, along with drugs valued at \$30,000. Also seized were a vehicle and a boat valued at \$12,000 and seven weapons, six of which were fully automatic. Agencies assisting the Dickinson, North Dakota, Police Department included the United States Border Patrol, United States Customs, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Illinois State Police.

An ROCIC agency borrowed night-vision and video equipment to help in a narcotics investigation. With the use of the ROCIC equipment, they were able to seize \$50,000 worth of Ecstasy, \$124,200 worth of foreign drugs, \$4,950,000 worth of marijuana, and make a total of twenty-two arrests.

In 1994, WSIN supplied surveillance and communications equipment to members of the United States Border Patrol, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Internal Revenue Service, the United States Attorney, the California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement, and the San Diego County Sheriff's Department in an investigation to detect drugs entering the United States and in support of methamphetamine laboratory surveillance. As a result, several arrests were made by the six agencies cooperating in this investigation and seizures were made of \$150,000 in currency, 2,560 pounds of marijuana, 300 pounds of cocaine, 100 pounds of meth/ephedrine, and various automobiles valued at \$180,000.



An officer of a project member agency dismantles a methamphetamine laboratory.

Loan of Confidential Funds

Five federal, city, and county law enforcement agencies combined their efforts and utilized MAGLOCLN's confidential funds to aid in concluding a major narcotics investigation. The Baltimore, Maryland, County Police Department in conjunction with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Baltimore City Police Department, were investigating a Jamaican Organized Crime group in Baltimore, Maryland. This group was involved in the sale of narcotics and firearms, and was responsible for homicides and immigration violations. This case resulted in the arrest of nine suspects, the seizure of two automobiles valued at \$10,000, and seizure of three weapons including two pistols and one rifle. In addition, 88.4 grams of crack cocaine and 10,759.55 grams of cocaine with a combined value of \$278,800 were seized.

The loan of confidential funds from the MAGLOCLN project to the Narcotics Division of the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, District Attorney's Office, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania State Police, the Bucks County, Pennsylvania, District Attorney's Office, and the Bensalem, Pennsylvania, Police Department, aided in concluding a large drug investigation. Through the course of the investigation, 42 suspects were arrested, 35 of which were federally indicted. There was a total of 35 convictions, with three indictments currently pending. Seized materials include 44 automobiles, five motorcycles, two boats, 41 firearms, 9.1 pounds of methamphetamine valued at \$145,600, 2.6 pounds of hashish valued at \$18,500, and 12.9 pounds of cocaine valued at \$141,600. Also confiscated was \$637,153.14 cash, 11 one ounce bars of gold, and negotiable bearer bonds.

Minnesota law enforcement agencies used MOCIC investigative equipment and confidential funds in conducting a joint drug investigation spearheaded by the Faribault County Sheriff's Office and the Rice County Sheriff's Office located just south of Minneapolis. Using a pen register supplied by MOCIC to develop initial information, the investigation broadened. MOCIC confidential funds were then requested and used for "buy" money and informant services. The investigation successfully concluded with the arrest of forty-two defendants and the seizure of over 50 pounds of marijuana, numerous other drugs, and four automobiles. Other Minnesota agencies assisting Faribault and Rice County Sheriff's Offices included the St. Cloud Police Department, the Northfield Police Department, and the South Central, Minnesota, Drug Unit, a multijurisdictional enforcement agency.

The WSIN project provided funds to assist the Auburn, Washington, Police Department Narcotics Division, the Quad City, Washington, Task Force, and the Thurston County, Washington, Narcotics Task Force. A search warrant was served in February 1994, which resulted in the seizure of approximately 1/2 pound of methamphetamine, \$33,500 in cash, two vehicles, and three weapons, all as a result of the WSIN funds. Information from one of the suspects led to a second search warrant of a residence in West Seattle, Washington. This search resulted in the seizure of approximately 1/4 ounce of methamphetamine, \$13,600 in cash, four vehicles, and six weapons. A third search warrant was obtained for a storage unit in West Seattle where law enforcement officers found four pounds of uncut methamphetamine concealed in two four-inch black PVC pipes. It was further learned that one of the suspects had associates in California who were selling ten pounds of methamphetamine a week. The source of the methamphetamine was also discovered.



Service and Activity Growth

Trends

This chapter is a summary of a detailed analysis of RISS project activity and member agency service usage during the 1992-1994 period. The source data for the original detailed analysis is presented in a separate IIR report of RISS Program activity.¹ Project activity and service data for the three-year period were converted to trend line projections and average annual growth rates were computed. The average annual growth rates referenced below are displayed in Exhibit 9.

Subjects in Project Databases

The growth rate for the number of criminal subjects maintained in project databases averaged 28% annually during the 1992-1994 period. A subject is the criminal individual, business, group, or associate name submitted by a member agency on a submission form or format.

Submissions

The growth rate for submissions of criminal subjects to project databases averaged 29% annually during the three-year period.

Inquiries

The growth rate for inquiries averaged 13% annually during the 1992-1994 period. An inquiry occurs when a member or other authorized agency requests a project to check their database and other sources for information on subjects suspected of involvement in criminal activity.

Hits

The growth rate for total hits (information found on the subject of an inquiry) in project files plus hits in other agency files increased an average of 1% annually during the 1992-1994 period. The growth rate for total hits in project files for all projects combined increased an average of 21% annually for the three-year period.

Information Sharing/Training

Attendance at project sponsored information sharing and training programs increased, resulting in a 1% annual growth rate over the three-year period. Over 58,000 persons attended project sponsored information sharing and training programs during the period 1992-1994.

¹ IIR, The RISS Program Analysis of Activity 1992-1994, September 1995.

Analytical

The growth rate for analytical products delivered to member agencies increased an average of 13% annually for the three-year period. The overall growth rate for analytical service requests decreased an average of 1% a year for the 1992-1994 period.

WATS/Patch

During the 1992-1994 period, telecommunications call patching usage by member agencies experienced a negative growth rate averaging 19%. Call patching is a service which allows law enforcement agencies to communicate with each other on a long-distance, toll-free basis in order to discuss investigative matters.

Confidential Funds

The confidential funds service growth rate decreased 20% a year for the 1992-1994 period. The provision of these funds is vulnerable to cutback when external or internal funding restrictions are anticipated.

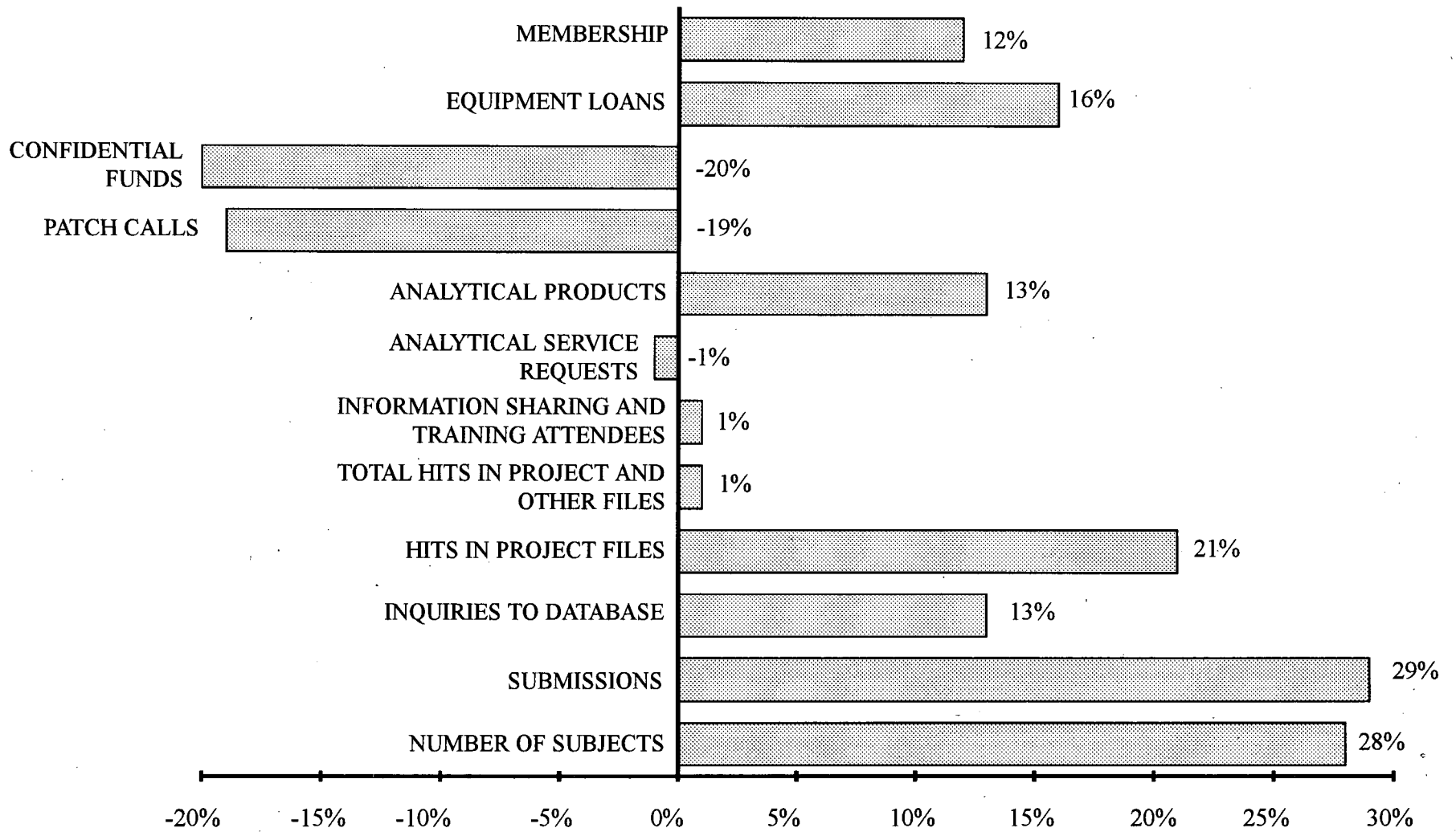
Equipment

The growth rate for project investigative equipment loan services increased 16% a year for the period 1992-1994. Future trends for this service area will continue to be affected primarily by new equipment purchases and the condition of available equipment, as well as member needs.

Membership

Overall project membership continued to grow at a rate which averaged 12% annually during the 1992-1994 period.

Exhibit 9
AVERAGE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES
FOR THE THREE-YEAR PERIOD 1992-1994
RISS PROJECTS





**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE RISS PROJECTS MAY BE
OBTAINED FROM THE RISS PROJECTS AND IIR**

Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center

Host Agency: Missouri Attorney General's Office
Headquarters: Number Four Corporate Centre, Suite 205
Springfield, Missouri 65804
(417) 883-4383

Regional Organized Crime Information Center

Host Agency: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation
Headquarters: 545 Marriott Drive, Suite 850
Nashville, Tennessee 37214
(615) 871-0013

**Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime
Law Enforcement Network**

Host Agency: Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office
Headquarters: 140 Terry Drive, Suite 100
Newtown, Pennsylvania 18940
(215) 504-4910

Rocky Mountain Information Network

Host Agency: Arizona Department of Public Safety
Headquarters: 2828 North Central Avenue, Suite 1000
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-1027
(602) 351-2320

New England State Police Information Network

Host Agency: Massachusetts State Police
Headquarters: 75 Second Avenue, Suite 100
Needham, Massachusetts 02194
(617) 449-5757

Western States Information Network

Host Agency: California Department of Justice
Headquarters: P.O. Box 903198
Sacramento, California 94203-1980
(916) 263-1166



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