Incidents and Offenses

For each hate crime offense type reported, law enforcement must indicate at least one bias motivation. A single-bias incident is defined as an incident in which one or more offense types are motivated by the same bias. A multiple-bias incident is defined as an incident in which more than one offense type occurs and at least two offense types are motivated by different biases.

- In 2009, 2,034 law enforcement agencies reported 6,604 hate crime incidents involving 7,789 offenses.
- There were 6,598 single-bias incidents that involved 7,775 offenses, 8,322 victims, and 6,219 offenders.
- The 6 multiple-bias incidents reported in 2009 involved 14 offenses, 14 victims, and 6 offenders. (See Tables 1 and 12.)

**Single-bias incidents**

An analysis of the 6,598 single-bias incidents reported in 2009 showed the following:

- 48.5 percent were motivated by racial bias.
- 19.7 percent resulted from religious bias.
- 18.5 percent were linked to sexual-orientation bias.
- 11.8 percent stemmed from ethnicity/national origin bias.
- 1.5 percent involved disability bias. (Based on Table 1.)

**Offenses by bias motivation within incidents**

Of the 7,775 single-bias hate crime offenses reported in the above incidents:

- 49.1 percent stemmed from racial bias.
• 18.5 percent were motivated by sexual-orientation bias.

• 17.7 percent resulted from religious bias.

• 13.5 percent were prompted by ethnicity/national origin bias.

• 1.2 percent were from biases against disabilities. (Based on Table 1.)

**Racial bias**

In 2009, law enforcement agencies reported that 3,816 single-bias hate crime offenses were racially motivated. Of these offenses:

• 71.4 percent were motivated by anti-black bias.

• 17.1 percent resulted from anti-white bias.

• 5.5 percent occurred because of biases against groups of individuals consisting of more than one race (anti-multiple races, group).

• 3.9 percent resulted from anti-Asian/Pacific Islander bias.

• 2.2 percent were motivated by anti-American Indian/Alaskan Native bias.

(Based on Table 1.)

**Religious bias**

Law enforcement agencies reported 1,376 hate crimes motivated by religious bias. A breakdown of biases for these offenses showed:

• 70.1 percent were anti-Jewish.

• 9.3 percent were anti-Islamic.

• 8.6 percent were anti-other religion.

• 4.4 percent were anti-multiple religions, group.

• 4.0 percent were anti-Catholic.

• 2.9 percent were anti-Protestant.
• 0.7 percent were anti-Atheism/Agnosticism/etc. (Based on Table 1.)

Sexual-orientation bias

Law enforcement agencies reported 1,436 hate crime offenses based on sexual-orientation bias. Of these offenses:

• 55.6 percent were motivated by anti-male homosexual bias.
• 26.2 percent resulted from anti-homosexual bias.
• 15.0 percent were prompted by anti-female homosexual bias.
• 1.7 percent were classified as anti-bisexual bias.
• 1.5 percent were the result of anti-heterosexual bias. (Based on Table 1.)

Ethnicity/national origin bias

In 2009, law enforcement reported 1,050 offenses were committed based on the perceived ethnicity or national origin of the victim. Of these offenses:

• 62.3 percent were motivated by anti-Hispanic bias.
• 37.7 percent resulted from anti-other ethnicity/national origin bias. (Based on Table 1.)

Disability bias

There were 97 reported hate crime offenses committed based on disability bias. Of these:

• 72 offenses were prompted by anti-mental disability bias.
• 25 offenses were the result of anti-physical disability bias. (See Table 1.)

By offense type

Of the 7,789 reported hate crime offenses in 2009:

• 31.6 percent were destruction/damage/vandalism.
• 27.7 percent were intimidation.
• 21.7 percent were simple assault.

• 11.7 percent were aggravated assault.

• 7.2 percent were comprised of additional crimes against persons, property, and society. (Based on Table 2.)

**Offenses by crime category**

Of the 7,789 hate crime offenses reported:

• 61.5 percent were crimes against persons.

• 38.1 percent were crimes against property.

• The remainder were crimes against society. (Based on Table 2.) (See Data Collection in Methodology.)

**Crimes against persons**

Law enforcement reported 4,793 hate crime offenses as crimes against persons. By offense type:

• 45.0 percent were intimidation.

• 35.3 percent were simple assault.

• 19.1 percent were aggravated assault.

• 0.4 percent were the violent crimes of murder (8 offenses) and forcible rape (9 offenses).

• 0.3 percent involved the offense category *other*, which is collected only in the National Incident-Based Reporting System. (Based on Table 2.)

**Crimes against property**

• Of the 2,970 hate crime offenses that were crimes against property, 83.0 percent were acts of destruction/damage/vandalism.
• The remaining 17.0 percent of crimes against property consisted of robbery, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, arson, and other crimes. (Based on Table 2.)

**Crimes against society**

There were 26 offenses defined as crimes against society (e.g., drug or narcotic offenses or prostitution).

**By victim type**

When considering the type of victims among property crimes:

• 48.5 percent were committed against individuals.

• 11.5 percent were directed at businesses or financial institutions.

• 9.8 percent were against government.

• 8.0 percent were aimed at religious organizations.

• The remaining 22.2 percent were directed at other, multiple, or unknown victim types. (Based on Table 6.)