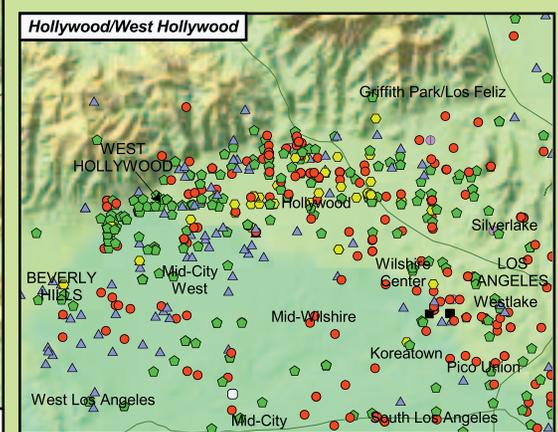
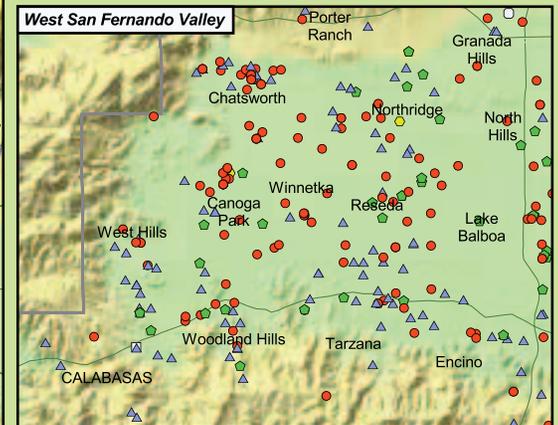
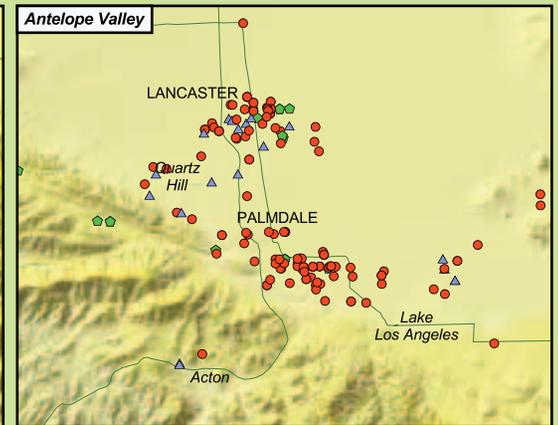
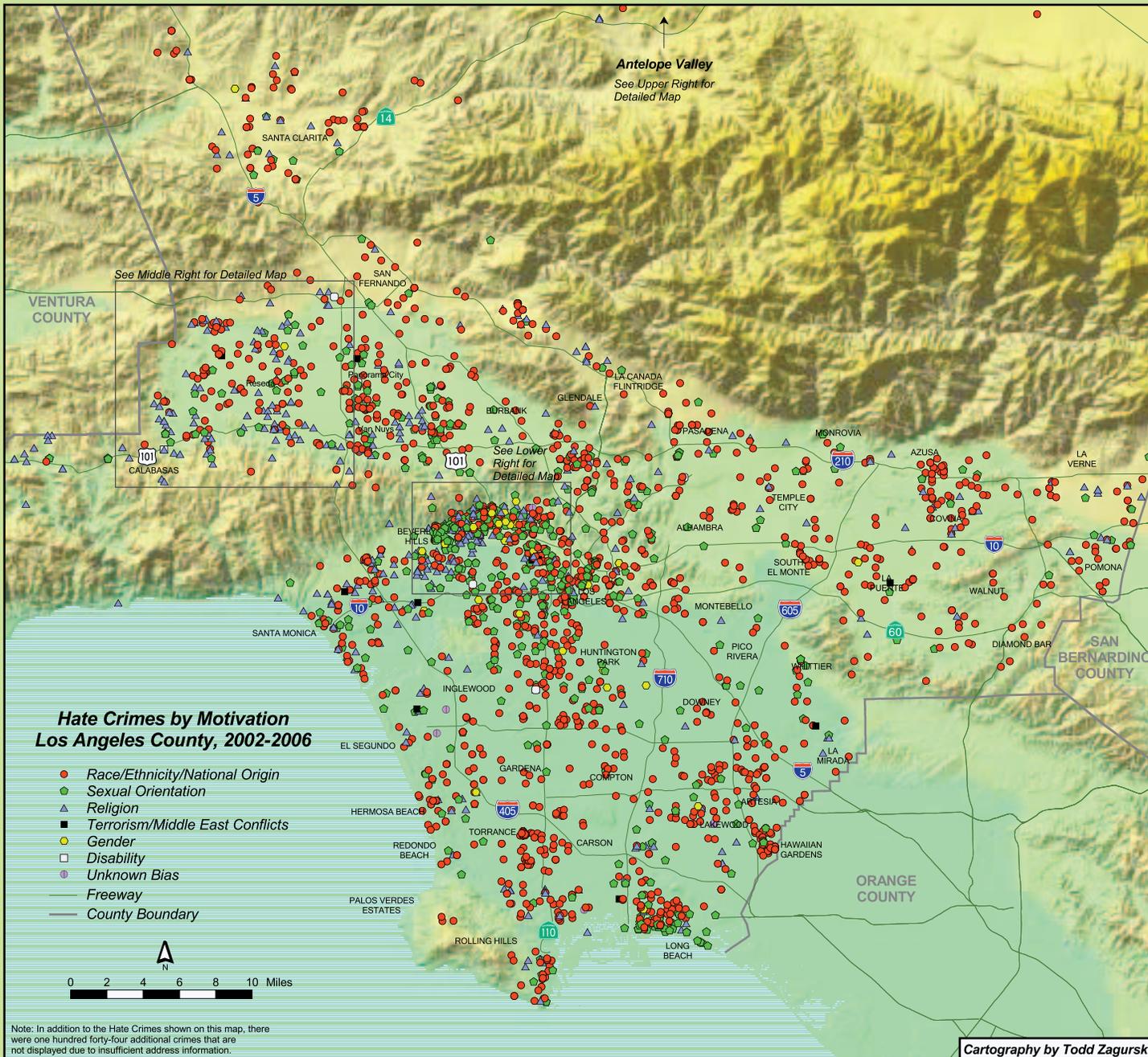




LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
COMMISSION  
ON HUMAN RELATIONS

# 2006 HATE CRIME R E P O R T

# 2002-2006 LOS ANGELES COUNTY HATE CRIMES



# 2006 HATE CRIME REPORT



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# Preface

## The Longest-Standing Report in the Nation on Hate Crime

Since 1980, the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations has compiled, analyzed, and produced an annual report of hate crime data submitted by all 46 sheriff and city police agencies, educational institutions, and community-based organizations.

Using information from the report, the Commission sponsors a number of ongoing programs related to combating hate crime: Network Against Hate Crime, Human Relations Mutual Assistance Consortium, Hate Crime Victim Assistance and Advocacy Initiative, Corporate Advisory Committee, Media Image Coalition, and *Zerobour/No Haters Here!* youth initiative, to build leadership for the future, empower youth to take a stand against hate-related conflict, and institutionalize human relations at six high schools in the county.

L.A. County is one of the best trained jurisdictions in hate crime investigation and prosecution and the Commission produces the longest-standing report in the nation documenting hate crime.

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*L.A. County is one of the best trained jurisdictions in hate crime investigation and prosecution*

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The report has been disseminated broadly to policy-makers, law enforcement agencies, educators, and community groups throughout Los Angeles County, as well as to human rights/human relations agencies and law enforcement across the nation in order to better inform efforts to prevent, detect, report, investigate, and prosecute hate crimes. ■

# What is a Hate Crime?

According to California state law, hate crime charges are filed when there is evidence that bias, hatred, or prejudice based on the victim's real or perceived race/ethnicity, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender, or sexual orientation is a substantial factor in the commission of the offense.

This definition is codified in the California penal code sections 422.55 to 422.95 pertaining to hate crime.

Evidence of such bias, hatred, or prejudice can be direct or circumstantial. It can occur before, during, or after the commission of the offense.

Hate speech is a criminal offense when the speaker/writer has threatened violence against a specific person or group of persons. The threat must be immediate and unequivocal. The aggressor must also have the ability to carry out that threat.

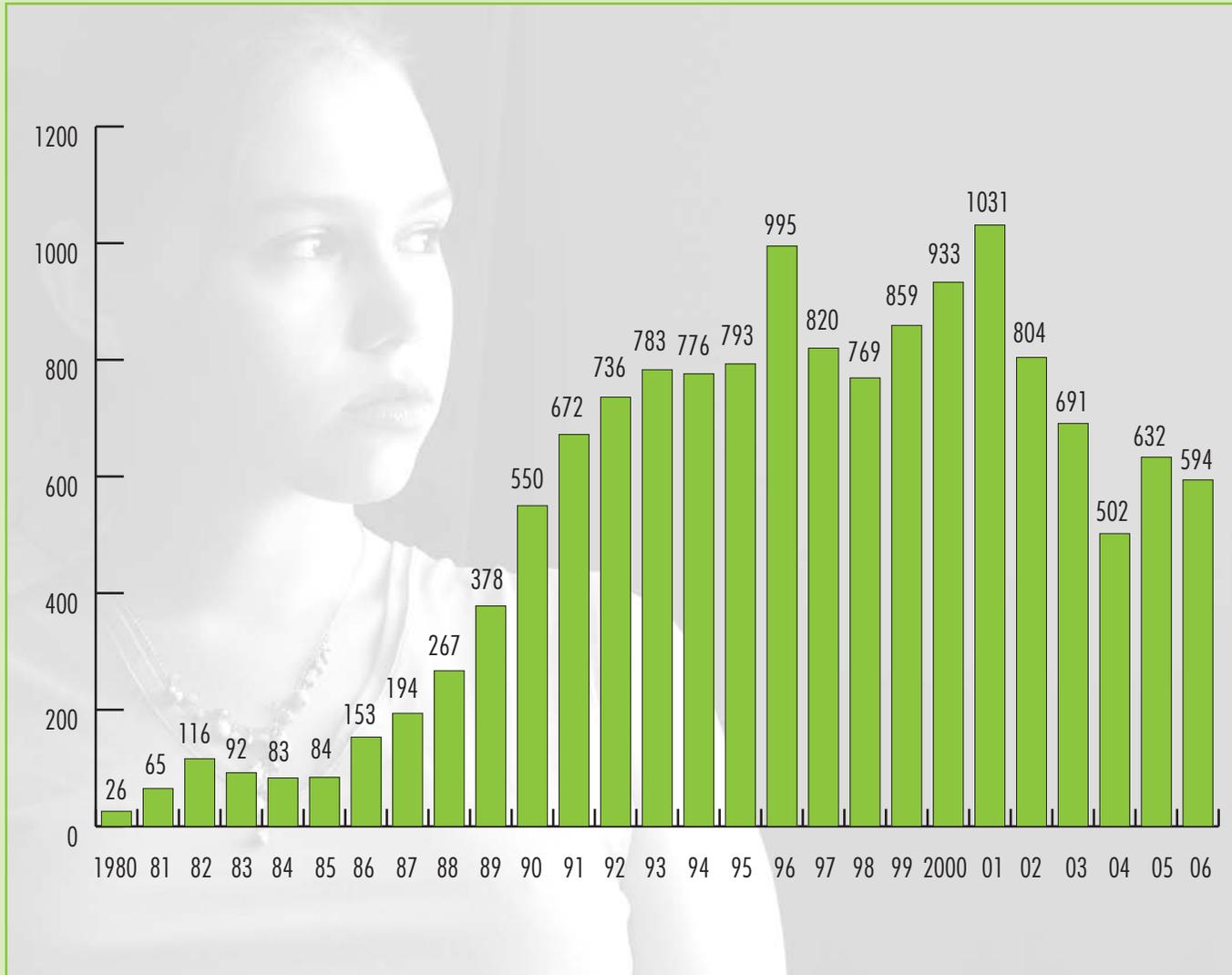
Frequently, derogatory words or epithets are directed against a member of a protected class, but

no violence is threatened and there is no apparent ability to harm the target. Such hate incidents are important indicators of intergroup tensions. They are not, however, criminal offenses. Such language is protected by free speech rights set forth in the California and U.S. constitutions.

Graffiti is a hate crime when it is disparaging to a class of people protected by hate crime laws. This is most often indicated by the use of epithets or hate group symbols or slogans. To be a hate crime, graffiti must be directed at a specific target. For example, racial graffiti on a freeway overpass that does not address itself to a particular person is not a hate crime.

Vandalism of a house of worship or of an ethnic, religious, or gay and lesbian organization may be considered a hate crime in the absence of evidence of other motives. ■

# Total Number of Reported Hate Crimes by Year



Reported hate crimes rose in the 1990s, following adoption of legislation by the California state legislature in 1989 that mandates law enforcement to record and report hate crimes.

## Underreporting of Hate Crime

The National Crime Victim Survey by the U.S. Justice Department found that hate crimes occurred 24 to 28 times more than the number reported by police to the FBI.\* This is due to both victims not reporting hate crimes to police as well as a failure of law enforcement to classify hate crimes and report them to federal authorities.

### Common reasons victims don't report hate crime:

- Fear of retaliation
- Linguistic or cultural barriers
- Immigration status
- Lack of knowledge of the criminal justice system
- Fear of insensitive treatment or prior negative experience with government agencies

### Common reasons law enforcement agencies don't report hate crime:

- Hate crime reporting a low priority
- Lack of formal hate crime policies, training or practices
- Crimes with multiple motivations or involving gangs are frequently not reported as hate crimes
- Reluctance to admit to a problem that could result in negative publicity

Hate crimes that occur in schools, jails, and juvenile detention facilities, including large-scale racial brawls are rarely reported as hate crimes. Therefore, the hate crimes contained in this report likely represent only a fraction of hate crimes actually committed in 2006.

\*US Dept of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. 2005. "Hate Crime Reported by Victims and Police."

# Summary of Hate Crime Report

2 0 0 6

■ **Hate Crimes** 514 cases involving 594 victims and 882 suspects were reported in L.A. County in 2006, a 6% decrease from 2005 reports. This is the second lowest number since 1991.

■ Hate crime victims were **most frequently targeted** because of their **race, ethnicity, or national origin** (405 crimes). Anti-African American crimes dominated (59%), followed by those targeting Latinos (22%), Asians (7%), whites (4%), Armenians (4%), and Middle Easterners (3%). Anti-black, anti-Asian, and anti-Middle Easterner crimes increased from the previous year, while those targeting Latinos and whites declined.

■ **Sexual Orientation Crimes** Homophobic crimes grew 7% from 95 to 102. They constituted 17% of all hate crimes compared to only 15% the previous year.

■ **Religious Hate Crimes** declined by 11% from 101 to 90. The great majority (71%) were anti-Jewish, followed by those targeting Christians (14%), and Muslims (10%). They comprised 15% of all hate crimes, down from 16% in 2005.

■ **Racial conflict between African Americans and Latinos** remained the most serious and troubling feature of intergroup relations in Los Angeles County. 69% of anti-black hate crimes had Latino suspects and 81% of anti-Latino hate crimes had black suspects.

■ **Gender and Disability-Related Crimes** Gender-based crimes declined 53% from 15 to 7. Six of these crimes targeted transgender women and one was anti-female. Disability-motivated crimes grew from one to two. To date, very few gender or disability hate crimes have been reported or prosecuted.

■ Once again, hate crimes based on **sexual orientation** were the **most likely to be violent** (63%), followed by those motivated by gender (57%), race (56%), and religion (11%).

■ **Anti-Immigrant slurs** were made in the course of 46 hate crimes. Targets were from 15 different racial and ethnic groups. Latinos were the most frequent victims.

■ **Conflicts in the Middle East** led to hate crimes against members of a variety of groups: Middle Easterners, Jews, and Muslims, as well as Iranians, African Americans, Danes, a Sri Lankan, an Armenian, and a Pakistani.

■ **Criminal Offenses** reported in 2006 included two hate-motivated murders and thirteen attempted murders compared to zero murders and six attempted murders the previous year. They were all racially-

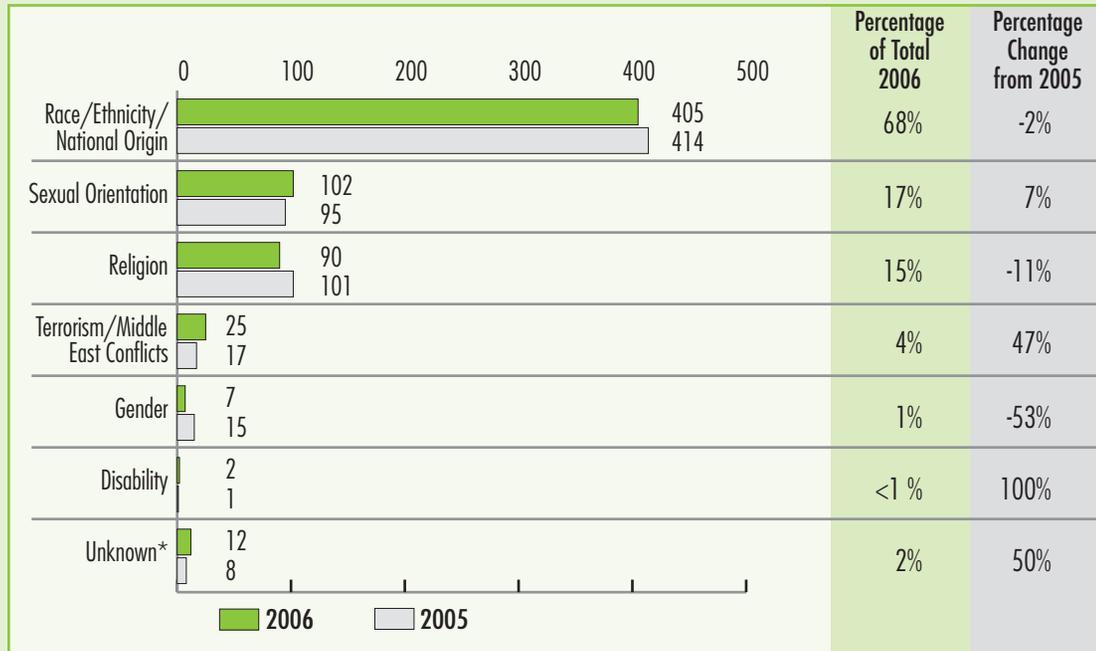
motivated and all of them targeted African Americans. Gang members were responsible for nearly all of these crimes.

■ **The most common criminal offenses** were vandalism (189), assaults and batteries (176), and assaults with a deadly weapon (95). Together, these offenses constituted 8 out of 10 hate crimes. 51% of hate crimes were violent.

■ **Suspects** in large groups committed notorious hate crimes this year—there were at least 9 cases involving 10 or more suspects. The majority of these crimes were committed by youth.

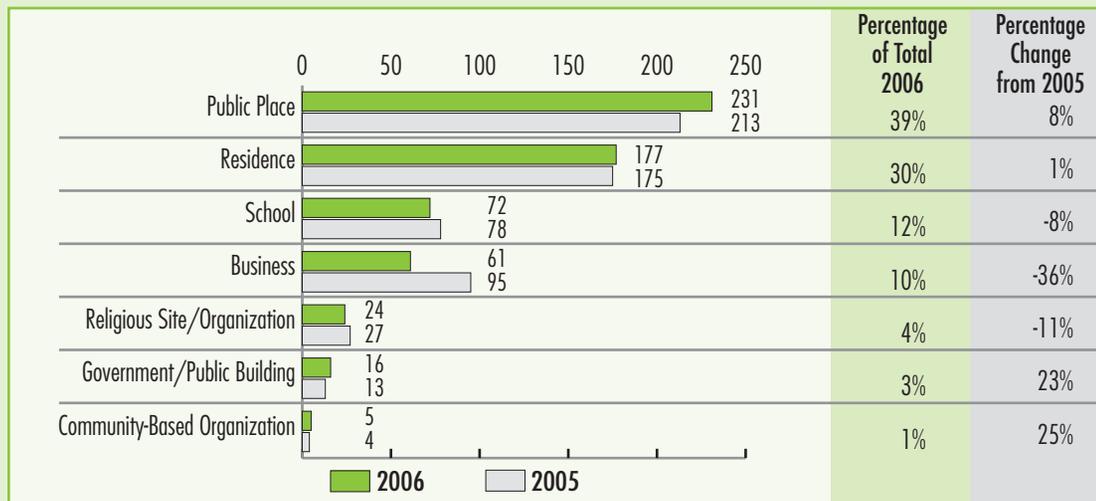
■ **Hate crimes** occurred all across the county but the highest rates were in Central Los Angeles, the Westside, East L.A., North County, the Harbor Cities, and the San Fernando Valley. See Appendix B on page 31. ■

# Hate Crimes by Motivation



\*These were primarily cases of vandalism that used hate symbols and it could not be determined if the crimes were targeting by race, religion, etc.

## Locations of Hate Crimes



There were 28 hate crimes in which the location was unknown.

**Mosque receives death threat**  
BY KELLY RUSHI  
STAFF WRITER  
POMONA — A woman has been accused of walking into a mosque and leaving a written death threat, decorated with drawings of the Christian cross and signed with her name and...

**Killers targeting blacks get life terms**  
B4 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2009  
By PETER Y. HONG  
Times Staff Writer  
Three Highland Park gang members convicted of deadly hate-crime attacks against African Americans were sentenced Monday to life in prison without parole for breaking federal law — statutes that prohibit hate crimes against white...

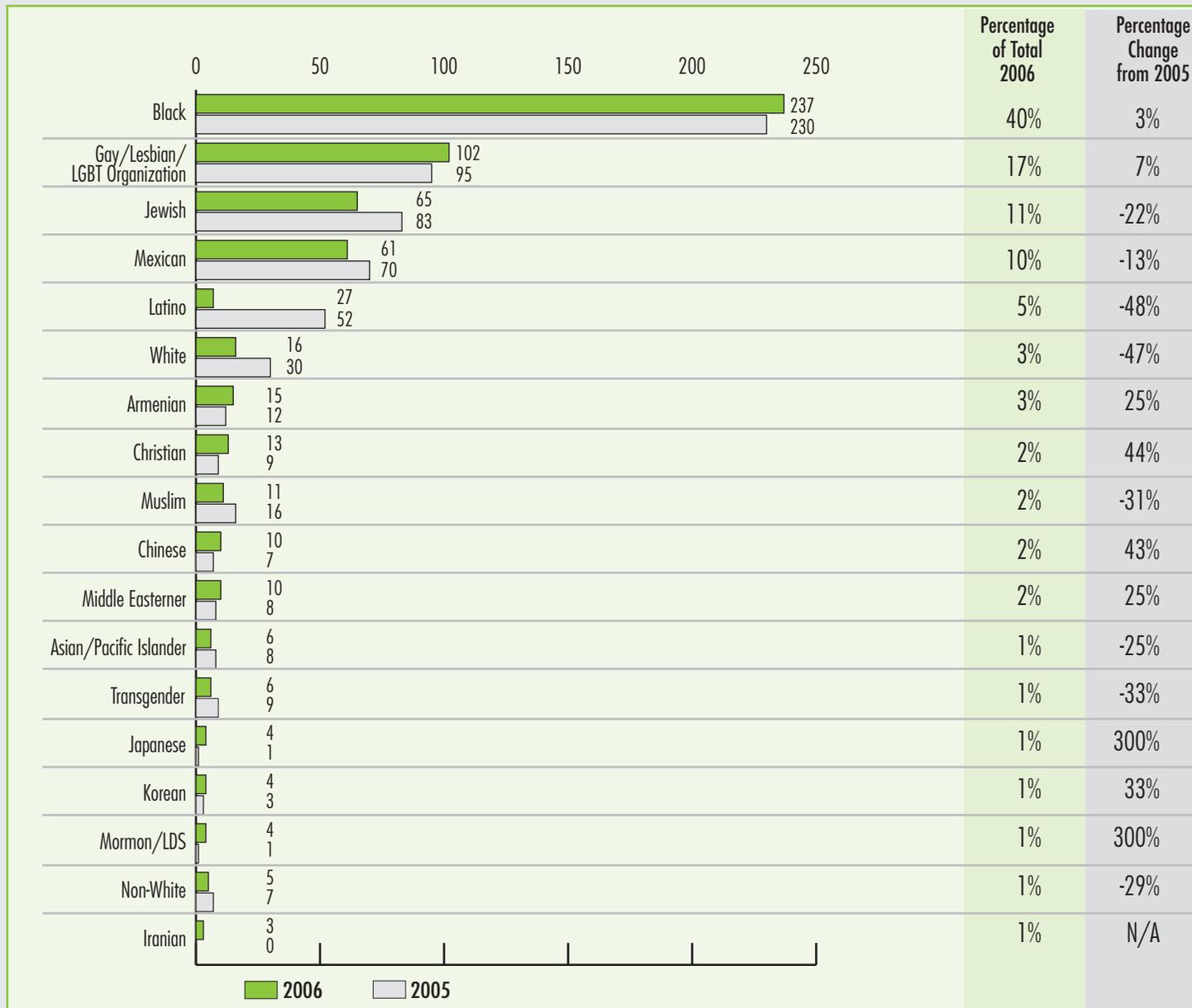
**RACIAL HATE Erupts In Long Beach**  
ASSAULT OF THREE WHITE WOMEN DRAWS NATIONAL ATTENTION TO BEACHSIDE COMMUNITY  
Gay Miller & Christine Harley  
Long Beach, a seaside city of nearly 500,000 people, recognized for its racial diversity and tolerance, is now in the grip of a divisive hate crime atmosphere that has led to order advisories, and angry citizens, riotous demonstrations, closed schools and community groups, and a city council, including its mayor and...

**Human Relations Task Force honors officials**  
Supporters lauded for helping...  
BY JIM GREEN  
Staff Writer  
LANCASTER — In a show of national admiration, the American Legion and was honored in the 100 years of existence. Horn out of a series of hate "Super Hero" awards to a lion supporters, including Los Angeles Supervisor Michael Bonin, County Supervisor Gregory D. Allen and...

**Rally shines spotlight on racial tensions**  
The theme was working together, but blacks and Latinos in Harbor Gateway continue to blame one another for a climate of violence.  
The rally featured a 10-minute video that was shown to a group of about 100 people. The video was titled "We are not a love for this valley." The video is an example of the state of California. The rally here is...

**Girl, 14, may be latest victim of a hate crime**  
HARBOR GATEWAY: Black teenager was shot to death a block from her home by a Latino gunman about an hour after school ended.  
By Larry Abmon  
The latest victim of a decade-old feud between blacks and Latinos in Harbor Gateway Friday night just a block from her home. The shooter who gunned down Cheryl Green, 14, wounded three of her teenage friends as they stood on a corner during daylight hours. "Why? Because they were black," family members say. "It just makes me sad to see Cheryl Green, 14, gunned down..."

# Groups Targeted in Hate Crimes

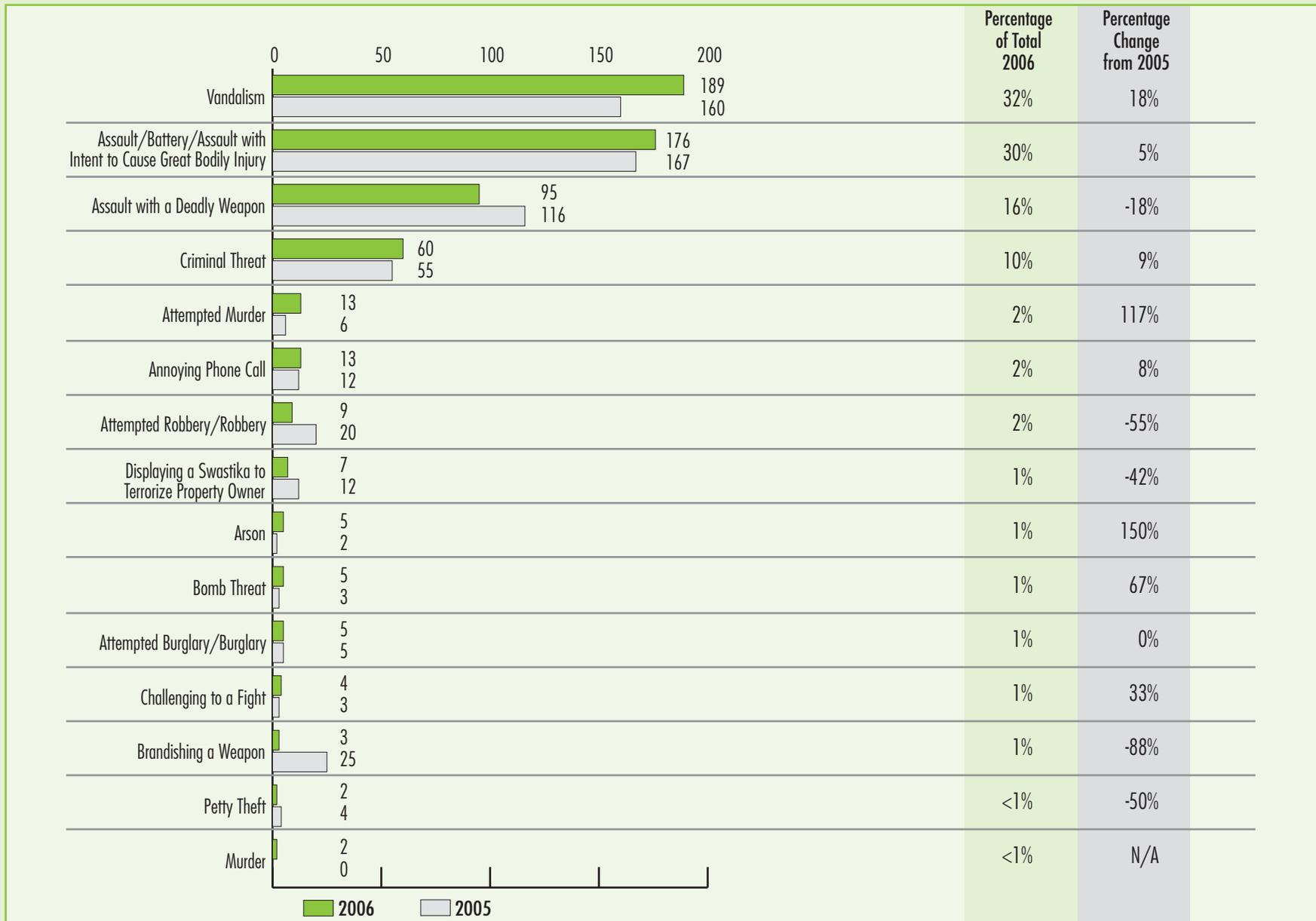


This chart reflects all of the specific groups targeted by suspects in 2006. Some crimes targeted entire racial/ethnic groups, such as Latinos, Asians, and Middle Easterners. Others targeted specific nationalities, such as Mexicans, Koreans, or Iranians. Both are listed in the chart to the left.

We aggregate the racial, ethnic, and national origin groups, such as anti-Mexican and anti-Latino, on page 19.

There were 15 cases, primarily vandalism, which employed hate symbols (e.g. swastikas); it could not be determined which group was being targeted.

# Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense



In addition to the above crimes, in 2006 there were single cases of annoying e-mail, disturbing the peace, reckless driving, stalking, throwing objects at a vehicle with intent to commit bodily injury, and trespassing.

# 2006 Hate Crimes in Perspective

## A Year of Strife

The year 2006 was marked by several horrific, high-profile hate crimes,

from the random shooting homicide of Cheryl Green, an African American 14-year-old, and the attempted murder of 6 other teens by members of the Latino 204th Street gang in Harbor-Gateway, to the Halloween night beating of three young white women\* by a group of black youth in Long Beach, to the stabbing of two black adult males by 11 white supremacists in Claremont.

Arrests were made in each of these shockingly brutal cases, and there was considerable press coverage of these and other hate crimes.

Racial tension in County jails dominated the headlines at the beginning of the year. In February 2006, fights broke out between African-American and Latino inmates at the Pitchess Detention Center in

Castaic. In the month that followed, 11 more brawls erupted, claiming the lives of two inmates and injuring hundreds. The fighting then spread to juvenile detention facilities across the county and led to a lock-down of all seven County jails with the temporary segregation of prisoners by race.

## Hate motivated fights spread to juvenile detention facilities across L.A. County leading to a lock-down of all seven County jails in 2006

Although not as numerous as in 2005, at least four schools experienced large racial brawls.

Public debate on immigration policy peaked in the spring with sev-

## A City's Violence Feeds on Black-Hispanic Rivalry

By RANDAL C. ARCHIBOLD

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 16 — The Latino gang members were looking for a black person, any black person, to shoot, the police said, and they found one. Cheryl Green, perched near her scooter chatting with friends, was shot dead in a spray of bullets that left several other young people injured.

She was 14, an eighth grader who loved junk food and watching Court TV with her mother and had recently written a poem beginning: "I am black and beautiful. I wonder how I will be living in the future."

"I never thought something like this could happen here in L.A.," said her mother, Charlene Lovett, fighting tears.

Cheryl's killing last month, which the police said followed a confrontation between the gang members and a black man, stands out in a wave of bias-related attacks and incidents in a city that promotes its diversity as much as frets over it.

Ethnic and racial tension comes to Los Angeles as regularly as the Santa Ana winds. Race-related fights afflict school campuses and jails, and two major riots, in 1965 and 1992, are hardly forgotten. But civil rights advocates say that the violence grew at an alarming rate last year, continuing a trend of more Latino versus black confrontations and prompting street demonstrations and long discussions on talk-radio programs and in community meetings.

Much of the violence springs from rivalries between black and Latino gangs, especially in

But even with the alarm caused by the recent increase in bias crimes, Constance L. Rice, a veteran civil rights lawyer, said that, considering Los Angeles's diversity, race relations remained relatively calm and were even marked by many examples of groups getting along.

Still, in several corners of the city, particularly where poverty is high and demographics are shifting, tensions have been flaring.

"You don't find entire segments of the city against one another," Ms. Rice said, "but in the hot spots and areas of friction you find it is because the demographics are in transition and there is an assertion of power by one group or the other and you get friction."

In Harbor Gateway, the neighborhood where Cheryl Green was killed, tension had grown so severe that blacks and Latinos formed a dividing line on a street that both sides understood never to cross and a small market was unofficially declared off-limits to blacks. Ms. Lovett had warned her children not to go near the line, 206th Street, but Cheryl had ridden her scooter near it to talk to friends when she was shot.

Neighbors said the dominant

The violence in that neighborhood and others has prompted a series of announcements by Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa and police officials promising a renewed crackdown on gangs, particularly those responsible for hate-related crimes. Mr. Villaraigosa plans to meet today with Robert S. Mueller III, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, about expanding assistance in investigating gang hate-related violence; the agency has been working with the police on such investigations in the San Fernando Valley, where gang violence has increased the most.

Chief William J. Bratton said the Police Department soon issue a most-wanted list of the city's 10 to 20 worst gangs, with the most active in hate crimes likely to land on it.

"It's to say, 'We're coming for you,'" Mr. Bratton said.

A city-financed report by Rice released Friday said Los Angeles needed a "Marshall plan" to address gang violence in light of growth in gang membership and lack of a comprehensive strategy to curb the problem.

eral massive street demonstrations involving hundreds of thousands of pro-immigrants' rights protesters, the largest public political gatherings in the history of California. Thousands of middle school, high school and college students walked out and rallied in support of humane immigration reform.

During this period of public controversy there were reports of anti-Latino hate crimes in which anti-immigrant slurs were made.

Given these events, one might assume that overall, the number of hate crimes in 2006 would have risen. In fact, there was a 6% decline with 594 hate crimes reported in 2006, the second lowest number since 1991. This is consistent with the general downward trend since the high of 1,031 in 2001.

\* One of the three victims was actually Jewish and Latina.

# School security averts brawl

## One arrested after police disrupt racial fight

BY KENNETH TODD RUIZ  
STAFF WRITER

PASADENA — School security prevented a racially motivated brawl at Rose City High School on Thursday afternoon, according to police.

One student was struck by an officer and arrested after grabbing a police baton and refusing to comply with instructions, said Cmdr. John Perez of

the Pasadena Police Department.

"Security from the school saw what was going on and intervened, and stopped anyone from fighting," Perez said. "Security called police because a group was not listening to the officer; everybody was running in different directions."

South Lake Avenue's commercial district seemed an unlikely place for a row

squad cars at lunchtime, but several officers detained about a dozen young men at the Del Mar intersection.

Roberto Guerra, 16, said a fight between African American and Latino students was supposed to happen that afternoon, but the two groups fled police and security.

One of the Latino youths detained for questioning refused to cooperate with officers

and placed his hand on the officer's baton, attempting to wrest it from his grasp, Perez said.

"One of the young men turned around and grabbed the baton," Perez said, and remained aggressive toward the officer.

Guerra said he saw the officer strike the student multiple times with his baton in the stomach and legs after the student used obscene language with the officer.

squad car's side window while being transported, Perez said.

A woman identified by students as Rose City Principal Irene Quinones helped students pay to get on a bus and leave the area.

Quinones would not answer questions for this story.

Rose City on Del Mar Avenue is the site of Rose City High School.

More disturbing, there were large numbers of hate crimes between blacks and Latinos that are not included in these statistics. Large-scale fights between hundreds of African American and Latino students occurred at campuses such as Carson, Kennedy, Fremont and Gardena high schools. However, with the exception of a single fight,

these brawls were not reported as hate crimes.

The previously mentioned race riots that plagued the County jail and juvenile detention systems were also not reported as hate crimes by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. Therefore, information about the two murders and hundreds of other racial attacks are not included in this report.

## Conflicts Between African Americans and Latinos Persist

Hate crimes did not decline across the board. Anti-black hate crimes rose slightly from 230 to 237 (3%) after spiraling 47% higher the previous year. In contrast, anti-Latino hate crimes, which nearly doubled in 2005, fell 27% in 2006 from 122 to 89. This decline is surprising, but it should be noted that the number of anti-Latino hate crimes reported in 2006 was still higher than in 2002, 2003, and 2004.

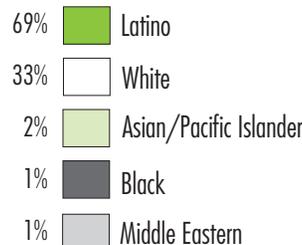
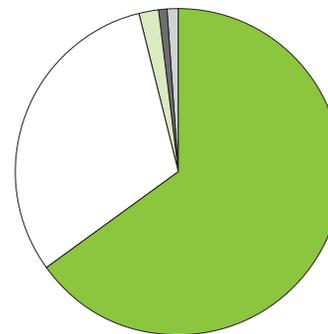
Throughout 2006, conflict between African Americans and Latinos remained a serious and troubling feature of intergroup tension and specifically, of hate crime in Los Angeles County. Of those crimes in which the suspect's race was identified, 69% of anti-black crimes had Latino suspects and

81% of anti-Latino crimes had black suspects.

### Conflict between African Americans and Latinos remained a serious and troubling feature

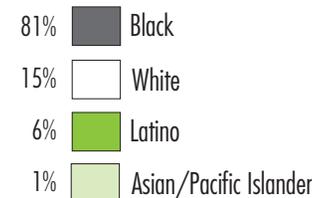
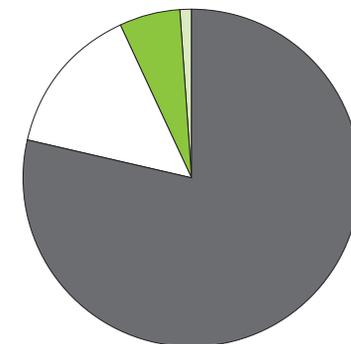
Ironically, while overall hate crimes were less violent in 2006 (51% down from 58%) the number of murders rose from zero to two and attempted murders rose from six to thirteen. Apart from the previously mentioned Claremont case, all of the other murders and attempted murders involved Latino suspects targeting African Americans.

Anti-Black Hate Crimes by Suspect Race/Ethnicity



Unidentified suspects were involved in 54 additional crimes

Anti-Latino Hate Crimes by Suspect Race/Ethnicity



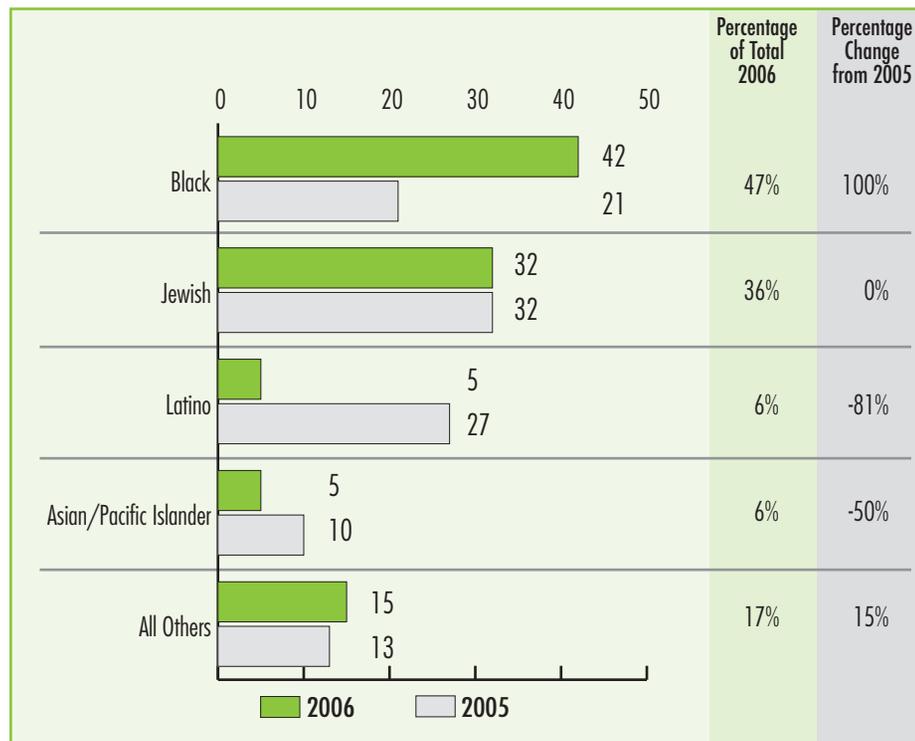
Unidentified suspects were involved in 17 additional crimes

## White Supremacist Activity Remains a Major Factor

For the second year this report is analyzing hate crimes committed by white supremacists. These cases include those in which swastikas, white power symbols or slogans were used. In some cases, the suspects identified themselves as belonging to racist gangs such as the Nazi Lowriders, Peckerwoods or Lemarsh Skinheads.

Crimes evidencing white supremacist ideology increased by 10% and represent 17% of all hate crimes reported in 2006, a surprisingly high number given that some experts estimate that only about 5% of hate crimes nationwide are committed by members and followers of organized hate groups.

### Targeted Groups in White Supremacist Hate Crimes



In 2006, there were 10 crimes with unknown targeted group.

42 of these crimes were anti-African American (47%). This is a dramatic increase from 2005 when only 21 (25%) of white supremacist crimes targeted African Americans. African Americans were targeted by white supremacists and neo-Nazis more frequently than Jews, who were victims in 32 hate crimes, a number identical to the previous year. In contrast, white supremacist crimes against Latinos dropped from 27 to 5 and decreased from 30% to 5% of such crimes.

*African Americans were targeted by neo-Nazis and white supremacists more frequently than Jews*

Not surprisingly, the great majority (72%) of identified suspects in these cases were white. It is interesting to note that 15 (nearly one third) of the suspects in white supremacist crimes were identified as Latino (up from four, or 9%, in 2005). In one bizarre case, a Latino man was walking in an unincorporated area of Whittier when an SUV passed him. One of the occupants

yelled, "Fuck you Nigger!" The driver of the SUV made a U-turn, pulled along side the victim and several Latino males jumped out of the car and beat him while yelling "White power!" The suspects fled in the car while giving Nazi salutes and continuing to shout white supremacist slogans.

## 4 men held on hate crime charges

The suspects, members of a white supremacist group, are accused of trying to kill a black man on their way to a neo-Nazi rally in L.A.

By ASHRAF KHALIL  
AND SHARON BERNSTEIN  
Times Staff Writers

Four men who authorities say are members of a white supremacist group were charged Tuesday with attempted murder for allegedly stabbing a black man at a Claremont shopping center over the weekend. A case

## Gangs Continue to Play a Large Role in Hate Crimes

The number of crimes in which suspects were identified as gang members rose from 79 to 105, a 33% rise. These were generally cases in which suspects yelled out the names of their gangs while attacking victims or included gang names in graffiti.

*Gang members were identified in 18% of all hate crimes in 2006*

Overall, gang members were identified in 18% of all hate crimes in 2006, up from 13% the previous year. They included Latino, black and white street gangs and tagging crews as well as neo-Nazi and prison gangs such as the Azusa 13, Tortilla Flats 13, Varrio Norwalk, 204th Street, Peckerwoods, Mexican X3's, Hang Out Boys, 43rd Street Crips, 18th Street, Norwalk-13, 59th Street, La Mirada Locos, Paisas, Southside (jail-based), VHGR, 186th West Coast Crips, Grape Street Crips, Vincent

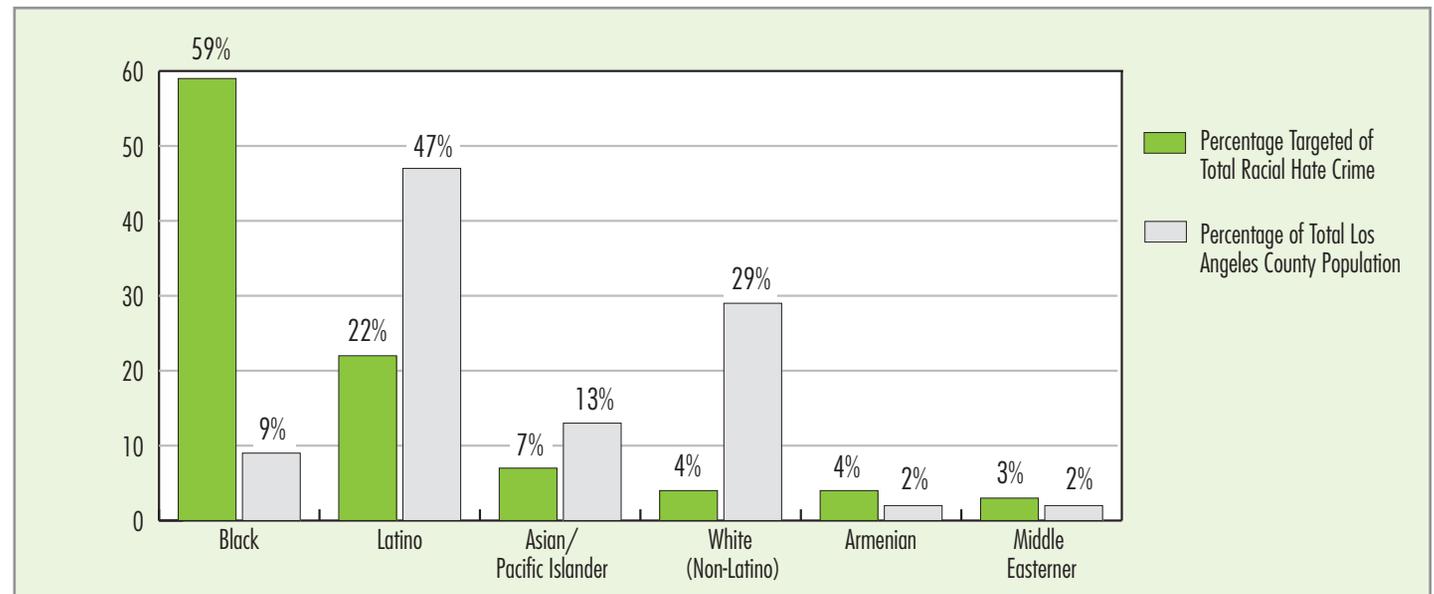
Town Gang, Canoga Park Alabama, Tiny Mob Crew, Florencia 13, Pasadena Denver Lane, Bloods, Lemarsh Skinheads, Sangras, Flores, Main Street Crips, West Blvd., 12th Street, Compton Crips, Wilmas, Nip Killing Society, East Side Longos, Baby Insane Gang, West Side Longos, and Nazi Lowriders.

Gang members were responsible for both of the reported murders and at least 10 of the attempted murders (see

*A Closer Look at Racial Hate Crimes*). 63% of hate crimes committed by gang members were violent, compared to 51% of all hate crimes.

The great majority of these cases involved attacks on African Americans (69%) who had no gang affiliation. Latinos were suspects in 89% of gang-related anti-black crimes. Blacks were suspects in nine out of ten gang-related anti-Latino crimes, but these were few in number.

## Rates of Victimization & Los Angeles County Population



Source: U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2005 Los Angeles County Fact Sheet. - Middle Easterner and Armenian are 2000 Census figures.

## Racial tensions blamed for jailhouse riots

County officials say inmates often feel compelled to participate in violence whether they are gang members or not.

*From City News Service*

LOS ANGELES — County jail inmates are often compelled to participate in racially motivated violence out of fear of retaliation from other inmates for not supporting their own race, a Sheriff's Department official told the Board of Supervisors Tuesday.

With more than 2,000 gangs represented in county jails, inmates tend to fight along racial lines even when that means siding with rival gang members, said Sam Jones, chief custody officer for the Sheriff's Department.

"Criminals and Bloods ... united

not attend the meeting. "The sheriff] always wants to be there," said Steve Whitmore, spokesman for the department. "His schedule is just doubled up, backed up because of the jail situation."

Three days of violence, including a riot at the North County Correctional Facility in Castaic on Saturday was called "a direct result of an all-out war that's going on out on the streets," said Paul Tanaka, assistant sheriff.

Racial tensions, gang affiliations and under-staffing within the jails may have all contributed to the recent wave of violence, authorities said.

Forty percent of California's inmate population is housed in Los Angeles County jails, said Marc Klugman, commander of correctional services for the department. Roughly 75 to 80 percent of that population is gang-related.

"The issue of isolating 80 per-

## Growing Number of Mob Attacks

There were 882 suspects in 2006 compared to 844 in 2005. This is a surprising 5% increase considering the total number of hate crimes reported in 2006 actually decreased. This increase can be explained by the alarming growth in the number of hate crimes reported that were committed by large groups of young perpetrators.

*There was a disturbing growth in the number of hate crimes that were committed by large groups of young perpetrators in 2006*

The Halloween night racial attack in Long Beach was one of the most publicized such hate crimes by a large group of suspects. But on Cinco de Mayo, Pasadena Police reported approximately 35 black students attacked three Latinos at a

Pasadena high school. In October, another group of approximately 22 black youths attacked three Latino 15-year-olds on a Pasadena public street. Some witnesses reported that the fighting was mutual combat and that members of several gangs were involved. Three of the suspects were arrested and charges against them included hate crime enhancements. These two cases alone added 57 suspects to the total for 2006.

There were 14 cases reported in 2006 in which groups of more than five suspects surrounded and attacked their victims. The majority of these were cases of black on Latino racial crime, but they also included the previously mentioned Claremont stabbing and another case in which a group of Latino young men attacked a Muslim while he prayed in a public park. The victim was also Latino. In these large group attacks the suspects were overwhelmingly juveniles.

## 8 youths are charged with hate crime in Long Beach

By HECTOR BECERRA  
and RONG-GONG LIN II  
Times Staff Writers

Los Angeles County prosecutors Wednesday filed hate crime charges against eight black youths accused of beating three white women on Halloween night in an incident that startled Long Beach.

Authorities said they concluded that the suspects — seven girls and one boy — beat the women in the upscale Bixby Trails area here.

white.

The case has been the subject of a wrenching public dialogue over the last few weeks in the racially diverse city of 460,000, with civil rights groups such as the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People expressing dismay over the attack and the city holding a public forum meant to ease tensions.

The violence occurred on a predominantly white block known for elaborate Halloween decorations and fancy candy. According to police, a group of black

but some as young as 12 — allegedly hurled racial insults at the women, threw objects at them and then knocked them to the ground with kicks, punches and skateboard blows.

The attack was broken up by a black man who stopped his car and pulled the assailants away. But the women — two of them 19 years old, the other 21 — suffered injuries, including broken bones.

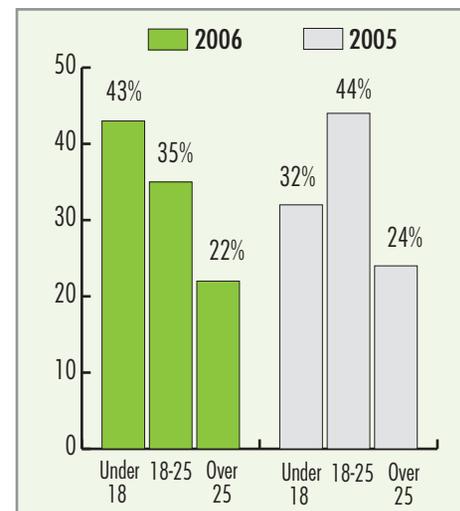
“What could have possibly gone through their mind to make them think this kind of behavior

## Huge Increase in Juvenile Suspects

Juvenile suspects increased from 152 to 233 representing 43% of all identified suspects compared to 32% in 2005. Young adults 18 – 25

comprised 35% of suspects (down from 44%) and those older than 25 constituted only 22% of the total (down from 24%).

Identified Suspects by Age Range



**The overwhelming majority of juvenile suspects committed racial hate crimes.** Suspects age 18-25 committed the largest number of sexual orientation- and religion-based hate crimes.

**Female Suspects** - Females comprised 13% of all hate crime suspects compared to 10% in 2005. Female suspects were nearly as likely to commit violent crimes as their male counterparts. ■

# Commission Actions to Address Hate Crimes in 2006

## **Educating and Empowering Students**

is one of the Commission's highest strategic priorities. Due to youth involvement in hate crimes, the Commission launched Zerohour/No Haters Here! to engage youth as leaders in taking a stand against prejudice and violence at their school. In the fall of 2006, the Commission partnered with the Children's Planning Council to host a countywide youth conference, "L.A. County Youth Rise Up!" Over 400 teens gathered at Cal State L.A. to learn about human relations and other related issues, how to connect to their county Service Planning Area councils, and how to take leadership roles in their communities and schools.

## **Engaging Teachers and Administrators**

Building a human relations culture and infrastructure at select high schools through the Zerohour/No Haters Here! involves the commitment of school districts and administrators to successfully engage students and teachers in the effort to address hate speech, conflict and violence. A conference for teachers and administrators was held at the Japanese American National Museum in September 2006 at which staff and education

experts presented workshops to teachers and district officials from throughout the county on topics such as culturally-relevant teaching methodologies and classroom management skills.

## **Promoting Collaboration for Safer Schools**

The Commission partnered with county agencies, cities and community organizations in an effort to keep communities and schools safe from hate. One such example is the Juvenile Justice Task Force pilot project, a multi-agency partnership between the Commission's Zerohour schools program, L.A. City Human Relations Commission, L.A. County Probation Department, Children's Planning Council, Department of Children and Family Services, LAUSD and community organizations, established to prevent youth and families from entering or becoming further entrenched in the juvenile justice system by engaging broad sectors of the community to provide comprehensive, neighborhood-based, schools-centered prevention and intervention strategies for effective and sustained coordination and sharing of city, county, and community health and human resources, services, and information.

The Task Force launched three-year pilot projects in Van Nuys and Pacoima at Grant High, Madison Middle School, Erwin and Kittridge Elementary Schools, Pacoima Charter Elementary, Maclay Middle School and San Fernando High. A result of the Task Forces' work with Grant High elected and natural student leaders, their families and faculty to develop and facilitate violence prevention activities including multi-cultural programming and parent education trainings, and student suspension rates at the school have decreased by 100 during this past academic year.

## **Addressing Stereotypes in the Media**

The Commission's Media Image Coalition (MIC) represents the first multi-racial, multi-cultural, inter-religious media advocacy and education organization in the U.S. One of the MIC members, the Council of American Islamic Relations, worked closely with Fox Television and Paramount Pictures regarding its role in the fair and balanced portrayal of Muslims during a time of societal/widespread stereotyping.

## **Monitoring State and Federal Hate Crime Legislation**

The Commission supported legislation proposed by the

California State Assembly and Senate to strengthen hate crime laws, and the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, S.1145 by Congress. (See p. 28)

## **Bringing Stakeholders Together**

The Commission partnered with the Korean-American Coalition 4.29 Center, Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center and L.A. City Human Relations Commission on a series of community dialogues and panel discussions to assess the state of inter-group relations in L.A., leading up to the 15th Anniversary of the 1992 L.A. riots following the Rodney King verdict.

## **Coordinating Inter-Agency Cooperation**

The Commission hosted quarterly meetings of its Network Against Hate Crime, a county-wide coalition of community organizations, local, state and federal officials, human relations experts and law enforcement. Meetings included speakers, panel discussions and presentations on the U.S. Attorney's successful prosecution of Latino gang members for anti-black hate crimes, harassment of the King Fahad Mosque in Culver City, and strategies for preventing racial violence in the county jails.

## **Providing Assistance to Law Enforcement and Local Government**

The Commission provided hate crime training for law enforcement agencies and city commissions, including LAUSD school police and Santa Clarita Sheriff's Station.

## ***Hate Crime Victim Assistance & Advocacy Initiative***

The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations launched this innovative initiative to strengthen hate crime education and awareness, to assist with reporting of hate crimes at the community level, to provide assistance to victims of hate crimes, and to promote solidarity among diverse communities. The diverse citizenry of Los Angeles includes those who often do not report hate crime because of linguistic and cultural isolation, lack of

information, immigration status, or due to their distrust of law enforcement.

In support of the Commission's anti-crime efforts, the community partners on this page reached out and provided assistance to many of hate crime victims, and often their family members, to ensure that they are made aware of available government and community services, as well as the criminal justice process.

## ***Hate Crime Victim Assistance and Advocacy Initiative Community Partners***

**The Anti-Defamation League** is one of the nation's premier human relations and civil rights agencies and is dedicated in purpose and program to combating anti-Semitism and all forms of bigotry, defending democratic ideals and protecting civil rights for all. Through education, litigation, legislation, communication and persuasion, the ADL helps victims of prejudice and discrimination, investigates and exposes extremists, and educates and protects communities. The ADL also monitors extremists and hate groups, defends the constitutional rights of all Americans, and promotes understanding and harmony among all people.

**Asian Pacific American Legal Center's** Hate Crime Victim Assistance Project works with community-based organizations serving the County's diverse Asian and Pacific Islander populations. APALC produces educational brochures in 14 different Asian Pacific languages and holds training conferences in regions of the County with high concentrations of Asian Pacific residents.

**CHIRLA - Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles** is a coalition of more than 125 Southern California-based immigrant service and advocacy organizations. CHIRLA conducts hate crime education to immigrant communities through its

"Immigrant Anti-Discrimination and Tolerance Program," presentations, bilingual English/Spanish outreach materials and working with the media to raise public awareness about hate crime. A special emphasis is placed on outreach to particularly vulnerable populations including day laborers, domestic workers and other low-wage earners.

**L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center's Anti-Violence Project** has been combating sexual orientation and gender identity-based hate crime since 1988. The Gay & Lesbian Center has increased its victim assistance and educational outreach efforts to include the Latino and Spanish-speaking lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community through the addition of a bilingual victim advocate, Spanish language literature, billboards, ads and a phoneline. Special attention is given to building relationships with members of the marginalized LGBT community, such as new immigrants, the homeless and transgender persons.

**Muslim Public Affairs Council** is an American institution which informs and shapes public opinion and policy by serving as a trusted resource to decision makers in government, media and policy institutions. A Hate Crime Prevention department was established following the events on September 11, 2001. It is dedicated to preventing hatred and back-

lash against the Muslim community. Services include a 24-hour hate crime hotline, organizing forums to address community concerns and avenues of recourse as well as models of success, and providing cultural sensitivity trainings to law enforcement, schools, universities, interfaith and civic groups.

**South Asian Network (SAN)** is a grassroots, community-based organization dedicated to promoting the health, empowerment and solidarity of persons of South Asian origin living in Southern California. Fundamental to the mission of SAN is the promotion of equality for all. Since September 11th, 2001, SAN has provided culturally sensitive support, case management and advocacy for victims of hate crimes, hate incidents, discrimination and/or other bias-motivated acts, including community outreach, educational programs, workshops and trainings.

**Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)** conducts outreach to African Americans, the most frequent targets of race-based hate crime, and works with culturally diverse youth service organizations in South Central Los Angeles. SCLC also amplifies its anti-hate crime efforts by working with the extensive network of churches and civil rights organizations of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. ■

# A Closer Look at Racial Hate Crimes in 2006

Crimes based on the victim's real or perceived race, ethnicity or national origin (which are referred to as "racial hate crimes" in this report) decreased 2% in 2006 from 414 to 405 but grew as a percentage of all hate crimes from 66% to 68%. Crimes targeting African Americans, Asians, and Middle Easterners grew while those directed at Latinos, and whites declined.

**Rates of Victimization** As in previous years, anti-black crimes eclipsed all other targeted racial/ethnic groups. Although African Americans constitute only 9% of the total population in Los Angeles County, they were 59% (237) of racial hate crime victims. There were 89 anti-Latino (22%), 30 anti-Asian (7%), 17 anti-white (4%), 15 anti-Armenian and 13 anti-Middle Easterner crimes (3%).

Both racial hate crimes and anti-black crimes as a subset have grown steadily as a proportion of all hate crimes since 2001 (see p. 17). Previously, they rose and fell without any apparent pattern.

## Murders and Attempted Murders

There were two murders and thirteen attempted murders in 2006 compared to no murders and six attempted murders the previous year. They are summarized on page 18. There were 124 assaults and batteries with intent to cause great bodily harm, 115 crimes of vandalism, 78 assaults with deadly weapons, and 37 criminal threats, which were similar to 2005 as percentages of the total. Overall, 56% of racial hate crimes

were violent, lower than the past two years.

**Location** 43% of racial hate crimes took place in public places, 28% in residences, 15% in schools and 10% at businesses.

## Differences in Levels of Violence

Anti-Latino crimes were the most likely to be violent (72%) followed closely by anti-white crimes (71%). 53% of anti-black crimes were violent, as were 50% of anti-Asian, 38% of anti-Middle Easterner and 33% of anti-Armenian crimes.

### ACTUAL CASES

#### February 11, 2006 – Wilmington

A 47-year-old black male and his girlfriend were ordering food from a taco truck when a 50-year-old white male who owned the adjacent parking lot began calling them "niggers" and telling them to "Get off my property." The white male struck the victim on the head with a heavy flashlight and swung his belt buckle to smash the windows of the victim's vehicle. The suspect was arrested at the scene by officers. He later said, "You know what happened in Castaic. They don't belong here" referring to racial violence that took place at North County Correctional Facility in Castaic in early February.

#### July 30, 2006 – Long Beach

A Latino male was riding his bike when four 19-year-old Asian male suspects approached him and hit him 4-5 times with a wooden pole until he lost consciousness, shouting, "You Mexican! You Mexican!"

#### September 20, 2006 – Palmdale

Two Latino teenage males were walking home from high school when 15-20 black males aged 15-22 attacked them shouting, "Fuck the Mexicans! Fuck the Wetbacks!" The victims recognized some of the attackers as fellow students and said that the conflict was a result of ongoing racial tensions at their high school.

#### June 24, 2006 – Gardena

A 52-year-old black woman attacked a 40-year-old white woman at a motel, yelling, "Come here you white bitch!" She grabbed her by the hair, pulled her into her room and continued beating the victim. As the suspect was being detained, she said, "I fucking hate white people!" The victim sustained injuries to her face, hands and ear.

#### July 11, 2006 – Norwalk

The three black males, aged 17-25, were standing on a street corner when a vehicle with tinted windows drove up beside them. A Latino male in his

*continued on page 19*

# Racial clashes surge in Valley

Gang violence moves from jail to the streets

BY SUE DOYLE  
Staff Writer

CANOGA PARK — Racial tension that polarized in Los Angeles County jails this year has boiled over to San Fernando Valley streets, where Latino gang members are targeting African-Americans in random attacks.

Blacks have been the targets in nine of 12 attempted-murder cases reported since July in the Canoga Park area, according to the Los Angeles Police Department.

"The people getting shot are the guy walking down the street; they're innocent victims," said Lt. Tom Smart of the West Valley's Gang Impact Team. "They don't appear to have any gang membership or affiliation."

The attacks are evidence of racial tension that started in Los Angeles' diverse neighborhoods, shifted to the county jails and is now spreading to the relatively safe West Valley. Two inmates have been killed and scores of others injured this year in racial brawls at Los Angeles County jails.

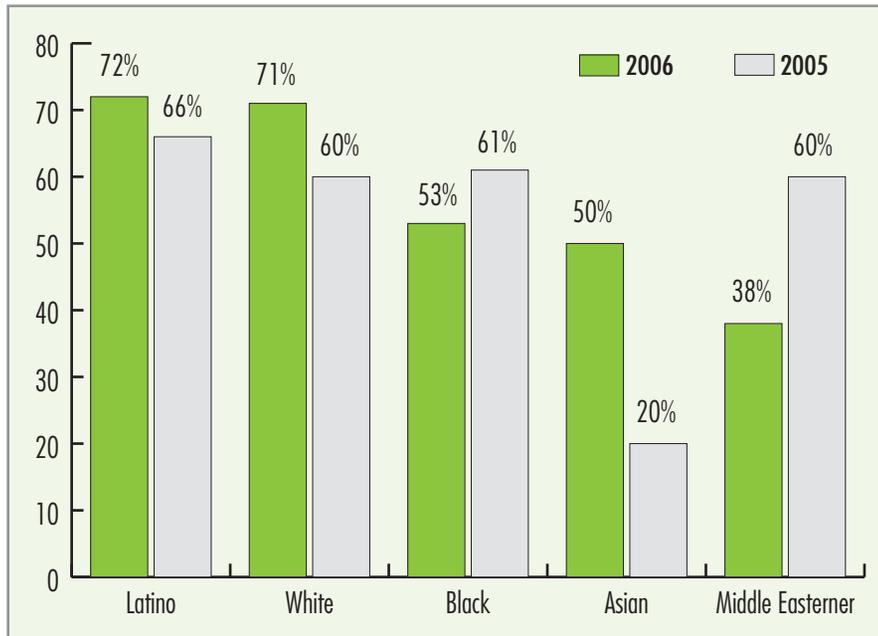
"We believe it's an outgrowth of what we've seen in the county jail have been fights alone."

Online

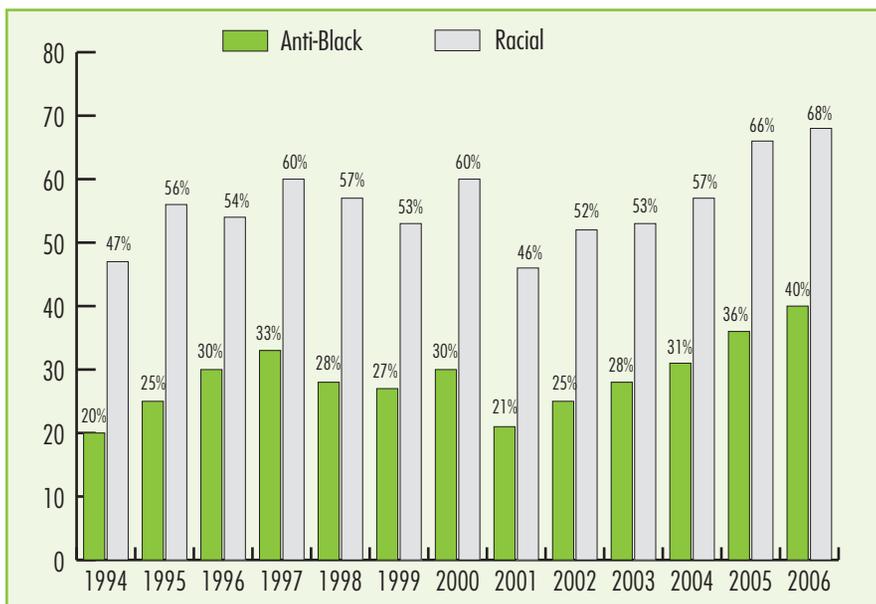
dailynews.com

For more on gang violence in the Valley, including our "Terror in our Streets" special section, go to our Web site.

## Targeted Groups by Rate of Violence for Racial Hate Crimes



## Anti-Black and Racial as Percent of Total Hate Crimes



## Anti-Immigrant Crimes

The highly debated congressional reform of immigration policy in the U.S. had dramatic effects on everyday life in Los Angeles County in 2006. After the House of Representatives adopted legislation that would increase penalties for undocumented immigrants, massive protests were organized across the nation. The largest demonstration in Los Angeles history occurred on March 25. It drew more than 1 million people including many local, state, and national politicians who gathered to oppose the new immigration reform. Following these rallies, students walked out of schools across the county and on May 1, 2006, there were additional marches. These events animated a long-standing conversation about what it means to be American.

The heated debate about immigration policy inspired some to commit immigrant bashing hate crimes. 46 crimes were reported in which specific anti-immigrant comments were made such as, “Go home, foreigner,” up from 39 last year. In the last few years, these crimes have targeted the spectrum of Los Angeles’ immigrants. African, Arab, Armenian, Asian/Pacific Islander, Cambodian, Chinese, Danish, Filipino, Indian, Iranian, Japanese, Korean, Latino, Mexican, Middle Eastern,

Muslim, Pakistani, Russian, Salvadoran, and Thai communities have all endured immigrant-bashing hate crimes.

A high percentage of these crimes were violent (63%) and the great majority (54%) occurred in public places. Nearly two-thirds of these total crimes were anti-Latino, 13% were anti-Asian, 13% were anti-Middle Easterner or anti-Muslim. 50% of the suspects were black, 25% were Latino and 21% were white. There were distinct patterns of victimization. Blacks committed 6 out of 10 anti-Latino immigrant-bashing crimes, but were not suspects in any immigrant-bashing crimes targeting other groups. Whites committed 32% and Latinos 14% of anti-immigrant hate crimes.

It is important to note that many other racial crimes may also be inspired by anti-immigrant animus. It just may not be explicitly verbalized. For example, a suspect who assaults a Middle Easterner victim while yelling “Damn camel jockey!” may hate immigrants as much as one who specifically shouts “Camel jockeys don’t belong in America!” Therefore, one should not assume that crimes that include anti-immigrant slurs fully account for the anti-immigrant sentiment behind hate crimes.



## Anti-Interracial Relationship Crimes

Crimes targeting interracial couples rose from 6 to 11. A low proportion (27%) were violent. All eleven were anti-black. Six of the victims of these crimes were white, 3 were black and 1 was Latino. In one case, an unknown suspect mailed a bomb threat to a department store. The suspect wrote that black men who date white women “should be shot and castrated.” The identified suspects in all but one of these cases were white. Six of the crimes took place in residences.

## Racially Motivated Murders and Attempted Murders

■ **Two Latino members** of the 204th Street gang shot at a group of African American youths in Harbor Gateway, killing 14-year-old Cheryl Green and seriously wounding two other black teenage girls and one black teenage boy. There were three other young people present who were not struck by bullets. The two suspects were later arrested and charged with one murder and six attempted murders.

■ **Three Latino men** confronted a black man on a sidewalk in East Valinda. One of the suspects shot the victim several times in the chest, killing him. The primary suspect, who is believed to be a Townsmen gang member, had been released from jail a few days earlier.

■ **A 54-year-old Latino man** approached a 46-year-old African American woman on a street in downtown Los Angeles. He stabbed her in the upper chest, yelling, “I hate nigger bitches!” A black male intervened to defend the victim and the suspect lunged at him with the knife twice, attempting to stab him. The suspect chased the second victim down the street and encountered another black male on a bicycle. The suspect raised his knife to attack, but the third victim pushed

him away with his bicycle. Police arrived and arrested the suspect.

■ **Fourteen white members** of the Nazi Low Riders gang were on their way to a white supremacist rally at the Westwood Federal Building. They encountered two black males in front of a liquor store in Claremont. They yelled, “We’re going to kill some niggers tonight!” and began punching the victims and stabbed one 4 to 6 times. A group of witnesses tried to intervene, but it was only the arrival of police that caused the suspects to flee. They were later arrested at the rally. A search of their cars and homes found copies of *Mein Kampf*, confederate flags, swastikas, iron crosses, photos of Hitler, and slogans such as “Save America. Keep it white.”

■ **Two Latino suspects** in Hawaiian Gardens attacked two young black males while yelling, “Fuck niggers!” and shot at them, hitting one.

■ **A Latino inmate** stabbed a black inmate at Central Jail in downtown Los Angeles. The suspect said he “did not want a nigger in his cell.”

■ **Two Latino members** of the Canoga Park Alabama gang pulled alongside a black male pedestrian and shouted, “Where you from? Fuck niggers! This is Canoga!” One of the suspects opened fire, hitting the victim in the right arm. The car then sped off.

### Racial Hate Crimes by Known Suspect Race/Ethnicity

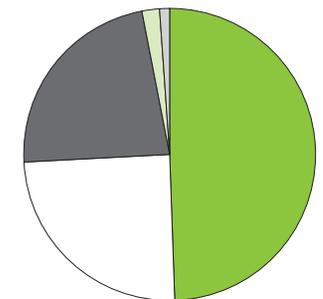
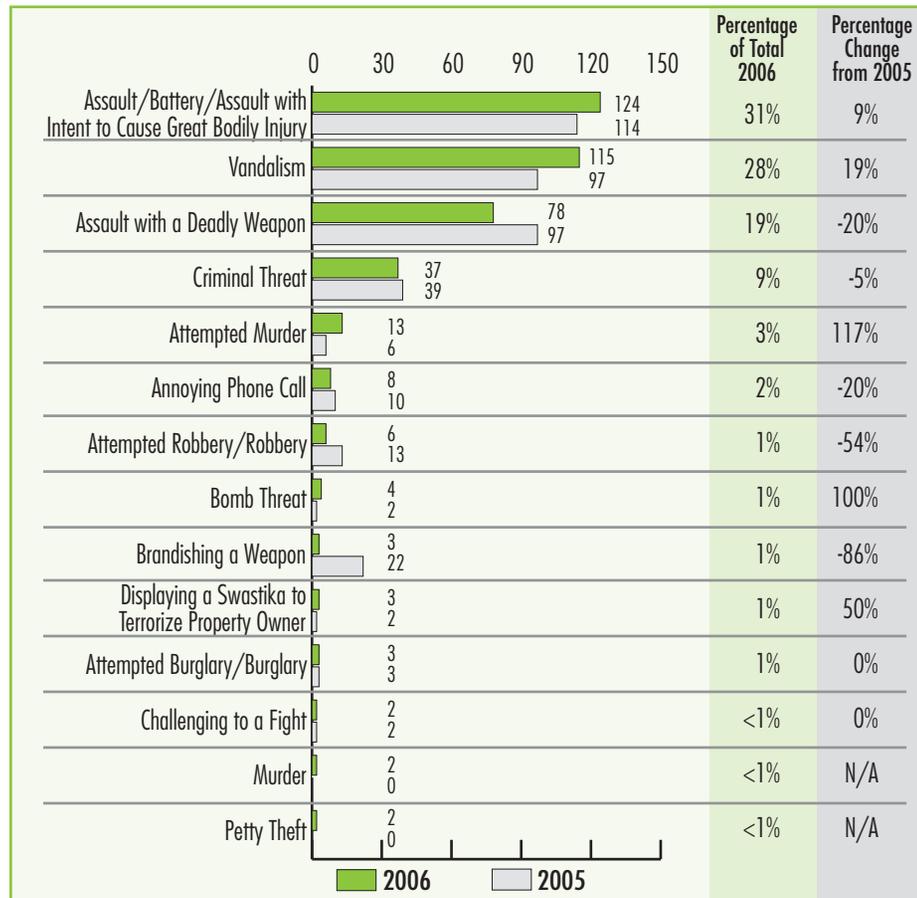


Photo credit: Daily Breeze

Cheryl Green's mother mourning her loss

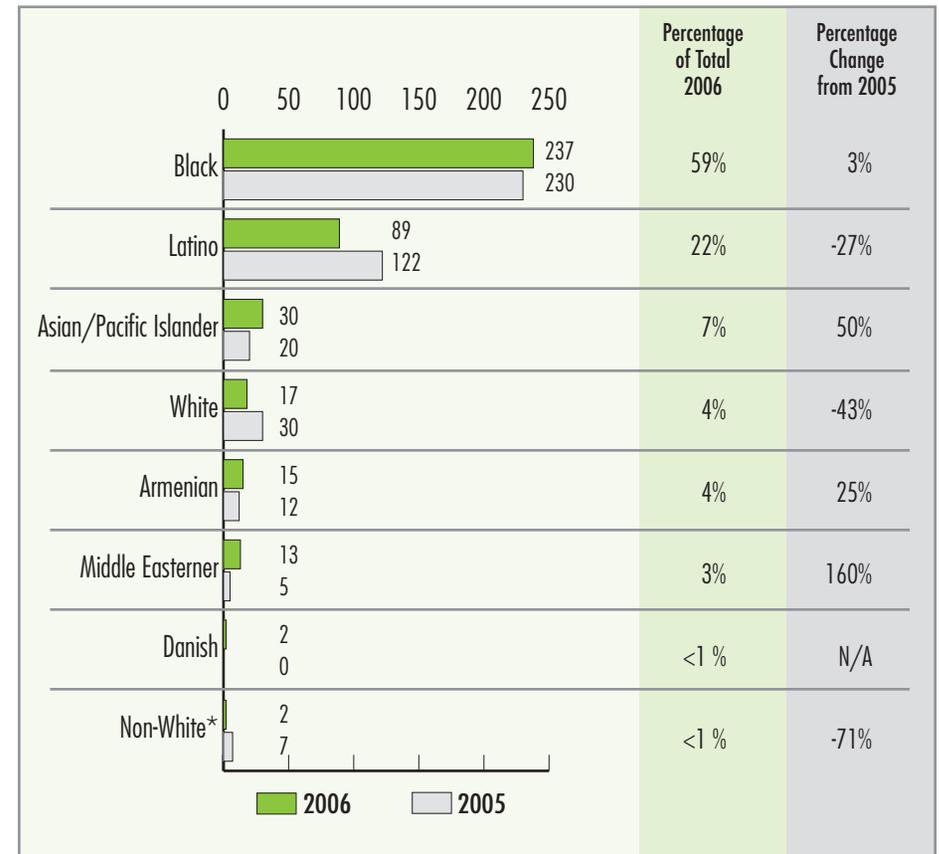
Unidentified suspects were involved in 96 additional crimes

## Racial Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense



Criminal offenses are only listed above if at least two crimes were committed in 2006. In addition to the above crimes, in 2006 there were single cases of arson, disturbing the peace, stalking, throwing objects at a vehicle with intent to commit bodily injury, and trespassing.

## Racial Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group



This table aggregates crimes targeting various Asian, Latino and Middle Eastern groups. "Middle Easterner" also includes Iranian and Israeli. In 2006 there were a single cases in which the targeted groups were Ethiopian, German, or Native American.

\*Crimes targeting non-whites involved white power symbols but the exact target was not known.

### ACTUAL CASES

from page 16

20's, leaned out the passenger window and shouted "Barrio Norwalk! Fuck Niggers!" and shot at the victims six times before the car sped away. The victims dove to the ground and escaped injury.

#### August 27, 2006 – Boyle Heights

At a sandwich shop, a 24-year-old Latino male customer harassed a 47-year-old Korean woman, asking if she was Chinese or Korean and if she was going to order chow mein. The woman answered, "Are you going to order a taco?" In

response, she was told, "Bitch, go back to your country! Korea, Taiwan, all the same." A 22-year-old Latina woman in line told her, "This is a Mexican area! You are the minority, be careful!" The victim was concerned for her safety and left the store saying she was going to call the police.

The suspects followed her out and the male suspect spat in her face and tried to grab her arm. The female suspect then ran and struck the victim's head 6 or 7 times with a set of keys, causing a laceration on her head. Witnesses intervened and the suspect escaped in a car. ■

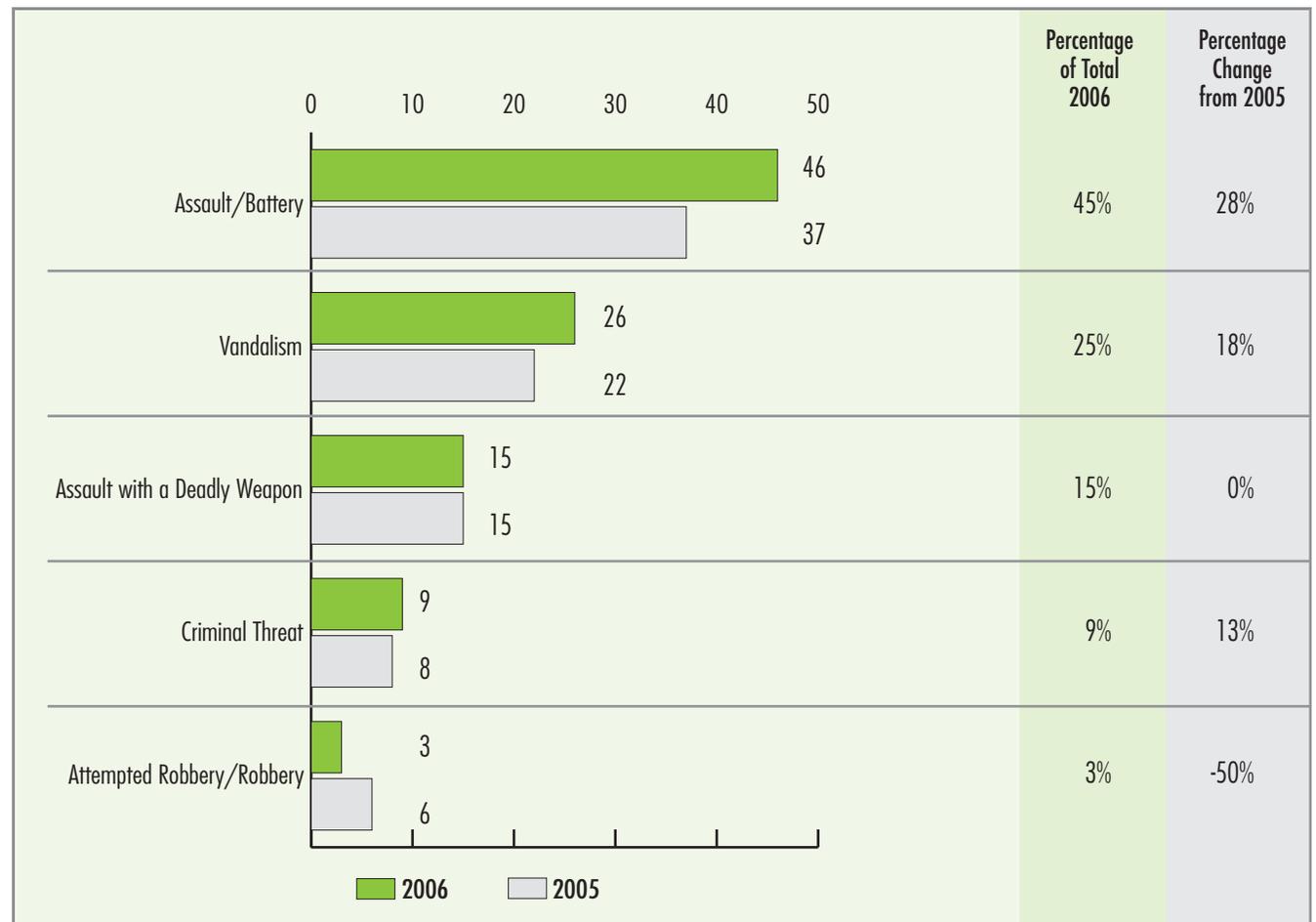
# A Closer Look at Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes

**Reported sexual orientation-based hate crimes increased 7% in 2006 from 95 to 102.** As in past years, gay men were targeted in the great majority of cases (85%). The remaining 15% were anti-lesbian crimes.

*Homophobic crimes against Latino and black victims grew in 2006, while homophobic crimes against white victims declined*

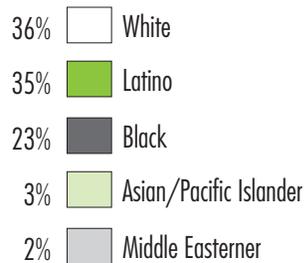
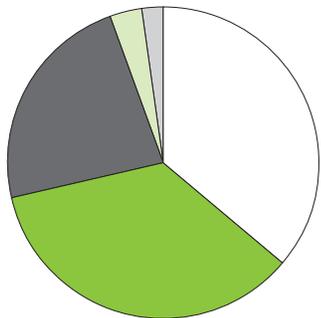
Sexual orientation-motivated crimes were violent in 63% of the cases, a greater proportion than for racial (56%) or religious (11%) crimes. 45% of these crimes were assaults and batteries, 25% were cases of vandalism, 15% were assaults with deadly weapons, and 9% were criminal threats.

Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense

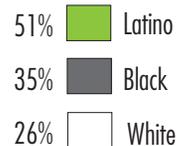
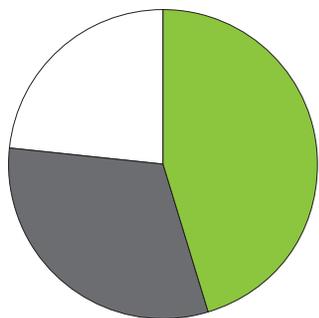


In addition to the above crimes, in 2006 there were single cases of criminal annoying e-mail, challenging to a fight, and reckless driving.

## Victims of Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes By Race/Ethnicity



## Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Suspect Race/Ethnicity



Unidentified suspects were involved in 29 additional crimes

In past years, whites were the victims in the majority of these homophobic crimes. However, in 2006, white victims declined numerically from 45 to 33 while Latino victims rose from 25 to 32, nearly tying them. Black victims grew from 18 to 21.

## Victims of sexual orientation hate crimes were most often attacked by suspects of the same race

Victims of sexual orientation hate crimes were most often attacked

by suspects of the same race.

Whites were victimized by whites in 40% of the crimes, Latinos by other Latinos in 68%, and blacks by other blacks in 83% of the time.

Crimes motivated by sexual orientation occurred most frequently in public places (43%).

## ACTUAL CASES

### January 1, 2006 – West Hollywood

While celebrating New Year's Eve, two white males, aged 29 and 21, were attacked by four white male suspects in their mid 20s. One was called "faggot" while beaten and kicked repeatedly by all four suspects as the other victim tried to help. A suspect yelled "Die you fucking faggot!" and sliced the second victim's face with a knife. Witnesses attempted to save the victims but were held back by the suspects. The suspects fled upon sight of a sheriff's vehicle.

### February 9, 2006 – Panorama City

A 37-year-old Latina lesbian was attacked by her Latina landlord and her daughter who had a history of harassing her and using anti-lesbian slurs. As she arrived

home one day, the landlord followed her to the door shouting profanities in Spanish at her and her friend as they entered the apartment. The victim's partner tried to calm the landlord but was unsuccessful and the landlord threatened her in Spanish, roughly translated, "I'll screw your mother." When the victim exited the apartment, the landlord immediately grabbed her in the chest and threw her on the stairs. She and her daughter struck the victim repeatedly.

### June 15, 2006 – Watts

An African-American gay man, aged 18, was sitting outside his residence when approached by a 17-year-old black male suspect who said, "What's up faggot?" The suspect then gripped a handgun in his waist-

band and simulated drawing out the weapon. As the victim stood up to escape, the suspect shouted "I should smoke you right now!" The victim then ran into his residence and the suspect yelled at him, "Go suck a dick, fucking faggot! This is Grape Street bitch, punk ass gay mother fucker!" The suspect had a history of threatening the victim.

### September 9, 2006 – Pico Rivera

A 77-year-old Latino gay man's car was vandalized while parked in his driveway. An unknown suspect slashed all the victim's tires, scratched "Fag" into the driver and passenger side doors and rear fenders, broke the car's antenna and made deep scratches all over the vehicle. ■

# A Closer Look at Religious Hate Crimes

**Religious hate crimes declined 11% from 101 to 90.** However in 2005, 26 cases of religious hate crime were due to a single case of an individual who sent hate mail containing potentially injurious material. If we subtract that one perpetrator, we note that the number of religious crimes increased from the previous year.

There were 64 (71%) anti-Jewish crimes, 13 (14%) anti-Christian crimes, 9 (10%) anti-Muslim crimes, and 4 (4%) Anti-Mormon crimes. About half of the anti-Christian crimes were cases of satanic graffiti left on houses of worship.

Consistent with previous years, only a fraction of these crimes (11%) were violent. Fifty-two (58%) were cases of vandalism, 13 (14%) were criminal threats, and 8 (9%) were batteries. Four of the

five cases of arson in 2006 were religiously-motivated.

The largest number of these crimes, 30 (35%) occurred in residences. Many people might assume that religious crimes primarily target synagogues, mosques, and other houses of worship. Crimes that target individuals where they live are particularly distressing to the victims because people commonly assume that they are safest in their homes.

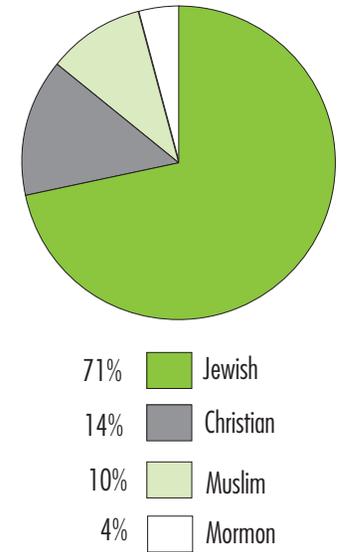
*In many religious crimes, the perpetrators are not strangers, but neighbors*

In many religious crimes, the perpetrators are not strangers, but neighbors who know the victims

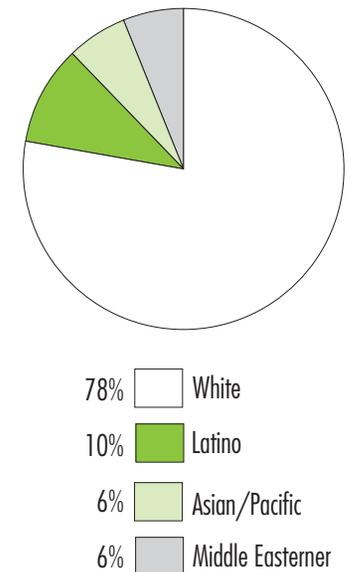
by sight, at what hours they leave and enter their homes, and if they have children. Crimes at residences were followed by 22 crimes (26%) that took place at religious sites/organizations, 15 (17%) in public places, and 12 (14%) in schools.

Suspects were identified in only 29% of religious crimes because most are acts of vandalism of homes or religious institutions. In those cases, it is very difficult to identify suspects unless they are caught in the act. Of the crimes where suspects were identified, 11 (42%) involved whites, followed by 10 (38%) Latinos, 2 (8%) suspects who were Asian, and 3 (12%) who were Middle Easterners. Of the 64 hate crimes where no suspect was identified, 27 (42%) involved evidence of white supremacist or neo-Nazi ideology.

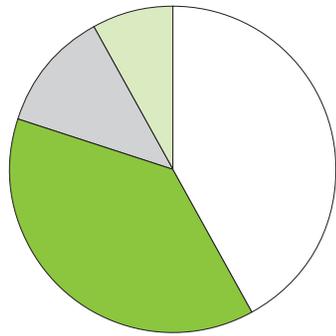
Religious Hate Crimes by Targeted Group



Victims of Religious Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



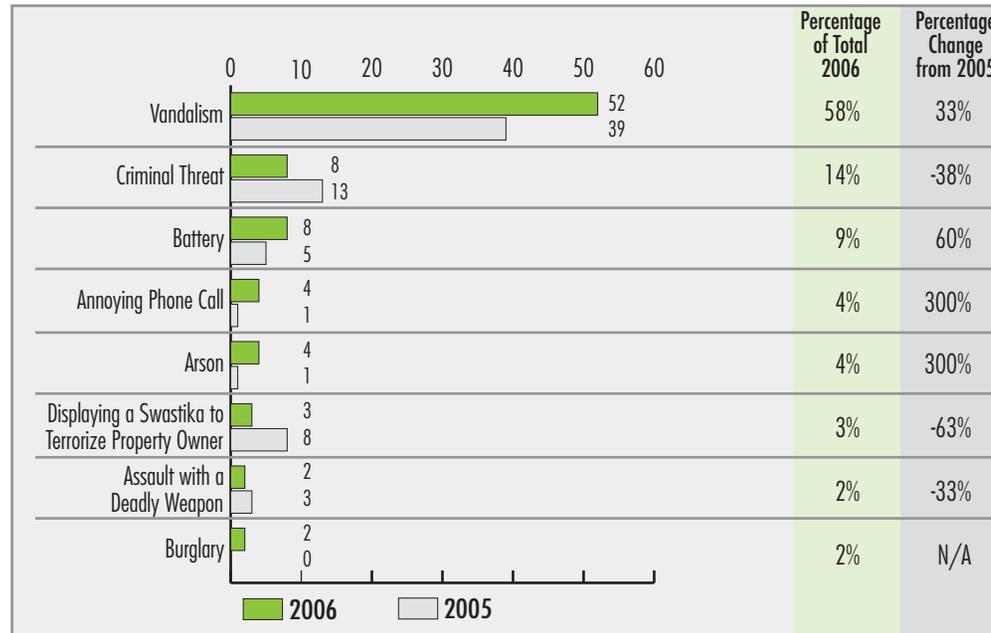
## Religious Hate Crimes by Known Suspect Race/Ethnicity



42% White  
38% Latino  
12% Middle Easterner  
8% Asian/Pacific Islander

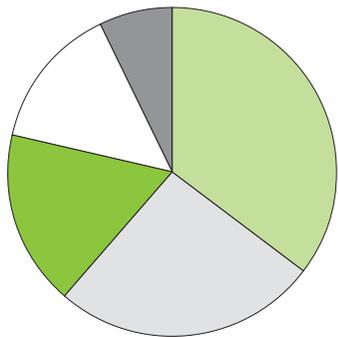
Unidentified suspects were involved in 64 additional crimes

## Religious Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense



In 2006, there were single cases of a bomb threat and challenging to a fight.

## Religious Hate Crimes by Location



35% Residence  
26% Religious Site  
17% Public Place  
14% School  
7% Other

### ACTUAL CASES

#### December 19, 2006 – Malibu

An unknown suspect vandalized a ten-foot tall menorah and Hannukah signs placed in a vacant lot along the Pacific Coast Highway by the Chabad of Malibu.

#### December 25, 2006 – Boyle Heights

A 36-year-old Latino Muslim was on his way to lunch with friends when he pulled over at the side of the street for noon prayer. As he prayed a crowd gathered and a 39-year-old Latino male punched him in the face and told him "Fuck you! You fucking Muslim sandnigger... This is my neighborhood!" The victim's friend

got out of the car and was able to intervene to get his friend into the car and depart before others were able to join in.

#### April 14, 2006 – Hollywood

The First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood was vandalized on Good Friday. Unknown suspects painted "666" and a pentagram on walls, broke crosses around the church grounds, overturned numerous tables, chairs, and a vending machine and set a chair on fire.

#### July 16, 2006 – Chatsworth

At 2:00 am a chunk of concrete was thrown through the 2nd story window of a Jewish family's home. When the victims went outside to

investigate, two white male teens shouted "We are going to come back with the Nazi troops!"

#### August 2006 – Harbor City

Over a couple of weeks, a white Jewish family with adopted African-American children received threatening letters placed on their porch. The letters referenced President Bush and the war between Israel and Lebanon, saying "You Jews are destroying the world. We are going to bomb your home and kill you." "Move out Jews and Niggers we are going to blow your house up and kill your kids. We watch you all the time." ■

## Reward offered in church vandalism

**ALTADENA** — The county is offering a reward of \$20,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for recent incidents of vandalism at Metropolitan Baptist Church.

The church, in the 2200 block of N. Fair Oaks Avenue, was vandalized three times within a week. The most recent incident was discovered Friday.

In the first instance, windows were damaged. In subsequent attacks vandals broke four windows at the church and three at portable classrooms.

Leaders of the African-American congregation have no idea of the motive for the repeat attacks.

Anyone with ad information

# Hate Crimes Related to Terrorism or Middle East Conflicts

**Since 2001, this report has analyzed as a separate category hate crimes in which the victims are blamed for acts of terrorism in the U.S. or abroad, or ongoing conflicts in the Middle East.**

Following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, there was a national spike in acts of hate and discrimination against people who were perceived to be Muslim or Middle Easterner. In Los Angeles alone, there were 188 such crimes reported, mostly during the three weeks immediately following September 11. Since then, the numbers have declined significantly, but reports of hate crimes and other acts of hate or discrimination in employment, public accommodations, and housing persist.

One of the difficulties in classifying such crimes is categorizing the motivations of the perpetrators. Sometimes their statements or graffiti directly reference the perceived

ethnic or religious backgrounds of the victims. Other times, the victims are simply called “terrorists” or told they are to blame for the war in Iraq. In these cases, it is difficult to classify these as crimes motivated by race, ethnicity, national origin, or by religion, or both. It is likely that many of the perpetrators use the terms *Middle Easterner*, *Muslim*, *Arab* and associated derogatory slurs interchangeably.

There are also anti-Middle Easterner and anti-Muslim crimes in which the perpetrators make no specific verbal reference to terrorism or conflicts in the Middle East, but may still be motivated by international events.

In 2006 there were 25 hate crimes in which the victims were explicitly blamed for terrorism or conflict in the Middle East, a 47% increase from the 17 reported the previous

year. Of these, there was mention of the victims’ perceived religion in 14 (with equal numbers of 7 anti-Jewish and 7 anti-Muslim slurs) and statements about the victims’ perceived ethnic background in 9 cases (including 2 anti-Danish, anti-black, and anti-Iranian cases and single cases that were anti-Armenian, anti-Israeli, and anti-Pakistani). In seven cases there was mention of both ethnicity and religion.

## ACTUAL CASES

### September 29, 2006 – Harbor City

A 39-year-old Sri Lankan cab driver was picking up four Latino passengers aged 25-30 in his taxi. Suspect 1 asked the driver where he was from. When the victim replied Sri Lanka, one suspect said, “You are a fucking Muslim people! You are a terrorist! You Islamic, you fucking Muslim!” Another suspect said, “You Muslim! We already understood you Muslim! You fucking Muslim, you fucking terrorist! America is already fighting with Iraq, you think about that!” As the passengers left the

taxi, one punched the victim in the left eye causing him to bleed.

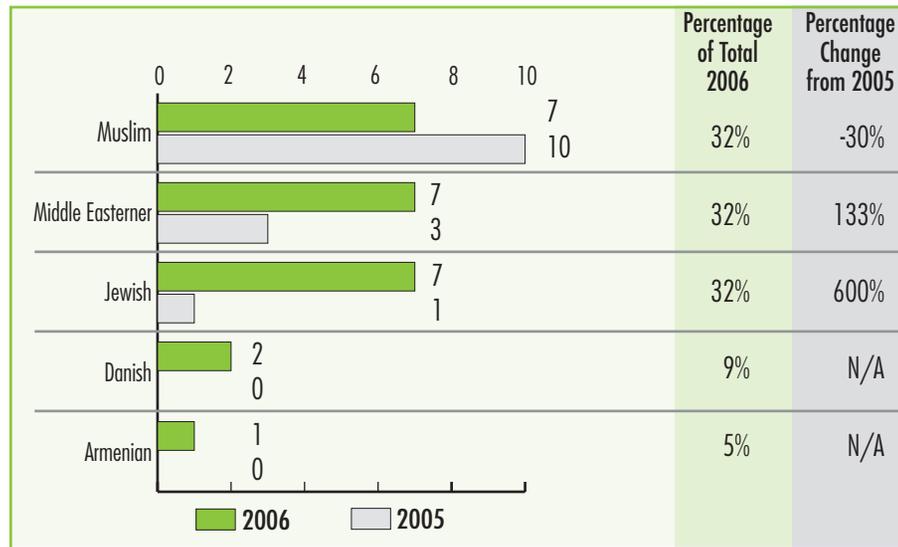
### March 1, 2006 – Mar Vista

A 7th grade Bangladeshi boy was beaten up by classmates in the locker room at a middle school. The suspects, two blacks and one Latino, shouted “Osama Bin Laden” and “Terrorist” in loud voices as they took turns hitting him, eventually knocking him to the floor. When interviewed by the police, the victim mentioned other prior incidents but did not want to file any criminal charges for fear of reprisal.

### June 7, 2006 – Westwood

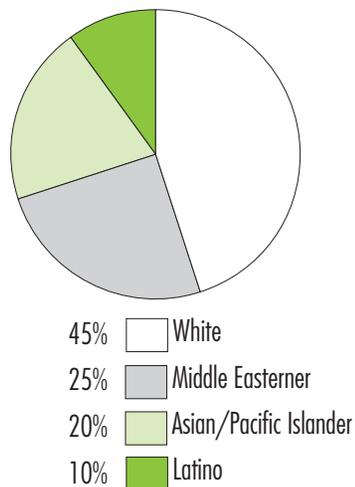
A 65-year-old Jewish Rabbi and his 32-year-old son, who is also a Rabbi and lives on the same block, found graffiti on their houses saying “All Jews fuck their mothers,” “Israel is going down,” “Give the sandniggers back their land,” “Give Israel back!” and “It doesn't belong to you Hebs!” Also on that block on the same night, another apartment complex was vandalized with “No sandniggers allowed on premises!” This was likely committed by a white supremacist vandal.

## Middle East Conflict Hate Crimes by Targeted Group

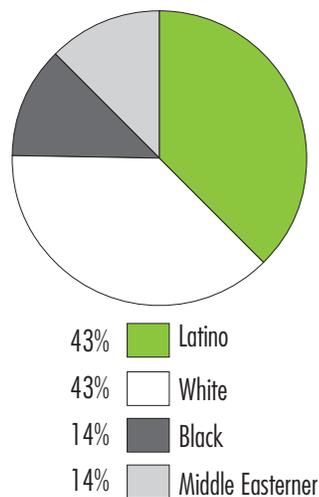


This table aggregates crimes targeting a national origin under the racial/ethnic group; "Middle Easterner" includes Iranian. A crime with multiple targeted groups is listed more than once. Therefore, the sum will exceed 100%.

## Victims of Hate Crimes Related to Terrorism or the Middle East Conflict by Known Race/Ethnicity



## Hate Crimes by Known Suspect Race/Ethnicity



Unidentified suspects were involved in 11 additional crimes

24% of these cases were violent. They included 9 criminal threats, 8 vandalisms, and 6 batteries.

### 58% of crimes related to terrorism and conflict in the Middle East took place at residences.

This stands in sharp contrast to 2001, when the greatest number occurred in businesses such as gas stations, liquor stores, and restaurants, where Middle Easterner or South Asian employees were targeted.

In addition to the anti-Muslim/Middle Easterner crimes there were a handful of crimes in which other groups were targeted for international events.

A prominent local Danish man was threatened repeatedly following the publication of a controversial cartoon in a Danish newspaper that was offensive to many Muslims.

There were four hate crimes targeting Jewish people in anger over the war between Israel and Lebanon in July and August of last year. In one, a man was battered after participating in a pro-Israel rally on Wilshire Blvd. during the war.

Both Latinos and whites were known suspects in 43% of these crimes, totaling 86%.

## Anti-Muslim/Middle Easterner Hate Crimes

Given that it is highly probable that many of the perpetrators use the terms *Middle Easterner*, *Muslim*, *Arab* and associated derogatory slurs interchangeably, the number of these hate crimes combined were analyzed to get an overall sense of anti-Muslim/Middle Easterner hate crimes.

There were also 4 anti-Muslim crimes and 3 anti-Middle Easterner crimes, in which there were no direct references to terrorism or the Middle East.

The chart to the upper left indicates 7 anti-Muslim and 7 anti-Middle Easterner crimes. However, 4 of those crimes targeted both groups at the same time. Thus, only 10 crimes occurred targeting either group. When these are added they number 17, or 3% of all reported hate crimes.

This compares to 24, or 4% of reported hate crimes in 2005. ■

# A Closer Look at Gender and Disability Crimes

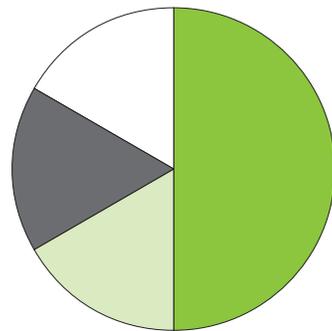
There were reports of seven gender hate crimes in 2006. Six of them targeted transgender women (down from nine) and one was anti-female (down from six). Reports of anti-transgender crimes have declined for the second year in a row.

## Anti-Transgender Crimes

For several years, transgender hate crime victims have experienced high rates of violence. For example, in 2005 all nine of the anti-transgender crimes were violent.

In 2006, 50% were violent, and included a savage beating of a transgender woman by eight assailants who struck her with

Victims of Gender Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



50% Latino  
17% Asian/Pacific Islander  
17% Black  
17% White

their hands, feet and a wooden chair. The victim suffered a broken rib and a fractured neck.

In previous years, a large percentage of transgender crimes took place in locations known for street prostitution. None of the cases in 2006 had that characteristic. Instead, three occurred at residences, two took place in public places (a bus stop, and at a park where a transgender festival was taking place) and one transpired in a hotel.

Of the victims, three were Latina and one was white. In one case, the report failed to identify the race or ethnicity of the victim. A second case involved hate vandalism at a transgender festival. There were two crimes in which suspects were white, two in which suspects were black and two in which suspects were Latino.

## ACTUAL CASES

### May 27, 2006 – West Hollywood

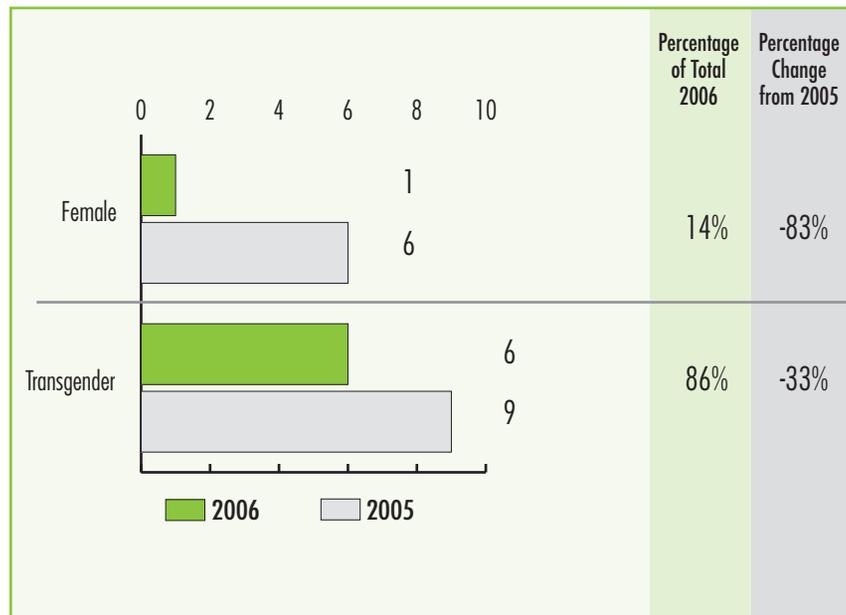
A quarterly transgender artists festival's signs were vandalized: one was burnt and the other three were torn into little pieces. The same thing happened to 12 other signs at the last three events.

### July 22, 2006 – West Adams

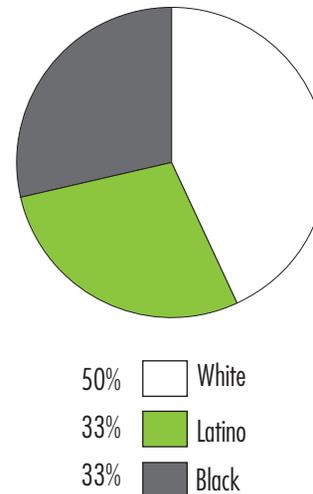
A transgender woman was in a verbal dispute

with her hotel manager and subsequently attacked by a group of 8 blacks and Latinos who chased her down the street and began kicking and hitting her. She ran into a furniture store a block away but they followed her and kicked and beat her with wooden chairs. The suspects fled when a witness told them the police were on their way.

## Gender Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group



## Gender Hate Crimes by Known Suspect Race/Ethnicity



*A single crime involved an unidentified suspect*

## Anti-Female Crimes

The lone anti-female crime was violent and motivated by race/ethnicity as well as by gender.

- A white male suspect attacked a black female passenger on a bus while yelling, “Bitch! Nigger! Go back to Africa!”

There is debate about what constitutes anti-female hate crime. Some argue that hate crime enhancements should be sought

by prosecutors in a broader array of crimes of violence against women. To date, very few cases of violence against women have been reported by law enforcement as hate crimes or prosecuted as such. This report only includes cases that are classified by law enforcement or other sources as hate crimes. ■



## Disability Crimes

Two disability-motivated crimes were reported in 2006.

- A black male suspect kicked a physically-disabled black male victim as he was exiting a public bus. He yelled, “Get your crippled ass off the bus!”

- A Latina with a mentally handicapped son found the word “retard” written with a permanent marker on the window of her car. She reported that her son had been terrorized for some time by neighborhood youth and challenged repeatedly to a fight. ■

# Review of 2006 Hate Crime Legislation

## State Legislation

### *Assembly Bill 1160* (Lieber)

The 2006 AB 1160 prohibited the use of societal bias, such as “panic strategies,” from consideration by juries in criminal proceedings as a defense to justify acquittal or to reduce charges. For example, some defendants on trial for anti-gay and anti-transgender hate crimes have argued in court that their revulsion of their victims’ sexual/gender identities were mitigating circumstances in their culpability. The bill also requires the Office of Emergency Services to develop materials for city and county prosecutors to explain how to prevent bias from affecting the outcome of a trial. *The Governor signed this bill into law.*

### *Assembly Bill 2800* (Laird)

The Civil Rights Housing Act of 2006 would have standardized housing-related non-discrimination provisions in California law to synchronize them with the Fair Employment and Housing Act

(FEHA) to ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. *The Governor signed this bill into law.*

*Assembly Concurrent Resolution 56* (Chu) ACR 56 designated June 2006 as Hate Crimes Awareness Month.

### *Assembly Bill 1056* (Chu)

AB 1056 would have required the State Board of Education to consult with Human Relations Commissions, individuals, and groups that are protected by California’s hate crimes legislation to develop a pilot project that will integrate intergroup relations and tolerance curriculum into English and Social Science studies. *The Governor vetoed this bill.*

### *Assembly Bill 2510* (Lieu)

AB 2510 would have helped the state better measure the occurrences of bias-related discrimination in schools, as well as how students handle such events, by including additional questions in the statewide survey which is conducted every

other year in grades 7, 9, and 11. *The Governor vetoed this bill.*

### *Assembly Bill 606* (Levine)

The Safe Place to Learn Act would have required the State Department of Education to develop a model anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policy and post it on its website by January 1, 2008 to ensure that schools are in compliance with the California Student Safety and Violence Act of 2000 (AB537). *The Governor vetoed this bill.*

### *Senate Bill 1437* (Kuehl)

SB 1437 aimed to promote an atmosphere of safety and respect in California schools by adding sexual orientation and gender identity as protected categories to an existing law that prohibits instruction or school-sponsored activities that reflect adversely upon persons, because of their race, sex, color, creed, handicap, national origin or ancestry. *The Governor vetoed this bill.*

## Federal Legislation

### *Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act*

S.1145 (LLEEA) would amend the 1969 federal hate crimes law by including crimes that target people based on real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. This law would also facilitate a remedy for a hate crime victim at the federal level if local authorities are unwilling or unable to exercise their jurisdiction. LLEEA was not adopted in 2006.

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*Although supported by the House of Representatives, the President has threatened to veto the 2007 bill*

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Note: The House of Representatives passed the **Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act H.R. 1592** on May 3, 2007. The President has threatened to veto the bill if it reaches his desk. It is currently in committee in the U.S. Senate (Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act S.1105.) ■

# Methodology

Each case meets the legal definition of hate crime in the California penal code.

**The 2006 Hate Crime Report provides a statistical snapshot of reported hate crimes to inform efforts to combat bias-motivated activity.** Such data collection and analysis provide policy-makers and practitioners insight into the urgent issues and greatest needs for education, prevention, intervention, victim assistance, and advocacy.

The Commission receives reports from law enforcement, school districts and universities, community based organizations, and directly from victims. We carefully eliminate any duplicates, such as a hate crime submitted by both a law enforce-

ment agency and a school district. We review each case counted in this report to ensure it meets the criteria of the legal definition of hate crime in the California penal code. Those that do not meet that standard are not included as hate crimes. Nevertheless, we encourage law enforcement and community organizations to report hate incidents because they can be early indicators of intergroup tension and conflict. Of the 945 reports of hate events (both crimes and incidents) received for 2006, 514 events involving 594 victims and 882 suspects met the legal criteria for hate crimes and are included in this report. ■

# Understanding the Numbers

- Unless otherwise noted, all numbers in the report refer to victims, rather than cases.
- If a violent crime is committed against multiple victims, we count each victim separately.
- We report the perpetrators' intended targeted group instead of relying on the actual identity of the victim as a proxy. This accounts for cases in which the actual identities of the victims are not specified or where the victim's identity is mistaken (e.g., when a Latino victim is perceived by the perpetrator as African American).
- A handful of cases involved epithets targeting more than one group. Therefore the total number of cases by motivation or by targeted group actually exceeds the 594 of hate crimes for 2006.
- This year we present suspect's race in terms of the proportion of crimes committed by members of that racial/ethnic group, rather than the race of individual suspects involved in hate crimes. Totals of pie charts may exceed 100% due to crimes committed by multi-racial groups of suspects.
- We also received a handful of reports, usually minor vandalism, in which the information provided in a law enforcement agency's report was too minimal to determine specific bias motivation. These are marked as "unknown targeted group."
- It is important to note that fluctuations in data from year to year do not necessarily indicate trends; sometimes, an increase one year follows an equivalent decrease the previous year. Multi-year data can give a better sense of trends.
- The report may not reflect the actual outcome of the investigation of individual cases. We receive the original police incident report for cases in which the investigation is ongoing. We may review it and include it before the investigation is completed or charges are filed. Therefore, the number of hate crimes reported here may differ from the reporting law enforcement agency for a given jurisdiction.
- Some numbers referring to 2005 have changed since last year's report due to an ongoing process of updates and corrections. ■

# Appendix A: 2006 Hate Crime Reporting Agencies

## *Police Departments*

Alhambra Police Department  
Arcadia Police Department  
Azusa Police Department  
Baldwin Park Police Department  
Bell Police Department  
Bell Gardens Police Department  
Beverly Hills Police Department  
Burbank Police Department  
Claremont Police Department  
Covina Police Department  
Culver City Police Department  
Downey Police Department  
El Monte Police Department  
El Segundo Police Department  
Gardena Police Department  
Glendale Police Department  
Glendora Police Department  
Hawthorne Police Department  
Hermosa Beach Police Department  
Huntington Park Police Department  
Inglewood Police Department  
Irwindale Police Department  
La Verne Police Department  
Long Beach Police Department  
Los Angeles Police Department  
Los Angeles Sheriff's Department  
Manhattan Beach Police Department

Maywood Police Department  
Monrovia Police Department  
Montebello Police Department  
Monterey Park Police Department  
Palos Verdes Police Department  
Pasadena Police Department  
Pomona Police Department  
Redondo Beach Police Department  
San Fernando Police Department  
San Gabriel Police Department  
San Marino Police Department  
Santa Monica Police Department  
Signal Hill Police Department  
Sierra Madre Police Department  
South Gate Police Department  
South Pasadena Police Department  
Torrance Police Department  
Vernon Police Department  
West Covina Police Department  
Whittier Police Department

## *Educational Institutions*

ABC Unified School District  
Alhambra City and High School Districts  
Antelope Valley Community College District  
Antelope Valley Union High School District  
Azusa Unified School District  
Bassett Unified School District

California Poly Pomona  
California State University, Dominguez Hills  
California State University, Long Beach  
California State University, Los Angeles  
California State University, Northridge  
Castaic Union School District  
Centinela Valley Union High School District  
Cerritos Community College District  
Charter Oak Unified School District  
Citrus Community College District  
College of the Canyons  
Covina-Valley Unified School District  
Culver City Unified School District  
East Whittier City School District  
El Monte City School District  
El Monte Union High School District  
El Segundo Unified School District  
Garvey School District  
Glendale Unified School District  
Glendora Unified School District  
Inglewood Unified School District  
La Canada Unified School District  
Las Virgenes Unified School District  
Long Beach Community College District  
Los Angeles Community College District  
Los Angeles Unified School District  
Monrovia Unified School District  
Montebello Unified School District

Mountain View School District  
Mt. San Antonio Community College District  
Newhall School District  
Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District  
Paramount Unified School District  
Pasadena Area Community College District  
Rosemead School District  
Rowland Unified School District  
San Marino Unified School District  
South Whittier School District  
Sulphur Springs Union School District  
Torrance Unified School District  
University of California, Los Angeles  
Walnut Valley Unified School District  
Whittier City School District  
William S. Hart Union High School District

## *Local Organizations*

Anti-Defamation League  
Asian Pacific American Legal Center  
Claremont Human Relations Commission  
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles  
L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center  
Muslim Public Affairs Council  
Southern Christian Leadership Council  
South Asian Network

# Appendix B: Hate Crime by Region

REGION	POPULATION	NUMBER OF HATE CRIMES	CRIMES PER 100,000 RESIDENTS
<b>Central Los Angeles</b> Downtown Los Angeles, Hollywood, Pico Union, and Mid-Wilshire	658,982	79	12.0
<b>East L.A.</b> Boyle Heights, Eagle Rock, Echo Park, Highland Park, and Silverlake	405,114	35	8.6
<b>East San Gabriel Valley</b> Azusa, Claremont, Covina, Diamond Bar, El Monte, Glendora, Hacienda Heights, Irwindale, Industry, La Puente, La Verne, Pomona, San Dimas, South El Monte, Walnut, and West Covina	933,557	42	4.5
<b>Harbor Cities</b> Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, Long Beach, San Pedro, Signal Hill, and Wilmington	719,885	57	7.9
<b>North County</b> Lancaster, Palmdale, and Santa Clarita	508,209	42	8.3
<b>San Fernando Valley</b> Agoura Hills, Burbank, Calabasas, Canoga Park, Chatsworth, Glendale, Hidden Hills, Los Angeles, San Fernando, Studio City, Sylmar, Van Nuys, and Westlake Village	1,753,669	137	7.8
<b>South Bay</b> El Segundo, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, and Torrance	359,377	12	3.3
<b>South County</b> Athens, Carson, Compton, Gardena, Hawthorne, Harbor Gateway, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lennox, and Lynwood	742,162	44	5.9
<b>South L.A.</b> Baldwin Hills, Leimert Park, South L.A., Southeast L.A. and West Adams	687,926	34	4.9
<b>Southeast County</b> Artesia, Baldwin Park, Bell, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Cudahy, Cerritos, Commerce, Downey, Huntington Park, La Mirada, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Maywood, Montebello, Norwalk, Santa Fe Springs, South Gate, Vernon, and Whittier	1,226,106	17	1.4
<b>West San Gabriel Valley</b> Alhambra, Altadena, Arcadia, Bradbury, Duarte, La Canada Flintridge, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, and Temple City	883,469	38	4.3
<b>Westside</b> Beverly Hills, Brentwood, Culver City, Santa Monica, Malibu, Mar Vista, Venice, Westchester, West Hollywood, and West Los Angeles	575,571	50	8.7

For a map associated with these regions, please go to: <http://www.lahumanrelations.org/hatecrime>. Seven additional crimes are not displayed due to insufficient address information. Population values are from U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census.

## Prosecutions

The District Attorney's Office prosecutes the great majority of hate crimes in Los Angeles County. In 2006, law enforcement authorities referred 152 hate crimes to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, which filed charges in 129 (85%) of these cases, 13 more than the previous year. Adults were charged in 69 of these cases, and juveniles in 60. 82% of adult crimes were motivated by race/ethnicity, 9% by sexual orientation, 7% by religion, and 2% by disability.

12 hate crimes were referred to the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office in 2006, which filed 4 cases as hate crimes and 2 as crimes without hate crime enhancements.

The U.S. Attorney's Office, which is responsible for prosecuting federal offenses, tried two hate crimes in 2006. In the

first case, *United States v. Tony Razani*, the defendant was charged with transmitting a threatening communication in interstate commerce, specifically, for sending a threatening e-mail to an Arab-American woman in Texas. The e-mail contained explicit threats to physically harm her and numerous derogatory references to the victim's ethnicity. The defendant pled guilty to the indictment and was sentenced to six months home detention and three years probation.

In the second case, the U.S. Attorney successfully prosecuted four members of the Highland Park-based Avenues gang for a series of anti-black attacks, including several murders that occurred in 1999 and 2000. All four defendants were convicted and sentenced to life sentences without the possibility of parole.

## Acknowledgements

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