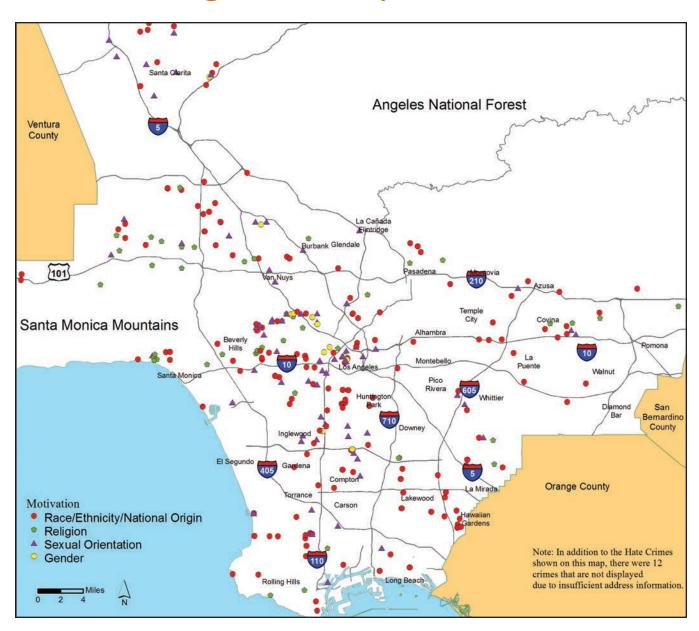


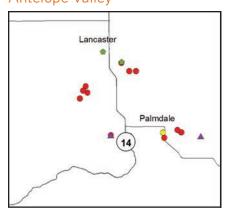


**Los Angeles County** 

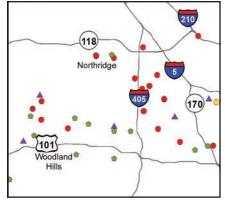
# 2013 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes



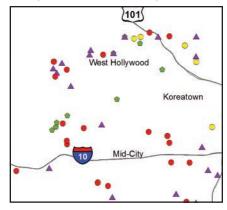
#### Antelope Valley



## San Fernando Valley



Hollywood/West Hollywood



Maps by Juan Carlos Martinez

# 2013 Hate Crime Report



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# Preface

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

sing information from the report, the Commission sponsors a number of ongoing programs related to preventing and combating hate crime, including the Network Against Hate Crime, the Racialized Gang Violence Prevention Initiative, the Hate Violence Prevention Network, and the Human Relations Youth Leadership and No Haters Here! Initiatives. L.A. County is one of the best trained jurisdictions in hate crime investigation and prosecution, and the Commission produces one of the longest-standing reports in the nation documenting hate crime.

The report has been disseminated broadly to policy-makers, law enforcement agencies, educators, and community groups throughout Los Angeles County and 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 may be 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 perpetrator has threatened violence with spoken or written words 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 or there is no apparent ability to carry out the threat. 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 vandalism, and therefore illegal, but not considered a hate crime. Vandalism of a house of worship or of an ethnic, religious, or gay and lesbian organization may be investigated as a hate crime in the absence of evidence of other motives.

# Underreporting of Hate Crimes

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 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 crimes to law enforcement:**

- · Fear of retaliation by the perpetrators or perpetrators' friends, family, or fellow gang members
- Linguistic or cultural barriers
- Immigration status
- Lack of knowledge about 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 is 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 for the city or neighborhood
- Burden on investigating detectives in order to prove bias motivation

Hate crimes that occur in schools, jails, and juvenile detention facilities, including large-scale racial brawls, are rarely reported as hate crimes. For example, during a school fight involving many students, it can be very difficult for authorities to establish who is an aggressor and who is simply defending himself or a friend. In 2009 there was inter-racial fighting at 1 local high school involving approximately 500 students. Only 1 hate crime was reported by police.

For all of these reasons, it is reasonable to conclude that the hate crimes included in this report likely represent only a fraction of hate crimes actually committed in 2013.

\*U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2005, "Hate Crime Reported by Victims and Police"

# Hate Crime and Human Rights

ate crimes are not only illegal under state and federal laws, but they violate human rights as defined by the international community<sup>1</sup>.

In the aftermath of World War II, leaders from many nations came together to establish the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948.

Since then, people from all over Earth have taken steps towards turning the UDHR's powerful principles into action. Since 1965, the U.S. and 176 nations have signed the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), which compels signatory nations to combat racial and national origin discrimination and report to the CERD committee. Under this treaty, hate crimes are considered serious human right abuses. The CERD Committee has stressed that government action as well as inaction can violate CERD, and there is no excuse for complacency or indifference by a government toward either public or private discrimination, particularly when it involves violence.

When the U.S. and 167 other nations signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), they committed their nations to respect and fulfill the right to life and the security of the person "without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status." The ICCPR also requires governments to report to the Human Rights Committee on the actual measures taken to give effect to this treaty.

The U.S. Constitution states that the Constitution and Treaties are the Supreme Law of the Land. Thus, all levels of government in the U.S. -including counties, cities and school districts- and individuals have a duty to uphold these treaty obligations by addressing discrimination manifested in hate crimes.

Building on the Ten-Point Plan developed by Human Rights First (www.humanrightsfirst.org/discrimination), some of the key strategies responding to hate crime include:

- Acknowledge and condemn hate crimes whenever they occur. Senior leaders should send immediate, strong, public, and consistent messages that violent hate crimes—including against migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers—will be investigated thoroughly and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
- Strengthen enforcement and prosecute offenders. Governments should ensure that those responsible for hate crimes are held accountable under the law, that the prosecution of hate crimes against any individuals regardless of their legal status in the country is a priority for the criminal justice system.
- Develop educational and transformative approaches, particular restorative justice mechanisms, for hate crime offenders. Governments need to be smarter in utilizing effective methods to heal communities and reduce recidivism.
- Monitor and report on hate crimes. Governments should maintain official systems of monitoring and public reporting to provide accurate data for informed policy decisions to combat hate crimes.
- Reach out to community groups. Governments should conduct outreach and education efforts to communities to reduce fear and assist victims, advance police-community relations, encourage improved reporting of hate crimes to the police and improve the quality of data collection by law enforcement bodies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>We acknowledge and thank the organization Human Rights First (www.humanrightsfirst.org) for most of the substance of this section.

# 2013 Quick Facts

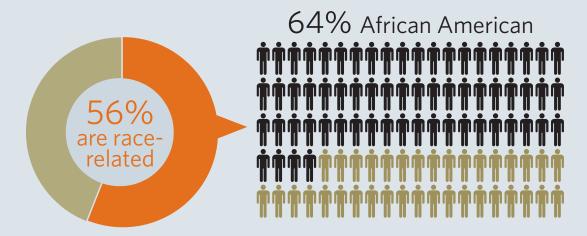
On average, more than one hate crime still occurs each day.

Lowest numbers of hate crimes in 24 YEARS

The number of hate crimes reported in Los Angeles County in 2013 was the **lowest in 24 years**. They declined 17% from 462 to 384, but on average more than one hate crime still occurs each day.

**Sexual orientation crimes comprised 25% of hate crimes.** Although crimes targeting gay men fell 41%, they still constituted 74% of homophobic attacks. 71% of sexual orientation crimes were of a violent nature, higher than racial (61%) or religious (30%) ones.





Crimes motivated by race continued to be by far the largest group, comprising 56% of all hate crimes. African Americans were targeted in 64% of those cases, although blacks comprise less than 9% of county residents.



of all hate crimes showed evidence of white supremacist ideology.



**Religious crimes represented 15% of the total.** 74% of these crimes were anti-Jewish, but this was by far the lowest number of anti-Semitic crimes in at least 10 years.



14% of all hate crimes were committed by **gang members.** 







The largest number occurred in the San Fernando Valley, followed by the Metro region. However, if one accounts for population, the highest rate was in the Antelope Valley, followed by the Metro region.

# 2013 Hate Crimes in Perspective

## **Lowest Number of Hate Crimes Reported in 24 years**

There were 384 hate crimes reported in L.A. County in 2013. This was the lowest number in 24 years and represented a 17% decrease from the previous year. At the time of this report's publication, hate crime statistics collected by the Office of the California Attorney General and the U.S. Department of Justice were not available.

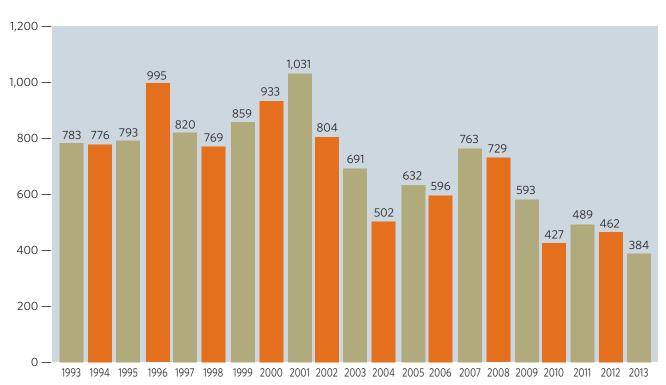
In 2013 the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) reported a 7% decrease in Part I crimes (aggravated assault, forcible rape, murder, robbery, burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft). LASD also reported a 4% decline in Part 2 crimes (vandalism and less serious offenses). During the same year, the Los Angeles Police Department reported that the number of Part 1 crimes decreased 5.2%. These statistics are evidence that year-to-year increases and decreases in hate crimes often are independent of overall crime trends.

## **Hate Crimes by Motivation and Targeted Group**

As in previous years, crimes motivated by the victims' real or perceived race, ethnicity or national origin (for the sake of brevity, we refer to these as "racial" hate crimes in this report) remained by far the largest group, comprising 56% of all hate crimes. They were followed by crimes motivated by sexual orientation (25%), religion (15%), and gender (5%). There were no disability-motivated crimes reported in 2013. The actual numbers of racial, sexual orientation and religious crimes all fell, but racial and gender crimes increased as a percentage of the total.

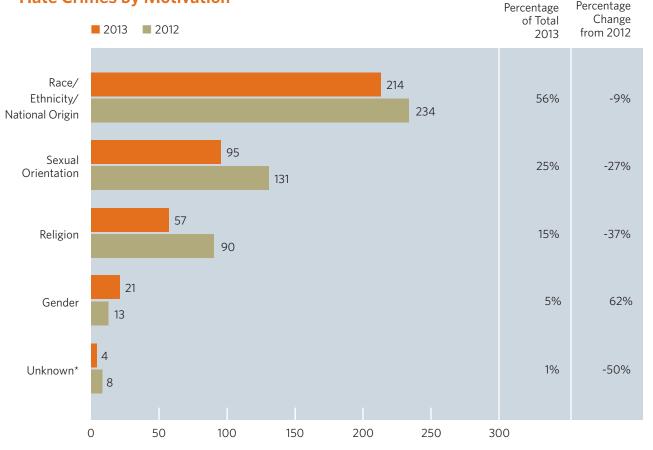
As in the past, the great majority of hate crimes reported in 2013 (83%) targeted 4 groups of victims: African Americans, gay men and lesbians, Jews, and Latinos. But crimes targeting gay men declined 41% from 119 to 70 and anti-Jewish crimes dropped 48% from 81 to 42. Crimes targeting lesbians, transgender people, and Protestants increased. Most other groups declined slightly.

## **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 mandated law enforcement to record and report hate crimes.

## **Hate Crimes by Motivation**



\* These were primarily cases of vandalism that used hate symbols and the motivation could not be determined.

#### **Criminal Offenses**

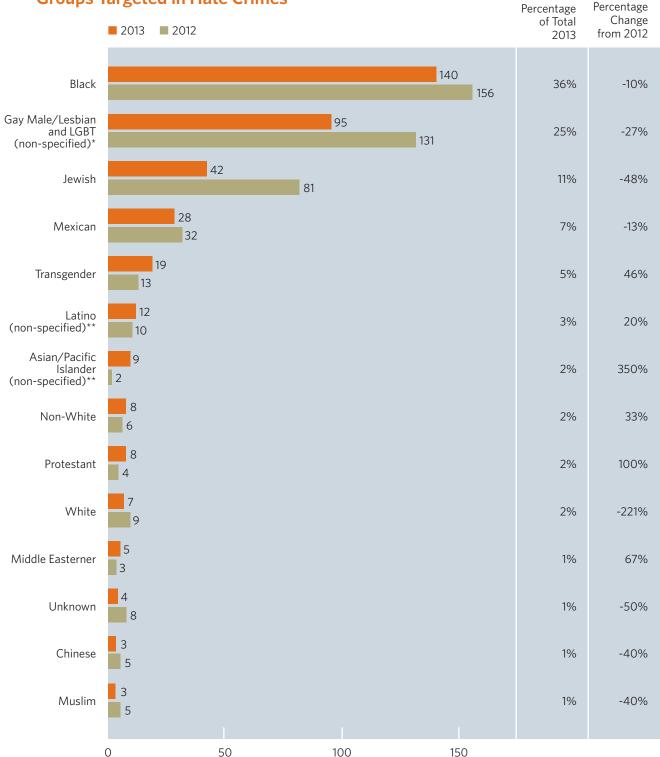
The overall rate of violence increased slightly from 57% to 61%. This is due to a dramatic decrease in the number of cases of vandalism and placing images of swastikas on private property, not an actual increase in the number of violent crimes. Vandalism remained the largest group (32%) but decreased 17%. Simple assaults increased 10% and aggravated assaults (which had jumped the previous year) declined 38%. There was no change in the number of acts of intimidation. These 4 categories of criminal offenses comprised 89% of all hate crimes. There were no reported hate crime murders or attempted murders.

Again, there were marked differences in the rates of violence based on motivation. 95% of gender crimes were violent, followed by sexual orientation (71%), racial (61%) and religious (30%).

#### Location

The largest number of hate crimes took place in public places and residences (32% each), followed by businesses (16%), and schools (10%). 89% of hate crimes took place in these location categories and this distribution is remarkably similar to the previous year. In addition, there were small increases in the number of crimes reported at religious sites and government buildings (primarily jails).

## **Groups Targeted in Hate Crimes**

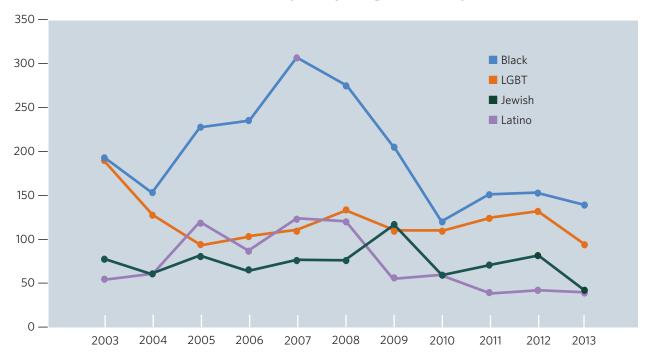


In 2013, there were also single crimes that targeted Asian Indians, Canadians, Christians, and Gentiles, and 2 crimes targeting Armenians, Catholics, females, and Filipinos.

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;LGBT non-specified" refers to hate crimes that target an LGBT organization or business, not an individual.

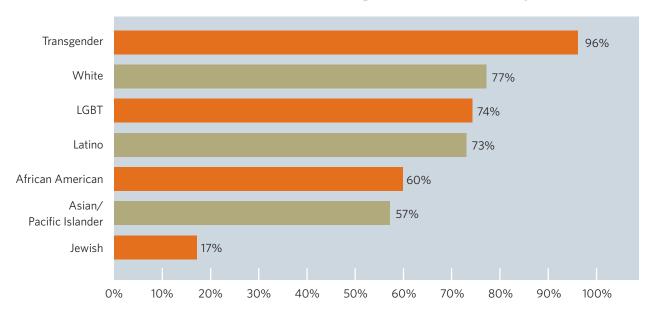
<sup>\*\*&</sup>quot;Non-specified" crimes targeting Asians and Latinos refer to crimes in which these groups were targeted but there were no slurs made against a specific nationality (e.g. Chinese, Mexicans, Salvadorans).

# 2003-2013 Hate Crimes: Most Frequently Targeted Groups



Black, LGBT, Jewish, and Latino targets constitute approximately 80% of all victims in any given year.

## 2009-2013 Hate Crimes: Rate of Violence Against Selected Groups

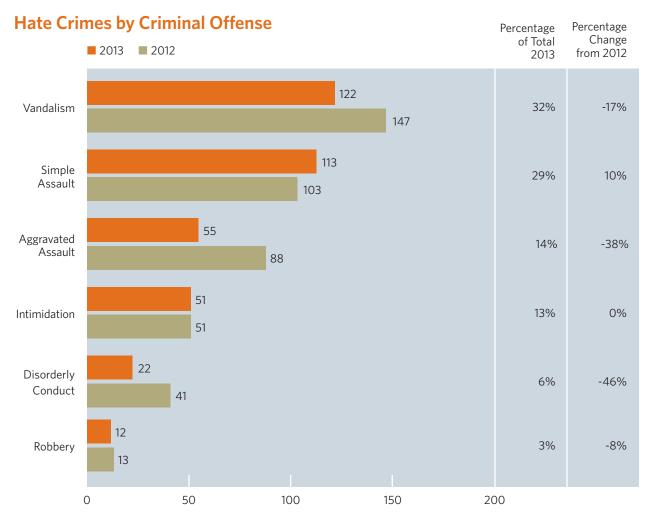


#### Hate on the Internet

Only 3 crimes were reported via "electronic communication" such as e-mails, text messages, and other media with no fixed location. This is surprising given the growing prevalence of social media. However there were many cases of harassment reported that did not meet the legal standard to be categorized as hate crimes because they did not specifically threaten violence. But some were quite serious and frightening to the victims:

- On September 11, a male student took a picture of a female student wearing a hijab and posted it on Twitter with the caption, "This bitch prolly cause 9/11."
- Slurs were posted on a Jewish woman's Facebook page, "If I could bring Hitler back for a day just to teach that evil bitch a lesson I would!"
- A 14 year-old black female student received 23 e-mails on her school-issued iPad making fun of her skin color and depicting her in photos with monkeys, cages, and slaves.

More than a dozen other similar incidents were reported to law enforcement or other authorities but were not included in this report because they did not constitute criminal offenses.



In 2013, there were also 6 burglaries and 1 case each of arson, theft, and sexual assault.

#### **Hate Crimes by Location** Percentage Percentage Change of Total **2013 2012** from 2012 2013 123 Public Place 32% -19% 152 121 32% -23% Residence 158 60 **Business** 16% -21% 76 39 School 10% -15% 46 19 Religious Site/ 5% 36% Organization 14 14 Government/ 4% 40% Public Building 10 Community-25% based 1% Organization

In 2013, there were also 3 crimes that occurred using electronic communication not tied to a specific location.

100

150

200

50

## **Geographic Distribution**

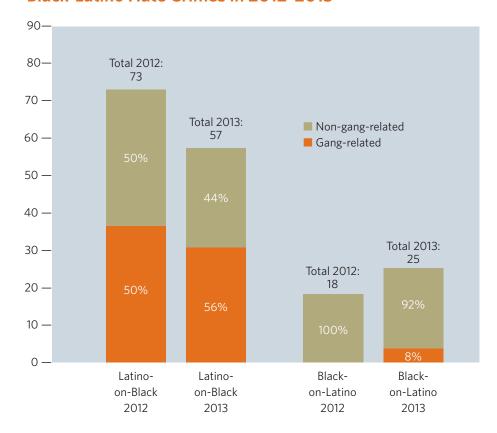
The largest number of hate crimes (79) in 2013 took place in the San Fernando Valley (Los Angeles County Service Planning Area 2)\*, followed by the Metro Region (70). These two regions consistently report the largest numbers of hate crimes. The Antelope Valley reported the lowest number of hate crimes (23). However, if one accounts for population, the Antelope Valley had the highest rate of hate crimes followed by the Metro Region. These higher rates of hate crime are similar to previous years. The San Gabriel Valley had the lowest rate of hate crimes. See Appendix A for a chart of hate crimes by region.

\*This report uses Service Planning Areas, or SPAs, for comparing numbers and rates of hate crimes. See *Appendix A for more information about the borders of these areas.* 

#### **Hate Crimes between African Americans and Latinos**

The great majority of African Americans and Latinos in L.A. County co-exist peacefully and are not involved in ongoing racial conflict. However, for many years this report has documented that most hate crimes against African Americans are committed by Latino suspects and vice versa. This is particularly true in neighborhoods that have undergone rapid demographic changes from being majority black to primarily Latino. The other factor driving this phenomenon is the presence of gangs which have ties to the Mexican Mafia, the largest and most violent prison-based gang that has been feuding with black inmates for decades. In 2013 this disturbing trend continued. Latinos were suspects in 62% of anti-black crimes (57). Black suspects committed 71% of the anti-Latino crimes (25). In 56% of the Latino-on-black crimes, there was evidence that the suspects were gang members. But there was evidence that gang members were responsible in only 2 of the black-on-Latino crimes. This imbalance in gang involvement is consistent with previous years.

#### Black-Latino Hate Crimes in 2012-2013



## **Gangs**

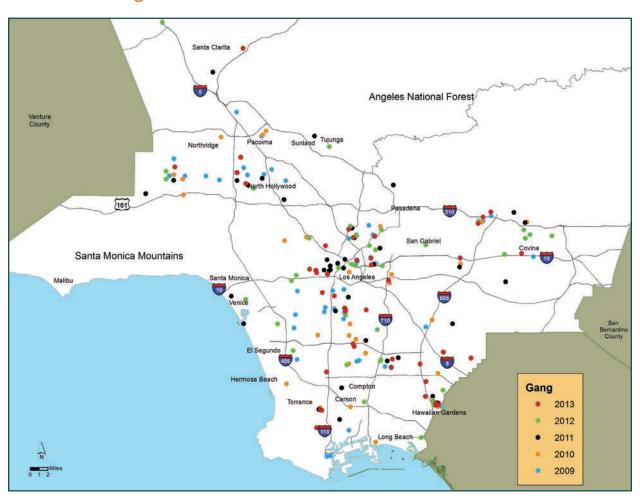
The number of gang-related hate crimes in 2013 was 61, the exact same number as the previous year. They represented 16% of all hate crimes, compared to 13% the previous year. Gang members were responsible for 22% of all racial hate crimes, the exact same percentage as the previous year. The number of suspects who were gang members rose from 85 to 103, indicating that more hate crimes were committed by groups of suspects.

Generally, this report classifies suspects as gang members if they shout their affiliation during the commission of an offense or include gang names or monikers in graffiti, not solely on their appearance or clothing. The actual number of hate crimes committed by gang members might be higher.

As in the past, hate crimes reportedly committed by gang members were overwhelmingly racial, 76%, but that is a decrease from the previous year (85%). The largest numbers of victims were African American (70%), followed by gay men (17%). Gang members committed 2 crimes each against Asians, Latinos, lesbians, and transgender people. The number of anti-gay, lesbian, and transgender crimes committed by gang members rose from 9 to 15.

The rate of violence in hate crimes committed by gang members was high, 69%, compared to 64% the previous year. The largest numbers of offenses were simple assaults (33%), followed by vandalism (28%), aggravated assaults (20%), and acts of intimidation (13%). Compared to the previous year this represented a sharp rise in simple assaults and a large drop in aggravated assaults.

## 2009-2013 Gang-Related Hate Crimes



Nearly half of gang-related hate crimes took place at the victims' residences, followed by public places (33%) and businesses (16%). Gang-related crimes at residences are particularly frightening for the victims, who sometimes move out of the area for their safety. This was the third year in a row that the largest number of gang-related hate crimes occurred at residences. Previously, a plurality of these crimes took place on sidewalks and other public places. Of the crimes that took place at residences there were 13 acts of vandalism, 7 aggravated assaults (all using deadly weapons), 5 criminal threats, 3 simple assaults (including throwing an object at a moving vehicle), 1 attempted burglary, and 1 robbery.

According to the CA Attorney General's 2010 report on organized crime, there are at least 1,250 known gangs in L.A. County. The gangs identified as being involved in reported hate crimes in 2013 include: 18th Street\*, All Out Bombers, The Avenues\*, Big Hazard, Bryant Street, Canoga Park Alabama\*, Columbus Street, Dog Patch, Dog Town\*, Du Roc Crips\*, Duarte Eastsiders, Eastside Torrance\*, El Monte Flores 13\*, Florencia 13\*, GX 13, Gardena 13\*, Grape Street Crips\*, La Mirada Locos\*, Lynwood Varrio Young Crowd, Mara Salvatrucha\*, Marianna Maravilla, Mexicans Control Todo, Mexican Mafia\*, Mona Park Compton Crips, Sur 13, SVUF 13, Tortilla Flats\*, Varrio Hawaiian Gardens 13\*, Varrio Norwalk.

The names of these gangs are taken from police reports. It should be noted that the spelling of gang names in police reports can vary and that graffiti described sometimes includes incomplete or different variations of gang names.

\*Members of these gangs are reported to have committed hate crimes in previous years.

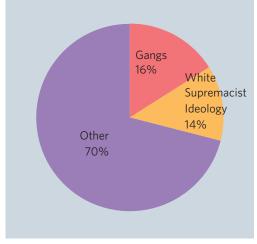
## **White Supremacist Crime**

This report has tracked hate crime in which there is evidence of white supremacist ideology since 2004. Usually, these are crimes in which swastikas or other hate symbols are used in graffiti. Occasionally, a suspect will yell a white supremacist slogan when committing a crime. In 2013, such crimes fell 33%, from 78 to 52. They declined from 17% to 14% of all hate crimes.

About half of these crimes were of a racial nature. Those based on religion dropped from 43 to 20 and constituted 38% of white supremacist crimes. Jews were targeted most frequently (33%), followed by blacks (31%), generic graffiti against non-white people such as "White Power" (15%), and a handful of cases targeting Latinos, Muslims, Asians, gay men, and Protestants.

The great majority of these crimes were vandalism (83%), but there were also a small number of simple assaults, acts of intimidation, and disorderly conduct. Therefore the rate of violence was very low (12%) compared with 3% the previous year.

# Hate Crimes Involving Gangs or White Supremacist Ideology



Residences were the most frequent location (31%), followed by schools (25%), businesses (17%), and public places (13%). This represented a large drop in the percentage committed at residences and small increases in most of the other location categories.

The Southern Poverty Law Center reported in 2013 that there are more than 2,400 extremist organizations nationwide and classified more than 1,000 of them as hate groups. The majority, but not all, of these expound white supremacist views. Very few of these organizations have a presence in Los Angeles County. It is likely that these white supremacist crimes are committed primarily by individuals who are acting on their own and may use the Internet to communicate with like-minded people. For example, there were cases in which vandals wrote "KKK" but there is no known Klan chapter in Los Angeles County.

#### **Crimes Related to Terrorism or Conflict in the Middle East**

Since the attacks on September 11, 2001, this report has examined hate crimes in which the perpetrators used language that blamed the victims for terrorism or ongoing conflict in the Middle East. During the period following 9/11 there were 188 reported anti-Muslim/Middle Eastern hate crimes committed in Los Angeles County. Since that time, crimes fitting this pattern have plummeted even though Muslims, South Asians and Middle Easterners still describe experiences of harassment, racial/religious profiling, and discrimination.

There was only 1 crime in 2013 in which there was any mention of terrorism, and it was completely unlike anything reported in the past 12 years. A man was dancing down the street while his friends sang Jewish songs. An SUV with 5 men inside pulled up beside him. One of the passengers who was Middle Eastern yelled, "Fucking Jews! Heil Hitler! Heil Hitler!" The suspect exited the vehicle and yelled, "That's why we did 9/11" and punched the victim, who was dancing, 2-3 times in the throat. The injured victim backed away and the suspect yelled, "What did you say about Muslims?" The victim replied that he'd said nothing. The suspect pulled a gun from his waistband, but his companions held him back and they departed in the SUV.

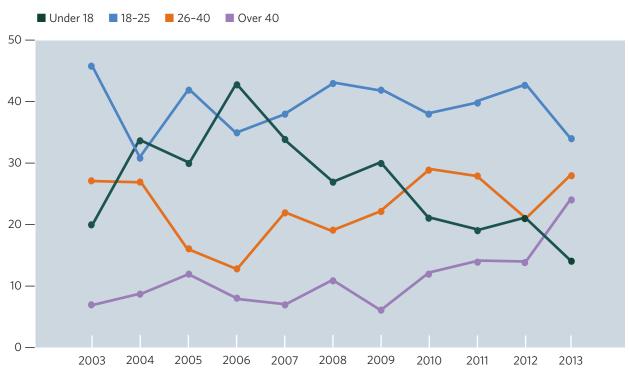
There were also 3 anti-Muslim crimes and 5 anti-Middle Eastern crimes. While no slurs, like "Taliban," or "You bombed the World Trade Center" were used, it is possible that the perpetrators possessed similar sentiments.

## **Suspects**

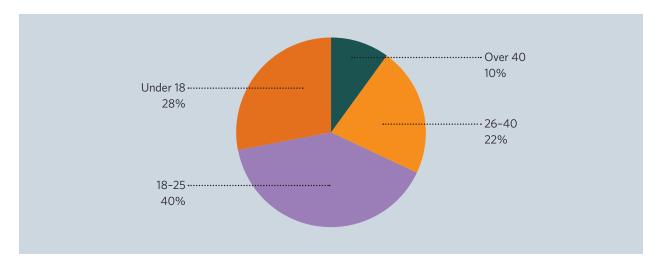
The number of suspects identified in 2013 dropped dramatically from 423 to 312. Consistent with previous years, hate crime suspects were overwhelmingly male (91%). As in the past, male and female suspects committed similar rates of violent hate crimes.

The largest group of suspects (35%) was young adults age 18 – 25. Over the past decade they have generally been the largest group of suspects, averaging 40%. In 2013, the second largest group of suspects was age 26-40. Their numbers have been trending upward over the past 8 years. Persons over 40 have historically been the smallest group of perpetrators, but increased in 2013 to 24% of the total. Juvenile suspects peaked in 2006 and have been trending downward dramatically. They constituted only 14% of suspects in 2013.

# 2003-2013 Hate Crimes: Known Suspects by Age



# Known Suspects by Age: Cumulative Average from 2003 to 2013



## **Hate Crimes Committed by Groups of Suspects**

or some time this report has tracked the number of hate crimes committed by multiple suspects. In 2013, in cases in which suspects were identified. 700/ of the in cases in which suspects were identified, 78% of the cases were committed by persons reportedly acting alone. In 14% of the cases there were 2 perpetrators, and in 4% of the crimes there were 3 perpetrators. In 3% of the cases, there were 4 to 7 perpetrators. These percentages were similar to the previous year. There also were 2 cases involving very large groups of suspects.

- A black man and his friend were leaving a bar when they were approached by 10 white men who said, "Fuck you niggers!" The victim and his friend ran to his car and got inside. The suspects surrounded the vehicle and pulled the victim out. They punched him in his face and body approximately 20 times.
- 15 Latino members of the Canoga Park Alabama gang approached 2 black youth on the street, yelling racial slurs and telling them to leave the neighborhood. The victims used a cell phone to call to other black youth for help. When they arrived, the gang members attacked all 4, punching and kicking them and hitting one of the victims in the head with a bottle.

# Preventing and Responding to Hate Violence

# **W**orking to transform prejudice into acceptance, inequity into justice, and hostility into peace

The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations (LACCHR) is dedicated to promoting better human relations in Los Angeles County, one of the most culturally diverse regions in the world. We envision a County where human relations will be at their best because fundamental human rights have been met for everyone and we will all have equal opportunity to realize our full potential; it will be the norm to value and draw upon cultural diversity to enrich all aspects of our lives; we will enjoy greater harmony in our intergroup and interpersonal relations and our County government will lead and model the highest level of respect for civil liberties, human rights, and the intrinsic dignity of every human being through its policy and budgetary priorities and practices.

LACCHR has a legacy that dates back more than 70 years to 1943, when the "Zoot Suit" riots posed a human relations crisis for the county. This hate incident, in which hundreds of white sailors attacked Latino youth for three days in the streets of Los Angeles, served as a wake-up call to county residents and officials. The county's Committee on Church and Community Cooperation (CCCC), made up solely of religious leaders, was called to address community concerns about race relations following this incident. After receiving national recognition for its effective work to improve intergroup relations, CCCC became an official agency of County government in 1958 and was renamed the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations.





Los Angeles County's Committee on Church and Community Cooperation (CCCC) was called to address community concerns after the 1943 "Zoot Suit" riots. The CCCC was renamed the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations in 1958.

Today the Commission brings together key players including County departments, other municipalities, community members, youth, schools, community-based organizations, academic institutions, law enforcement, business and other leaders to resolve intergroup conflicts and lead the way to eradicate bias, prejudice and hate. Over the years LACCHR has conducted many programs to reach its goals. Those from recent years include the Los Angeles County Annual Hate Crime Report; Network Against Hate Crime; Hate Violence Prevention Network; Dispute Resolution Program; No Haters Here! Youth Initiative; Women's Leadership Program; The Bricks and Respect 101 Tour; Human Relations Awards; Racialized Gang Violence Prevention Initiative and the Gang Reduction and Community Engagement (GRACE) Project in the Harbor Gateway. Currently, LACCHR organizes its current programs around these strategic program priorities:

**Youth Leadership:** In order to 'transform prejudice into acceptance,' we must prepare our young people with the knowledge, skills, abilities and values to lead their communities towards greater justice, equity, compassion, and non-violence in human relations.

Using a train-the-trainer model, we engage the staff of youth serving organizations to educate and involve their young people in human relations perspectives, principles, practices and action projects in Los Angeles County. The youth are also being trained in leadership skills to prepare training "graduates" to lead their peers in a human relations project.



County youth are being prepared to lead their peers in human relations projects.

This work builds on LACCHR's previous youth programs in six high schools throughout L.A. County. Materials from those earlier programs are included in the Human Relations Guidebook that contains the lesson plans for county youth programs. The training focuses on leadership as well as anti-racism, anti-sexism, positive intergroup relations, anti-homophobia, violence prevention, improved self-esteem, and developing healthy relationships to empower the county's youth to understand and overcome societally-imposed barriers based on biases and power imbalances.



**LACCHR** and community partners work together to break the cycle of incarceration that disproportionately impacts people of color.

**Fairness and Equity in L.A. County's Criminal Justice Systems:** In order to 'transform inequity into justice' we must address racial discrimination and other inequities in the county's criminal justice system to break the cycle of incarceration that disproportionately impacts people of color and may send them right back into gang membership and involvement in gang-involved hate violence.

**LACCHR's Countywide Regional Reentry Project** addresses inequities in Los Angeles County's criminal justice system. Currently residents returning from incarceration face many barriers to reintegration, are inadequately prepared for release, and have insufficient local/regional supports to aid their reentry transition. Reentry is a window of opportunity to target this high risk group when they are most receptive to alternatives. LACCHR has been working with its community partners, including LA Violence Prevention Coalition of Greater Los Angeles (VPC), Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches (LAM), L.A. County 211 and others, to develop a framework for community-based reintegration coalition networks. This strategy employs a regional approach to coordinated reentry service delivery to increase county and municipal agency collaboration with community-based and faith-based organizations.

To date, LACCHR, VPC, LAM, L.A. County 211, Flintridge Center, and other community project partners' joint efforts have resulted in the formation of six regional reentry councils/coalitions. Providing those returning from incarceration with real opportunities and support is a critical tool to decreasing hate crimes and incidents, and increasing public safety.

**Hate Crime Prevention, Documentation and Response:** In order to 'transform hostility into peace' our leaders and communities must understand hate crime and act to prevent and respond to it effectively. LACCHR employs several strategies to achieve that objective.

**LACCHR's Annual Hate Crime Report** is one of the longest-standing, nationally-recognized reports documenting hate crimes. LACCHR collects hate crime reports from more than 100 law enforcement agencies, educational institutions, community-based organizations, and other government agencies. Information is entered into our database and the analysis is disseminated to the public in this report. The report informs our strategic direction and planning for many of our programs and is the basis for the education and training we provide to law enforcement and other agencies throughout Los Angeles County. It is also used by other agencies to prevent, report, investigate, and prosecute hate crimes. In 2008 Harvard University Kennedy School of Government recognized this report as exemplary and a best practice, and promoted it to policing organizations and governmental human relations/rights commissions throughout the United States.

**Network Against Hate Crime (NAHC)** is a countywide coalition of representatives of law enforcement agencies, civil and human relations organizations, educational institutions, faith communities and social service groups that work to coordinate their efforts to combat intolerance and hate crime. NAHC meets quarterly for professional development, resource sharing and legislative updates.

**Hate Violence Prevention Network (HVPN)** member organizations have demonstrated the ability to culturally connect with and serve groups that have been targeted for hate crimes in L.A. County. HVPN provides a base for the participating CBOs to work together to improve their capacity to prevent and respond to acts of hate violence within each CBO's community of focus. In partnership, network members help one another sustain and grow their hate violence prevention and response efforts, as well as to market those efforts to funders, stakeholders and victims. It is LACCHR's goal that the HVPN participants will incorporate hate violence prevention and response efforts into their core missions and strategic priorities. Also, that the network will grow and result in significantly increased and improved hate violence prevention and response effort in Los Angeles County.

**Dispute Resolution Program (DRP)** is coordinated by LACCHR and made up of contracted agencies that train and supervise mediators to provide dispute resolution services at little or no cost to anyone who lives, works, or operates in the county. From July 2010 through June 2013, DRPA-funded contractors served more than 10,000 L.A. county residents, estimated to have saved over \$136 million in court costs. In FY 2014-2015, DRP providers will have assisted L.A. county residents to resolve at least 8,000 disputes before they can escalate into serious expressions of hate.

**LACCHR Crisis Response** to intergroup incidents in L.A. County is intended to prevent violence and minimize damage to communities resulting from major incidents of intergroup tension, violence or social unrest. LACCHR conducted police misconduct demonstration monitoring in response to demonstrator and law enforcement conflicts during protests against immigration legislation in 2007 and has monitored annual May Day marches to mitigate potential conflict since then.

**LACCHR'S Racialized Gang Violence Prevention (RGVP)** programs have developed models to reduce interethnic tensions, address root causes of community violence, and support gang violence reduction in L.A. County. LACCHR has reported and responded to gang-related hate violence since the 1990's. In 2007 the Commission began using a multi-strategy public health approach in 3 placed-based partnerships: Pasadena-Altadena Vision 20/20, Harbor Gateway GRACE (Gang Reduction and Community Engagement) and Monrovia-Duarte CMT (Community Mediation Team). Team members also provide technical support to the County Chief Executive Office's Regional Gang Violence Reduction Initiative and the County's Parks After Dark program.

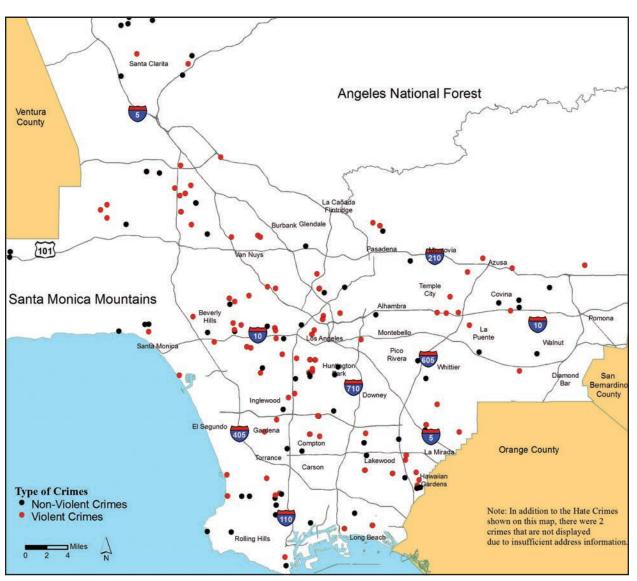


LACCHR uses a multi-strategy public health approach in place-based partnerships to reduce racialized violence.

LACCHR is committed to harnessing the strengths of the County's culturally diverse communities by continuing to strategically engage schools, community-based organizations, law enforcement, faith communities, local governments, youth and major institutions in its initiatives. The Commission provides expertise in building collaborations and networks, promoting programs and strategies to enhance positive intergroup relations, and teaching non-violent conflict resolution. By doing so, LACCHR strengthens the county's ability to eradicate hate and hate violence and to improve human relations within L.A. County.

# A Closer Look at Racial Hate Crimes

# 2013 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes Motivated by Race/Ethnicity/National Origin



Map by Juan Carlos Martinez

rimes based on the victim's real or perceived race, ethnicity, or national origin (referred to in this report as "racial crimes" for brevity) declined 9% from 234 to 214 in 2013. They constituted 56% of all hate crimes.

## **Race/Ethnicity of Victims and Suspects**

64% of racial hate crimes targeted African Americans, similar to the previous year. They declined from 156 to 140. Blacks constitute less than 9% of the total population of Los Angeles but consistently experience shockingly high rates of victimization. As mentioned in the section 2013 Hate Crimes in Perspective a large number of these crimes are committed by gang members.

Latinos were targeted in 18% of racial hate crimes, a percentage identical to 2012. They decreased slightly from 42 to 40. Because Latinos comprise nearly half of the county's population, this is a surprisingly low number of hate crimes. Anti-Latino crimes have been trending downward since 2008. See chart on page 11.

The relatively small number of anti-Latino attacks is perplexing, especially since the national debate on immigration policy has polarized Americans and inflamed anti-immigrant sentiment for several years. Examples of this include the formation of vigilante paramilitary groups, virulently xenophobic legislation in states such as Arizona and Alabama, and record numbers of deportations. One might expect the number of reported anti-Latino crimes to be on the rise.

## **Anti-Immigrant Slurs**

In 2013 there were 11 cases involving 15 victims (the exact same number as the previous year) in which the suspects used anti-immigrant slurs, such as "Wetback!" and "Go back to Mexico!" Latinos were targeted in 13 of these crimes and specifically anti-Mexican slurs were used in 8 of them. There was also a case in which a Filipino male nurse found a note on his car with a death threat and anti-immigrant insults. 2 of his tires had been slashed. A Korean teenager was followed by 4 white youth in a park. They taunted him with anti-Chinese remarks before assaulting and robbing him.

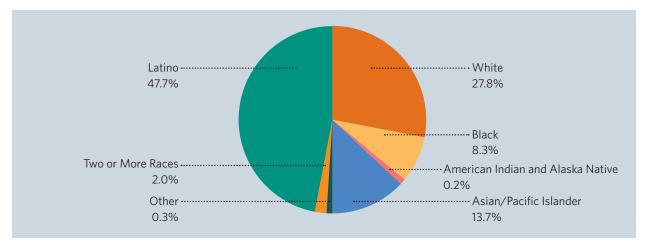
The great majority of crimes in which anti-immigrant slurs were used were committed by black suspects. There were 2 unusual cases in which Latino victims were attacked by Latino neighbors who called them, "wetbacks!" 1 victim was attacked by a group of white suspects.

80% of anti-immigrant crimes were of a violent nature. There were 7 aggravated assaults, followed by 3 simple assaults, and 1 case each of robbery, disorderly conduct, intimidation, vandalism and burglary.

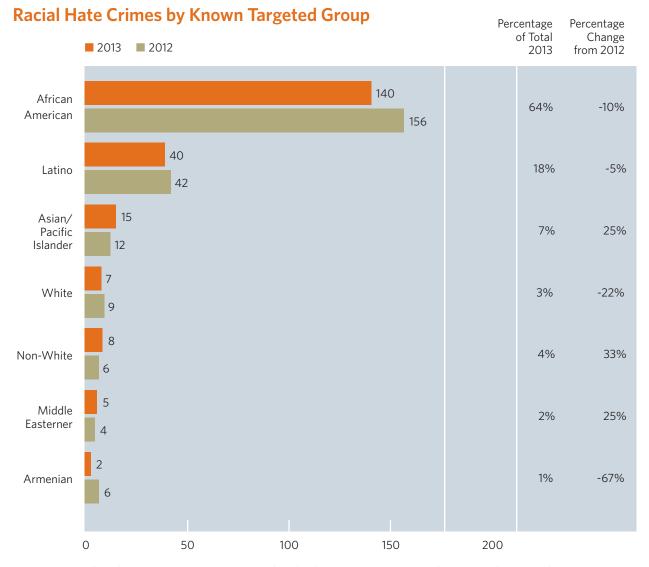
5 of the victims were attacked at their residences by neighbors. 4 of the victims were targeted at their jobs, presumably by suspects who knew them. 6 of the victims were attacked by complete strangers on public transportation, while shopping or walking in public.

It should be noted that there were probably other hate crimes fueled by xenophobia, but specific antiimmigrant slurs were not reported and so they were not counted in this category.

# Los Angeles County Population by Race/Ethnicity



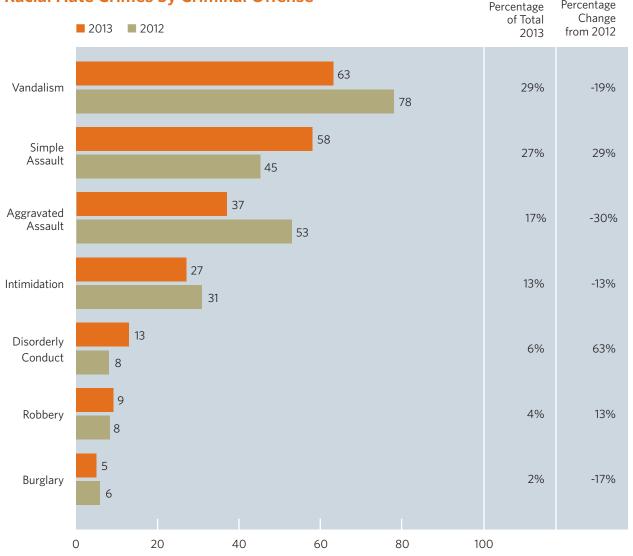
Source: 2010 U.S. Census. Persons who identify as Latino on the U.S. Census can be of any race. Except for "Latino" all other groups on this chart refer to persons who do not identify as Latino.



This chart aggregates major racial and ethnic groups. In 2013, there was also a single crime targeting Canadians.

Percentage

# **Racial Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense**



In 2013, there was a single case of arson, and one case of theft.

There were also hate crimes targeting Asians (7%), incidents of white supremacist graffiti without a specific target (4%), and cases targeting whites (3%,) Middle Easterners (2%), and Armenians (1%).

- Blacks were targeted most frequently by Latinos (62%) and whites (35%)
- Latinos were targeted by blacks (71%) and by equal numbers of whites and other Latinos (14% each). There were a few cases in which U.S.-born Latinos attacked immigrant Latinos, using slurs like "wetback." There were also a couple of bizarre instances in which Latinos joined suspects of a different race in group attacks against Latinos.
- Asians were targeted by equal numbers of whites, blacks and Latinos.
- Suspects were identified in only 5 anti-white crimes. 3 were black and 2 were Latino.
- The suspects in the 4 anti-Middle Eastern crimes were all white.
- No suspects were identified in the 2 anti-Armenian crimes.

#### **Criminal Offenses and Rates of Violence**

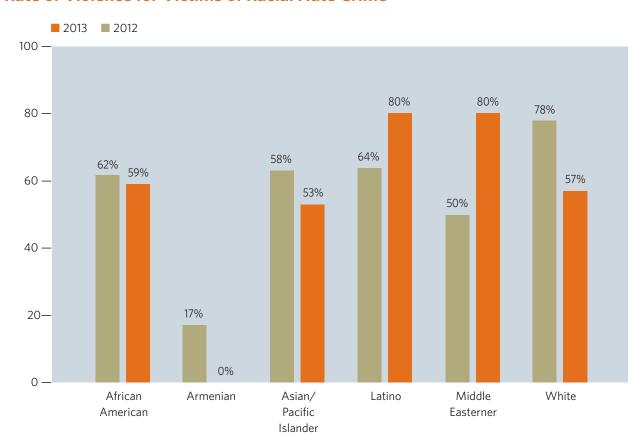
61% of racial hate crimes were of a violent nature, similar to the previous year. The largest numbers of racial hate crimes were acts of vandalism (29%), followed by simple assaults (27%), aggravated assaults (17%) and intimidation (13%). The biggest changes were a 29% increase in simple assaults and a 30% drop in aggravated assaults.

Crimes targeting Latinos and people of Middle Eastern descent were most likely to be violent (80%). The rate of violence against blacks was 59%, followed by whites (57%) and Asians (53%). The 2 anti-Armenian crimes were non-violent acts of vandalism. The rates of violence experienced by Latinos and Middle Easterners rose, while the rate of violence against whites fell.

#### Location

The largest number of racial crimes took place in residences (34%), followed by public places (33%), businesses (16%), and schools (13%). This represented a slight decrease in racial hate crimes in public places and a small increase in those that occurred in businesses.

#### Rate of Violence for Victims of Racial Hate Crime

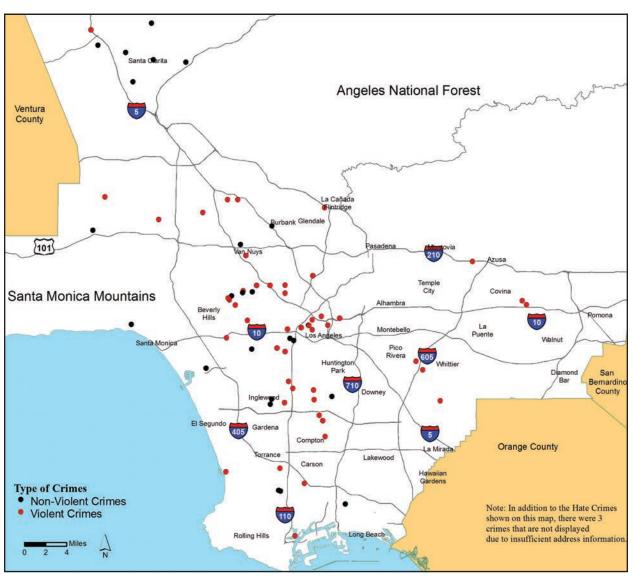


#### **Actual Racial Hate Crimes**

- March 24, South Los Angeles—A Latina woman and her children (ages 3 and 11) had a yard sale. They were confronted by a black woman who said, "I am going to get you. I am tired of you guys. You fucking Mexicans, you need to go back to Mexico. Get off the block." The suspect began picking up items off tables and throwing them. She then picked up a metal rake and chased the victims. Once detained by police, the suspect said, "Die motherfuckers. I am going to kick your ass when I get out. I'm going to have the block blown up. I'm going to kill all these motherfuckers."
- **February 28, Long Beach**—At a Laundromat, a black woman and her son were confronted by a white man who called them "niggers" and a white woman who spat in the mother's face. The white man threw a plastic "wet floor sign" at the victims and struck the son. While the victims waited outside for the police to arrive, the suspects threw French fries at them and yelled more anti-black slurs.
- **February 25, Long Beach**—At a middle school gymnasium locker room, three 7<sup>th</sup> graders, two black and one Latino, attacked two Asian and two Latino students. One by one they punched and kicked the victims and dragged them into a storage closet and locked the door. The suspects chose their victims based on their race, specifically stating, "Let's get some Asians and Mexicans."
- March 11, Duarte—A young black man was walking on the street when he heard someone yell out, "N.K. This is SUR 13!" The victim noticed a black SUV following him and continued walking. One Latino suspect exited the SUV and followed the victim on foot and said, "Where are you going? Don't be scared." Then the suspect kicked the victim and the victim asked, "Why are you doing this?" The suspect continued to kick the victim saying, "Don't be scared, nigger." Two other Latino suspects exited the vehicle and joined in beating the victim yelling, "Duarte Eastsiders!" and Fuck Dirty Roc!" The victim lost consciousness and the suspects robbed him.
- **April 24, Montecito Heights**—A black woman walking on the street was approached by a car with four Latino male passengers. A suspect pointed a gun at her and told her to watch her back and leave the neighborhood. They also stated the area is a Latino neighborhood where Blacks are not welcome and threatened to "blow her head off" if they saw her again.
- May 27, North Hills—Two Latina women outside of a youth group home yelled at two black residents, "Fuck you, nigger! Come on, let's fight! This is Columbus Street!" One of the suspects tried to open the gate and then began to climb it. When she got to the top, she spat at them. Frightened, the residents and a staff member retreated inside the building. By the time victims reached their room, the suspects had hopped the fence and started banging on the victims' window yelling, "That's her! That's her sister!", "Where is that mayata (nigger)? I am going to kill all of you, all of you black bitches."
- **July 31, Skid Row**—A white man walking down the street was approached by a Black man who said, "Get the fuck out of here, cracker! You don't belong here!" He then punched the victim and broke his jaw.
- July 11, Los Angeles—On a Metro train a passenger offered an elderly Latino couple a seat. A black woman said, "Fuck them Mexicans. I want the seat." The victims asked her in Spanish to calm down. The suspect asked, "What the fuck you say to me?" She then raised a bat in the air and yelled, "I'll fuck you up, get up, I'll fuck you up with this!" The suspect then turned to two Latinas sitting nearby and said, "What the fuck are you looking at? Fuck you Mexicans! Fucking beaners! Bitch, I'll fuck you up!" The suspect prepared to strike the victims and yelled, "Beaners! Immigrants!" All four passengers exited the train to avoid being hit. The suspect said, "Goodbye you fucking Mexicans!"

# A Closer Look at Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes

# 2013 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes Motivated by Sexual Orientation

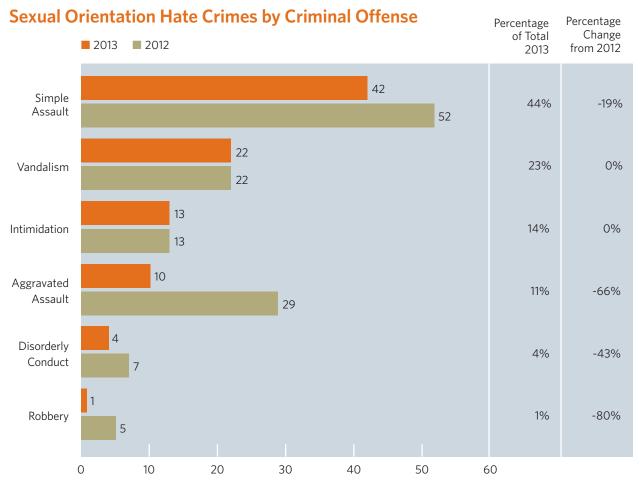


Map by Juan Carlos Martinez

s in previous years, sexual orientation-motivated crimes were the second largest motivation category in 2013 and constituted 25% of all hate crimes. They declined 27% from 131 to 95. There was a dramatic 41% decline in the number of crimes targeting gay men, from 119 to 70. Anti-gay male crimes constituted only 74% of all sexual orientation crimes in 2013 compared to 91% the previous year. Conversely, anti-lesbian crimes rose from 11 to 25. The 25 anti-lesbian crimes were the second highest number during the past 10 years. Furthermore, they constituted 26% of all homophobic crimes, the largest percentage ever.

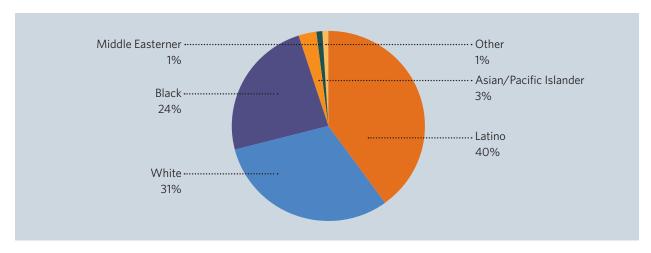
#### **Criminal Offenses and Rate of Violence**

Crimes motivated by sexual orientation have historically had a higher rate of violence than crimes based on race or religion. While this was again true in 2013, the rate of violence fell from 78% to 71%. The most common criminal offense was simple assault (44%), followed by vandalism (23%), intimidation (14%) and aggravated assault (11%). The most significant change was that aggravated assaults declined 66%, from 29 to 10, after rising 45% the previous year.



In 2013, there was a single case of sexual assault, a case of theft, and a case of burglary.

## **Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Victim Race/Ethnicity**



## **Demographics of Victims and Suspects**

Latinos remained the largest group of victims (40%) but they declined 42% from 59 to 34. White victims also decreased 38% from 42 to 26 and constituted 31% of sexual orientation crime victims. African American victims however increased 43% from 14 to 20 and comprised 24% of the total.

As in the past, sexual orientation crime victims were most likely to be targeted by someone of the same race. In crimes where suspects were identified, Latino victims were targeted by other Latinos in 73% of the cases, followed by blacks (17%) and whites (10%). Blacks targeted other blacks 69% of the time, followed by Latinos (19%) and whites (13%). White victims of sexual orientation crimes were targeted most frequently by whites (50%) followed by Latinos (31%) and blacks (19%).

Male suspects decreased from 145 to 80 or from 91% to 87% of all identified suspects. Female suspects declined from 15 to 12. Their proportion of identified suspects grew from 9% to 13%.

#### Location

86% of sexual orientation hate crimes took place in the City of Los Angeles, followed by the City of West Hollywood (11%). Homophobic crimes in West Hollywood fell sharply from 17 to 6. There was no other geographic location with a concentration of sexual orientation crimes.

The largest number of sexual orientation crimes took place at residences (35%), followed by public places (32%), businesses (15%), and schools (7%). This represented large declines in crimes taking place in public places, businesses and schools. There were 5 homophobic crimes that took place in jails. 4 of those were group attacks on gay men by groups of fellow inmates. In the 5th case, a female prison guard received a death threat from an inmate.

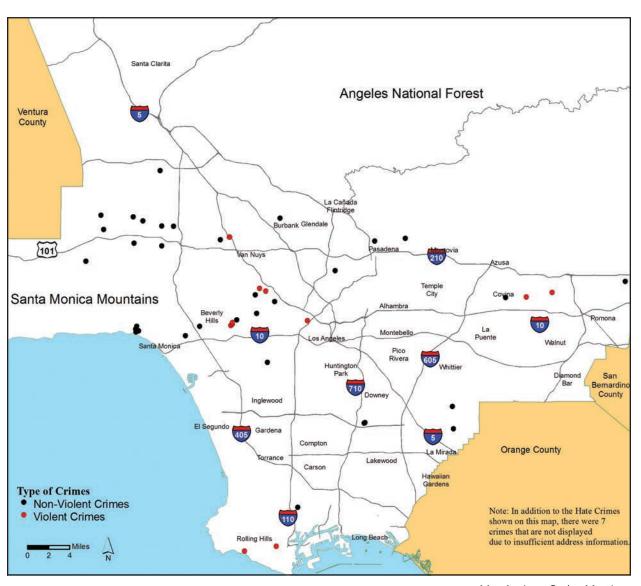
It should be noted that anti-transgender crimes are discussed in A Closer Look at Gender Crimes.

#### **Actual Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes**

- March 11, West Hollywood—A Jewish woman received over 9,000 unsolicited emails. The threatening tone of the emails escalated and began referring to her as a "Jew Dyke." Also, several fake profiles were set-up using her personal information. The victim's IMDB profile was hacked and changed to say that she had undergone semi-successful transgender surgery.
- March 3, South Whittier—A Latina lesbian walking down the street in South Whittier was approached by two Latino men. They pushed her to her knees and began punching her. The woman fell to the ground and covered her face with her hands to protect herself. They kicked, punched and yelled "fucking lesbian." One of the suspects stole her jewelry, wallet, and cellphone.
- **April 4, Valencia**—A white man's car was broken into, burglarized and vandalized. The word "Fag" was scratched into the rear door.
- **April 19, Downtown, Los Angeles**—While riding home on the Metro Red Line train, a Latino man was attacked by 1 Latino and 6 black men. One of the suspects said, "Fuck you faggot! We hate faggots!" All seven suspects kicked, punched and robbed the victim.
- **June 30, Hollywood**—An elderly black man and a younger white companion were walking when they were confronted by a 2 young men, 1 white and 1 black. The white suspect punched the white victim and yelled, "You fags get out of Hollywood!" When the older victim tried to intervene the second suspect hit him in the face with his skateboard.
- March 18, Torrance A gay black man was walking while talking on his cell phone. 5 Latino men surrounded him. 1 suspect asked, "Where are you from?" The victim replied he was not affiliated with a gang. The suspect responded, "We don't want fags or blacks in our neighborhood." A suspect grabbed the victim's cell phone and all the suspects fled.

# A Closer Look at Religious Hate Crimes

# 2013 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes Motivated by Religion



Map by Juan Carlos Martinez

rimes motivated by religious-bias decreased 37% from 90 to 57 in 2013. They represented 15% of all hate crimes compared to 20% the previous year. As in previous years, the great majority of these cases were anti-Semitic. However, crimes targeting Jews fell by nearly half from 81 to 42. Anti-Jewish cases shrank from 89% to only 74% of all religious crimes. This was by far the lowest number of anti-Semitic crimes in more than 10 years. Anti-Jewish crimes were followed by those targeting Protestants (14%), Muslims (5%), and Catholics (4%).

#### **Criminal Offenses and Rate of Violence**

Vandalism was the most common criminal offense (60%), followed by intimidation (16%), simple assault (12%), and disorderly conduct (11%). The category of disorderly conduct includes the display of swastikas on private property that are easily removable and don't rise to the level of vandalism. The rate of violence in religious crimes actually increased from 14% to 30% but this uptick is deceptive. The increase in the rate of violence in religious crime was due to a huge drop in crimes against property, not an escalation of attacks against people. If one looks closer at the largest group, anti-Jewish crimes, the actual number of violent crimes only rose from 10 to 12. The number of non-violent anti-Jewish crimes plunged 58% from 71 to only 30.

As in previous years, vandalism of Protestant and other Christian houses of worship was often accompanied by pentagrams and other Satanic symbols. It is impossible to know from available information whether the suspects in these cases were actually Satanists or merely malicious pranksters.

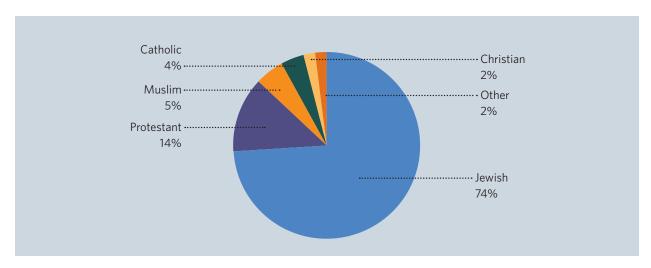
The percentage of religious crimes in which there was evidence of white supremacist ideology declined from 48% to 35%.

#### Location

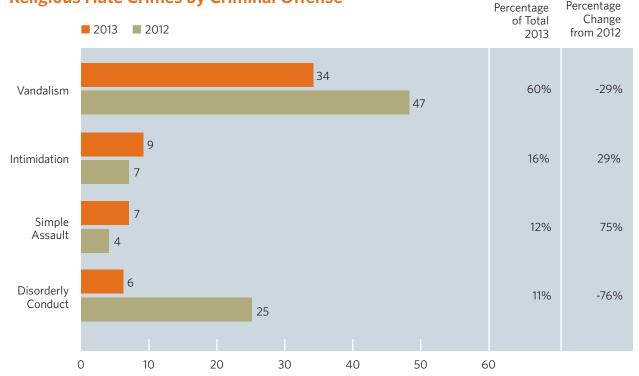
The largest number of these crimes took place at religious sites (30%) a much higher percentage than the previous year (14%). Usually, the largest numbers of religious crimes take place at the victims' residences, but these cases declined 60% in 2013 and constituted only 25% of the total. Other locations included public places (18%), businesses (14%) and schools (5%).

63% of religious crimes took place in the City of Los Angeles. There were no other clusters of religious crimes in any other city or unincorporated area of the county.

## **Religious Hate Crimes by Targeted Group**



### **Religious Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense**



In 2012, there were also 2 cases of aggravated assault and a single case of arson.

## **Race/Ethnicity of Victims and Suspects**

Many religious crimes, such as the vandalisms of houses of worship, had no specific victim. However, in those cases where an individual was targeted, such as vandalism of a person's home or car, the victims were overwhelmingly white. In the handful of cases in which a suspect was identified, the great majority was also white.

## **Actual Religious Crimes**

**March 2, Echo Park** —On a public bus a young black man asked an older black man who had a beard and was dressed in Middle Eastern clothing what was his religion. The victim replied, "Guess." The suspect said "I am going to put you on YouTube," and punched the victim in the back of his head.

**April 29, Hollywood**—While walking on the street, a black man spat on a Hasidic Jewish man. The victim followed the suspect and called 911. The suspect grabbed the victim's coffee, threw it on him and then pushed him to the ground. He then proceeded to punch, slap, and kick him. The victim asked why the suspect was attacking him and he replied, "You are a fucking Jew. You know why I am doing this to you."

**November 23, Pacific Palisades** —A white woman found a swastika and the words "de fuhr" painted on her car.

**July 15, Miracle Mile**—At an apartment complex a Jewish white woman and her dog were in the building's alley to dispose of trash. A white female transient was there with a pit bull between her legs. She said, "I'm going to get you, you fucking Jew! I'm going to get you and your dog."

**July 17, Valley Village**—Unknown suspects drew swastikas on the front door and lawn sign of a Jewish temple. It was the second time in a month that the temple had been vandalized.

**January 9, South Los Angeles**—A Baptist church had "666" painted on the exterior wall and a swastika drawn on the sidewalk with arrows pointing to the building.

## A Closer Look at Gender Hate Crimes

There were 21 crimes based on the victim's gender or gender identity in 2013 compared to 13 the previous year. Attacks on transgender women rose from 13 to 18. There was 1 attack on a transgender man. There were 2 anti-female crimes.

### **Anti-Transgender Crimes**

All of the anti-transgender crimes were of a violent nature. Of the anti-transgender crimes, 7 were simple assaults, 7 were aggravated assaults, 3 were acts of intimidation, and 2 were robberies. These totals are similar to the previous year.

The victims in these crimes were racially diverse: 9 were black, 8 were Latino, and 2 were white.

In most sexual orientation crimes reported in Los Angeles County victims are targeted by members of their own race. That was not the case for anti-transgender crimes in 2013. 2/3 of the black victims were attacked by Latinos. Most of the Latino victims were attacked by blacks or whites. Of the 2 white victims, 1 was targeted by a Latino and the other by a black suspect.

13 of the anti-transgender crimes occurred in public places, followed by 3 in businesses, 2 in residences, and 1 in a community-based organization. This represented a significant increase in the number of crimes in public places.

#### **Anti-Female Crimes**

There were also 2 multiple-motivation cases in which anti-female slurs were used. At her home, a black woman found the words "fuck nigger," "bitch," and "cunt," spray painted on her van. In a second case an inebriated inmate at a police station called a female officer, "Spic," "dyke," "beaner," and "cunt." The suspect specifically expressed hatred for the victim because she was a female and Latina and told her that he was going to kill her with a firearm and/or break her neck.

#### **Actual Gender Hate Crimes**

October 29, Los Angeles—A white transgender man using an e-cigarette on the Metro Green Line train was confronted by a Black man who said, "You fucking faggot! Don't you ever blow smoke on me! You faggot, I'm going to get you on Grape St!" The two men exited the train and the suspect threw a water bottle at the victim, saying, "I am going to get you on Grape Street!"

**April 20, East Hollywood**—A black transgender woman walking home was confronted by a Latino man who said, "You are on my street. Don't walk on my street. Fuck you, you fucking fag!" The suspect began to punch the victim causing her to fall to the ground. The suspect continued to punch the victim. A car pulled over and 2 men intervened and detained the suspect until police arrived.

March 24, Los Angeles—While walking home a transgender Latina was approached by two Latino men who asked, "Where are you going, faggot?" The men continued yelling anti-transgender slurs until the victim asked them to stop. One of the suspects threw a glass bottle so hard that it shattered upon impact, leaving deep lacerations and puncture wounds on her face.

**July 17, Los Angeles**—A black transgender woman was approached by a group of 6 black men. One man attempted to flirt with the victim and then said, "Wait, do I see an Adam's Apple? Are you a man?" The victim replied, "Is that how you talk to people?" The suspect replied, "You better get off the set!" and punched the victim in the face. Another suspect picked up a wooden ladder to strike her but the victim escaped into a vacant building.

**December 9, Hollywood**—A transgender Latina leaving work at the LA Gay & Lesbian Center was approached by 8 black men in the parking lot. The men shouted to get her attention and one asked, "Are you a boy or a girl? Can I have your phone number?" The suspect continued to ask the victim if she was a man or woman then grabbed the victim by the waist and began touching her hips and breasts. She told him to stop and he continued assaulting her as another suspect approached and attempted to punch her in the face. He said, "She's a boy," and attempted to punch her two more times.

## Hate Crime Prosecutions

The District Attorney's Office handles the great majority of hate crime prosecutions in Los Angeles County. In 2013, 83 hate crimes were referred to the **Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**. The District Attorney filed charges in 65 of those cases. 45 adults were charged with felony hate crimes and 5 were charged with misdemeanors. 20 juveniles were also charged.

Of the adults, 27 were charged with felonies that were motivated by race (including ethnicity and national origin), and 12 were based on sexual orientation. There was an additional case in which the motivation was unknown and not listed in the police report. 4 adults were charged with misdemeanors based on race and 1 based on sexual orientation. There was no information about the juveniles charged with hate crime because those records are confidential.

17 hate crime investigations were referred to the **Los Angeles City Attorney**, all involving adults. 6 of these cases were motivated by race, 6 were based on sexual orientation, and 5 were religious crimes. Hate crime charges were filed in 6 of those cases. 3 of these were motivated by racial bias, 2 were sexual orientation cases and 1 was a religious crime.

The **U.S. Attorney's Office** is responsible for prosecuting federal offenses. There was a highly publicized crime that occurred on December 31, 2012. 2 Latino members of Compton Varrio 155 gang repeatedly harassed and threatened an African American family that had moved into the neighborhood. The U.S. Attorney filed hate crime and other charges against them in February 2013 and the two defendants pleaded guilty.

## Review of 2013 Hate Crime Legislation

### **Federal Legislation**

#### H.R.90 (Jackson Lee)

David Ray Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2013 would amend the federal criminal code to impose penalties for willful bodily injury or attempt to injure based on actual or perceived race, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability where the offense is in or affects interstate or foreign commerce. It would also direct the US Sentencing Commission to study adults' recruitment of juveniles to commit hate crimes. It would also require the Department of Justice to make grants to state and local programs designed to combat hate crimes by juveniles. This bill was last referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations in January 2013.

#### **H.R. 1136 (Johnson)**

The Violence Against the Homeless Accountability Act would amend the Hate Crime Statistics Act to include crimes against the homeless. This bill was last referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations in April 2013.

#### H.Res.328 (Crowley)

This resolution condemns the discrimination, hate crimes, racism, bigotry, bullying, and brutal violence perpetuated against Sikh-Americans and vandalism against Sikh Gurdwaras in the US and commemorates the Wisconsin Sikh Gurdwara tragedy in 2012. This resolution was last referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice in September 2013.

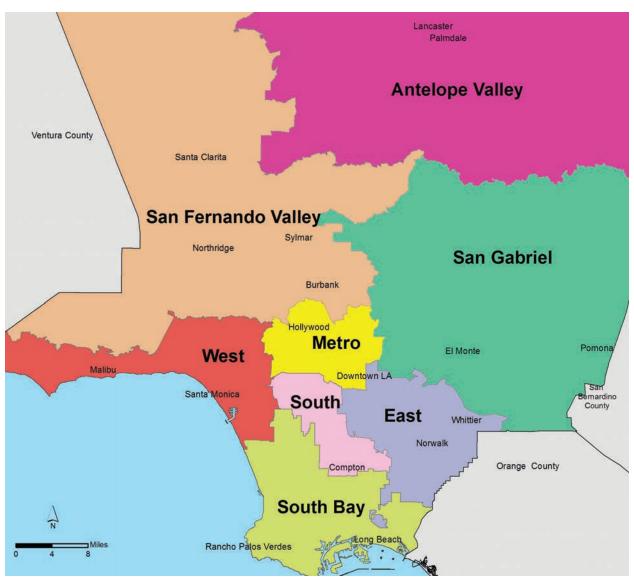
## Methodology

The 2013 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 enforcement 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 534 reports of hate events (both crimes and incidents) received for 2013, 332 events involving 385 victims met the legal criteria for hate crimes and are included in this report. Unless otherwise noted, all numbers in the report refer to victims, rather than cases.

### **Understanding the Numbers**

- 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 1 group. Therefore the total number of cases by
  motivation or by targeted group actually exceeds the 385 hate crimes for 2013. 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 and targeted group. In these cases the motivation and
  targeted group are deemed "unknown."
- 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 may be ongoing. We review it and include it before any 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 2012 may have changed since last year's report due to an ongoing process of updates and corrections.

# Los Angeles County Service Planning Areas



Map by Juan Carlos Martinez

### Appendix A:

# Hate Crimes by Service Planning Area (SPA)

Name	Partial Listing of Cities and Areas	*2010 Population	2013 Hate Crimes	2013 Hate Crimes per 100,000 residents
Region I: Antelope Valley SPA	All of the Antelope Valley, including Acton, Gorman, Lancaster, Palmdale, Quartz Hill, Littlerock, Lake Los Angeles	373,098	23	6.2
Region II: San Fernando Valley SPA	All of San Fernando Valley, including Burbank, Glendale, Newhall, Northridge, San Fernando, Santa Clarita, Val Verde, Westlake Village, East & West Valley areas	2,215,358	79	3.6
Region III: San Gabriel Valley SPA	All of San Gabriel Valley, including Alhambra, Altadena, Irwindale, La Puente, Pasadena, Pomona, El Monte, Azusa, San Dimas	1,888,771	34	1.8
Region IV: Metro SPA	Atwater, Boyle Heights, Downtown, Eagle Rock, Echo Park, Glassell Park, Hancock Park, Koreatown, Hollywood, Park La Brea, West Hollywood, Silverlake	1,258,210	70	5.6
Region V: West SPA	Beverly Hills, Culver City, Malibu, Marina del Rey, Pacific Palisades, Playa del Rey, Santa Monica, Venice, Westchester	659,937	26	3.9
Region VI: South SPA	Compton, Florence, Lynwood, South Los Angeles, Watts	1,069,244	60	2.4
Region VII: East SPA	Vernon, Maywood, Huntington Park, Bellflower, South Gate, Lakewood, Hawaiian Gardens, Signal Hill, Montebello, Pico Rivera, Cerritos, La Mirada, Whittier, La Habra	1,377,438	38	2.8
Region VIII: South Bay SPA	Inglewood, Torrance, Long Beach, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, San Pedro	1,620,848	41	2.6

There are 12 additional hate crimes that were not included because of insufficient address information.

\*2010 population estimates were provided by the Los Angeles Public County Department of Public Health and the Urban Research Division of Los Angeles County Internal Services Department. Service Planning Areas (SPAs) represent eight geographic regions of Los Angeles County. SPAs are widely used for social service and health care planning purposes and are linked through SPA Councils to community-based organizations, neighborhoods groups, cities, schools, and county and city government agencies.

### Appendix B:

## 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** California Highway Patrol 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 Gabriel Police Department San Marino Police Department Santa Monica Police Department Sierra Madre Police Department Signal Hill 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 Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District Arcadia Unified School District Baldwin Park Unified School District Beverly Hills Unified School District Castaic Union School District Cerritos College Charter Oak Unified School District Claremont Unified School District Culver City Unified School District **Duarte Unified School District** El Camino College El Monte Union High School District El Segundo Unified School District Glendale Community College District Hacienda La Puente Unified School District Hermosa Beach City School District La Canada Unified School District Lancaster School District Las Virgenes Unified School District Lennox School District Long Beach Community College District Los Angeles Unified School District Lowell Joint School District Monrovia Unified School District Montebello Unified School Districts Mountain View School District Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District Paramount Unified School District Rio Hondo College San Gabriel Unified School District Saugus Union School District South Pasadena Unified School District South Whittier School District Temple City Unified School District

#### **COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS**

Walnut Valley Unified School District

West Covina Unified School District

Valle Lindo School District

Whittier City School District

Anti-Defamation League
Los Angeles LGBT Center (formerly 'LA Gay
and Lesbian Center')

## Acknowledgements

This report was developed by the Human Relations Commission.

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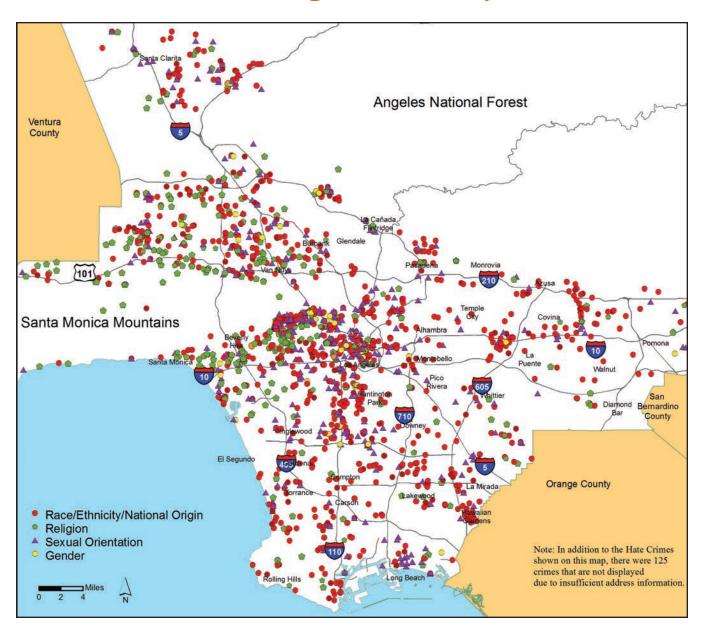
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**Cover concept and graphic design** San Luis Design

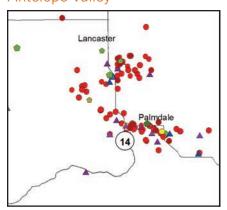
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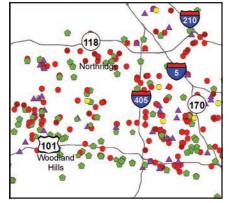
# 2009–2013 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes



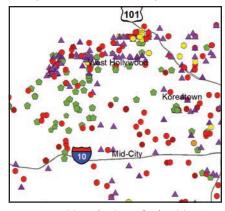
Antelope Valley



San Fernando Valley



Hollywood/West Hollywood



Maps by Juan Carlos Martinez







# 2013 Hate Crime Report

Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

www.LAHumanRelations.org