

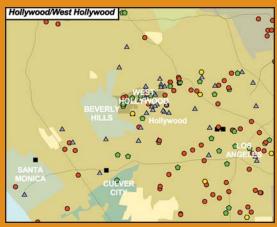
HATE CRIME REPORT

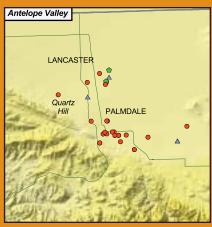
Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

2005 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes









2005 HATE CRIME REPORT



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Since 1980, the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations (Commission or LACCHR) has compiled, analyzed and issued reports of hate crime data submitted by law enforcement agencies, school districts, fair housing councils, ethnic and religious organizations, and other concerned groups. The Commission appreciates the cooperation of organizations and agencies listed in Appendix A that provided data for this report. This report represents one of the longest-standing efforts in the nation to document hate crime activity.

Using this information, the Commission sponsors a number of ongoing programs related to combating hate crime: the Network Against Hate Crime, the Human Relations Mutual Assistance Consortium, the Hate Crime Victim Assistance and Advocacy Initiative, the Corporate Advisory Committee, the School Intergroup Conflict Initiative, and the schools and youth anti-discrimination program, "Zerohour: The Time to Act is Now!"

The report is disseminated broadly to policy-makers, law enforcement agencies, educators, and community groups throughout Los Angeles County in order to better inform efforts to prevent, detect, report, investigate, and prosecute hate crimes.

WHAT IS A HATE CRIME?

The Commission classifies as hate crimes those cases in which the facts indicate that bias, hatred, or prejudice based on the victim's real or perceived race, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender, or sexual orientation is a substantial factor in the commission of the offense. This definition is based on the California criminal laws (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 be documented before, during, or after the commission of the offense.

When the evidence of bias is based on speech alone, the speaker/writer must have 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 targets specific people who are members of classes 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 is generally considered a hate crime in the absence of evidence of other motives.

SUMMARY OF HATE CRIME REPORT 2005

Total Cases There were 633 hate crimes reported in L.A. County in 2005, a 26% increase over the previous year's total of 502. However, this figure is still lower than the number of crimes reported annually during the preceding 13 years, from 1991 to 2003.

Criminal Offenses There were no bias-related murders reported, and the cases of attempted murders declined from 8 to 6. The attempted murders included two separate shooting incidents targeting African Americans by groups of members from a particular gang and a case in which an Armenian motorist struck a Latino high school student with his vehicle.

Fifty-eight percent of the hate crimes reported were of a violent nature, the same level as the previous year. Once again, hate crimes based on gender were the most likely to be violent (73%), followed by crimes based on sexual orientation (65%), race (61%), those related to terrorism and unrest in the Middle East (41%), and religion (37%).

The most common hate crimes were assaults and battery (26%), vandalism (25%), assaults with deadly weapons (18%), and criminal threats (9%). Similar to past years, these offenses constituted 78% of all hate crimes.

Location The most significant change was in the number of school-based crimes, which increased 111% from 37 to 78. As in past years, the largest number of hate crimes occurred in public places (35%), followed by residences (29%), places of business (16%) and schools (13%). Ninety-three percent of hate crimes occurred in these four locations.

Racial Hate Crimes The overall increase in hate crimes in 2005 was primarily due to a sharp spike in racial hate crimes, which grew from 285 to 415, a 46% jump. Racially motivated crimes represented 66% of all hate crimes, compared to 57% the previous year. African Americans were targeted in 55% of these crimes, followed by Latinos (30%), whites (7%), Asian and Pacific Islanders (5%), and Middle Easterners (1%). Anti-Latino crimes jumped from 62 to 123, a 98% jump. Anti-white crimes rose from 19 to 30, a 58% rise. Anti-black crimes increased from 156 to 230, a 47% increase. Anti-Asian and Pacific Islander crimes decreased from 29 to 20, a 31% decline, and anti-Middle Easterner crimes dropped from 11 to 5, a 55% decrease.

Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes Homophobic crimes declined 27%, from 130 to 95. They comprised 15% of all hate crimes, compared to 26% the previous year. Similar to past years, gay men were targeted in most of the crimes (86%), lesbians in 12%, and non-specific targets (such as a gay/lesbian organization) in 2% of these crimes.

Religious Hate Crimes: Religious-based crimes rose 25% from 81 to 101. It should be noted, however, that religious crimes would have declined except for an unusual case in which a lone individual sent packages to dozens of Jewish (and other) targets, containing insulting language and syringes (see 2005 Hate Crimes in Perspective), a federal offense.

Crimes based on religion represented 16% of the total hate crimes, the same proportion as in 2004. Anti-Jewish crimes rose 32% from 62 to 82 and comprised 81% of the total, similar to the previous year. There were also 9 anti-Christian (non-Catholic), 6 anti-Muslim, and 4 anti-Catholic crimes.

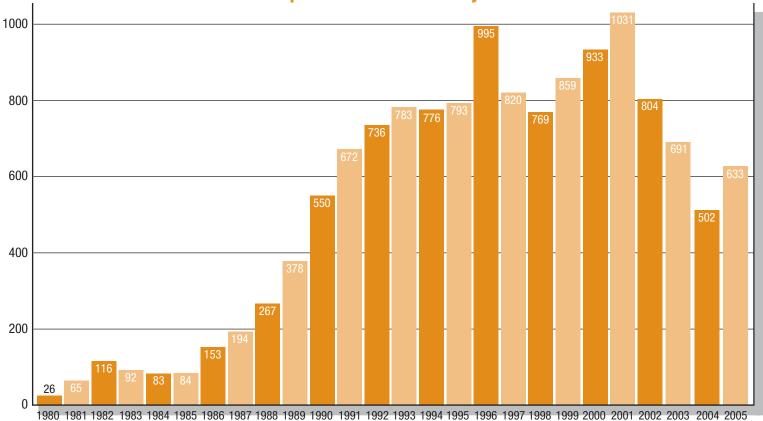
Hate Crimes Related to Terrorism or Middle East Conflicts Crimes in which suspects blamed victims for terrorism, violence in Iraq or other events in the Middle East totaled 17 in 2005, up from 3 in the previous year. These hate crimes blended hostility towards the victims' religion, nationality, ethnicity or race and linked them with

terrorism, sometimes making it difficult to place them in any other category of hate crimes. Ten (63%) included anti-Muslim elements, 3 (19%) were anti-Middle Easterner, and there was one (6%) each that showed anti-Afghan, anti-Jewish, and anti-Iraqi hatred.

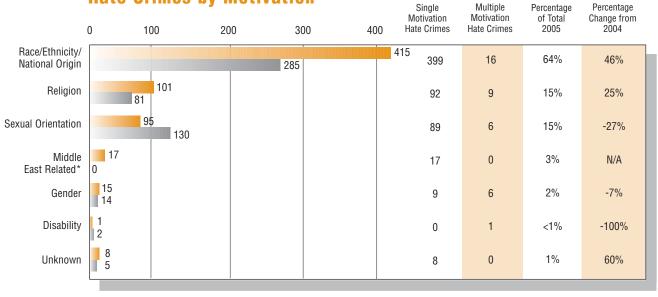
Gender and Disability Hate Crimes Crimes based on gender grew from 14 to 15, a 7% rise. Of these, 6 were anti-female (compared to 1 in 2004) and 9 were anti-transgender (down from 13). Most of the anti-female crimes had multiple motivations, such as graffiti that contained both anti-female and racist content.

There was a single case of a disability-related hate crime reported in 2005.



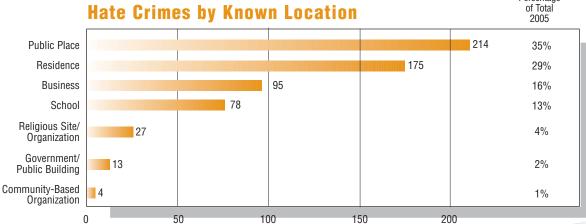


Hate Crimes by Motivation



*There were 3 crimes in 2004 in which the victims were called "terrorists." In those cases, there was sufficient evidence to classify them as racial hate crimes.

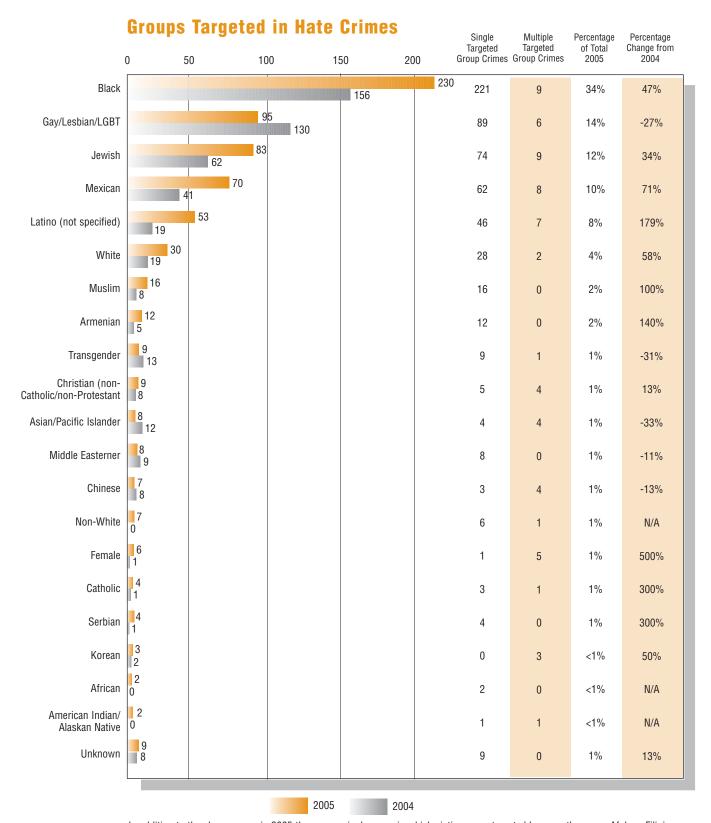




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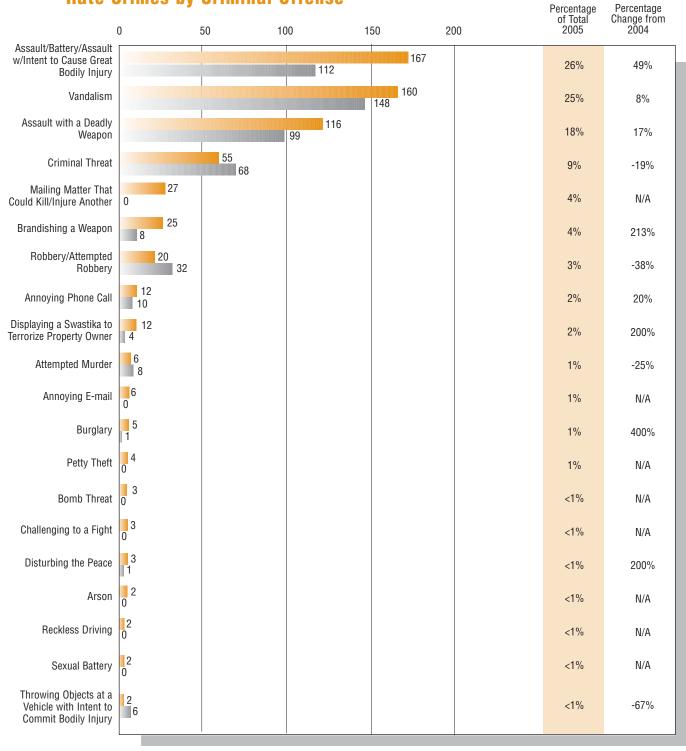


Percentage



In addition to the above cases, in 2005 there were single cases in which victims were targeted because they were Afghan, Filipino, Iraqi, Japanese, Jehovah's Witness, Mormon/LDS, multi-racial, with mental and physical disabilities, Protestant, or Scientologist.

Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense





METHODOLOGY

Hate Crime Report 2005 provides a statistical snapshot of available information on hate crimes that can better inform efforts to combat bias-motivated activity. Such data collection and analysis provide policy-makers and practitioners insight into what are the most urgent issues and greatest areas of need for education, prevention, intervention, and victim assistance and advocacy.

It is important to note that fluctuations in data from year to year do not necessarily indicate trends. For the purposes of this report, the 2005 data are presented here in comparison to 2004 statistics, but it is preferable, whenever possible, to look at how the statistics change over longer periods of time.

Sources and Under-Reporting of Hate Crime The Commission receives reports from the Sheriff's Department and all 45 city police departments in Los Angeles County, a handful of the 80 school and 13 community college districts, an array of community-based organizations, and directly from victims themselves. Some victims of hate crime are reluctant to contact law enforcement due to a variety of factors: lack of knowledge about hate crime laws or the criminal justice system, fear of retaliation, linguistic and cultural barriers, immigration status, and prior negative experience with government agencies, to name a few. The greater the number of barriers to understanding and trusting law enforcement or government agencies that a community faces, the more likely that hate crimes are under-reported. Therefore, the information contained in this report likely represents fewer than the total number of hate-motivated crimes actually committed in 2005.

By far the greatest number of cases is provided by the two largest of the 46 policing agencies in the county: the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD). Together they account for 66% of the total number of hate crimes included in this report.

Although L.A. County overall is one of the best-trained jurisdictions in hate crime investigation and prosecution, the various responding agencies vary greatly in their institutional policies and practices regarding hate crime. Some are very conscientious, training and directing police officers to recognize, report, and investigate hate crimes and establishing clear systems of responsibility and accountability. Others do not consider hate crime to be a high priority or are reluctant to admit to having a problem that could result in negative publicity for their cities.

There are other factors that influence the degree to which a city or agency provides accurate and complete records on hate crimes. Some jurisdictions, for example, do not record hate motivation if crime victims or suspects are suspected gang members, discounting the possibility that racism might be an important factor motivating their criminal acts. Also, some reporting agencies overlook bias if other motives, such as financial gain, are apparent, despite the fact that state hate crime laws cover crimes with other motives, as long as bias is a "substantial factor" in the commission of the offense.

As explained in 2005 Hate Crimes in Perspective, there were at least 14 school campuses during 2005 calendar year where racial fighting erupted, involving hundreds of students. LACCHR only received reports on 3 of these disturbances and the information contained was too general to be included for this report. School-based hate crime continues to be greatly under-reported.



Screening Reported Cases of Hate Crime Each of the cases reported is reviewed to ensure that the facts meet the criteria of the legal definition of hate crime (which is based on California Penal Code sections 422.55-422.95). Those that do not meet the standard are not included as hate crimes. For example, acts of racist graffiti and vandalism are considered hate crimes only if their locations suggest clear targets. In other words, slurs written on the home of a family of color would meet the criteria, but the same language left on a billboard seen daily by thousands of motorists probably would not. However, we encourage police departments to take reports on such hate incidents because this provides potentially helpful evidence in hate crime investigations. Such information also adds insight into the nature of intergroup relations and the degree of hostility that exists.

The cases are then reviewed to eliminate any duplication in cases, such as a hate crime submitted by both a law enforcement agency and a school district.

Of the 851 reports of hate events (both crimes and incidents) received for 2005, 557 cases involving 633 victims met the above criteria and are included in this report.

Understanding the Numbers LACCHR receives reports from varied sources and screens each incident early in the reporting and investigation process in nearly all cases. The initial police report, which the LACCHR receives, may describe evidence of bias motivation for a crime, but the subsequent investigation may prove otherwise. Therefore, the number of hate crimes contained in this report for any given geographic area may differ from the official number recorded by police.

Another factor that may lead to discrepancies in the numbers reported by different agencies is the way that crime victims and cases are counted. Generally, law enforcement agencies will submit single reports in cases involving multiple victims. For the purposes of this report, if a violent act is committed against more than one person, such as the assault with a deadly weapon of a couple, LACCHR counts the incident as more than one separate crime, just as any criminal charge filed would be one separate count of a hate crime enhancement for each victim assaulted.

In addition to providing information on the identity of hate crime victims, this is the fourth year that this report includes tables that show the reasons that they were likely targeted. This provides a more accurate picture of hate crime activity because it shows the actual intent of the perpetrator, instead of relying on the actual identity of the victim as a proxy. This is especially important with religion- and sexual orientation-based crimes because the actual identities of the victims are usually not specified. For example, in the case of anti-Jewish graffiti, it is more important to capture the bias of the vandal than to know if the building's owner is actually Jewish. Capturing this information will also account for cases in which a victim's identity is mistaken (e.g., when a Latino victim is perceived by the perpetrator as Middle Eastern).

A handful of cases involved epithets targeting more than one group. For example, there was a case of vandalism in which both anti-Jewish and anti-female slurs were used. Another involved both anti-Latino and anti-black insults. In these cases both motivations and both specific targeted groups were counted. Therefore, the total number of crimes by motivation (e.g., racial and religious) and by targeted group (e.g., anti-Latino and anti-black) actually exceeds the 633 crimes that were committed.

Actual Cases of Hate Crimes Throughout this report, we provide specific accounts of actual reported hate crime cases for 2005. These accounts draw from police arrest or incident reports, and therefore include victim or witness statements and allegations that ultimately may not be proven through further investigation or at trial.

Hate Crimes Related to Terrorism or Conflicts in the Middle East Since 2001, this report has used a separate motivation category to capture information about crimes motivated by post-September 11th backlash and ongoing conflict in the Middle East. In many of these crimes, it was unclear whether the motivation was because of the perceived racial/ethnic background of victims or their religion (e.g., if the victim was called a "terrorist"). In 2001 there were 188 of these crimes, but they declined to 17 in 2002 and only 11 in 2003. Because only 3 crimes in 2004 involved specific statements or slurs blaming the victims for terrorism, and appeared to be racially motivated. this category was eliminated last year, and those were counted as racial crimes. In 2005, these crimes increased to 17, and not all were clearly racial or religious. Therefore, to better understand this group of crimes, we analyzed them as a separate motivation.

Crimes Without a Specified Motive The Commission also received a handful of reports in which the information provided by a law enforcement agency was so minimal that the specific bias motivation could not be determined. For example, in a case at one high school, vandals broke the lock on the flagpole and replaced the American flag with a Nazi flag. The vandals were witnessed posing for photos in front of it. The Nazi flag is most identified with Jewish persecution, but other ethnic and religious groups are also common targets of neo-Nazis. Crimes of this nature are considered having "unknown motivation."

Classification of Transgender Victims Transgender people are individuals whose appearance or behavior does not conform to society's expectations of traditional male and female roles. They strongly identify with a gender other than the one they were assigned at birth, and may "cross-dress" or modify their appearance with hormones, surgery, or other procedures. In past years, transgender victims of hate crime were categorized as victims of sexual orientation-based crime. It is common for homophobic slurs to be used during the commission of these offenses. In general, the lines between gender- and sexual orientation-motivated crimes are blurred because homophobia and hostility to non-traditional gender roles are closely related. However, because transgender people may identify with any sexual orientation, be it gay, heterosexual, or bi-sexual, and because there is a growing distinct collective identity among transgender persons, regardless of sexual orientation, transgender hate crimes are considered a subset of gender hate crimes for the fourth year. Placing transgender discrimination and hate crime under "gender" is consistent with state law.



2005 HATE CRIMES IN PERSPECTIVE

After a 4-year decline, in 2005 hate crime in Los Angeles County rose 26% from 502 to 633. Despite the increase, the number of hate crimes reported was the second lowest since 1990.

By comparison, the FBI reported a 7.6% decline in the number of persons victimized by hate crime and the California Attorney General's Office reported a 5.8% decrease. The Orange County Human Relations Commission reported a slight decline from 97 to 95.

The increase in hate crime is particularly striking when one considers that violent crime in the Los Angeles area is at its lowest point in 35 years, according to the Criminal Justice Statistics Center in the Office of the California Attorney General. The LAPD also reported that violent crime in the City of Los Angeles declined 28% from 2004 to 2005.

Even more striking are recent data suggesting that reported hate crimes generally represent a fraction of the actual number of hate crimes committed. The Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics released the results of a massive survey in a report, Hate Crimes Reported by Victims and Police. The November 2005 report estimates that the actual level of hate crime is between 16 and 23 times higher than the official statistics reported for the past 15 years.

Of particular concern in L.A. County is the under-reporting of hate crimes in schools, jails, and juvenile detention facilities. In 2005, racial brawls rocked many of these institutions, leading to arrests, lock-downs, and heightened public scrutiny. Yet few of these cases were reported as hate crimes by authorities. Therefore, the data presented in this report do not include those cases.

Racial Crimes Dominate The 2005 increase is overwhelmingly caused by an upsurge in racial hate crimes targeting African Americans, Latinos, and whites. By contrast, the number of homophobic crimes declined and religious hate crimes rose only slightly. A full 66% (up from 57%) of hate crimes were based on race, compared to 16% that were based on religion and 15% that were motivated by sexual orientation.

African Americans have been consistently targeted far more frequently than any other racial or ethnic group. But in 2005, anti-black crimes soared from 156 to 230, a 47% increase. There were also large increases in the number of crimes targeting Latinos and whites. Also, there were increases in the percentages of blacks targeting Latinos and vice-versa.

Gangs a Significant Factor in Racial Hate Crimes The large number of anti-black and anti-Latino crimes can be attributed to a number of factors. Racialized gang violence continued to play a significant role in communities, public schools, and the County jails and juvenile detention facilities, even with the under-reporting of some of those facilities. In 2005, there were 56 cases of gang-involved racial hate crime, involving 69 victims and 130 suspects. In other words, 11% of all victims were targeted by gang members, similar to last year.

As in previous years, the overwhelming majority of these were cases in which Latino gang members targeted African-American victims. The data show that 54 (78%) of racial crimes committed by gang members were antiblack, and only 8 (12%) targeted Latinos. Very few reports indicated that these racial crimes were committed by gang members against rival gang members; most were against victims who were not identified as gang members.

Gang members were responsible for 5 of 6 attempted murders (see A Closer Look at Racial Hate Crime) but the level of violence of gang-related racial hate crime (55%) was less than that of racial hate crimes in general (61%) and also less than the rate of violence for hate crimes overall (58%).

High Level of White Supremacist Activity For the first time, the Commission analyzed as a subset hate crimes committed by perpetrators likely to be white supremacists. These cases included those in which swastikas or other white power symbols and slogans were used. There were 95 cases involving 106 victims and 53 identified suspects, or 17% of all crimes in 2005. This is surprising, because it is generally believed by most experts that members of white supremacist groups commit no more than 5% of hate crimes.

In those crimes in which there was an indication of involvement by white supremacists, 58% were race-based, with the remainder targeting people for their religion, sexual orientation or other characteristics. Of those race-based hate crimes, a higher number targeted Latinos (46%) than African Americans (41%). By comparison, perpetrators identified as white supremacists committed 36 anti-Jewish crimes, 34% of all white supremacist hate crimes.

Racial hate crimes committed by white supremacists were violent in only 30% of the cases, compared to 58% rate of violence for all hate crimes. Fifty-four percent of these crimes were cases of graffiti or other vandalism.

Signs of Growing Anti-Immigrant Sentiment Another factor driving the rise in racial hate crime was an escalation of scapegoating of Latino immigrants. In the previous year, racial crimes targeting Latinos, and to a lesser degree, Asians, increased while crimes targeting other racial/ethnic groups declined. The increase of anti-Latino crimes for the second year in a row may be related to heated public debate over immigration from Latin America. In 2005, the U.S. Congress entertained a number of immigration reform proposals, including making it a felony to cross the border illegally or overstay a visa. Although no compromise bill was reached in 2005, the incendiary rhetoric by elected officials mirrored words and actions at the community level.

Groups opposing illegal immigration, such as the Minutemen and S.O.S. (Save Our State), organized rallies, patrolled the U.S.-Mexico border with firearms, and held protests at day-labor hiring sites. Some of these actions prompted counter-demonstrations, heated exchanges, a handful of arrests, and injuries.

One possible indication of anti-immigrant sentiment is how often specific slurs, such as "wetback" or "go back to Mexico," are uttered during the commission of offenses. In 2004, such language was reported in 17 crimes. In 2005, the number more than doubled to 40 crimes. It is important to point out, however, that anti-immigrant sentiment may be fueling hate crimes even if specific slurs are not employed. For example, a suspect who shouts, "Go home Mexicans!" during the commission on an offense would be included in this count, but one who yells, "I hate Mexicans!" would not. In fact, both perpetrators may harbor the same level of anti-immigrant bias but just express it differently.

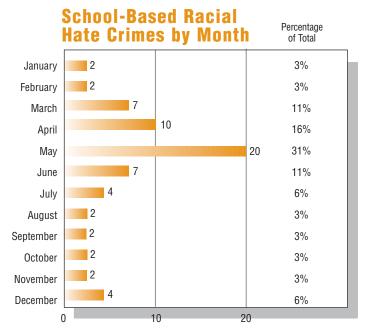
Latinos were targeted in 33 (83%) of the crimes in which anti-immigrant slurs were used. In these crimes, 30% of the identified suspects were white and 63% were black.

School-Based Racial Crimes One disturbing phenomenon was the escalation of racial hate crimes occurring on or nearby school campuses. Racial crimes occurring on school campuses rose 256% from 18 to 64. In 2005, 82% of the total number of school hate crimes were racially motivated, up dramatically from 49% in 2004. This does

not include racial brawls in 2005 that involved hundreds of students. (See box on page 14.)

Black-Latino conflict was evidenced in the great majority of these cases, many of which occurred in South Los Angeles where there have been longstanding animosities between the two groups. However, some of these conflicts also took place at campuses, such as Marshall High in Los Angeles and Sylmar High, which do not have a history of conflict.

School-based racial crimes spiked during the month of May. (See graph.) In May, there were 20 racial crimes reported on or adjacent to school campuses. Three of these crimes occurred in middle schools and one at an elementary school. Four fights followed rumors that black-Latino violence would take place on Cinco de Mayo. During this month, there were



also numerous campuses that blew up into large-scale racial brawls that are not included in this count. (See box below.)

Interestingly, although in 2005 there were generally many more African-American victims attacked by Latinos than vice versa (see *A Closer Look at Racial Hate Crime*), this was not true on school campuses during May. In May, 13 of the campus-based crimes involved black suspects and Latino victims, while only 2 involved Latino suspects and black victims. The majority of the crimes committed by black suspects occurred on campuses where African Americans are vastly outnumbered by Latino students. None of the school-based racial crimes in May referenced gang involvement.

Growing Level of Violence in Racial Hate Crime Racial hate crimes were more violent than in previous years as well. Overall, 61% of race-based crimes were of a violent nature, compared to 58% the previous year. However, the level of violence experienced by different racial and ethnic groups varied. (See *A Closer Look at Racial Hate Crime*.)

The Difficulties of Capturing Data on Racial Brawls in Schools In 2005, at least 14 school campuses exploded into widespread clashes between dozens, and sometimes hundreds, of African-American and Latino students. The largest and most violent of these disturbances occurred at Washington, Locke, and Jefferson High Schools, where there have been long histories of tensions between black and Latino students. Some of these campuses erupted into altercations two or more times.

The fighting led to dozens of arrests, expulsions, suspensions, and transfers of student combatants. Entire campuses were placed on lock-down. News reports covered public meetings at which students, parents, and community leaders called for an end to the violence, expressed their fear, and criticized the actions of authorities.

Some of the melees followed racial conflicts between individuals or smaller groups of students. Others resulted from disturbances that had nothing to do with race. In many cases, once a fight broke, students used their cell phones to call friends in other locations on campus, and the violence spread. There were even claims that some students instigated confrontations in order to close schools down and skip class.

The Commission received Los Angeles Unified School Police reports for only 3 of the large-scale fights: Jefferson, Gardena, and North Hollywood High Schools. The reports described scenes of chaos throughout these campuses. It was nearly impossible in the initial crime reports to identify which of the students were the aggressors and which students were merely defending themselves or their friends. For example, in the report from Jefferson High School which experienced large racial fights on three separate days, one officer wrote, "I observed 30-40 juveniles involved in a large altercation in the center of the campus and approximately 300-400 additional juveniles refusing to disperse...."

When police arrived on campus, many students ran, others refused to disperse and some attacked officers and school personnel. Some officers used pepper spray and physical force to restrain or detain students.

Some detained students refused to answer questions about their involvement. Others accused each other of instigating a fight. In still other cases, students wrote statements that were ambiguous or contradictory.

The authors could not extract sufficient information from these initial reports to include these violent clashes in the database. Doing so would have required making assumptions or speculations for which there was insufficient information. In short, because of the nature of these disturbances, the numbers contained in this report describe only a fraction of the potentially hundreds of racial crimes that occurred on school campuses in 2005.

The Strange Case of Stanley Jaroszenski In February 2005, a 64-year-old white male, Stanley Jaroszenski, began mailing packages to dozens of residences, businesses, and organizations containing written materials that were denigrating to an array of ethnic, religious and sexual orientation minorities. The packages also contained syringes that were empty and capped. In many cases, the return address he used was KPFK, a listener-supported radio station, known for its left-leaning politics.

Recipients of these materials were alarmed and contacted law enforcement authorities and civil rights groups. The Lakewood office of Congresswoman Linda Sanchez and an entire floor of Children's Hospital of Los Angeles were both evacuated after receiving packages. Several organizations held press conferences or released statements denouncing the offensive mailings. The FBI and LAPD briefed community groups on the status of the investigation.

On June 13, 2005, Mr. Jaroszenski was arrested by the FBI. He was later charged by the U.S. Attorney's Office with 56 counts of "threatening to injure the person of the addressee" and 61 counts for mailing "matter that could kill or injure." Mr. Jaroszenski was found to be mentally incompetent to stand trial. At the time of this report's publication, prosecutors were attempting to have a judge rule that Mr. Jaroszenski be force-medicated to make him competent to stand trial. The Office of the U.S. Attorney had not yet determined whether or not to seek hate crime enhancements in this case.

There were other circumstances that made it difficult to determine how to include these cases. Although several local law enforcement agencies and community groups provided information to the Commission about some of Mr. Jaroszenski's mailings, none mentioned specific criminal threats against the recipients, nor the inclusion of syringes. Furthermore, although many of the recipients were members of the groups disparaged in the written materials, others appeared to be random mailings containing the ravings of a mentally disturbed individual, which had nothing to do with the recipient.

This report includes 27 of the crimes contained in the indictment, in which potentially hazardous materials were mailed and the slurs were directed specifically at the recipient. The inclusion of these crimes, 26 of which were anti-Semitic, contributed to a 34% increase in crimes targeting Jews and a rise in the total number of religious hate crimes. However, it would be misleading not to point out the unusual nature of these offenses, all committed by a single individual. Without such explanation, readers might erroneously conclude that in 2005 there was widespread anti-Jewish criminal activity. Apart from Mr. Jaroszenski's multiple mailings, anti-Jewish hate crime declined 8%.

Hate Crime Suspects There were 635 hate crime suspects identified by race in 2005, 443 (70%) of which committed their crimes in groups of 2 or more. As in previous years, the great majority of suspects (90%) were male. Juveniles made up 32% of known suspects (down from 34%). Forty-four percent were 18-25 years of age (up from 31%), and 24% were over 25 (compared to 35% in 2004).

Age appeared to play a factor in the motivation of hate crimes. Suspects age 18-25 committed the largest percentage of racial and sexual orientation hate crimes, but juveniles committed the majority of religious crimes. As mentioned elsewhere in this report, there was under-reporting of school-based hate crime, which should be accounted for when considering the proportion of juveniles suspected of committing racial hate crime.

Although identified female suspects were few in number, they were more likely than identified males to commit violent crimes, 86% compared to 82%. (It should be noted that these rates are higher than the overall rate of violence for hate crime because suspects that are not identified are overwhelmingly involved in non-violent crime such as vandalism.) This was true for all age categories, except for those over 25, whose rate of violence was 75% for each gender. Young adults age 18-25 of both genders committed a higher percentage of violent crimes than either their juvenile or older counterparts. Of the 23 female juvenile suspects, only 3 acted alone. The youngest of the known female suspects was 11 years old.

COMMISSION ACTIONS TO ADDRESS HATE CRIMES IN 2005

Youth and School Outreach Youth continue to be a significant number of both victims and suspects in hate crime. Schools were increasingly a venue for hate crimes, in addition to experiencing widespread racial brawls. The L.A. County Human Relations Commission has made educating and engaging young people one of its top strategic priorities through its Youth initiative, Zerohour: The Time to Act is Now! program.

- **Empowering Students and Educators:** The Commission convened a Zerohour Youth Conference in September 2005 at the National Center for the Preservation of Democracy, entitled "L.A. Remixed: Student Symposium for Campus Action." The conference helped students create action plans for their campuses through workshops on identifying strategies for combating hate and discrimination on campus, raising awareness of students' rights, organizing youth-led events, and on utilizing the power of video to promote healthier human relations. Educators attended a workshop on ways to support student-led groups. Over 100 youth attended from schools in the ABC Unified School District, Antelope Valley Union High School District, Los Angeles Unified School District (including a team of students from Jefferson High), and Pasadena Unified School District.
- **Engaging Administrators and Teachers:** As part of the Commission's Zerohour campaign, an Administrators' conference co-sponsored by the L.A. County Office of Education was held in September 2005 at the Disney Concert Hall on "Dialogue & Discussion: Responding to and Preventing Intergroup Conflict at L.A. County Schools." A capacity turnout of over 150 administrators attended sessions on best practices in crisis response and intervention. They were provided with human relations and conflict prevention resources related to youth empowerment, teacher/staff development, and parent engagement.
- Reaching Youth Through the Media: The Commission broadened its Zerohour and media relations campaigns to engage teenage youth in standing up to hate and prejudice using celebrities in new public service announcements and print ads. Also, zerohour "No Haters Here" youth-oriented campaign and program information and materials were distributed at various youth events, concerts and school activities. The www.zerohour.com website, which drew over 270,000 hits in 2005, continued to be a unique internet site that encouraged greater anti-hate activism by students and youth.
- Partnering with Communities: The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA), a partner in the Commission's Hate Crime Victim Assistance and Advocacy Initiative, engaged in outreach and education efforts at schools throughout L.A. County including South Bay Adult School, Lennox Middle School, Garfield High, Charles Drew Centers in Paramount and Compton, Huntington Park/Bell Adult School, Gage Middle School, Marshall High, Foshay Middle School, Jordan High, Westside Adult School, Evans Community Adult School, and Fourth Street Elementary.
- Helping Victims of Racial Violence: The Commission and its partners at Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and CHIRLA assisted the families of students caught up in the racial violence at Jordan High and Markham Middle School with school and court proceedings following racial incidents at both campuses.
- Promoting Collaboration for Safer Schools: At the initiative of the Commission and its L.A. city, state, and federal counterparts, Safe School Collaboratives were established or continued in 2005 at Washington Prep, Locke, Artesia, and Jordan High, bringing together stakeholder groups to assist schools in ensuring safer campuses and improving human relations through 'Safe Passages' and other kinds of programs.
- Building Human Relations Infrastructure in Schools: The Commission's School Intergroup Conflict Initiative was integrated into a countywide zerohour Youth Initiative in 2005. Programs and initiatives were launched in more than 10 high schools that experienced racially-motivated violence involving large numbers of students. At these schools, Commission staff conducted workshops and trainings for students and teachers to promote greater understanding among diverse students, particularly between African-American and Latino students, on their rich cultures and histories.

Intervening in Communities Impacted by Hate Crime The Commission's Hate Crime Victim Assistance and Advocacy Initiative (HCVAAI) partnership serves the residents of Los Angeles County by providing hate crime victim assistance, outreach, education and advocacy. Non-profit community agencies with which the Commission contracts for victim services and community outreach include the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC), Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA), L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center (LAGLC), Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC), South Asian Network (SAN), and Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

- Building Solidarity Among Diverse Communities: A slew of anti-Chinese, anti-Korean and anti-Muslim hate mail was sent in packages to at least 15 Asian Pacific Islander community organizations, including APALC, which provided direct assistance to victims. (See box on p. 15.) When ADL heard about similar anti-Jewish hate mail being sent in packets to Jewish community members, APALC, ADL and MPAC worked together to coordinate a unified response and provide support to law enforcement's efforts to investigate these hatemotivated activities.
- Bringing Stakeholders Together: A mother and five children, originally from Afghanistan, experienced ongoing harassment, hate incidents and hate crimes from Latino adults and youth residing in their apartment complex in Canoga Park. The hate speech included statements such as "You are with Osama Bin Laden." Eggs were thrown at their apartment, followed by threats such as "I'm going to kill you." LAPD took reports, but the harassment did not cease. MPAC assisted the victims by contacting LAPD, the Department of Fair Employment and Housing, and the counselor and Assistant Principal of the children's school. MPAC took the lead in organizing a public forum with the Commission, L.A. City officials, law enforcement, community leaders, and residents to address this case and the larger issue of growing prejudice.
- Responding to Targeted Communities and Groups: SAN partnered with the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and APALC to host a Town Hall meeting for taxi workers of South Asian ancestry who had experienced frequent acts of hate, prejudice and discrimination since September 11th. They presented information about hate crime prevention and disseminated materials that describe resources and assistance available to victims of hate crimes. SAN also organized a Town Hall meeting for Bangladeshi residents of Koreatown to inform them about hate crimes, the importance of reporting these incidents, and housing rights.

Public Policy

- Addressing Stereotypes in the Media: In an effort to prevent the perpetuation of negative stereotypes which may lead or encourage hate crimes, MPAC contacted Fox Television regarding its hit show "24" which in its first and only portrayal of an Arab-American family stereotyped them as a sleeper terrorist cell. As a result, Fox aired a positive public interest message about the portrayal by the show's star, Kiefer Sutherland, at the conclusion of the show. Fox also agreed to develop another episode of the show in which the Arab Americans portrayed were positive and not stereotyped as terrorists.
- Monitoring State and Federal Hate Crime Legislation: The County followed the Commission's recommendation and supported AB 378, a bill that was proposed by Assemblymember Judy Chu to strengthen laws addressing hate crimes. The bill was passed by both houses and signed into law by the Governor. The Commission also recommended support for S.1145, also known as the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, which did not pass out of committee in the United States Senate. (See the Hate Crime Legislation section for more details.)

Education and Training

- Coordinating Inter-Agency Cooperation: The Commission hosts quarterly meetings of its Network Against Hate Crime, a county-wide coalition of community leaders and organizations, government officials, human relations experts and law enforcement departments and agencies. Meetings in 2005 included guest speakers, panel discussions and presentations on important and timely topics, such as school-based racial violence and an overview of hate crimes statewide.
- Providing Assistance to Law Enforcement: The Commission provided hate crime training for several law enforcement agencies in 2005, often in collaboration with the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office. Recipients of Commission hate crime trainings include the LAUSD School Police and L.A. Sheriff's Department stations in Glendora, Lancaster, Palmdale and Santa Clarita.

A CLOSER LOOK AT RACIAL HATE CRIMES

Hate crimes motivated by a victim's race, ethnicity, or national origin not only remained by far the largest category of hate crimes but grew as a percentage, from 57% to 66% of the total. (For the sake of brevity, these cases are referred to as "racial" hate crimes throughout this report.) Crimes targeting African Americans, Latinos, and whites rose dramatically. Those targeting Asians and people of Middle Eastern backgrounds fell.

Rates of Victimization African Americans were again targeted by far the most frequently in 230 crimes (55%). This is a rate more than five times their presence in the general population. They were followed by 123 anti-Latino (30%), 30 anti-white (7%), 20 anti-Asian and Pacific Islander (5%), 12 anti-Armenian (3%), and 5 anti-Middle Easterner (1%) crimes.

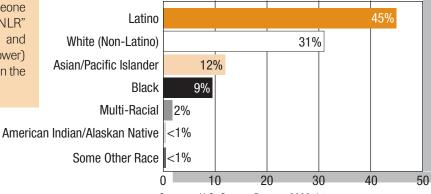
January 6, 2005 — East L.A.: A black 18-year-old male and 16-year-old female were walking home when a group of Latinos and Latinas approached them and began to harass them, saying, "We don't like niggers here.... This is our hood.... It's all about Maravilla" (referring to the Maravilla gang). As the youth tried to walk away, five female Latinas, all about 19 years old, surrounded the black female calling her "fuckin' mayate" (Spanish slang for *nigger*) and saying, "Go back to Compton, nigger." Suddenly one of the Latinas punched the black female and all of them began beating her, punching and kicking her to and on the ground. When the black male attempted to stop them, the four Latinos began to beat him, yelling "Maravilla Rascals fuck all niggers!" The two blacks attempted to run away when another male Latino grabbed the black male by his hair and struck him in the back of the head with a metal pipe. As the two blacks ran away all ten Latinos were yelling things such as, "We know where you live, you better leave or we'll blast [i.e., shoot] your pad, fuckin' niggers. All you niggers got to move out of our barrio [neighborhood]."

Cases of Racially-Motivated Attempted Murders There were 6 victims of race-based attempted murder in 2005. Below we summarize the cases:

- Six Latino members of the Canoga Park Alabama gang approached a 26-year-old black male victim on a residential street in Canoga Park. The suspects yelled, "What the fuck are you doing up here? Fuck blacks!" They punched him and stole his gold chain. The victim ran and called out for help. When his 22-year-old black male friend responded, one of the suspects produced a handgun and shot, grazing him.
- At a high school in Glendale, Mexican and Armenian students agreed to fight after school. An Armenian motorist yelled at a group of Latino students, "Come out here, mother fucker! I'll kick your ass." He then struck with his vehicle a male Latino student walking home from school.

May 9, 2005 – Winnetka (San Fernando Valley): A 49-year-old Latino man went out to his car in the morning to find that someone had scratched the letters "NLR" (for Nazi Lowriders, a gang) and "WSP" (for White Supreme Power) on the car, as well as "Hitler" on the roof of the car.

Los Angeles County Population by Race/Ethnicity



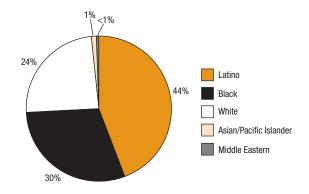
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 data

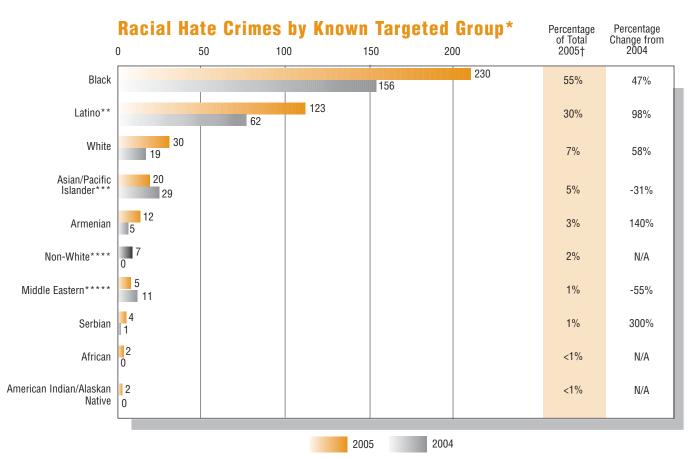
■ Three Latino members of the Canoga Park Alabama gang approached 4 black males in an alley near the victims' homes in Canoga Park. They shot at them without any provocation and fled. Two of the victims were wounded.

There were also 114 crimes of assaults, batteries, and assaults with intent to cause great bodily harm (27%), 97 cases of vandalism (23%), 97 cases of assaults with deadly weapons (23%), and 39 cases of criminal threats (9%). These figures are similar to 2004.

Location Thirty-nine percent of racial crimes took place in public places, 26% at residences, 16% at businesses, and 15% at schools.

Suspects of Racial Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity





^{*}This table aggregates crimes targeting a national origin under the racial/ethnic group.

†A crime with multiple targeted groups is listed more than once. Therefore, the sum will exceed 100%.

In addition to the above cases, in 2005 there was a single case in which the targeted group was multi-racial.

^{**}Includes Mexican.

^{***}Includes Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Filipino.

^{****}These hate crimes involved white power symbols, but the exact target was not specifically known. Therefore, we are placing them in the "non-white" category.

^{*****}Includes Iranian.

Differing Rates of Violence and Patterns of Victimization Although 61% of all racial hate crimes were violent, there were clear differences in the rate of violence used against different targeted groups. Violence was employed in 67% of the anti-Latino crimes, 61% of the anti-black crimes, 60% of the anti-Middle Easterner crimes, 60% of the anti-white crimes, 58% of the anti-Armenian crimes, and 20% of the anti-Asian crimes. The rates of violence for Latinos and blacks were similar to 2004, but the rate of violence in anti-white and anti-Asian crimes declined. Although there were only 5 crimes, the rate of anti-Middle Easterner violence rose.

Among the 474 suspects identified in racial crimes, Latinos declined from 50% to 44%, blacks rose from 27% to 30%, and whites rose from 21% to 24% of the total.

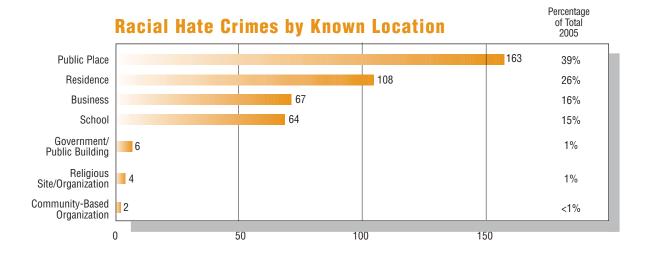
As in the past, there are distinct patterns of victimization. In anti-black hate crimes, 68% of the suspects were Latino and 29% were white. In anti-Latino crimes, 76% of the suspects were black and 22% were white. In anti-white crimes, 72% of the suspects were black, 21% were Latino and 7% were white. (This was due to a single case of several Armenian suspects who attacked a group of white victims, while shouting racial slurs.) In anti-Asian crimes, 82% of suspects were Latino and 18% were black.

May 17, 2005 — Watts: A 10-year-old Latino was approached in the boys' bathroom at an elementary school by a 10-year-old black student who asked him, "Do you celebrate Cinco De Mayo?" The Latino youth said "no." The black youth told him that he had better say "yes" if he did not want to get hit. So the Latino youth said "yes" and the black youth proceeded to punch him in the face.

Anti-Immigrant Crimes and Anti-Interracial Relationship Crimes As mentioned in the section *2005 Hate Crimes in Perspective*, there were 40 crimes in which specifically anti-immigrant slurs (such as "wetback") were used. Suspects employed violence in 58% of these crimes, similar to the rate for all racially-motivated crimes. Latinos were targeted in 83%, Asians in 5%, and people of Middle Eastern background in 5% of the cases. The suspects were 28% white, 61% black and 11% Latino.

There were 6 cases (up from 4) in which victims were targeted because they were married to or in the company of persons of other racial backgrounds. Half of these crimes were violent and 83% of these took place at residences. Blacks were targeted in 4 of these crimes, and whites in 2. Five of the cases were motivated by hostility towards black/white couples.

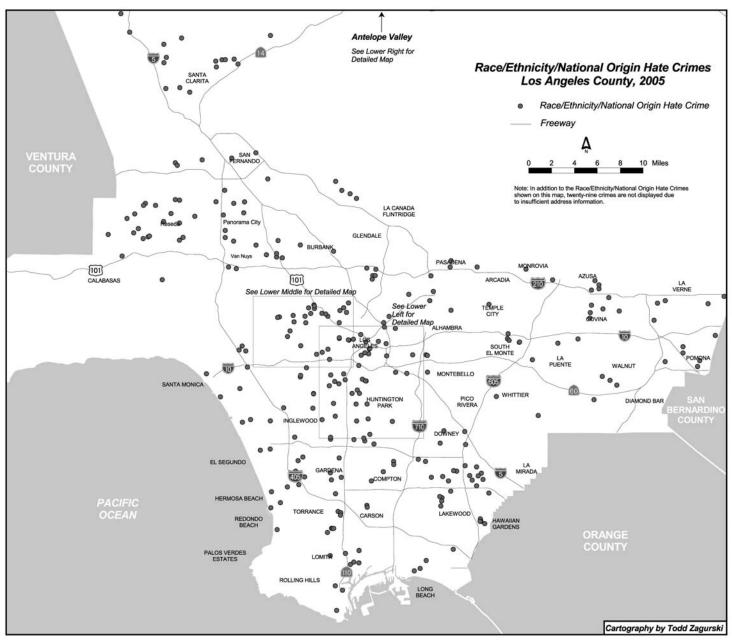
August 18, 2005 — Lawndale: Two black teenaged males were leaving a convenience store and walking toward their car when two Latino men approached them and one of them said, "Do you have a problem, nigger?" The Latinos continued to spew racial epithets and challenged the black men to a fight. The black men proceeded to their car, but as they were backing out, the suspects started to kick the fender. One of them then threw something at the passenger side window, causing it to shatter, and scratching a female passenger.



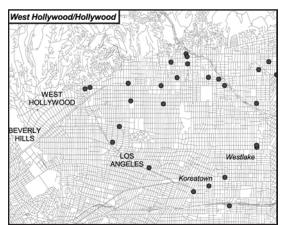
From March 28 to April 4, 2005 — Valencia: A 19-year-old black male, working at Target collecting carts in the parking lot, was approached on three separate occasions by two white men (one with a swastika tattooed on his neck) who drove their vehicle toward him and made racist and threatening comments, including, "Nigger, you don't belong here.... Go back to where you belong.... We're gonna get you, if not today, another day.... Get the fuck out of here.... We already told you you fucking nigger.... You don't belong here, monkey.... We're gonna get you."

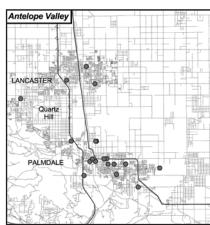


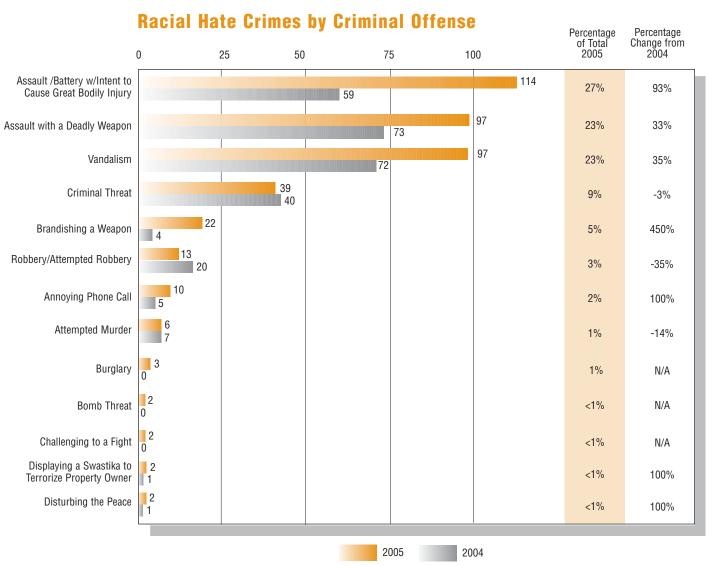
2005 Racial Hate Crimes in Los Angeles County











In addition to the above crimes, in 2005 there were single cases of annoying e-mail, arson, reckless driving, sexual battery, and throwing objects at a vehicle with intent to commit bodily injury.



A CLOSER LOOK AT SEXUAL ORIENTATION HATE CRIMES

For the third year in a row there was a decline in the number of hate crimes motivated by sexual orientation from 130 to 95, a 27% decrease.

Consistent with previous years, these crimes overwhelmingly targeted gay men (86%). Lesbians were targeted in 12% of the crimes and general lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender (LGBT) attacks (such as vandalism at an LGBT bookstore) constituted 2%.

Forty-eight percent of victims of homophobic crime were white, 27% were Latino, and 19% were black. The suspects in these crimes were 41% African American, 36% Latino, and 22% white.

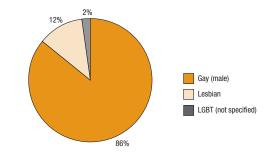
In previous years, the great majority of white, Latino, and black victims of sexual orientation-motivated crime were targeted by suspects of their own race. This was true in 2005 for Latino and black victims, who were targeted by members of the same ethnic group in 71% and 56% of the crimes, respectively. White victims, however, were attacked by other whites in only 38% of the crimes. Thirty-eight percent of white victims were attacked by black suspects and 28% were attacked by Latinos.

Sexual orientation hate crimes were again more likely to be violent (65%) than racial (61%) or religious crimes (37%). Thirty-nine percent of these crimes were assaults, batteries, or assaults with intent to cause great bodily harm, 23% were cases of vandalism, 16% were assaults with deadly weapons, and 8% were criminal threats. These percentages were nearly identical to 2004.

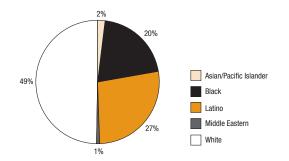
The break-down of locations where homophobic crimes occurred was also similar to previous years. Thirty-seven percent took place in public places, 37% in residences, 17% in businesses, 5% in government buildings, and 3% in schools.

As discussed in the *Methodology* section, antitransgender hate crimes are classified as gender-based hate crimes.

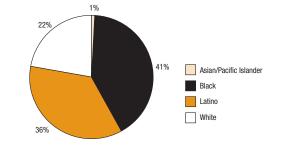
Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group



Victims of Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity

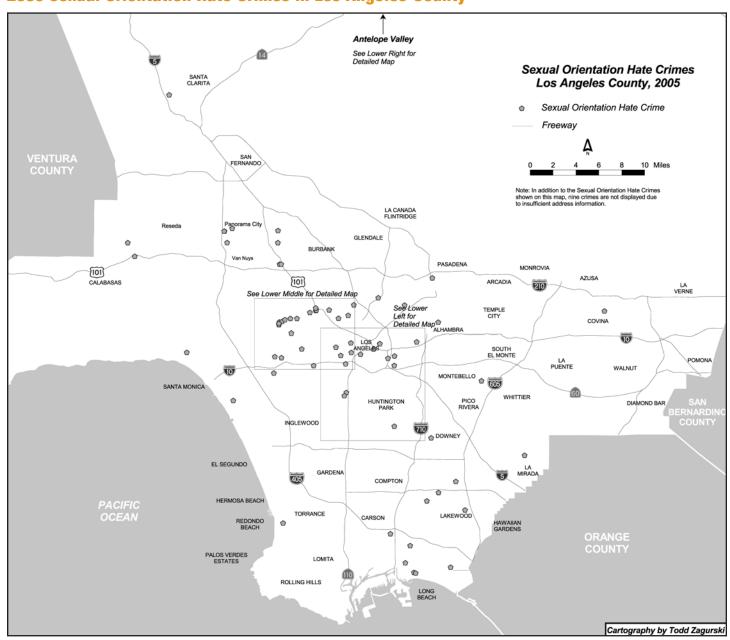


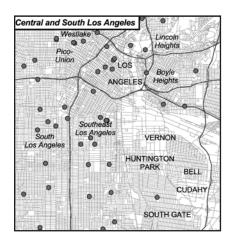
Suspects of Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity

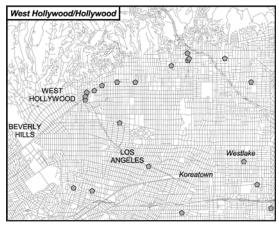


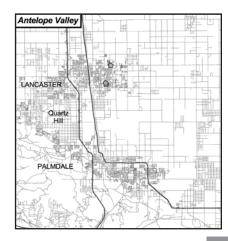
Percentage of Total **Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Location** 2005 35 Public Place 37% 35 37% Residence **Business** 16 17% Government/ 5% Public Building School 3 3% Community-Based 1% Organization

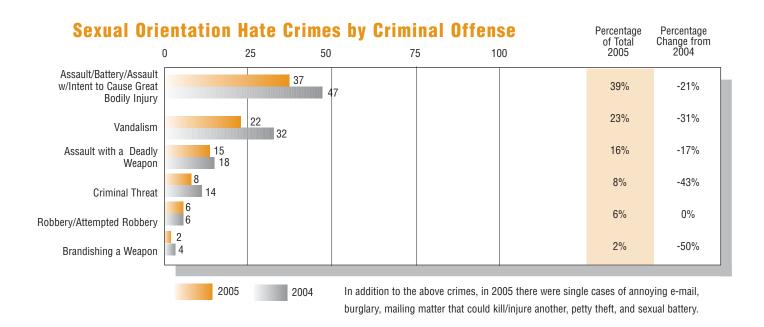
2005 Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes in Los Angeles County











Actual Cases of Sexual Orientation Hate Crime

August 6, 2005 – Los Angeles: A 26-year-old Latino was walking with his boyfriend when an SUV with three occupants slowed and kept pace with them. The driver yelled "Fuckin' fags!" One of the people in the SUV threw a glass bottle at the men, missing them. The driver then sped off.

August 30, 2005 – West Hollywood: A 30-year-old white man was walking to his car when he was attacked from behind by three white men while being called anti-gay epithets. The man was hit with a crowbar and he passed out. He awoke later in an underground parking lot and found he had been urinated on.

November 18, 2005 — North Hollywood: A 15-year-old Latina lesbian was on a street corner with her girlfriend when she was pushed from behind by a 14-year-old Latino. She turned around and he punched her in the right eye. When she bent over and covered her face, the boy shouted, "Lesbian! Fight me like a man, you fuckin' bitch!" and punched her in the forehead. Several of the boy's friends pulled him away from her, and she and her girlfriend were able to get away.

December 2, 2005 – downtown Los Angeles: A 39-year-old black inmate in the Los Angeles County Jail had returned to his cell from court and was asleep when four of his cellmates, all black and ranging in age from 22 to 46, pulled him from his bunk and began to punch him, saying, "We don't want your gay ass in the cell anymore." They stopped punching him and then told him, "Move out of your cell the next chance you get!"

A CLOSER LOOK AT RELIGIOUS HATE CRIMES

Religious hate crimes increased from 81 in 2004 to 101, a 25% increase, in 2005. However, the increase was due to one mentally ill man who mailed syringes with messages that were offensive to Jews and other groups (see *The Strange Case of Stanley Jaroszenski* in the *Perspectives* section). If it were not for the inclusion of these 26 cases, religious hate crimes would have actually decreased by 7%.

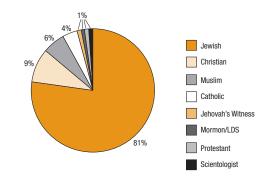
There were 82 (81%) anti-Jewish crimes, followed by 9 (9%) anti-Christian, 6 (6%) anti-Muslim, and 4 (4%) anti-Catholic crimes. Most police reports do not specify the religion of victims, so their actual religious identities are generally unknown.

As in the past, a minority of religious hate crimes (37%) were of a violent nature. There were 39 (39%) acts of vandalism, 26 (26%) cases of hazardous materials mailed by a lone individual (see the *Perspectives* section), 8 (8%) criminal threats, and 8 (8%) cases of displaying a swastika to terrorize others. If one excludes the 26 cases of mailed hazardous materials, the rate of violence falls to 11%.

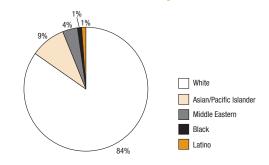
As for crimes in which the location was known, 26 (35%) took place at residences, 17 (23%) occurred at religious sites, 11 (15%) in businesses, 10 (13%) in schools, and 9 (12%) in public places.

Only 35 suspects were identified. Twenty-three (66%) were white, 5 (14%) were black, and 5 (14%) were Latino. This represents a large jump in the number of white suspects from 9 to 23, a 156% increase.

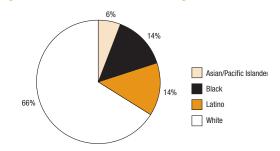
Religious Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group

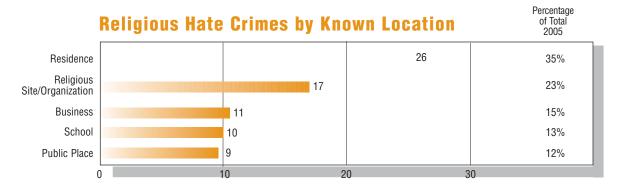


Victims of Religious Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



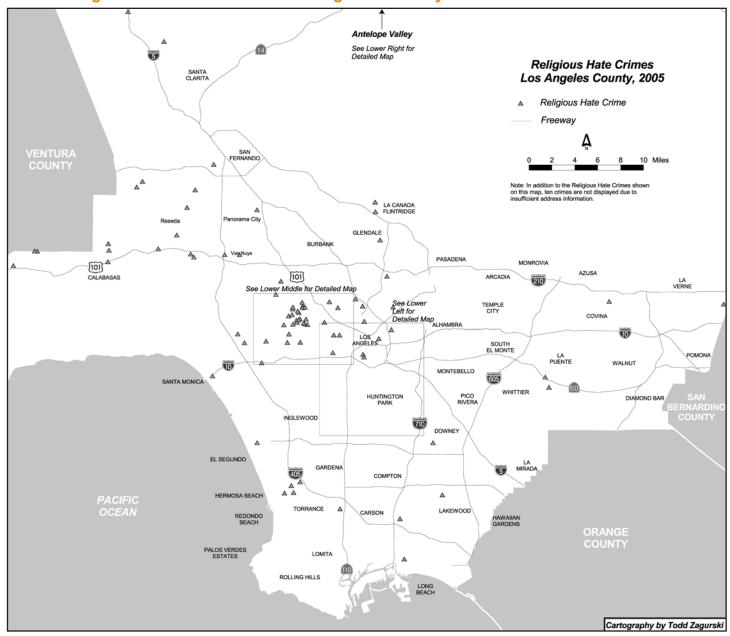
Suspects of Religious Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



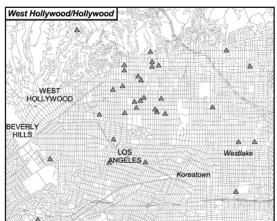


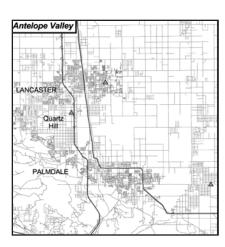
In addition to the above crimes, in 2005 there were single cases in which the location occurred in a community-based organization or a government/public building.

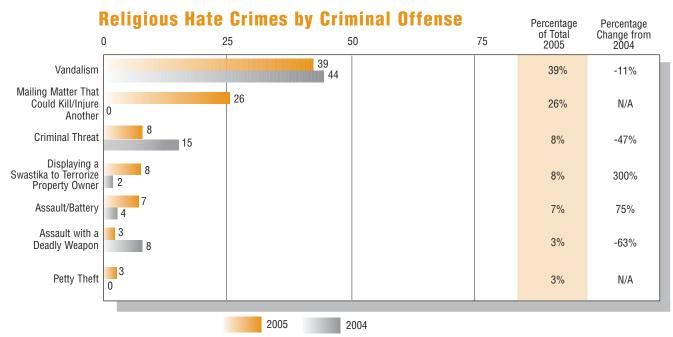
2005 Religious Hate Crimes in Los Angeles County











In addition to the above crimes, in 2005 there were single cases of an annoying phone call, arson, bomb threat, challenging to a fight, disturbing the peace, reckless driving, and robbery.

Actual Cases of Religious Hate Crime

April 8, 2005 — Northridge: A white Jewish woman at a middle school who teaches a class on the Holocaust found that unknown suspects had scratched a swastika on the rear left bumper of her car.

May 23, 2005 — Littlerock (Antelope Valley): Graffiti was found on several doors of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, including the letters "SWP" (Supreme White Power), swastikas, double lightning bolts (symbolizing Hitler's SS), a pentagram (a pagan symbol often used as a Satanic symbol), an anti-Christian cross, and "666" (a Christian symbol of Satan).

December 2005 – La Crescenta: A Christian church building was repeatedly vandalized—with screens removed from the building and impaled on the cross atop the roof, a door removed, roof vents damaged, and graffiti proclaiming "God is gay" scrawled on the air conditioning unit, among other damage.

A CLOSER LOOK AT HATE CRIMES RELATED TO TERRORISM OR MIDDLE EAST CONFLICTS

In 2005, there were 17 crimes in which the suspects blamed the victims for the September 11th attacks or subsequent terrorist acts, the war in Iraq, or in some other way linked them with recent events in the Middle East.

The previous year, there were 3 such attacks against South Asians who were all called "terrorists" and each was clearly of a racist nature. They were categorized as racial hate crimes.

This year, the 17 crimes included several of which the hate motivation could not be easily classified into either the racial or religious hate crime categories. For the purposes of presenting the clearest picture of this phenomenon, they are analyzed as their own separate category of motivation.

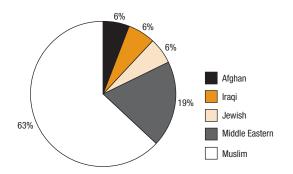
Ten of these crimes were anti-Muslim, 3 were anti-Middle Easterner, and there was one crime each in which anti-Afghan, anti-Jewish, or anti-Iraqi insults were made.

Forty-one percent of these crimes were violent. Five were annoying e-mails sent to the office of the Muslim Public Affairs Council after terrorist bombs went off in the London subway system. There were 5 cases of battery and 3 cases of vandalism. There were also single cases of an assault with intent to cause great bodily harm, throwing an object at a moving vehicle, burglary, and an annoying phone call.

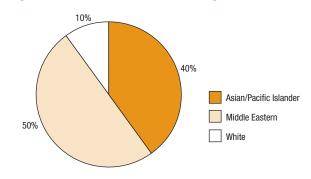
In one case, a Middle Eastern man found his car window broken by a rock with a note wrapped around it that read, "Go back home, you fucking terrorists." In another case, a Muslim couple was walking when they were confronted by a 47- year-old African-American man who asked if they were Muslim. When they replied "yes," he said, "Well my brother was killed over there," and started punching the husband.

Religious sites/organizations were locations in 6 of these cases, residences in 4, public places in 3, businesses in 3, and there was one crime in a government building.

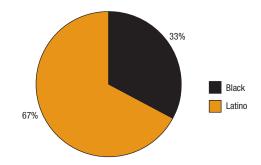
Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group

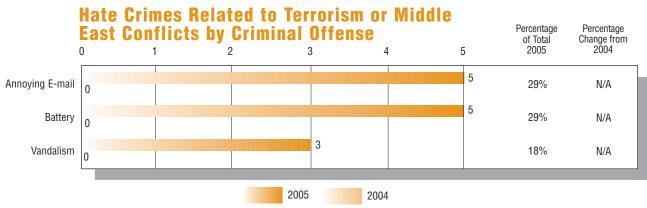


Victims of Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



Suspects of Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity





In addition to the above cases, in 2005 there were single cases of an annoying phone call, assault with intent to cause great bodily injury, burglary, and throwing objects at a vehicle with intent to commit bodily injury.



A CLOSER LOOK AT GENDER-BASED HATE CRIMES

There were 15 gender-motivated hate crimes in 2005. Of these, 6 (40%) were anti-female (up from one). Most of these cases involved more than one motivation, such as graffiti reading, "Jew whore! Bitch!" Nine (60%) of the crimes were anti-transgender (down from 13) and all but one targeted male-to-female transgender women. There was a single case of a biological female student harassed for her male appearance and clothing.

Anti-Female Crimes There is debate about what constitutes anti-female hate crime. For example, there are some women's rights advocates who argue that hate crime enhancements should be sought by prosecutors in a broader array of cases involving violence against women, such as those committed by a serial rapist. To date, very few cases of violence against women have been labeled gender-based hate crimes. This annual report only includes cases that are classified as hate crimes by our sources of data, which are predominantly police agencies.

Still, this is the largest number of anti-female cases ever received by the Commission. The increase may indicate that law enforcement is better-trained to record remarks and other evidence that points to gender-based bias.

The criminal offenses were violent in 33% of the cases and included a battery and a sexual battery.

Three of the crimes took place in a residence, 2 in public places and one in a business.

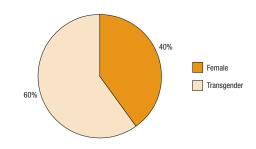
Of the 5 victims whose race was identified, 3 (60%) were Latino and 2 (40%) were white. There were only 3 suspects identified. Two were white and one was Latino.

February 2005 - West Los Angeles: A white Jewish woman found "Jew whore! Bitch!" written on the rear door of her shop in a mall.

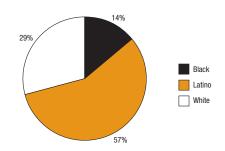
Anti-Transgender Crimes All of the anti-transgender crimes were violent and included 2 assaults with deadly weapons, 3 batteries, 2 assaults, one brandishing a weapon, and one robbery. Transgender victims continue to experience the highest level of violence (100%) of any major group targeted by hate crime.

May 31, 2005 – South Los Angeles: A black 40-year-old transgender woman was walking down the street when she was approached by three black men. One of them yelled, "What are you doing here? We don't allow your type in this neighborhood. I'm going to fucking kill you, faggot." He then brandished a knife, and all three men chased the woman.

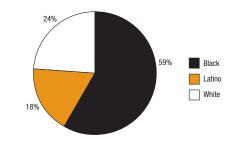
Gender Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group

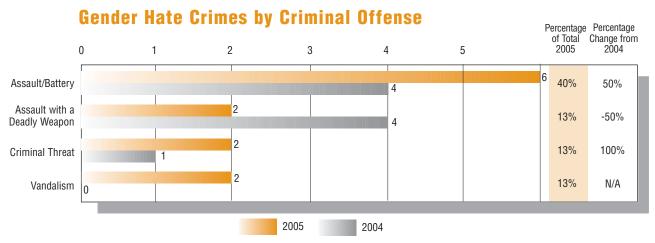


Victims of Gender Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



Suspects of Gender Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity





In addition to the above cases, in 2005 there were single cases of brandishing a weapon, attempted robbery/robbery, and sexual battery.

In terms of location, 4 of these crimes took place in businesses, 3 in public places, and one each in a school and a residence.

Of the victims in these cases, 5 (56%) were Latino, 2 (22%) were black and 2 (22%) were white. There were 14 suspects identified. Ten (71%) were black, 2 (14%) were white and 2 (14%) were Latino.

August 11, 2005 - West Valinda (San Gabriel Valley): A 39-year-old Latina female was washing her vehicle on the street in front of her house when a Latino walked up to her and said in Spanish, "You fucking whore. You are Mexican but you don't speak Spanish." The woman was scared and walked away from him. He then said, "I'm going to kill you because you're a woman" and began hitting the trunk of her vehicle and told her to open it. The woman noted that the man had his fists clenched and appeared very angry. A witness overheard the man and detained him while law enforcement were called and arrested him. Law enforcement learned that the man lives about three houses north of the woman.

October 2, 2005 - Hollywood: A 33-year-old transgender Latina attempted to receive service at an establishment and was refused by a white man working there, who yelled, "Get out you fuckin' fag-if you were in my country, I'd kill you." The man proceeded to chase the victim out of the business.

LOOK AT DISABILITY

There was one case in which the victim's disability was one of the motivations in the commission of the offense.

In Palmdale, a 37-year-old Latino male who had both mental and physical disabilities was harassed while riding a bus. Two juvenile black females called him a "fucking retard." The victims asked them to leave him alone. A white male passenger then told the victim that he hated "cripples and Mexicans." The victim rose to his feet and the suspect pushed him against the window and threatened to kill him. The suspect exited the bus and another passenger tried to comfort the victim.

CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS OF HATE CRIME

What happens in the prosecution of a hate crime?

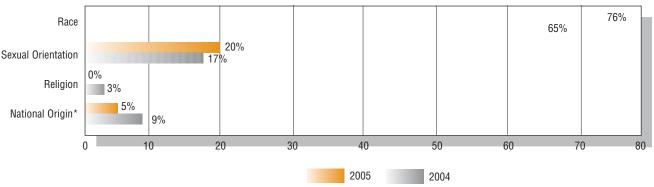
1. The Initial Police Report: One of 46 policing agencies in the county files a police incident or arrest report. The report is then referred to one of three prosecutors' offices for possible prosecution. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's office, which has a hate crimes prosecution unit, prosecutes both felonies and misdemeanors, and the Los Angeles City Attorney's office prosecutes only misdemeanors committed in the city of Los Angeles. The U.S. Attorney's Office prosecutes cases on behalf of the federal government for violations of federal law.

NUMBER OF HATE CRIMES REFERRED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

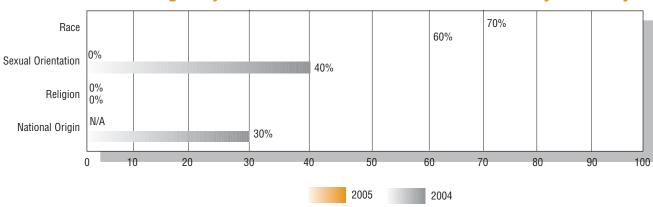
NUMBER OF HATE CRIME CHARGES FILED

DISTRICT ATTORNEY (prosecutes felonies and misdemeanors)		
2005 2004	143 151	116 (51 adults, 65 juveniles) 99 (65 adults, 34 juveniles)
LOS ANGELES CITY ATTORNEY (prosecutes misdemeanors only)		
LUS ANGELES CITT ATTUR	INEY (prosecutes misdemeanors only)	
2005	19	5

Motivating Prejudice for Adult Prosecutions: District Attorney



Motivating Prejudice for Adult Prosecutions: L.A. City Attorney



2. The Decision Whether to File Charges: The prosecutors' office reviews each case thoroughly and decides whether to file a charge against the suspect for a crime or a hate crime.

If a suspect is formally charged with a hate crime, the prosecuting office believes that there is sufficient evidence that bias, hatred, or prejudice based on the victim's race, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender, or sexual orientation was a substantial factor in the commission of the crime.

For Los Angeles City Attorney cases: when cases do not support a hate crime filing, the parties involved are often brought into special hearings, where parties are lectured on the law and its consequences. Violators may be sent to educational programs to gain greater understanding of the harm, history, and impact of discriminatory ideology and movements.

- **3. The Arraignment:** The suspect is then brought before a judge or magistrate, and informed of the charges and his or her constitutional rights at an arraignment. The defendant must enter a plea of 'guilty' or 'not guilty.' An attorney is appointed if the defendant cannot afford one, and bail is set or a defendant is released on his or her own recognizance.
- **4. The Resolution:** The criminal case is resolved, either through a guilty or no contest plea by the defendant, or the charges may be dropped by the prosecution. If the defendant pleads 'not guilty,' the case can go to trial by judge or jury. Some cases result in findings that bias was not a substantial factor in the commission of the crime.
- **5. The Sentence:** If guilty, sentencing is carried out. It can include jail time, probation, or other conditions, such as community service or cultural sensitivity training. Such diversion or educational programs are scarce.

Federal Hate Crime Prosecutions in 2005

U.S. v. Stanley C. Jaroszenski In June 2005, Stanley C. Jaroszenski was indicted by a federal grand jury with 117 counts, 56 of which charged violations of mailing threatening communications, and 61 which charged mailing injurious articles. The case arises from Jaroszenski sending scores of hateful letters that threatened Jews and made disparaging remarks about homosexuals and other ethnic groups. Many of these letters contained hypodermic syringes with capped needles attached. Jaroszenski was found not competent to stand trial without medical intervention, and the case is pending further litigation regarding his competency.



HATE CRIME LEGISLATION

State Hate Crime-Related Legislation

In 2005, one bill regarding hate crimes was passed by the California State Legislature and signed into law.

Assembly Bill 378, introduced by Assemblymember Judy Chu, makes it easier for hate crime victims to seek civil remedies from the perpetrators. It amends the Ralph and Bane Acts, which previously granted only one year in which to file a lawsuit for a maximum \$25,000 penalty, to allow a three-year statute of limitations for a violation of California's hate crime law. This change in the law makes it easier for victims of hate crimes to pursue a civil action (lawsuit) in addition to any criminal proceedings.

Before the passage of this law, victims of hate crimes had one year from the time of the incident to sue their attackers in civil court. This time limitation prohibited some hate crime victims from seeking compensation for the harms that they had suffered. Victims are often unable to file a civil suit before the criminal case concludes. In some cases, one year is simply not enough time for law enforcement to identify the attackers or complete its investigation, or for the criminal proceedings to finish. In other cases, victims are advised by legal counsel to await the conclusion of the criminal trial, in part because prosecutions often provide victims information that would be needed to successfully sue the perpetrators, and that might otherwise be impossible or very costly to obtain.

Assembly Bill 378 also synchronizes the Ralph and Bane Acts with the time limitations for filing discrimination claims with the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH), which have recently increased from one year to three years after the violation has occurred.

Federal Hate Crime-Related Legislation

The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act (LLEEA), first introduced in 1998 by Senator Ted Kennedy as the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, was reintroduced in May of 2005 as Senate Bill 1145. This bill would amend the 1968 hate crimes law (which prohibits attacks based on race, religion, or national origin) by extending it to cover crimes that target people based on real or perceived sexual orientation, gender, or disability. While California law already covers such crimes, federal prosecution of hate crimes is needed when local authorities are unable or unwilling to prosecute. This bill would also broaden the law, so that federal authority is not limited only to violations of federally protected rights.

In addition, the bill would mandate that the Department of Justice award grants to state and local programs designed to combat hate crimes committed by juveniles, including programs that would train local law enforcement officers in identifying, investigating, prosecuting, and preventing hate crimes. The bill would also mandate that the United States Sentencing Commission study the issue of adult recruitment of juveniles to commit hate crimes, and also that the Commission consider amending the Federal sentencing guidelines to provide sentencing enhancements for adult defendants who recruit juveniles to assist in the commission of hate crimes. (This would be in addition to the sentencing enhancement already in existence for the use of a minor during the commission of an offense.)

The bill lacked the votes in the Senate to be brought to a vote in 2003. In 2004, the Senate passed the LLEEA, but the House did not. In 2005 the bill was reintroduced, but has not moved out of committee. The LLEEA companion bill in the House of Representatives was H.R. 2662.

APPENDIX A: 2005 HATE CRIME DATA - 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 Pasadena Police Department Redondo Beach Police Department San Fernando 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

Antelope Valley Union High School District Beverly Hills Unified School District Burbank Unified School District Castaic Union School District Cal State University Northridge Citrus Community College District Culver City Unified School District Downey Unified School District El Monte City School District El Monte Union High School District Gorman School District Keppel Union School District La Canada Unified School District Lancaster School District Las Virgenes Unified School District Long Beach Community College District Los Nietos School District Lynwood Unified School District Manhattan Beach Unified School District Monrovia Unified School District Mt. San Antonio Community College District Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District Rio Hondo Community College District Santa Monica Community College District Sulphur Springs Union School District Temple City Unified School District Torrance Unified School District Whittier City School District William S. Hart Union High School District Wilsona School District Wiseburn School District

Fair Housing Councils

Housing Rights Center

Community Organizations

Anti-Defamation League
Asian Pacific American Legal Center
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles
L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center
Muslim Public Affairs Council
South Asian Network

APPENDIX B: HATE CRIMES BY LAW ENFORCEMENT MUTUAL AID REGIONS

CRIMES PER 1,000,000 RESIDENTS
REGION POPULATION NUMBER OF HATE CRIMES 2005 2004

EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY 1,166,578

Arcadia Police Department • Azusa Police Department • Baldwin Park Police Department • Claremont Police Department • Covina Police Department • Irwindale Police Department • La Verne Police Department • Monrovia Police Department • Pomona Police Department • San Marino Police Department • Sierra Madre Police Department • West Covina Police Department • Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Bradbury, Diamond Bar, Duarte, Industry, La Habra Heights, La Puente, Rosemead, San Dimas, South El Monte, Temple City and Walnut)

36

LONG BEACH 470,855 23 49 42
Long Beach Police Department • Signal Hill Police Department

LOS ANGELES 3,819,103 333 87 65

Los Angeles Police Department

NORTH COUNTY 508,164 75 148 102

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Lancaster, Malibu, Palmdale, Santa Clarita, and West Village)

SOUTH BAY 810,706 32 39 11

El Segundo Police Department • Gardena Police Department • Hawthorne Police Department • Hermosa Beach Police Department • Inglewood Police Department • Manhattan Beach Police Department • Palos Verdes Police Department • Redondo Beach Police Department • Torrance Police Department • Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Avalon, Lawndale, Lomita, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills and Rolling Hills Estates)

SOUTHEAST 1,647,466 62 38 48

Bell Police Department • Bell Gardens Police Department • Downey Police Department • Huntington Park Police Department • Maywood Police Department • Montebello Police Department • South Gate Police Department • Vernon Police Department • Whittier Police Department • Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Artesia, Bellflower, Carson, Cerritos, Commerce, Cudahy, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, La Mirada, Lynwood, Norwalk, Paramount and Pico Rivera)

WEST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY 757,840 24 32

Alhambra Police Department • Burbank Police Department • Glendale Police Department • Monterey Park Police Department • Pasadena Police Department • San Fernando Police Department • San Gabriel Police Department • South Pasadena Police Department • Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (La Canada-Flintridge)

WESTSIDE* 200,576 28 140 150

Beverly Hills Police Department • Santa Monica Police Department • Culver City Police Department • Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (West Hollywood)

HATE CRIMES RESOURCES

Victim Assistance

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) P.O. Box 8686 Anaheim, CA 92812 (714) 535-1719 www.adc.org

Email: adc/aoc@hotmail.com

Anti-Defamation League (ADL) 10495 Santa Monica Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90025 (310) 446-8000 Fax: (310) 470-8712 www.adl.org

Email: los-angeles@adl.org

Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC) 1145 Wilshire Blvd., 2nd Floor Los Angeles, CA 90017 (213) 977-7500 Fax: (213) 977-7595 (800) 867-3126 Khmer (800) 867-3640 Korean (800) 267-7395 Vietnamese

(800) 520-2356 (Mandarin/Cantonese)

www.apalc.org

Email: aalmeria@apalc.org

Office of Victim Services California Attornev General P.O. Box 944255, Sacarmento, CA 94244 (877) 433-9069

California Department of Fair Employment & Housing (DFEH) Los Angeles District 611 West Sixth Street, Suite 1500 Los Angeles, CA 90017-3116 (800) 884-1684 or (800) 700-2320 Fax: (213) 439-6715 www.dfeh.ca.gov

California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board Victim Compensation Program P.O. Box 3036 Sacramento, CA 95812-9912 (800) 777-9229 (800) 735-2929 (California Relay Service for Hearing Impaired)

California Victim of Crime Resource Center (800) 842-8467

City of Azusa Human Relations Commission 722 N. Azusa Avenue Azusa, CA 91702 (626) 324-4343

Burbank Human Relations Council P.O. Box 3333 Burbank, CA 91504 (818) 842-3935

City of Claremont Committee on Human Relations **Human Services Department** 1700 Danbury Rd. Claremont, CA 91711 (909) 399-5332

City of Long Beach Human Dignity Program 333 W. Ocean Blvd. Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 570-6948 Fax: (562) 570-7140 Email: andemps@ci.long-beach.ca.us

City of Pasadena Human Relations Commission 100 N. Garfield Avenue Pasadena, CA 91101 (626) 744-4234

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) 2533 West Third Street, Suite 101 Los Angeles, CA 90057 (213) 353-1782 or (888) 624-4752 (213) 353-1333 (English/Spanish) Fax: (213) 353-1344 www.chirla.org Email: info@chirla.org

Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) Southern California 2180 West Crescent Ave., Suite F Anaheim, CA 9280 (714) 776-1847 Fax: (714) 776-8340 www.cair-net.org

Los Angeles City Human Relations Commission 200 N. Spring Street City Hall, Room 1625 Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 485-4265 or (213) 978-1664

Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations 320 W. Temple Street, Suite 1184 Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 974-7611 Fax: 213-687-4251 www.LAHumanRelations.org TTY: 213-974-9440

L.A. County District Attorney's Office Victim-Witness Assistance Program 210 W. Temple Street, Room 12-514 Los Angeles, CA 90012 (800) 773-7574 or (213) 974-7499 www.da.co.la.ca.us

L.A. County District Attorney's Office Victim-Witness Assistance Program 3220 Rosemead Blvd., 2nd Floor El Monte, CA 91731 (800) 380-3811

HATE CRIMES RESOURCES continued

Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center McDonald/Wright Building, 3rd Floor 1625 North Schrader Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90028 (323) 993-7400 or (800) 373-2227 Fax: (323) 308-4480

Fax: (323) 308-4480 www.lagaycenter.org

Muslim Public Affairs Council 3010 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 217 Los Angeles, CA 90010 (213) 383-3443 Fax: (213) 383-9674 www.mpac.org

Email: mpacusa@aol.com

National Conference for Community and Justice, Southern California 444 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 940 Long Beach, CA 90802 (562) 435-8184 Fax: (562) 435-8318 www.nccjsocal.org

South Asian Network (SAN) 18173 Pioneer Blvd., Suite I, 2nd Floor Artesia, CA 90701 (800) 281-8111, 562-403-0488 Fax: 562-403-0487 www.southasiannetwork.org Email: joyti@southasiannetwork.org

Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)
4182 South Western Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90062
(323) 290-4100
Fax: 323-296-4742
www.mlkala.org
Email: Elee@mlka.org

U.S. Department of Justice – Office for Victims of Crime Resource Center 810 7th Street NW Washington, DC 20531 P.O. Box 6000 Rockville, MD 20849 (800) 851-3420 or (202) 307-5983 Fax: (301) 519-5212

www.ovc.gov

Email: askovc@ojp.usdoj.gov

Hate Crime Training

Anti-Defamation League (ADL) See aforementioned listing

Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism California State University, San Bernardino San Bernaardino, CA 92407 (909) 537-7711 www.hatemonitor.csusb.edu

L.A. County District Attorney's Office Hate Crime Suppression Unit 201 N. Figueroa Street, Room 1500 Los Angeles, CA 90012 (213) 580-3358

Council on American Islamic Relations, Southern California (CAIR)

See aforementioned listing

Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations See aforementioned listing

Museum of Tolerance 9786 West Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90035 (310) 553-8403 www.museumoftolerance.com

Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) 400 Washington Ave. Montgomery, AL 36104 (334) 956-8200 www.splcenter.org

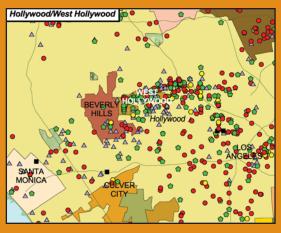
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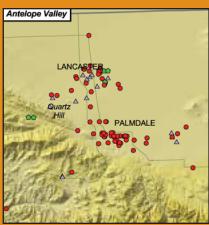
This report was developed by the Human Relations Commission Executive Director Robin S. Toma, Chief Deputy Director Richard Verches, Marshall Wong (editor), report team members Alan Choy and Lisa Hart; report reviewers Sikivu Hutchinson, Juan Carlos Martinez, Mary O'Gorman, Kendra Powell, and Ray Regalado; Commission staff members Connie De La Torre, Ava Gutierrez, and Sharon Williams; report contributors Benjamin Angulo and Stefanie Gluckman; Todd Zagurski of Special Services for Groups, John Allen Ramseyer of the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, Deborah Sanchez of the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, and Caroline Wittcoff of the U.S. Attorney's Office. Thanks to all of the Commission staff for their assistance. We would also like to thank the law enforcement agencies, school districts, and community-based organizations that provided us with 2005 hate crime data used in this report.

2002-2005 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes











LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

