

2009 Hate Crime Report

Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations



Hate Crimes by Motivation

- Race/Ethnicity/National Origin
- ▲ Sexual Orientation
- ◆ Religion
- ◆ Gender
- Disability

Note: In addition to the Hate Crimes shown on this map, there were thirty five additional crimes that are not displayed due to insufficient address information.

2009 Hate Crime Report

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2009 HATE CRIME REPORT
LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS



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Preface

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

Using information from the report, the Commission sponsors a number of ongoing programs related to combating hate crime: Network Against Hate Crime, Human Relations Mutual Assistance Consortium, Hate Crime Victim Assistance and Advocacy Initiative, Corporate Advisory Committee, Media Image Coalition, Racialized Gang Violence Prevention Initiative, and *Zerohour/No Haters Here!* youth initiative. L.A. County is one of the best trained jurisdictions in hate crime investigation and prosecution and the Commission produces one of the longest-standing reports in the nation documenting hate crime.

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

What is a Hate Crime?

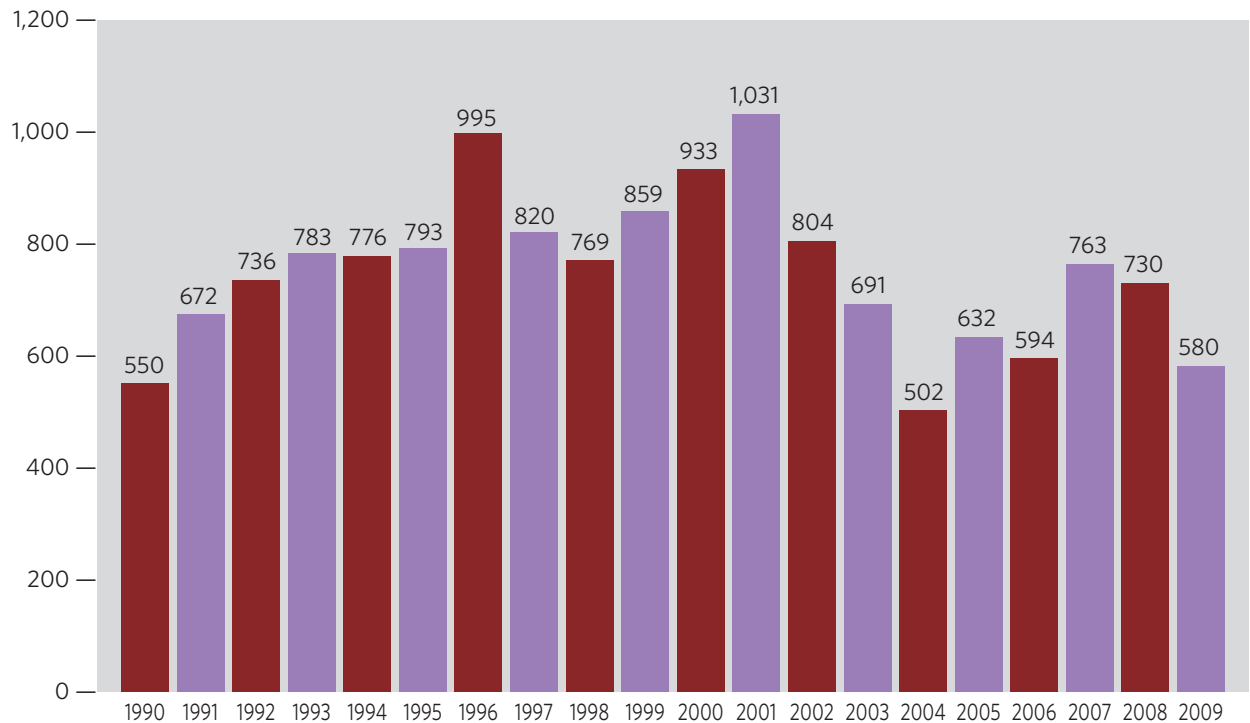
According to California state law, hate crime charges are filed when there is evidence that bias, hatred, or prejudice based on the victim's real or perceived race/ethnicity, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender, or sexual orientation is a substantial factor in the commission of the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

This definition is codified in the California penal code sections 422.55 to 422.95 pertaining to hate crime. Evidence of such bias, hatred, or prejudice can be direct or circumstantial. It can occur before, during, or after the commission of the offense.

Hate speech is a criminal offense when the speaker/writer has threatened violence against a specific person or group of persons. The threat must be immediate and unequivocal. The aggressor must also have the ability to carry out that threat. Frequently, derogatory words or epithets are directed against a member of a protected class, but no violence is threatened and there is no apparent ability to harm the target. Such hate incidents are important indicators of intergroup tensions. They are not, however, criminal offenses. Such language is protected by free speech rights set forth in the California and U.S. constitutions.

Graffiti is a hate crime when it is disparaging to a class of people protected by hate crime laws. This is most often indicated by the use of epithets or hate group symbols or slogans. To be a hate crime, graffiti must be directed at a specific target. For example, racial graffiti on a freeway overpass that does not address itself to a particular person is vandalism, and therefore illegal, but not considered a hate crime. Vandalism of a house of worship or of an ethnic, religious, or gay and lesbian organization may be considered a hate crime in the absence of evidence of other motives.

Total Number of Reported Hate Crimes by Year



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



Underreporting of Hate Crimes

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

Common reasons victims don't report hate crime:

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

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

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

Hate crimes that occur in schools, jails, and juvenile detention facilities, including large-scale racial brawls, are rarely reported as hate crimes. For example, during 2009 one high school was the site of a racial fight involving an estimated 500 participants. Law enforcement reported only one hate crime. Therefore, the hate crimes contained in this report likely represent only a fraction of hate crimes actually committed in 2009.

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

2009 Quick Facts

Hate crimes in Los Angeles County **decreased 21%** in 2009 from 730 to 580, the second lowest count in the past decade.

The largest number (55%) were based on **race**.
Once again, African Americans were targeted most frequently (64%).

Hate crimes between **African Americans and Latinos** remained disturbingly high. 77% of black victims were targeted by Latino suspects and 48% of Latino victims were attacked by black suspects.

Religious-motivated crimes grew and constituted 22% of all hate crimes. 88% of these crimes were anti-Jewish. The increase in religious crimes was due to a rise in anti-Semitic graffiti, some of which appeared to be the work of serial vandals.

Sexual orientation crimes comprised 18% of all hate crimes and remained the most likely of major motivation categories to be of a violent nature (77%). Gay men were targeted in 87% of these crimes.

24% of hate crimes showed evidence of **white supremacist** ideology, most frequently the use of swastikas or other symbols of hatred.

Gang members were responsible for 24% of racial hate crimes and these crimes were overwhelmingly anti-African American.

In cases where suspects were identified, **91% were male**.
42% of suspects were young adults (18 - 25), 29% were juveniles and 28% were age 25 and older.

Hate crimes occurred throughout Los Angeles County but the largest numbers were concentrated in the San Fernando Valley, followed by the Metro region.

However, if one accounts for population, the **highest rate** of hate crimes took place in the Metro region, followed by the Antelope Valley.

2009 Hate Crimes in Perspective

Dramatic Fall in Number of Hate Crimes

Hate crimes reported in Los Angeles County dropped 21% in 2009 from 730 to 580, the second lowest number in the past decade and the third lowest number recorded during the past 20 years. Consistent with previous years, the largest number (55%) were based on race, ethnicity, and national origin (for brevity, we refer to them as “racial hate crimes”). Those were followed by religious-based crimes (22%) and those motivated by sexual orientation (18%). 2% of hate crimes were based on gender (all anti-transgender) and there was a lone anti-disability crime.

Racial hate crimes fell 28% and sexual orientation-based crimes declined 19%. Religious crimes, on the other hand rose 9% and specifically anti-Jewish crimes jumped 49%. This is the first time in many years that religious crimes exceeded homophobic crimes. However, upon closer review, the rate of violence declined for religious crimes, as many of them appear to be the work of one or more serial vandals who repeatedly wrote graffiti on buildings, stop signs, light poles, etc. in a few neighborhoods (see “A Closer Look at Religious Crime”).

Hate crimes targeting African Americans, Latinos, gay men, and lesbians decreased. Although relatively few in number, crimes targeting Armenians and transgender people rose. Finally, the small numbers of crimes targeting whites, Asians, Christians, Middle Easterners, and Muslims remained virtually unchanged.

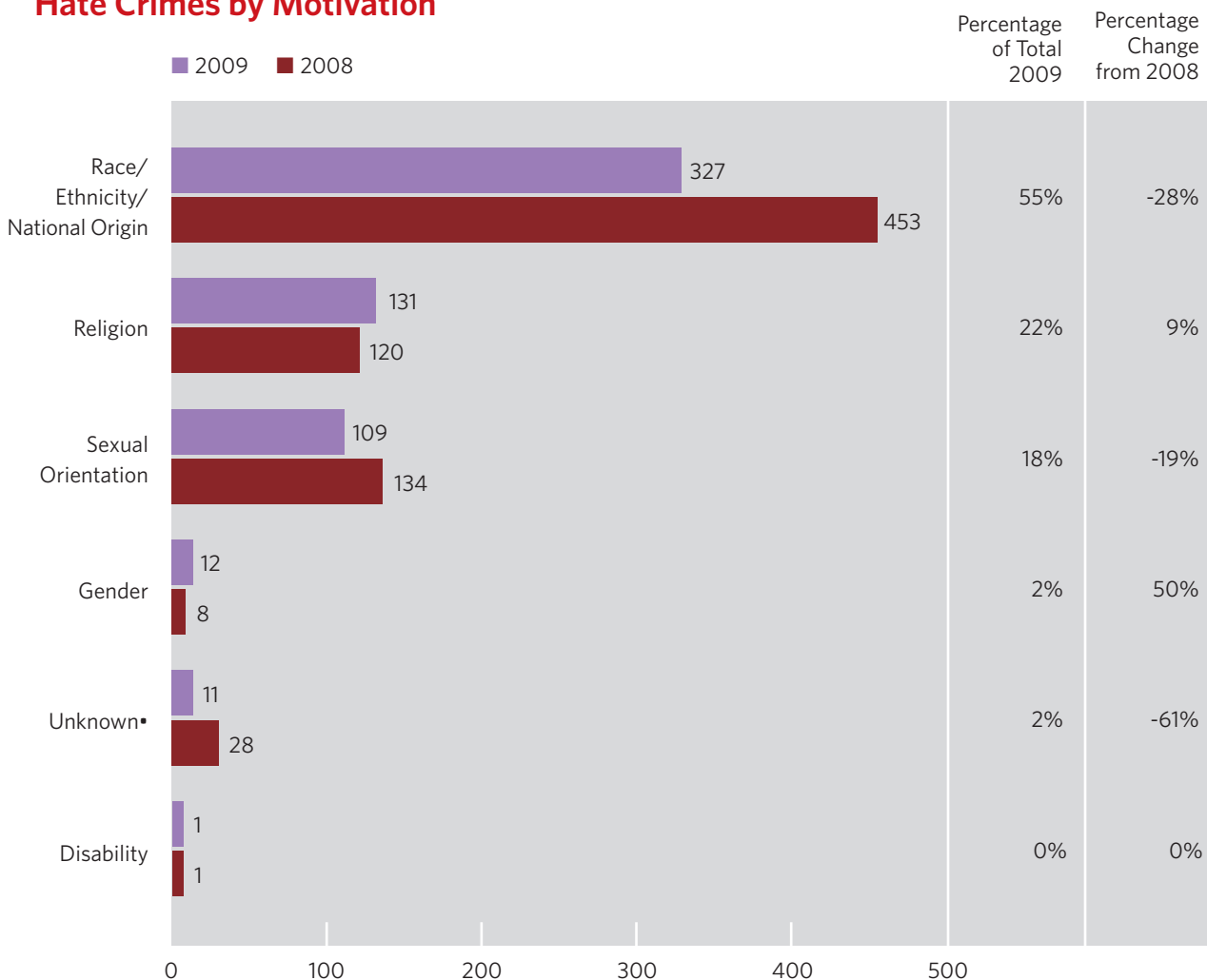
The reduction in hate crime reports in Los Angeles County is consistent with a similar decrease reported by the Office of the California Attorney General (21.3%). The FBI recorded a 15.1% decrease in hate crime events nationally. Furthermore, local law enforcement agencies reported small but significant declines in overall crime. The Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department reported an 8% decrease in the total number of crimes in Los Angeles County. Similarly, the Los Angeles Police Department reported an 8.7% drop in crime for the city during this same time period.

This was the second year in a row the rate of violence declined, from 61% to 55%. This was the lowest rate of violence in at least 5 years. The great majority of hate crimes fall into 4 categories of criminal offenses. Acts of vandalism were the most numerous (37%), followed by simple assaults (25%), aggravated assaults (16%) and intimidation (11%). All of these categories of criminal offenses declined, with aggravated assaults falling 44% and smaller drops in intimidation (29%), simple assaults (11%) and vandalism (10%).

There were marked differences in the rates of violence experienced by different victim groups. Sexual orientation crimes again had the highest rate of violence (77%), followed by racial crimes (65%) and religious crimes (11%).

The largest number of hate crimes occurred in public places (35%), followed by residences (32%), businesses (13%) and schools (12%). The previous year a plurality took place in residences. The change is partly due to the uptick in anti-Semitic vandalisms that took place on public property in largely Jewish neighborhoods.

Hate Crimes by Motivation



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

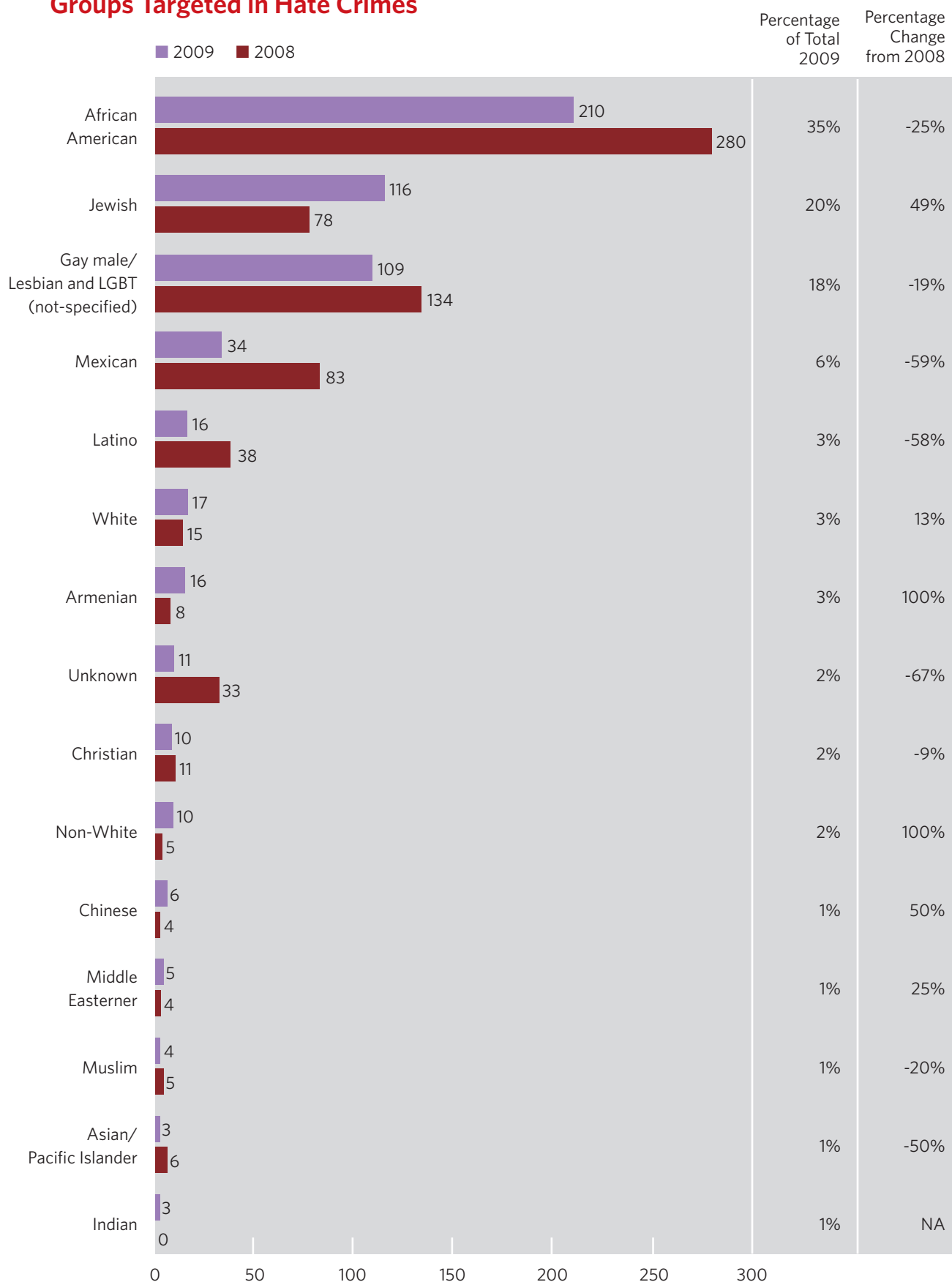
Geographic Distribution of Hate Crimes

Similar to the previous year, the largest number of hate crimes occurred in the San Fernando Valley, followed by the Metro region (stretching from downtown through West Hollywood). The lowest number took place in the Antelope Valley, followed by the Eastern part of the county (stretching from Montebello to Cerritos). However, if one accounts for population, the highest rate of hate crimes took place in the Metro region, followed by the Antelope Valley. The lowest rate occurred in the Eastern part of the county, followed by the San Gabriel Valley.

Hate Crimes Between Blacks and Latinos

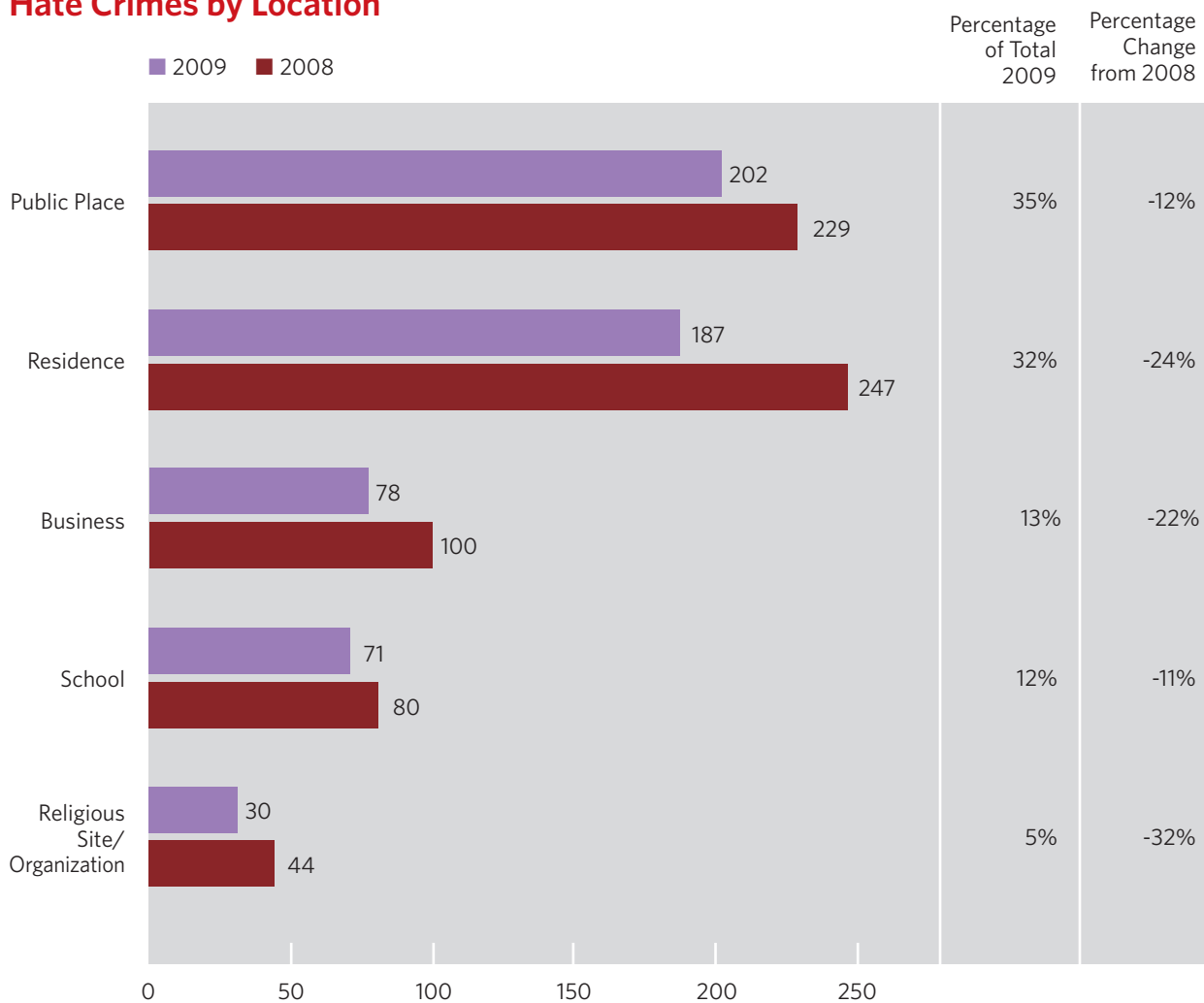
Although the numbers of crimes targeting African Americans and Latinos both declined, they remained the 2 largest groups of racial hate crime victims and there was disturbing evidence of continued tension between the 2 communities.

Groups Targeted in Hate Crimes



In 2009 there were single crimes that targeted Germans, Guatemalans, Italians Japanese, Koreans, Other, Pakistanis, the physically-disabled, Puerto Ricans and Scientologists. There were two crimes that targeted American Indians.

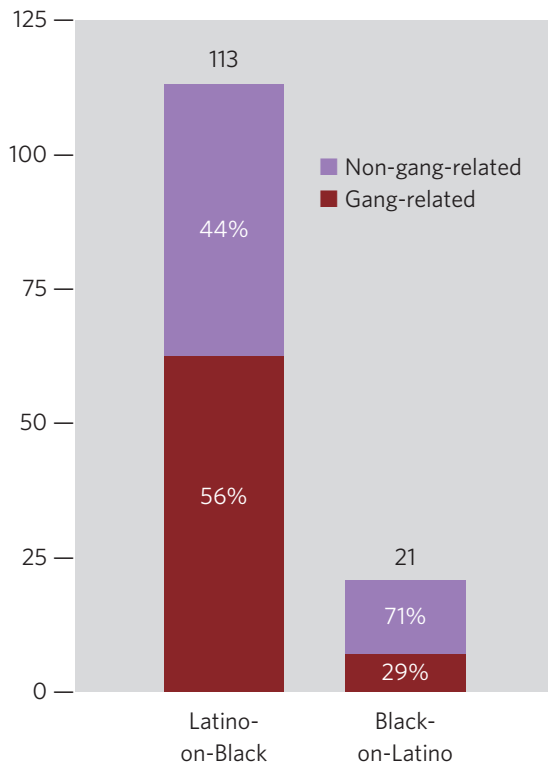
Hate Crimes by Location



In 2009 there were 3 hate crimes that took place at community-based organization, 5 at government buildings and 4 in which the location was unknown.



Black-Latino Hate Crimes in 2009



It is important to note that the great majority of African Americans and Latinos are not in conflict and peacefully co-exist on a day to day basis. Nonetheless, hate crimes committed between these two communities remains one of the most serious features of hate crime in Los Angeles County.

Black victims of racial hate crime were targeted by Latino suspects in 110 of the cases (or 77% of all anti-black crimes) and this percentage has grown steadily over the past 5 years. By contrast, there were only 21 crimes in which Latino victims were attacked by blacks (or 48% of all anti-Latino crimes). This represents a significant decline during the same time period. The proportion of anti-Latino crimes committed by white suspects grew from 24% to 45% of the total in 2009.*

The great majority of these crimes were simple or aggravated assaults. 95% of the anti-Latino crimes committed by black suspects were violent as were 89% of the Latino-on-black crimes. Latino-on-black crimes were more likely to be of a violent nature than the previous year.

Gangs

Hate crimes in which gang members were suspects declined for the second year in a row from 101 to 85, a decrease of 16%. These crimes made up 15% of all hate crimes. In general, this report classifies as hate crimes those cases in which suspects yell out their gang affiliation or include a gang name in graffiti. They do not include crimes based solely on the appearance of suspects (e.g. shaved heads, baggy clothes). The actual number of crimes committed by gang members may be higher.

Latino gang member sentenced to death in hate-crime killing of two, including 14-year-old Cheryl Green

September 27, 2010

A Los Angeles jury returned a death penalty verdict Monday for a 22-year-old Latino gang member convicted in the hate-crime killing of a 14-year-old black girl and a potential witness in Harbor Gateway.

Jonathan Fajardo, who was 18 at the time of the killings, nonchalantly looked around the courtroom as the verdict was read. The jury found he should receive death for both of his first-degree murder convictions for the slayings of Cheryl Green and Christopher Ash.

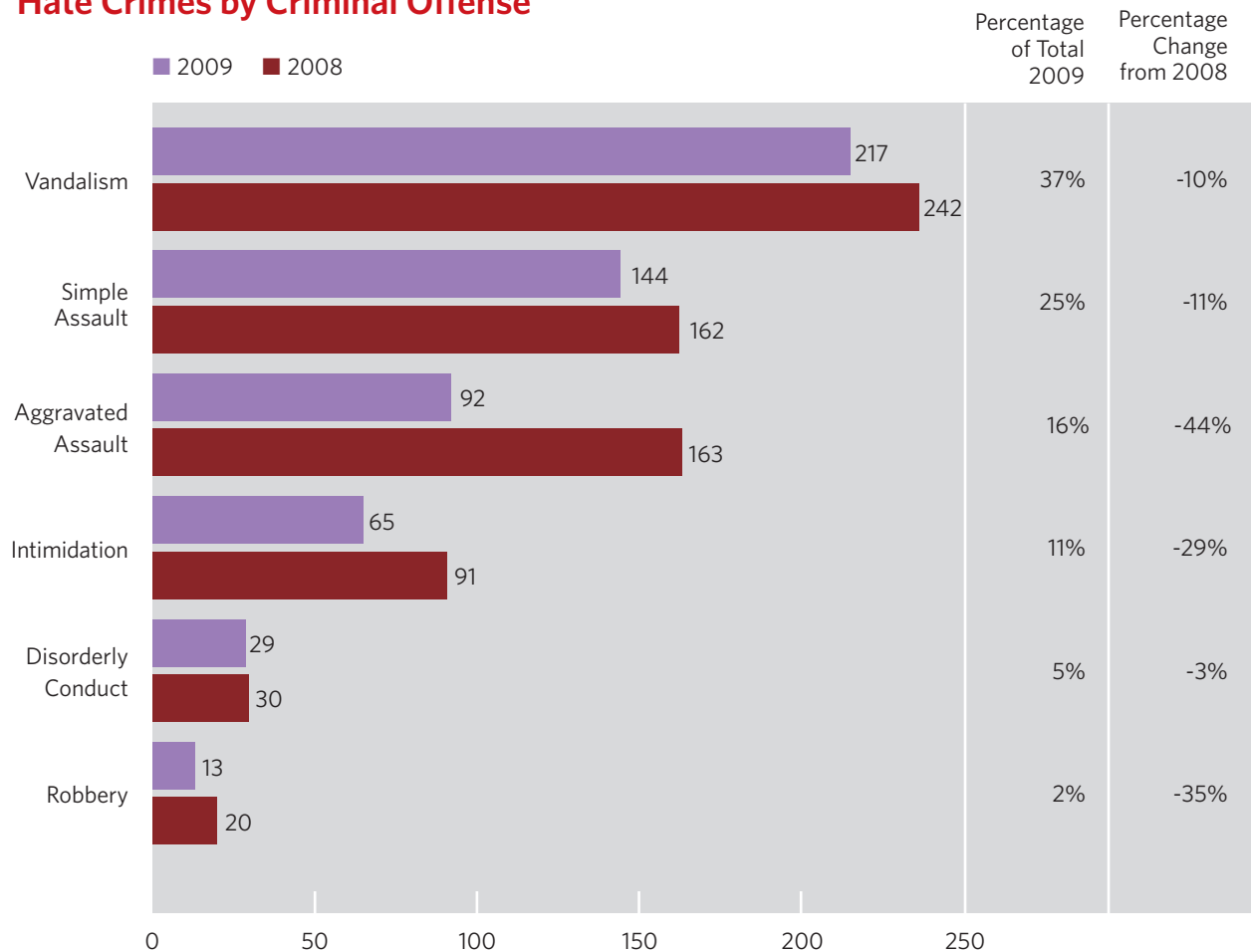
Gang-related hate crime had a high rate of violence (81%, a proportion similar to the previous year). The most common criminal offense was aggravated assault (32%), followed by simple assault (24%), intimidation (20%) and vandalism (16%).

Consistent with previous years, hate crimes committed by gangs were overwhelmingly racial (94%) and constituted 24% of racial crimes, a proportion slightly larger than the previous year. The great majority of them were anti-African American (84%) and only 8% were anti-Latino and 6% were homophobic.

More than half (56%) of the Latino-on-black crimes were committed by gang members (up from 46% the previous year). By comparison, only 29% of the black-on-Latino crimes were committed by gang members.

The gangs included the Avenues, Canoga Park Alabama, Blythe Street Gang, North Hollywood Boys, Southsiders, Compton Varrio Tortilla Flats, 88's (a neo-Nazi gang), Black P Stones, Happy Valley Crips, Duarte-13, Rivera Gang, Hazard Gang, Mara Salvatrucha, Dogtown, East Side Wilmas, Project Boys, East Side Trece, Piru, Florencia-13, and Mid-Town Criminals.

Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense



In 2009, there were also a single cases of murder and theft, 2 attempted murders, 5 acts of arson, and 7 burglaries.

White Supremacist Activity

This is the fifth year in which this report tracks hate crimes that display white supremacist ideology. This is most frequently the use of swastikas and other white power symbols in graffiti. Occasionally, the slogans used are spoken. These crimes declined slightly in 2009 from 143 to 138 (3%). However as a percent of all hate crimes, they increased from 20% to 24%.

Jews were targeted in about half of these crimes, followed by African Americans (18%) and Latinos (10%). In 7% of the cases, the graffiti did not have a specific target but was broader in its message, such as "SWP" the acronym for "Supreme White Power." The targeted group in these cases is considered "non-white."

Three quarters of these crimes were acts of graffiti or other vandalism. Consequently, the rate of violence for white supremacist crime was only 10%, down from 14% the previous year.

These crimes took place in locations similar to the previous year. 45% percent occurred in residences, followed by schools (20%), public places (16%), and businesses (14%).

It is probable that the majority of the crimes are not committed by members of organized white supremacist groups with formal chapters in Southern California. There are only a handful of active local organizations, such as the Nazi Lowriders and the Peckerwoods. Such groups are known for not only their racist attacks but also their involvement in an array of criminal activities. It is likely that most of the perpetrators of these crimes act independently and have informal networks of like-minded friends or connect with hate groups via the Internet.



Crimes Related to Conflict in the Middle East

Since 2001, because of the backlash against Muslims and people of Middle Eastern descent following September 11, this report has tracked hate crimes in which suspects made specific references to terrorism or conflict in the Middle East. Most often, these crimes have involved suspects who call their victims "terrorists" or use other specific slurs.

There were no such hate crimes reported in 2009. However, there were 5 anti-Middle Easterner and 4 anti-Muslim crimes and it is unknown how many of them were inspired by blaming the victims for the September 11 terrorist attacks or subsequent events.

Suspects*

Once again, young adults (18-25) comprised the largest group of suspects (42%) followed by juveniles (29%) and persons over 25 (28%). This distribution is similar to the previous year.

As in previous years, males comprised 91% of identified suspects. However, female suspects were just as likely as their male counterparts to commit violent crimes.

*Throughout this report, all suspect percentages refer to cases in which suspects were identified.

For several years, this report has tracked the number of hate crimes committed by large groups of people, who have often been juveniles. In 2009, in 78% of cases victims were targeted by lone suspects, a small increase from the previous year. In 11% the victims were attacked by pairs of suspects. There was 1 case that involved a group of 15 suspects.

Homeless Victims of Hate Crime

This is the second year this report tracks hate crimes in which the victims are homeless. Currently with the exception of the State of Maryland, no hate crime statutes currently include the homeless as a protected class. Some state legislatures are considering expanding their hate crime laws to include crimes motivated by bias against the homeless and a similar bill has been introduced into the U.S. Congress. This is due in part to efforts of advocates for the homeless who have anecdotally been documenting a rise in violent crimes against their clients. For more information about violence against the homeless, see the 2008 Hate Crime Report at <http://www.lahumanrelations.org> or view a recent report released by the National Coalition for the Homeless: www.nationalhomeless.org/publications.

In Los Angeles County there is no mechanism or system to capture anti-homeless crimes. However, in 2009, there were 3 racial crimes in which the victims were homeless, compared to 6 the previous year. In 1 case a victim was punched and called a "Nigger" while waiting in line for food at a church. In a second case, a Latino male suspect confronted a black homeless man, called him racial slurs and threatened to kill him while brandishing a box cutter. In the third case, a Latino suspect struck a homeless Guatemalan man in the head while shouting, "Fuck Guatemala!" There were also five racial crimes in which the suspects were homeless.



Preventing and Responding to Hate Violence in LA County: Commission Actions

This section highlights new and ongoing efforts by the LA County Commission on Human Relations and its partners to prevent and respond to hate violence in LA County. The Racialized Gang Violence Prevention Initiative, Hate Crime Victim Assistance, The Zerohour/No Haters Here! Youth initiative, Youth Offender Re-entry Planning, and the Network Against Hate Crime are among the programs and projects described. For more information, go to www.lahumanrelations.org and www.css.lacounty.gov.

Helping Youth Find Paths Away From Hate Crime and Violence

Youth Offender Re-Entry Planning

Our data shows that most hate crime is committed by youth and young adults, 25 years and younger. One of the newer Commission programs involve taking a countywide leadership role to address the re-entry of youth offenders, including gang members and hate crime perpetrators, from incarceration back into our neighborhoods. Funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, the Commission has worked with the Workforce branch of Community and Senior Services, Probation and other agencies to organize summits in each Supervisorial district of the county. Key governmental agencies, service providers, and ex-youth offenders were brought together to inform a countywide plan to better coordinate and support youth offender re-entry. Based upon the summits and research, a blueprint for an effective youth offender re-entry strategy and plan will be presented at a countywide summit in early 2011.

Project One Band: The Bricks

Music is a powerful tool for impacting youth culture and its prevalent prejudices and biases that in turn provide a breeding ground for acts of hate. That is why the Commission set out to partner with LA music industry professionals and an anti-racism non-profit called Oneness. As a result of human relations music workshops carried out around the county, the top talent was culled to engage in the creation of youth-oriented music with hard-hitting human relations themes during 2009. The Bricks were born, and they have launched songs in 2010 that will stir discussion, education and awareness among young people about racism, homelessness, anti-immigrant sentiment and other common prejudices.

Rebuilding Community in Neighborhoods Experiencing Inter-Ethnic Violence

The Racialized Gang Violence Prevention Initiative (RGVPI)

The Commission tracks and responds to hate incidents that have the dual variables of being based primarily on race-ethnicity-national origin, and are allegedly perpetrated by gang members. Most gang violence is intra-ethnic (Latino vs. Latino, black vs. black, etc.). However, our hate crime data indicates that racialized gang violence is a recurring problem in over 30 geographic communities in the County, and unchecked, it can spiral into community-wide inter-ethnic violence. Among the affected communities are LA County gang violence reduction demonstration sites.

Since June 2007, the Commission's Racialized Gang Violence Prevention Initiative (RGVPI) has invested in developing models to systematically address the root causes of racialized gang violence. Three approaches are civic organizing, community intervention-prevention, and asset-based youth/young adult development "viewed through the trauma lens."

Pasadena-Altadena Vision 20/20

RGVPI invested almost four-years in helping to organize Pasadena-Altadena Vision 20/20: a long-term response to the over 80 assaults against lone Latino men in late 2006 and early 2007; a so-called "Sock on Mexican" (SOM) campaign perpetrated by gang and non-gang Black youth. One of these 2007 shootings galvanized community sensibilities, when 16 year old Ebony Huell, a bystander, was murdered.

RGVPI staff partnered with Councilmember Jacque Robinson and the Western Justice Center to build a broad-based coalition comprised of over 50 local organizations and institutions, and over 200 active leaders and residents, anchored by the Flintridge Center (formerly Flintridge Foundation). Vision 20/20's work produced a multi-jurisdictional governmental and community committee that helped officials and community stakeholders understand the problem as never before, as committee meetings mobilized large numbers of youth and adults, and proceedings were televised and streamed online. Unprecedented Pasadena City funding allocations and \$216,000 grant from the California Endowment have helped the Commission carry out the following Vision 20/20 projects:

- Community Violence Intervention-Prevention Institute (quarterly training and education course with 55 graduates to date)
- Intervention Networks (comprised of institute grads and grassroots volunteers)
- Apprenticeship Preparation Program (a partnership with Pasadena City College, 14 unions, and community nonprofits that has prepared over 100 adults for careers in the construction trades)
- Pasadena-Altadena Safe Summer (a partnership with Pasadena Unified School District to provide for-credit classes and special activities for high school seniors)
- Neighborhood Conflict Resolution (a curriculum development and training-the-trainers partnership of the Vision 20/20 Institute and the Western Justice Center)
- Beyond Borders (a community dialogue curriculum and engagement campaign led by CHIRLA, to increase understanding and operational unity among Latino and African American residents and organizations)
- Intergroup Community Building Fast Facts (a Commission publication that will provide inspirational Latino and African American historical, cultural and social information)

Harbor Gateway's Project GRACE

Since 1997 the Commission has responded to racially targeted gang violence in the Harbor Gateway community of Los Angeles. Graffiti, intimidation and murder have been inserted into the lives of residents where parents and children dared not venture out after dark.

In 2009, the Commission was able to acquire federal funding with the support of LA County Supervisor Don Knabe to establish a gang intervention and a community organizing project in the Harbor Gateway. Known as the Harbor Gateway Gang Reduction and Civic Engagement Project (GRACE Project), gang intervention and community civic engagement strategies were coordinated to reduce gang violence and teach residents to involve themselves in established community efforts. Under the GRACE Project, human relations precepts formed the basis of all interaction and training within the community by fostering inclusion and respect for differences. Crimes in the GRACE Project target area decreased 6% during the reporting period of September 2009 to October 2010, and there were no reported hate crimes during the same period.

Los Angeles County Regional Gang Violence Reduction Initiative

In 2009, the County CEO Bill Fujioka began convening a governing committee of key County departments, as well as municipal and law enforcement leaders from key cities within the county to address the root causes of gangs and gang violence in LA County, as directed by the Board of Supervisors. Strategies were crafted for gang violence prevention, high-risk/re-entry, and suppression for four demonstration sites: Florence-Firestone, Harbor Gateway, Monrovia-Duarte and Pacoima.

The RGVPI staff have been tasked to strengthen the Commission's role in racialized gang violence prevention through:

- Membership in the prevention, high risk, and law enforcement work groups in all four demonstration sites
- Providing technical assistance, meeting facilitation, and training in intergroup relations, civic engagement, community collaboration, community violence intervention-prevention, youth young adult development and other skill-sets.
- Participation in selection, training, and technical support of the Site Coordinators.
- Co-planning, developing, conducting pre-implementation training, and implementing the "Parks After Dark" pilot at Pamela Park in Duarte, Watkins Park in Watts, Roosevelt Park in Florence-Firestone.
- Selecting and coordinating community violence intervention-prevention/re-entry contractor teams

Building Models To Prevent Hate Violence in Our Schools

"Safe Schools/Healthy Students" at Washington Preparatory High School

Under the leadership of former LA County's Supervisor Yvonne Burke and LAUSD, the Commission has been collaborating with LAUSD and a host of county departments (Probation, Children and Family Services, Mental Health, etc.) and community non-profits to carry out an ambitious 'safe schools and healthy students' plan for Washington Preparatory. As part of the Commission's zerohour.com/No Haters Here! efforts at Washington Preparatory High School, the Commission carried out a range of projects, including the linking of the Superior Court with administration and faculty at Washington Preparatory High School and LAUSD Local District 8 to explore the possibility of starting a Hate Incident Teen Court for Washington Prep students.

Assisting and Empowering Victims of Hate Crime

St. Mark United Methodist Church

In February 2009, St. Mark United Methodist Church in South Los Angeles was vandalized with sexually explicit anti-religious graffiti and ransacked. The Commission responded with assistance and, along with L.A. County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, participated in the LAPD's press conference offering a reward for information related to the crime.

Channise Davy

African American single parent, Channise Davy, and her children arrived home in Duarte to find it vandalized and ransacked in May 2009. Spray painted in every room was the "N" word, gang identifiers, and threats directing the family to move out. The Commission responded and helped Davy access resources to replace personal property and expedite her subsidized housing voucher to relocate. Commission staff facilitated a press conference with Ms. Davy and a Latina mother who lost her daughter Samantha Salas to gang violence the previous year in the same community. The two women called for peace and an end to gang retaliation.

Bringing Together Law Enforcement and Community Advocates to Fight Hate

Established by the Commission in 1984, the Network Against Hate Crime (NAHC) brings together law enforcement agencies, human relations organizations, educators, faith communities, social service and advocacy groups and concerned individuals to coordinate efforts to combat hate crime. The Network meets quarterly to share information and resources, track legislation and sponsor educational activities about preventing, investigating, prosecuting and responding to hate activity.

During 2009, NAHC sponsored a number of educational activities, including:

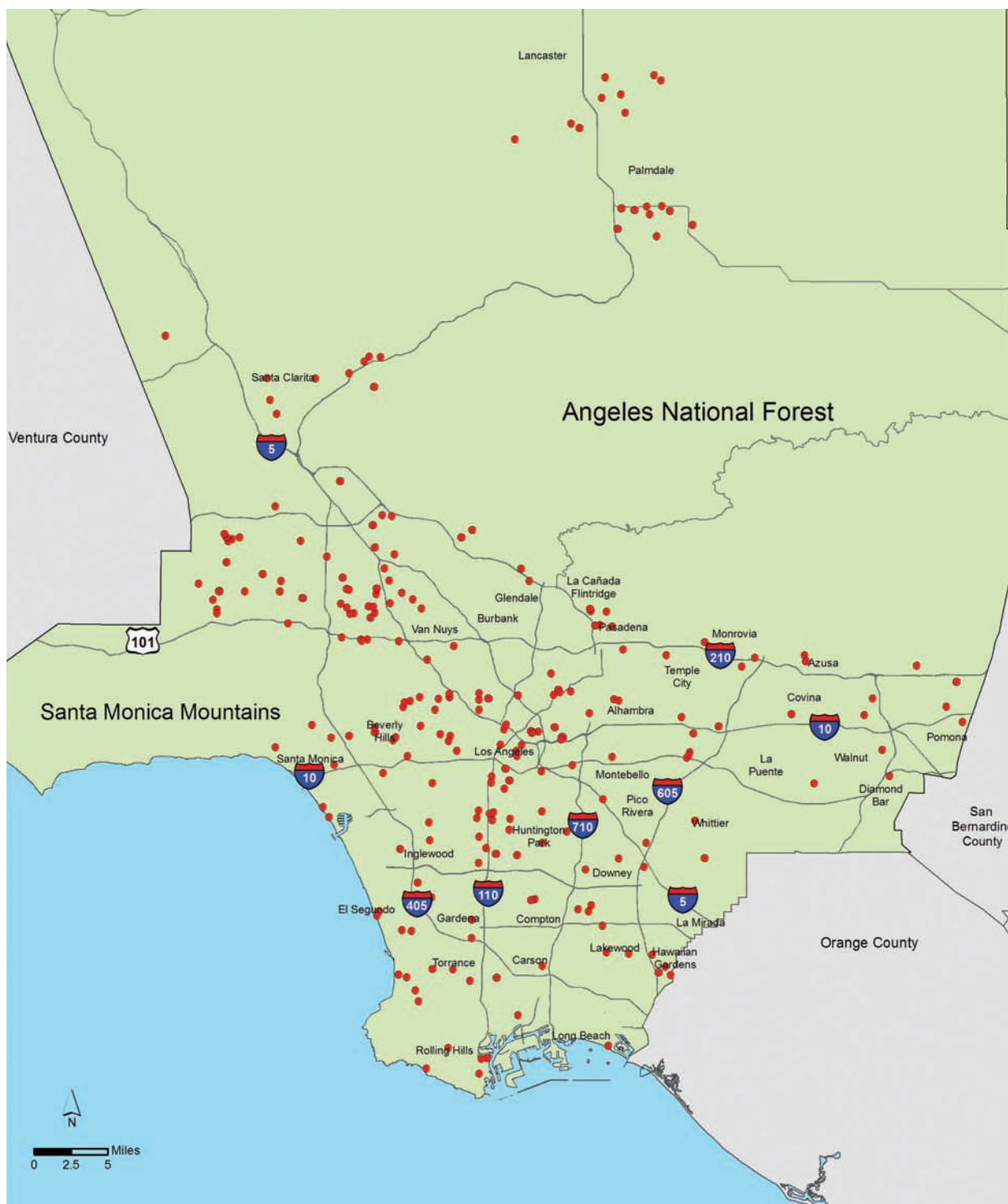
- U.S. Attorney Michael Lowe on “Operation Knock-out,” a major round-up of members and associates of the Varrio Hawaiian Gardens gang, long-known for racist attacks on African Americans
- Gretchen Ford of the District Attorney’s Hate Crime Suppression Unit
- Earl Burns of the FBI on the work of the FBI-LASD-LAPD Hate Crime Task Force
- The Anti-Defamation League on the Rise in Anti-Semitic Crimes in California
- LAPD on the West Valley homicide of James Shamp by members of the Canoga Park Alabama gang and a string of potentially anti-gay armed robberies in Silverlake
- LASD Chief Cecil Rhambo, Jr. and Chief Neil Tyler on the “Share Tolerance” Program, an innovative hate crime prevention program for youth.



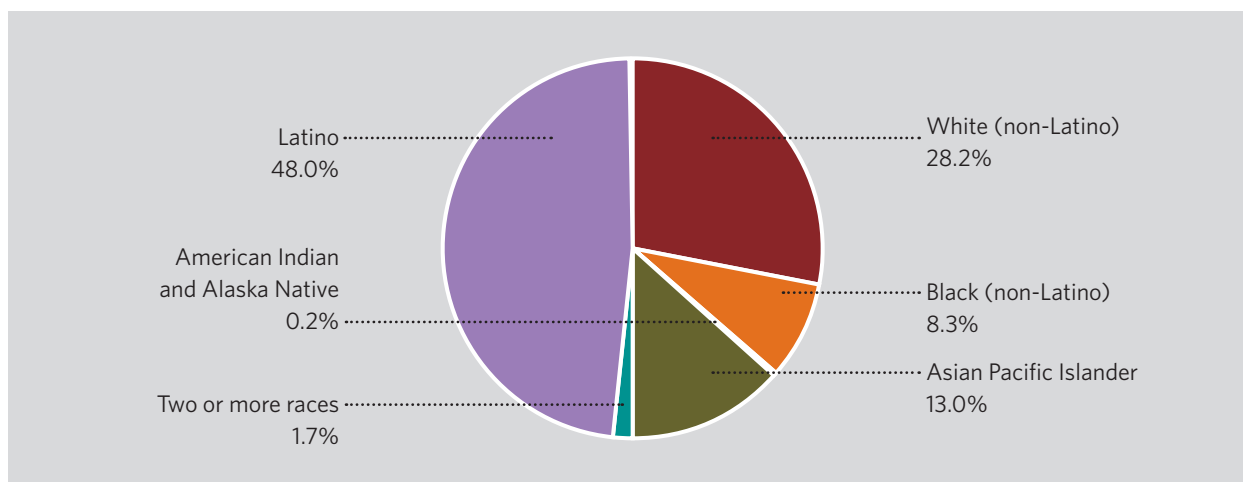
A Closer Look at Racial Hate Crimes

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2009 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes Motivated by Race/Ethnicity/National Origin



Los Angeles County Population by Race/Ethnicity



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2009 American Community Survey

Crimes based on a victim's real or perceived race, ethnicity, or national origin (referred to as simply "racial hate crimes" in this report) decreased 28% in 2009, from 458 to 328. They also decreased as a percentage of all hate crimes, from 61% to 55%. This is the lowest number of racial hate crimes recorded in the past 5 years.

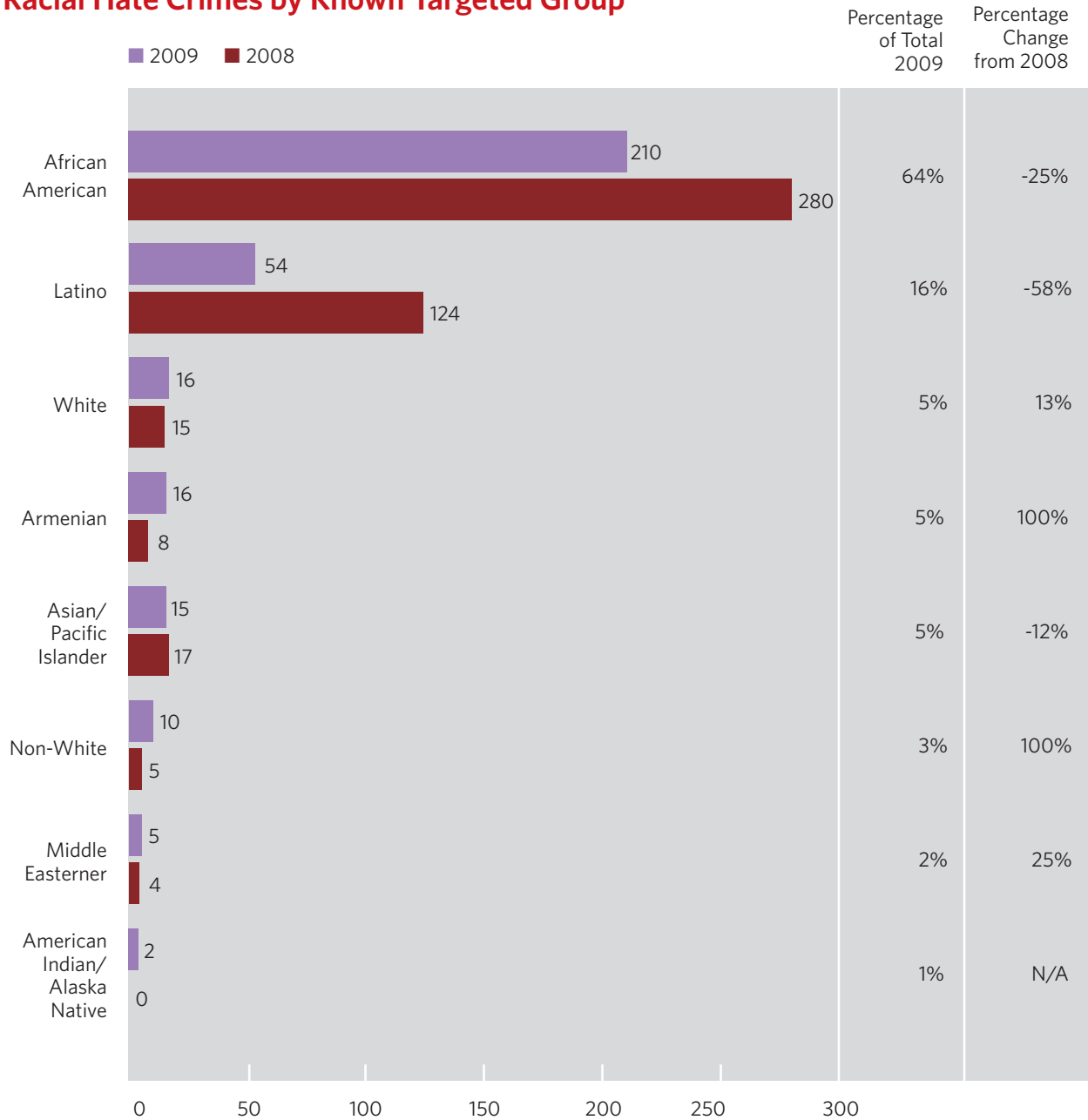
As in previous years, anti-black crimes were by far the largest group, comprising 210, or 64%, of all racial hate crimes reported. This continued trend is disturbing because African Americans represent less than 9% of the total Los Angeles County population. Surprisingly, reported hate crimes targeting Latinos fell dramatically 58% during a time when armed vigilantes and other militant anti-immigration forces are on the rise. The number of anti-white, Asian, and Middle Easterner crimes remained virtually unchanged. Anti-Armenian crimes doubled in 2009 from 8 to 16. Although this is similar to the number reported in previous years, the large increase runs counter to the reductions in hate crime that nearly all other targeted groups experienced in 2009. It should also be noted that 5 of the 16 victims were involved in mutual combat at a junior high school with a group of Latino students in 1 brawl.

Victim-Suspect Correlations

In cases where the suspect was identified, there were clear patterns in terms of who targeted various victim groups.

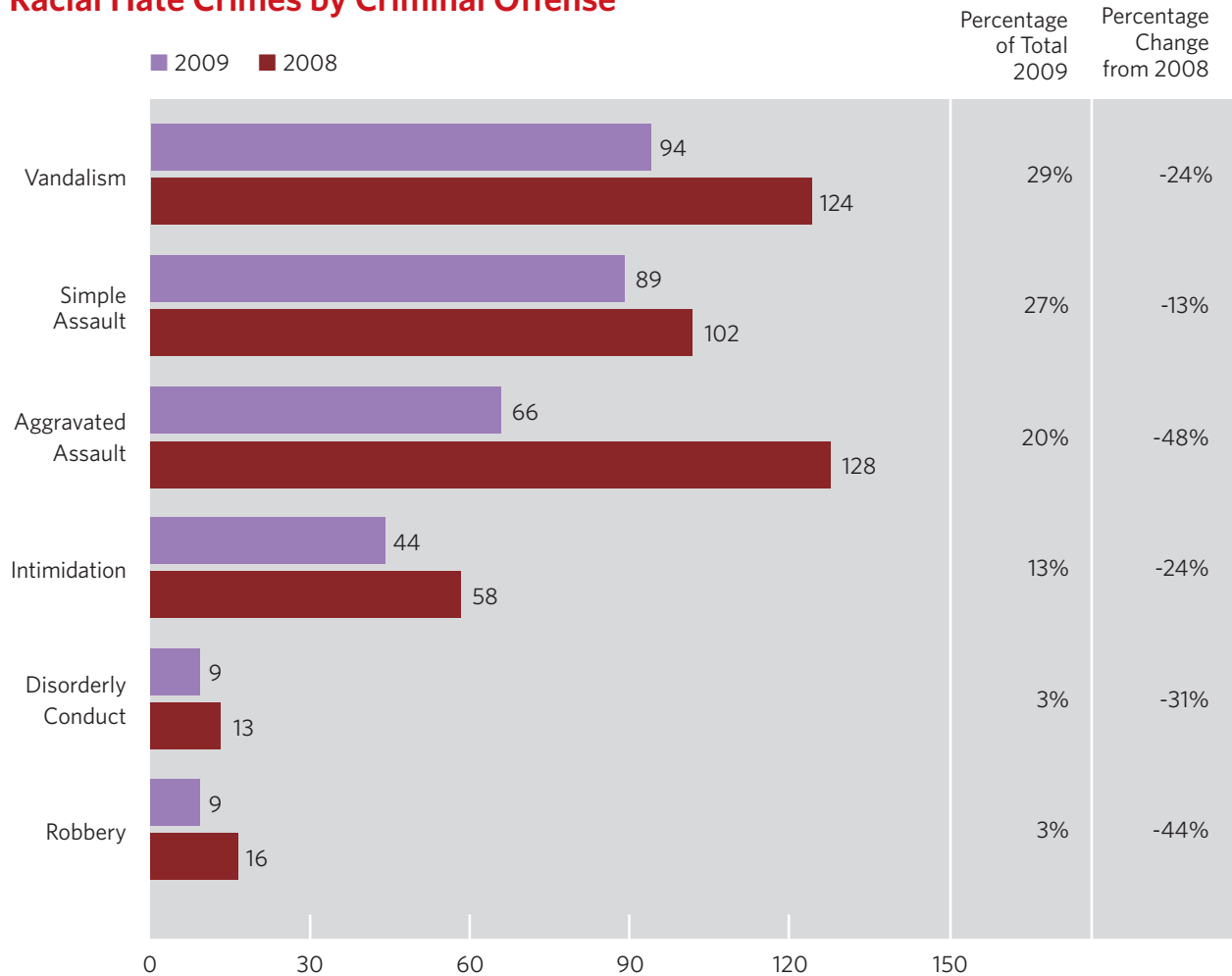
- African Americans were targeted most often by Latinos (77%) followed by whites (22%).
- Latinos were targeted in nearly equal numbers by blacks (48%) and whites (45%).
- Whites were targeted primarily by blacks (62%) and then Latinos 23%
- Armenians were targeted primarily by Latinos (80%) and then whites (20%).
- Asians were targeted by Latinos in 63%, by whites in 25% and by blacks in 13% of the crimes.
- Middle Eastern victims were targeted by only whites.

Racial Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group



This chart aggregates major racial and ethnic groups.

Racial Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense



In 2009 there were also single cases of murder and theft, 2 cases of attempted murder, 5 cases of arson and 7 cases of burglary motivated by race.

Racial Hatred Runs African American Family Out of Dream Home

June 4, 2009

The charming house on a peaceful Duarte street was perfect for Channise Davy and her children—until she came home to find the place vandalized, racial epithets strewn across the walls and furniture.

Criminal Offenses

There were 1 murder and 2 attempted murders motivated by race, ethnicity or national origin.

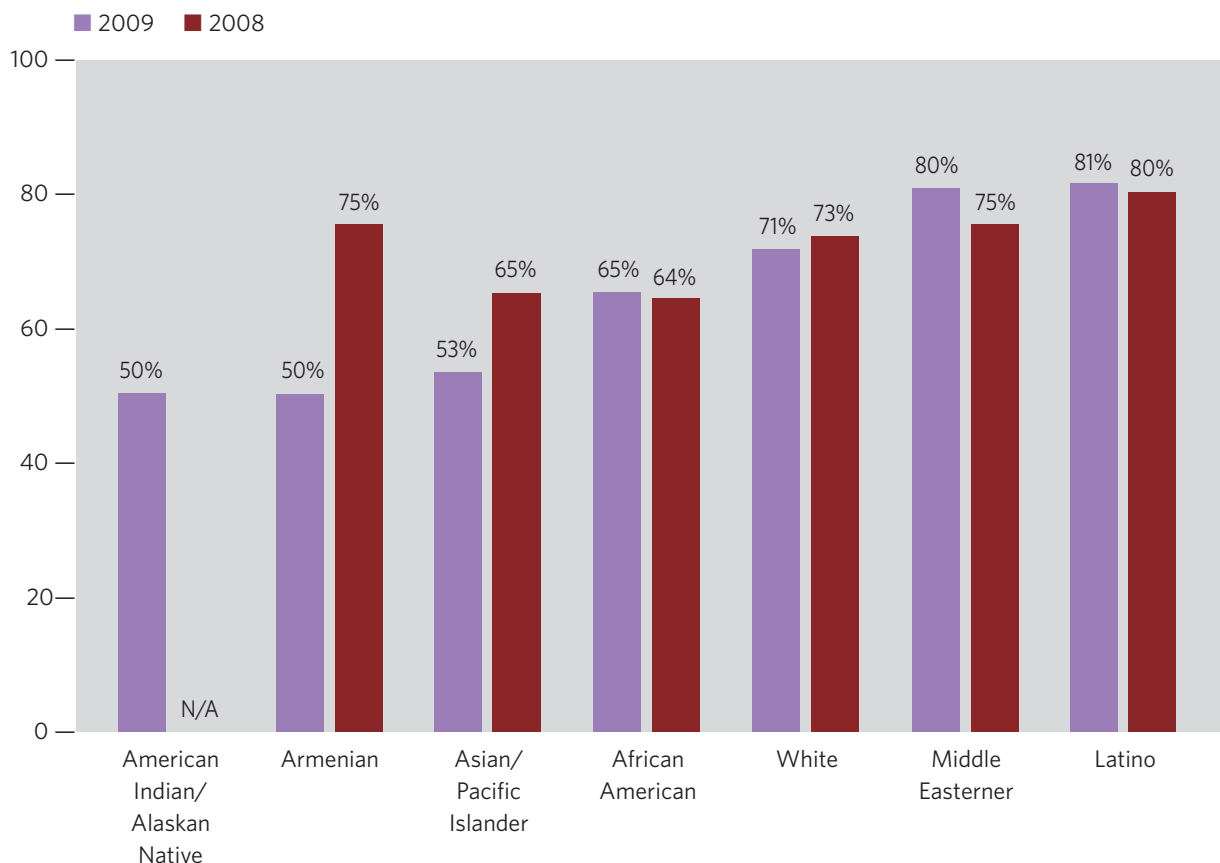
- In Pasadena, a black male victim was involved in a verbal dispute and brief altercation with a white male suspect at a store. The suspect bought alcohol and visited a friend, who upon hearing about the encounter, suggested that they look for the victim, to whom they referred using racial slurs. When they found the victim, the second suspect stabbed the victim. He later died from his injuries at a local hospital.
- In El Monte, 2 young men, 1 Asian and the other unidentified in the police report, were injured in a knife attack standing outside the home where a party was taking place. The Asian man's throat was slashed. A Latino suspect yelled, "Fucking Chinks" during the crime.

The rate of violence employed in racial hate crimes declined slightly from 68% to 65%. Aggravated assaults decreased by half and acts of vandalism and intimidation fell by a quarter. Simple assaults declined 12%.

There were dramatic differences in the rate of violence experienced by different groups of racial hate crime victims. As in previous years, Latinos experienced the highest rate of violence (81%), followed by whites (71%), African Americans (65%), Asians (53%), and Armenians (50%). 80% of anti-Middle Easterner crimes were violent, but it should be noted that there were only 5 such crimes. The rates of violence experienced by various racial and ethnic groups were similar to the previous year except for Asians and Armenians, which saw a decline.

The largest number of racial crimes took place most often in public places (39%) followed by residences (34%), schools (16%) and businesses (10%). These numbers were similar to the previous year.

Victims of Racial Hate Crimes by Rate of Violence



There were 16 crimes in which specific anti-immigrant slurs were used, such as “Wetback,” and “Go back to your country.” This was a 54% decline from the previous year. The great majority of these crimes (69%) targeted Latinos but there were Middle Eastern and Asian victims as well.

It is notable that 88% of these crimes were of a violent nature, compared to 80% the previous year. The largest number were simple assaults (38%), followed by aggravated assaults and intimidation (25 each%), and vandalism (13%).

These crimes occurred most frequently in public places (44%), followed by businesses (25%), and residences (19%).

Actual Cases of Racial Hate Crime

August 8, South Los Angeles — A white female victim, her adult son and teenage daughter live in a rear rental unit behind a home. A black female suspect from the neighborhood walked through the victims’ backyard. When the victim asked her to leave the property, the suspect responded, “Fuck you, white bitch.” The suspect then called for her 2 teenage daughters to join her. The 3 women suspects began punching the victims, using racial slurs and calling the son a “faggot white boy.” Police arrived on the scene and arrested the 3 suspects.

January 31, Canoga Park — An African American couple were confronted at their apartment by 4 Latino men who yelled, “This is Canoga Park Alabama, NK (Nigger Killers) motherfuckers!” and other racial slurs. One of the suspects pulled a pistol from waist and pointed it at the male victim’s head. The suspects then heard a whistle from a nearby alley and fled the scene. They were all later arrested in another apartment in the same complex.

July 18, Boyle Heights — A black woman living in the Ramona Gardens Projects was throwing out trash when she was surrounded by 2 Latino male suspects. She recognized 1 of the men and had seen him previously flashing the Hazard Gang hand symbol. One got within 2 inches of her face and told her, “We kill niggers for fucken fun.” The victim grabbed her 5 year-old daughter and ran to her unit. Later, police arrested the suspect who made the criminal threat.

January 9, Sherman Oaks — An Armenian family of 6 returned home from a trip and found that their home had been burglarized and vandalized. Several rooms were flooded with water and the refrigerator door was torn off. The vandals also smashed a laptop computer, television sets, furniture and windows. The victims also found swastikas had been spray-painted in numerous locations throughout the house.

December 17, Westwood — An elderly Iranian couple were pulling out of a parking lot and accidentally cut-off a white male motorist. The other driver pulled along-side their car and began swearing at them. The male victim tried to apologize but when the suspect heard his accent, he yelled, “Camel jockey, go back to your own country!” Fearful, the couple drove away but the suspect followed them to an intersection and spat on them. He then exited his car and tried to open the driver’s door. The female victim used her cell phone to call 911 which caused the suspect to flee.

May 11, Chatsworth — A Latino man received a harassing letter and then found swastikas scratched on his car parked at his home.

A Closer Look at Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes

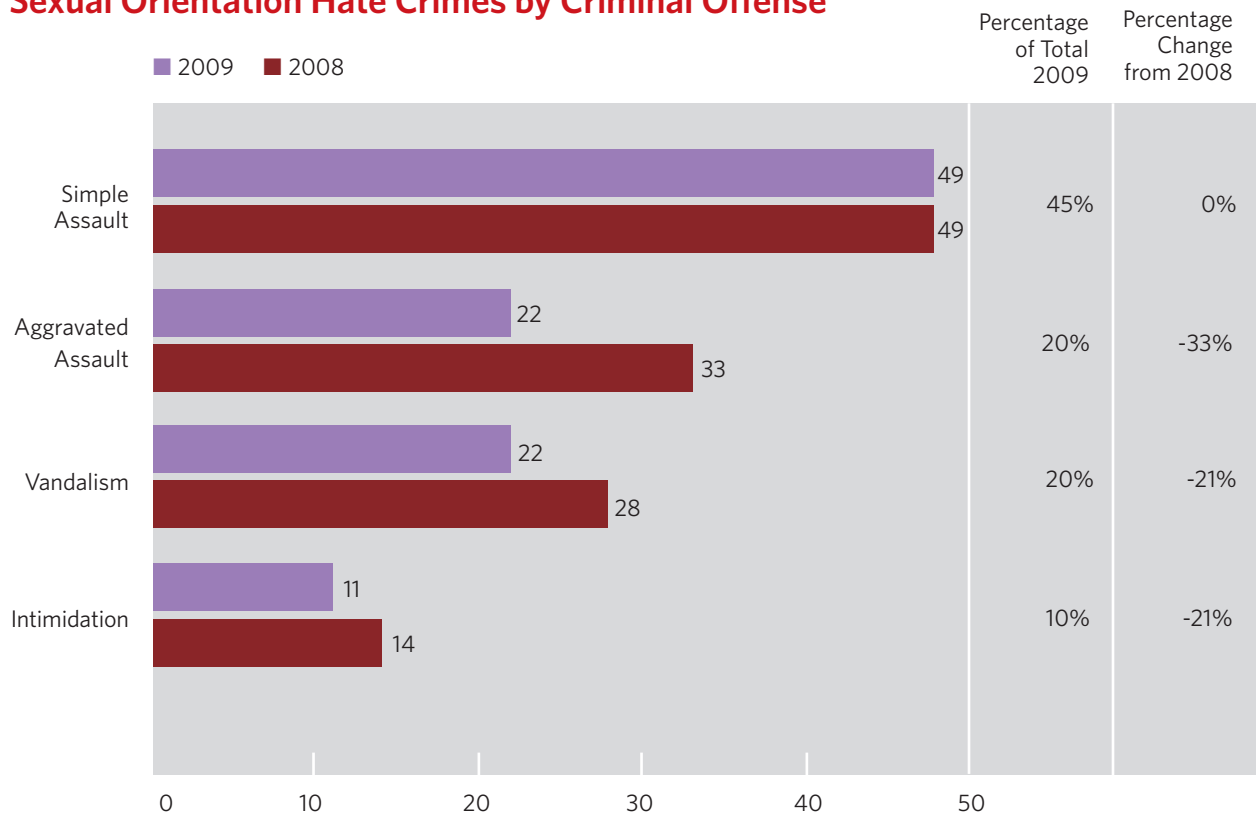
2009 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes Motivated by Sexual Orientation



Sexual orientation-motivated crimes decreased 19% from 134 to 109. While encouraging, this was still the second largest number reported during the past 5 years. As in previous years, the great majority of these crimes targeted men (87%), and 10% were anti-lesbian crimes. The remaining 3% targeted general Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT)-oriented organizations, as opposed to individuals.

Homophobic crimes are more likely to be of a violent nature than either racial or religious crimes, and in 2009, the rate of violence rose from 74% to 77%. Simple assaults grew to 45%, aggravated assaults and cases of vandalisms made up 20% each, and acts of intimidation made up 10%.

Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense

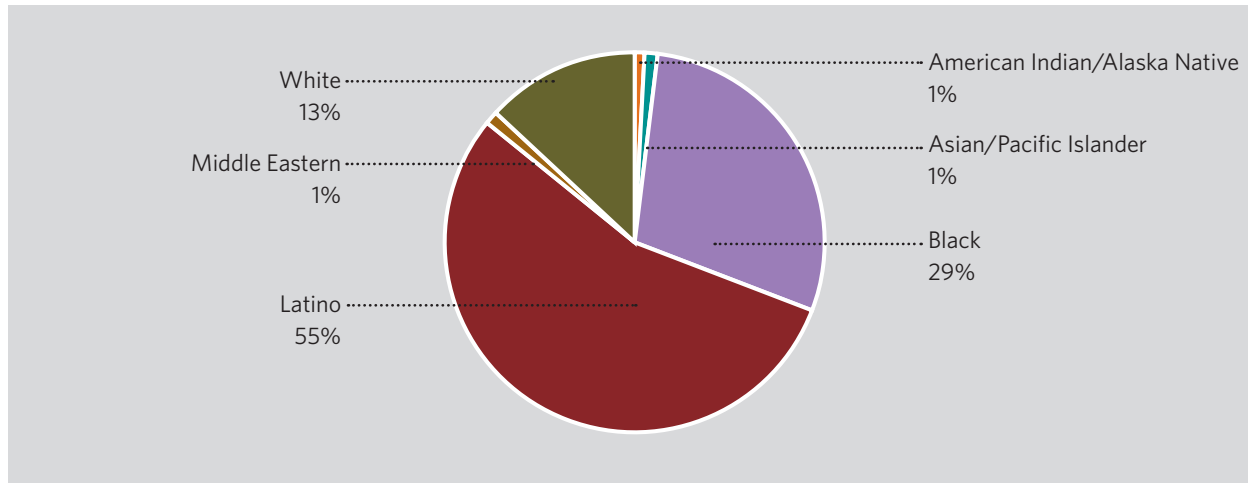


In 2009, there were single cases of rape and robbery and 3 cases of disorderly conduct.



Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Suspect Race/Ethnicity

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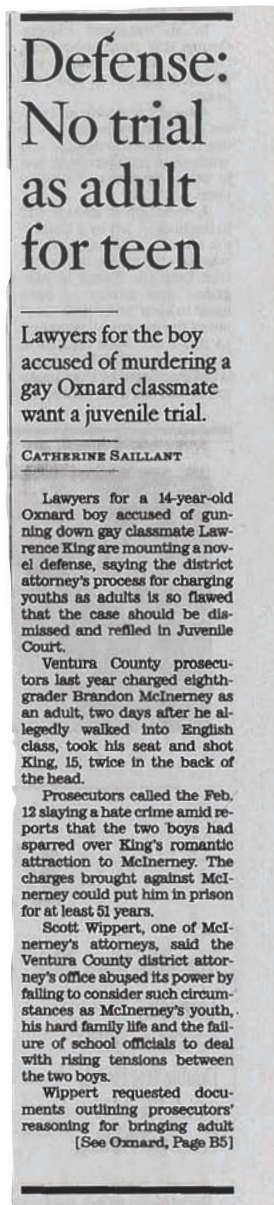
The largest group of victims of sexual orientation crimes were Latinos (36%) followed by whites (28%), and blacks (23%). This is a shift in distribution from the previous year when whites comprised the largest number of victims. While the numbers of Latino and white victims declined, the number of black victims nearly doubled.

Historically, victims of sexual orientation hate crimes have been attacked most often by suspects of the same race. In 2009, Latino victims were attacked by other Latinos in 85% of the crimes and blacks were attacked by other blacks in 79% of the time. However, for the past few years, white victims have been targeted by a more diverse group of suspects. In 2009, whites were attacked by identical numbers of Latinos and whites (37%), followed by blacks (11%).*

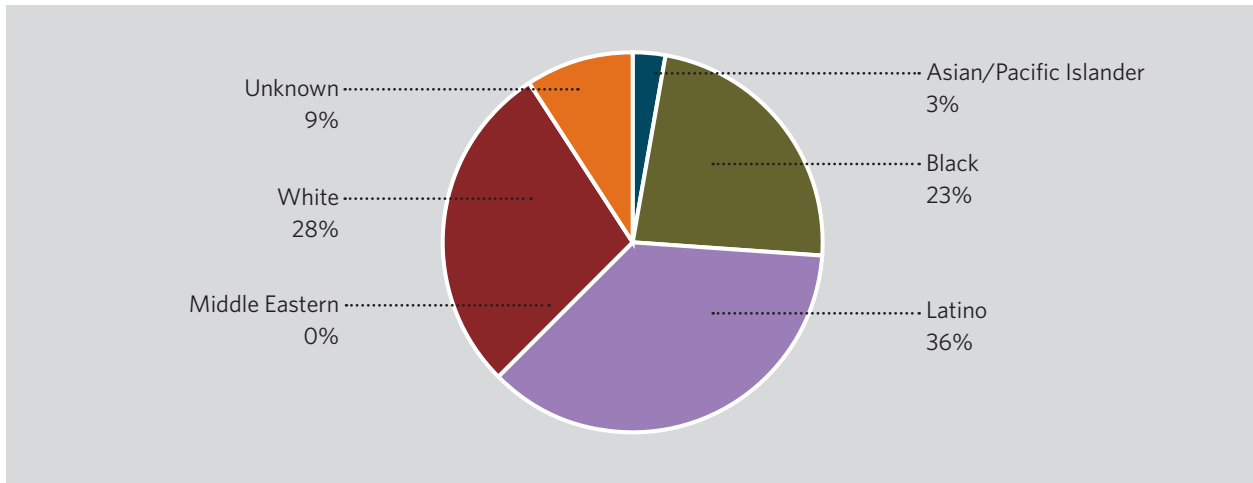
Homophobic crimes occurred most often in public places (42%), followed by residences (29%), businesses (11%) and schools (6%). The previous year equal numbers occurred in public places and residences.

*Throughout this report, information on suspects is based on cases in which suspects were identified.

Note: Anti-transgender hate crime is not counted in this section. Consistent with state law, anti-transgender attacks are classified in this report as gender-based hate crimes.



Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Victim Race/Ethnicity



Actual Cases of Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes

September 25, Hollywood — A Latino gay man was leaving a popular gay bar. 2 Latino male suspects were sitting on the curb. One of them asked, "What are you looking at faggot?" and began beating a 3 foot-long stick on the ground in a threatening manner. The other suspect then stood up and punched the victim repeatedly in the face. The first suspect then joined in the beating, causing the victim to fall to the ground.

August 11, Fairfax District — Two male victims, 1 white and 1 Asian, were in a restaurant when they were confronted by a group of white men who called them "Faggots," and punched them both in the faces before fleeing on foot.

June 7, Los Angeles — At a house party, a Latina lesbian asked another Latina guest where to find the bathroom. The suspect replied, "There are no fucking bathrooms here for dykes!" The suspect then pushed the victim in the chest and knocked her to the ground. She continued to punch and scratch the victim and took out a pocket knife, saying, "I'm going to shank you bitch!" Several other guests intervened and held the suspect back, allowing the victim to escape.

June 19, Koreatown — A black male victim was approached by another black male, who asked him if he believed in God. The victim replied, "Yes." The suspect then asked him if he was gay, to which he replied affirmatively and commented, "God loves me for who I am." The suspect became enraged and struck the victim in the face causing him to lose consciousness.

August 22, Pacoima — A white male was riding his bike when a SUV pulled alongside him containing 3 Latino males. 1 of the passengers shouted, "Faggot!" The victim attempted to escape, but the vehicle followed him and the suspects shouted more epithets. The driver of the SUV blocked the victim's path and the passengers tackled him to the ground and punched him repeatedly in the face and chest. One of the suspect's wrapped a speaker chord around the victim's neck and choked him until he passed out.

A Closer Look at Religious Hate Crimes

2009 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes Motivated by Religion



Crimes motivated by religion increased 9% from 120 to 131. Each year, anti-Semitic crimes are by far the largest number of reported religious hate crimes in the country. But in 2009 they jumped a staggering 49%. Crimes targeting Jews comprised nearly 9 out of 10 religious crimes while attacks on all other groups declined. They were followed by anti-Christian (8%), anti-Muslim (3%) crimes and single cases in which the Church of Scientology and an ancient Mexican religious sect were targeted.

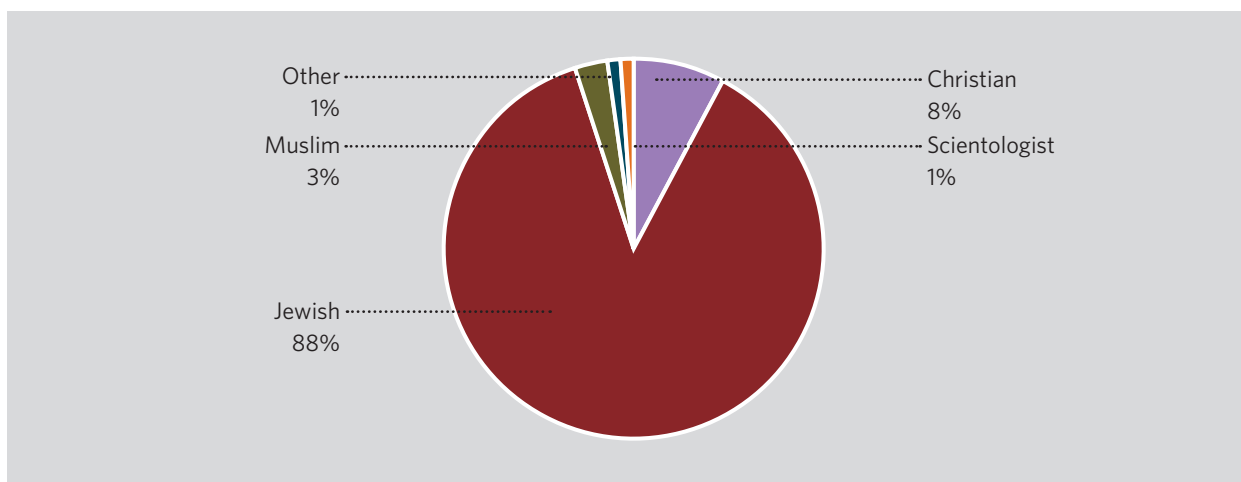
The explanation for the sharp uptick in anti-Jewish crime is a 40% increase in acts of vandalism. There is some indication that many of these cases may have been committed by the same person or group of persons. For example, there were numerous cases of the lone word “Jew” written on public property, businesses and residences in heavily Jewish neighborhoods, such as the Fairfax District and the Mid-Wilshire area. Almost all of the Fairfax District graffiti appeared over a 5-month period, from February to June, whereas the Mid-Wilshire vandalism mostly occurred during the month of May. 53% of religious-based crimes showed evidence of white supremacist ideology, most frequently the usage of swastikas in graffiti.

Apart from vandalism, most other religious-based criminal offenses actually declined. Only 11% of religious crimes were of a violent nature with only 4 cases in which a victim was assaulted and 1 case of robbery.

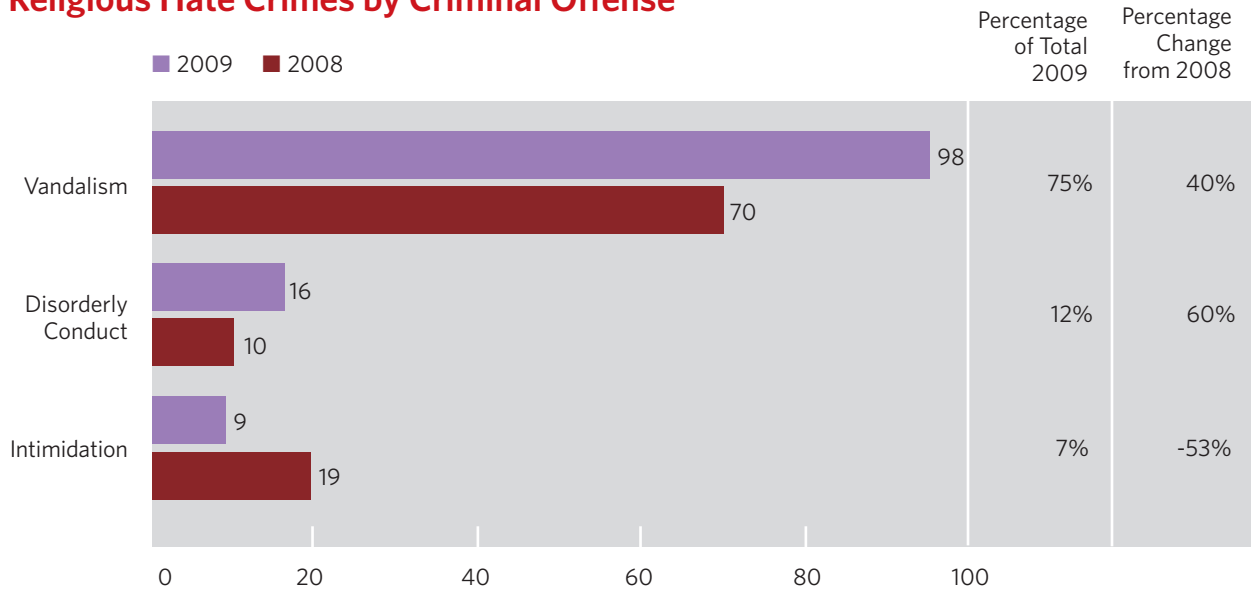
Residences were the most common location of religious crime (34%), followed by businesses (20%), public places (18%), religious sites (17%) and schools (10%). This represented a sharp growth in the number of crimes that occurred at businesses and a significant decline in the number of crimes that took place at religious sites. 77% of religious crimes occurred in the City of Los Angeles with no other geographic concentrations throughout the rest of the County.

Because of the large number of vandalisms, few of the suspects in religious hate crimes were ever seen. However, in cases where the race/ethnicity of the suspects was identified, 2/3 were white and 17% were African American.

Religious Hate Crimes by Targeted Group



Religious Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense



In 2009, there were also single cases of robbery and burglary, 2 acts of arson and 4 simple assaults.

Actual Cases of Religious Hate Crimes

July 7, West Covina — The victim, a Middle Eastern man, parked his car at a mosque. When he returned to his vehicle, the window had been shattered. The mosque had been the site of several other recent similar vandalisms.

March 3, Reseda — The victim, a Jewish man, had a Star of David sticker on his rear passenger window. He parked his car in a the lot of a business and returned 30 minutes later to find, "Hitler is God," and a swastika written on his car door.

March 13, West Hills — An elderly Jewish woman displayed an Israeli flag outside her front door during Passover. An unknown suspect set it on fire.

July 12, Whittier — A church was spray-painted on 2 separate occasions with profanity and anti-Christian symbols, such as a cross with an "X" painted over it.

January 15, Malibu — A Jewish Community Center was vandalized. A glass door was shattered, shaving cream was sprayed, and vandals drew swastikas and other vulgar graffiti on the building.

Police seek leads in hate crime at Maywood Catholic Church

May 24, 2010



Vandals ransacked a Catholic Church in Maywood on Monday in an incident that police are classifying as a hate crime.

The vandals broke into the Santa Rosa de Lima Church, where they defecated in an auditorium, scrawled "666" in the kitchen and stuck a knife in a painting of the Virgin Mary, the Maywood-Cudahy Police Department said. "The vandalism was of a heinous nature, and in fact, consistent with a hate crime," the department said in a news release.

A Closer Look at Gender and Disability Hate Crimes

Gender Hate Crimes

There were 12 crimes motivated by gender in 2009, compared to 8 the previous year. Similar to previous years, 100% of these crimes were anti-transgender and all were of a violent nature. They included beatings, assaults with deadly weapons, and a shooting. Nearly all of these crimes were spontaneous attacks by male strangers in public places. 10 (83%) of these 12 crimes targeted transgender women.* The majority of the victims were Latino, but the victims also included whites and an American Indian. In cases where the suspects were identified, roughly equal numbers were Latino and African American.

2 additional crimes were committed against women who were perceived by the suspects to dress or act in a masculine fashion. In one case, at a college in Santa Monica, a white woman and her girlfriend were confronted by a young male who yelled, "You look like a man! You dress like a boy!" He punched the victim in the face and kicked her in the stomach. The attack caused the victim to fall to the ground and break a finger. In a second case, in the Crenshaw neighborhood of Los Angeles, a black male suspect on a skateboard ran into a black female victim, then punched her in the face, knocking her to the ground. The suspect was later arrested by LAPD and proudly referred to his actions as "stud-checking," or singling out a masculine-presenting female.

In previous years, some anti-transgender crimes were clustered in West Hollywood and Hollywood. In 2009, half of the victims were attacked in South L.A. and the others were dispersed from Sunland to Pico Union, to Southeast L.A.

Disability Hate Crimes

There was also a lone attack on a disabled man who was also called racial slurs. An intoxicated white male at a fishing derby in Palmdale confronted a black male victim, disabled with polio. The suspect told the victim, "Shut up or I'll knock your crippled mother-fucking ass over. Fuck you, nigger!" When another white male tried to intervene, the suspect threatened him with a pocket knife and vandalized his car.

*This term refers to persons born biologically male but whose gender identity and expression is female.

Hate Crime Prosecutions

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2009 HATE CRIME REPORT

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS

The District Attorney's Office handles the vast majority of hate crime prosecutions in Los Angeles County. In 2009, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed hate crime charges in 99 cases compared to 146 the previous year. 65 adults and 34 juveniles were charged.

In the adult cases, 57 of the defendants were charged with felonies and 8 were charged with misdemeanors. 71% of these crimes were motivated by the victims' race, ethnicity, or nation origin. 23% were related to the victims' sexual orientation and 6% were based on religion. Because of a change in the D.A.'s reporting procedures, information about the motivation was not available for the juveniles who were prosecuted.

26 hate crimes were referred to the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office in 2009, which filed 13 cases as hate crimes and all the defendants were adults. Of those, seven were motivated by sexual orientation and six by race, ethnicity or national origin.

The U.S. Attorney's Office, which is responsible for prosecuting federal offenses, did not file any hate crime charges in 2009 although they did prosecute a number of members of gangs known for racially-motivated attacks.

San Dimas hate crime perp gets 22 years for attack on Asian man

By Frank Girardot on July 14, 2009

From Sandi Gibbons at the Los Angeles County DAs office:

LOS ANGELES - A Bakersfield man convicted of stabbing and wounding an Asian man last year during what a jury determined was a hate crime attack was sent to prison today for 22 years.

Aaron Mark Duggan, 28, was sentenced by Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Charlaïne Olmedo on the basis of a guilty verdict returned by a jury on June 1. Besides finding that it was a hate crime, the jury also determined the victim suffered great bodily injury and that the defendant personally used a knife.

The attack occurred on April 22, 2008, on the track of a junior high school in San Dimas. The victim, Yoo Sun, then 22, was stabbed in the back and ear. A companion who was walking with Sun was attacked, but although bruised, suffered no stab wounds.

Review of 2009 Hate Crime Legislation

State Legislation Related to Hate Crime

Assembly Bill 412 (Carter)

AB 412 makes it a misdemeanor to hang a noose, knowing it to be a symbol representing a threat to life, in order to terrorize a person who owns, occupies, attends school at, is employed at, or is associated with, the property where the noose is hung. The bill contains uncodified legislative findings and declarations regarding the history of racial hatred and murder connected with the hanging of nooses. The bill was signed by the Governor on August 5, 2009. This law took effect on January 1, 2010.

Assembly Bill 2706 (Lowenthal)

AB 2706 would enhance the civil rights protections of homeless people in California. It clarifies protections and remedies for hate-based violence directed at homeless people. Specifically, the bill provides that the protections and remedies of the Ralph Civil Rights Act of 1976 (Ralph Act) include violence or intimidation by threat of violence committed against a person because the person is or is perceived to be homeless. This would allow the homeless to sue for larger sums of damages if they are targeted in an attack. California has been cited as second in the nation in the rate of violence against the homeless. This bill was vetoed by the Governor on September 29, 2010.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution 82 (Hall)

ACR 82 encourages public education institutions to designate each campus as a "Discrimination-Free Zone" by developing and enacting appropriate procedures that address acts of discrimination that occur on campus, and support tolerance and acceptance of others regardless of their race or ethnicity, religion, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, nationality, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes. This resolution was approved and thus chaptered by the Secretary of State on April 21, 2010.

Federal Legislation Related to Hate Crime

S. 1472 (Durbin)

Human Rights Enforcement Act of 2009 eliminates the Office of Special Investigations within the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice (DOJ). It directs the Attorney General to: (1) establish, within 90 days after the enactment of this Act, a section within the Criminal Division of DOJ with responsibility for the enforcement of laws against suspected participants in serious human rights offenses; and (2) consult with the Secretaries of Homeland Security and State in taking appropriate legal action against such individuals. It defines "serious human rights offenses" to include genocide, torture, war crimes, and the use or recruitment of child soldiers. It amends the federal criminal code to: (1) punish a conspiracy to commit genocide in the same manner as a completed act of genocide; (2) eliminate the limitation period for prosecuting crimes of genocide; and (3) include genocide and recruitment of child soldiers as predicates for the crime of providing material support to terrorists. It also amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to broaden the basis for rendering aliens participating in genocide inadmissible. This bill was passed by the Senate in November 21, 2009, passed by the House in December 15, 2009, and signed by the President in December 22, 2009 thus becoming law.

H.R. 2647 (Skelton)

Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act was named for Matthew Shepard, a gay man, and James Byrd Jr., a black man, who were murdered in 1998 in separate hate crimes. While federal laws against hate crimes have been in place for over 50 years, this bill adds a provision that covers hate crimes committed because of a person's gender, sexual orientation or disability. It adopts the definition of "hate crime" as set forth in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (i.e., a crime in which the defendant intentionally selects a victim or, in the case of a property crime, the property that is the object of the crime because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, or sexual orientation of any person). Previous laws held that a crime could only be deemed a "hate crime" if it interfered with a victim's federal rights, such as voting or attending a public school. The new legislation extends the definition of a hate crime to include all crimes committed due to the victim's race, religion or national origin. It authorizes the Attorney General to: (1) provide state, local, or tribal law enforcement agencies with technical, forensic, prosecutorial, or other assistance in the investigation or prosecution of violent crimes and hate crimes; and (2) award grants to assist such agencies with the extraordinary expenses associated with the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes. It authorizes the Office of Justice Programs to award grants to state, local, or tribal programs designed to combat hate crimes committed by juveniles. It also authorizes appropriations to the Department of Justice (DOJ), including the Community Relations Service, for FY2010-FY2012 to prevent and respond to hate crime acts. It amends the federal criminal code to prohibit willfully causing bodily injury to any person because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability of such person. Finally, it amends the Hate Crimes Statistics Act to expand data collection and reporting requirements under such Act to include: (1) crimes manifesting prejudice based on gender and gender identity; and (2) hate crimes committed by and against juveniles. The bill was passed by the House on June 25, 2009, was passed by the Senate on July 23, 2009, and was signed by President Obama on October 28, 2009.

Matthew Shepard & James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act passes congress

October 25th, 2009 4:29 pm CT

The Matthew Shepard & James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act has passed its final hurdle before going to the President for action this week. The Act, which was formerly known as the 'Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act', passed the House earlier this year and awaited action by the Senate. The Senate attached the provision to the annual defense bill, and with a 68-29 Senate vote to approve the final House-Senate compromise on the defense bill, it now heads to the President's desk for signature. It has been announced by the White House that the President intends to sign the bill.



The following bills and resolutions will die unless they are passed by January 3, 2011 when the 111th session of the United States Congress ends.

H.R. 256 (Jackson-Lee)

David Ray Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009 would amend the federal criminal code to impose penalties for willfully causing bodily injury to any person or, through the use of fire, a firearm, or an explosive device, attempting to cause such injury, whether or not acting under color of law, because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability of any person, where the offense is in or affects interstate or foreign commerce. It directs the U.S. Sentencing Commission to study the issue of adult recruitment of juveniles to commit hate crimes and, if appropriate, to amend the federal sentencing guidelines to provide sentencing enhancements for such an offense. It requires the Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention of the Department of Justice (DOJ) to make grants to state and local programs designed to combat hate crimes committed by juveniles. The bill also authorizes appropriations to the Department of the Treasury and to DOJ for FY2009-FY2011 to increase the number of personnel to protect against criminal interference with federally-protected activities. The Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a subcommittee hearing on May 21, 2009.

H.R. 823 (Maloney)

Hate Crime Statistics Improvement Act of 2009 would amend the Hate Crime Statistics Act to require the Attorney General to acquire data about crimes that manifest evidence of prejudice based on gender. This bill has been referred to House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security on March 16, 2009.

H.R. 2684 (Israel)

National Hate Crimes Hotline Act of 2009 would authorize the Attorney General to award grants to: (1) private, nonprofit entities to establish and operate a national, toll-free telephone hotline and an Internet website to assist victims of hate crimes; and (2) state and local law enforcement entities for educational and training programs on solving hate crimes and establishing dialogues with members of communities who are at risk of being victims of hate crimes. The bill directs the Attorney General to establish a program for awarding grants to local organizations to establish or expand programs that provide services to victims of hate crimes. On August 19, 2009, it was referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

H.R. 3419 (Johnson)

Hate Crimes against the Homeless Statistics Act of 2009 would amend the Hate Crime Statistics Act to include crimes against the homeless in the crime data collected by the Attorney General under such Act. On September 14, 2009, the House referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

H.C.R. 52 (Capps) / **S.C.R. 7** (Feinstein)

Honoring and Remembering the Life of Lawrence "Larry" King honors the life and condemns the murder of Lawrence King. The bill encourages: (1) efforts to address anti-lesbian, -gay, -bisexual, and -transgender name-calling, bullying, harassment, and discrimination on school campuses; (2) training to enable school staff to identify and address such actions effectively and in a timely way; (3) the implementation of age-appropriate, inclusive curricula to help students understand and respect difference within the school community and society as a whole; and (4) each state, city, and local education authority to adopt laws and policies to prohibit such actions against students, teachers, and other school staff regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. On February 12, 2009, the Senate referred the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary. On March 30, 2009, the House referred the bill to the Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities.

The 2009 Hate Crime Report provides a statistical snapshot of reported hate crimes to inform efforts to combat bias-motivated activity. Such data collection and analysis provide policy-makers and practitioners insight into the urgent issues and greatest needs for education, prevention, intervention, victim assistance and advocacy. The Commission receives reports from law enforcement, school districts and universities, community based organizations, and directly from victims. We carefully eliminate any duplicates, such as a hate crime submitted by both a law enforcement agency and a school district. We review each case counted in this report to ensure it meets the criteria of the legal definition of hate crime in the California penal code. Those that do not meet that standard are not included as hate crimes. Nevertheless, we encourage law enforcement and community organizations to record and report hate incidents because they can be early indicators of intergroup tension and conflict. Of the 777 reports of hate events (both crimes and incidents) received for 2009, 504 events involving 580 victims met the legal criteria for hate crimes and are included in this report. Unless otherwise noted, all numbers in the report refer to victims, rather than cases.

Understanding the Numbers

- If a violent crime is committed against multiple victims, we count each victim separately.
- We report the perpetrators' intended targeted group instead of relying on the actual identity of the victim as a proxy. This accounts for cases in which the actual identities of the victims are not specified or where the victim's identity is mistaken (e.g., when a Latino victim is perceived by the perpetrator as African American).
- A handful of cases involved epithets targeting more than one group. Therefore the total number of cases by motivation or by targeted group actually exceeds the 580 hate crimes for 2009.
- This year we again present suspects' race in terms of the proportion of crimes committed by members of that racial/ethnic group, rather than the race of individual suspects involved in hate crimes. Totals of pie charts may exceed 100% due to crimes committed by multi-racial groups of suspects.
- We also received a handful of reports, usually minor vandalism, in which the information provided in a law enforcement agency's report was too minimal to determine specific bias motivation and targeted group. In these cases the motivation and targeted group are deemed, "unknown."
- It is important to note that fluctuations in data from year to year do not necessarily indicate trends. Sometimes, an increase one year follows an equivalent decrease the previous year. Multi-year data can give a better sense of trends.
- The report may not reflect the actual outcome of the investigation of individual cases. We receive the original police incident report for cases in which the investigation is ongoing. We may review it and include it before the investigation is completed or charges are filed. Therefore, the number of hate crimes reported here may differ from the reporting law enforcement agency for a given jurisdiction.
- Some numbers referring to 2008 have changed since last year's report due to an ongoing process of updates and corrections.

Los Angeles County Service Planning Areas



Hate Crime by Service Planning Areas

#	Name	Partial Listing of Cities and Areas	2006 Population Estimates	Hate Crimes 2009	2009 Hate Crimes per 100,000 residents
1	Antelope Valley	All of the Antelope Valley, including Acton, Gorman, Lancaster, Palmdale, Quartz Hill, Littlerock, Lake Los Angeles	347,823	31	8.9
2	San Fernando Valley	All of San Fernando Valley, including Burbank, Glendale, Newhall, Northridge, San Fernando, Santa Clarita, Val Verde, Westlake Village, East & West Valley areas	2,146,515	148	6.9
3	San Gabriel Valley	All of San Gabriel Valley, including Alhambra, Altadena, Irwindale, La Puente, Pasadena, Pomona, El Monte, Azusa, San Dimas	1,868,116	58	3.1
4	Metro	Atwater, Boyle Heights, Downtown, Eagle Rock, Echo Park, Glassell Park, Hancock Park, Koreatown, Hollywood, Park La Brea, West Hollywood, Silverlake	1,260,196	134	10.6
5	West	Beverly Hills, Culver City, Malibu, Marina del Rey Pacific Palisades, Playa del Rey, Santa Monica, Venice, Westchester	636,309	36	5.7
6	South	Compton, Florence, Lynwood, South Los Angeles, Watts	1,041,685	50	4.8
7	East	Vernon, Maywood, Huntington Park, Bellflower, South Gate, Lakewood, Hawaiian Gardens, Signal Hill, Montebello, Pico Rivera, Cerritos, La Mirada, Whittier, La Habra	1,379,540	34	2.5
8	South Bay	Inglewood, Torrance, Long Beach, Manhattan Beach, Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, San Pedro	1,605,621	54	3.4

There are 35 additional hate crimes that were not included because of insufficient address information.

* Key Indicators of Health by Service Planning Area, "2006 Population Estimates prepared by WRMA," Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, June 2009, page 3. Service Planning Areas (SPAs) represent eight geographic regions of L.A. County. SPAs are widely used for social service and health care planning purposes and are linked through SPA Councils to community-based organizations, neighborhood groups, cities, schools, county, and city government agencies.

Reporting Agencies

POLICE DEPARTMENTS

Alhambra Police Department
 Arcadia Police Department
 Azusa Police Department
 Baldwin Park Police Department
 Bell Police Department
 Bell Gardens Police Department
 Beverly Hills Police Department
 Burbank Police Department
 Claremont Police Department
 Covina Police Department
 Culver City Police Department
 Downey Police Department
 El Monte Police Department
 El Segundo Police Department
 Gardena Police Department
 Glendale Police Department
 Glendora Police Department
 Hawthorne Police Department
 Hermosa Beach Police Department
 Huntington Park
 Police Department
 Inglewood Police Department
 Irwindale Police Department
 La Verne Police Department
 Long Beach Police Department
 Los Angeles Police Department
 Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
 Manhattan Beach
 Police Department
 Maywood Police Department
 Monrovia Police Department
 Montebello Police Department
 Monterey Park Police Department
 Palos Verdes Police Department
 Pasadena Police Department
 Pomona Police Department
 Redondo Beach Police Department
 San Fernando Police Department
 San Gabriel Police Department

San Marino Police Department
 Santa Monica Police Department
 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

Alhambra Unified School District
 Antelope Valley Joint Union
 High School District
 Arcadia Unified School District
 Azusa Unified School District
 Beverly Hills Unified
 School District
 Bonita Unified School District
 Charter Oak Unified
 School District
 Citrus College
 College of the Canyons
 Covina-Valley Unified
 School District
 Culver City Unified School District
 Downey Unified School District
 Eastside Union School District
 El Camino College
 El Monte Union High
 School District
 Garvey School District
 Glendale Community
 College District
 Glendale Unified School District
 Hermosa Beach City
 School District
 La Canada Unified School District
 Lancaster School District

Las Virgines Unified
 School District
 Lawndale School District
 Little Lake City School District
 Los Angeles Community
 College District
 Los Angeles County
 Office Of Education
 Los Angeles Unified School District
 Lowell Joint School District
 Lynwood Unified School District
 Mt. San Antonio Community
 College District
 Newhall School District
 Norwalk-La Mirada Unified
 School District
 Palmdale School District
 Paramount Unified School District
 Redondo Beach Unified
 School District
 San Marino Unified School District
 Saugus Union School District
 South Pasadena Unified
 School District
 South Whittier School District
 Torrance Unified School District
 Valle Lindo School District
 West Covina Unified
 School District
 Whittier City School District
 Wiseburn School District

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Anti-Defamation League
 L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center
 Muslim Public Affairs Council

Acknowledgements

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2009 Hate Crime Report

Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

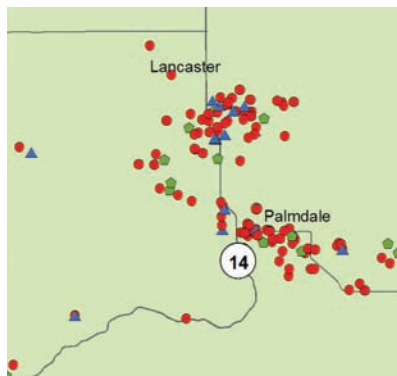
www.LAHumanRelations.org

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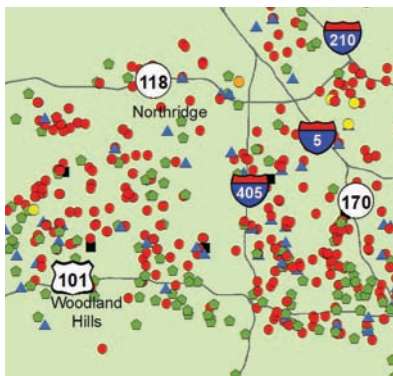
Los Angeles County Hate Crimes



Antelope Valley



San Fernando Valley



Hollywood/West Hollywood

