



2023 ANTI-BLACK HATE CRIMES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

As in previous years, the overall number of hate crimes based on race comprised by far the largest motivation group, accounting for 45% of all reported hate crimes in 2023. Reported anti-Black hate crimes increased by 8%, from 297 in 2022 to 320. Once again, African Americans were grossly over-represented as victims of racial hate crime, while all other racial and ethnic groups experienced slight increases. The 320 anti-Black crimes reported in 2023 were the highest number ever recorded. Although African Americans comprise only about 9% of the county population, they constituted 49% of racial hate crime victims (down from 54% the previous year).

The most frequent criminal offenses in anti-Black hate crimes were vandalism (28%), followed by simple assault (23%), aggravated assault (21%), and intimidation (20%). There were 13 cases of disorderly conduct, 6 cases of robbery, 2 cases of violation of a restraining order, and one case each of arson, attempted murder, rape, extortion, and mailing matter that could kill or injure another person. This distribution of criminal offenses was almost identical to the previous year. In addition, 67% of anti-Black crimes were of a violent nature (down from 71%).

African Americans were attacked most frequently in public places (36%), followed by residences (25%), and businesses and schools (16% each). Similar to the previous year, anti-Black crimes in schools remained high, increasing from 59 to 61. More than half (57%) of the hate crimes that occurred in schools were racially motivated, with African Americans making up 43% of the targeted victims.

For the second consecutive year, Latino/as represented the largest group of suspects (52%), in anti-Black crimes followed by Whites (41%).

The number of anti-Black crimes that contained evidence of white supremacist ideology increased from 30 to 36, making up 11% of the total. In addition, there was evidence that 11% of anti-Black crimes were gang-related, similar to the previous year.

ACTUAL 2023 ANTI-BLACK HATE CRIMES IN L.A. COUNTY

January 31, San Pedro

A White male suspect shouted, "Fuck you, nigger," and threw a glass bottle at a Black female MTA bus driver who was taking her break next to her bus. The victim dodged the bottle, retreated to the bus interior, and locked the door. The suspect pounded on the bus door and window, until he fell and suffered a laceration to his nose. While being taken into custody, the suspect continued to yell, "Fuck you, nigger," repeatedly.

August 8, Palmdale

An unknown suspect drew two swastikas at a park and the letters "PWD," "Niggers NO," and "No niggers." There were several circles with crosses drawn in the circles with blue spray paint. Additionally, there was a park sign that was spray painted with a swastika, "no niggers," and SS in lightning bolts.

