

**United States Department of Justice  
Hate Crime Summit**

**Hate Crimes Rise in Major American Localities in  
2016**

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**Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism**

**Department of Criminal Justice**

**California State University, San Bernardino**

**Washington, DC June 29, 2017**

**Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism**

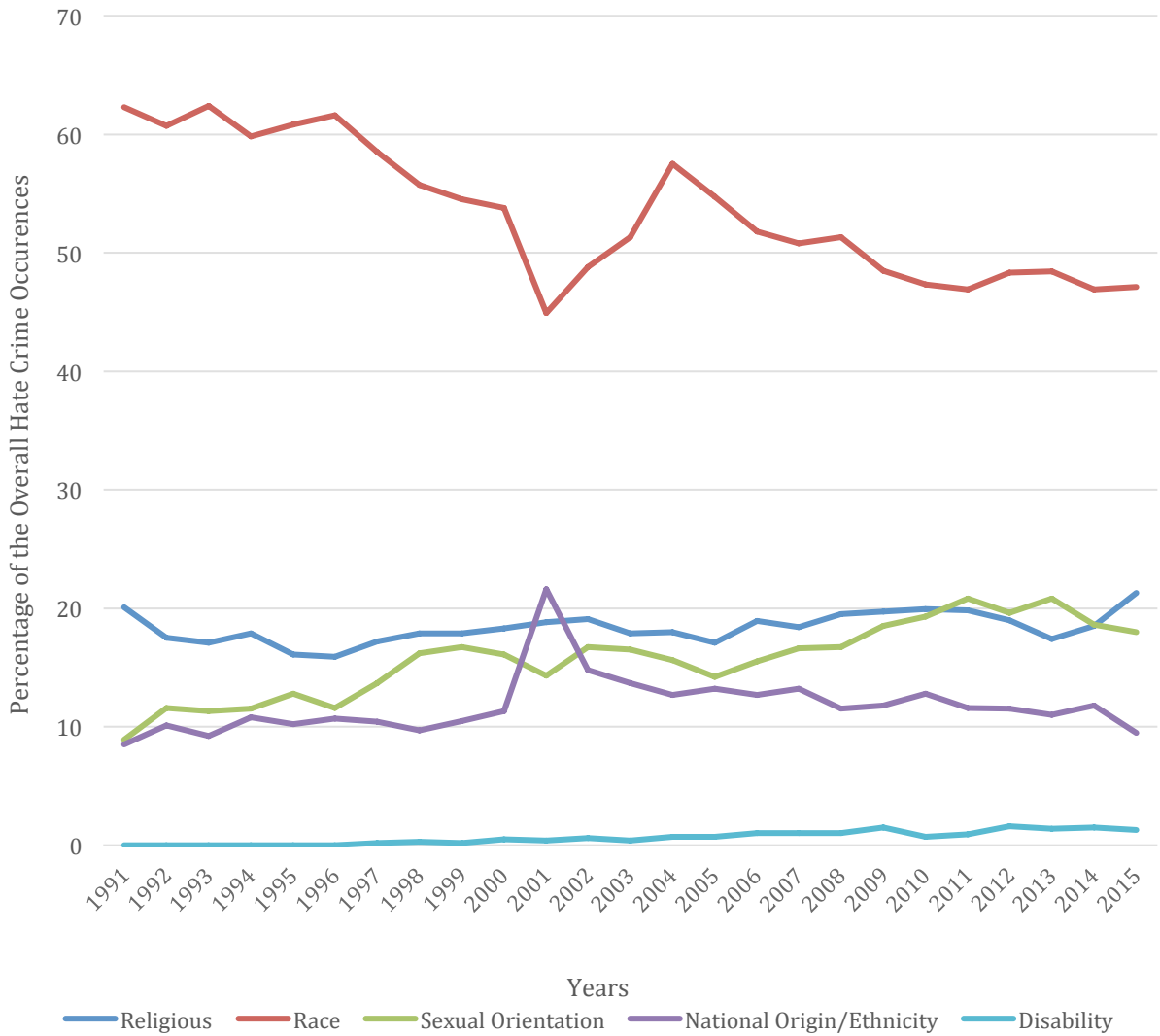


**CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO**

## **Definition and Data Collection History**

A hate crime is a criminal offense motivated in whole or in part by the actual or perceived group status of another, such as race and ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender and gender identity. The FBI tracks over 30 different types of bias motivations within the broad categories they track. In 2015 the agency added new subgroups; anti-Sikh and anti-Hindu under religions, and anti-Arab in the race/ethnicity category. The Hate Crime Statistics Act was passed on April 23, 1990 and the first national study featured limited 1992 data.

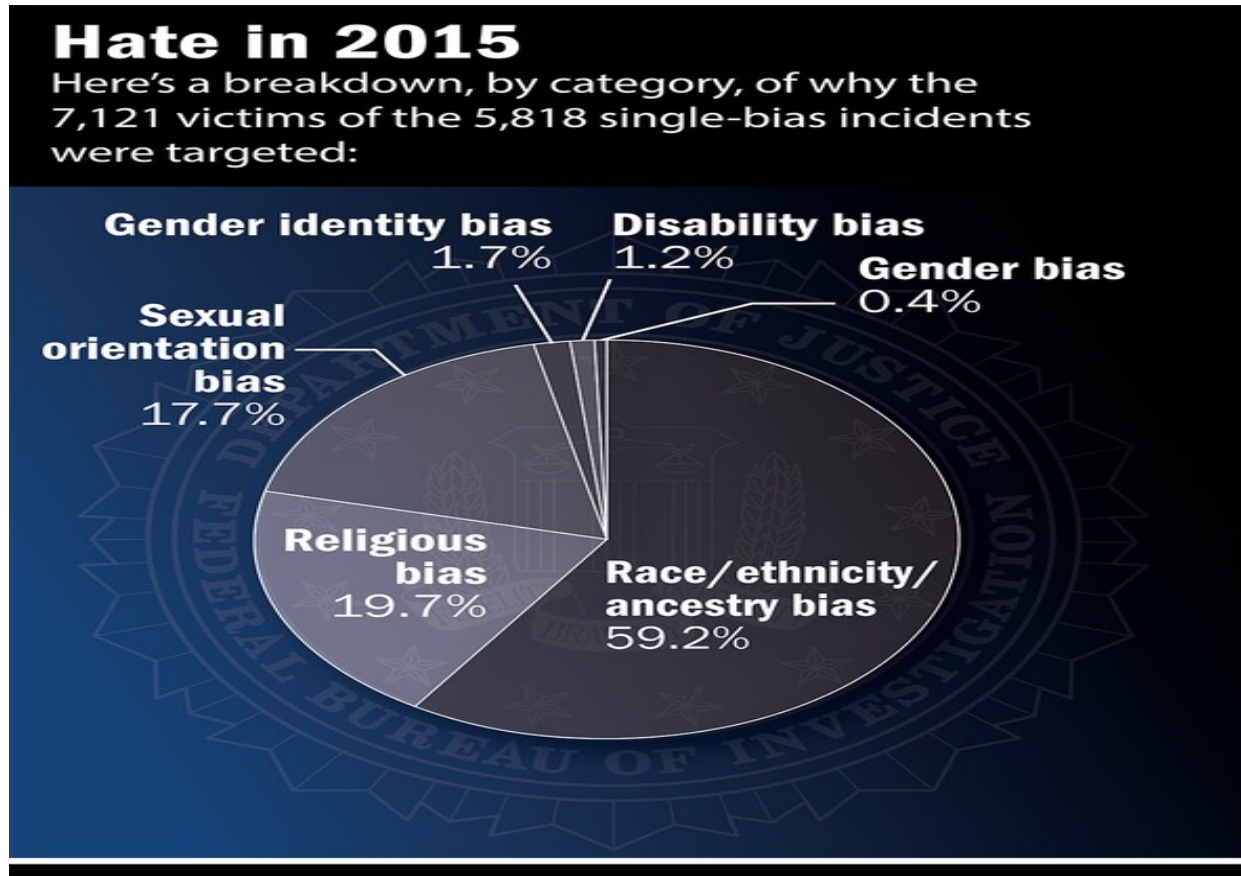
### Percentage of the Overall Hate Crime Occurences in the U.S. by Offenders' Reported Motivations (1991-2015)



Source: FBI/ Kevin Grisham

## Official Overall Hate Crime Data & Population Estimates

Criminal hate crime incidents reported to police increased 6.8% in the United States in 2015 according to official FBI data released in November 2016.



\*From *Hate Crime Statistics, 2015*

There were 5,850 total (and 5,818 single bias) incidents in 2015, compared to 5,479 total reported in 2014. In contrast, in September 2016, the FBI figures for violent crime overall showed an increase of over 3.9%.

### *Police Reports Undercount Hate Crime Relative to Victimization Surveys*

	<i>BJS Victimization Survey Estim.</i>	<i>FBI</i>	<i>BJS Survey Estim.</i>	<i>FBI</i>
2004.	281,670	7,649	2008 266,640	7,783

2005.	223,060	7,163	2009	284,620	6,604
2006.	230,490	7,722	2010	273,100	6,628
2007.	263,440	7,624	2011	218,010*	6,222
			2012	293,790	6,573

*FBI: incidents reported to police; BJS: household surveys*  
*The Bureau of Justice Statistics hate crime data are derived from national telephone surveys, while the FBI data, like this report, relies on official reports from law enforcement annually. \*BJS had an anomaly in 2011.*

### ***U.S. Demographics***

#### ***-Religion: Pew Research Center***

***Christian***            70.6%: Evangelical Protestant 25.4% ; Catholic 20.1%  
***Non-Christian***      5.9%: Jewish 1.9%; Muslim 1%; Buddhist 0.9%  
***Unaffiliated***        22.8%: Agnostic 4%; Atheist 3%

Our Center’s latest 2016 compilation of official police data from a sample of 25 large cities and counties across the nation, including 9 of the 10 most populous cities has revealed an increase in hate crimes overall of another 6% in those jurisdictions surveyed. Of the 25 localities surveyed, 14 hit or tied multi-year highs. Of those cities and counties reporting increases and multi-year highs, four of them were among the five largest cities, where increases were far higher than the overall average.

<b>Jurisdiction Population(2015) /Rank Totals for all localities &amp; NYS  Cities/counties only</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>U.S. 321,418, 820 FBI Hate Crime U.S.</b>	<b>TBA 11/17</b>	<b>5850 +6.7%</b>	<b>5479 -7.6%</b>	<b>5928 -9.8%</b>	<b>6573 5.6%</b>	<b>6222 -6.1%</b>	<b>6628</b>
<b>New York City, NY 8,550,405 (1)</b>	<b>380 +24%</b>	<b>307 --</b>	<b>308 -2%</b>	<b>315 -16%</b>	<b>374 +55%</b>	<b>242 -31%</b>	<b>350 +27%</b>
<b>NY STATE TOTAL</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>699</b>
<b>Los Angeles(City), CA 3,971,883 (2)</b>	<b>230 +15%</b>	<b>200 +32%</b>	<b>*152 +33%</b>	<b>*114 -8%</b>	<b>*124 -27%</b>	<b>*170 +23%</b>	<b>*138</b>
<b>Orange County, CA 3,172,532 (5/County)</b>	<b>50 +13.6%</b>	<b>44 +10%</b>	<b>40 -18%</b>	<b>49 -19.2%</b>	<b>61 -22%</b>	<b>78 +39%</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Chicago, IL 2,720,546 (3)</b>	<b>71 +20%</b>	<b>59 -8%</b>	<b>64 +8.5%</b>	<b>59 -13%</b>	<b>68 +33%</b>	<b>*51 +11%</b>	<b>*46</b>
<b>Houston, TX 2,296,224 (4)</b>	<b>8 -68%</b>	<b>25 +56%</b>	<b>16 +23%</b>	<b>13 NC</b>	<b>13 -24%</b>	<b>17 +31%</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Philadelphia, PA 1,567,442 (5)</b>	<b>21 +50%</b>	<b>14 +8%</b>	<b>13 -19%</b>	<b>16 +33%</b>	<b>12 -8%</b>	<b>13* +63%</b>	<b>8*</b>
<b>Phoenix, AZ 1,563,025 (6)</b>	<b>173 -28%</b>	<b>239 +31%</b>	<b>183* +126 %</b>	<b>81* -33%</b>	<b>121*- 1.6%</b>	<b>123* -9%</b>	<b>135*</b>
<b>Suffolk County, NY 1,498,816 (24/County)</b>	<b>42 -39%</b>	<b>69 -20%</b>	<b>87 NC</b>	<b>87 -22%</b>	<b>111 +192%</b>	<b>38 -21%</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>San Antonio, TX 1,469,845 (7)</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14*</b>	<b>11*</b>	<b>17*</b>	<b>2* -60%</b>	<b>5*</b>
<b>San Diego, CA 1,394, 928 (8)</b>	<b>35 -2.8%</b>	<b>36 -2.7%</b>	<b>37* -14%</b>	<b>43* +27%</b>	<b>34* -19%</b>	<b>42* -14%</b>	<b>49*</b>

<b>Nassau County, NY</b> <b>1,344,436 (27/County)</b>	<b>59</b> <b>-5%</b>	<b>62</b> <b>-18%</b>	<b>76</b> <b>+17%</b>	<b>65</b> <b>-34%</b>	<b>98</b> <b>+81.5%</b>	<b>54</b> <b>-55%</b>	<b>120</b>
<b>Montgomery, County, MD</b> <b>1,030,447 (41/County)</b>	<b>94</b> <b>+42%</b>	<b>66</b> <b>+65%</b>	<b>40</b> <b>+43%</b>	<b>28</b> <b>+17%</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>#</b>
<b>San Jose, CA</b> <b>1,026,908 (10)</b>	<b>19</b> <b>+217%</b>	<b>6</b> <b>-45%</b>	<b>11</b> <b>-27%</b>	<b>15*</b>	<b>15*</b> <b>-53%</b>	<b>32*</b> <b>+33%</b>	<b>24*</b>
<b>Austin, TX</b> <b>912,791 (11)</b>	<b>17</b> <b>+21%</b>	<b>14</b> <b>+250%</b>	<b>4*</b>	<b>4*</b>	<b>6*</b> <b>+20%</b>	<b>5*</b>	<b>5*</b>
<b>San Francisco, CA</b> <b>864,816 (13)</b>	<b>35</b> <b>+25%</b>	<b>28</b> <b>+27%</b>	<b>*22</b> <b>-8%</b>	<b>*24</b> <b>-31%</b>	<b>*35</b> <b>-24%</b>	<b>*46</b> <b>-27</b>	<b>*63</b>
<b>Columbus, OH</b> <b>850,106 (15)</b>	<b>213</b> <b>+9.8%</b>	<b>194</b> <b>+30%</b>	<b>149*</b> <b>+10%</b>	<b>*136</b> <b>+209%</b>	<b>*44</b> <b>10%</b>	<b>*40</b> <b>-13%</b>	<b>*46</b>
<b>Seattle, WA</b> <b>684,451 (18)</b>	<b>89</b> <b>+6%</b>	<b>84</b> <b>+65%</b>	<b>51</b> <b>+55%</b>	<b>33</b> <b>+6.5%</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>#</b>
<b>Denver, CO</b> <b>682, 545 (19)</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>*43</b>
<b>Washington, DC</b> <b>672,228 (22)</b>	<b>107</b> <b>+62%</b>	<b>66</b> <b>-7%</b>	<b>71</b> <b>+1%</b>	<b>70</b> <b>-14%</b>	<b>81</b> <b>-12%</b>	<b>92</b> <b>+61%</b>	<b>57*</b>
<b>Boston, MA</b> <b>667,137 (23)</b>	<b>275</b> <b>-8.6%</b>	<b>301</b> <b>+1%</b>	<b>298</b> <b>-6.3%</b>	<b>318</b> <b>+5.3%</b>	<b>302</b> <b>-17%</b>	<b>365</b> <b>+147%</b>	<b>*148</b>
<b>Fresno, CA</b> <b>520,052 (34)</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>*12</b>	<b>*10</b>	<b>*8</b>	<b>*2</b>	<b>*6</b>
<b>Sacramento, CA</b> <b>490,712 (35)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>*7</b>	<b>*16</b>	<b>*16</b>	<b>*17</b>	<b>*25</b>
<b>Long Beach, CA</b> <b>474,140 (37)</b>	<b>8</b> <b>-33%</b>	<b>*12</b> <b>+20%</b>	<b>*10</b> <b>+100%</b>	<b>*5</b> <b>+25%</b>	<b>*4</b> <b>-33%</b>	<b>*6</b> <b>-40%</b>	<b>*10</b>
<b>Bakersfield, CA</b> <b>373,640 (52)</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>*6</b>	<b>*3</b>	<b>*4</b>	<b>*5</b>	<b>*4</b>
<b>Cincinnati, OH</b> <b>298,550 (66)</b>	<b>54</b> <b>+38.5%</b>	<b>39</b> <b>-28%</b>	<b>54*</b> <b>+315%</b>	<b>13*</b> <b>+18%</b>	<b>*11</b> <b>+22%</b>	<b>*9</b> <b>-10%</b>	<b>*10</b>
	<b>*FBI Data</b>	<b>#Frmt chng.</b>	<b>Or N/A</b>				

**Green typeface indicates at or above multi-year high**

In 2016 hate crime in Chicago rose 20%, 24% in New York City, 15% in Los Angeles, and 50% in Philadelphia. The largest increase, 62%, was right here, in Washington DC., while Seattle with an only 6% increase, and Columbus, Ohio, with a 9.8% rise were the only jurisdictions where percentage increases fell below double digits. Boston; Suffolk County, NY; and Houston, however, had significant overall drops, although Boston experienced an increase in anti-Muslim hate crime.

In our sample of California's largest cities, hate crimes increased 14%. Even with these increases, it should be noted that the nation is well below the century highs of 2001 when 9/11 occurred, although some of this decline may be attributed not only to a decrease in actual cases, but also be due in part to a disturbing breakdown in reporting in various key jurisdictions.

While precipitous election time hate crime spikes were clearly present in many places, there were a few in the Midwest where no increases were apparent. Unlike other surveys, however, this is the only one relying on uniform official crime data over time, as opposed to non-criminal events, for full year 2016.

Partial 2017 data is available for only a handful of jurisdictions and reproduced below. No national trend can



be discerned because of the small number of jurisdictions.

## Hate Crimes: 2017

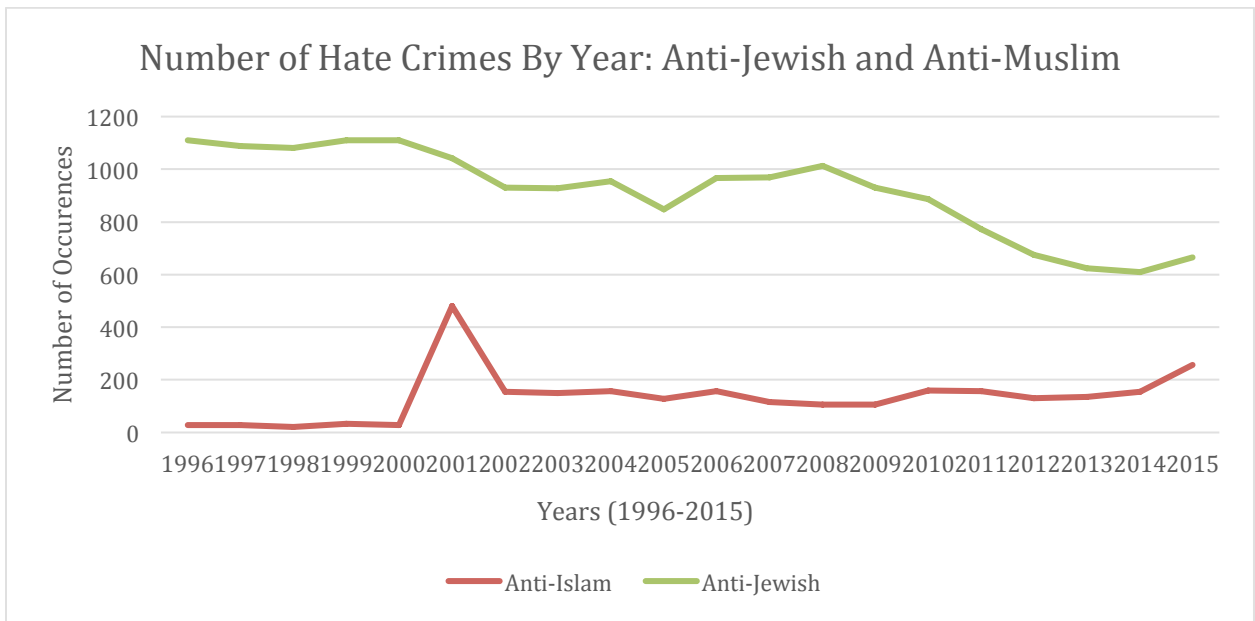
<b>City</b>	<b>2017 YTD</b>	<b>2016 YTD</b>	<b>Date Through</b>
<b>New York</b>	211/ +40%	151	June 26
<b>Seattle</b>	38/ +41%	27	April 30
<b>Washington, DC</b>	51/+21%	42	May 31
<b>Chicago</b>	13/+160%	5	February 3

A substantial portion of anti-Semitic incidents nationally in 2017 came from an Israeli offender, who may be what researchers call a “conflicted” mentally ill offender who is believed responsible for most of the over 160 bomb threat targeting Jewish institutions in the first quarter of 2017.

### **Any Increase for 2016 Would Be Multi-Year High**

The 2016 increase of 6% that we found in our sample may very well fluctuate as more data comes in from other jurisdictions, but if it does hold for the rest of the nation, 2016 will be the first time since 2004, when America has had back to back annual increases in hate crime. The FBI

recorded total of 7,462 hate crimes for 2004 is significantly higher than the 5850 that was reported in 2015, following a 6.7% increase from the prior year. A 6% national increase over 2015 FBI numbers would total about 6,200 hate crimes for 2016 and that number would be the highest since 2011's 6,222 cases. As stated, however, the 6% increase in our sample will change, and even possibly moderate by the time the FBI releases national hate crime data this November.



FBI/Kevin Grisham, CSUSB

Religion targeted hate crime, however, increased dramatically in 2015 to 1,244 incidents according to the FBI, an increase of 22.7% over 2014, where there were 1,014 incidents. The proportion of religion-based hate crime also increased to its highest level since modern reporting commenced in the early 1990s, constituting

21.3% of hate crime in 2015, compared to 18.5% in 2014. The 2015 religion hate crime FBI totals were also the highest numerically since 2010. Similarly, the Bureau of Justice Statistics relying on annualized datasets from residential phone surveys found an even higher proportion of religiously motivated hate crime: “The percentage of hate crimes motivated by religious bias was nearly three times higher in 2012 (28%) than in 2004 (10%), but did not have a statistically significant change from 2011 to 2012.”

The Bureau of Justice Statistics victimization phone survey data on hate crime overall, over the last decade has further showed a wide disparity between their annual hate crime data, which has been averaging slightly below 300,000, and the FBI’s data, which show under 6,000 nationwide, indicating some difficulty and obstacles by both police and citizens in identifying and reporting hate crimes. The ADL found 87 cities of 100,000 population or more reported no hate crimes in a recent reporting period.

State reporting to the FBI is limited by a glaring lack of participation in the voluntary program by various states, including Florida, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, and Hawaii among others. Maryland, the first state to collect data in the 1980s has an excellent program that reported 203 hate crimes, including 14 anti-Muslim crimes, in its official report released in September. However, only 41 made it into the FBI 2015 data.

## **Most Hate Crime Directed At People, Not Property**

The most frequent hate crime offenses were property destruction at 1,698 or 24.7%; followed closely by intimidation, 1,495 or 21.%; and simple assault with 1,436 or 20.9%. Aggravated assaults accounted for 12.8% of all offenses with 882. One third of hate crimes were simple or aggravated assaults. In contrast, only 15% of overall crimes in 2015 were violent, showing that hate crimes are far more violent proportionately. FBI figures show 18 hate motivated homicides nationally, including the nine people who were murdered in the racially motivated mass shooting at Charleston, South Carolina's Mother Emanuel church in June 2015. This is part of a disturbing trend of not only an increase in hate homicides annually, but also a trend where the targets of multi-fatality attacks are religious ones.

### **NGO Reports: ADL**

The ADL, a Jewish civil rights group, tally of anti-Semitic "incidents," which includes both criminal and non-criminal events, increased 34% nationally in 2016, from 942 to 1266, though assaults dropped from 56 to 36. Almost 30% of all ADL incidents nationwide, recorded last year, occurred in the last two months around election time. In the first quarter of 2017, anti-Semitic incidents

nationally rose 86% over the same period last year.

In our home state of California the ADL reports anti-Semitic incidents rose 21% from 175 to 211 in 2016, the highest total in the nation and a multi-year high. Assaults in the state rose from one to six. In 2015 anti-Semitic hate crimes rose 21% in the state according to the Attorney General, and 9% nationally according to the FBI, to 664 cases.

State	Jewish Population in State	Percentage of State Population	Percentage of U.S. Jewish Population	Anti-Semitic Incidents in 2016 (ADL)	Anti-Semitic Incidents in 2015 (ADL)
New York	1,759,570	8.9%	25.8%	199	198
California	1,232,690	3.2%	18.5%	211	175
New Jersey	523,950	5.9%	7.7%	157	137
Florida	651,510	3.3%	9.5%	137	91

***California: Anti-Semitic Incidents: ADL***

**2017:**

**Vandalism: 21; Harassment: 66; Assault: 0; Total: 87**

**2016:**

**Vandalism: 77; Harassment: 128; Assault: 6; Total: 211**

**2015:**

**Vandalism: 69; Harassment: 105; Assault: 1; Total: 175**

### **Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC)**

Nationally, the SPLC counted 1372 bias incidents from Election Day through February 7, 2016 through an intake webpage of self-reported incidents and news reports, but there was no breakdown differentiating criminal acts from slurs and other forms of noncriminal harassment. Our internal data indicate that the total number of actual crimes is a fraction of that total. Similarly, the website *ThinkProgress* using a more rigid data collection methodology found only 267 hate incidents between Election Day and February 9, 2017.

In the month of the election, through December 12, 2016; the SPLC counted 1,094 incidents nationally, with 315 directed at immigrants, 221 at African-Americans, 112 at Muslims, along with 26 anti-Trump incidents. California, with 125 incidents, led the nation. SPLC also found direct references to President Trump or the election in over one

third of the national incidents right after the election. In addition, while the SPLC found only a 3% rise in hate groups, they found a tripling in anti-Muslim groups.

The Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) reported 2,213 bias “incidents” in 2016 and a 57% increase and 260 crimes and a 44% increase.

The ADL, SPLC, CAIR and other data from human relation commissions point to far more non-criminal incidents than actual crimes, and the increases in “incidents” appear to be greater than that of actual “crimes.” While limited vetting of “incident” data can be less reliable, it can also capture trends, and it is an important data set in its own right. These data, with their limitations, nonetheless gathers within in its sweep non-criminal conflicts that adversely affects the quality of life of both communities, institutions, schools and targeted groups.

### **An Array of Causes**

Prejudice and individual manifestations of it often involve a range of interdependent variables that make certain conclusions more difficult to draw than others, particularly in trying to connect a rise in hate crime to one causal factor. The presentation of crime data alone, of the kind presented here, answers some questions, but other conclusions are more elusive, as these data are not designed to be wholly diagnostic or predictive on their own. Various, often interconnected, factors appear to

influence hate crime as well as non-criminal manifestations of prejudice including the level, breadth and nature of prejudice against a particular group, demographics, familiarity and contacts between groups, ongoing national and regional conditions relating to groups, catalytic events, retaliation, perceived grievances and the emergence of leaders and subcultures that promote or discourage stereotypes.

With respect to anti-Muslim hate crime, the data does indicate a multi-year increase, even during periods when reported hate crime overall was declining. Further, 2015 was the most precipitous rise since 2001. Since the 1980s, data has confirmed the phenomena of a catalytic trigger event being accompanied by a temporary spike in hate crimes. These spikes then recede, although not always evenly or necessarily back to previous levels. Examples include the fatal racial attack in Howard Beach, Queens in 1986; the response to the April 1992 acquittals in the Rodney King police beating case, and the backlashes after 9/11 and following a proposal to build a religious center in lower Manhattan in 2010.

Spikes can vary not only by rate of increase, but also by duration, and location as well. Following the record spike in anti-Muslim hate crime after 9/11, incidents declined, but only to levels that ranged approximately four to five times previous levels, until 2015's dramatic increase. The hate crime increases after catalytic events, like 9/11, rise sharply, though sometimes with a slight delay as



information is disseminated and processed, and then fall more slowly, exhibiting a saw tooth pattern decline as seen in our charts.

### **Words Matter: A Bully Pulpit Effect?**

An frequent query that we receive routinely is what effect, if any, do well publicized statements by political leaders in the wake of catalytic events have on the commission of hate crimes? While we have data on dates, we often do not have exact times of crimes in available reports; nor do we know if an offender actually heard a provocative statement, nor conversely do we know who refrains from violence after hearing a tolerant message. There was a wave of anti-Muslim hate crime following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. We, also noted a moderate weekly rise in hate searches on Google like “kill all Muslims” after Mr. Trump’s proposed Muslim ban, which was first explored in the New York Times last year. After President Bush made statements of tolerance at a mosque on September 17, 2001, however, anti-Muslim hate crimes dropped dramatically across the country as the following tables and charts indicate. Conversely, when Candidate Trump first proposed his “Muslim Ban” on December 7, 2015 after the San Bernardino terror attack, anti-Muslim hate crime rose 87.5%, above already elevated levels.

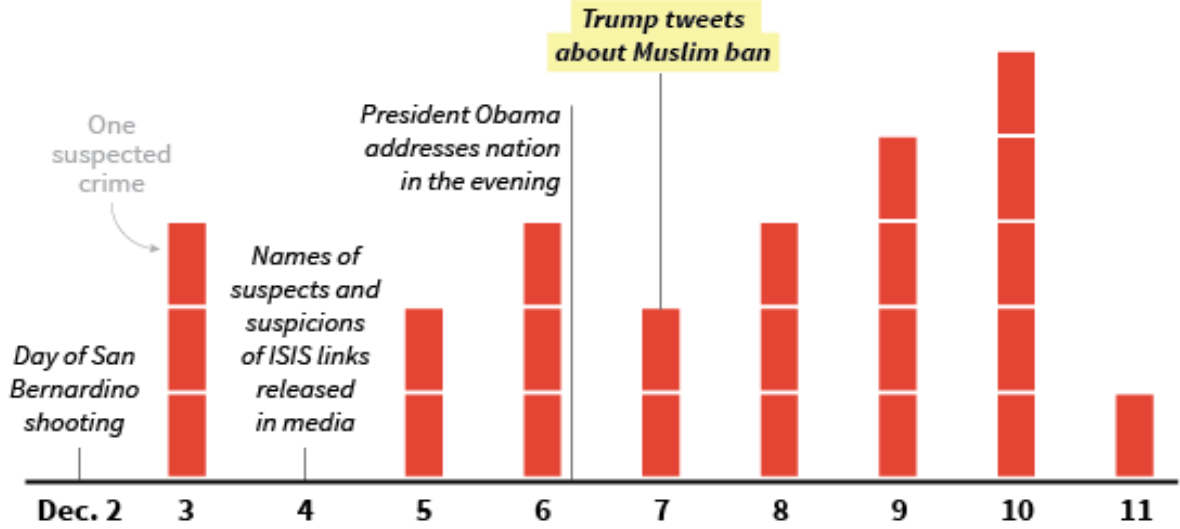
For the six days that followed anti-Muslim hate crimes

totaled 26, dropping down to five on September 18, the day after the President's tolerance address. Because we do not know the times of the hate crimes on September 17, 2001, one may want to calculate the data by making the dividing line the day before, thus going from September 12 through the September 16, for a total of 62, and shifting the 15 over into a new cadre of incidents going until September 21, for a total of 33. If we choose the first data set, the decline for the days after President Bush's speech the drop is 66.2%, and if we choose the second set, the declines are still steep, at 46.7%.

The San Bernardino terrorist attack occurred at about 11AM PT, on December 2, but the names of the suspects were not initially released, and suspicions of a connection to ISIS were not definitively confirmed in the media until late that day. For the five days from December 2 through December 6, there were 8 anti-Muslim hate crimes, with none on December 2. For the five days from December 7 through December 11, there were 15 anti-Muslim hate crimes, with those occurring on December 7 taking place after the announcement. These crimes include multiple assaults and two fire-bombings, including one in the overnight hours immediately following Mr. Trump's announcement.

# A Trump Effect?

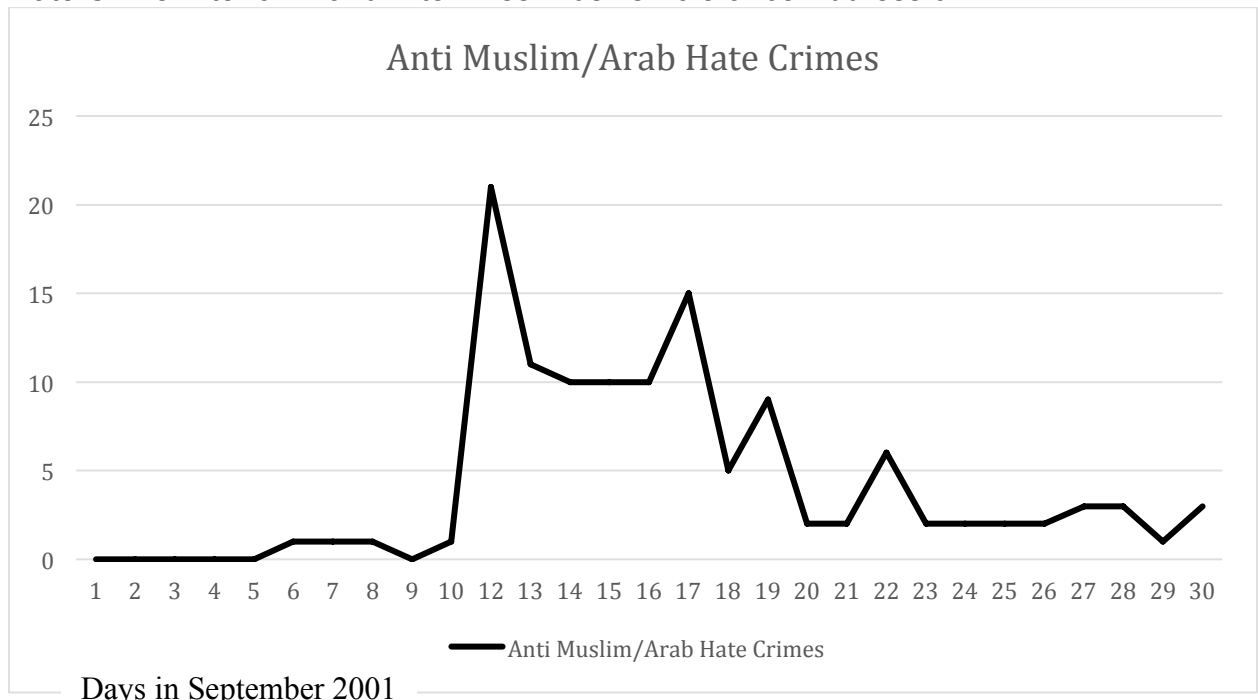
Suspected anti-Islam hate crimes in the U.S. following San Bernardino shooting



Source: Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism, CSU-San Bernardino

The Huffington Post

Hate Crime After 9/11 and After Pres. Bush's Tolerance Address 9/17



Source: National Incident-Based Reporting Data for 2001.  
Retrieved from National Archive of Criminal Justice Data by Dr. James Nolan/West Virginia U.

## **Recommendations**

We believe that data collection is a barometer of response and that in jurisdictions that response is inadequate or even non-existent. We encourage the Department of Justice to assist with heightened enforced data collection efforts, public private partnerships, routine meetings at state, federal and local levels; further training of law enforcement, as well as public statements by high officials that hate crimes are a priority and run counter to American values.

We offer the following additional recommendations to assist our nation's response:

Making reporting by law enforcement mandatory and tied to funding;

Amending federal statutes to include threats and making bias selection be a contributing, rather than an overriding factor;

Maintaining and improving coordination by the Department of Justice with other agencies and NGOs;

Provide enhanced training for law enforcement, particularly in low participation jurisdictions.

Thank you and feel free to call upon our Center, if you have additional questions.

Appendix: Additional Tables and Charts

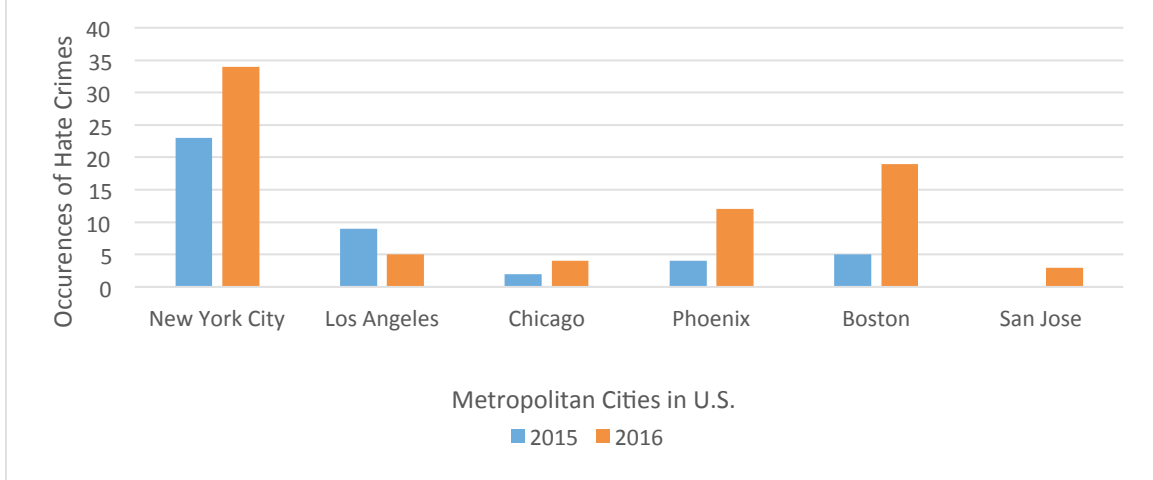
FBI: U.S. Hate Crimes Based on Religious Identity of Victim; 1996-2015

<b>Year</b>	<b>All Religions</b>	<b>Anti-Islam</b>	<b>Anti-Jewish</b>
1996	1,401	27	1,109
1997	1,385	28	1087
1998	1,390	21	1081
1999	1,411	32	1109
2000	1,472	28	1109
2001	1,828	481	1043
2002	1,426	155	931
2003	1,343	149	927
2004	1,374	156	954

2005	1,227	128	848
2006	1,462	156	967
2007	1,400	115	969
2008	1,519	105	1,013
2009	1,303	107	931
2010	1,322	160	887
2011	1,233	157	771
2012	1,099	130	674
2013	1,031	135	625
2014	1,014	154	609
2015	1,224	257	664
Total (1996 to 2015)	26864	2,681 9.97%	18,308 68%

Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism/California State University, San Bernardino;  
 Brian Levin [Compilation: Author] & Graphs by Kevin Grisham

## Anti-Muslim Hate Crimes Six Metropolitan Cities in U.S. (2015-2016)



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