



## **HATE CRIME STATISTICS - 2009**

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## HATE CRIME STATISTICS 2009

In November 2010, the Federal Bureau of Investigation released the publication, *Hate Crime Statistics 2009*. Produced in compliance with the federal Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990, the publication has been released annually since 1992.

Hate crimes, also known as bias crimes, are criminal offenses committed against a person, property, or society that are motivated, in part or in whole, by the offender's bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin.

The report is based on data submitted to the FBI's hate crime statistics program through a standardized hate crime supplement to UCR and NIBRS reports. Nationally, 14,422 law enforcement agencies participated in the hate crime reporting program in 2009.

The information contained in this report is subject to strenuous qualifiers. As the FBI report itself states, "Because motivation is subjective, it is sometimes difficult to know with certainty whether a crime resulted from the offender's bias. Moreover, the presence of bias alone does not necessarily mean that a crime can be considered a hate crime." Law enforcement investigation must reveal with sufficient evidence to lead a person to conclude that the offender's *actions* were motivated in whole or in part by his or her bias.

The following is a brief review of this year's report. Whenever available, Ohio statistics are reported, and may be supplemented by U.S. statistics.

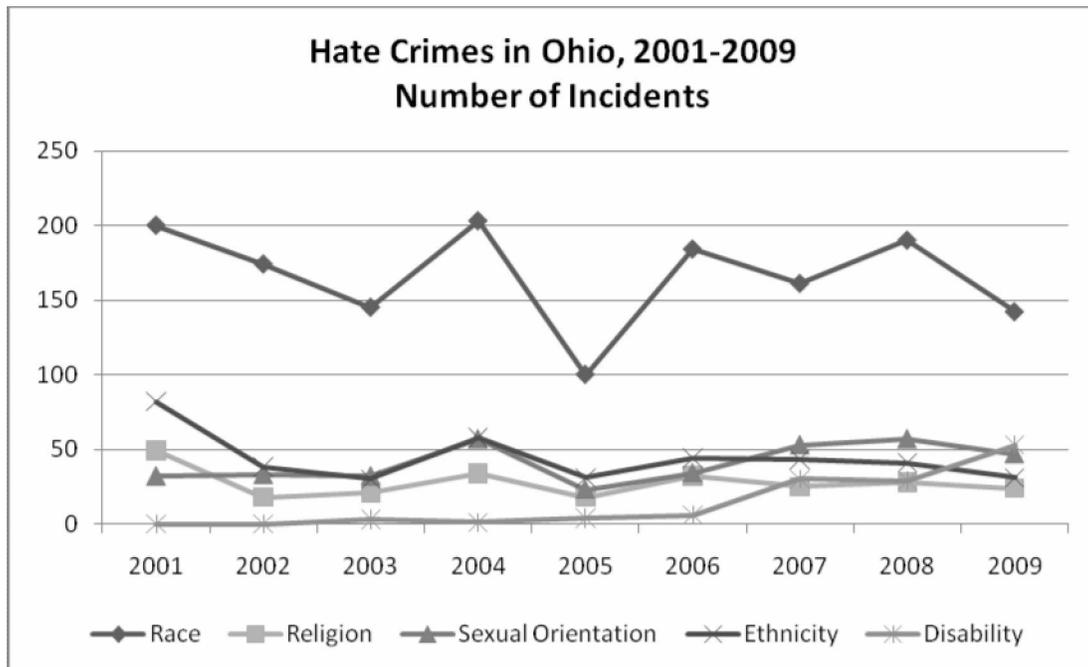
### Hate crime reporting

- The number of Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement increased from 545 in 2008 to 588 in 2009.
- Of the 588 Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement in 2009, 105 agencies reported a total of 297 hate crime incidents, and 483 reported zero hate crime incidents.
- The Ohio hate crime rate of 3.1 incidents per 100,000 population is above the national average of 2.4 incidents per 100,000 population.
- Nationwide, most hate crime incidents, 48 percent, involved racial bias. The remaining incidents involved religion (20 percent), sexual orientation (19 percent), ethnicity/national origin (12 percent), and disability (1 percent).
- In Ohio, 48 percent of hate crime incidents were related to race, followed by disability<sup>1</sup> (18 percent), sexual orientation (16 percent), ethnicity (10 percent), and religion (8 percent).
- Nationwide data on the specific types of racial bias show that 71 percent of such incidents were anti-Black and 17 percent were anti-White.

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<sup>1</sup> One agency reported 39 of the 53 disability hate crime incidents (74% of all Ohio's disability hate crime incidents).

- Nationwide data show that 62 percent of ethnicity bias incidents were anti-Hispanic.
- Nationwide data show that 71 percent of religious bias incidents were anti-Jewish. Eight percent of religious bias incidents were anti-Islamic. The percentage of anti-Islamic hate crimes was at its highest in 2001 (26%), but has since decreased.
- Nationwide, 61 percent of all hate crime offenses<sup>2</sup> were crimes against persons. The majority of these offenses involved intimidation (45 percent), simple assault (35 percent) and aggravated assault (19 percent). There were eight murders as a result of a hate bias. Of the 38 percent of hate crime offenses committed against property, the overwhelming majority, 83 percent, involved destruction, damage, or vandalism.
- In Ohio, 54 percent of hate crime offenses were crimes against persons and 45 percent were crimes against property. Sixty-five percent of bias crimes against persons involved intimidation, 31 percent involved simple assault, and 4 percent involved aggravated assault. Of the bias crimes against property, 63 percent involved destruction, damage, or vandalism.



<sup>2</sup> Offenses differ from incidents in that there may be multiple offenses, multiple victims, and/or multiple offenders within one hate crime incident.