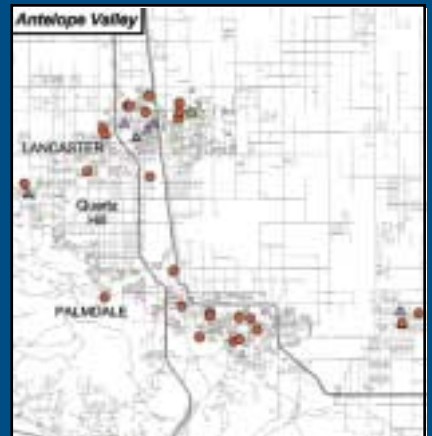
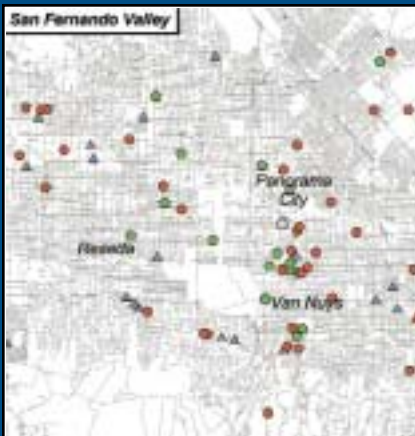
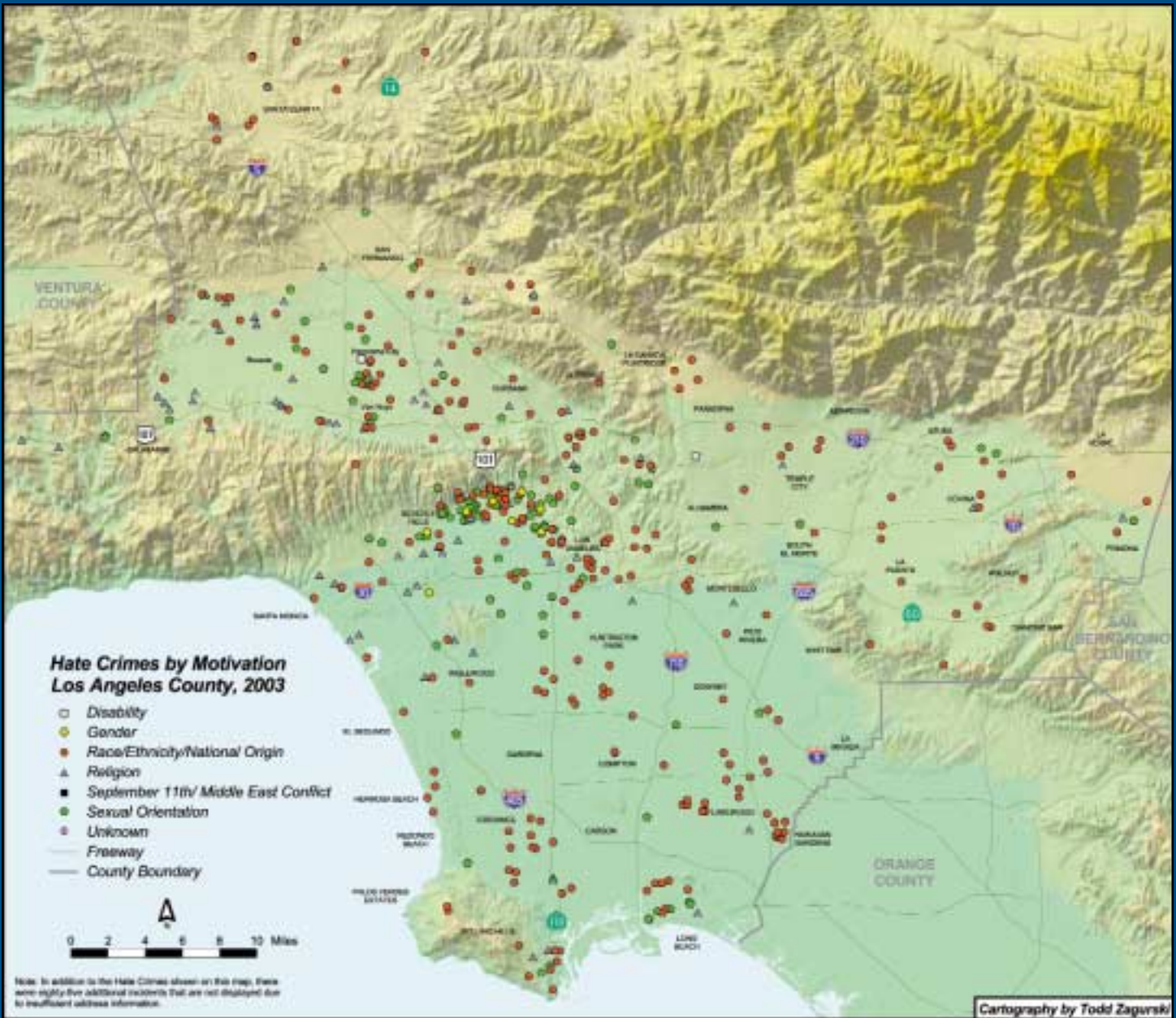


2003 HATE CRIME REPORT



Los Angeles County
Commission on
Human Relations

2003 Los Angeles County Hate Crimes



2003 HATE CRIME REPORT



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PREFACE

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

Using this information, the Commission sponsors a number of ongoing programs related to combating hate crime: the Network Against Hate Crime, the Human Relations Mutual Assistance Consortium, the Hate Crime Victim Assistance and Advocacy Initiative, the Corporate Advisory Committee, the School Intergroup Conflict Initiative, Get Real LA!, Youth A.C.T., and the youth anti-discrimination campaign, “Zerohour: The Time to Act is Now!”

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

WHAT IS A HATE CRIME?

The Commission classifies as hate crimes those cases in which the facts indicate that bias, hatred, or prejudice based on the victim’s real or perceived race, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender, or sexual orientation are substantial factors in the commission of the offense. This definition is based on the California criminal laws (penal code sections 422.6 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.

When the evidence of bias is based on speech alone, the speaker/writer must have threatened violence against a specific person or group of persons. It must also be clear that the aggressor had the apparent 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 laws.

Graffiti is a hate crime when it is disparaging to classes of people who are protected by hate crime laws. This is most often indicated by use of epithets, hate group symbols, or slogans. To be a hate crime, graffiti must be directed at a specific target. For example, racial graffiti on a freeway overpass that does not address itself to a particular person is not a hate crime.

Vandalism of a house of worship or of an ethnic, religious, or gay and lesbian organization is generally considered a hate crime in the absence of evidence of other motives.

SUMMARY OF HATE CRIME REPORT 2003

TOTAL CASES

There were 692 hate crimes reported in Los Angeles County in 2003, a 14% decrease from the 804 reported in the previous year. This was the lowest number reported since 1991.

The 2003 hate crimes include one murder (down from three) and ten attempted murders (up from five). The murder victim and five of the attempted murder victims were attacked in a single case in South Los Angeles in which two Latino gang members yelled racial slurs and shot at a car driven by an African American man accompanied by four young people and another adult male. The driver was killed and the other adult and one of the children were injured.

There was a dramatic 40% increase in the number of assaults with deadly weapons (ADWs), from 108 to 151. The ratio of ADWs to all hate crimes rose from 14% to 22%. By contrast, assaults and batteries decreased by 37%, suggesting that although fewer hate crimes were reported in 2003, they were of a more violent nature.

In addition to ADWs, there were 186 acts of vandalism, 154 assaults and batteries, and 116 criminal threats. These four categories accounted for 88% of all reported hate crimes.

The percentage of hate crimes that were of a violent nature rose slightly from 49% to 52%.

HATE CRIME BY LOCATION

Forty-six percent of hate crimes took place in public places, a 54% rise, but this increase was due to the fact that for this year, we received our data from a source in which LAPD location data was categorized in a different way than in previous years. This new source tended to categorize more types of hate crime locations as “public places” than we do. Following public places were residences (24%), businesses (19%), schools (7%), and religious sites (4%).

RACIAL HATE CRIMES

Racial hate crimes decreased 11% and all targeted victim groups declined numerically. Consistent with previous years, however, African Americans were targeted in 54% of all racial hate crimes, a much higher rate than any other group. By comparison, victims who were targets of anti-Latino, white, and Asian racial hate crime were under-represented in comparison to these groups’ presence in the general population. The only other group besides African Americans that was overrepresented were targets of anti-Middle Eastern hate crime (5%).

SEXUAL ORIENTATION HATE CRIMES

Following a two-year period in which sexual orientation-based hate crime was the only category of motivation that increased, homophobic attacks declined 19%, from 238 to 192. Of those, 159 (83%) targeted gay men, 28 (15%) targeted lesbians, and five (three percent) were unspecified.

RELIGIOUS HATE CRIMES

There was a 13% decrease in the number of religious hate crimes, from 119 to 104. However, anti-Jewish hate crimes, which is consistently the largest group of religious hate crimes, increased slightly from 78 to 79 and constituted 84% of religious-based cases, up from 67% the previous year.

Of the religious crimes determined to be unrelated to September 11th or the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, anti-Muslim crimes dropped from 11 to 6, constituting six percent of the religious cases. This does not include one September 11th-related anti-Muslim crime.

SEPTEMBER 11TH/MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT-RELATED CRIMES

Despite continued fears of terrorism, the war in Iraq, and continued violent unrest in the Middle East, hate crimes prompted by anti-Middle Eastern/Muslim backlash declined 47%, from 17 to 9 cases.

GENDER- AND DISABILITY-MOTIVATED HATE CRIMES

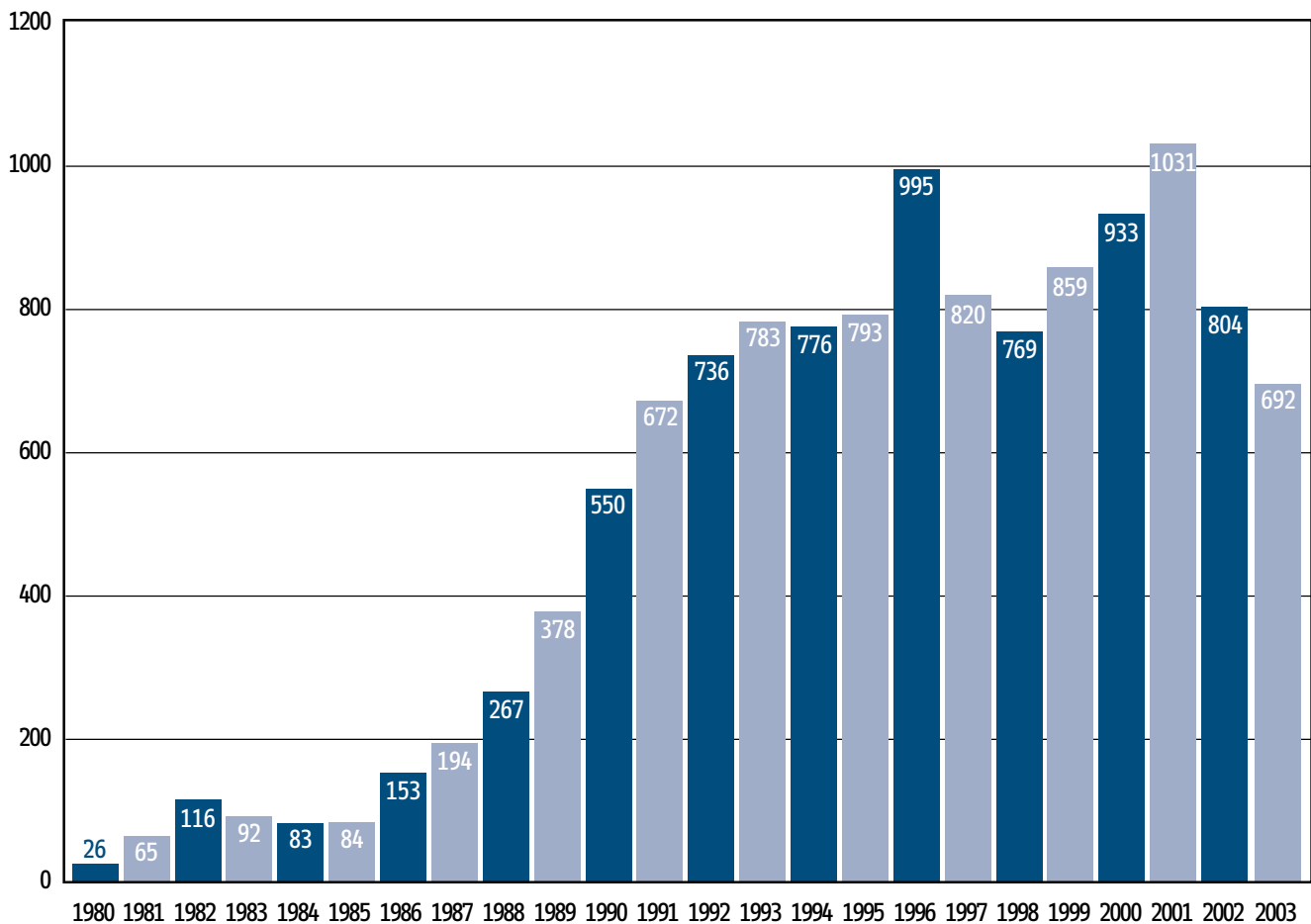
Crimes motivated by the victim’s gender declined 47% from 17 to 9. There was one anti-female case and the remaining eight targeted male-to-female transgender women. There were three cases of disability-related hate crimes.

SUSPECTS

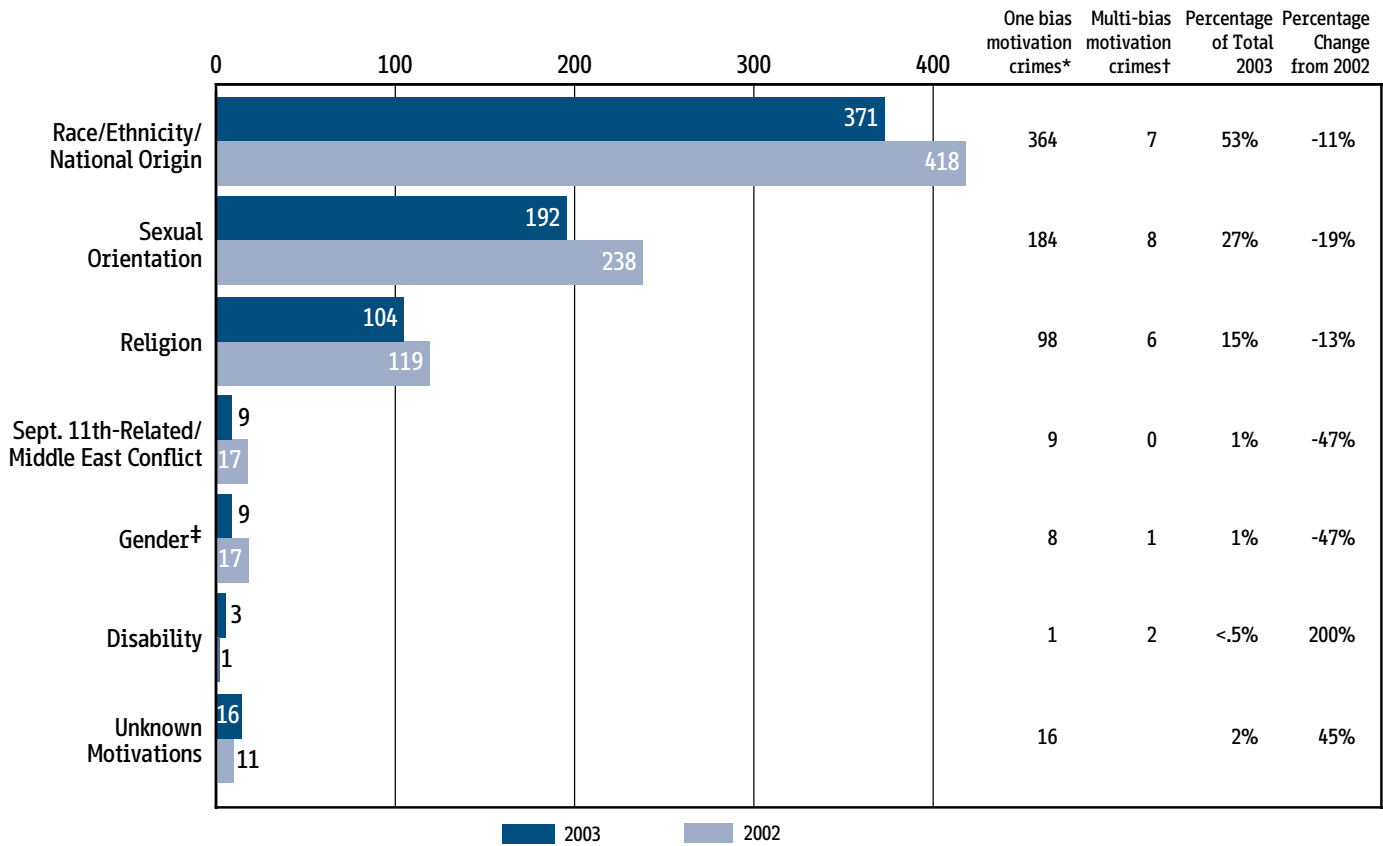
Suspects, again, were overwhelmingly male (90%) and of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds. Twenty percent were juveniles, 46% were ages 18-25, and 34% were over 25. This represented a significant rise in the percentage of suspects ages 18-25, who comprised 30% of the total in 2002.

As stated in the Methodology Section, throughout this report, statistics are based on available information and do not account for missing information on victims, suspects, criminal offenses, etc.

Total Number of Reported Hate Crimes by Year



Hate Crimes by Motivation 2003



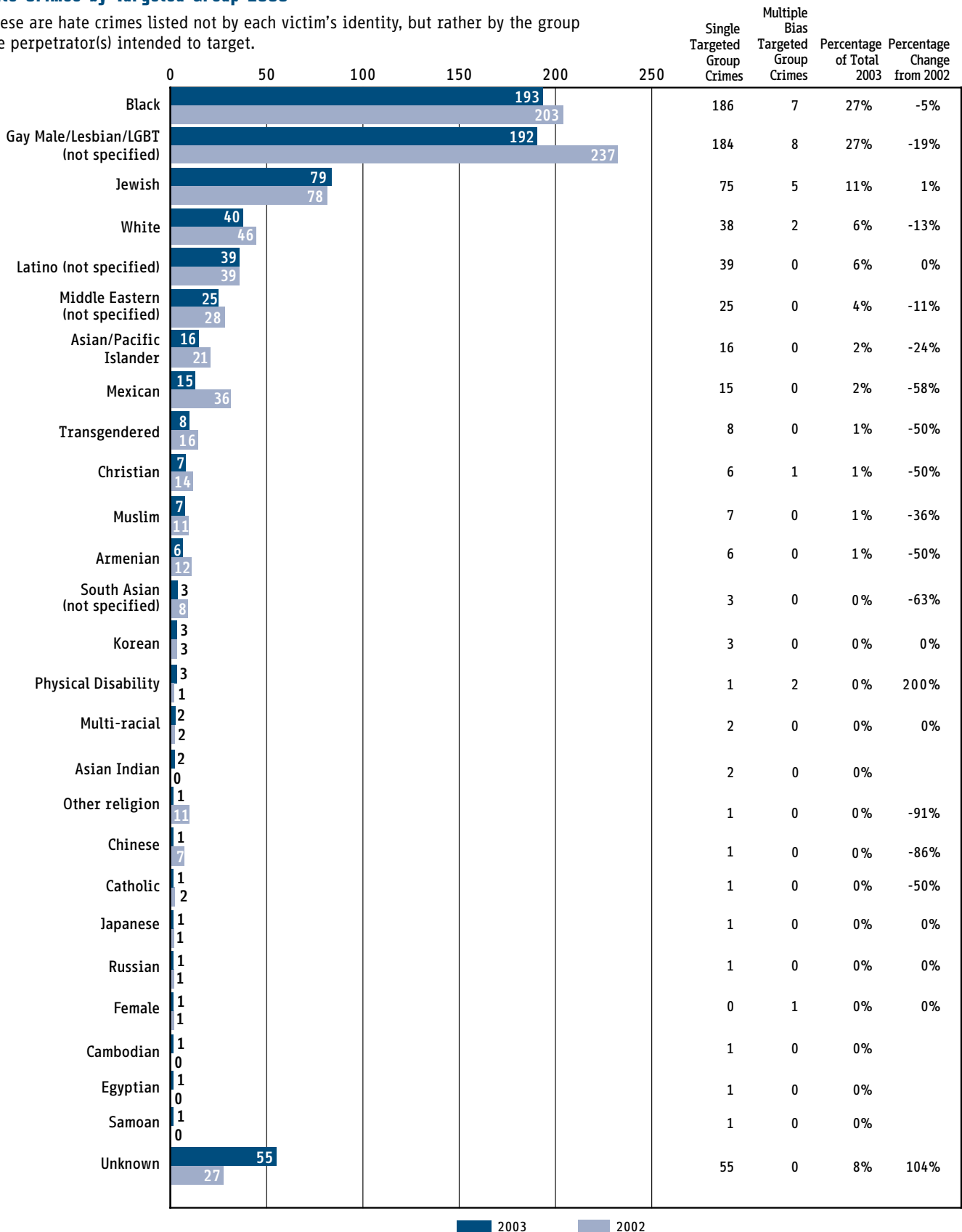
*Crimes for which there was only one bias motivation. The count is equal to the number of victims.

†Crimes for which there were multiple bias motivations.

‡For the second year, anti-transgender hate crimes are considered gender-motivated crimes. See **Methodology** section for further explanation.

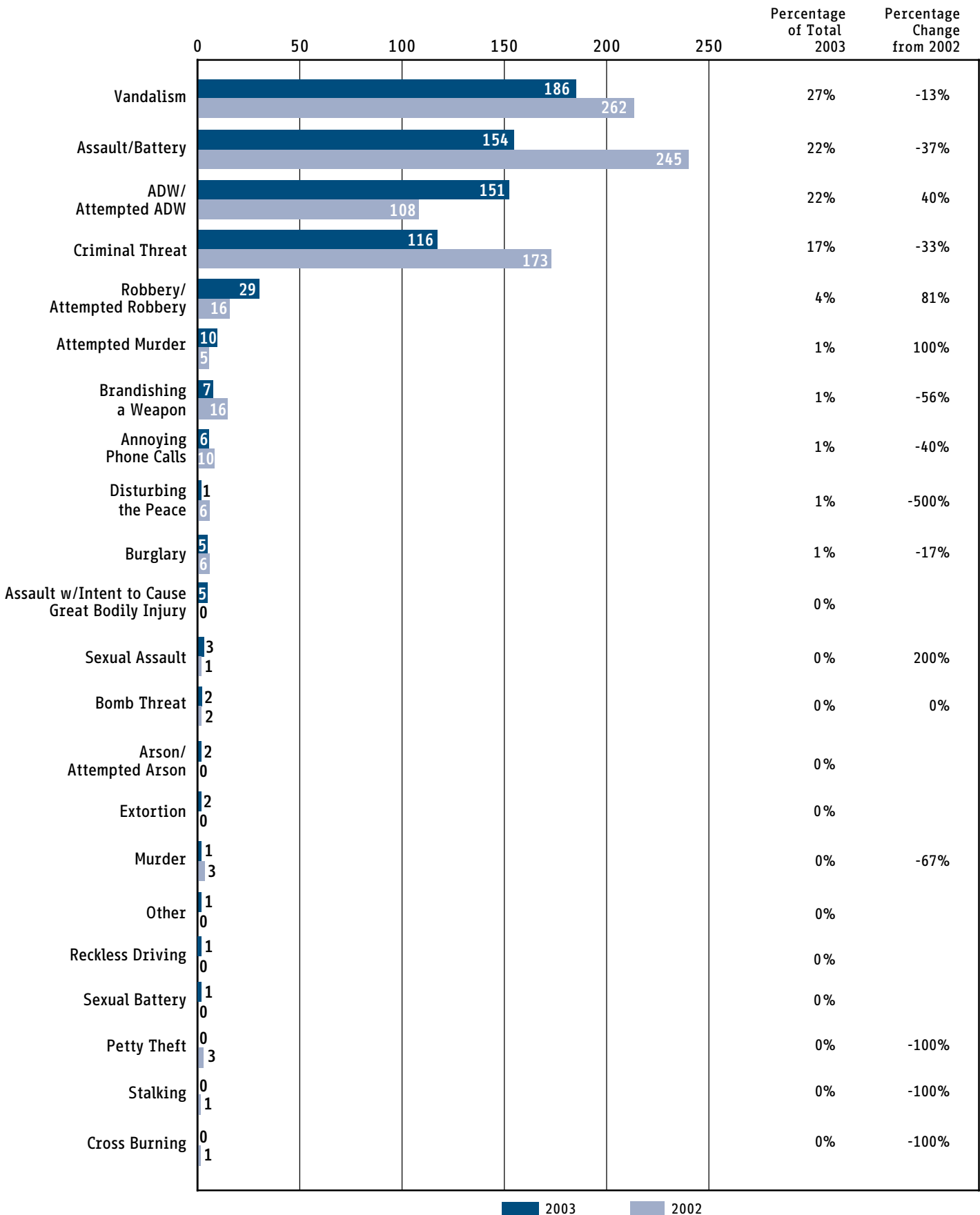
Hate Crimes by Targeted Group 2003

These are hate crimes listed not by each victim's identity, but rather by the group the perpetrator(s) intended to target.



For the second year, this report will provide information on both the actual identity of victims and what group the perpetrator intended to target. For example, if an Armenian owned business is defaced with graffiti, it is important to know if the crime was anti-Armenian, or if the owner was mistaken for being a member of another ethnic group, such as an Arab American.

Hate Crimes by Known Criminal Offense



2003 2002

METHODOLOGY

Hate Crime Report 2003 provides a statistical snapshot of available information on hate crimes that can better inform efforts to combat bias-motivated activity. Such data collection and analysis provides policy-makers and practitioners insight into what are the most urgent issues and greatest areas of need for education, prevention, intervention, and victim assistance and advocacy.

It is important to note that fluctuations in data from year to year do not necessarily indicate trends. For the purposes of this report, the 2003 data are presented here in comparison to 2002 statistics. But it is preferable, whenever possible, to look at how the statistics change over longer periods of time. Although this report does not look at multi-year trends, we are in the process of carrying out such trend analyses (see map on back inside cover).

SOURCES AND UNDERREPORTING OF HATE CRIME

The Commission receives reports from the Sheriff's Department, all 45 police departments in Los Angeles County, many of the 86 school districts, an array of community-based organizations, and directly from victims themselves. Some victims of hate crime are reluctant to contact law enforcement due to a variety of factors: lack of knowledge about the criminal justice system, fear of retaliation, linguistic and cultural barriers, immigration status, and prior negative experience with government agencies, to name a few. The greater the number of barriers to understanding and trusting law enforcement or government agencies that a community faces, the more likely that hate crimes are under-reported. Therefore, the information contained in this report likely represents fewer than the total number of hate-motivated crimes actually committed in 2003.

By far the greatest number of cases is provided by the two largest of the 46 policing agencies in the county: the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD). Together they account for 73% of the total number of hate crimes included in this report. This year, because of a change in the LAPD's hate crime database, LACCHR used summaries of LAPD records created by a third party who conducts research using their data. These summaries contained less information than was submitted in previous years and used different categories for classifying data on hate crime locations. Hence, this year we saw an increase in the number of crimes that occurred in public places due to the different methodology of the summarized LAPD data.

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

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

SCREENING REPORTED CASES OF HATE CRIME

Each of the cases reported is reviewed to ensure that the facts meet the criteria of the legal definition of hate crime (which is based on the California penal code, sections 422.6-422.95). Those that do not meet the standard are not included in the Commission's database. For example, acts of racist graffiti and vandalism are considered hate crimes only if their locations suggest clear targets. In other words, racial slurs written on the home of a family of color would meet the criteria, but the same language left on a billboard seen daily by thousands of motorists probably would not. However, we encourage police departments to take reports on such hate incidents because this provides potentially helpful evidence in hate crime investigations. Such information also adds insight into the nature of intergroup relations and the degree of hostility that exists.

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

Of the 1016 reports received for 2003, 610 met the above criteria (each report may contain more than one hate crime) and are included in this report.

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

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

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

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

A handful of cases involved epithets targeting more than one group. For example, there was a case of battery in which both racial and religious slurs were used. Another involved both anti-Latino and anti-black insults. In these cases both motivations and specific targeted groups were counted. Therefore, the total number of cases by motivation (e.g. racial and religious) and by targeted group (e.g. anti-Latino and anti-black) actually exceeds the 692 crimes that were committed.

It should be noted that throughout this report, the percentages used are based on available information. In other words, in a few cases, information was missing on the victims, suspects, targeted group, criminal offenses, etc. Calculations of percentages were made based on the cases in which that information was known.

CRIMES RELATED TO TERRORISM AND CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

In 2003, there were nine hate crimes motivated by continued scapegoating over the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks as well as the war in Iraq. During the commission of these crimes, victims were typically called "terrorists" or other related offensive terms. This is the third year that we have created a separate motivation category, "September 11th/Middle East conflict-related," to capture information about this backlash. In some of these cases, slurs were used that were evidence of animus toward specific ethnic or religious groups (e.g., Muslims and Asian Indians), and in others, it was unclear. Therefore, this report captures September 11th/Middle East conflict-related motivation and identifies the targeted community whenever such evidence is available.

CRIMES WITHOUT A SPECIFIED HATE MOTIVE

We also received a handful of reports in which the information provided by a law enforcement agency was so minimal that the specific bias motivation could not be determined. For example, in one case, a swastika, which as a symbol of the Nazi party has been used to target Jews and ethnic minority groups, among others, was the only symbol painted on a family's home. But we were unable to discern the family's race, ethnicity, or religion from the police report. These are considered hate crimes with "unknown motivation."

CLASSIFICATION OF TRANSGENDER VICTIMS

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

2003 HATE CRIMES IN PERSPECTIVE

HATE CRIMES DECLINE IN L.A. COUNTY AND CALIFORNIA, BUT INCREASE NATIONALLY

The year 2003 was marked by significant declines in the number of hate crimes reported in L.A. County by every large category of victims, except anti-Jewish crimes, which rose from 78 to 79. It should be noted that the one percent increase in anti-Jewish hate crimes in the county occurred while statewide and nationally they declined by 11%.

The 14% decline in hate crime is even greater than L.A. County's five percent overall decrease in violent crime and the nine percent drop in murders.

The county's drop in reported hate crime is greater than the state-wide decline of 10% reported by the Office of the California Attorney General. That report also noted that a decline cut across all victim groups. Overall violent crime in California declined 3.4%.

The FBI however, reported a slight increase nationwide from 7,462 to 7,489 hate crimes. This is despite the fact that nationally overall violent crime rates dropped 3.2%, and property crime declined 0.1%.

It should be noted that the one percent increase in anti-Jewish hate crimes in the county occurred while statewide they declined by 11% and nationally by 5%.

GROWING LEVEL OF VIOLENCE

Although the number of reported hate crimes declined, there was a significant shift in the nature of these offenses. The number of assaults and batteries declined 37%, but there was a corresponding 40% rise in the number of assaults with deadly weapons, suggesting that the level of violence may be escalating. It should be noted, however, that in the previous year, assaults with deadly weapons declined 35%. One must caution against over-stating the significance of shifts in data from one year to the next.

When suspects were identified, there were marked differences in rates of violent crimes committed by suspects of different age groups. While the rate of violent hate crimes overall is 56%, the rate was 83% for juvenile suspects and 87% for known suspects aged 18-25. By contrast, only 64% of suspects over 25 committed violent crimes.

Crimes committed by females showed an even sharper disparity. Eighty-one percent of juvenile female suspects' hate crimes were violent, on a par with their male counterparts. For female suspects aged 18-25, the rate was 88%. But for those female suspects over 25, only 39% committed violent crimes, far lower than males of the same age group. These high rates of violence are due to the fact that in many non-violent cases, such as vandalism, suspects are never identified.

The rise in violence rates for juvenile females is noteworthy, and the severity of some of the crimes committed by young girls was surprising. Most of these cases reflected conflict between blacks and Latinas. For example, while walking home from school, a 12 year old Latina was punched repeatedly and severely kicked by two African American girls aged 13 and 14. They shouted, "Go back across the border, you border-hoppers!" The victim had to be transported to a hospital.

ANTI-BLACK HATE CRIMES REMAIN ALARMINGLY HIGH

Once again, African American victims remained by far the group most frequently targeted by reported racial hate crime.

This phenomenon can be explained, at least in part, by racially-motivated gang violence. There were a number of cases in which known Latino gang members in communities as far-flung as Hollywood, Compton, Long Beach, and El Monte physically attacked African Americans and vandalized homes for no reason other than the race of the victims.

Fights between large numbers of African American and Latino students were also the most frequently reported racial conflict reported to LACCHR in Los Angeles County schools, particularly in South Los Angeles. Many of these brawls involved students with no gang affiliation.

MARKED DIFFERENCES IN THE RATES OF VIOLENCE

Overall, 52% of the hate crimes in 2003 were of a violent nature. However, this varied greatly among targeted groups. The specific group that experienced the highest rate of violence was transgender victims. These victims were physically attacked in 100% of cases. Sixty-seven percent of those motivated by backlash resulting from September 11th/Middle East conflict were violent, as were 67% of sexual orientation-motivated crimes. This was followed by violence in 55% of racial hate crimes and 11% of all religious crimes.

LACCHR RESPONSE

YOUTH OUTREACH

Because there are a significant number of young people who are both victims and perpetrators of hate crime, the Commission continued to focus on educating and engaging youth through a variety of programs:

- The Commission launched the “Zerohour: The Time to Act is Now!” youth campaign that encourages young people to take action against bias and bigotry on their campuses and in their communities. In December, 2003, the Commission kicked off a mass media blitz with provocative televised public service announcements, movie theater slides, posters and bus bench ads that directed millions of youth viewers to zerohour.com, an edgy, youth-oriented website that connects young people with local organizations and resources for combating intolerance.
- The Commission’s School Intergroup Conflict Initiative intervened at schools that reported racially-motivated violence involving large numbers of students. LACCHR dispatched staff to conflicts at high schools around the county. Tensions between African American and Latino students prompted violence at most of these schools. Some of these brawls involved as many as 50 students and in some cases, riot police were called in to restore order. LACCHR, along with staff from its newly formed collaborative of youth serving organizations, Get Real LA!, provided services that ranged from diagnosing the source of intergroup conflict by surveying and facilitating dialogues among students, building collaboratives among stakeholders to develop “safe-school” strategies, and implementing cross-cultural and human relations training programs for students, teachers, and parents.
- The Commission’s countywide network of human relations organizations, HRMAC, convened through its regional cluster the Tri-City Human Relations Conference for Youth on April 23 for high school students from Glendale, Pasadena, and Burbank. Nearly 100 youth attended the day-long event that used a story-telling format to teach the significance of the Armenian and Jewish holocausts, the Mexican Cinco de Mayo holiday, and Black History Month.
- The Commission’s Youth Advisory Council Team (Youth ACT!) is part of the Zerohour campaign, consisting of 20 diverse young people, ages 15-18, produced an anti-hate music CD, “Confessions of the Discriminated,” a compilation of songs these young county residents wrote as a result of their exploration of personal experiences with discrimination, harassment and bullying in their schools. (For more information, go to www.LAHumanRelations.org.) Musical artists Michael Franti and Spearhead, as well as the popular L.A. band Ozomatli, contributed tracks to the CD. A CD release party took place September 25th at the Hard Rock Café in West Hollywood. Youth ACT also went through educational trainings on a variety of subjects, such as hate crime and other forms of violence; stereotypes and bias; race, ethnicity and culture; and conflict resolution. In addition to these monthly trainings, the 2003 Youth ACT members participated in service-learning projects related to these topics and facilitated human relations workshops for youth throughout L.A. County.

COMBATING BACKLASH AGAINST ARAB, MUSLIM, AND OTHER VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

- LACCHR initiated the Southern California “Security Pledge” that brought together an array of community organizations and law enforcement agencies at a press conference on March 28, 2003 following the U.S. invasion of Iraq, to sign a document promising to “reach out to members of this community who may be targets of hate and suspicion based on stereotypes to ensure they are not silenced into enduring acts of hatred due to fear, cultural or language barriers, or as a result of misinformation on our laws protecting victims of hate.”
- The Commission joined a press conference held by Sheriff Lee Baca on March 21, 2003 to announce plans for promoting public safety, respect, and tolerance in response to the invasion of Iraq and heightened dangers of terrorism. Joined by Supervisor Yvonne Braithwaite Burke, the Commission launched a hate crime information and rumor control hotline (1-888-No-2-Hate) and weblink for

reporting hate crimes and acts of discrimination and for receiving information about where to obtain assistance. The Commission also outlined how its existing programs (the Corporate Advisory Committee, the Hate Crime Victim Assistance and Advocacy Initiative, the Human Relations Mutual Assistance Consortium, etc.), would be mobilized to prevent and combat the scapegoating of persons of, or perceived to be, Muslim or Middle Eastern background.

PUBLIC POLICY

- LACCHR coordinated the research and production of a countywide report on the local impact of Proposition 54, the Classification by Race, Ethnicity, Color and National Origin (CRECNO) initiative, on the County of Los Angeles. This October ballot initiative sought to (with few exceptions) ban all state and local governmental agencies from collecting, using or analyzing data on race, ethnicity, or national origin. The initiative's language was so broad that it would have prevented organizations such as LACCHR from obtaining information about the racial and ethnic backgrounds of hate crime victims and suspects, making it virtually impossible to produce this annual report. At the Commission's recommendation, and with the support of the Chief Administrative Office, as well as numerous County departments and community groups, the Board of Supervisors voted to oppose Proposition 54 and directed LACCHR to lead County agencies in educating the public about the proposition's potential negative consequences for L.A. County residents. The Commission disseminated information to County employees and the general public through a variety of methods. The measure was resoundingly defeated at the polls, 64% to 36%.
- LACCHR staff testified before a committee of the L.A. City Council on the previous hate crime report, and related hate crime prevention strategies. Executive Director Robin Toma appeared at the invitation of the L.A. City Human Relations Commission and several city council members to call to their attention the continued rise in sexual orientation hate crimes, even as other categories declined. He also discussed how transgender hate crimes were the most likely to be of a violent nature of all victim groups and were geographically concentrated in neighborhoods known for street prostitution. He encouraged LAPD to consult with the West Hollywood Sheriff's station to discuss efforts to reduce these hate crimes, including targeted outreach to the transgender community.

EDUCATION

- The Commission continued to educate law enforcement officers, service providers, and the general public about hate crime. The Network Against Hate Crime, a county-wide coalition convened by the Commission, sponsored several educational presentations at its quarterly meetings. At one, Linda McCabe, chair of the California National Organizations for Women's Hate Crime Task Force, discussed when acts of violence against women should be prosecuted as hate crimes. At another meeting, a former member of a national white supremacist group spoke of his years of experience in recruiting, organizing, and training racist youth, in addition to his eventual break from the organization.
- LACCHR, along with our partners, organized countywide training conferences for our network of city-based human relations organizations (HRMAC) on racialized youth gang violence, interfaith alliances and organizing communities.

A CLOSER LOOK AT RACIAL HATE CRIMES

Hate crime motivated by the race, ethnicity or national origin of the victim was the largest category of hate crimes in 2003. (As shorthand, throughout this report these cases will be referred to as “racial” hate crimes.) The 371 racial hate crimes represent an 11% decrease from 2002. Moreover, the number of victims in each of the racial/ethnic groups (African American, Latino, white, Asian, and Middle Eastern) decreased.

African Americans were again by far the largest group of those victimized, constituting 171 (48%) of the victims. Latino victims numbered 61 (17%), whites 56 (16%), Asian Pacific Americans 28 (8%), and persons of Middle Eastern background 13 (4%). (It is worth noting, however, that many immigrant groups, including Latinos, Asians, and Middle Easterners, tend to under-report hate crimes against them for several cultural reasons, such as reluctance to contact authorities, lack of familiarity with hate crime laws, etc.) Most hate crimes targeted entire races (e.g., African Americans, Asians, etc.), and relatively few involved graffiti or slurs that targeted specific ethnic or national origin groups. Where this was the case, Mexicans were singled out most often.

TARGETED GROUP VERSUS VICTIM IDENTITY

For all hate crimes, we distinguish between the actual identity of the victim and the perception of the victim’s identity that motivated the perpetrator, which we refer to as “the targeted group.” (See pie and bar charts.) This distinction is particularly relevant for racial hate crimes. For example, in 2003 there were anti-black hate crimes in which anti-black graffiti was written on a building belonging to a white owner, and another in which a Latina was attacked by a Latino male because she is married to a black man. These were both counted as anti-black crimes, although neither victim is African American.

In terms of targeted groups, African Americans were targeted in 193 cases (56%), Latino groups in 16%, white groups in 13%, Asian groups in 8%, and people of Middle Eastern backgrounds in 6% of the cases. (This does not include one case of an anti-Indian and five cases of anti-Middle Eastern crimes related to September 11th/Middle East conflict.)

MURDERS/ATTEMPTED MURDERS BASED ON RACE, ETHNICITY AND NATIONAL ORIGIN

Hate crimes based on race, ethnicity or national origin included one murder and nine attempted murders. Below we summarize each of those cases.

- In South Los Angeles, two Latino gang members threatened a group of African American youths (aged 11 to 24) at a market. Fearful, one of the victims called an adult male to pick them up in his car. The man and another adult male arrived, gathered the young people and attempted to drive away. The two suspects fired at the vehicle, killing the driver, wounding his friend and one of the young passengers.
- In Lancaster, three black males attacked a white couple and tried to strangle the man with a headset cord.
- Three Latino males tackled and stabbed a black male multiple times in Baldwin Park.
- Five Latino males, one of whom was a known gang member, attacked two Armenian students, one male and one female, walking to school in Boyle Heights. They stabbed the male student seven times.
- Two Latino males attempted to murder a black man in South Los Angeles.

In addition to the jump in attempted murders, assaults with deadly weapons and robberies increased while other categories of criminal offenses fell.

DIFFERING RATES OF VIOLENCE AND INTERGROUP PATTERNS

Altogether, 55% of all racial hate crimes were violent, a higher rate than that for hate crimes overall. There were differences in the levels of violence experienced by different groups of racial hate crime victims: 70% of anti-Latino hate crimes were of a violent nature, 59% for whites, compared to 60% for blacks, 33% for persons of Middle Eastern backgrounds, and 30% for Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Among identified suspects, 44% were Latino, 33% were white, 19% were African American, and 3% were Asian.

There were distinct differences in terms of which groups these suspects targeted. In terms of the ratio between targeted groups and suspects, for the anti-African American crimes, 64% of the known attackers were Latino and 31% were white. This was approximately the same as the 2002 data.

For the anti-Latino crimes, 50% of the suspects were black, 44% were white, and 6% were other Latinos. This was a dramatic departure from the pattern in the previous year. In 2002, there was a much larger number of black suspects than whites who committed anti-Latino hate crimes.

In 2003, for the anti-white crimes, 63% of the suspects were black, 26% were Latino, and 8% were other whites. The previous year, the percentages of black and Latino suspects involved in anti-white crimes were similar.

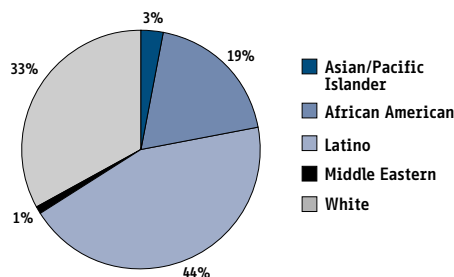
For the anti-Asian crimes, 50% of the suspects were black, 35% were white, and 15% were Latino. In 2002, more than half of the known suspects were Latino.

Specifically anti-immigrant slurs (such as “Go back to your own country”) were made in four cases. Two of the four crimes were anti-Middle Eastern, one was anti-Russian and one was anti-South Asian. All of the crimes were violent. It should be noted that anti-immigrant sentiment may very well be present in many racial hate crimes, for example, when a perpetrator states a racial, ethnic, or anti-national origin slur, such as “F--- Mexicans.” The perpetrator may very well have an anti-immigrant sentiment motivating the slur, but did not happen to reveal that state of mind with a specifically anti-immigrant slur or other outward expression. Given the many cases that may fall in that category, we do not equate the number of cases with anti-immigrant slurs to be a reliable indicator of anti-immigrant hate crimes.

ANTI-INTERRACIAL RELATIONSHIP HATE CRIMES

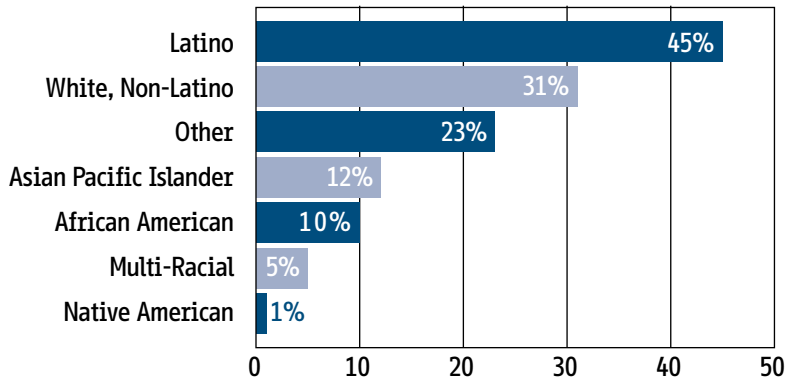
There were eight crimes in which the victims were selected because they were married to, partnered with, or in the company of persons of different racial backgrounds. All of these crimes were motivated by anti-African American sentiment. However, the actual victims were five blacks plus three whites and one Latina, all who were in the company of African Americans. Six involved black-white couples or friends, and in these cases the suspects were white or unknown. There were two cases resulting from black-Latino relationships. In one, Latino suspects attacked a black male and in other a Latino suspect attacked the Latina female. Thirty-eight percent of these crimes were of a violent nature, lower than the average.

Suspects of Racial Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity

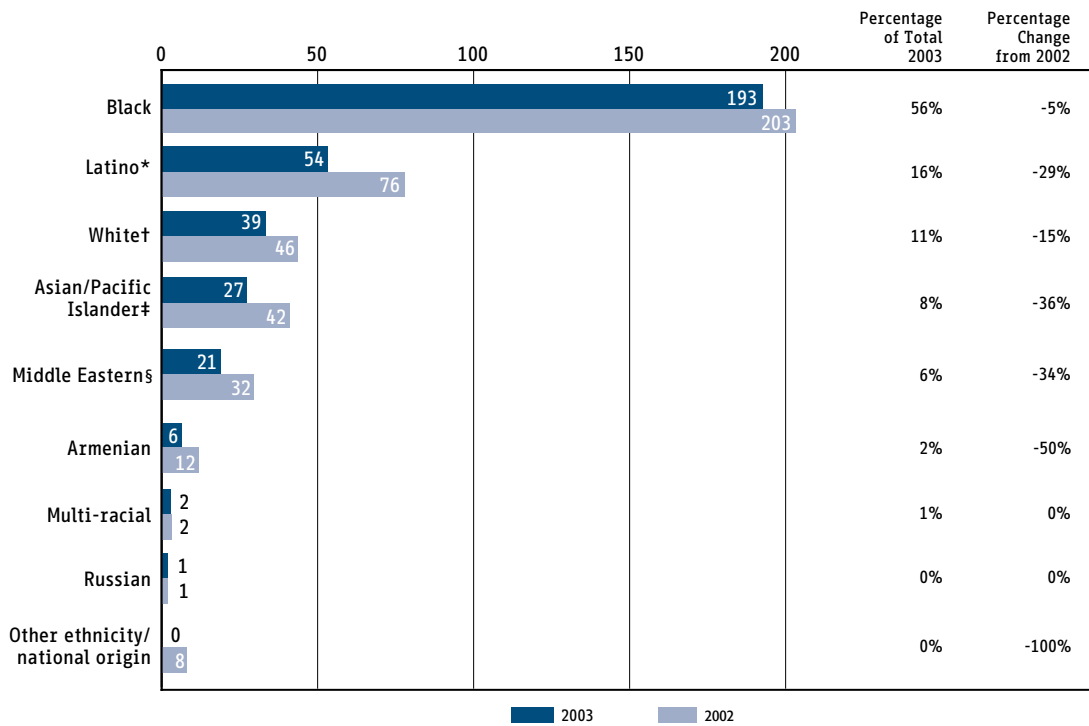


There were 107 additional suspects whose race/ethnicity was unknown.

Los Angeles County Population by Race/Ethnicity



Victims of Racial Hate Crimes by Targeted Group



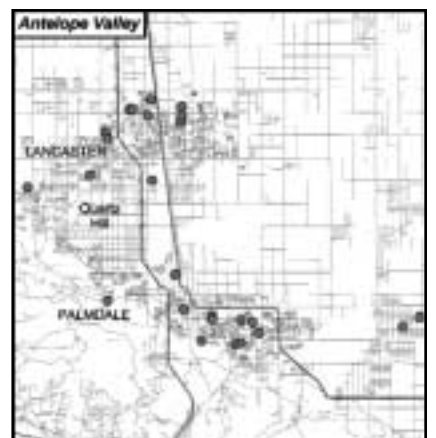
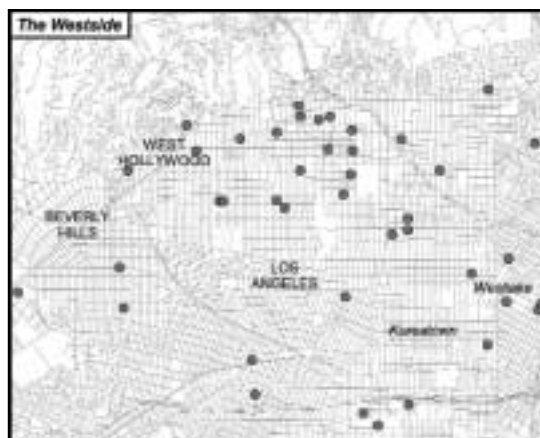
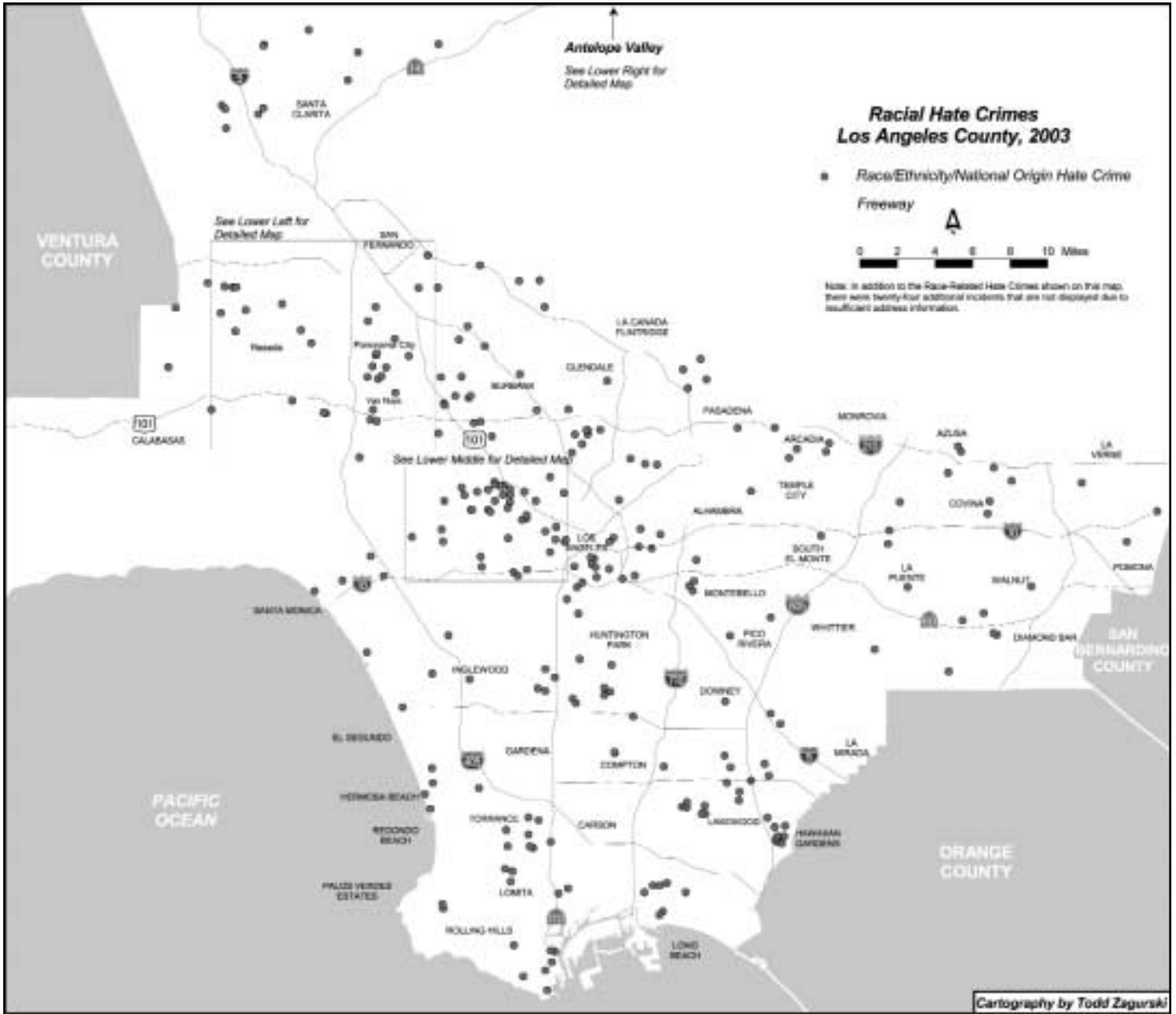
* Includes Mexican and Central American

† People who are targeted for being Armenian or Russian are not aggregated with those who are targeted for being white, because perpetrators who commit crimes against the white race do so for very different reasons than those who commit crimes specifically targeting European ethnic groups. Often perpetrators targeting European ethnic groups are also white.

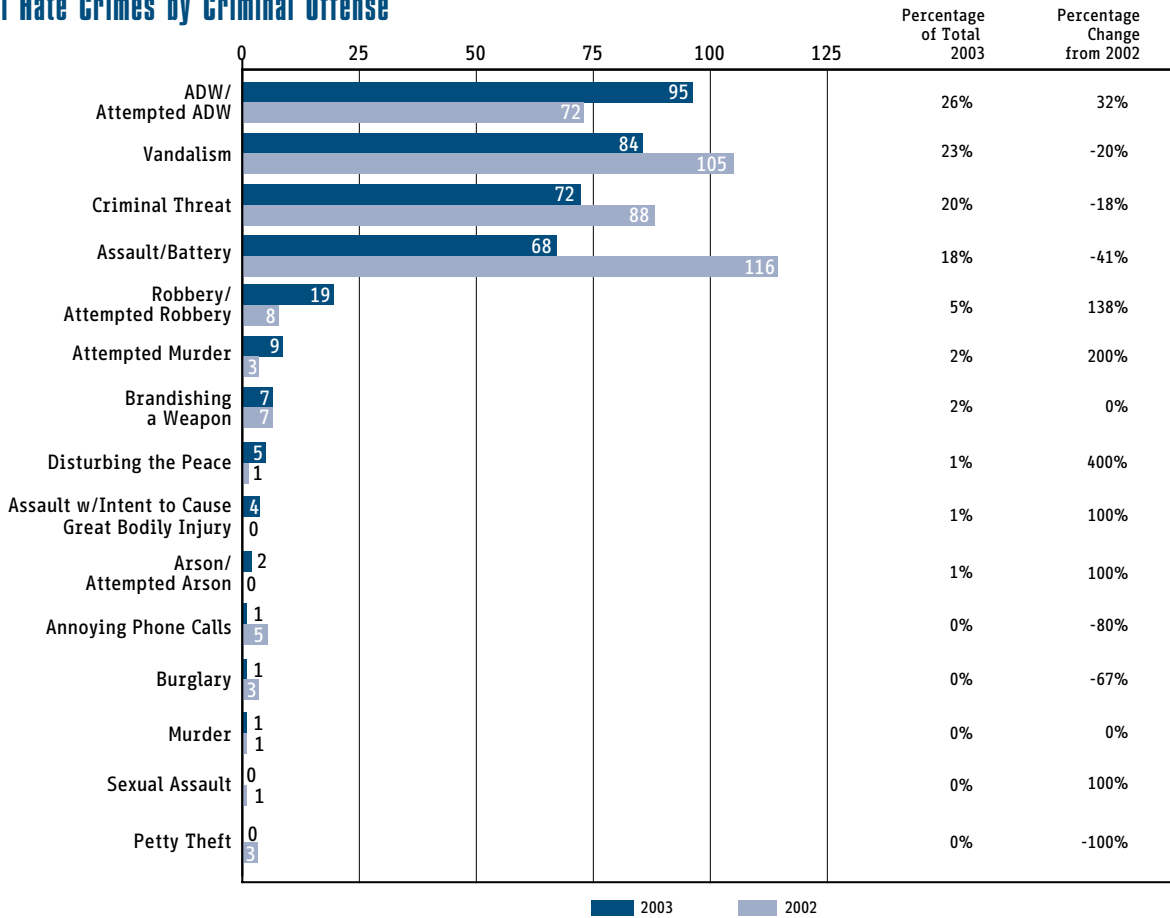
‡ Includes South Asian, Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Cambodian, Indian, Samoan, and Filipino

§ Includes Egyptian and Iranian

2003 Racial Hate Crimes in Los Angeles County



Racial Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense



Actual Cases of Racial Hate Crimes

March 18, 2003—Inglewood: A 14-year-old black girl was walking home from school when she was confronted by a 15-year-old Latina who said, "I hate niggers" and "They should call [Inglewood High] Niggerwood High." The girl punched the victim in the lip. Two other Latina girls joined in, punching and kicking the victim and pulling her hair. They continued to attack even as the victim's younger brother and an adult male tried to intervene. A fourth Latino male suspect grabbed the victim's brother. A fifth Latino male suspect videotaped the assault. Four of the five suspects were apprehended shortly thereafter and the videotape was confiscated, which documented not only this attack, but a second assault by the same suspects later that day.

June 16, 2003—Palmdale: A 23 year-old black man was walking alone on the sidewalk when a mini-van stopped and four white males with shaved heads yelled "Move out of the way, nigger!" When the victim responded "Fuck you," the van stopped, and all four suspects exited and began assaulting him. One suspect struck him with a chain wrapped around his closed fist. When the victim fell to the ground, all four suspects hit and kicked him in his head and upper body.

November 14, 2003—East Los Angeles: A 15-year-old Armenian and his friend were walking back to school when they were confronted by five Latinos who were lying in wait. They punched him in the face and knocked him to the ground. The suspects then stabbed the victim several times in his face, torso, and buttocks. At one point, the victim managed to break free, but the suspects caught him and resumed the attack. There had been tensions between some Latino and Armenian students at their school the previous month. The primary suspect was a known member of the gang, "BPA" (Brown Pride Assassins).

December 17, 2003—El Segundo: A 41-year-old white man who had recently dated a black woman returned home to find a letter on his door that read, "We told her now we tell you. That Nigger better not come back. Or we will get her. Stay with your own kind. White power rules."

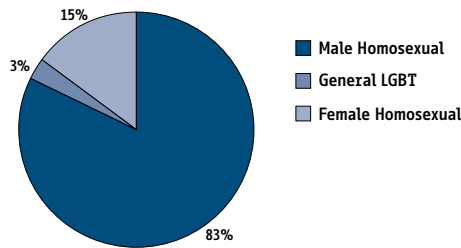
December 27, 2003—Redondo Beach: Two friends, a 28-year-old Asian man and an 18-year-old Asian woman, were walking in a retail parking lot when a black man started staring at the victim. The victim stared back, at which point the suspect said, "What's up, nip? What are you looking at, you Chinese boy?" When the victim responded that he didn't appreciate being called names, the suspect laughed and grabbed the victim around his neck, saying, "I'm just kidding, homey." The victim began walking away, but realized he was being followed by the suspect and three companions (a black man, a black woman, and a Latina). They knocked the victim to the ground, punching and kicking him repeatedly all over his body and head. One of the suspects struck the victim with a crutch. The victim's wallet fell out of his pocket and the suspects grabbed it and fled the scene.

A CLOSER LOOK AT SEXUAL ORIENTATION HATE CRIMES

Hate crimes motivated by sexual orientation declined from 238 to 192, a decrease of 19%. It should be remembered that in 2002, there was an unusually large number of homophobic crimes reported. Hate crimes reported by gay men spiked during a two-month period in 2002 following a near-deadly baseball bat attack on a gay West Hollywood resident. The ensuing publicity could have led to copy-cat crimes and likely prompted an unprecedented number of gay men to report homophobic hate crimes that might otherwise have gone unrecorded.

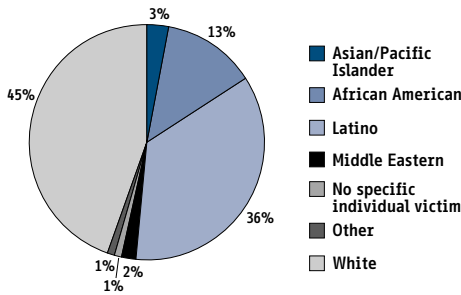
Once again, gay males were targeted most frequently (83%) but these cases declined from 199 to 159, a 20% drop. Lesbian targets comprised 15% of sexual orientation crimes and declined from 33 to 28, a 15% decrease. In five cases, the motivation was homophobic but not specifically against a gay man or a lesbian, such as crimes that targeted gay and lesbian organizations.

Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group



Victims of homophobic hate crime were racially diverse, with proportionately more white victims than the demographics of the county would indicate. There were 83 white victims (45%), 66 Latinos (36%), and 24 African Americans (13%). Interestingly, there were both more white and more Latino victims of crimes based on sexual orientation than crimes based on race, which is significant, given that racial motivation accounted for 54% of all hate crime while sexual orientation motivation comprised only 28% of all hate crime.

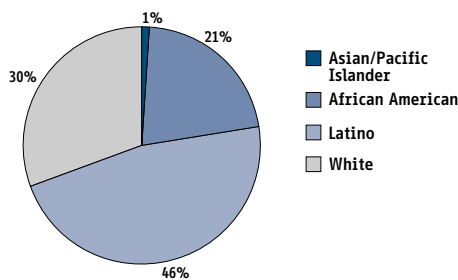
Victims of Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



Fifty percent of the 14 victims of anti-lesbian crimes were Latinas. The majority of victims of anti-lesbian crimes knew their attackers, who were neighbors, family members, or ex-boyfriends.

Among identified suspects, there were 107 Latinos (46%), 70 whites (30%) and 49 African Americans (21%). Although there were cross-racial homophobic crimes, victims were far and away most likely to be attacked by members of their own race. Sixty-four percent of black victims were attacked by other blacks. Seventy-two percent of Latinos were attacked by other Latinos. Fifty-six percent of whites were attacked by other whites.

Suspects of Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



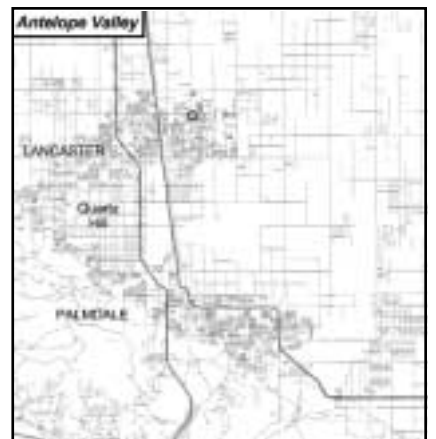
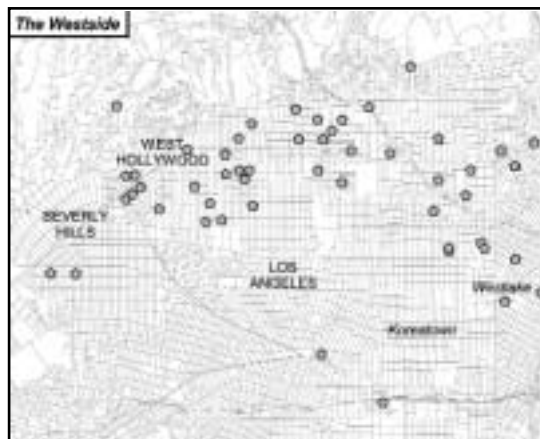
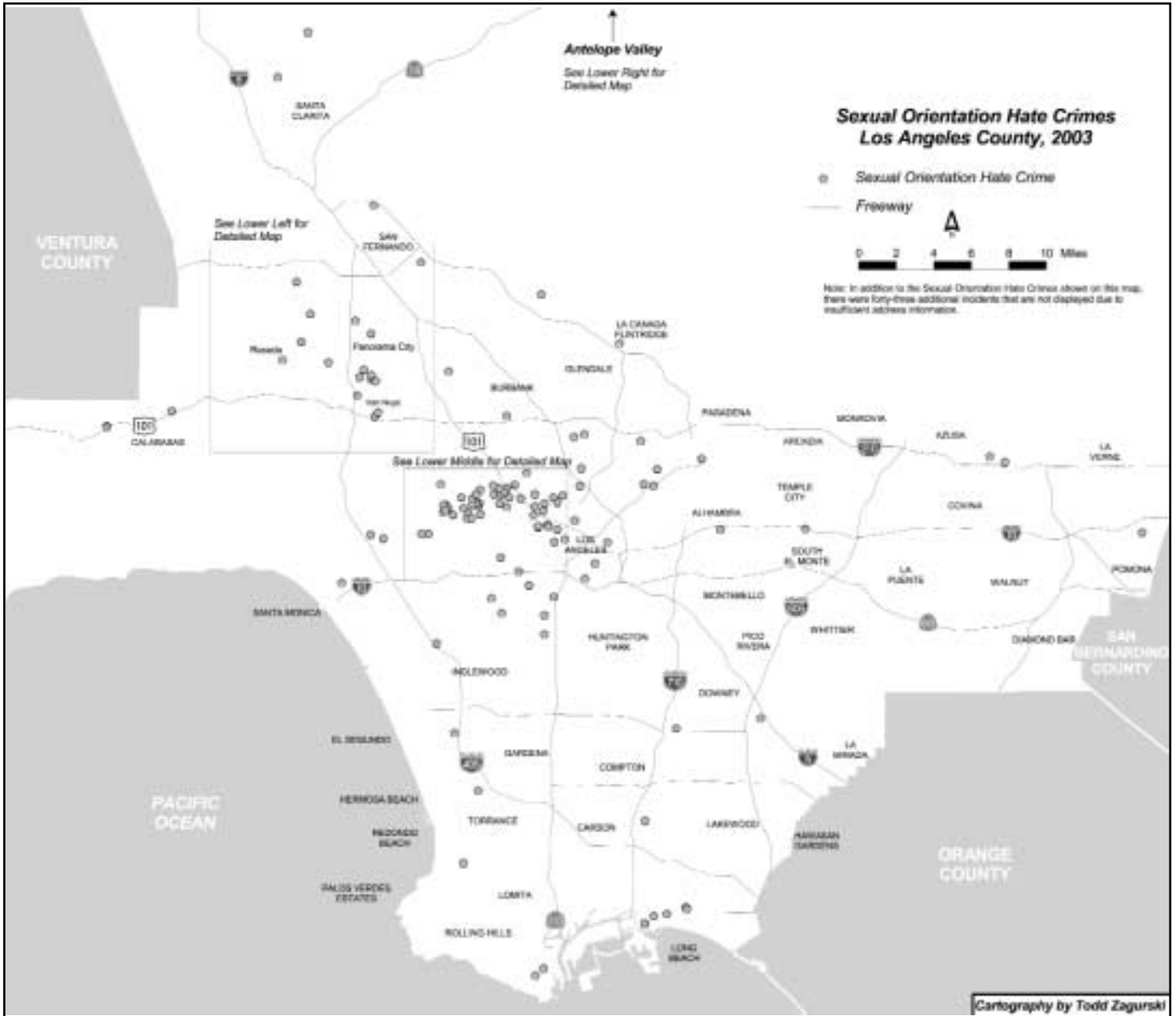
There were 46 additional suspects whose race/ethnicity was unknown.

Sixty-seven percent of these crimes were of a violent nature, higher than that of crimes based on the other two large motivation categories of race (55%) or religion (11%). They included the attempted murder of a black man in Hollywood by another black male.

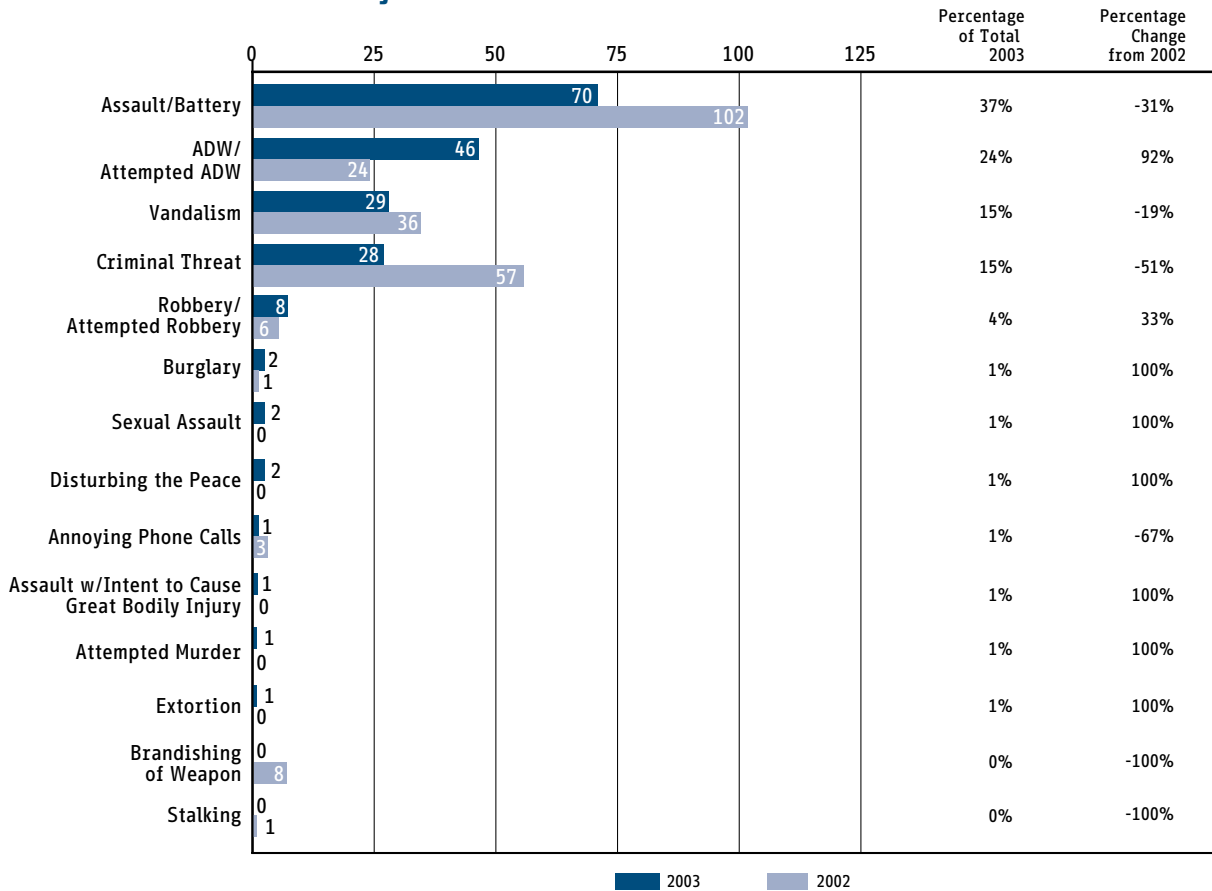
Thirty-seven percent were assaults or batteries, 24% were assaults with a deadly weapon, 15% were criminal threats, and 15% were cases of vandalism.

As discussed in the *Methodology* section, for the second year, transgender hate crimes are listed under the broader motivation of gender.

2003 Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes in Los Angeles County



Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense



Actual Cases of Sexual Orientation Hate Crimes

January 11, 2003—West Hollywood: A white 20-year-old man was standing in an alley outside a gay bar when five Latinos drove by, yelling, “hey, faggot.” They got out of the car, and kicked and punched the victim, leaving his face bloody and his eye swollen.

January 18, 2003—Alhambra: A 37-year-old Latina answered the door of her home to find a 40-year old Latino, the boyfriend of a friend. He asked to come in, but noting that he was drunk, she refused. He accused her of trying to steal his girlfriend. She asked him to leave and as she was escorting him out of the apartment complex, he said, “I’ll kick any manfloras [lesbian] ass.” He then grabbed her right nipple and twisted it. She pushed him out of the complex, at which point he threw a garbage can at her. She threw it back at him and he left in his truck.

February 21, 2003—West Hollywood: A 33-year-old white gay man and his friend were walking on Santa Monica Boulevard when a white man (also 33) asked the victim for 25 cents. When the victim refused, the man pushed him and said, “You fucking faggot, give me 25 cents!” The victim asked the suspect not to be abusive. The suspect again yelled, “You fucking faggot!” and swung at the victim’s face. The victim wrestled the man to the ground. Sheriff’s deputies broke up the fight.

March 28, 2003—Lancaster: A 22-year-old white man and his 20-year-old black female friend were at a gas station when three white men began calling him “faggot” and “queer.” The friend recognized two of the men from her high school. She drove away, but the three men pursued them in a truck, swerving erratically in front of her and blocking her car. When both vehicles stopped at an intersection, two of the suspects got out of their truck, and spit on and punched the victim. The third suspect hit the car with a baseball bat, damaging the body and shattering the windshield. The victims exited the car, at which point the suspect hit the man with the bat in the leg. When his friend tried to help, the suspect hit her with the bat and punched her in the eye. She struggled with him, recovered the bat, and the suspects fled.

April 6, 2003—Long Beach: a 22-year-old black man was confronted by two black men (ages 31 and 22) about being gay. They then punched and stabbed him.

August 24, 2003—El Monte: A 22-year-old Latino man was walking through a park after work when he was assaulted by three Latino men who were lying in wait. One struck him in the head with a large piece of wood. The victim attempted to flee, pursued by two of the suspects. The third suspect, armed with a metal pipe, blocked his path and asked, “Are you a cock sucker?” The suspects beat him with the wood and the pipe. Two of the suspects, who were brothers, were later apprehended, and told police that they were tired of homosexuals in Fletcher Park.

A CLOSER LOOK AT RELIGIOUS HATE CRIMES

Hate crimes based on religion decreased 13% from 119 in 2002 to 104 in 2003. As in the past, the largest number of these crimes, 79 (84%), were anti-Jewish. There was a slight increase in anti-Semitic crime in 2003, ending a three year period in which anti-Jewish crimes declined. This small increase contrasts with data that showed an 11% decline in anti-Semitic crimes in California and a 5% drop nationally.

Numerically, anti-Semitic crimes were followed by seven targeting Protestant denominations (seven percent), six anti-Muslim crimes (six percent), and one anti-Catholic (one percent). This does not include one anti-Muslim crime motivated by September 11th/Middle East conflict.

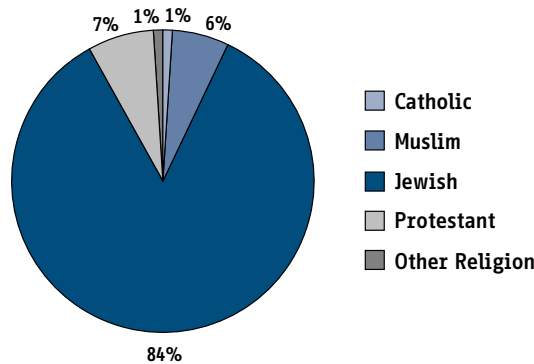
Again, the largest number, 68 of religion-based crimes (66%) were acts of vandalism targeting homes, businesses, or religious sites. Criminal threats numbered 15, or 15%, followed by eight assaults or batteries (8%). Only 11% of the crimes were violent, the lowest of any motivation category.

It should be noted however, that non-violent crimes can have terrifying effects on victims. One victim received calls from her neighbor for six months, who threatened, "There are 25 people who are going to jump you. I hate you. I don't want your money. I just want to kick your ass. You're a fucking kike and you're going to die!"

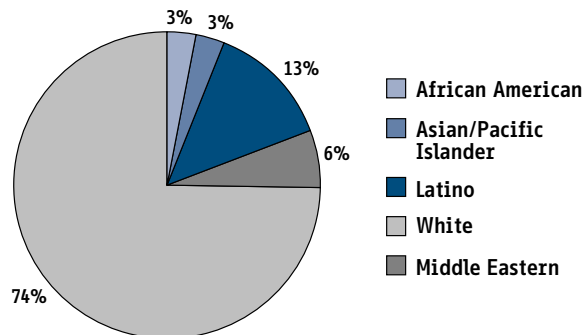
Thirty-three (33%) of these crimes took place at the victims' residences, 24 (24%) occurred at religious sites, 20 (20%) in public places, 16 (16%) in businesses, and six (6%) in schools.

Only 31 suspects were identified, which is not surprising, given that so many religious hate crimes were acts of vandalism, in which suspects are often not seen, unlike crimes against persons. In those cases, 23, or 74%, were white, four were Latino (13%), two were Middle Eastern (6%), one Asian (3%) and one black (3%).

Religious Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group

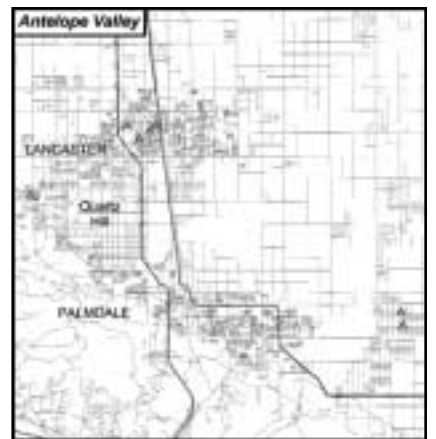
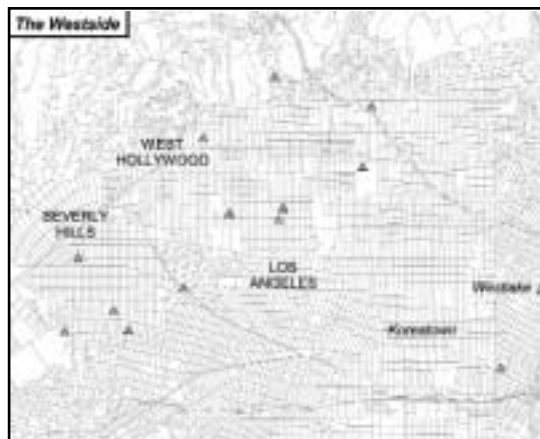


Suspects of Religious Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity

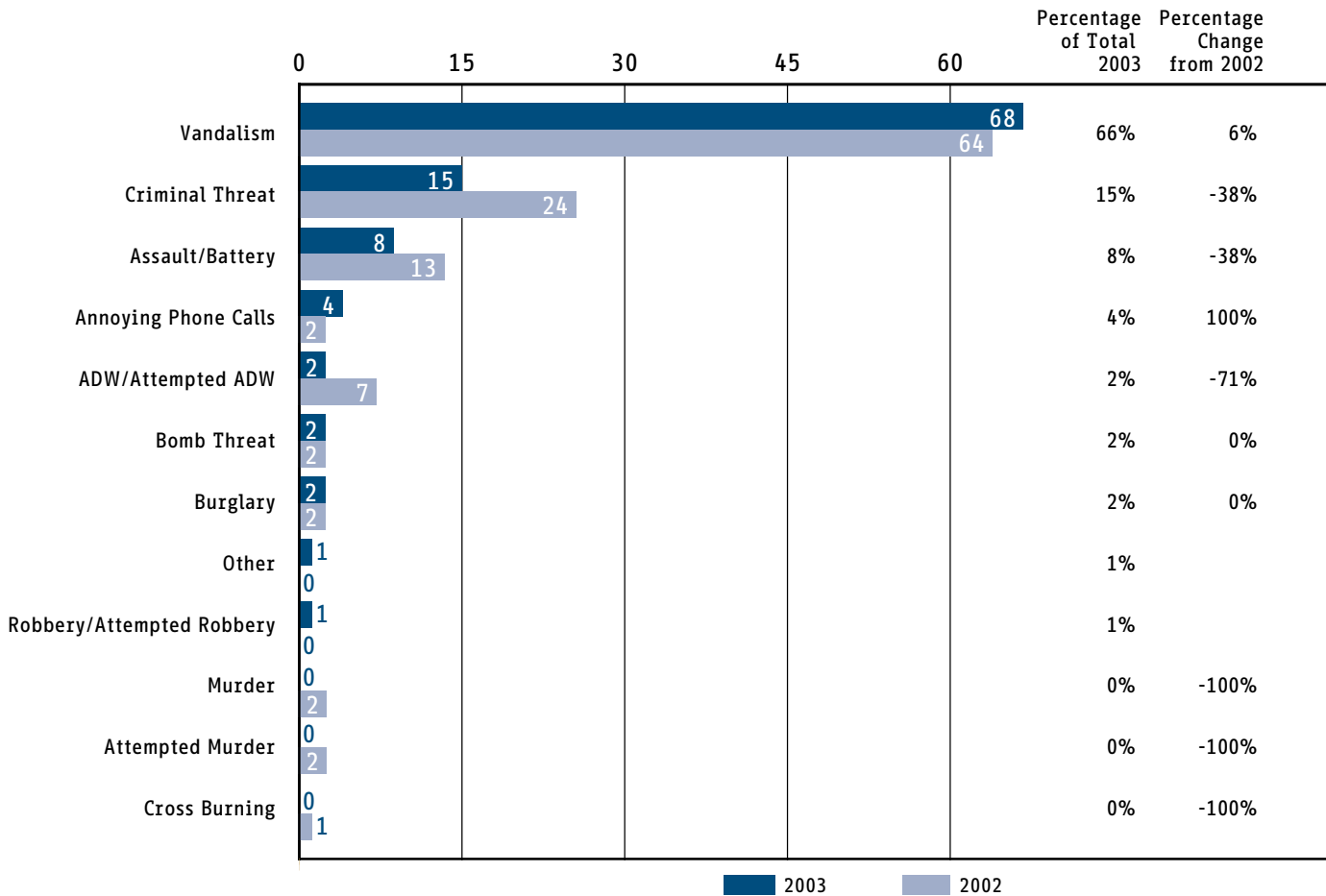


There were 79 additional suspects whose race/ethnicity was unknown.

2003 Religious Hate Crimes in Los Angeles County



Religious Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense



Actual Cases of Religious Hate Crimes

February 9, 2003—Santa Monica: A Jewish victim’s car, which was parked in his driveway, was vandalized overnight, with a swastika scratched into the back of the car and the rear windshield wiper broken. The victim has a mezuzah (a parchment scroll that serves to remind Jewish people of God’s presence) on the front door of his house.

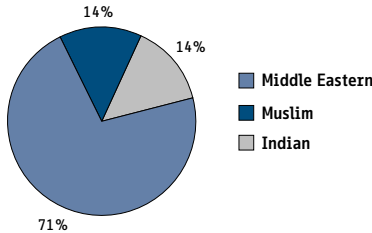
April 21, 2003—Los Angeles: An 85-year-old white man found the words “you fuckin Jew” written in ink on his front door.

July 22 and August 15, 2003—Agoura Hills: A telephone call was received at a Jewish preschool and the caller angrily stated, “I’m going to blow up your school today you fucking Jews.” The employee who took the call thought that the male caller had a “slight Middle Eastern accent.” Students were sent home and the school facility and grounds were searched but no bomb was located. A few weeks later, a female called a teacher at a Jewish Center and told her, “We are putting a bomb in your school. We’re going to blow up all you fucking Jews.” The teacher described the voice as that of a Middle Eastern woman using a cell phone.

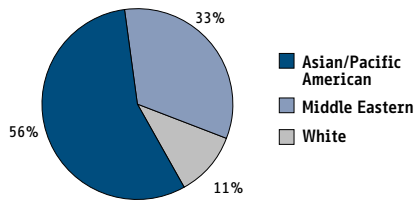
October 30, 2003—Lancaster: On the same night, two Protestant churches were vandalized. One had its windows broken, and another had its windows and walls spray-painted with graffiti.

A CLOSER LOOK AT HATE CRIMES RELATED TO SEPTEMBER 11TH/MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

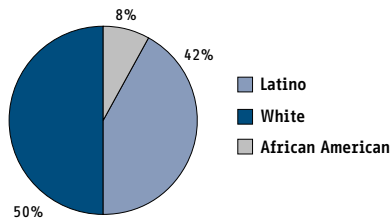
September 11th Related Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group



Victims of September 11th Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



Suspects of September 11th Related Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



There was one additional suspect whose race/ethnicity was unknown.

In 2003, lingering anti-Middle Eastern/Muslim backlash from September 11th and subsequent terrorist attacks, the U.S. invasion of Iraq, and continued violence in the Middle East and other Islamic regions renewed fears that there would be a surge of crimes retaliating against persons who “looked like America’s enemies.” This concern was coupled with the continued implementation of the USA Patriot Act, special registration of select groups of immigrants, and other policies that have further cast suspicion on certain ethnic and religious minorities.

Despite continued anxieties in the Arab American, Muslim, South Asian, Sikh, and other affected communities, hate crimes related to September 11th/the Middle East Conflict fell in 2003 from 17 to nine.

The actual racial/ethnic identities of the victims were five Asian/Pacific Islanders (all South Asian), three persons of Middle Eastern background, and one white (a Muslim of Bosnian origin.)

Based on the epithets used, five of those crimes were specifically anti-Middle Eastern, one was anti-Muslim, one was anti-Asian Indian, and two were unclear.

Sixty-seven percent of these crimes were of a violent nature, higher than the hate violence for all hate crimes (52%). These crimes included four assaults/batteries, two assaults with deadly weapons, one criminal threat, one vandalism, and one case of reckless driving in which a motorist tried repeatedly to cut off a Muslim woman in traffic while yelling epithets.

Six of the suspects in these cases were white, five were Latino, one was black and one was unknown.

Actual Cases of September 11th Related Hate Crimes

March 25, 2003—Santa Monica: A Bosnian Muslim woman was pursued on the Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) by a white man driving an SUV. He honked his horn, made obscene gestures, and cut her off twice. When they stopped at a light he pulled up alongside her, called her a “terrorist bitch” and yelled “Go back to your country!”

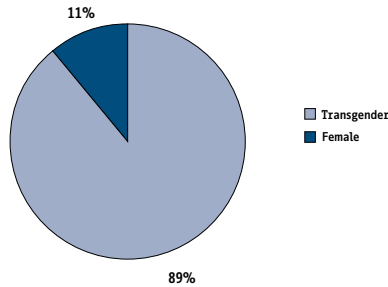
May 1, 2003—Whittier: A Latino man who was a regular customer bought beer at a convenience store and told the 42-year-old Sikh employee, “You should go back to your country. I will throw a bomb at you and kick your ass.”

October 5, 2003—Cerritos: A Sikh man from India was walking down the street when he heard someone yelling obscenities and saw a Latino man pointing at him. The suspect yelled, “You fucking asshole! Get the fuck out of here! You do not belong here.” The suspect approached the victim with a large knife and threatened to kill him. The suspect then glanced around, tossed the knife into a car and punched the victim in the face and head. Even after the victim fell to the ground, he continued to hit him. A second white man appeared and told the suspect “Get out of here. You did enough,” prompting the assailant to leave. Later, the victim stated that he has frequently been mistaken for someone from the Middle East.

December 2003—La Habra: A 12-year-old boy harassed a 9-year-old Muslim Arab boy and his sister, saying, “You guys are Osama Bin Ladens.” You guys are terrorist.” The next day the 12-year-old and his friends (about four white and Latino youth in 7th and 8th grade) knocked on the door of the boy’s home and told him and his sister to come outside. They knocked him off his bike and struck him with a plastic bat.

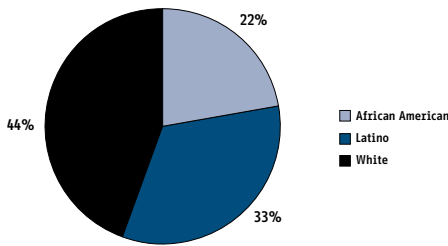
A CLOSER LOOK AT GENDER-BASED HATE CRIMES

Gender Hate Crimes by Known Targeted Group



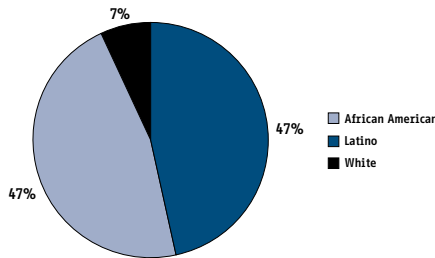
There were nine gender-based hate crimes reported in 2002. Of these, one was anti-female and eight were anti-transgender. There is debate about what constitutes anti-female hate crime. For example, some advocates of women's rights argue that serial killers of women and some rapists should be prosecuted using hate crime enhancements. This is a nascent discussion and, to date, very few cases of violence against women have been labeled hate crimes. This annual report only includes cases that are classified as hate crimes by our sources of data, which are predominantly police agencies.

Victims of Gender Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



The lone anti-female crime was a multiple motivation case in which the victim, a Jewish woman, was exiting a parking lot. An enraged pedestrian accused her of reckless driving, used anti-female and anti-Jewish slurs, and kicked her car.

Suspects of Gender Hate Crimes by Known Race/Ethnicity



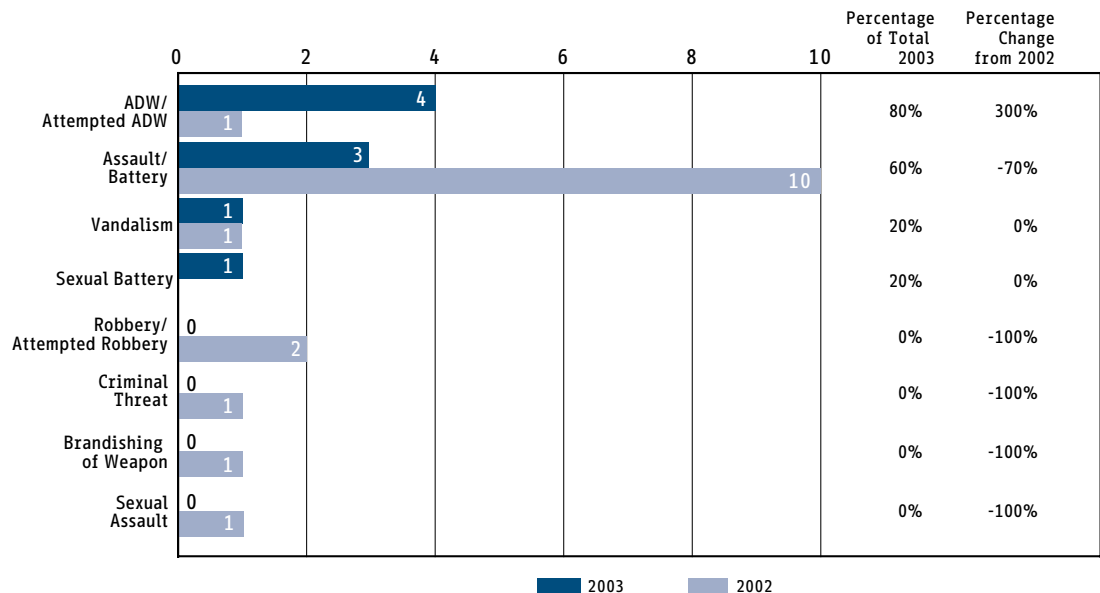
The other cases all involved male-to female-transgender women. Three of the victims were white, three were Latina, and two were black. This is a significant change from the previous year, when 69% of the 16 transgender victims were Latina.

All of the suspects were male. They included seven Latinos, seven whites and one Asian.

All of the anti-transgender crimes were violent, which is the highest rate of all victim groups. Of these, four were assaults with deadly weapons, three were assaults or batteries and one was a sexual battery.

Half of the anti-transgender crimes occurred in public places, three at businesses and two in schools. In the previous year, most of the transgender hate crimes were geographically concentrated in areas known for street prostitution. That was not the case in 2003.

Gender Hate Crimes by Criminal Offense



Actual Cases of Gender Hate Crimes

September 29, 2003—Los Angeles: On a college campus, a 55-year-old white transgendered woman on her way to class saw a group of Armenian men walking toward her. One of the men, in his early 20s, charged toward her, yelling, “We don’t want any fucking faggots on our campus!” He leapt into the air and kicked her in the chest. She fell, and he kicked her again in the back. He and his friends then left. The victim suffered a broken rib.

December 3, 2003—Los Angeles: At a school, a fourteen-year-old white transgendered male-to-female girl was approached by a 16-year-old Latino boy in a classroom. He leaned over her shoulder and said, “So why do you look like that? You look like a gay faggot and you should die.” As the boy spoke he was spitting a bit on the girl’s arm. When she told him to please leave her alone he replied, “So you want me to spit on you for reals,” and proceeded to do so. The girl had been harassed before, and the boy had a prior arrest for an anti-gay hate crime.

A CLOSER LOOK AT DISABILITY HATE CRIMES

There were three disability hate crimes in 2003. Two of them targeted HIV-positive gay men and were motivated by both the victims’ disability and sexual orientation. In the third, a woman was targeted by anti-disability graffiti.

Actual Case of Disability Hate Crimes

September 10, 2003—Van Nuys: A middle school teacher returned to her car to find that “fuck Miss [her last name] crippled bitch” had been scratched into the hood and driver’s side of her car. The air had also been let out of two tires.

CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS OF HATE CRIME

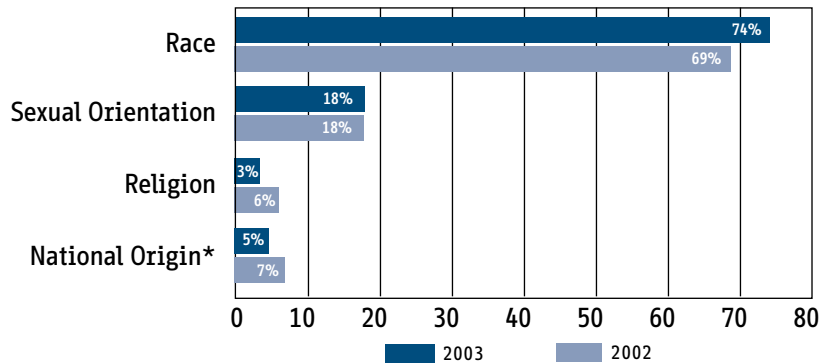
WHAT HAPPENS IN THE PROSECUTION OF A HATE CRIME:

1. THE INITIAL POLICE REPORT

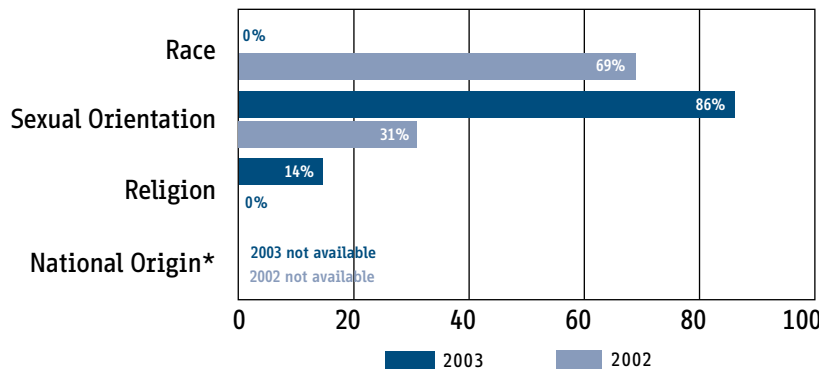
One of 46 policing agencies in the county makes a police incident or arrest report. This is referred to the prosecutors' offices for possible prosecution. There are two reporting agencies represented here. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's office prosecutes both felonies and misdemeanors and the Los Angeles City Attorney's office prosecutes only misdemeanors.

	NUMBER OF HATE CRIMES REFERRED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES	NUMBER OF HATE CRIMES CHARGES FILED
District Attorney <i>(prosecutes felonies and misdemeanors)</i>		
2002	143	88 (60 adults, 28 juveniles)
2003	141	102 (62 adults, 40 juveniles)
Los Angeles City Attorney <i>(prosecutes misdemeanors only)</i>		
2002	48	13
2003	20	7

Hate Crime Charges by Motivating Prejudice: District Attorney



Hate Crime Charges by Motivating Prejudice: L.A. City Attorney



* Data on national origin as a motivating prejudice are not collected by the City Attorney and were not collected by the District Attorney until 2002.

2. THE DECISION WHETHER TO FILE CHARGES

The prosecutors' office must review each case thoroughly and decide whether the filing of a complaint as a crime, or as a hate crime, is warranted.

If a defendant is accused of a hate crime, this indicates that bias, hatred, or prejudice based on the victim's race, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender, or sexual orientation was a substantial factor in the commission of the crime.

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

3. THE ARRAIGNMENT

Next, a defendant is informed of the charges and his/her constitutional rights at arraignment. An attorney is appointed if the defendant cannot afford one, and bail is set. The defendant can decide to enter a plea, whether guilty or not guilty.

4. THE RESOLUTION

The criminal case is resolved, either through a guilty plea or a jury or court trial. In trials, the defendant is found not guilty or guilty. Some cases result in findings by either the prosecution, the judge, or the jury that bias was not a substantial factor in the commission of the crime.

5. THE SENTENCE

If guilty, sentencing is carried out. It can include jail time, probation, or other conditions, such as community service or cultural or racial sensitivity training. Such "diversion" or educational programs are scarce.

HATE CRIME-RELATED LEGISLATION IN 2003

LAUSD BOARD MOTION ON HATE VIOLENCE AND BIAS-RELATED INCIDENTS

On the local level, in November 2003, the Los Angeles Unified School Board of Education adopted a resolution 1) citing the rights of students to attend campuses that are safe, secure, and conducive to learning and 2) directing the Superintendent to utilize the Los Angeles School Police Department/Los Angeles Police Department Cadre (a coalition of government bodies, including this Commission) in developing a) an anti-bias and hate-crime prevention training program for all appropriate school personnel, including but not limited to deans, counselors, campus aides, safety officers, teachers, and administrators, and b) age-appropriate training programs for all school-aged children.

STATE LEGISLATION

In 2003, three bills relevant to hate crimes were passed by the California State legislature and signed into law.

Assembly Joint Resolution 34 is a statement from the legislature noting the serious consequences of hate crime and requesting that the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act (LLEEA—see below) be passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law by the President.

Assembly Bill 1250 (Laird) added training designed to improve intolerance and hatred prevention to the list of topics eligible for teachers' staff development allowance.

Senate Bill 719 (Kuehl) requires the School/Law Enforcement Partnership to sponsor a biennial statewide conference for school districts, instead of the current requirement of two regional conferences on an annual basis. The Conference's purpose is to involve county offices of education, youth serving agencies, allied agencies, community-based organizations, and law enforcement agencies in the identification of exemplary programs and techniques that effectively reduce school crime, including hate crimes. The Partnership was established in 1985 in an effort to make schools safer and reduce hate crimes.

Senate Bill 872 (Alarcon) was introduced but never brought to a vote. It would have provided that in a civil case regarding discrimination based on an individual's race, religion, color, national origin, or disability in the workplace, proof of a hate crime conviction for the same incident would create a conclusive presumption that a violation of these provisions has been committed.

THE RACIAL CLASSIFICATION INITIATIVE

The Racial Classification Initiative, otherwise known as Proposition 54, was on the California state ballot in October of 2003. This initiative would have prohibited state and local governments from collecting, analyzing, or using any data on race, ethnicity, or national origin, with certain limited exemptions. One of the many far-reaching implications of this initiative would have been to make the hate crime report you are reading illegal. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, on the recommendation of this Commission, voted to oppose the measure. The initiative was defeated at the polls by the voters in this state.

FEDERAL HATE CRIME-RELATED LEGISLATION

The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act (LLEEA), first introduced as the Hate Crimes Prevention Act by Senator Ted Kennedy in 1998, was reintroduced in May of 2003. This bill would amend the 1968 hate crimes law (which prohibits attacks based on race, religion, or national origin), and extend it to cover crimes that target people based on real or perceived sexual orientation, gender, or disability. While California law already covers such crimes, federal prosecution of hate crimes are needed when local authorities are unable or unwilling to prosecute. This bill would also broaden the law, so that federal authority is not limited only to violations of federally protected rights. The bill lacked the votes in the Senate to be brought to a vote in 2003. In 2004, the Senate passed the LLEEA, but the House did not. The bill therefore awaits reintroduction.

APPENDIX A: 2003 HATE CRIME DATA - REPORTING AGENCIES

POLICE DEPARTMENTS

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

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

ABC Unified School District
 Antelope Valley Union High
 School District
 Arcadia Unified School District
 Azusa Unified School District
 Bonita Unified School District
 Burbank Unified School District
 Castaic Union School District
 Charter Oak Unified School District
 Citrus Community College District
 College of the Canyons
 Compton Community College District
 Covina-Valley Unified School District
 Culver City Unified School District
 Downey Unified School District
 Duarte Unified School District
 East Whittier City School District
 Eastside Union School District
 El Monte City School District
 El Monte Union High School District
 El Rancho Unified School District
 Garvey Unified School District
 Glendale Unified School District
 Gorman School District
 Hacienda La Puente Unified
 School District
 Hawthorne School District
 Hermosa Beach City School District
 Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union
 School District
 Keppel Union School District
 La Canada Unified School District
 Lancaster School District
 Lawndale School District
 Lennox School District
 Little Lake City School District
 Long Beach Unified School District
 Los Angeles Unified School District
 Los Nietos School District
 Lowell Joint School District
 Lynwood Unified School District
 Manhattan Beach Unified School District
 Monrovia Unified School District
 Montebello Unified School District
 Mt. San Antonio Community
 College District

Mountain View School District
 Newhall School District
 Norwalk-La Mirada Unified
 School District
 Palmdale School District
 Rio Hondo Community College District
 Rosemead School District
 Rowland Unified School District
 San Gabriel Unified School District
 San Marino Unified School District
 Santa Monica Community College
 School District
 Saugus Union School District
 South Whittier School District
 Temple City Unified School District
 Torrance Unified School District
 Walnut Valley Unified School District
 West Covina Unified School District
 Whittier Union High School District
 Wilsona School District
 Wiseburn School District

FAIR HOUSING COUNCILS

Housing Rights Center

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Anti-Defamation League
 Asian Pacific American Legal Center
 Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights
 of Los Angeles
 L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center
 Muslim Public Affairs Council
 National Center for Community and
 Justice, Los Angeles
 South Asian Network
 Southern Christian Leadership
 Conference

APPENDIX B: LOCATIONS OF HATE CRIMES BY LAW ENFORCEMENT MUTUAL AID REGIONS

REGION	POPULATION	HATE CRIMES	CRIMES PER 1,000,000 RESIDENTS	
			2003	2002
EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY Arcadia Police Department ▪ Azusa Police Department ▪ Baldwin Park Police Department ▪ Claremont Police Department ▪ Covina Police Department ▪ El Monte Police Department ▪ Glendora Police Department ▪ Irwindale Police Department ▪ La Verne Police Department ▪ Monrovia Police Department ▪ Pomona Police Department ▪ San Marino Police Department ▪ Sierra Madre Police Department ▪ West Covina Police Department ▪ Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Bradbury, Diamond Bar, Duarte, Industry, La Habra Heights, La Puente, Rosemead, San Dimas, South El Monte, Temple City and Walnut)	1,166,578	45	39	67
LONG BEACH Long Beach Police Department ▪ Signal Hill Police Department	470,855	19	40	110
LOS ANGELES Los Angeles Police Department	3,819,103	466	122	109
NORTH COUNTY Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Lancaster, Malibu, Palmdale, Santa Clarita, and West Village)	508,164	72	142	122
SOUTH BAY El Segundo Police Department ▪ Gardena Police Department ▪ Hawthorne Police Department ▪ Hermosa Beach Police Department ▪ Inglewood Police Department ▪ Manhattan Beach Police Department ▪ Palos Verdes Police Department ▪ Redondo Beach Police Department ▪ Torrance Police Department ▪ Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Avalon, Lawndale, Lomita, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills and Rolling Hills Estates)	810,706	28	35	43
SOUTHEAST Bell Police Department ▪ Bell Gardens Police Department ▪ Downey Police Department ▪ Hawaiian Gardens Police Department ▪ Huntington Park Police Department ▪ Maywood Police Department ▪ Montebello Police Department ▪ South Gate Police Department ▪ Vernon Police Department ▪ Whittier Police Department ▪ Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Artesia, Bellflower, Carson, Cerritos, Commerce, Cudahy, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, La Mirada, Lynwood, Norwalk, Paramount and Pico Rivera)	1,647,466	53	32	41
WEST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY Alhambra Police Department ▪ Burbank Police Department ▪ Glendale Police Department ▪ Monterey Park Police Department ▪ Pasadena Police Department ▪ San Fernando Police Department ▪ San Gabriel Police Department ▪ South Pasadena Police Department ▪ Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (La Canada-Flintridge)	757,840	32	42	43
WESTSIDE Beverly Hills Police Department ▪ Santa Monica Police Department ▪ Culver City Police Department ▪ Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (West Hollywood)	200,576	53	264*	374

**The higher rate of crime for the Westside Region is largely due to the large concentration of sexual orientation hate crimes in the City of West Hollywood.*

HATE CRIMES RESOURCES

Victim Assistance

Antelope Valley Human Relations Task Force

Phone: 877-7 AT PEACE
(877-7 28-7322)

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)

P.O. Box 8686, Anaheim, CA 92812
Phone: 714-535-1719
Email: adc/aoc@hotmail.com
Website: www.adc/aoc.org

Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC)

1145 Wilshire Blvd., 2nd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Phone: 213-977-7500
Fax: 213-977-7595
Website: www.apalc.org

California Association of Human Relations Organizations (CAHRO)

c/o Robin Toma, President
320 W. Temple Street, Ste. 1184
Phone: 213-974-7601
Email: rtoma@hrc.co.la.ca.us
Website: www.cahro.org

California Department of Fair Employment & Housing, Los Angeles District (DFEH)

611 West Sixth Street, Suite 1500
Los Angeles, CA 90017-3116
Phone: 800-884-1684
Fax: 213-439-6715
Website: www.dfeh.ca.gov

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)

2533 West Third Street, Suite 101
Los Angeles, CA 90057
Phone: 213-353-1333 or 888-624-4752
Fax: 213-353-1344
Website: www.chirla.org

Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), Southern California

2180 West Crescent Ave., Suite F
Anaheim, CA 92801
Phone: 714-776-1847
Fax: 714-776-8340
Website: www.cair-net.org

Human Dignity Program

City of Long Beach
333 W. Ocean Blvd.- 13th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802
Phone: (562) 570-6948
Email: Anitra_Dempsey@longbeach.gov

Los Angeles City Human Relations Commission

200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: (213) 978-1660
Website: www.lacity.org/hra/

Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission

320 W. Temple St., Ste. 1184
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: (213) 974-7611 or 1-888-No-2-Hate
Fax: (213) 687-4251
TTY: (213) 974-9440
Website: www.LAhumanrelations.org

L.A. County District Attorney's Office Victim-Witness Assistance Program

210 W. Temple Street, Room 12-514
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: 213-974-7499, 800-773-7574
Website: www.da.co.la.ca.us/vwap

L.A. County District Attorney's Hate Crime Prosecution Unit

Phone: (213) 202-7799

L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center

1625 North Schrader Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90028
Phone: (English) 323-993-7673 or 800-373-2227
(Spanish) 323/993-7678 or 877-963-4666
Email: avp@laglc.org

Muslim Public Affairs Council

3010 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 217
Los Angeles, CA 90010
Phone: 213-383-3443
Fax: 213-383-9674
Email: sireen@mpac.org
Website: www.mpac.org

South Asian Network (SAN)

18173 Pioneer Blvd., Suite I, 2nd Floor
Artesia, CA 90701
Phone: 800-281-8111 or 562-403-0488
Fax: 562-403-0487
Email: joyti@southasiannetwork.org
ramandeep@southasiannetwork.org
Website: www.southasiannetwork.org

Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)

4182 South Western Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90062
Phone: 323-290-4125
Fax: 323-296-4742

U.S. Department of Justice – Office for Victims of Crime

810 7th Street NW
Washington, DC 20531
Phone: 800-851-3420
Email: askovc@ojp.usdoj.gov
Website: www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/

Hate Crime Training:

Anti-Defamation League (ADL)

10495 Santa Monica Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90025
Phone: 310-446-8000
Fax: 310-470-8712
Email: los-angeles@adl.org
Website: www.adl.org

California Association of Human Relations Organizations (CAHRO)

See aforementioned

**Community Relations Service
California Attorney General's Office**

300 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013
Phone: 800-952-5225

Council on American Islamic Relations, Southern California (CAIR)

See aforementioned

Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission

See aforementioned

Museum of Tolerance (MOT)

9786 West Pico Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90035
Phone: 310-553-8403
Website: www.museumoftolerance.com

National Conference for Community and Justice, Los Angeles (NCCJ)

1055 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1615
Los Angeles, CA 90017-2499
Phone: 213-250-8787
Fax: 213-250-8799
Email: losangeles@nccj.org
Website: www.nccjla.org

Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC)

400 Washington Ave.
Montgomery, AL 36104
Website: www.splcenter.org

**Community Relations Service
U.S. Department of Justice**

888 S. Figueroa St., Ste. 1880
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Phone: 213-894-2941
Website: www.usdoj.gov/crs/

U.S. Department of Justice-Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)

See aforementioned

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was developed by the Human Relations Commission Executive Director Robin S. Toma, Assistant Executive Director Terri Villa-McDowell, and Commission staff members Marshall Wong (Editor), Lisa Hart (Assistant Editor), Connie de la Torre, Sharon Williams, Todd Zagurski of Special Services for Groups, and consultants Alan Choy, Jeff Kim and Mary O’Gorman.

Special thanks to Dr. Edward Dunbar of the UCLA Department of Psychology for his assistance with LAPD hate crime data; Darrell Kumamoto of the LA County Internal Services Division for his work in developing our hate crime database; Dr. Ali Modarres, Associate Director of the Edmund G. “Pat” Brown Institute at Cal State University at Los Angeles, for his assistance in data analysis and for providing the map of racial hate crimes 1994-2003; Sue Stengel of the Anti-Defamation League for her assistance with hate crime legislation; and to the rest of the staff of the Commission for their assistance.

The Commission would also like to thank all of the law enforcement agencies, school districts, and community-based organizations that provided hate crime data for this report.

Race and Ethnicity Hate Crimes Los Angeles County (1994 - 2003)





**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON
HUMAN RELATIONS**



