

OCJS Special Report

Ohio Statistical Analysis Center

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Hate Crime Statistics 2015

Hate Crimes in the U.S. and Ohio

In November 2016, the Federal Bureau of Investigation released the publication, *Hate Crime Statistics 2015*. Produced in compliance with the federal Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990, the publication has been released annually since 1992.

The Hate Crime Statistics Program of the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program collects data regarding criminal offenses that were motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against a race, gender, gender identity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity, and were committed against persons, property, or society.

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, 14,997 law enforcement agencies representing 88 percent of the nation's population participated in UCR hate crime reporting in 2015.

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 reasonable 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. Ohio statistics are provided at the end of the report.

Nationwide hate crime reporting

- Nationwide, 1,742 law enforcement agencies reported 5,850 hate crime incidents¹ involving 6,885 offenses. Most single-bias incidents, 57 percent, involved race/ethnicity/ancestry bias. The remaining incidents involved religion (21 percent), sexual orientation (18 percent), gender/gender identity (2 percent) and disability (1 percent).
- Nationwide data on the specific types of race/ethnicity/ancestry bias offenses show that 53 percent of such offenses were anti-Black, 18 percent were anti-White and nine percent were anti-Hispanic or Latino.

¹ A single incident can consist of one or more offenses.

- Nationwide data on the 1,354 religious bias offenses in 2015 show that 51 percent were anti-Jewish and 22 percent were anti-Islamic (Muslim).
- Nationwide, 18 percent of hate crime offenses involved sexual orientation. Of those offenses, 62 percent were anti-gay (male) bias and 14 percent were anti-lesbian bias.
- Fifty-one percent of gender/gender identity bias offenses were anti-transgender.

2015 Nationwide Hate Crimes by Bias Motivation

Bias motivation	Incidents	Offenses	Victims
Total	5,850	6,885	7,173
Single-Bias Incidents:	5,818	6,837	7,121
Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry:	3,310	4,029	4,216
Anti-White	613	734	789
Anti-Black or African American	1,745	2,125	2,201
Anti-American Indian/Alaskan Native	131	137	141
Anti-Asian	111	132	136
Anti-Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	4	6	6
Anti-Multiple Races, Group	113	138	160
Anti- Arab	37	47	48
Anti-Hispanic or Latino	299	379	392
Anti-Other Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry	257	331	343
Religion:	1,244	1,354	1,402
Anti-Jewish	664	695	731
Anti-Catholic	53	59	60
Anti-Protestant	37	47	48
Anti-Islamic (Muslim)	257	301	307
Anti-Other Religion	96	104	107
Anti-Multiple Religions, Group	51	57	58
Anti-Mormon	8	8	8
Anti-Jehovah's Witness	1	1	1
Anti-Eastern Orthodox (Russian, Greek, Other)	48	50	50
Anti-Other Christian	15	18	18
Anti-Buddhist	1	1	1
Anti- Hindu	5	5	5
Anti-Sikh	6	6	6
Anti-Atheism/Agnosticism/etc.	2	2	2
Sexual Orientation:	1,053	1,219	1,263
Anti-Gay (Male)	664	758	786
Anti-Lesbian	136	168	170
Anti-Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender (Mixed group)	203	235	248
Anti-Heterosexual	19	23	24

Anti-Bisexual	31	35	35
Disability:	74	88	88
Anti-Physical	43	52	52
Anti-Mental	31	36	36
Gender Identity	114	118	122
Anti-Transgender	73	75	76
Anti-Gender Non-Conforming	41	43	46
Gender	23	29	30
Anti-Male	7	8	8
Anti-Female	16	21	22
Multiple-Bias Incidents	32	48	52

- Nationwide, 65 percent of all hate crime offenses were crimes against persons. The majority of these offenses involved intimidation (41 percent), simple assault (38 percent) and aggravated assault (20 percent). There were 18 homicides and 13 rapes² reported as a result of a hate bias. Of the 34 percent of hate crime offenses committed against property, the overwhelming majority, 73 percent, involved destruction, damage, or vandalism.

2015 Nationwide Hate Crimes by Offense Type

Offense type	Incidents	Offenses	Victims
Total	5,850	6,885	7,173
Crimes against persons:	3,646	4,482	4,482
Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	8	18	18
Forcible rape (revised + legacy)	13	13	13
Aggravated assault	681	882	882
Simple assault	1,436	1,696	1,696
Intimidation	1,495	1,853	1,853
Other	13	20	20
Crimes against property:	2,338	2,338	2,626
Robbery	120	120	148
Burglary	147	147	173
Larceny-theft	255	255	274
Motor vehicle theft	22	22	24
Arson	30	30	36
Destruction/damage/vandalism	1,698	1,698	1,897
Other	66	66	74
Crimes against society	65	65	65

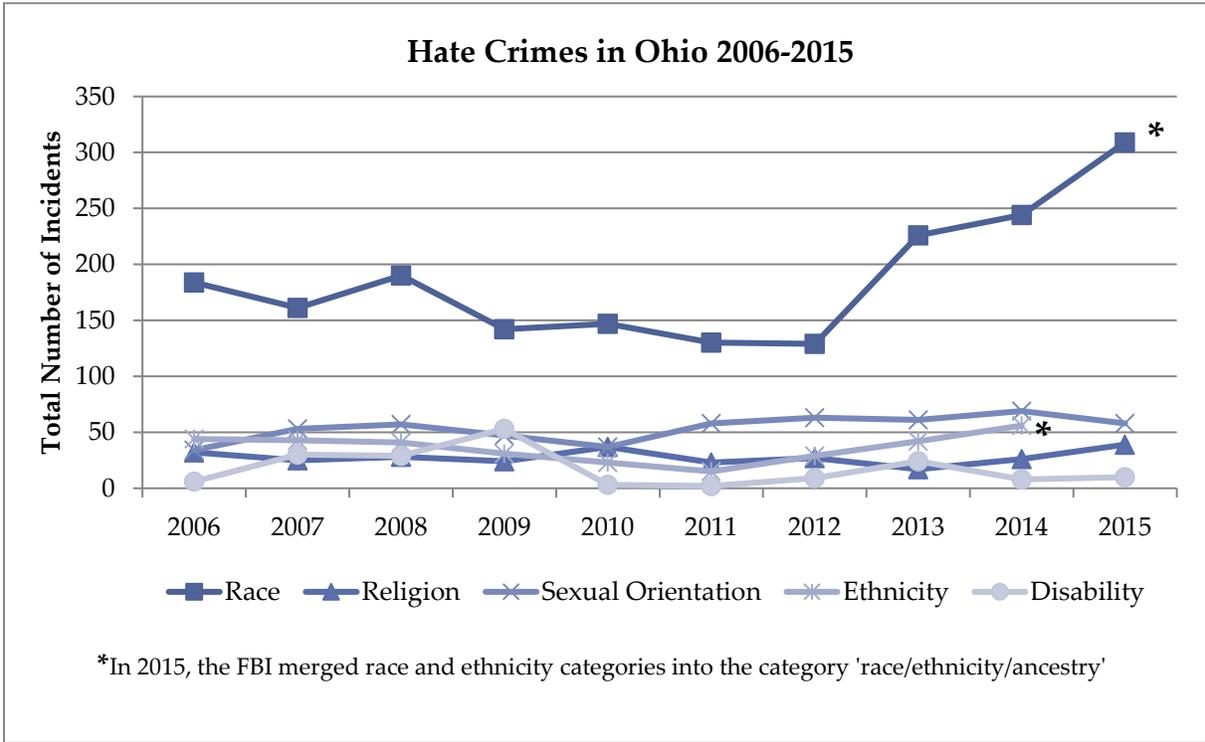
²Twelve rapes were submitted under the UCR Programs revised definition of rape, and one rape was submitted under the legacy definition. Rape is now defined as the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. The revised definition expands rape to include both male and female victims and offenders, and reflects the various forms of sexual penetration understood to be rape, especially non-consenting acts of sodomy, and sexual assaults with objects.

Ohio hate crime reporting

- Of the 595 Ohio law enforcement agencies who submitted the hate crime supplement in 2015, 109 agencies reported a total of 416 hate crime incidents involving 470 offenses. There were 486 agencies that reported zero hate crime incidents.
- The Ohio hate crime rate of 4.3 incidents per 100,000 population is higher than the national average of 2.1 incidents per 100,000 population.
- Of the 416 hate crime incidents reported in Ohio, 74 percent were related to race/ethnicity/ancestry bias, 14 percent were related to sexual orientation bias, 9 percent were related to religion bias, and two percent were related to disability bias. No incidents of bias based on gender or gender identity were reported.
- Fifty-eight percent of hate crime offenses were crimes against persons and 41 percent were crimes against property. Seventy-five percent of bias crimes against persons involved intimidation, 18 percent involved simple assault, and 6 percent involved aggravated assault. Of the bias crimes against property, 51 percent involved destruction, damage, or vandalism.

2015 Ohio Hate Crime Offenses

Offense type	Offenses
Total	470
Crimes against persons:	273
Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter	0
Rape (revised definition)	1
Aggravated assault	16
Simple assault	49
Intimidation	205
Other	2
Crimes against property:	192
Robbery	10
Burglary	27
Larceny-theft	44
Motor vehicle theft	3
Arson	2
Destruction/damage/vandalism	97
Other	9
Crimes against society:	5



For the full report, visit the FBI's website <https://ucr.fbi.gov/hate-crime/2015/home>.