

2010 Hate Crime Report



An annual publication of the Orange County
Human Relations Commission



A Message from the Commission

This annual report on hate crime is an important indicator of inter- group relations in Orange County. There are many factors that can influence the number of these bias-related crimes including turmoil in the world, uncertainty about the economy, changing demographics, community standards and fear.

The OC Human Relations Commission focuses its energy on assisting the victims, building collaborations with police and victim communities, and preventative programs like mediation, improving school inter-group relations, and proactive diverse community building.

While this report focuses on reported hate crime, we are aware that this is not a full accounting of hate crime. We are pleased to report that this indicator of inter-group relations shows a four-year downward trend in hate crime in Orange County.

C. William Wood, Chair
OC Human Relations Commission

To the Residents of Orange County

One of my top priorities as Attorney General is to protect the civil rights, and the health and well-being, of every Californian. As District Attorney of San Francisco, I created a special Hate Crimes Unit to prosecute hate violence. I also launched a program to train high school students to prevent hate crimes in their schools.

I remain committed to reducing the incidence of hate violence in California through prevention, which relies upon the cooperation of community members and local law enforcement. Reporting these crimes, and understanding the scope of the problem, are key to prevention. The Attorney General's Criminal Justice Statistics Center collects hate crime data from law enforcement agencies across California.

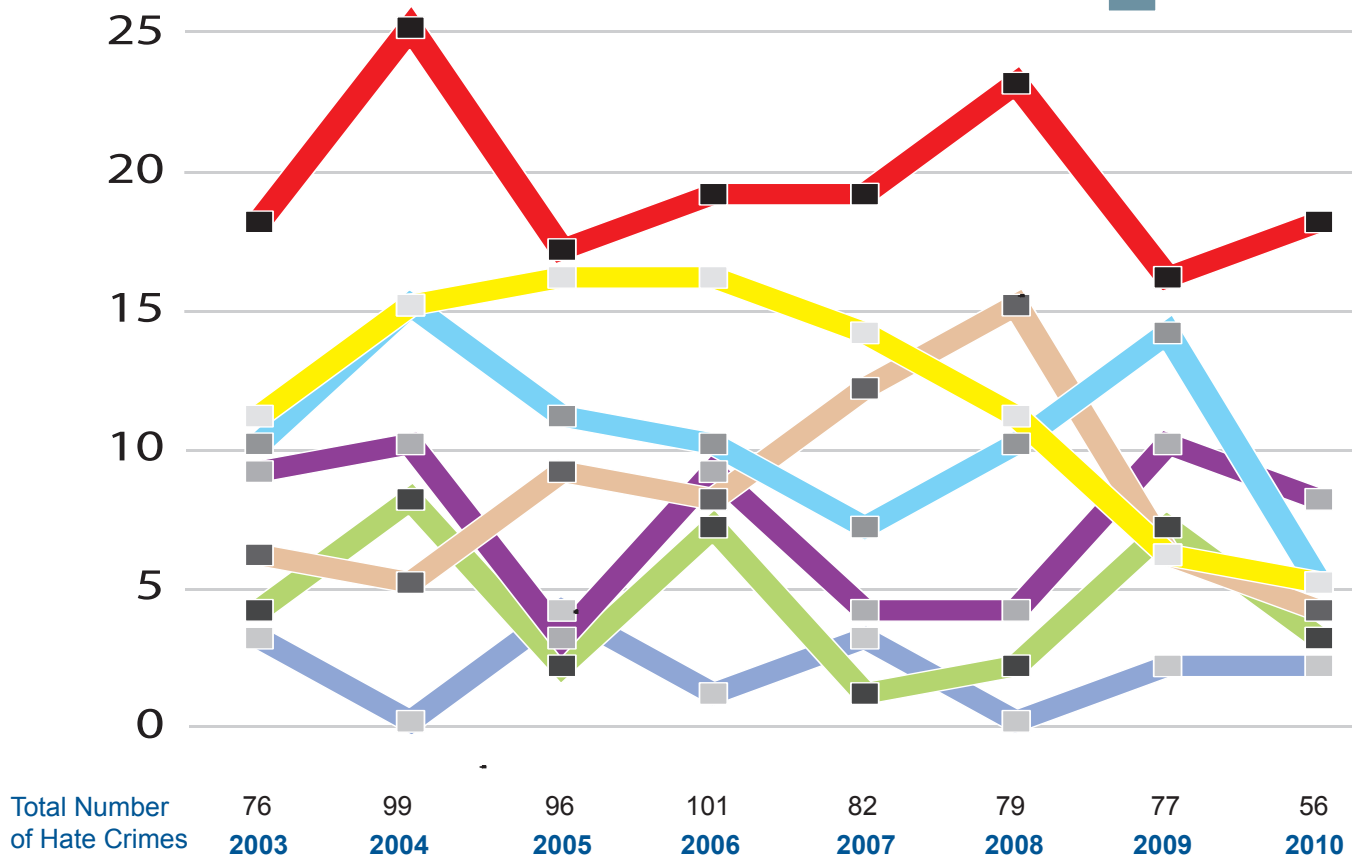
By engaging diverse communities around the issue, the Orange County Human Relations Commission advances the cooperation and vigilance required to put an end to these appalling crimes. I salute your work.

Sincerely,

Kamala D. Harris
Attorney General



Targets of Hate Crimes From 2003 to 2010



Analysis

Hate Crime Dramatically Down: Hate crime is down for the fourth year in a row to nearly half of what was reported in 2006. Orange County is doing well in preventing hate crime, but should not rest until there are no hate crimes, for each one can be devastating to the individual as well as sending shock waves and fear throughout the community.

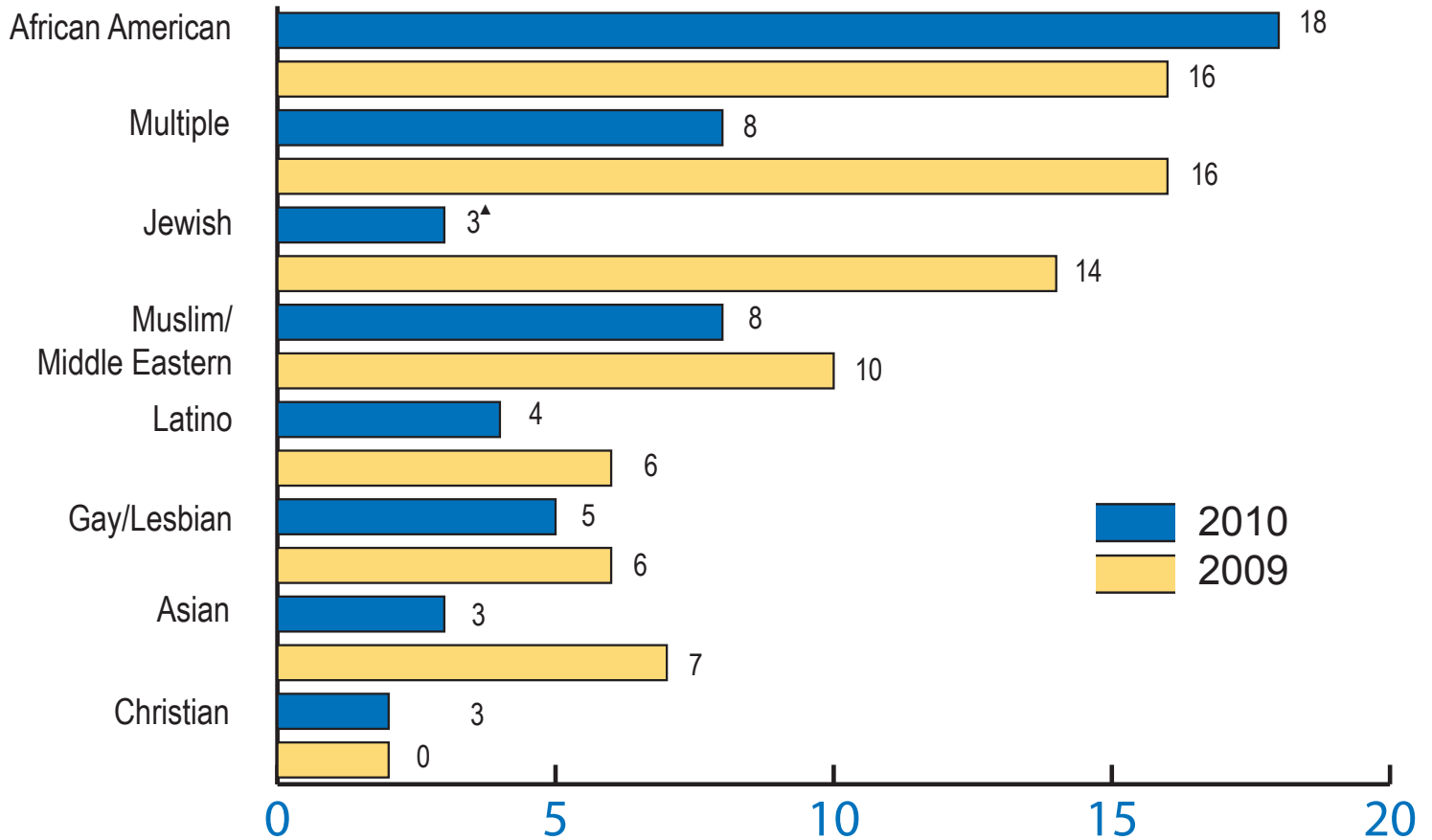
African American Victims Up: While reported hate crime was down against almost all groups, it was up against African Americans who represent a very small percentage of the county population, but are consistently targeted by hate perpetrators.

Hate Incidents Against Muslim/Middle Easterners Substantially Up:

While hate crime fell, there was a spate of hate incidents targeting mostly Muslim students who received many threatening and profane calls and e-mails.

Hate Crime Is An Indicator: Reported hate crime is an important indicator of the bigotry that is faced by some in our community, but not all hate crime is reported. The immigrant and LGBT communities tend to under-report when they are victims. And, communities with substantial community organizational infrastructure are more effective at reporting hate crimes and incidents than those that are smaller and more fragmented.

56 Hate Crimes Reported in 2010 in Orange County*



A Closer Look

- There was a 13% increase in the number of hate crimes targeting African-Americans from 16 to 18 from 2009 to 2010 – moreover, crimes targeting African-Americans accounted for about one third of all reported hate crimes in 2010. African-Americans are consistently the most frequent targets of hate crimes in Orange County.

- While hate crimes against Muslims fell from 10 to 8 from 2009 to 2010, there was an alarming number of hate incidents (which are not crimes) reported against Muslims/Middle Easterners, 31, more than triple the previous year.

- Hate crimes targeting the LGBT community dropped slightly from 6 to 5 continuing a 4-year downward trend.

- The number of hate crimes against Latinos dropped from 6 to 4.

- The reported number of anti-Jewish hate crimes fell dramatically from 14 to 3. [^](A key collaborating community agency lost their data in a move, so this may be under-reported.)

- Reported hate crimes against Asian/Pacific Islanders fell substantially from 7 to 3.

- Christians were targets of 3 reported hate crimes, up from zero.

*Additionally, 1 hate crime was reported targeting the Buddhist community, 2 targeting the White community, and 1 targeting the community with Disabilities.



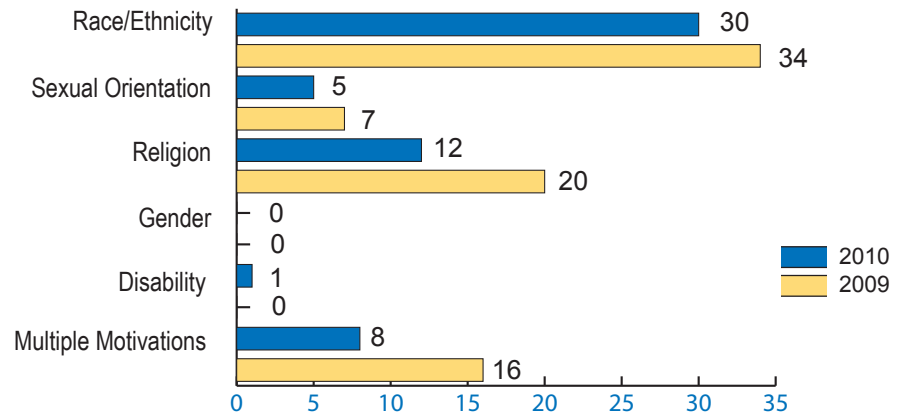
Hate Crime (P.C. § 422.6)

A Hate Crime is a criminal act committed, in whole or in part, because of one or more of the following actual or perceived characteristics of the victim: Disability, Gender, Nationality, Race or Ethnicity,

Religion, Sexual Orientation, association with a person or group of persons with one or more of the preceding actual or perceived characteristics. Under California law there are enhanced penalties for these types of crimes.

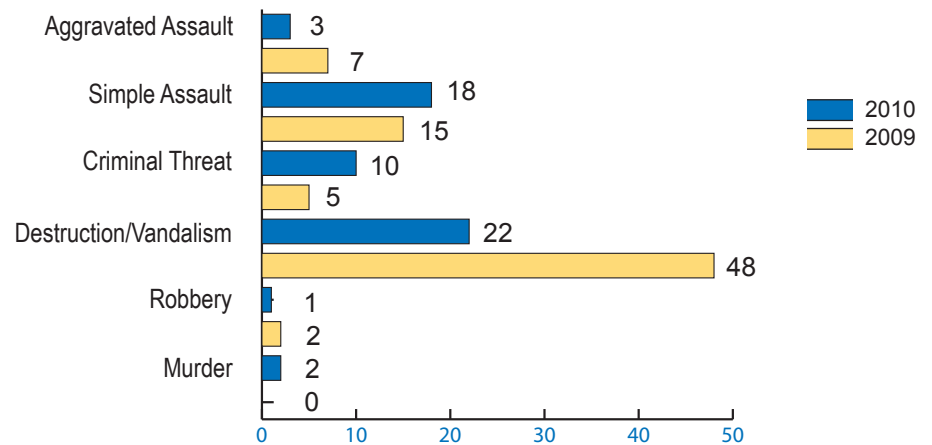
Hate Crimes by Motivation

Race and ethnicity were the most common hate crime motivations, accounting for 54% of all hate crimes reported in 2010, followed by religious motivation at 21%, multiple motivation at 14% (which refers to crimes that target more than one community—often graffiti or hate literature), and perceived sexual orientation at 9%.



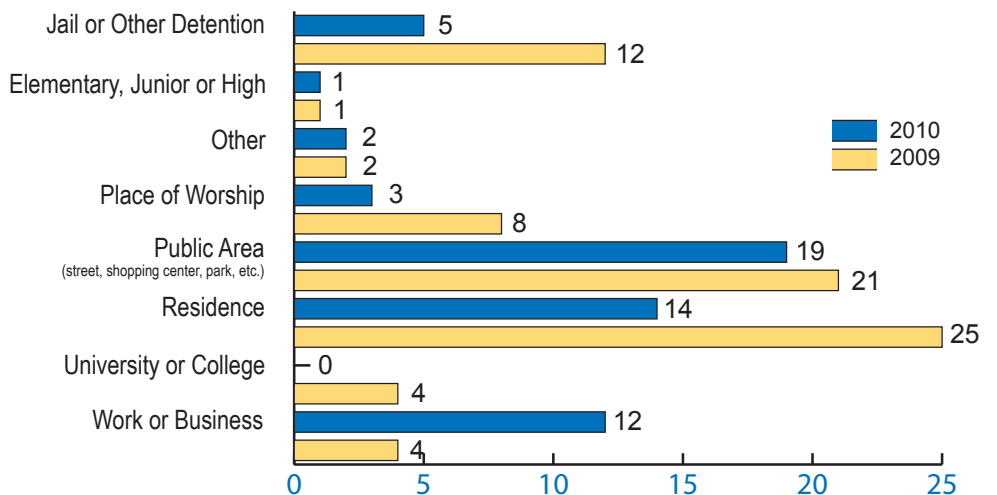
Hate Crimes by Type of Offense

Destruction/vandalism is the most common type of hate crime and fell dramatically from 48 to 22. It accounts for 40% of hate crime committed in Orange County. Criminal threats and simple assaults increased in spite of an overall decline in hate crime.



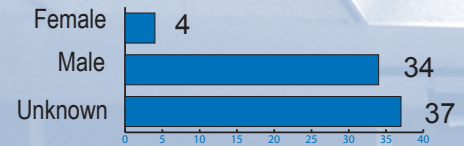
Hate Crimes by Location

Public areas were the most common location of hate crimes in 2010 with 19, followed by residences at 14, and workplaces at 12.



Perpetrators by Gender

About half of all hate crimes in Orange County were committed by unknown perpetrators in 2010, as is typical, but of those cases that are known, 90% were perpetrated by males.



Note: Most perpetrators of hate crime are not known, and hate crime is committed by people of all colors, ages and backgrounds. Of the hate crime perpetrators who are known, most are young, white males

Methodology

This report provides a statistical overview on reported hate crimes and incidents that occurred in Orange County in 2010. There are a number of factors that lead the Commission to conclude that the information contained in this report under represents the actual number of hate crimes.

The Commission carefully crosschecks each case to eliminate duplication. Due to this careful gathering of information, the Commission contends that this report is an accurate overall reflection of hate crimes in Orange County.

Some communities can suffer from under reporting due to a lack of knowledge about the justice system, cultural and language barriers, fear of reprisals, immigration status and/or a lack of confidence in government agencies.

The Commission urges caution when drawing conclusions on trends based on year-to-year variations of data.

The following is a summary of hate cases handled by the OC District Attorney

Orange County District Attorney



- 20 cases were referred to the district attorney's office
- 11 referred cases were rejected for filing
- 3 cases referred as hate crimes were charged as other than hate crime cases
- 6 cases were filed as hate crimes
 - 7 resulted in guilty pleas (0 trial verdicts)
 - 2 resulted in non-bias motivated crime conviction
 - 1 resulted in a finding of not guilty

The reason the disposition total is 10 when the cases filed total (hate crime and non hate crime) is 9 is because the dispositions includes cases that may have been initiated pre-2010.

Hate Incidents

A “hate incident” is a bias-related action that has the same motivation as a hate crime, but is not an illegal act. These incidents are protected by the First Amendment’s free speech provisions. The Constitution allows for hateful rhetoric as long as it does not interfere with the rights of others.

OC Human Relations tracks them as indicators of potential problems and hate activity, where more serious crimes might follow, and preventative interventions might be effective. Examples of hate incidents would include: hate epithets like the N-word, flyers calling for extermination of

the mud races, dehumanizing written material, targeted profanity, bigoted symbols such as the swastika, phone calls, e-mail messages and taunts that do not rise to the level of a clear threat of violence, and other actions that vilify groups based on their race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender or disability.

In 2010 there were 46 hate incidents reported with 31 of them targeting Muslim/Middle Easterners, mostly Muslim college students. Much of this lashing out at the Muslim students was spurred by the organized protest that disrupted the Israeli Ambassador’s speech in Irvine.

Agencies Providing Data

Organizations

American Civil Liberties Union
 Anti-Defamation League
 Community Service Program, Inc
 Council on American Islamic Relations
 NAACP of Orange County
 Orange County District Attorney’s Office
 Orange County Human Relations Commission

Schools, Universities and Colleges

Anaheim City School District
 Brea Olinda Unified School District
 Buena Park School District
 Capistrano Unified School District
 Cypress School District
 Garden Grove Unified School District
 Huntington Beach City School District
 Los Alamitos Unified School District
 Lowell Joint School District
 Magnolia School District
 Newport-Mesa Unified School District
 Ocean View School District
 Orange Coast College
 Saddleback College
 Santa Ana College
 Soka University
 University of California, Irvine

City Police Departments

Anaheim
 Brea/Yorba Linda
 Buena Park
 Costa Mesa
 Cypress
 Fountain Valley
 Fullerton
 Garden Grove
 Huntington Beach
 Irvine
 La Habra
 La Palma
 Laguna Beach
 Newport Beach
 Orange
 Placentia
 Santa Ana
 San Clemente
 Seal Beach
 Tustin
 Westminster

Orange County Sheriff’s Department

Representing:
 Aliso Viejo
 Dana Point
 Laguna Hills
 Laguna Niguel
 Laguna Woods
 Lake Forest
 Mission Viejo
 Rancho Santa Margarita
 San Clemente
 San Juan Capistrano
 Seal Beach
 Stanton
 Villa Park
 Unincorporated areas of
 Orange County



1.888.NO 2 HATE



HATE CRIME

To Report a Hate Crime

OC Human Relations Commission

C. William Wood, Chair
Ken Inouye, Vice Chair
Rusty Kennedy, Executive Director
Ellen Ahn
Nadia Bettendorf
Vincent De Vargas
Becky Esparza
Chief Dave Maggard
Ki Hong Park
Amy Peikoff
Carol Turpen
Doug Wooley

**This Report was produced
by OC Human Relations Staff:**

Jim Armendaris
Rusty Kennedy
Eli Reyna
Adriana Sanchez Alexander (intern)
Vanessa De La Rosa (intern)
Tran Le (intern)



OC HUMAN RELATIONS

Building Bridges of Understanding

1300 S. Grand Ave. Bldg. B, Santa Ana, CA 92705



Orange County Board of Supervisors

Bill Campbell, Chair
John M. W. Moorlach, Vice-Chair
Janet Nguyen, First District
Shawn Nelson, Fourth District
Patricia C. Bates, Fifth District

Thomas Mauk, County Executive Officer

OC Community Resources

Steve Franks, Director

OC Community Services

Karen Roper, Director



www.ochumanrelations.org

714.567.7470