

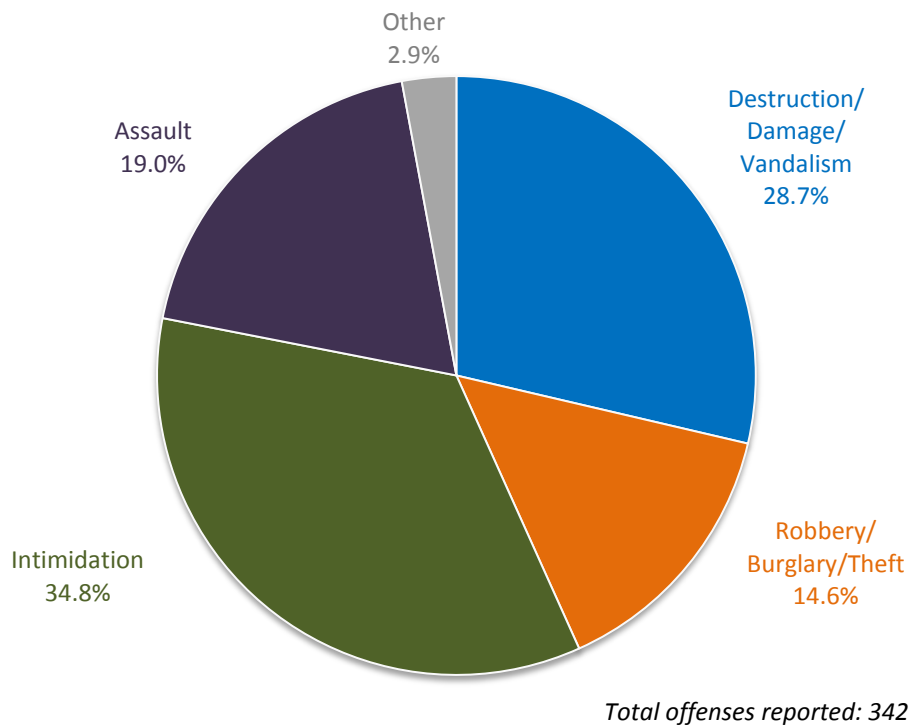
Hate Crime

Table 1. Number of Hate Crime Incidents by Bias Motivation; Columbus, 2000-2009

Motivation	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Race	46	39	40	29	57	25	43	41	20	14
Religion	5	22	11	6	13	4	8	11	5	2
Sexual Orientation	15	12	16	10	25	12	11	22	20	13
Ethnicity	3	4	4	3	28	9	18	16	4	8
Disability	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0
Total	69	77	71	48	123	50	81	94	49	37

- In 2009, 50.0% of hate crimes reported in Columbus were motivated by racial or ethnic bias. This compares with 62.8% nationally. Sexual orientation was the bias motivation for 59.5% of the hate crimes in Columbus, compared to 16.7% nationally. Religious intolerance was the bias motivation for 5.4% of the hate crimes in Columbus, about half of the 19.5% nationally.

Chart 1. Types of Hate Crime Offenses Reported by Ohio Law Enforcement Agencies, 2008



- Crimes against persons represented 53.8% of Ohio hate crimes in 2009, including 34.8% classified as intimidation and 19.0% as assault. More than one-quarter of the hate crimes in Ohio involved destruction, damage, or vandalism (28.7%).

About the Data

Data Sources:

- Federal Bureau of Investigation, Hate Crime Statistics, 2000-2009

Definitions:

- **Hate crime:** The FBI defines hate crime as crime motivated by racial, religious, disability, sexual orientation, and ethnicity/national origin bias. Crimes are divided into “incidents” and “offenses.” One incident can contain multiple offenses.
- **Crimes against persons:** The FBI Hate Crime Statistics include the following as hate crimes against persons: murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, aggravated assault, simple assault, and intimidation.
- **Crimes against property:** The FBI Hate Crime Statistics include the following as hate crimes against property: robbery, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, arson, and destruction/damage/vandalism.

Explanations and Caveats:

- City, county, and state law enforcement agencies submit hate crime data to the FBI’s Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Reporting is not mandatory, and not all jurisdictions submit data. Those that do submit data must submit do so for at least 1 month in the calendar year, but are not required to submit data for 12 months or 4 quarters.
- The determination of bias motivation rests upon investigation at the level of the local jurisdiction. The inherent subjectivity of determining bias motivation increases the difficulty of determining what exactly constitutes a hate crime. Law enforcement must gather sufficient evidence so that a “reasonable and prudent” person could find that an offender’s actions were motivated by a hateful bias.

Update Status:

September 2011