

Chapter 6

HATE CRIME

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DEFINITION

The Texas Hate Crimes Act, Chapter 411.046 of the Texas Government Code, defines hate crimes as crimes that are motivated by prejudice, hatred, or advocacy of violence including, but not limited to, incidents for which statistics are or were kept under Public Law 101-275 (the Federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act). The federal law further defines hate crimes as crimes that manifest evidence of prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity, and added in 1997, disability.

Violation against selected groups within Texas has been recognized as a threat to the safety of Texans. In an effort to quantify these incidents of bias crimes, the Texas Hate Crimes Act directed every law enforcement agency within Texas to report bias offenses to the Department of Public Safety.

ANALYSIS

Volume

The total number of reported Texas hate crime incidents in 2007 was 243. This represents a decrease of 1.6 percent when compared to 2006. These incidents involved 250 victims, 259 offenders, and resulted in a total of 255 offenses.

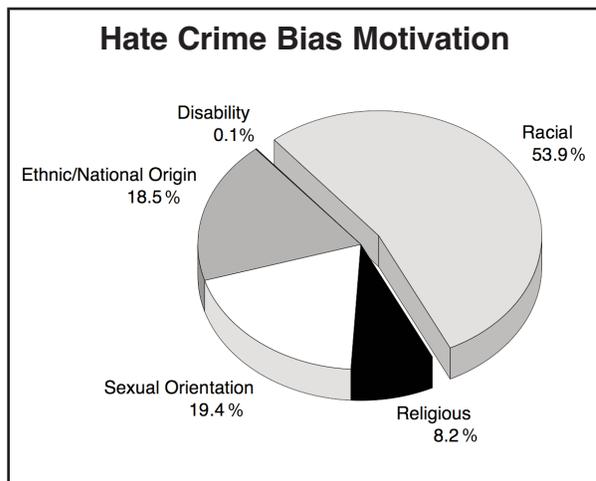
Hate Crime	2007	2006	% Change
Reported Incidents	243	247	- 1.6%
Reported Victims	250	222	+ 12.6%
Reported Offenders	259	291	- 11.0%
Reported Offenses	255	300	- 15.0%

Bias Motivation

In 2007, the largest percentage of hate crime reports were racial in nature. The second most commonly reported bias motivation was sexual orientation, the third most common bias motivation was ethnicity/national origin, the fourth most com-

mon form of hate crime was religious and the fifth was disability.

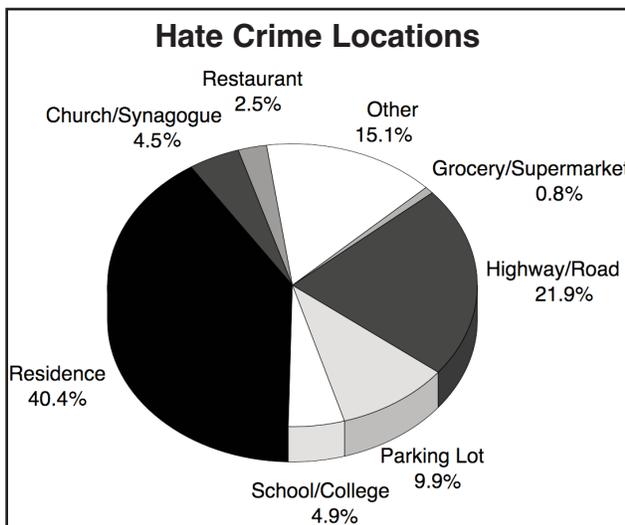
Hate Crime Bias Motivation			
Bias Nature	Group %	Bias Type	Volume (Offense)
Racial	53.9%	Anti-White	18
		Anti-Black	103
		Anti-Asian/Pacific Islander	6
		Anti-Indian	1
		Anti-Multi-Racial	3
Sexual Orientation	19.4%	Anti-Male Homosexual	39
		Anti-Female Homosexual	6
		Anti-Homosexual	2
Ethnicity/ National Origin	18.5%	Anti-Arab	4
		Anti-Hispanic	31
		Anti-Other Ethnic/Nat'l Origin	10
Religious	8.2%	Anti-Jewish	12
		Anti-Protestant	1
		Anti-Islamic	4
		Anti-Other Religion	3
Disability	0.0%	Anti-Physical	0
		Anti-Mental	0



Location

Residences and homes were the most frequently occurring locations of bias crimes during 2007. The second most common locations were highways, roads, streets and alleys, and the third most common were parking lots and garages.

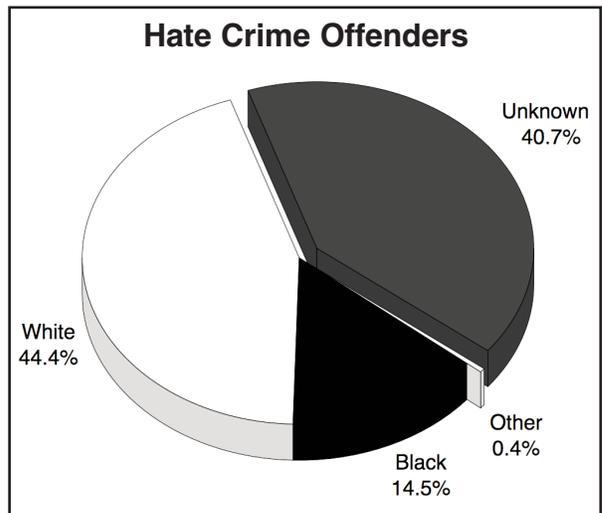
Hate Crime Location		
Location	Volume	%
Air/Bus/Train Terminal	3	1.2%
Bank/Savings and Loan	0	0.0%
Bar/Nightclub	6	2.5%
Church/Synagogue/Temple	11	4.5%
Commercial/Office Building	4	1.6%
Construction Site	0	0.0%
Convenience Store	5	2.1%
Department/Discount Store	1	0.4%
Drug Store/Doctor's Office/Hospital	0	0.0%
Field/Woods	0	0.0%
Government/Public Building	2	0.8%
Grocery/Supermarket	2	0.8%
Highway/Road/Street/Alley	53	21.9%
Hotel/Motel	1	0.4%
Jail/Prison	3	1.2%
Lake/Waterway	1	0.4%
Liquor Store	0	0.0%
Parking Lot/Garage	24	9.9%
Rental Storage Facility	0	0.0%
Residence/Home	98	40.4%
Restaurant	6	2.5%
School/College	12	4.9%
Service/Gas Station	3	1.2%
Specialty Store	2	0.8%
Other/Unknown	6	2.5%
TOTAL	243	100%



Offenders

In 2007, 259 offenders were involved in incidents of hate crimes. Hate crime incidents can be perpetrated by multiple offenders of the same race. The following chart displays the suspected offenders' race totaling 243.

Hate Crime Offenders by Race		
Race	Volume	%
White	108	44.4%
Black	35	14.5%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0.0%
Multi-Racial Group	1	0.4%
Unknown	99	40.7%
TOTAL	243	100%



Victims

Information on the victims of hate crimes is limited to victim type. While bias motivation information identifies the offender's bias, it is important to note that the victim may not actually belong to the group the offender sought to harm. For this reason, information on the victims' actual group membership is not recorded.

Victim type, in the hate crime data collection program, is listed as: individual, business, financial institution, government, religious organization, society/public, other and unknown. Of these victim types, individuals were reported to be the main hate crime target.

Hate Crime Victim Type		
Victim Type	Volume	%
Individual	202	79.1%
Business	6	2.4%
Financial Institution	0	0.0%
Government	4	1.6%
Religious Organization	6	2.4%
Other	37	14.5%
Unknown	0	0.0%
TOTAL	255	100%

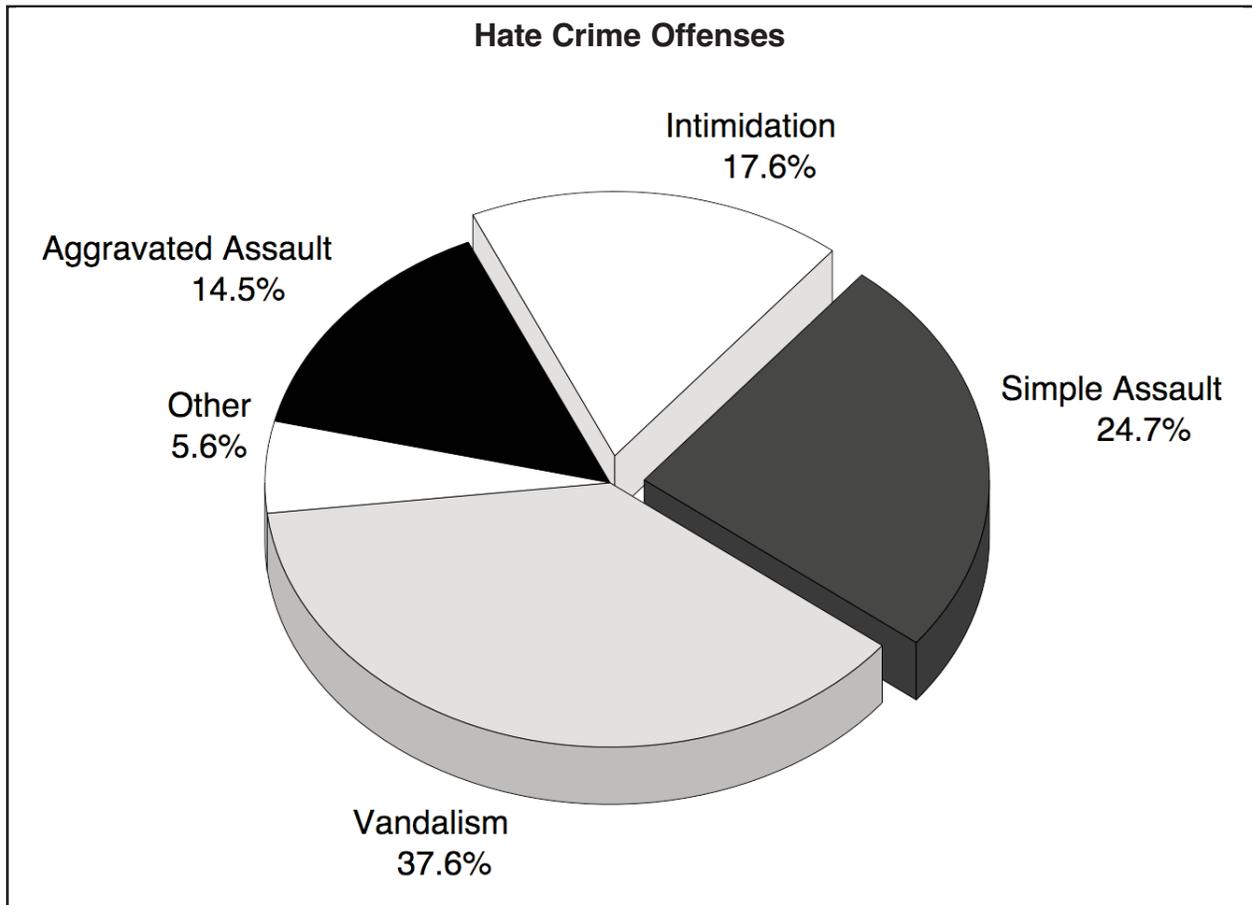
aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson -- plus the non-index crimes of simple assault, intimidation and vandalism. Of these offense categories, aggravated assault, simple assault, intimidation and vandalism together accounted for 95 percent of all bias crime offenses.

Offenses

Offense information in the hate crime data collection program are defined in accordance with federal Uniform Crime Reporting definitions and do not necessarily conform to Texas state definitions. Complete offense definitions are available in the appendix to this publication.

Hate crime offense information fall into the eight index crime categories -- murder, rape, robbery,

Hate Crime Offenses		
Offenses	Volume	%
Murder	1	0.4%
Rape	0	0.0%
Robbery	4	1.6%
Aggravated Assault	37	14.5%
Burglary	6	2.4%
Larceny-Theft	3	1.2%
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0.0%
Arson	0	0.0%
Simple Assault	63	24.7%
Intimidation	45	17.6%
Vandalism	96	37.6%
TOTAL	255	100%



2007 TEXAS HATE CRIME BY JURISDICTION

ANDERSON COUNTY Palestine PD 1	KENDALL COUNTY Kendall County SO 1	Leander PD 2
ARANSAS COUNTY Rockport PD 1	KLEBERG COUNTY Kingsville PD 1	Jurisdictions not represented reported zero incidents of Hate Crime.
BEXAR COUNTY San Antonio PD 22	LUBBOCK COUNTY Texas Tech University PD 1	
BRAZOS COUNTY Bryan PD 1	MCLENNAN COUNTY McLennan Co SO 1 Waco PD 2	
BURNET COUNTY Bertram PD 1	MIDLAND COUNTY Midland PD 3	
COLLIN COUNTY Allen PD 1 Frisco PD 1 Plano PD 5	NUECES COUNTY Corpus Christi PD 16	
COMAL COUNTY New Braunfels PD 3	ORANGE COUNTY Orange PD 1 Vidor PD 3	
CORYELL COUNTY Copperas Cove PD 1	RUSK COUNTY Henderson PD 1	
DALLAS COUNTY Dallas PD 23 Carrollton PD 5 Garland PD 13 Rowlett PD 1	SMITH COUNTY Tyler PD 1	
DENTON COUNTY Denton PD 1	TARRANT COUNTY Arlington PD 6 Bedford PD 2 Fort Worth PD 19 Haltom City PD 2	
EL PASO COUNTY El Paso PD 4	Mansfield PD 3 North Richland Hills PD 1	
FANNIN COUNTY Bonham PD 1	Richland Hills PD 1 Keller PD 2	
FORT BEND COUNTY Missouri City PD 1	TRAVIS COUNTY Austin PD 6 UT Austin PD 2 Austin ISD PD 1	
GALVESTON COUNTY Friendswood PD 1 Galveston PD 1	UVALDE COUNTY Uvalde PD 1	
GREGG COUNTY Longview PD 11	VAL VERDE COUNTY Del Rio PD 1	
GUADALUPE COUNTY Seguin PD 2	VICTORIA COUNTY Victoria PD 1	
HARRIS COUNTY Harris Co SO 8 Houston PD 38 Tomball PD 1	WALKER COUNTY Huntsville PD 1	
HAYS COUNTY San Marcos PD 2	WICHITA COUNTY Wichita Co SO 1 Wichita Falls PD 1	
HOOD COUNTY Hood County SO 1	WILLIAMSON COUNTY Williamson Co SO 1	
KAUFMAN COUNTY Forney PD 1	Round Rock PD 2 Cedar Park PD 4	