

**SECTION XI
BIAS INCIDENT
SUMMARY**

INTRODUCTION

Crimes motivated by hate and bias tend to erode the basic fabric of society. Bias incidents having a racial, religious, ethnic, sexual or gender component as well as crimes against individuals with a handicap, manifest themselves in a wide spectrum of criminal activities. These bias incidents jeopardize the active and open pursuit of freedom and opportunity. They attack our citizens based on their race, religion, ethnic heritage, sexual orientation, handicap, or gender. Closely linked to such heritage are individual values, beliefs, and identities.

Realizing that no agency within the state was collecting complete data on bias incidents, a broad-based Ad Hoc committee was created to develop a comprehensive statewide reporting system. As a result of the committee's recommendation, Attorney General Executive Directive No. 1987-3 was issued mandating all New Jersey law enforcement agencies to begin reporting bias incident offenses to the Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Reporting Unit, on a monthly basis, effective January 1, 1988. On August 15, 1995, legislation was enacted which enhanced the state's definition of a bias incident to include crimes that are gender or handicap-motivated.

The directive was instituted to capture vital data in an effort to identify the problem. This information permits proper evaluation of progress in preventing bias crime and assist with necessary planning for the future.

This is the ninth annual publication concerning bias crimes, which contains comparisons to the previous year's statistics. The published statistics and graphs are the result of data submitted by the police community of New Jersey.

Hopefully, the information contained in this publication will be of value to various segments of society and serve its intended purpose.

BIAS INCIDENT

DEFINITION

A Bias Incident is defined as any suspected or confirmed offense or unlawful act which occurs to a person, private property, or public property on the basis of race, color, creed, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender, or handicap. An offense is bias-based if the motive for the commission of the offense or unlawful act is racial, religious, ethnic, sexual orientation, gender, or handicap.

Highlights of the 1996 bias incident offense statistics are listed below:

- New Jersey law enforcement agencies reported 918 individual bias incidents, resulting in 1,041 specific bias incident offenses in 1996, an 8% increase compared to 1995.
- Harassment accounted for 33%(344) of all bias incident offenses.
- Criminal mischief and damage to property accounted for 39% (401) of all bias incident offenses.
- Racial bias accounted for 55% (575) of all bias incident crimes in 1996.
- The target category of person accounted for 58% (601) of all bias offenses.
- The Black race represented the most frequent racial group victimized by bias crime, accounting for 46% (479) of all bias offenses.
- The Jewish religion represented the most frequent religious group victimized by bias crime, accounting for 25% (256) of all bias offenses.
- The Hispanic ethnicity represented the most frequent ethnic group victimized by bias crime, accounting for 5% (56) of all bias offenses.
- The most frequent day of occurrence was Monday (179 offenses).
- The most frequent month of occurrence was June (123 offenses).
- The most frequent place of occurrence was a residence, where 32% (329 offenses) of all bias incidents occurred.
- Forty percent (413) of all bias incident offenses were cleared with 22% (224) being cleared by arrest, and 18% (192) being exceptionally cleared.
- A total of 246 arrests (160 adults and 86 juveniles) were made resulting from bias incidents. A 50% increase compared to the 164 (111 adults and 53 juveniles) persons arrested in 1995.

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES

1992 through 1996

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Murder	-	-	-	-	1
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	-
Rape	-	-	-	-	-
Robbery	13	26	13	7	8
Aggravated Assault	78	47	35	27	38
Burglary	4	7	6	8	6
Larceny-Theft	8	3	1	2	4
Simple Assault	177	153	117	88	84
Fear of Bodily Violence	72	76	48	30	23
Arson	3	4	1	6	6
Criminal Mischief	357	394	316	254	370
Damage to Property; Threat of Violence	37	32	41	76	31
Weapons Offense	-	1	-	2	2
Sex Offense (Except Rape)	1	-	1	-	1
Terroristic Threats	79	65	43	55	53
Trespass	-	2	-	-	-
Disorderly Conduct	18	14	22	18	22
Harassment	444	464	336	288	344
Desecration of Venerated Objects	1	1	4	2	5
All Other Bias Incident	11	36	45	102	43
TOTAL	1,303	1,325	1,029	965	1,041

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES/CLEARANCES/ARRESTS 1995/1996

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSE		Number of Offenses	Offenses Cleared	Percent Cleared	Number of Arrests		
					Total Arrests	Adult Arrests	Juvenile Arrests
Murder	1995	-	-	-	0	-	-
	1996	1	1	100	5	2	3
Manslaughter	1995	-	-	-	0	-	-
	1996	-	-	-	0	-	-
Rape	1995	-	-	-	0	-	-
	1996	-	-	-	0	-	-
Robbery	1995	7	5	71	4	1	3
	1996	8	4	50	4	3	1
Aggravated Assault	1995	27	11	41	9	9	-
	1996	38	25	66	22	16	6
Burglary	1995	8	2	25	1	-	1
	1996	6	1	17	1	-	1
Larceny-Theft	1995	2	1	50	1	1	-
	1996	4	2	50	1	-	1
Simple Assault	1995	88	57	65	38	21	17
	1996	84	63	75	51	34	17
Fear of Bodily Violence	1995	30	14	47	5	2	3
	1996	23	12	52	6	6	-
Arson	1995	6	-	0	0	-	-
	1996	6	2	33	5	2	3
Criminal Mischief	1995	254	20	8	10	3	7
	1996	370	19	5	30	11	19
Damage to Property; Threat of Violence	1995	76	12	16	9	7	2
	1996	31	4	13	3	3	-
Weapons Offense	1995	2	-	-	0	-	-
	1996	2	1	50	1	1	-
Sex Offenses (Except Rape)	1995	-	-	-	0	-	-
	1996	1	1	100	1	1	-
Terroristic Threats	1995	55	27	49	17	11	6
	1996	53	23	43	16	13	3
Trespass	1995	-	-	-	0	-	-
	1996	-	-	-	0	-	-
Disorderly Conduct	1995	18	17	94	7	6	1
	1996	22	20	91	5	2	3
Harassment	1995	288	164	57	60	48	12
	1996	344	222	65	94	66	28
Desecration of Venerated Objects	1995	2	1	50	1	-	1
	1996	5	-	0	0	-	-
All Other Bias Incidents	1995	102	5	5	2	2	-
	1996	43	13	30	1	-	1
TOTAL	1995	965	336	35	164	111	53
	1996	1,041	413	40	246	160	86

BIAS INCIDENT SUMMARY

TARGET/TYPE – 1996

PERSON				601					
RACIAL	384	RELIGIOUS	72	ETHNIC	99	SEXUAL	40	OTHER	6
American Indian	1	Catholic	1	Arab	4	Bisexual	2	Gender	1
Asian	14	Hindu	1	Asian Indian	13	Heterosexual(F)	2	Handicap	5
Black	307	Islamic	9	Hispanic	51	Heterosexual(M)	-	Physical	4
White	59	Jewish	60	Oriental	17	Homosexual(F)	10	Mental	1
Other	3	Protestant	1	Other	14	Homosexual(M)	23		
		Other	-			Homosexual(M&F)	3		

PRIVATE PROPERTY				274			
RACIAL	107	RELIGIOUS	140	ETHNIC	18	SEXUAL	9
American Indian	-	Catholic	6	Arab	1	Bisexual	-
Asian	3	Hindu	3	Asian Indian	3	Heterosexual(F)	1
Black	92	Islamic	-	Hispanic	5	Heterosexual(M)	-
White	7	Jewish	125	Oriental	5	Homosexual(F)	2
Other	5	Protestant	1	Other	4	Homosexual(M)	3
		Other	5			Homosexual(M&F)	3

PUBLIC PROPERTY				166			
RACIAL	84	RELIGIOUS	74	ETHNIC	4	SEXUAL	4
American Indian	-	Catholic	-	Arab	-	Bisexual	-
Asian	-	Hindu	1	Asian Indian	1	Heterosexual(F)	-
Black	80	Islamic	-	Hispanic	-	Heterosexual(M)	-
White	3	Jewish	71	Oriental	-	Homosexual(F)	1
Other	1	Protestant	1	Other	3	Homosexual(M)	1
		Other	1			Homosexual(M&F)	2

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES BY COUNTY 1995/1996

		Murder	Man-slaughter	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny-Theft	Simple Assault	Fear of Bodily Violence	Arson
Atlantic	1995	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	6	1	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	1	-
Bergen	1995	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	2	-
	1996	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	1
Burlington	1995	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	4	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	5	2	-
Camden	1995	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	8	-	-
	1996	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	3	5	-
Cape May	1995	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-
Cumberland	1995	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	4	-	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
Essex	1995	-	-	-	1	4	2	-	11	3	-
	1996	-	-	-	2	2	2	-	11	1	-
Gloucester	1995	-	-	-	-	5	2	-	5	-	1
	1996	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	1
Hudson	1995	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	4	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	3	-	-
Hunterdon	1995	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Mercer	1995	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	1
	1996	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	2	-
Middlesex	1995	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	1
	1996	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	9	2	2
Monmouth	1995	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	11	1	2
	1996	-	-	-	-	8	1	-	6	1	-
Morris	1995	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	7	2	-
Ocean	1995	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	-
	1996	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	9	1	1
Passaic	1995	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
Salem	1995	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Somerset	1995	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	6	3	-
	1996	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	1	-
Sussex	1995	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Union	1995	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	4	1	1
	1996	1	-	-	-	9	-	-	14	1	-
Warren	1995	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	1996	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1995	0	0	0	7	27	8	2	88	30	6
	1996	1	0	0	8	38	6	4	84	23	6

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES BY COUNTY 1995/1996

Criminal Mischief	Damage to Property Threat of Violence	Weapons Offenses	Sex Offenses	Terroristic Threats	Trespass	Disorderly Conduct	Harassment	Desecration of Venerated Objects	All Other Bias Incidents	TOTAL
19	-	-	-	7	-	3	16	1	-	57
14	2	-	-	4	-	1	40	-	3	70
23	7	-	-	8	-	1	19	-	20	87
35	2	-	1	2	-	1	28	1	3	79
7	1	-	-	2	-	-	11	1	5	35
21	2	-	-	-	-	2	14	-	5	53
19	15	-	-	7	-	1	20	-	10	84
22	4	-	-	1	-	5	38	-	3	86
8	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	1	21
8	-	-	-	2	-	1	10	-	4	29
4	1	-	-	4	-	2	4	-	1	23
6	1	-	-	4	-	-	8	-	1	24
7	1	-	-	4	-	2	11	-	6	52
12	-	-	-	5	-	-	13	-	2	50
23	4	-	-	2	-	3	18	-	6	69
9	2	-	-	2	-	5	26	1	5	56
5	1	-	-	4	-	-	10	-	1	30
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	21
2	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	7
3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	6
12	3	-	-	1	-	1	26	-	1	49
15	2	-	-	-	-	1	24	-	-	48
18	1	-	-	8	-	1	34	-	15	85
45	3	-	-	9	-	-	42	2	2	120
22	5	2	-	3	-	1	27	-	3	79
38	1	1	-	6	-	2	17	-	6	87
17	2	-	-	2	-	1	25	-	9	64
23	1	-	-	1	-	-	13	-	5	53
11	13	-	-	-	-	-	28	-	11	69
20	1	1	-	4	-	-	28	-	1	68
13	4	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	1	29
13	1	-	-	7	-	2	5	1	-	32
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
8	1	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	1	14
15	4	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	4	44
22	3	-	-	2	-	1	9	-	1	44
2	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	-	2	11
7	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	14
24	13	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	5	56
36	2	-	-	1	-	-	12	-	1	77
3	-	-	-	1	-	1	5	-	1	12
5	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	-	-	10
254	76	2	0	55	0	18	288	2	102	965
370	31	2	1	53	0	22	344	5	43	1,041

VICTIM/OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS

1996

	VICTIM	OFFENDER
AGE		
10 and under	28	10
11 to 17	142	159
18 to 20	49	42
21 to 25	74	49
26 to 30	77	34
31 to 35	67	30
36 to 40	50	34
41 to 45	45	28
46 to 50	25	16
51 to 60	29	16
61 and over	15	17
TOTAL AGE	601	435
SEX		
Male	353	341
Female	248	94
TOTAL SEX	601	435
RACE		
American Indian	3	1
Asian	60	12
Black	304	61
White	232	360
Other	2	1
TOTAL RACE	601	435

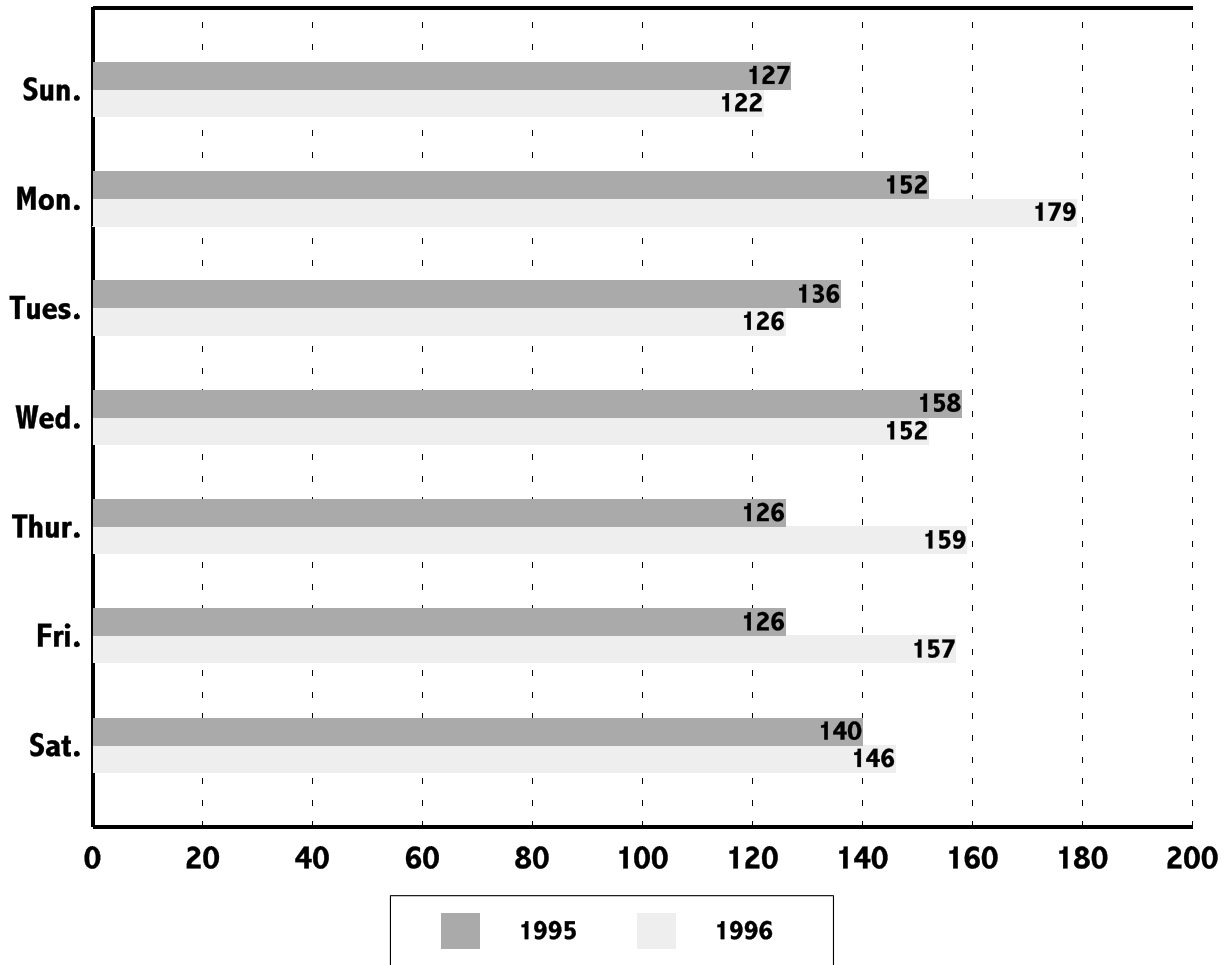
BIAS INCIDENT SUMMARY 1996

Description of Incident		Place of Occurrence		Relationship of Victim to Offender	
Swastika	228	Residence	329	Acquaintance	83
Cross Burning	2	Religious Building	30	Neighbor	119
Graffiti	151	Government Building	26	Employee	12
In Person	481	School Building	135	Stranger	269
Letters	73	Business Establishment	162	Unknown	492
Telephone	49	Cemetery	2	Other	66
Other	57	Motor Vehicle	43		
		Highway	177		
		Parking Lot	56		
		Other	81		
TOTAL	1,041	TOTAL	1,041	TOTAL	1,041

TYPE OF BIAS									
RACIAL		RELIGIOUS		ETHNIC		SEXUAL		OTHER	
American Indian	1	Catholic	7	Arab	5	Bisexual	2	Gender	1
Asian	17	Hindu	5	Asian Indian	17	Heterosexual(F)	3	Handicap	5
Black	479	Islamic	9	Hispanic	56	Heterosexual(M)	-	Physical	4
White	69	Jewish	256	Oriental	22	Homosexual(F)	13	Mental	1
Other	9	Protestant	2	Other	21	Homosexual(M)	27		
		Other	7			Homosexual(M&F)	8		
TOTAL	575	TOTAL	286	TOTAL	121	TOTAL	53	TOTAL	6

BIAS INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK

1995/1996



BIAS INCIDENT BY MONTH 1995/1996

