



Section Twelve

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, 1996, 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 sixteenth 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 STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Highlights of the 2003 bias incident offense statistics are listed below:

- New Jersey law enforcement agencies reported 615 individual bias incidents, resulting in 660 specific bias incident offenses in 2003, a 6% increase compared to 2002.
- Harassment accounted for 35% (234) of all bias incident offenses.
- Criminal mischief and damage to property accounted for 45% (296) of all bias incident offenses.
- Racial bias accounted for 43% (284) of all bias incident crimes in 2003.
- The target category of person accounted for 53% (353) of all bias offenses.
- The Black race represented the most frequent racial group victimized by bias crime, accounting for 34% (226) of all bias offenses.
- The Jewish religion represented the most frequent religious group victimized by bias crime, accounting for 31% (204) of all bias offenses.
- The Hispanic ethnicity represented the most frequent ethnic group victimized by bias crime, accounting for 5% (35) of all bias offenses.
- The most frequent day of occurrence was Friday (124 offenses).
- The most frequent month of occurrence was October (90 offenses).
- The most frequent place of occurrence was a residence, where 29% (189 offenses) of all bias incidents occurred.
- Thirty-eight percent (253) of all bias incident offenses were cleared with 39% (99) being cleared by arrest, and 61% (154) being exceptionally cleared.
- A total of 131 arrests (59 adults and 72 juveniles) were made resulting from bias incidents. Compared to 2002, arrests increased 16 percent.

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES

1999 through 2003

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Murder	-	-	-	-	-
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	-
Rape	-	-	-	-	-
Robbery	-	2	3	4	6
Aggravated Assault	25	21	15	12	26
Burglary	2	5	2	5	1
Larceny-Theft	2	2	2	-	4
Simple Assault	60	53	58	25	37
Fear of Bodily Violence	20	15	34	3	13
Arson	-	-	7	2	1
Criminal Mischief	277	292	333	252	291
Damage to Property; Threat of Violence	27	24	23	8	5
Weapons Offense	-	2	-	-	-
Sex Offense (Except Rape)	2	-	-	-	1
Terroristic Threats	37	38	11	13	28
Trespass	-	-	2	1	-
Disorderly Conduct	1	2	-	2	8
Harassment	210	252	318	295	234
Desecration of Venerated Objects	1	-	1	3	3
All Other Bias Incidents	15	2	6	-	2
TOTAL	679	710	815	625	660

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES/CLEARANCES/ARRESTS 2002/2003

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES		Number of Offenses	Offenses Cleared	Percent Cleared	Number of Arrests		
					Total Arrests	Adult Arrests	Juvenile Arrests
Murder	2002	-	-	-	0	-	-
	2003	-	-	-	0	-	-
Manslaughter	2002	-	-	-	0	-	-
	2003	-	-	-	0	-	-
Rape	2002	-	-	-	0	-	-
	2003	-	-	-	0	-	-
Robbery	2002	4	3	75	5	-	5
	2003	6	4	67	10	4	6
Aggravated Assault	2002	12	11	92	11	10	1
	2003	26	20	77	13	12	1
Burglary	2002	5	2	40	3	3	-
	2003	1	-	0	0	-	-
Larceny-Theft	2002	-	-	-	0	-	-
	2003	4	-	0	0	-	-
Simple Assault	2002	25	22	88	13	4	9
	2003	37	28	76	23	15	8
Fear of Bodily Violence	2002	3	2	67	3	1	2
	2003	13	10	77	18	2	16
Arson	2002	2	1	50	1	1	-
	2003	1	-	0	0	-	-
Criminal Mischief	2002	252	25	10	22	12	10
	2003	291	18	6	24	3	21
Damage to Property; Threat of Violence	2002	8	-	0	0	-	-
	2003	5	1	20	0	-	-
Weapons Offense	2002	-	-	-	0	-	-
	2003	-	-	-	0	-	-
Sex Offenses (Except Rape)	2002	-	-	-	0	-	-
	2003	1	1	100	0	-	-
Terroristic Threats	2002	13	11	85	5	5	-
	2003	28	20	71	8	2	6
Trespass	2002	1	-	0	0	-	-
	2003	-	-	-	0	-	-
Disorderly Conduct	2002	2	2	100	1	1	-
	2003	8	7	88	3	3	-
Harassment	2002	295	199	67	49	36	13
	2003	234	143	61	30	18	12
Desecration of Venerated Objects	2002	3	-	0	0	-	-
	2003	3	-	0	2	-	2
All Other Bias Incidents	2002	-	-	-	0	-	-
	2003	2	1	50	0	-	-
TOTAL	2002	625	278	44	113	73	40
	2003	660	253	38	131	59	72

BIAS INCIDENT SUMMARY

TARGET/TYPE – 2003

PERSON						353			
RACIAL	172	RELIGIOUS	69	ETHNIC	66	SEXUAL	43	OTHER	3
American Indian	-	Catholic	2	Arab	15	Bisexual	1	Gender	-
Asian	10	Hindu	1	Asian Indian	4	Heterosexual(F)	-	Handicap:	3
Black	127	Islamic	6	Hispanic	34	Heterosexual(M)	1	(1) Physical	2
White	26	Jewish	54	Oriental	10	Homosexual(F)	10	(2) Mental	1
Other	9	Protestant	-	Other	3	Homosexual(M)	30		
		Other	6			Homosexual(M&F)	1		

PRIVATE PROPERTY						194			
RACIAL	63	RELIGIOUS	116	ETHNIC	8	SEXUAL	7	OTHER	0
American Indian	-	Catholic	6	Arab	4	Bisexual	-	Gender	-
Asian	4	Hindu	1	Asian Indian	2	Heterosexual(F)	-	Handicap:	0
Black	54	Islamic	6	Hispanic	-	Heterosexual(M)	-	(1) Physical	-
White	5	Jewish	94	Oriental	1	Homosexual(F)	-	(2) Mental	-
Other	-	Protestant	3	Other	1	Homosexual(M)	5		
		Other	6			Homosexual(M&F)	2		

PUBLIC PROPERTY						113			
RACIAL	49	RELIGIOUS	63	ETHNIC	1	SEXUAL	0	OTHER	0
American Indian	-	Catholic	1	Arab	-	Bisexual	-	Gender	-
Asian	-	Hindu	-	Asian Indian	-	Heterosexual(F)	-	Handicap:	0
Black	45	Islamic	5	Hispanic	1	Heterosexual(M)	-	(1) Physical	-
White	2	Jewish	56	Oriental	-	Homosexual(F)	-	(2) Mental	-
Other	2	Protestant	-	Other	-	Homosexual(M)	-		
		Other	1			Homosexual(M&F)	-		

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES BY COUNTY 2002/2003

		Murder	Man- slaughter	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny- Theft	Simple Assault	Fear of Bodily Violence	Arson
	2002	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3	-	-
Atlantic	2003	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-
Bergen	2003	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	9	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-
Burlington	2003	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	3	-	1
Camden	2003	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	6	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Cape May	2003	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cumberland	2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Essex	2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Gloucester	2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Hudson	2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hunterdon	2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mercer	2003	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-
	2002	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Middlesex	2003	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	1	4	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	-	-
Monmouth	2003	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	6	1	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Morris	2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	-
Ocean	2003	-	-	-	1	6	-	1	2	1	1
	2002	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Passaic	2003	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
Salem	2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Somerset	2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Sussex	2003	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Union	2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
	2002	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Warren	2003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	2002	0	0	0	4	12	5	0	25	3	2
TOTAL	2003	0	0	0	6	26	1	4	37	13	1

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES BY COUNTY 2002/2003

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
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	24
11	1	-	-	1	-	-	11	-	-	26
13	2	-	-	1	-	-	17	-	-	37
30	1	-	-	2	-	-	22	-	-	66
15	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	30
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	24
12	-	-	-	2	-	-	18	-	-	40
26	-	-	-	4	-	-	11	-	-	51
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	12
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4
6	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	13
14	2	-	-	1	-	-	30	1	-	51
9	2	-	-	3	-	1	7	-	-	23
13	-	-	-	5	-	-	27	-	-	48
13	-	-	-	6	-	1	17	-	-	38
8	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	14
9	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	18
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	7
3	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	-	7
24	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	38
13	-	-	-	1	-	-	17	1	-	36
20	-	-	-	1	1	-	25	-	-	49
30	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	55
36	3	-	-	2	-	-	27	-	-	73
42	-	-	1	2	-	1	34	1	2	96
6	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	23
21	1	-	-	1	-	1	13	-	-	38
19	-	-	-	1	-	1	40	-	-	66
25	-	-	-	2	-	2	30	-	-	71
22	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	38
12	-	-	-	3	-	-	4	-	-	20
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	7
5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	8
20	1	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	28
11	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	28
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	5
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	8
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	-	17
6	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	14
6	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	14
5	-	-	-	1	-	-	6	-	-	13
252	8	0	0	13	1	2	295	3	0	625
291	5	0	1	28	0	8	234	3	2	660

VICTIM/OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS

2003

	VICTIM	OFFENDER
AGE		
10 and under	6	4
11 to 17	95	155
18 to 20	29	34
21 to 25	36	28
26 to 30	20	13
31 to 35	22	13
36 to 40	34	14
41 to 45	44	26
46 to 50	25	19
51 to 60	25	11
61 and over	17	9
TOTAL AGE	353	326
SEX		
Male	236	272
Female	117	54
TOTAL SEX	353	326
RACE		
American Indian	22	17
Asian	36	9
Black	122	26
White	148	264
Other	25	10
TOTAL RACE	353	326

BIAS INCIDENT SUMMARY

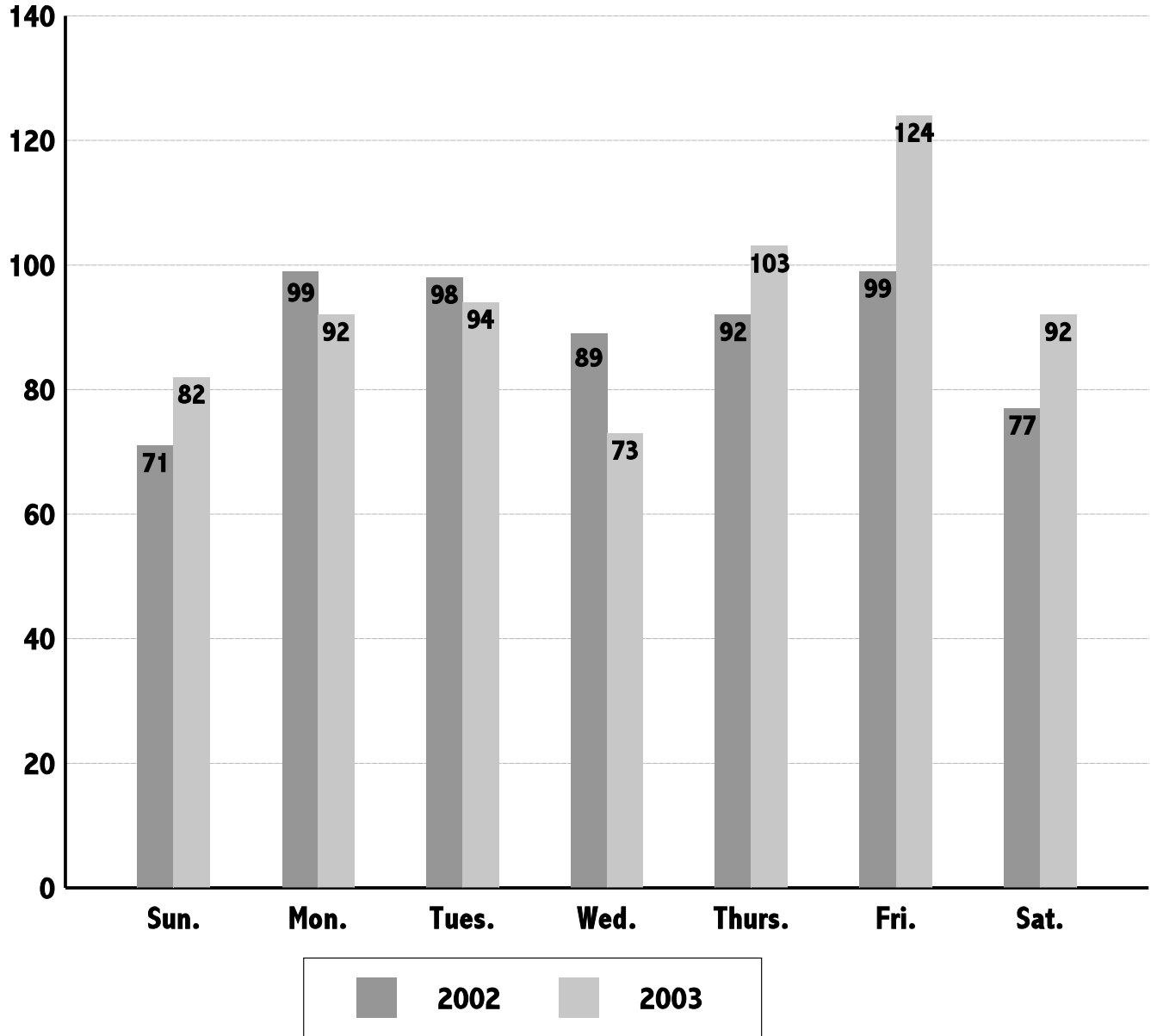
2003

Description of Incident		Place of Occurrence		Relationship of Victim to Offender	
Swastika	115	Residence	189	Acquaintance	78
Cross Burning	-	Religious Building	25	Neighbor	56
Graffiti	146	Government Building	15	Employee	6
In Person	256	School Building	136	Stranger	92
Letters	63	Business Establishment	74	Unknown	391
Telephone	32	Cemetery	1	Other	37
Other	48	Motor Vehicle	57		
		Highway	54		
		Parking Lot	27		
		Other	82		
TOTAL	660	TOTAL	660	TOTAL	660

TYPE OF BIAS									
RACIAL		RELIGIOUS		ETHNIC		SEXUAL		OTHER	
American Indian	-	Catholic	9	Arab	19	Bisexual	1	Gender	-
Asian	14	Hindu	2	Asian Indian	6	Heterosexual(F)	-	Handicap:	3
Black	226	Islamic	17	Hispanic	35	Heterosexual(M)	1	(1) Physical	2
White	33	Jewish	204	Oriental	11	Homosexual(F)	10	(2) Mental	1
Other	11	Protestant	3	Other	4	Homosexual(M)	35		
		Other	13			Homosexual(M&F)	3		
TOTAL	284	TOTAL	248	TOTAL	75	TOTAL	50	TOTAL	3

BIAS INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK

2002/2003



BIAS INCIDENT BY MONTH

2002/2003

