

SPECIAL STATUS REPORT
HATE & EXTREMISM IN CALIFORNIA: 2016
Compilation of Official Police & NGO Data



Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism

 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO

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Brian Levin (Author) is a professor of criminal justice at California State University, San Bernardino, where he is the director of the Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism. He has testified before both houses of Congress and various state legislatures on hate and terrorism. He is also the principal author or editor of various United States Supreme Court *amici* briefs, books and articles on hate crime and extremism. Professor Levin formerly worked for civil rights groups and as a New York City Police Officer. He received his JD from Stanford Law School where he was awarded the Block Civil Liberties Award and his BA summa cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania with multiple honors in American History.

Kevin Grisham (Analytic Charting) is an associate professor of geography and environmental studies and assistant director of research for the Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB). He specializes in analysis of terrorism, violent political movements and globalization. He teaches within the Global Studies option of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at CSUSB. His most recent book is Transforming Violent Political Movements: Rebels today, what tomorrow? (Routledge, 2014). He received his PhD and MA in Political Science from the University of California, Riverside and his BA in Criminal Justice from CSUSB.

The Center would also like to thank the crime reporting agencies in the cities contained within this report as well as sourced advocacy groups.

Special Status Report

Hate Crimes Up Again: 14% in California's Largest Cities in 2016, But Well Off Record Levels As Ideological Civil Conflicts Emerge

By Brian Levin, Director; Analytic Charting by Kevin Grisham, Assistant Director of Research; Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism-California State University, San Bernardino

Executive Summary

Hate crimes reported to municipal police departments in California's largest cities, increased significantly, 14.2%, in 2016, according to a special status report by the *Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino*. California is poised for its first consecutive yearly increases in hate crime in two decades and these increases exceed those found nationally. Other types of ideologically motivated political violence affecting social cohesion, but not enumerated by traditional hate crime data reporting, appeared to have escalated as well.

In over one dozen cases of civil conflicts across the state, there were multiple injuries and hundreds of arrests or criminal charge referrals, after violent mass street or campus confrontations. California based extremists have become increasingly combative as they openly organize for violent confrontations on social media. Private groups confirm our findings of a 2016 post-election increase in hate crimes, showing increases in both criminal and non-criminal incidents, as well as an increase of hate groups in the state. California, with 39 million people is the nation's most populous state, with 12.2% of the country's residents. It has the largest number and an increasing level of hate crimes; the most hate groups; and an apparently escalating string of violent political confrontations and campus disruptions that have garnered national attention.



While there were over 800 hate crimes in 2015, less than 150 were prosecuted as hate crimes. In California, a hate crime is a criminal act of intimidation, harassment, physical force or threat toward a person or property because of someone's actual or perceived race, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability and is usually prosecuted under one of two main laws, a stand alone law and a penalty enhancer at penal code 422.6 and 422.7.



Hate Crime Reported to Police Up 14% In State’s Major Cities

In four of the state’s five most populous cities, hate crimes hit or tied multi-year highs, conversely cities under one half million residents mostly reported declines and very small single digit totals. Racial hate crimes rose in the state’s four largest cities as well. Overall hate crimes in nine of California’s largest cities, comprising almost one quarter of its population, rose to a total of 354 in 2016, up from 2015’s total of 310. Excluding Los Angeles, the state’s largest city with nearly four million residents, all other major cities surveyed experienced a smaller overall increase from 110 in 2015 to 124 in 2016, or a 12.7% increase. The percentage increase in California cities is significantly higher than the increase seen in a forthcoming national sample of cities and counties for 2016.

Hate Crime in California's Largest Cities, 2016

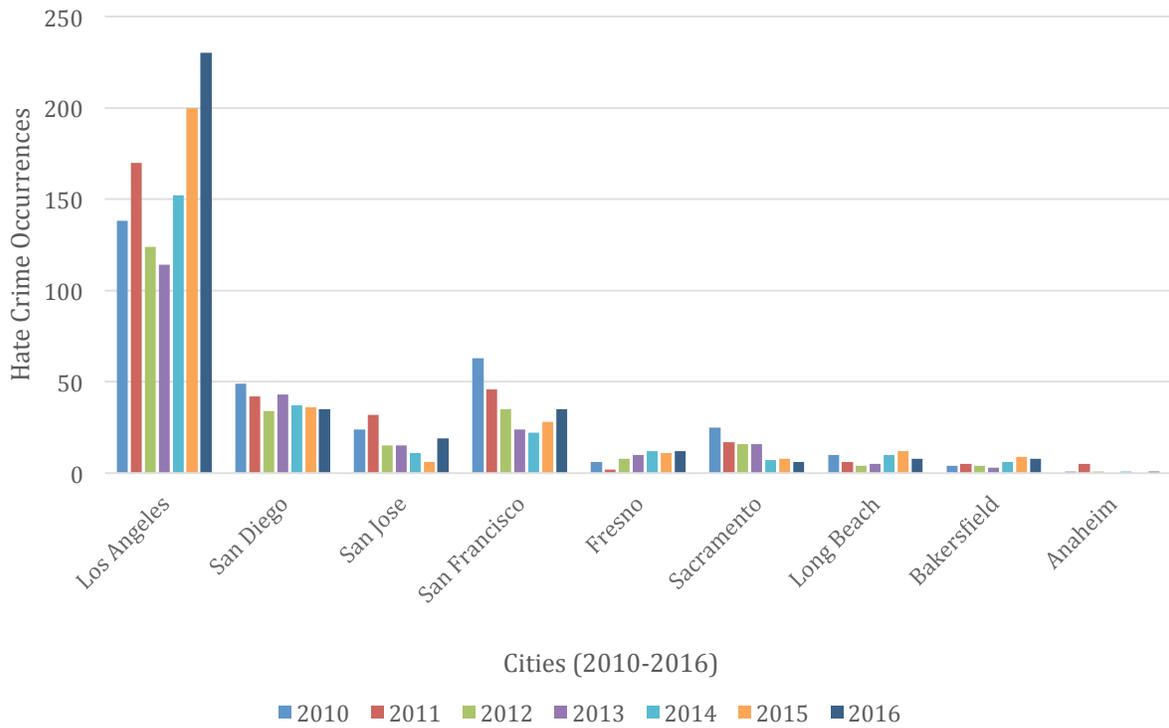


TABLE 1: HATE CRIME IN CALIFORNIA’S LARGEST CITIES, 2016

Police designated hate crime occurrences across cities covering 9.3 million residents

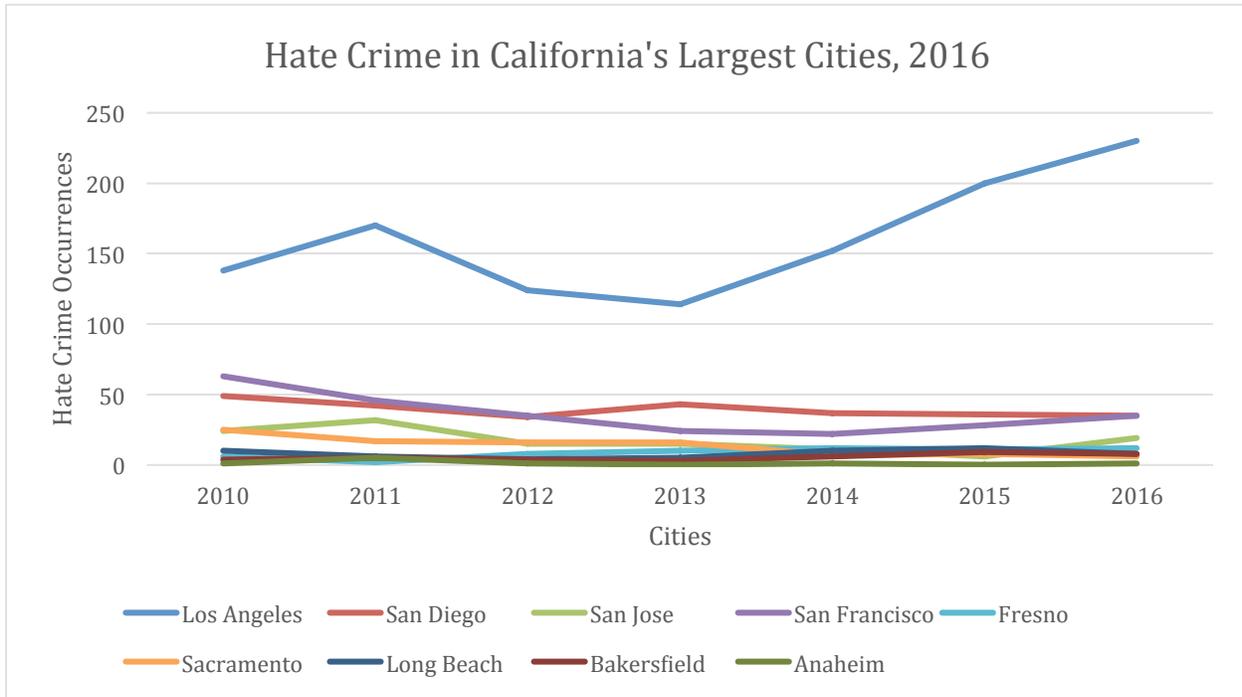
Jurisdiction: CA. & U.S. Population (2015) Rank	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
CA Nine City Total	+14.2% 354	310					
CA. City Total, Excluding Los Angeles	+12.7% 124	110					
U.S. 321,418, 820 FBI Hate Cr. USA	TBA 11/17	5850 +6.7%	5479 -7.6%	5928 -9.8%	6573 5.6%	6222 -6.1%	6628
CA. FBI Hate Crime	TBA 6/17	837 10.4%	*759 -10%	*843 -7.4%	*910 -12.5%	*1,040 -4.8%	*1,092
1. Los Angeles, CA 3,971,883 (2)	230 +15%	200 +32%	*152 +33%	*114 -8%	*124 -27%	*170 +23%	*138
2. San Diego, CA 1,394, 928 (8)	35 -2.8%	36 -2.7%	37* -14%	43* +27%	34* -19%	42* -14%	49*

3. San Jose, CA 1,026,908 (10)	19 +217%	6 -45%	11 -27%	15*	15* -53%	32* +33%	24*
4. San Francisco, CA 864,816 (13)	35 +25%	28 +27%	*22 -8%	*24 -31%	*35 -24%	*46 -27	*63
5. Fresno, CA 520,052 (34)	12 +9%	11 -8%	*12 +20%	*10 +25%	*8 +300%	*2 -66%	*6
6. Sacramento, CA 490,712 (35)	6 -25%	8 +14%	*7 -56%	*16	*16 -6%	*17 -32%	*25
7. Long Beach, CA 474,140 (37)	8 -33%	*12 +20%	*10 +100%	*5 +25%	*4 -33%	*6 -40%	*10
9. Bakersfield, CA 373,640 (52)	8 -11%	9 +50%	*6 +50%	*3 -25%	*4 -20%	*5	*4
10. Anaheim, CA 350,742 (56)	1	0	1	*0	*1	*5	*1
	*FBI Data	#Frm change	Or N/A				

Green are multi-year highs or ties. Local data may vary from FBI data and caution is urged by the FBI in ranking because of variations, including in reporting efficiencies. These are crimes only, obtained directly from the agencies or from publicly available sources for San Diego and Long Beach.

Table 2: U.S. Census Demographic Breakdowns for 5 Largest CA Cities: 2010

City	White	Latino	Black	Asian	Foreign Born
Los Angeles	29%	48.5%	9.6%	11.3%	38%
San Diego	45%	29%	6.7%	16%	26.6%
San Jose	29%	32.3%	3.2%	32%	39%
San Francisco	42%	15%	6%	33.3%	35%
Fresno	30%	47%	8.3%	12.6%	20.6%



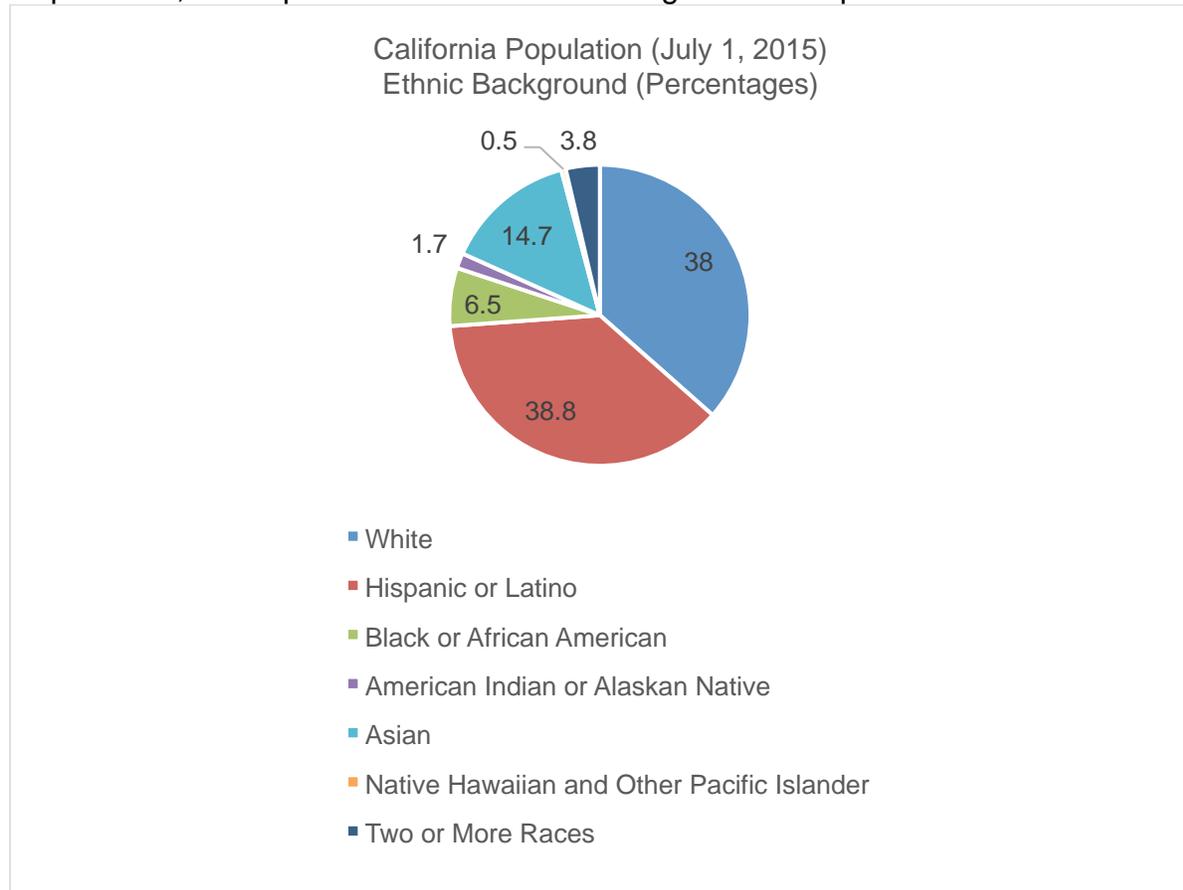
Back to Back Annual Gains, But Far Below Record Levels

If these increases hold for the rest of the state, 2016 will be the first year in twenty where California experienced back-to-back consecutive annual increases. The last time there was a national consecutive yearly rise was in 2004.

Hate crime in California increased 10.4% in 2015, to 837, exceeding a national rise of 6.7%, and that trend appears to be continuing in 2016. A 14.2% increase overall in 2016 would result in 956 hate crimes. The state will issue final figures later this year through the Attorney General’s office. In 2015, 14.3% of hate crimes reported nationally occurred in California, despite the state constituting 12.2% of the country’s population.

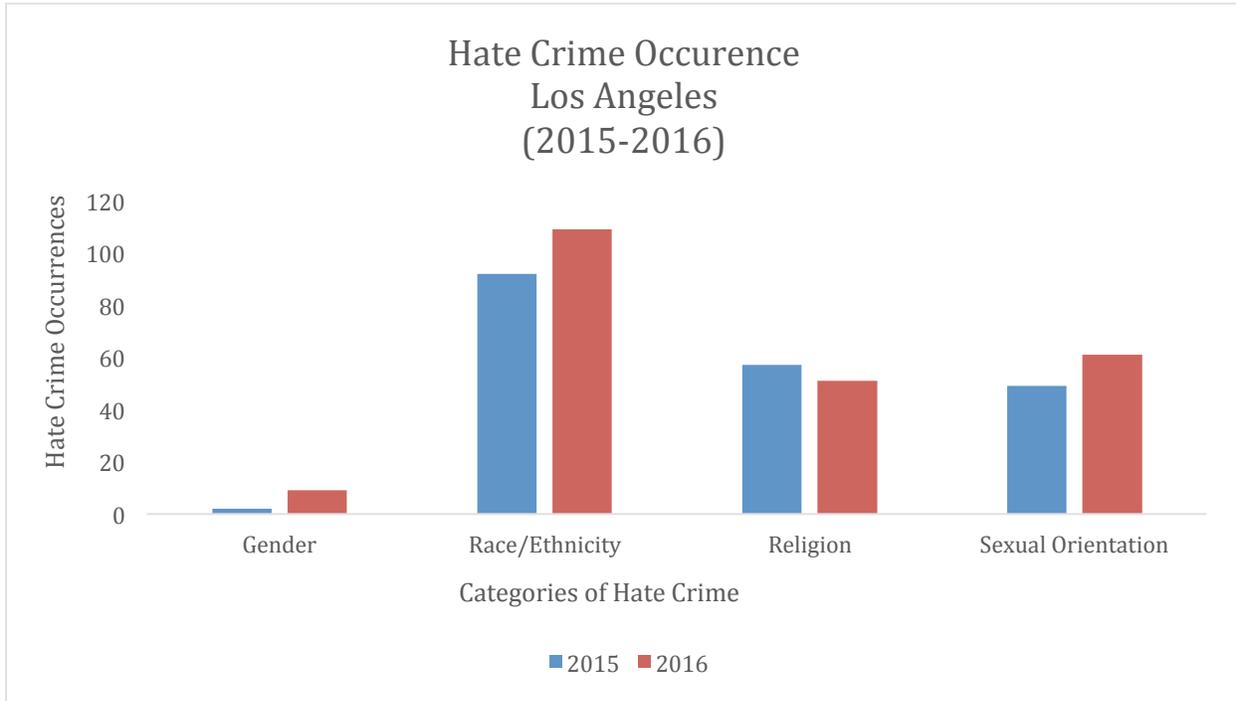
In 2015, racial and ethnic hate crimes constituted 51% of all hate crimes in the state, with 27.6% of all hate crimes being targeted just towards African-Americans, who comprise only 6.5% of the population. Religion and sexual orientation crimes comprised 22.5% of all hate crimes each, while transgender crimes comprised about 3%.

Only a small number of hate crimes were prosecuted as such, with 285 hate crime cases referred to prosecutors in 2015. Of those, 189 were filed as hate crimes; with 138 dispositions, 19 acquittals and the rest resulting in criminal pleas or convictions.



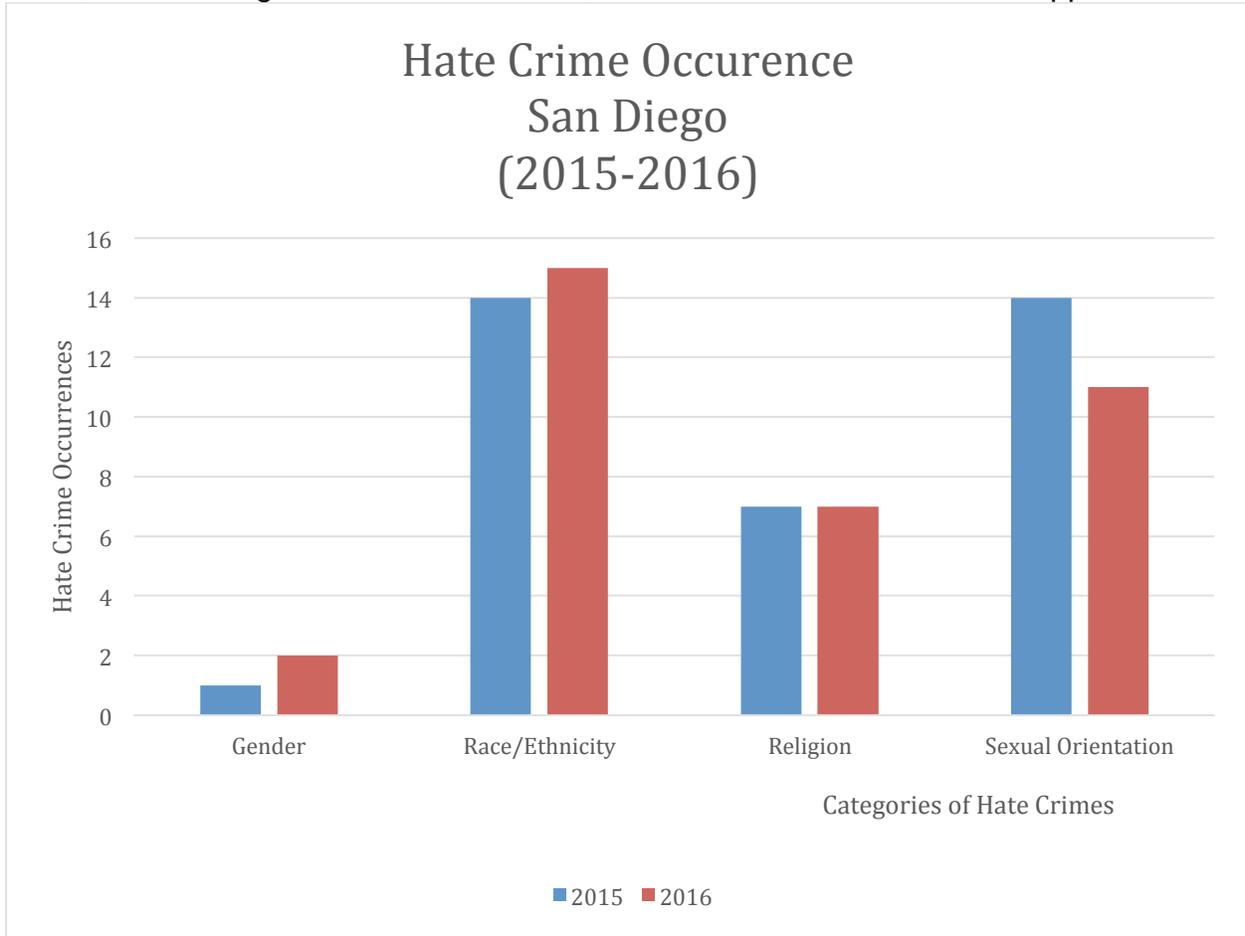
LOS ANGELES

In Los Angeles where hate crimes rose 15% to multi-year highs in 2016; race, ethnic, sexual orientation hate crimes rose, while religion hate crimes declined. Aggravated assaults increased significantly as well. Los Angeles had the third highest number of hate crime of any city in the United States in 2016 after New York, 380 and Boston, 275.



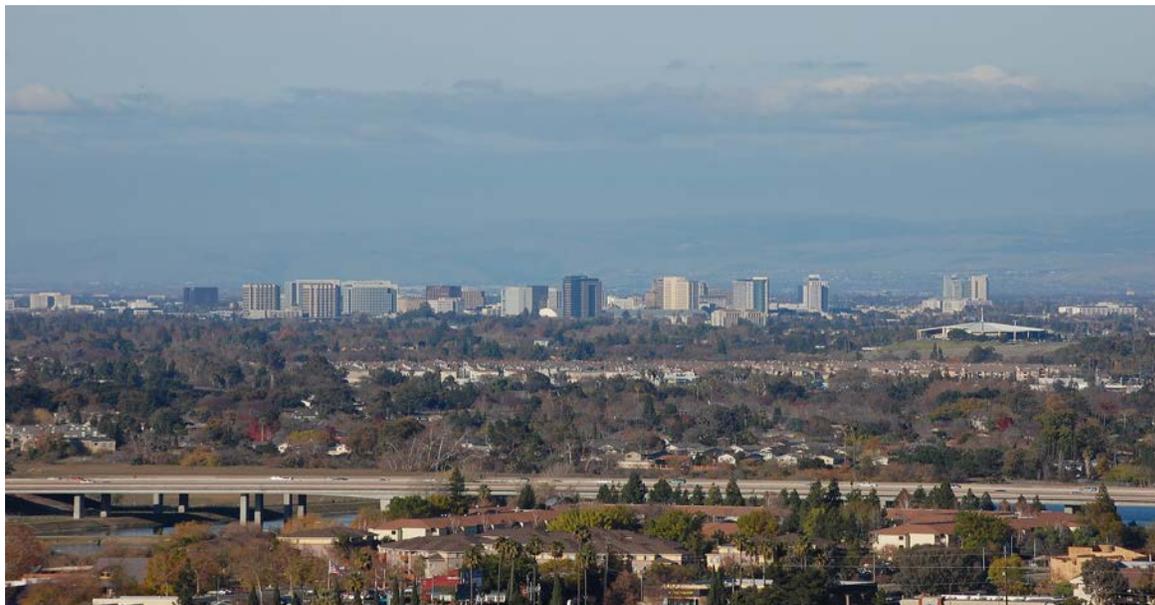
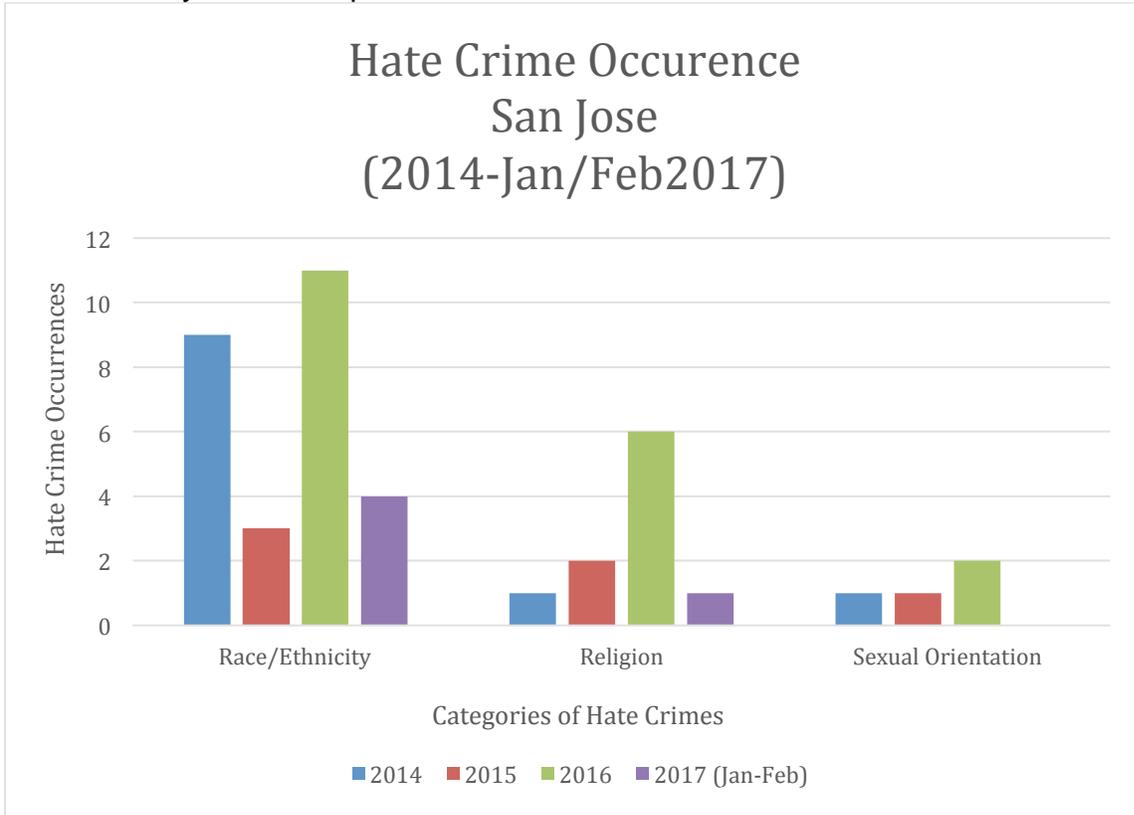
SAN DIEGO

In San Diego, the state's second largest city, hate crimes declined by one incident, as racial, ethnic and gender hate crime rose, but sexual orientation cases dropped.



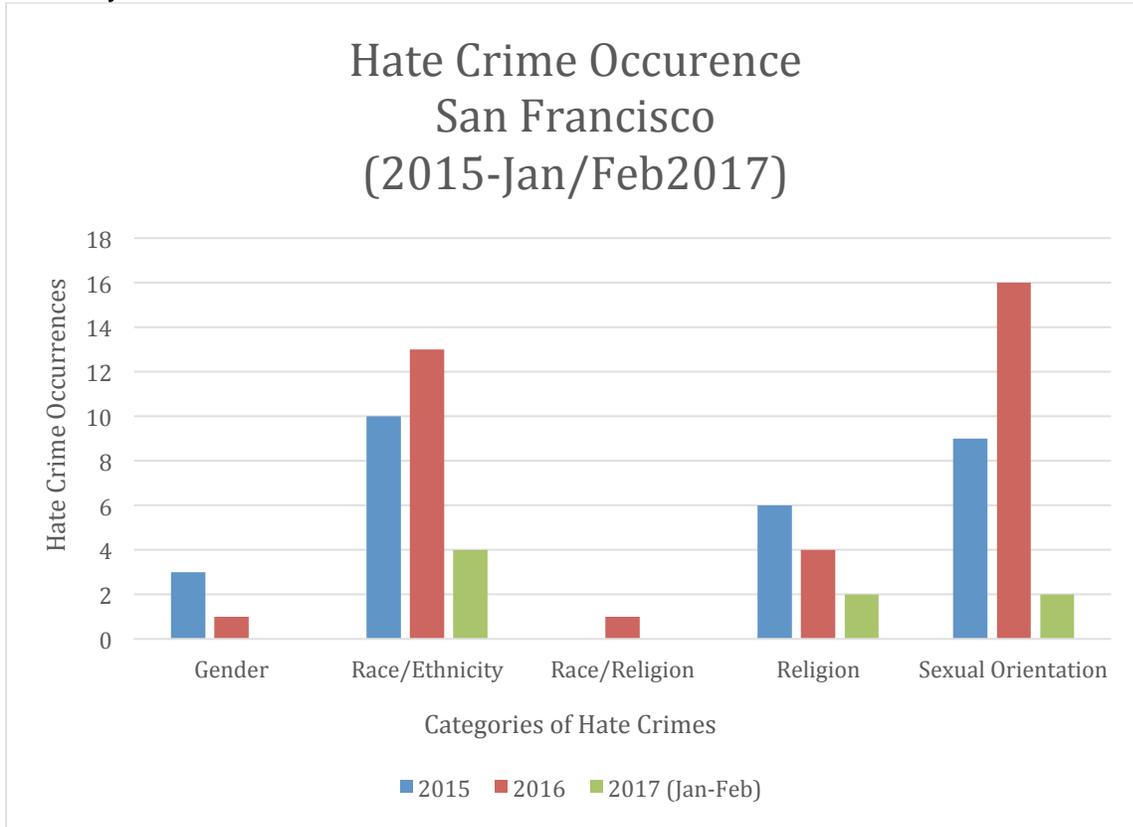
SAN JOSE

San Jose saw across the board increases and multi-year highs in hate crime in 2016, but off of very small samples.



SAN FRANCISCO

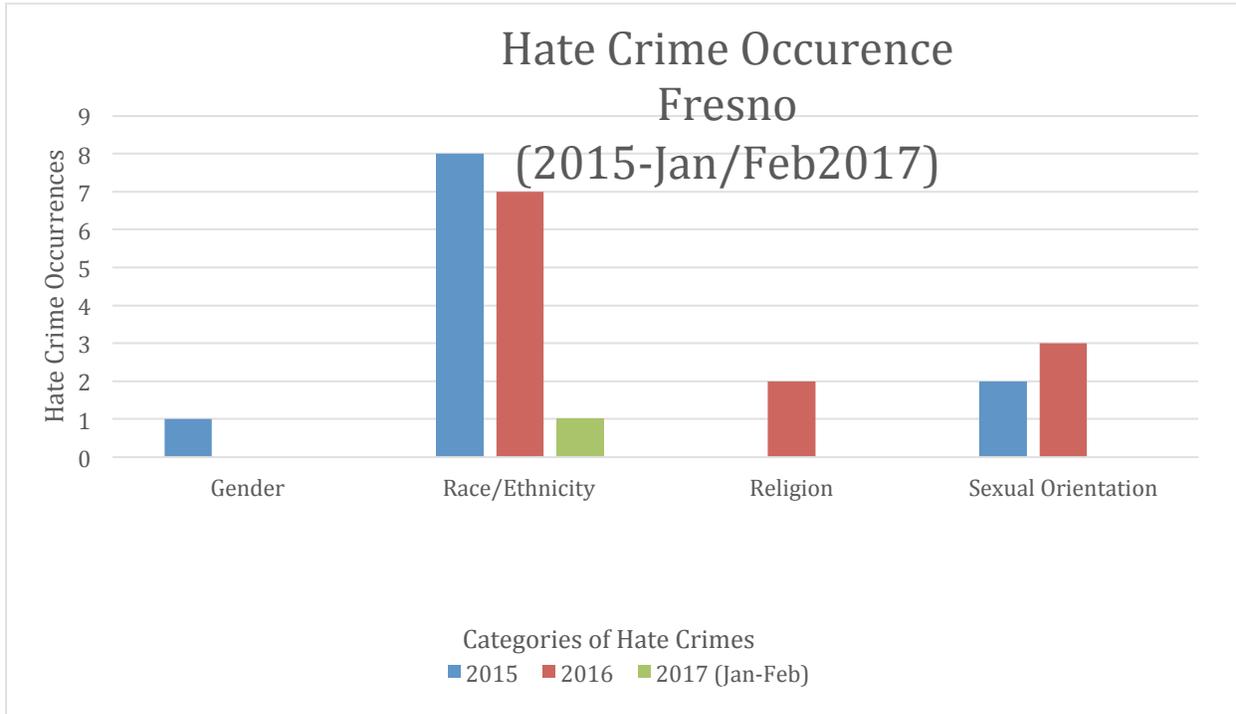
San Francisco experienced an overall increase and multi-year highs led by rises in race, ethnicity and sexual orientation hate crime.



A mural of Caesar Chavez adorns an apartment building in San Francisco.

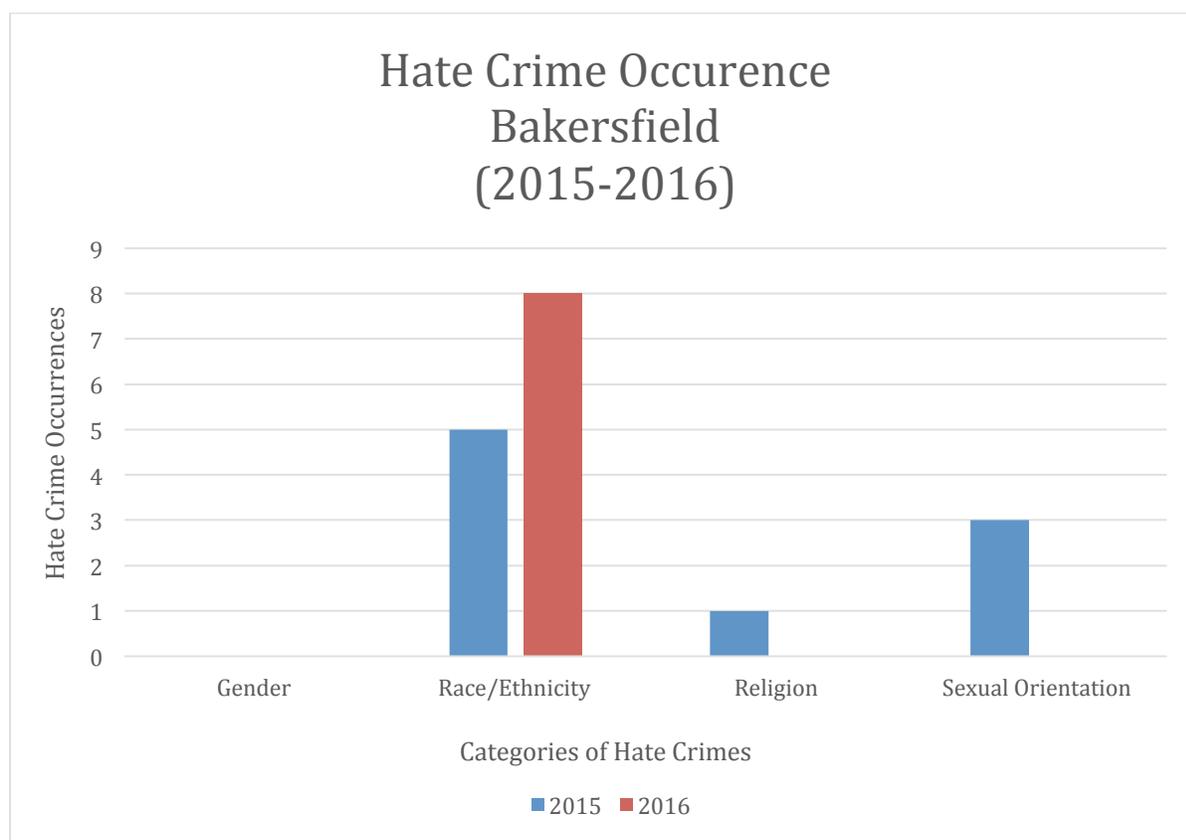
FRESNO

Fresno, with over one half million residents, is the state's fifth largest city, and saw an increase of one hate crime to 12 in 2016, tying a multi-year high. An alleged black nationalist is charged for the April 2017 targeted triple murder of three whites in the city. A racial motive for a murder makes the crime eligible for the death penalty in California.



Hate graffiti painted in a park, Half Moon Bay, CA

BAKERSFIELD

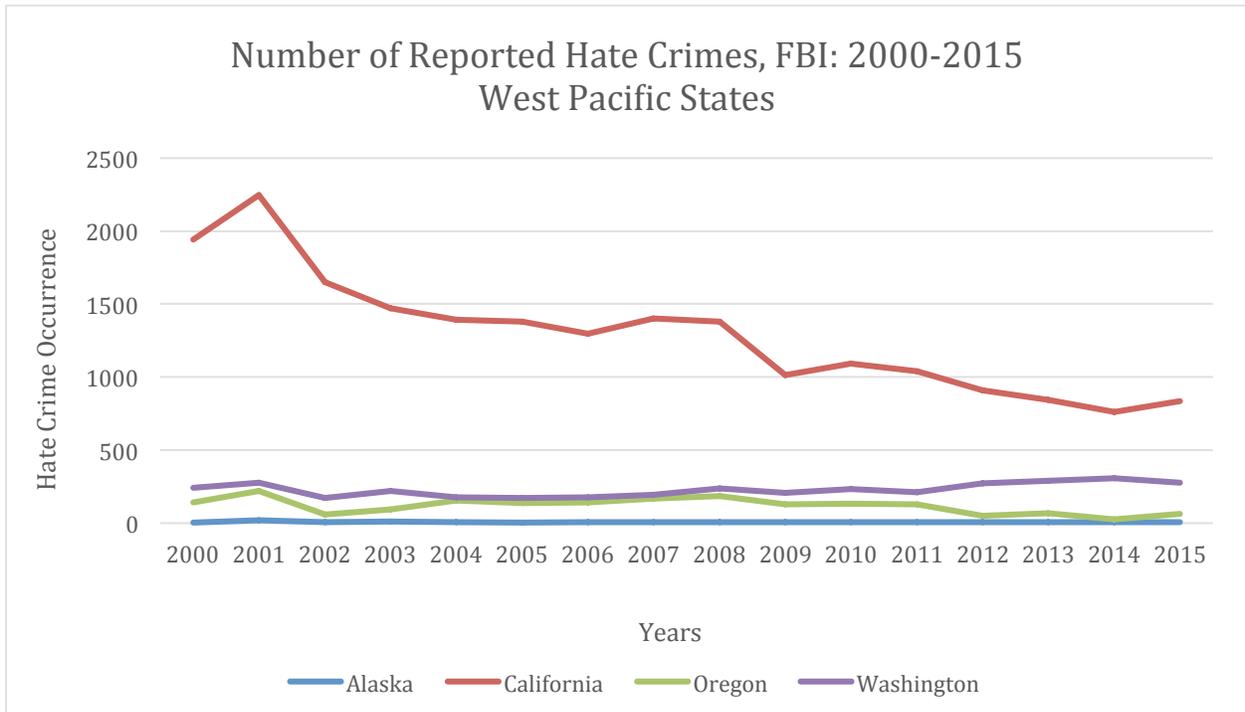


Even with these significant probable consecutive annual increases, state totals are still poised to be far lower than the record 2,246 hate crimes reported in the state in 2001, in the aftermath of the 9/11 terror attacks. California also saw an explosion of hate crime in 1992, during riots following the acquittals of police officers in the Rodney King beating case. However, reliable data was not collected locally during the civil disorder in Los Angeles that resulted in the deaths of 60 people there. Hate crime totals for 2015 were the second lowest in a decade, so a probable 2016 increase will still fall far short of the decade peak of 1,400 in 2007. The 2015 state totals were 35.9% below those of 2006.

Election Period Increases

Los Angeles and San Jose experienced notable increases during the election time period compared to previous months or with the same period in 2015. Los Angeles had a 29% increase in the fourth quarter of 2016, when compared with the previous year, while San Jose saw a tripling of hate crime during that same period from three to nine. San Francisco increased by one from two to three. In Fresno, three of the twelve reported hate crimes for the year occurred in November 2016 compared to one in November 2015. One mosque threat there, stated President Trump is going to cleanse America and “do to Muslims what Hitler did to the Jews.” Other similar incidents targeted mosques around the same time in Southern California. In Orange County, where hate crimes rose ten percent in 2015 to 44, the Human Relations Commission

reports 54 incidents from November 2016 through March 30, 2017 with 18 crimes, including ten vandalisms and four assaults. East coast cities like New York City, Philadelphia, and Montgomery County, Maryland were among those jurisdictions also experiencing precipitous increases in hate crime during the election period in 2016 as well.



CA Hate Crime Case Prosecutions: 2015
Source: California Attorney General

Referred to Prosecutors	285	100%
Cases Rejected	64	22.5%
Criminal Cases Filed	229	80.4%
Cases Filed As Hate Cr.	189	82.5%
Cases Filed, But Not As Hate Crime	40	17.5%

Total Dispositions	138
Not Convicted	19
Convictions	119
Hate Crime Convictions	59
H.C. Convictions via Plea	55
H.C. Convictions via Verdicts	4
All Other Convictions	60

Violent Confrontations Reflect Divisions and Fragmentation of Social Cohesion



Counter demonstrators attack Klansmen at violent February 2016 rally in Anaheim that left three stabbed.

Public demonstrations in California have become more violent in 2016 as white supremacists and hard left extremists, among others, became the focus of pitched armed confrontations, sometimes with each other. While 2015 saw arrests and some violence take place at various political, justice reform and labor rallies, they were often for non-violent offenses, or as offshoots of larger peaceful events. There was a democratization and intensification of hate and extremism in California since then, that occurred under a backdrop of frayed race relations, continuing demographic changes where Latinos rose to constitute a plurality of 38.8%, and intense political divisions accompanied by declining trust in institutions and democratic processes that have only intensified post-election.

In 2016, a contentious election year, there was also a change in extremist groups on both sides of the ideological spectrum. They increasingly saw demonstrations less as an opportunity for expression, and more as the culmination of a pre-choreographed violent street or campus battle, that began as vitriolic disputes on social media. Armed anti-racist, black bloc, Antifa, and other hard left partisans, like the Bay Area group By Any Means Necessary (BAMN), not only targeted hate groups, racist skinheads, and alt right partisans, but police, journalists, campus venues, and Trump supporters as well - a small number of whom, sometimes also instigated violence. On the furthest ends of the spectrum are those who are intolerant toward people of different races, ethnicities and religions, while their enemies on the small, yet, hard violent left fringe have also become more emboldened. They not only attack street level hatemongers, but firebrand campus speakers, police, and businesses in acts of violent "resistance" embraced in some hard left circles. The hard left now poses a distinct threat to the maintenance of free speech, on some California campuses, like U.C. Berkeley, owing to their swarming of campuses

featuring bigoted or controversial speakers.

Over the past year and a half, the state has seen over a dozen of these violent public confrontations, presented below, resulting in multiple injuries and hundreds of alleged criminal acts including assaults, vandalism and fire-setting, frequently, but not always, instigated by the hard left.

The violence has occurred at four types of venues: rallies by hate groups, campus speaking events, campaign or support events for Candidate/President Trump, and rallies concerning police use of force. In response to organizing by Antifa entities like BAMN, Redneck Revolt and others, alt right groups like the “Proud Boys” have just formed their own street enforcers called Fraternal Order of the Alt Right or FOAK.

In addition, various other alt right hate groups have also targeted different schools over the past year in the Cal State and U.C. system for racist “identitarian” leafleting and recruiting in places such as San Diego, Berkeley, Davis, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz. The genesis of these racist events was an alt right “safe space” live streamed gathering on May 6, 2016 at U.C. Berkeley. It featured convicted hate crime felon and Identity Europa founder Nathan Damigo, a Cal State Stanislaus student, and the National Policy Institute’s director, hatermonger, Richard Spencer. UC Berkeley has been a focal point for such clashes, but by no means the only location as alt right hate groups express increasing interest in targeting campuses for publicity, leafleting and recruitment in this era of escalating reciprocal extremism.



CNN Screenshot of violent UC Berkeley protest in February 2017.

**Major Confrontational California Public Demonstrations,
Dec. 2015- April 2017**

December 8, 2015	Alameda County, CA	200 arrests, but most for blocking traffic. In other area protests arrests for 5 felonies in Nov./Dec. 2015	Police Use of Force Protests
Feb, 27, 2016	Anaheim, CA	3 stabbed, 13 arrested, 7 charged	Loyal White Knights KKK Rally
April 27, 2016	San Diego, CA	No arrests, CSU-SD President not allowed to exit protest, no violence	Protests around David Horowitz ads labeling students as terror supporters
April 28, 2016	Costa Mesa, CA	20+ arrests	Trump Rally targeted
April 29, 2016	Burlingame, CA	5 arrests, 1 injury	GOP State Convention
May 28, 2016	San Diego, CA	33 arrests, 28 for failure to disperse, other includes assault	Near Trump Event at SD Convention Ctr.
June 26, 2016	Sacramento, CA	14 injured, 106 people referred by CHP to DA for possible charges	Clash at State Capitol between Alt Rt. & Skinheads against Antifa
Sept. 29, 2016	El Cajon, CA	2 arrests	Alfred Olango Protest-Police Shooting
Oct. 2-3, 2016	Los Angeles, CA	At least 4 arrests	Carnell Snell, Jr. Protest-Police Shooting
October 11, 2016	Stockton, CA	7 arrests for riot, impeding traffic, resisting arrest	Black Lives Matter Protest

Oct. 18, 2016	El Cajon, CA	14 arrests (unlawful assembly, not violence)	Alfred Olango Vigil-Police Shooting
Nov. 10, 2016	Santa Ana, CA	10 arrests	Anti-Trump Election
Nov. 9-12, 2016	Oakland, CA	30 arrests, 3 police injuries	Anti-Trump Election
Jan. 13, 2017	UC Davis	1 arrest	Milo Yiannopoulos, et al Lecture (Cancelled)
Feb. 1, 2017	UC Berkeley	3 arrests, 6 injured, fire and vandalism losses top \$100,000	Milo Yiannopoulos Lecture (Cancelled)
March 4, 2017	Berkeley, CA	10 arrests	Black Bloc confront Trump supporters
March 25, 2017	Huntington Beach, CA	4 arrests, assaults with fists and pepper spray	Make America Great Rally
April 15, 2017	Berkeley, CA	20 arrested, 11 injured, 7 hospitalized	Patriots Day/Trump Rally



Other Data Sources: ADL & Anti-Semitism



San Francisco ADL Regional Director Seth Brysk, right, moderates a JCRC forum in March 2017.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL), a Jewish civil rights group, tally of anti-Semitic “incidents,” which includes both criminal and non-criminal events, increased 34% nationally in 2016, from 942 to 1266, though assaults dropped from 56 to 36. Almost 30% of all ADL incidents nationwide, recorded last year, occurred in the last two months around election time. In the first quarter of 2017, anti-Semitic incidents nationally rose 86% over the same period last year. That quarter saw a spike caused in part by over 160 telephone bomb threats by an Israeli-American Jewish teenager with alleged mental distress, as well as a more than doubling of anti-Semitic incidents in New York City, according to the NYPD.

In California the ADL reports anti-Semitic incidents rose 21% from 175 to 211 in 2016, the highest total in the nation and a multi-year high. Assaults in the state rose from one to six. In 2015 anti-Semitic hate crimes rose 21% in the state according to the Attorney General, and nine percent nationally according to the FBI, to 664 cases.

State	Jewish Population in State	Percentage of State Population	Percentage of U.S. Jewish Population	Anti-Semitic Incidents in 2016 (ADL)	Anti-Semitic Incidents in 2015 (ADL)
New York	1,759,570	8.9%	25.8%	199	198
California	1,232,690	3.2%	18.5%	211	175
New Jersey	523,950	5.9%	7.7%	157	137
Florida	651,510	3.3%	9.5%	137	91

Data collected by Brian Levin, Director & charts created by Kevin Grisham, Assistant Director of Research, Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism. ADL includes criminal and non-criminal incidents; Cal. State Report includes criminal incidents only.

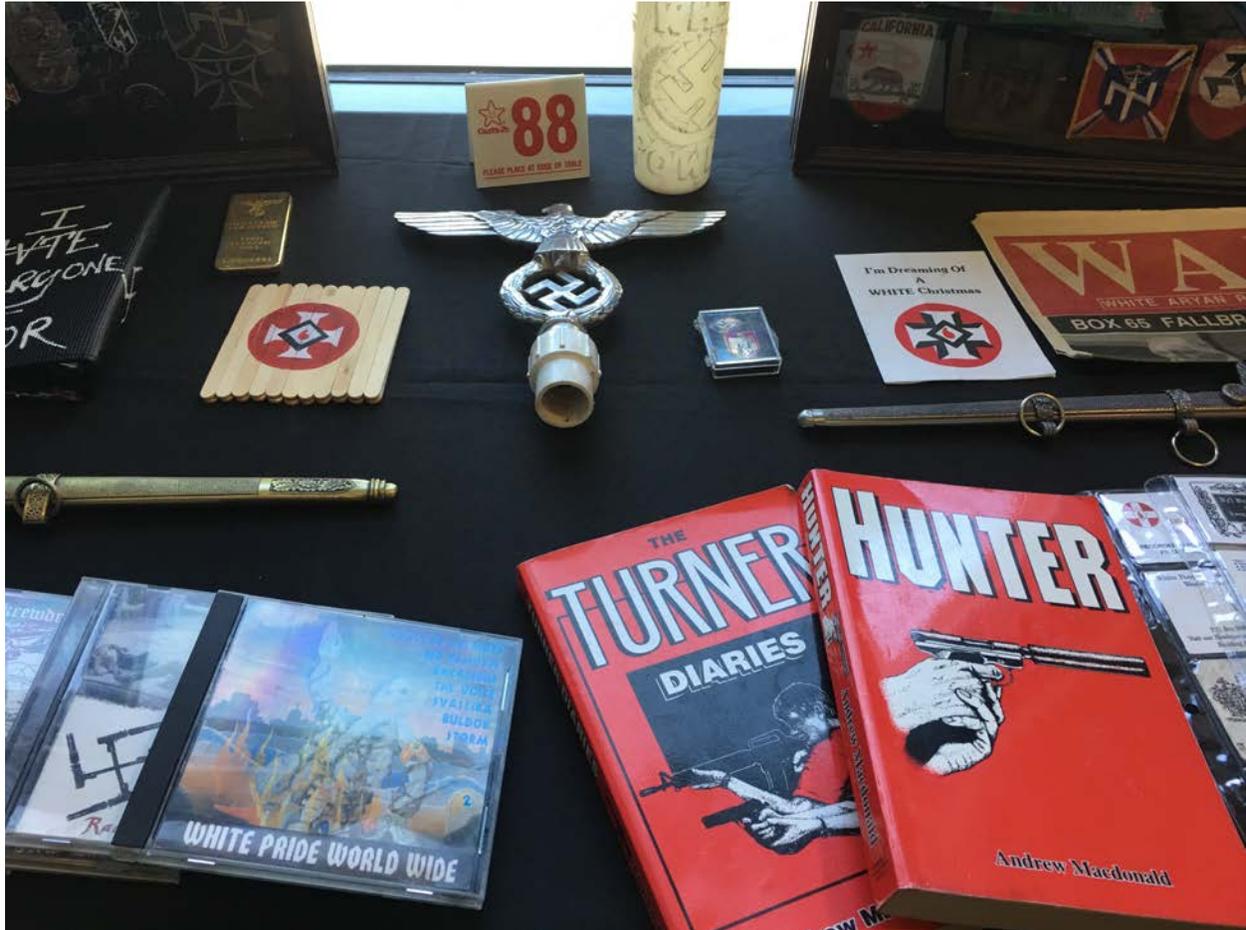
California: Anti-Semitic Incidents

2017 – Vandalism: 21; Harassment: 66; Assault: 0; Total: 87

2016 – Vandalism: 77; Harassment: 128; Assault: 6; Total: 211

2015 – Vandalism: 69; Harassment: 105; Assault: 1; Total: 175

Southern Poverty Law Center



The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), a Montgomery, Alabama civil rights group found 79 hate groups operating in the state in 2016, the most of any state in the union, up from 68 the previous year, for a 16% increase. Nationally, while there was only a three percent increase in the number of hate groups, rising from 892 to 917, there was a tripling of anti-Muslim groups.

California has a long history of extremism ranging from Aryan prison and motorcycle gangs, religious extremists, environmental extremists, the John Birch Society, anti-fascists and anarchists, racists skinheads, racist anti-immigrant groups, Black nationalists, White supremacists, hate rock aficionados, ethnic gangs and criminal syndicates, sovereign citizens, Holocaust deniers, neo-Nazis and Klansmen.

The SPLC, which analyzes primarily far right extremists and “hate groups,” breaks down organizations in the state as follows in 2016, although groups listed are not necessarily involved in criminality, and they exclude hard left and environmental groups.

California Hate Groups, 2016: SPLC

Ku Klux Klan	4
Black Separatist Groups	15
Anti Immigrant	2
General Hate	13
Anti-LGBT	7
Anti-Muslim	10
Hate Music	1
Holocaust Denial	2
Neo-Nazi	7
White Nationalist	7
Racist Skinhead	8
Radical Traditional Catholicism	2

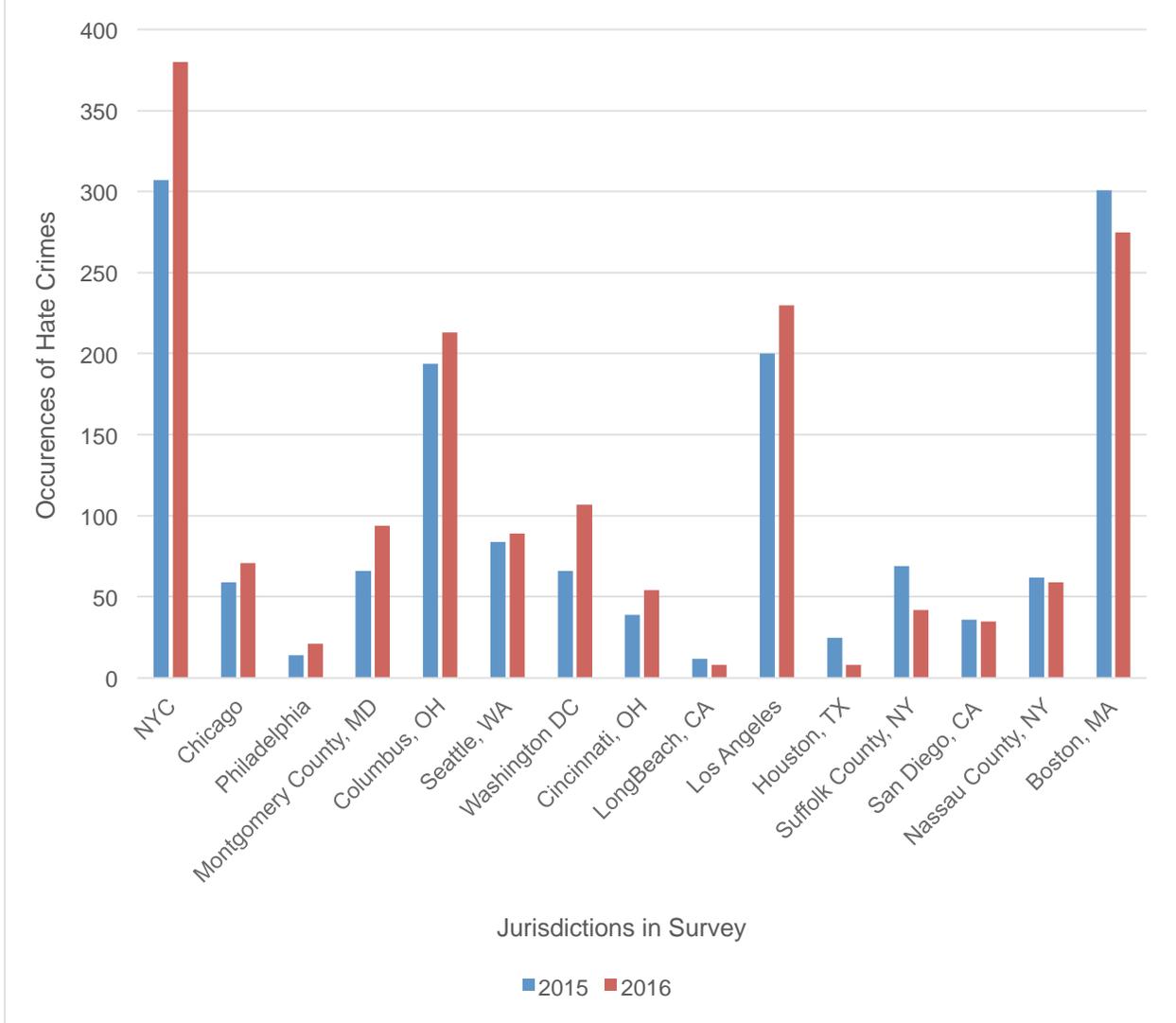
Nationally, the SPLC counted 1372 bias incidents from Election Day through February 7, 2016 through an intake webpage of self-reported incidents and news reports, but there was no breakdown differentiating criminal acts from slurs and other forms of noncriminal harassment. Our internal data indicate that the total number of actual crimes is a fraction of that total. Similarly, the website *ThinkProgress* using a more rigid data collection methodology found only 267 hate incidents between Election Day and February 9, 2017.

In the month of the election, through December 12, 2016; the SPLC counted 1,094 incidents nationally, with 315 directed at immigrants, 221 at African-Americans, 112 at Muslims, along with 26 anti-Trump incidents. California, with 125 incidents, led the nation. SPLC also found direct references to President Trump or the election in over one third of the national incidents right after the election. The ADL, SPLC and other data point to far more non-criminal incidents than actual crimes, and the increases in “incidents” appear to be greater than that of crimes. Because of less vetting “incident” data can be less reliable.



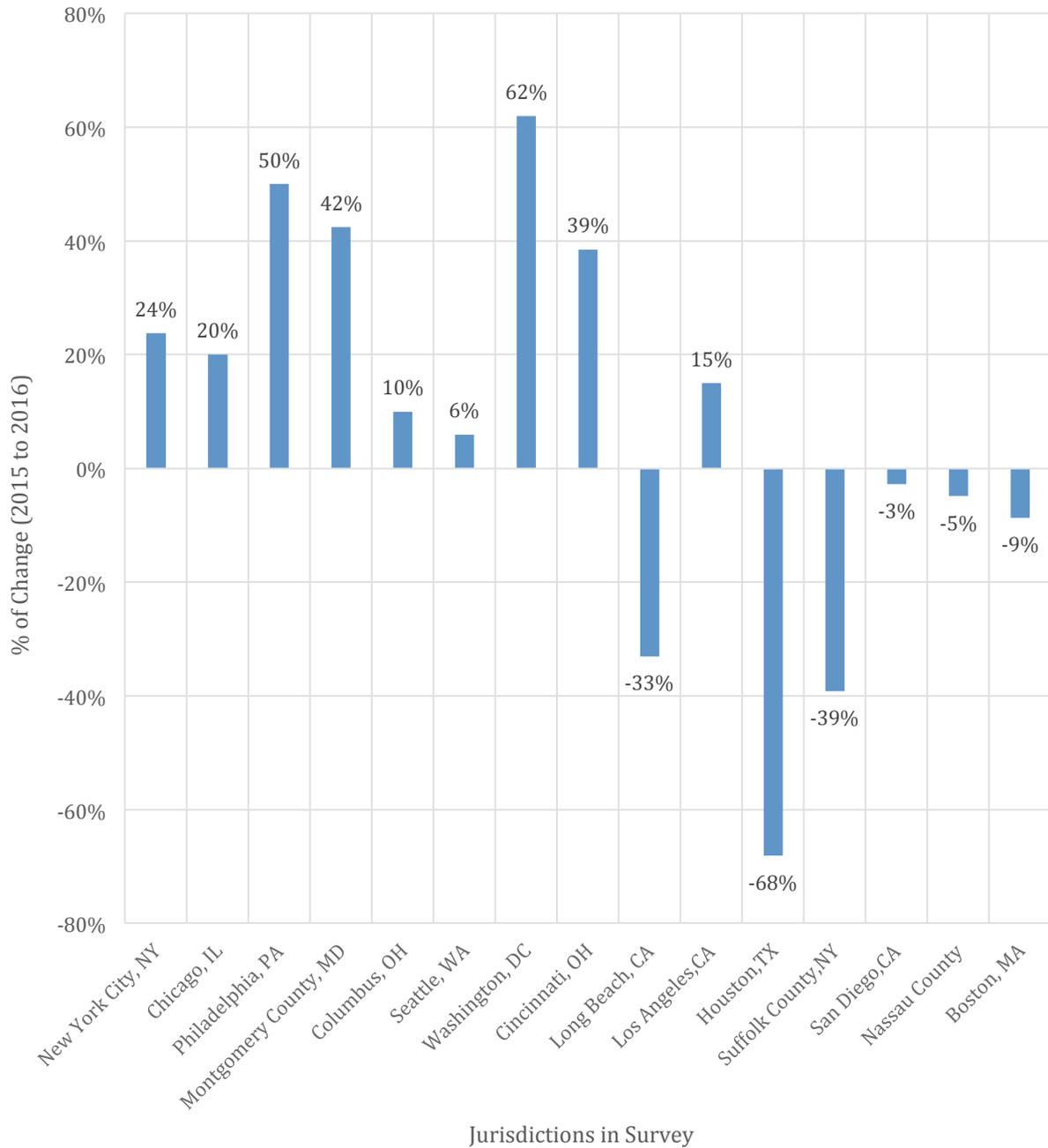
Immigrants were the number one target of post-election incidents nationally according to SPLC.

Hate Crimes Occurrences in Fifteen U.S. Jurisdictions (2015 & 2016)



Data collected by Brian Levin, Director & charts created by Kevin Grisham, Assistant Director of Research, Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism

Hate Crimes Occurences in Fifeteen Jurisdictions (Percentage of Change from 2015 to 2016)



Data collected by Brian Levin, Director & charts created by Kevin Grisham, Assistant Director of Research, Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism

ORGANIZATION REPORTS AND DATA ON HATE CRIMES/PREJUDICE

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All police department data was accessed via requests to agencies in each jurisdiction and is on file with the Center. Please note that municipal data may sometimes vary from data in FBI hate crime reports. When FBI data is used, it is designated.

For more information concerning this study or any of the other work done by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino, please contact:

Professor Brian Levin, Director
Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Department of Criminal Justice
California State University, San Bernardino
5500 University Parkway
San Bernardino, CA 92407
Phone: (909) 537-7711 (Leave message after hours)
Email: Blevin8@aol.com

Kevin E. Grisham, Ph.D., Assistant Director of Research
Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism
College of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Department of Geography and Environmental Studies
California State University, San Bernardino
5500 University Parkway
San Bernardino, CA 92407
Phone: (909) 537-5522 (Leave message after hours)
Email: kgrisham@csusb.edu

Website: <http://hatemonitor.csusb.edu>
Facebook: Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism
Twitter: @ProfLevin or @ProfGrisham