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Hate Crime Victimization, 2004–2012 - Statistical Tables

Bureau of Justice Statistics • Statistical Tables

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In 2012, an estimated 293,800 nonfatal violent and property hate crime victimizations occurred against persons age 12 or older residing in U.S. households. The apparent increase from 2011 to 2012 in the rate of overall violent hate crime was not statistically significant (**figure 1**).

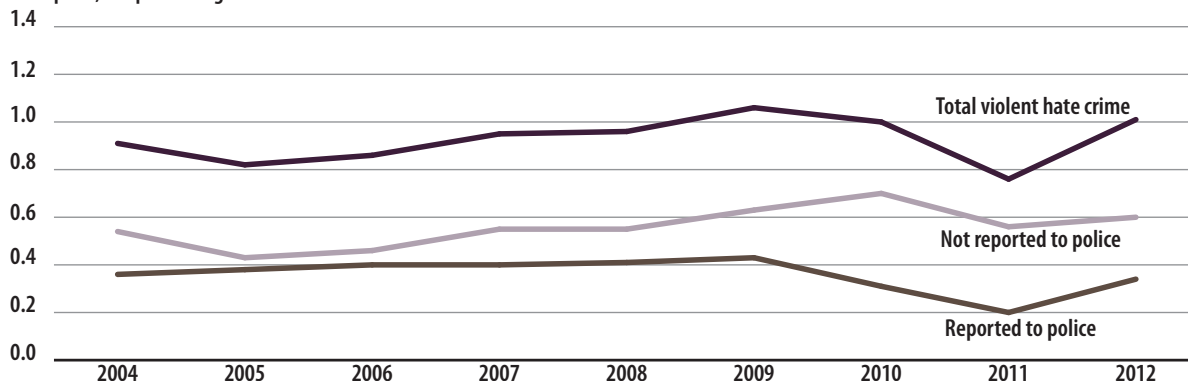
The findings from this report came primarily from the Bureau of Justice Statistics' (BJS) National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), which has been collecting data on crimes motivated by hate since 2003. The NCVS and the FBI's Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) Hate Crime Statistics Program, which are the principal sources of annual information on hate crime in the United States, use the definition of hate crime provided in the Hate Crime Statistics Act (28 U.S.C. § 534). The act defines hate crimes as "crimes that manifest evidence of prejudice based on race, gender or gender identity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity." The NCVS measures crimes perceived by victims to be motivated by an offender's bias against them for belonging to or being associated with a group largely identified by these characteristics.

Hate crime victimization refers to a single victim or household that experienced a criminal incident believed by the victim to be motivated by hate. For violent crimes (rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault) and for personal larceny, the count of hate crime victimizations is the number of individuals who experienced a violent hate crime. For crimes against households (burglary, motor vehicle theft, and other theft), each household affected by a hate crime is counted as a single victimization.

This report presents NCVS data on the characteristics of hate crimes and hate crime victims from 2003 to 2012. Trend estimates are based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. This method generally improves the reliability and stability of estimate comparisons over time. For ease of discussion, the report refers to all 2-year estimates by the most recent year. For example, estimates reported for 2012 represent the average estimates for 2011 and 2012. The report also compares NCVS and UCR overall trends in hate crime victimization.

FIGURE 1
Violent hate crime victimizations reported and not reported to police, 2004–2012

Rate per 1,000 persons age 12 or older



Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data. Hate crime includes incidents confirmed by police as bias-motivated and incidents perceived by victims to be bias-motivated because the offender used hate language or left behind hate symbols. Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 1 for estimates and standard errors.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

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Number and rate of hate crimes

- In 2012, hate crimes accounted for 1.2% of all victimizations and 4.2% of violent victimizations (table 1).
- No statistically significant change was observed in either the number of total hate crimes or violent hate crimes that occurred from 2004 to 2012.
- After a decline from 2004 to 2005, the property hate crime victimization rate remained stable from 2005 to 2012.

Hate crime motivation

- Approximately 58% of hate crime victims reported more than one type of motivation in 2012 (not shown in table).
- In 2012, victims perceived that the offender was motivated by bias against the victim's ethnicity in 51% of hate crimes (table 2). This was a statistically significant increase from 30% of hate crimes motivated by ethnicity bias in 2011 and 22% in 2004.
- The percentage of hate crimes motivated by religious bias was nearly three times higher in 2012 (28%) than in 2004 (10%), but did not have a statistically significant change from 2011 to 2012.

- In 2009, Congress passed new legislation amending the Hate Crime Statistics Act to include hate crimes with evidence of bias against a particular gender or gender identity. BJS has been collecting information on hate crimes motivated by gender bias since 2003. The percentage of hate crimes motivated by gender bias was more than two times higher in 2011 (25%) and 2012 (26%) than in 2004 (12%).

TABLE 2
Victims' perceptions of offender bias in hate crimes, 2004, 2011, and 2012

Offender bias	2004	2011	2012
Ethnicity ^a	22%	30%	51%
Race	58	58	46
Association ^b	23	40	34
Religion	10	25	28
Gender	12	25	26
Sexual orientation	22	19!	13
Disability	11	22	11
Perceived characteristics ^c	19	15!	7!

Note: Hate crime includes incidents confirmed by police as bias-motivated and incidents perceived by victims to be bias-motivated because the offender used hate language or left behind hate symbols. Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Detail does not sum to total due to victims reporting more than one type of bias motivating the hate-related victimizations. See appendix table 4 for standard errors.

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aMotivated by victim's ancestral, cultural, social, or national affiliation.

^bMotivated by victim's association with people having certain characteristics.

^cMotivated by offender's perception of victim's characteristics.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

TABLE 1
Hate crime victimizations, 2004–2012

Year	Total hate crimes ^a		Violent hate crimes ^b			Property hate crimes ^c		
	Number	Percent of total victimizations ^d	Number	Rate ^e	Percent of total violent victimizations ^d	Number	Rate ^f	Percent of total property victimizations ^d
2004	281,670	1.0%	220,060	0.9	3.1%	61,610	0.5	0.3%
2005	223,060	0.9	198,400	0.8	2.9	21,740	0.2	0.1
2006	230,490	0.8	211,730	0.9	2.8	15,830	0.1	0.1
2007	263,440	1.0	236,860	1.0	3.1	24,640	0.2	0.1
2008	266,640	1.1	241,800	1.0	3.7	22,890	0.2	0.1
2009	284,620	1.2	267,170	1.1	4.4	17,450!	0.1	0.1
2010	273,100	1.3	255,810	1.0	4.8	17,290!	0.1	0.1
2011 ^g	218,010	1.0	195,880	0.8	3.6	22,130	0.2	0.1
2012	293,790	1.2	263,540	1.0	4.2	30,250	0.2	0.2

Note: Hate crime includes incidents confirmed by police as bias-motivated and incidents perceived by victims to be bias-motivated because the offender used hate language or left behind hate symbols. Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Numbers rounded to the nearest ten. See appendix table 2 for population data and appendix table 3 for standard errors.

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes violent crimes, personal larceny, and household property crimes.

^bIncludes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault.

^cIncludes household burglary, motor vehicle theft, and other theft.

^dSee appendix table 2 for number of total victimizations.

^ePer 1,000 persons age 12 or older.

^fPer 1,000 households.

^gDue to a revision in the public use file, 2011 victimization counts vary slightly from previous publications.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

Differences between hate and nonhate crimes

- Each year from 2004 to 2012, violent crimes accounted for a higher percentage of hate crimes than nonhate crimes (table 3).
- The percentage of hate crimes involving violence increased from 78% in 2004 to 90% in both 2011 and 2012. However, no statistically significant difference was observed in the percentage of hate crimes involving serious violence or simple assault in these years.
- In 2012, serious violent crime accounted for a higher percentage of all hate crime victimizations (27%) than nonhate crime victimizations (8%).
- In 2012, no statistically significant difference was observed between the percentage of violent hate crimes (30%) and violent nonhate crimes (31%) that involved serious violence (not shown in table).

Weapons and injuries

- In 2012, the offender had a weapon in at least 24% of violent hate crime victimizations (table 4).
- No statistically significant difference was reported between the percentage of violent hate (24%) and violent nonhate (20%) crime victimizations in which the offender was known to have a weapon in 2012.
- The percentage of violent hate and violent nonhate crime victimizations in which the offender was known to have a weapon remained stable from 2011 to 2012.
- In 2012, the victim sustained an injury in about 20% of violent hate crime victimizations.

- No statistically significant difference was observed in 2012 between the percentage of violent hate (20%) and violent nonhate (24%) crime victimizations in which the victim sustained an injury.
- The percentage of violent hate and violent nonhate crime victimizations in which the victim sustained an injury remained stable from 2011 to 2012.

TABLE 4
Presence of weapons and injuries sustained in violent hate and nonhate crime victimizations, 2004–2012

Year	Presence of weapon		Any injury sustained ^c	
	Hate ^a	Nonhate ^b	Hate	Nonhate ^d
2004	23%	23%	19%	28%
2005	16!	24	17	27
2006	18	24	31	28
2007	21	23	26	28
2008	20	20	18	24
2009	28	19	16	25
2010	30	21	12	27
2011	25	21	21	26
2012	24	20	20	24

Note: Hate crime includes incidents confirmed by police as bias-motivated and incidents perceived by victims to be bias-motivated because the offender used hate language or left behind hate symbols. Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 6 for standard errors.

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aPercentage of violent hate crime victims who did not know whether the offender had a weapon (5–15%) is not shown in table.

^bPercentage of violent nonhate crime victims who did not know whether the offender had a weapon (6–8%) is not shown in table.

^cIncludes minor injuries, rape injuries, and serious injuries (i.e., broken bones, lost teeth, internal injuries, loss of consciousness, and any unspecified injury requiring two or more days of hospitalization).

^dPercentage of violent nonhate crime victims for whom it was unknown whether an injury was sustained (0.4% or less) is not shown in table.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

TABLE 3
Hate and nonhate crime victimizations, by type of crime, 2004, 2011, and 2012

Type of crime	2004		2011		2012	
	Hate	Nonhate	Hate	Nonhate	Hate	Nonhate
Violent^a	78%	26%	90%	24%	90%	25%
Serious violent crime ^b	21	9	29	8	27	8
Simple assault	57	18	61	16	63	17
Property^c	22%	73%	10%	75%	10%	75%

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. Hate crime includes incidents confirmed by police as bias-motivated and incidents perceived by victims to be bias-motivated because the offender used hate language or left behind hate symbols. Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 5 for standard errors.

^aIncludes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault.

^bIncludes rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault.

^cIncludes burglary, motor vehicle theft, and other theft.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

Hate crimes reported to the police

- An estimated 60% of total and violent hate crime victimizations were not reported to police in 2012 (**table 5**). This was a slight* decline from 2011, when about three-quarters of total (74%) and violent (73%) hate crime victimizations were not reported to police.

- Overall, the percentage of hate crime victimizations that resulted in the victim signing a complaint or the police making an arrest did not have a statistically significant change from 2011 to 2012.

*Differences described as slight or slightly passed a test at the 0.10 level of statistical significance (90% confidence level). Caution is required when comparing estimates not explicitly discussed in this report.

TABLE 5
Hate crime victimizations reported to police, 2004, 2011, and 2012

	Total			Violent		
	2004	2011	2012	2004	2011	2012
Reported^a	45%	25%	34%	39%	26%	34%
By victim	26	16	22	15	16	21
By someone else ^b	20	9	12	25	10	12
Not reported	53%	74%	60%	59%	73%	59%
Complaint signed^c	13%	11%	13%	16%	12%	14%
Arrest made^c	9%	6%	4% !	11%	6% !	4% !

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. Hate crime includes incidents confirmed by police as bias-motivated and incidents perceived by victims to be bias-motivated because the offender used hate language or left behind hate symbols. Hate crimes include violent crimes, personal larceny, and household property crimes. Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 7 for standard errors.

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aPercentage of victims for whom it was unknown whether the police were notified (7% or less) is not shown in table.

^bIncludes other household members; other officials, such as guards, apartment managers, and school officials; and others.

^cPercentages based on all hate crime victimizations, including those in which the police were not notified or it was unknown whether the police were notified.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

Violent hate crime victim and offender characteristics

- From 2011 to 2012, rates of violent hate crime victimization did not have a statistically significant change for either males or females (**table 6**).
- In 2011, violent hate crime victimization rates were similar among white non-Hispanics, black non-Hispanics, and Hispanics. However, in 2012, Hispanics experienced a higher rate of violent hate crime victimization (2.0 victimizations per 1,000 residents) than whites (0.8 per 1,000) and a slightly higher rate than blacks (1.1 per 1,000).
- The rate of violent hate crime victimization against Hispanics more than tripled from 0.6 per 1,000 persons age 12 or older in 2011 to 2.0 per 1,000 in 2012.
- The rate of violent hate crime victimization increased for persons ages 18 to 24 (from 0.6 per 1,000 in 2011 to 2.0 in 2012) and for persons ages 50 to 64 (from 0.4 to 0.9 per 1,000), while the rate declined for persons ages 25 to 34 (from 1.6 to 0.7 per 1,000). Violent hate crime victimization rates for persons in all other age groups did not have a statistically significant change from 2011 to 2012.
- Persons residing in households with an income greater than \$50,000 per year experienced a higher rate of violent hate crime victimization in 2012 (1.0 per 1,000) than in 2011 (0.4 per 1,000).
- In both 2011 and 2012, persons living in households with an income of \$24,999 or less per year experienced the highest rate of violent hate crime victimization (2.1 per 1,000), compared to persons residing in all other households (1.0 or less per 1,000).

TABLE 6
Characteristics of violent hate crime victims, 2004, 2011, and 2012

Victim characteristic	Percent			Rate ^a		
	2004	2011	2012	2004	2011	2012
Sex	100%	100%	100%			
Male	60	56	53	1.1	0.9	1.1
Female	40	44	47	0.7	0.7	0.9
Race/Hispanic origin	100%	100%	100%			
White ^b	74	64	52	1.0	0.7	0.8
Black/African American ^b	4!	13!	13	0.3!	0.9!	1.1
Hispanic/Latino	17	12	30	1.2	0.6	2.0
Other ^{b,c}	5!	10!	5!	0.9!	1.2!	0.8!
Age	100%	100%	100%			
12–17	33	25	24	2.9	2.0	2.5
18–24	20	10	23	1.6	0.6	2.0
25–34	14	35	11	0.8	1.6	0.7
35–49	23	18	20	0.8	0.6	0.9
50–64	8	11	21	0.4	0.4	0.9
65 or older	1!	1!	1!	0.1!	0.1!	0.1!
Household income	100%	100%	100%			
\$24,999 or less	33	38	32	1.5	1.9	2.1
\$25,000–\$49,999	23	15	15	0.9	0.6	0.8
\$50,000 or more	26	18	37	0.7	0.4	1.0
Not reported	17	28	16	0.7	0.7	0.6

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. Hate crime includes incidents confirmed by police as bias-motivated and incidents perceived by victims to be bias-motivated because the offender used hate language or left behind hate symbols. Violent hate crimes include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 8 for standard errors.

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aPer 1,000 persons age 12 or older in each category.

^bExcludes persons of Hispanic or Latino origin.

^cIncludes persons identified as American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian, Native Hawaiian, or other Pacific Islander; and two or more races.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

- From 2011 to 2012, no statistically significant change was observed in the percentage of violent hate crimes committed by either a single offender or by multiple offenders (**table 7**).
- In 2012, the percentage of violent hate crimes committed by a single offender (64%) was higher than the percentage committed by two or more offenders (34%).
- Each year from 2004 to 2012, victims reported that males committed the majority of violent hate crimes.
- The percentage of violent hate crime victims who perceived the offender to be white decreased from 58% in 2011 to 34% in 2012. However, the percentage of white offenders was similar in 2004 and 2012.

TABLE 7
Characteristics of violent hate crime offenders as reported by victims, 2004, 2011, and 2012

Offender characteristic	2004	2011	2012
Number of offenders	100%	100%	100%
One	71	57	64
Two or more	27	42	34
Unknown	2!	1!	2!
Sex	100%	100%	100%
Male	66	65	61
Female	27	24	16
Both male and female	3!	10!	8!
Unknown	3!	2!	15!
Race	100%	100%	100%
White	30	58	34
Black/African American	41	24	32
Other ^a	17	5!	17!
Various races ^b	7!	7!	6!
Unknown	6!	6!	11!
Age	100%	100%	100%
17 or younger	28	23	19
18–29	20	29	13
30 or older	24	34	41
Two or more age groups	22	8!	10
Unknown	6!	6!	17!
Relationship to victim	100%	100%	100%
Intimate/family/casual acquaintance	51	61	53
Stranger	39	33	40
Unknown	11!	6!	7!

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding. Hate crime includes incidents confirmed by police as bias-motivated and incidents perceived by victims to be bias-motivated because the offender used hate language or left behind hate symbols. Violent hate crimes include rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. See appendix table 9 for standard errors.

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

^aIncludes persons identified as American Indian or Alaska Native; Asian, Native Hawaiian, or other Pacific Islander; and two or more races.

^bIncludes multiple offenders of two or more racial groups.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

- The percentage of offenders ages 18 to 29 declined from 29% in 2011 to 13% in 2012. In 2012, persons age 30 and over made up the largest percentage of hate crime offenders (41%).
- In 2012, the percentage of violent hate crimes committed by someone known to the victim was slightly higher (53%) than the percentage committed by a stranger (40%).

Hate crimes recorded by the NCVS and UCR

- The FBI's UCR collects data on hate crimes known to the police. It includes offenses excluded from the NCVS, such as murder or nonnegligent manslaughter, intimidation, arson, vandalism, and crimes against institutions (e.g., churches, synagogues, and businesses). The NCVS collects data on hate crimes both reported and not reported to police and allows the victim to define whether a hate crime occurred.
- Hate crime victimizations recorded by the UCR declined steadily from 2008 to 2012 (**table 8**). However, no statistically significant change was observed in NCVS hate crime victimizations reported to police from 2008 to 2012.
- UCR hate crime victimizations were lower in 2012 than in 2004. No statistically significant difference was observed between the number of NCVS hate crime victimizations reported to police in 2004 (127,390) and 2012 (98,460).

TABLE 8
Hate crime victimizations recorded by the NCVS and UCR, 2004–2012

Year	NCVS ^a		UCR ^b
	Not reported to police	Reported to police	
2004	148,020	127,390	9,310
2005	116,500	101,940	9,170
2006	122,120	108,370	9,230
2007	152,680	110,760	9,590
2008	155,090	111,550	9,610
2009	171,150	113,470	9,010
2010	189,390	83,710	8,270
2011	161,970	53,970	7,960
2012	177,130	98,460	7,440

Note: Hate crime includes incidents confirmed by police as bias-motivated and incidents perceived by victims to be bias-motivated because the offender used hate language or left behind hate symbols. Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Numbers rounded to the nearest ten. See appendix table 10 for standard errors.

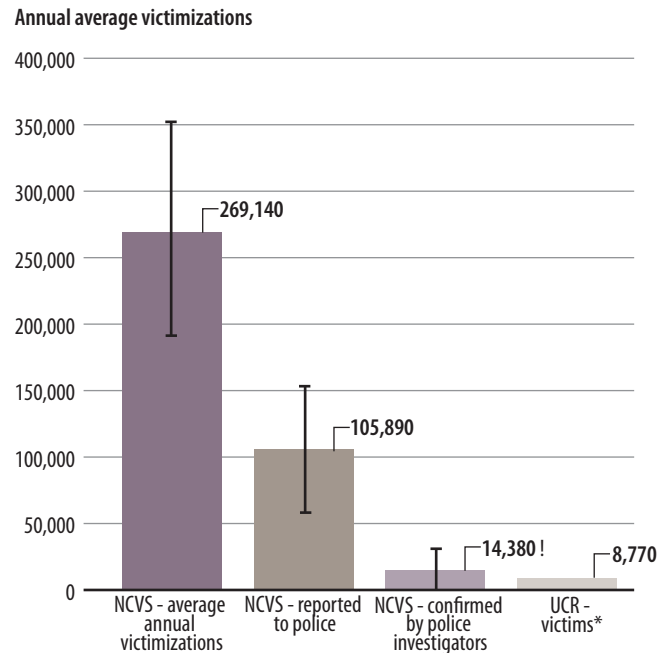
^aThe number of hate crime victimizations for which it was unknown whether the police were notified (6% or less) is not shown in table.

^bIncludes murder/nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, aggravated assault, simple assault, intimidation, other crimes against persons, robbery, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, arson, destruction/vandalism, other crimes against property, and crimes against society. Excludes crimes against juveniles.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on files provided by the FBI, Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Hate Crime Statistics, 2003–2012; and National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

- Based on data from the NCVS, persons age 12 or older experienced an annual average of 269,140 hate crime victimizations from 2004 to 2012, of which 105,890 were reported to police (**figure 2**).
- According to the NCVS, an annual average of 14,380 hate crime victimizations were confirmed by police investigators from 2004 to 2012. This estimate was not statistically different from the FBI's UCR annual average number of hate crime victims (8,770) during the same period.

FIGURE 2
NCVS and UCR hate crime victimizations, 2004–2012



Note: Hate crime includes incidents confirmed by police as bias-motivated and incidents perceived by victims to be bias-motivated because the offender used hate language or left behind hate symbols. Estimates were based on 10-year rolling averages due to small sample sizes. Numbers rounded to the nearest ten. Error bars on NCVS estimates are based on 95% confidence levels. The standard error for average annual victimizations is 40,701; reported to police is 24,180; and confirmed by police investigators is 8,345.

*Includes murder/nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, aggravated assault, simple assault, intimidation, other crimes against persons, robbery, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, arson, destruction/vandalism, other crimes against property, and crimes against society.

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, based on files provided by the FBI, Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Hate Crime Statistics, 2003–2012; and National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

Methodology

Survey coverage

The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) is an annual data collection conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The NCVS is a self-report survey in which interviewed persons are asked about the number and characteristics of victimizations experienced during the prior 6 months. The NCVS collects information on nonfatal personal crimes (rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated and simple assault, and personal larceny) and household property crimes (burglary, motor vehicle theft, and other theft) both reported and not reported to police. In addition to providing annual level and change estimates on criminal victimization, the NCVS is the primary source of information on the nature of criminal victimization incidents.

Survey respondents provide information about themselves (e.g., age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, marital status, education level, and income) and whether they experienced a victimization. Information is collected for each victimization incident about the offender (e.g., age, race and Hispanic origin, sex, and victim-offender relationship), characteristics of the crime (including time and place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, and economic consequences), whether the crime was reported to police, reasons the crime was or was not reported, and experiences with the criminal justice system.

The NCVS is administered to persons age 12 or older from a nationally representative sample of households in the United States. The NCVS defines a household as a group of members who all reside at a sampled address. Persons are considered household members when the sampled address is their usual place of residence at the time of the interview and when they have no usual place of residence elsewhere. Once selected, households remain in the sample for 3 years, and eligible persons in these households are interviewed every 6 months either in-person or over the phone, for a total of seven interviews.

Generally, all first interviews are conducted in-person. New households rotate into the sample on an ongoing basis to replace outgoing households that have been in the sample for the 3-year period. The sample includes persons living in group quarters, such as dormitories, rooming houses, and religious group dwellings, and excludes persons living in military barracks and institutional settings, such as correctional or hospital facilities, and the homeless. (For more information, see the *Survey Methodology for Criminal Victimization in the United States, 2008*, NCJ 231173, BJS web, May 2011.)

Nonresponse and weighting adjustments

In 2012, 92,390 households and 162,940 persons age 12 or older were interviewed for the NCVS. Each household was interviewed twice during the year. The response rate was 87% for households and 87% for eligible persons. Victimization that occurred outside of the United States were excluded from this report. In 2012, less than 1% of the unweighted victimizations occurred outside of the United States and were excluded from the analyses.

Estimates in this report use data from the 2003 to 2012 NCVS data files, weighted to produce annual estimates of victimization for persons age 12 or older living in U.S. households. Because the NCVS relies on a sample rather than a census of the entire U.S. population, weights are designed to inflate sample point estimates to known population totals and to compensate for survey nonresponse and other aspects of the sample design.

The NCVS data files include both household and person weights. The household weight is commonly used to calculate estimates of property crimes, such as motor vehicle theft or burglary, which are identified within the household. Person weights provide an estimate of the population represented by each person in the sample. After proper adjustment, both household and person weights are also typically used to form the denominator in calculations of crime rates.

The victimization weights used in this analysis account for the number of persons present during an incident and for high-frequency repeat victimizations (or series victimizations). Series victimizations are similar in type but occur with such frequency that a victim is unable to recall each individual event or describe each event in detail. Survey procedures allow NCVS interviewers to identify and classify these similar victimizations as series victimizations and to collect detailed information on only the most recent incident in the series.

The weight counts series incidents as the actual number of incidents reported by the victim, up to a maximum of ten incidents. Including series victimizations in national rates results in rather large increases in the level of violent victimization. However, trends in violence are generally similar regardless of whether series victimizations are included.

In 2012, series incidents accounted for about 1% of all victimizations and 4% of all violent victimizations. Weighting series incidents as the number of incidents up to a maximum of ten produces more reliable estimates of crime levels, while the cap at ten minimizes the effect of extreme outliers on the rates. Additional information on the series

enumeration is detailed in the report *Methods for Counting High Frequency Repeat Victimization in the National Crime Victimization Survey*, NCJ 237308, BJS web, April 2012.

Due to slight revisions in the public use file weights, 2011 victimization estimates may vary slightly from previous publications. These differences were determined to be statistically insignificant changes.

Standard error computations

When national estimates are derived from a sample, as with the NCVS, caution must be taken when comparing one estimate to another estimate or when comparing estimates over time. Although one estimate may be larger than another, estimates based on a sample have some degree of sampling error. The sampling error of an estimate depends on several factors, including the amount of variation in the responses and the size of the sample. When the sampling error around an estimate is taken into account, the estimates that appear different may not be statistically different.

One measure of the sampling error associated with an estimate is the standard error. The standard error can vary from one estimate to the next. In general, for a given metric, an estimate with a smaller standard error provides a more reliable approximation of the true value than an estimate with a larger standard error. Estimates with relatively large standard errors are associated with less precision and reliability and should be interpreted with caution.

In order to generate standard errors around numbers and estimates from the NCVS, the Census Bureau produced generalized variance function (GVF) parameters for BJS. The GVFs take into account aspects of the NCVS complex sample design and represent the curve fitted to a selection of individual standard errors based on the Jackknife Repeated Replication technique. The GVF parameters were used to generate standard errors for each point estimate (e.g., counts, percentages, and rates) in this report.

In this report, BJS conducted tests to determine whether differences in estimated numbers and percentages were statistically significant once sampling error was taken into account. Using statistical programs developed specifically for the NCVS, BJS tested the significance of all comparisons in the text. The Student's t-statistic was the primary test procedure, which tests the difference between two sample estimates. To ensure that the observed differences between estimates were larger than might be expected due to sampling variation, the significance level was set at the 95% confidence level. Differences described as slight or slightly passed a test at the 0.10 level of statistical significance (90% confidence level). Caution is required when comparing estimates not explicitly discussed in this report.

Data users can use the estimates and the standard errors of the estimates provided in this report to generate a confidence interval around the estimate as a measure of the margin of error. The following example illustrates how standard errors can be used to generate confidence intervals:

According to the NCVS, in 2012, the violent hate crime victimization rate among persons age 12 or older was 1.0 per 1,000 persons (see table 1). Using the GVFs, BJS determined that the estimate has a standard error of 0.1 (see appendix table 3). A confidence interval around the estimate was generated by multiplying the standard errors by ± 1.96 (the t-score of a normal, two-tailed distribution that excludes 2.5% at either end of the distribution). Therefore, the 95% confidence interval around the 1.0 estimate from 2012 is $1.0 \pm (0.1 \times 1.96)$ or (0.8 to 1.2). In other words, if different samples using the same procedures were taken from the U.S. population in 2012, 95% of the time the violent hate crime victimization rate would fall between 0.8 and 1.2 per 1,000 persons.

In this report, a coefficient of variation (CV) for all estimates, representing the ratio of the standard error to the estimate, was also calculated for all estimates. CVs provide a measure of reliability and a means to compare the precision of estimates across measures with differing levels or metrics. In cases where the CV was greater than 50%, or the unweighted sample had 10 or fewer cases, the estimate was noted with a "!" symbol (Interpret data with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer sample cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%).

Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)

The UCR Hate Crime Statistics Program captures information about the types of bias that motivate hate crimes, the nature of the offenses, and some information about the victims and offenders by attaching the collection of hate crime statistics to the established UCR data collection procedures. The hate crime data presented here comprise a subset of information that law enforcement agencies submit to the UCR program.

Crimes reported to the FBI involve those motivated by biases based on race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity/national origin, and disability. Forthcoming data collection changes will allow the reporting of crimes motivated by gender and gender identity bias, as well as crimes committed by and directed against juveniles. The victim of a hate crime may be an individual, business, institution, or society as a whole. In UCR data, law enforcement specifies the number of offenders and, when possible, the race of the offender or offenders as a group. Agencies that participated in the Hate Crime Statistics Program in 2012 represented nearly 249 million residents, or 79.3% percent of the nation's population, covering 48 states and the District of Columbia.

Hate crime legislation

On April 23, 1990, Congress passed the Hate Crime Statistics Act, which requires the Attorney General to collect data “about crimes that manifest evidence of prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation, or ethnicity.” The Attorney General delegated the responsibilities of developing the procedures for implementing, collecting, and managing hate crime data to the director of the FBI, who in turn assigned the tasks to the UCR program. Under the direction of the Attorney General and with the cooperation and assistance of many local and state law enforcement agencies, the UCR program created a hate crime data collection to comply with the congressional mandate.

In September 1994, lawmakers amended the Hate Crime Statistics Act to include bias against persons with disabilities in the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The FBI started gathering data for the additional bias type on January 1, 1997.

The Church Arson Prevention Act, which was signed into law in July 1996, removed the sunset clause from the original statute and mandated that the collection of hate crime data become a permanent part of the UCR program.

In 2009, Congress further amended the Hate Crime Statistics Act by passing the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crime Prevention Act. The amendment includes the collection of data for crimes motivated by bias against a particular gender and gender identity, as well as for crimes committed by, and crimes directed against, juveniles. The FBI is currently making plans to implement changes to collect these data.

The Hate Crime Statistics Act can be accessed at <http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr/hc2009/hatecrimestatistics.html>.

APPENDIX TABLE 1

Estimates and standard errors for figure 1: Violent hate crime victimizations reported and not reported to police, 2004–2012

Year	Rate of violent hate crime*			Standard error		
	Total	Not reported to police	Reported to police	Total	Not reported to police	Reported to police
2004	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
2005	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
2006	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
2007	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
2008	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1
2009	1.1	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
2010	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1
2011	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
2012	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1

Note: Detail may not sum to total due to rounding and missing data.

*Per 1,000 persons age 12 or older.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

APPENDIX TABLE 2

Population and total criminal victimization counts, 2004–2012

Year	U.S. resident population		Total criminal victimizations		
	Persons age 12 or older	Households	All ^a	Violent ^b	Property ^c
2004	240,504,850	114,956,250	27,012,660	7,202,560	19,593,620
2005	243,104,500	116,437,690	26,097,760	6,836,930	19,034,070
2006	245,869,190	117,479,100	27,184,240	7,689,110	19,293,790
2007	248,788,980	118,680,960	27,037,130	7,622,310	19,215,320
2008	251,293,700	120,322,300	24,699,350	6,603,830	17,897,050
2009	253,174,070	121,734,360	22,933,870	6,031,350	16,750,320
2010	255,033,770	122,606,410	21,255,680	5,302,610	15,817,290
2011 ^d	256,752,090	122,961,860	21,763,690	5,374,250	16,237,380
2012	259,769,280	124,479,520	24,830,300	6,327,560	18,343,060

Note: Estimates were based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year. Numbers rounded to the nearest ten.

^aIncludes violent crimes, personal larceny, and household property crimes.

^bIncludes rape or sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault.

^cIncludes burglary, motor vehicle theft, and other theft.

^dDue to a revision in the public use file, 2011 victimization counts vary slightly from previous publications.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

APPENDIX TABLE 3

Standard errors for table 1: Hate crime victimizations, 2004–2012

Year	Total hate crimes		Violent hate crimes			Property hate crimes		
	Number	Percent of total victimizations	Number	Rate	Percent of total violent victimizations	Number	Rate	Percent of total property victimizations
2004	38,150	0.1%	33,292	0.1	0.3%	16,218	0.1	0.1%
2005	36,153	0.1	33,915	0.1	0.4	9,299	0.1	--
2006	36,840	0.1	35,175	0.1	0.3	7,375	--	--
2007	39,039	0.1	36,798	0.1	0.3	10,435	0.1	--
2008	45,320	0.1	42,750	0.1	0.5	10,321	0.1	--
2009	61,025	0.2	58,627	0.2	0.7	8,907 !	0.1	--
2010	54,876	0.2	52,530	0.2	0.7	9,133 !	0.1	--
2011	42,840	0.2	39,880	0.1	0.6	10,119	0.1	--
2012	48,156	0.1	44,941	0.1	0.5	12,029	0.1	--

-- Less than 0.05 or 0.05%.

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

APPENDIX TABLE 4**Standard errors for table 2: Victims' perceptions of offender bias in hate crimes, 2004, 2011, and 2012**

Offender bias	2004	2011	2012
Ethnicity	3.7%	5.2%	5.1%
Race	4.5	5.9	5.1
Association	3.8	5.7	4.7
Religion	2.6	4.8	4.4
Gender	2.9	4.8	4.3
Sexual orientation	3.7	4.3 !	3.2
Disability	2.7	4.5	2.8
Perceived characteristics	3.5	3.8 !	2.3 !

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

APPENDIX TABLE 5**Standard errors for table 3: Hate and nonhate crime victimizations, by type of crime, 2004, 2011, and 2012**

Type of crime	2004		2011		2012	
	Hate	Nonhate	Hate	Nonhate	Hate	Nonhate
Violent	3.8%	0.6%	3.7%	1.1%	3.2%	0.9%
Serious violent crime	3.2	0.3	5.0	0.6	4.3	0.5
Simple assault	4.6	0.5	5.7	0.9	4.9	0.7
Property	3.6%	0.6%	3.1%	0.7%	2.8%	0.7%

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

APPENDIX TABLE 6**Standard errors for table 4: Presence of weapons and injuries sustained in violent hate and nonhate crime victimizations, 2004–2012**

Year	Presence of weapon		Any injury sustained	
	Hate	Nonhate	Hate	Nonhate
2004	4.3%	0.9%	4.0%	1.0%
2005	4.2 !	1.0	4.3	1.1
2006	4.3	1.0	5.2	1.0
2007	4.2	1.0	4.5	1.1
2008	4.5	1.2	4.2	1.3
2009	5.9	1.7	4.7	1.9
2010	5.5	1.7	3.6	2.0
2011	5.0	1.6	4.7	1.7
2012	4.3	1.3	4.0	1.4

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

APPENDIX TABLE 7**Standard errors for table 5: Hate crime victimizations reported to police, 2004, 2011, and 2012**

	Total			Violent		
	2004	2011	2012	2004	2011	2012
Reported	4.5%	4.8%	4.7%	5.0%	5.1%	4.9%
By victim	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.5	4.1	4.1
By someone else	3.6	2.9	3.0	4.4	3.2	3.2
Not reported	4.6%	5.3%	5.1%	5.1%	5.6%	5.3%
Complaint signed	3.0%	3.3%	3.1%	3.7%	3.6%	3.4%
Arrest made	2.5%	2.3%	1.8% !	3.2%	2.4% !	1.9% !

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

APPENDIX TABLE 8**Standard errors for table 6: Characteristics of violent hate crime victims, 2004, 2011, and 2012**

Victim characteristic	Percent			Rate		
	2004	2011	2012	2004	2011	2012
Sex						
Male	5.0%	6.1%	5.3%	0.2	0.2	0.2
Female	5.0	6.0	5.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Race/Hispanic origin						
White	4.5%	6.0%	5.3%	0.1	0.1	0.1
Black/African American	1.8 !	3.7 !	3.3	0.1 !	0.3 !	0.3
Hispanic/Latino	3.8	3.5	4.7	0.3	0.2	0.4
Other	2.2 !	3.3 !	2.1 !	0.4 !	0.4 !	0.3 !
Age						
12–17	4.8%	5.0%	4.3%	0.5	0.5	0.6
18–24	4.0	3.2	4.2	0.4	0.2	0.5
25–34	3.5	5.7	3.1	0.2	0.4	0.2
35–49	4.3	4.3	4.0	0.2	0.2	0.2
50–64	2.8	3.4	4.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
65 or older	1.1 !	1.1 !	0.9 !	0.1 !	0.1 !	0.1 !
Household income						
\$24,999 or less	4.8%	5.8%	4.8%	0.3	0.4	0.4
\$25,000–\$49,999	4.3	4.0	3.5	0.2	0.2	0.2
\$50,000 or more	4.5	4.4	5.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Not reported	3.8	5.2	3.6	0.2	0.2	0.2

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

APPENDIX TABLE 9**Standard errors for table 7: Characteristics of violent hate crime offenders as reported by victims, 2004, 2011, and 2012**

Offender characteristic	2004	2011	2012
Number of offenders			
One	4.7%	6.1%	5.2%
Two or more	4.5	6.0	4.9
Unknown	1.4 !	0.6 !	1.3 !
Sex			
Male	4.9%	6.0%	5.3%
Female	4.5	4.9	3.6
Both male and female	1.6 !	3.2 !	2.5 !
Unknown	1.8 !	1.3 !	3.5 !
Race			
White	4.6%	6.1%	4.9%
Black/African American	5.0	5.0	4.8
Other	3.8	2.2 !	3.7 !
Various races	2.5 !	2.6 !	2.2 !
Unknown	2.3 !	2.4 !	3.1 !
Age			
17 or younger	4.6%	4.8%	3.9%
18–29	4.0	5.3	3.3
30 or older	4.3	5.6	5.2
Two or more age groups	4.2	2.9 !	3.0
Unknown	2.3 !	2.4 !	3.7 !
Relationship to victim			
Intimate/family/casual acquaintance	5.1%	6.1%	5.3%
Stranger	5.0	5.6	5.2
Unknown	3.1 !	2.4 !	2.4 !

! Interpret with caution; estimate based on 10 or fewer cases, or the coefficient of variation is greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.

APPENDIX TABLE 10**Standard errors for table 8: Hate crime victimizations recorded by the NCVS and UCR, 2004–2012**

Year	NCVS	
	Not reported to police	Reported to police
2004	26,809	24,716
2005	25,442	23,689
2006	26,136	24,519
2007	28,894	24,266
2008	32,896	27,174
2009	44,352	34,455
2010	43,032	25,336
2011	35,142	17,239
2012	35,004	24,399

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2003–2012.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics, located in the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, collects, analyzes, and disseminates statistical information on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime, and the operation of justice systems at all levels of government. William J. Sabol is acting director.

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