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Toronto Police Service

2004 Annual Hate/Bias Crime Statistical Report

Hate Crime Unit
Detective Services
Intelligence Support



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Hate / Bias Category Legend

*AG-Age, DI-Disability, ET-Ethnicity, GE-Gender, LN-Language, MU-Multi-Bias, NA-Nationality
RA-Race/Colour, RE-Religion, SF-Similar Factor, SO-Sexual Orientation*



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A small increase in the number of reported hate crimes occurred in 2004. Last year the Toronto Police Service Hate Crime Unit identified a total of **163** hate crime occurrences. This represents a **9% increase** from the previous year when there were 149. The 163 occurrences in 2004 is the third lowest number recorded since the unit began in 1993 and is well below the twelve-year average of 222 occurrences per year.

In 2004 two series of hate crimes received considerable attention. The first, in March, targeted Jewish communal institutions in North York with acts of vandalism and mischief. Through investigation three young males were arrested and charged with a number of offences. In this case the Hate Crime Unit sought and received consent from the Attorney General to lay hate propaganda charges against the three males.

In the summer a calculated effort to cause alarm and sow strife amongst the members of a downtown university was initiated by an individual through the distribution of virulently anti-Muslim materials on campus. In October, with the assistance of university security, a young male was arrested and charged with a number of hate-related offences pertaining to the incidents in question.



INTRODUCTION

The Toronto Police Service Hate Crime Unit (HCU) is a sub-unit of the Security Section of Detective Services – Intelligence Support. It was created in 1993 and since then has been collecting and publishing data on reported hate crimes. Currently there is one detective and one detective constable assigned to the unit on a full-time basis as well as a civilian research assistant and an intelligence analyst on an as-needed basis. Members of the HCU liaise with the Hate Crime Co-ordinators in each of the sixteen divisions in the Toronto Police Service, as well as with members of other law enforcement agencies involved in the investigation of hate crimes.

Divisional Hate Crime Co-ordinators are responsible for the investigation of hate crimes within their respective divisions. The HCU provides support whenever necessary.

The HCU is responsible for the investigation of crimes regarding the publication of hate literature or other forms of hate propaganda regardless of the division where they occur. Laying these types of charges requires the consent of the Attorney General.

There are two classifications of hate-motivated crimes; those that fit within the parameters of the Hate Propaganda section of the Criminal Code, and all other criminal offences where there is evidence to support hate as a motivating factor.

Hate propaganda is defined as any communication that advocates or promotes genocide or makes statements that promote hatred against an identifiable group. An identifiable group is defined by the Criminal Code as, “*any section of the public distinguished by colour, race, religion, ethnic origin or sexual orientation.*”

The definition of a hate / bias crime is, a criminal offence committed against a person or property, where there is evidence that the offence was motivated by bias, prejudice or hate, based on the victim’s race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, or any other similar factor.

The hate/bias category codes used throughout the tables and charts of this report are explained in the legend at the foot of each page.



The HCU is responsible for reviewing all hate-motivated occurrences to ensure a proper and thorough investigation is conducted. All relevant information is recorded and analyzed to produce this report and help determine overall hate trends and patterns.

It is important to note that while the HCU analyzes this information to determine the extent of hate-motivated crime, the Unit believes that the collected data does not accurately represent the prevalence of hate / bias criminal activity in Toronto. Reasons for this include the reluctance of some members of the public to report their hate victimization to police and lack of awareness of what constitutes a hate crime.

In Toronto, community groups play an important role by intervening and counselling victims on the importance of reporting hate occurrences to the police. Within the Toronto Police Service, the Hate Crime Directive provides specific criteria to field officers to properly identify hate crimes. In addition, the HCU continues to instruct all officers to err on the side of caution, to contact the Unit with any inquiries, and forward all suspected hate-motivated occurrences to the Hate Crime Unit for review.

The HCU provides training and education to the community and police officers. The unit also provides investigative support and expert witnesses for court when required. The Hate Crime Unit remains dedicated to the achievement of its complementary objectives: the prevention and vigorous investigation of hate-motivated offences and the pro-active education of others to enable them to recognize and combat hate. Our goal is to encourage tolerance amongst communities and to safeguard the freedoms, safety and dignity of all guaranteed by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

METHODOLOGY of CATEGORIES

The Service's Hate Crime Directive requires all suspected hate-motivated occurrences to be reviewed by the HCU to ensure proper identification. In addition, the unit gathers criminal intelligence on hate groups and individual hate mongers. Each occurrence is classified using the hate / bias categories contained within the hate crime definition of the Criminal Code of Canada.



Comments and/or actions of a suspect during an incident are significant in helping to determine the suspect's motive and bias; however, it is sometimes difficult to classify an occurrence. Other criteria used to assist in classifying occurrences include the victim's perception of the incident, motives, significant dates, symbols and the history of the community. In some cases, for example, incidents involving visible minorities or gays and lesbians, the suspect is often unaware of the victim's actual background and the victim is 'lumped' into a pre-determined category by the suspect, based on the suspect's bias. The victim becomes a target based on the suspect's misperception. In other cases victims are targeted because of their apparent association with members of identifiable groups though they themselves are not members of those groups.

In cases where there are multiple criminal offences committed during one occurrence, only charges directly related to the hate incident are included for the purpose of data collection for this report.

Offences in the Race (RA) category include people targeted because of an obvious visible difference, normally the colour of their skin or other immutable physical characteristics.

Occurrences where more than one of the protected groups is targeted are categorized as Multi-Bias (MU). This occurs when a suspect's comments and/or actions are directed towards several victim groups. For example, a hate propaganda flyer that targets Muslims, immigrants and women will be categorized as Multi-Bias (MU).

When a hate-motivated occurrence is coded as Ethnicity (ET), the suspect and victim are from the same country but different ethnic backgrounds, or the suspect is able to distinguish between the different ethnic groups from a specific country.

The Nationality (NA) category is used when a victim is targeted specifically because of his or her perceived nationality, at times based on physical characteristics, and not necessarily their country of origin.

The categories of Age (AG), Language (LN), Gender (GE), Disability (DI), Sexual Orientation (SO), and Religion (RE) are usually specific and clear as to why the victims have been targeted and therefore are easily categorized.

In Similar Factor (SF) occurrences hatred can focus on the members of any group who have significant points in common. This may include members of a particular socio-economic group or profession.



HATE GROUPS

Organised hate groups maintained a presence throughout the year, primarily via the Internet. Web-based hate continues to be popular and a number of active sites are hosted in the Southern Ontario region. Chat lines remain popular as well and are a common alternative to message boards that are easily accessed by police and others who do not share the beliefs expressed on them.

Throughout the summer of 2004 a series of events involving neo-nazi/white supremacists and the militantly anti-fascist Anti-Racist Action (ARA) took place in Toronto. These events culminated in September at a local detention center where the neo-nazi/white supremacists and others were gathered in support of the jailed Ernst Zundel. Members of the ARA also attended and a violent confrontation ensued there and at a local restaurant. At the conclusion of the incident ten individuals were arrested and a number of weapons seized.

OVERVIEW

An increase in the number of reported hate crimes occurred in 2004. In 2003 the Toronto Police Service Hate Crime Unit identified a total of 149 hate crime occurrences. That number increased to **163** in 2004. (See Fig. 2 Pg. 7) This represents a **9% increase** from the previous year. The 163 occurrences in 2004 is the third lowest number recorded since the unit began in 1993.

It is clear that the number of hate/bias crimes recorded from year to year is variable, being affected by a wide range of factors that are not always easily discernible. In attempting to assess and evaluate the quantitative data provided by this report and also available from other sources a few points should be kept in mind:

- It is believed by the Unit and others involved in this field that reporting of hate/bias crimes is done in only 10-15% of cases.
- The impact of a hate/bias crime on its victim, her or his community and the wider community is disproportionate to that of most other crimes, is longer lasting and has serious side-effects for society as a whole. In 2004 the anti-Semitic incidents in March in North York and the anti-Muslim incidents in the summer and fall in the downtown core amply proved this point.



In 2004 Mischief, Assault and Threat offences were the most frequently reported. (See Fig.1 below) Mischief was by far the most commonly reported offence, accounting for 96 occurrences or 59% of the total. In 2003, by comparison, there were 49 Mischief occurrences. Assault occurrences increased slightly from 23 last year to 26 in 2004 while Threats decreased from 30 in 2003 to 23 in 2004.

Occurrences from the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) increased from 5 in 2003 to 16 in 2004. The majority of these offences were Mischief.

Members of the Toronto Police Service were present at several events and demonstrations that had a potential for hate / bias activity. The presence of both uniform and non-uniform police officers was a contributing factor in deterring and preventing criminal offences.

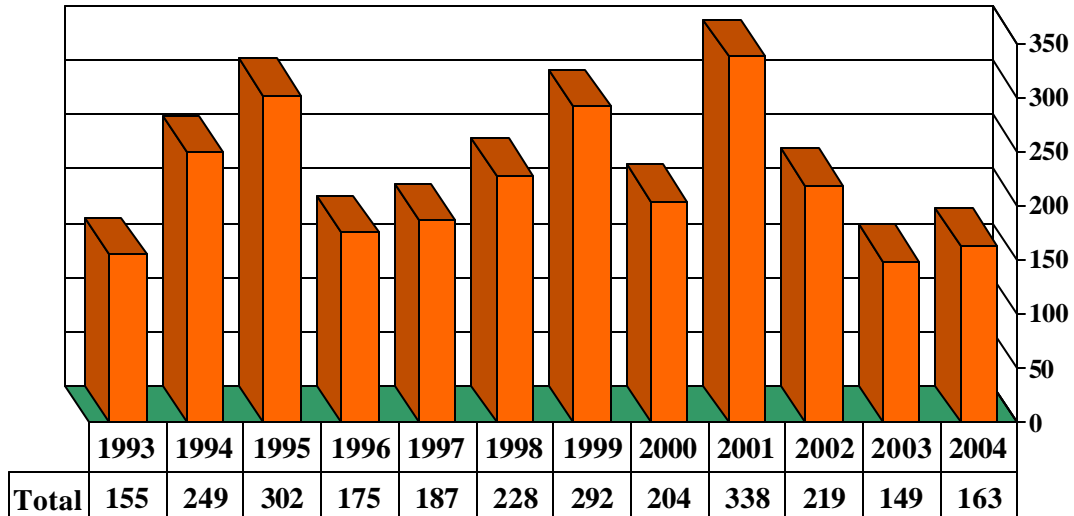
2004 OFFENCE BREAKDOWN BY CATEGORY

OFFENCE	AG	DI	ET	GE	LN	MU	NA	RA	RE	SF	SO	<i>TTL</i>
Arson											1	1
Assault						2	8	9	4		3	26
Criminal Harassment						1		1	2		1	5
Mischief						8	11	22	53		2	96
Threats						3	2	6	9		3	23
Wilful Promotion Hatred						4		3	5			12
Total						18	21	41	73		10	163

Fig. 1



Reported Hate Crime Occurrences: 1993 - 2004 Comparisons



YEAR	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Percentage Increase/Decrease	61%+	21%+	42%-	7%+	22%+	28%+	30%-	66%+	35%-	32% -	9%+

Fig. 2

Total Hate Crimes – 1993 to 2004

YEAR	AG	DI	ET	GE	LN	MU	NA	RA	RE	SF	SO	TOTAL
1993			8					77	54		16	155
1994		2	6				17	155	58		11	249
1995			10	1		32	23	164	50		22	302
1996			9			8	7	101	32		18	175
1997			5		1	18	16	97	34		16	187
1998		1	3	2		33	34	92	32		31	228
1999		1	5	2		63	21	113	38	5	44	292
2000			2	7	1	36	9	91	35	5	18	204
2001			5			59	35	90	118	7	24	338
2002						56	22	64	63	3	11	219
2003			1	1		26	19	50	38		14	149
2004						18	21	41	73		10	163
TOTAL		4	54	13	2	349	224	1135	625	20	235	2661

Fig. 3



PATTERNS OF HATE MOTIVATED OFFENCES

In 2004 the most frequent hate / bias occurrences were Mischief (96), followed by Assaults (26) and Threats (23). (See Fig. 1 Pg. 6) The majority of reported hate occurrences occurred in apartment buildings, in educational facilities and on public streets. (See Fig. 10 Pg. 15) As in previous years, most hate offences were committed by suspects unknown to the victim. (See Fig. 6 Pg. 12)

Mischief offences consisted mainly of graffiti. The hate/bias categories most affected by mischief occurrences were Religion-RE (53), Race-RA (22) and Nationality-NA (11). (See Fig.1 Pg. 6) Commonly targeted locations included apartment buildings, educational facilities, places of worship and the TTC. (See Fig. 10 Pg. 15)

Threats and Assaults were usually unprovoked. Threat occurrences mainly focused on the categories of Religion-RE (9) and Race-RA (6). In relation to assault occurrences, Race-RA (8), Nationality-NA (7) and Religion-RE (4) were the categories most targeted. As in past years, these kinds of offences tended to occur in the victim's environment: their house, neighbourhood, school, and place of employment.

Wilful Promotion of Hatred offences (hate propaganda) decreased significantly in 2004 with just 12 occurrences being recorded as compared to 31 in 2003. This continues a strong downward trend in this offence type in recent years as there were 45 Wilful Promotion of Hatred occurrences recorded in 2001 and 48 in 2002. Religion-RE (5) and Multi-Bias-MU (4) were the most targeted categories in offences of this type in 2004. (See Fig. 1 Pg. 6)

The Internet - web sites and e-mail – remains a convenient tool for communicating hate propaganda and threats and for committing criminal harassment.



PATTERNS OF VICTIM GROUPS

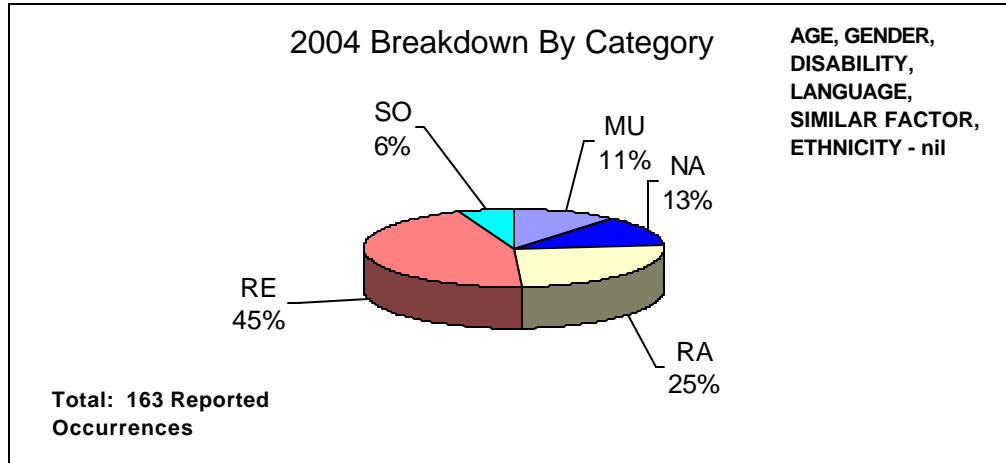


Fig. 4

The victim category most affected by hate in 2004 was Religion-RE (45%=73), followed by Race-RA (25%=41) and Nationality (13%=21).

The victim group most targeted in 2004 was the Jewish community (59). Following that in 2004 is the Black community (31), the Multi-Bias category (18), the Gay community (10), and the Muslim community (9) (See Fig. 5 Pg. 11). In the majority of incidents reported, the suspects remained anonymous and likely committed the acts by themselves. In addition, no precipitating events led to attacks in most cases.

The Religion-RE category differs significantly from previous annual reports. In 2004 the Religion category accounted for 45% (73) of total hate crimes as compared to 26% (38) in 2003, 29% (63) in 2002 and 36% (118) in 2001. The affected victim groups in this category in 2004 are the Jewish community (59), the Muslim community (9), Christians (4) and Catholics (1). (See Fig. 9 Pg. 14)

In the Race category, members of the Black community were the main target group, comprising 31 occurrences of 41 recorded. (See Fig. 9 Pg. 14)

In the Nationality-NA category, offences against Israeli (6), Pakistani (6) and Afghani (5) communities comprised the majority of the 21 occurrences recorded. (See Fig. 9 Pg. 14)



The Multi-Bias-MU category had 18 occurrences in 2004, down significantly from 26 in 2003 and 56 in 2002. This category is used when a suspect targets more than one victim group. Frequently affected groups are Jews, immigrants, visible minorities and the gay community. The majority of occurrences were Mischief, Wilful Promotion of Hatred (hate propaganda) and Threats. (See Fig. 9 Pg. 14)

Offences against gay males (8) were the highest in the Sexual Orientation-SO category and consisted of Mischief and Assault. (See Fig. 9 Pg. 14) The total number of ten hate crimes against gays and lesbians in 2004 is the lowest number recorded in the past twelve years.

The police divisions with the highest numbers of hate / bias occurrences were 32 Division (28), 52 Division (16), 51 Division (15), 55 Division (15) and 53 Division (14). (See Fig. 11 Pg. 16) The divisional boundary changes that came into effect in 2004 have clearly affected the distribution of hate/bias occurrences throughout the city.



VICTIMIZED GROUPS IN 2004

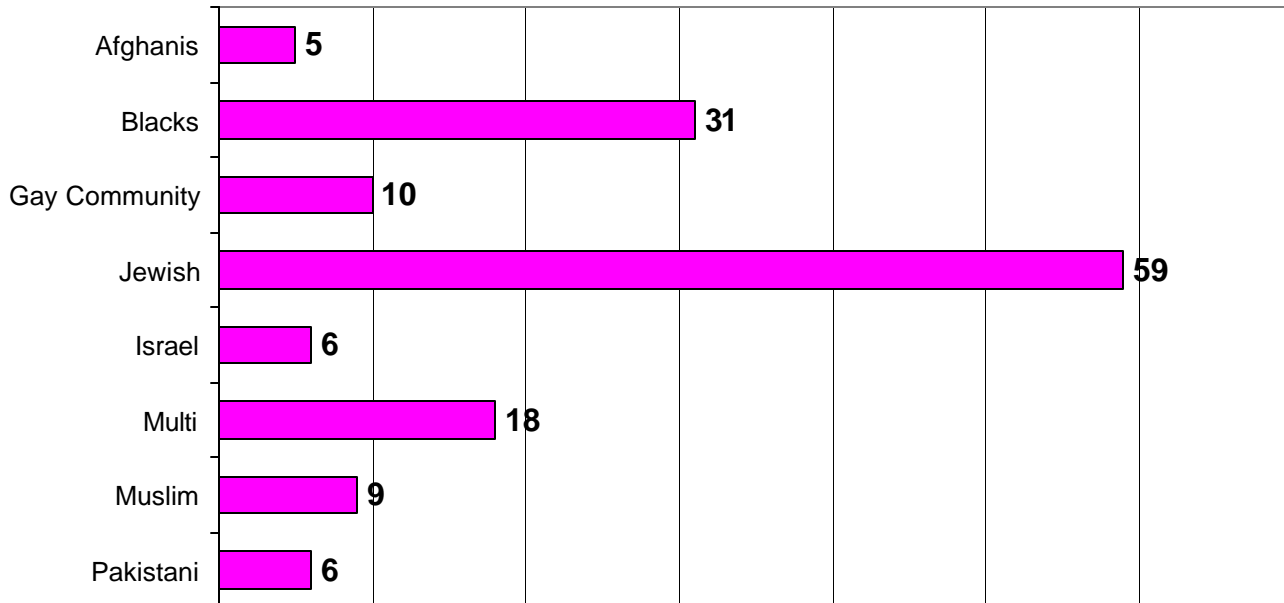


Fig. 5

Victim groups with 5 or more occurrences are represented in the above graph.

All Victim Groups

Aboriginal Canadian	2	Homosexual	8	Muslim	9
Afghanis	5	Iranian	1	Non-White	2
Arabs	1	Israel	6	Pakistani	6
Blacks	31	Jewish	59	Polish	1
Catholic	1	Korean	1	Somali	1
Chinese	1	Lesbian	2	White	4
Christian	4	Multi-Bias	18		
				Total	163

Fig. 5a



ACCUSED/SUSPECT IDENTIFICATION

Age Range 9-17			Age Range 18-25			Age Range 26-40			Over 40		
M	F	Group	M	F	Group	M	F	Group	M	F	Group
7	0	2	15	1	1	11	0	0	9	0	0

Unk Male or Female	Male - Unk/Age	Female – Unk/Age	Group Attacks -Unk/Age
112	9	1	0

Fig. 6

Among known suspects and charged persons, males form the dominant offender group. The largest single group of offenders, however, is unknown. Among identified persons committing hate-related offences, the largest groups are males in the age group 26-40 and males in the over 40 age group.

Among charged persons there is one female for the year 2004. One group of males was charged with a number of offences related to damaging a number of properties.

There are a higher number of unidentified suspects this year. However, there have also been a higher number of arrests and charges in comparison with recent years. It is frequently very difficult to identify suspects as many incidents occur without any witnesses present.

MONTHS OF THE YEAR												
JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	UNK
4	7	34	12	8	16	16	16	16	17	10	7	0

Fig. 7

In Fig. 7 above, the month with the highest activity was March, with 34 occurrences. The summer and fall months were steady, with the biggest declines from December through February. It is important to remember that an individual or group frequently commits a number of offences at one time. This can often account for a burst of activity in a given month.



ARREST AND SENTENCING

In 2004 there were 23 persons arrested for hate-motivated offences. A total of 57 criminal charges were laid. Most offenders were charged with more than one offence. In almost all instances this year people were charged individually, with the exception of three accused in relation to damage to a number of properties. As in previous years, offenders are frequently charged with a number of offences, some of which do not relate directly to hate-motivated offences. In all cases only charges relating directly to hate-motivated offences are counted.

There are currently 13 cases that remain before the court. There have been six findings of guilt resulting in convictions and sentencing, including two that have resulted in weapons prohibition orders. Other penalties have included numerous days in pre-trial custody, one to three year terms of probation with conditions, time to be served in addition to pre-trial custody, suspended sentences, and a peace bond.

CHARGES		COURT CASES		
OFFENCE	QTY	DISPOSITIONS	Y.O.	ADULTS
Assault/Assault Bodily Harm/Assault With a Weapon/Weapons Dangerous	10	Currently before the Courts	5	8
Threat/Criminal Harassment	16	Guilty		6
Mischief/Mischief Religious Property	20	Withdrawn (Peace Bond)		1
Assault W-Weapon/Aggravated Assault	2	Withdrawn		2
Willful Promotion of Hatred	2	Stayed		1
Assault Bodily Harm/Weapons Dang.	7			
TOTAL	57	TOTAL ARRESTS	5	18

Fig. 8

In 2004 there were two charges of Wilful Promotion of Hatred laid against three individuals acting as a group. In another case, an individual who was charged with 15 counts of Wilful Promotion of Hatred stemming from the seizure of numerous 'hate rock' CDs in 2003 was acquitted. This case is presently under appeal.

Mischief was the single largest offence committed in 2004. Mischief related offences included mischief to religious property, and arson. Violent offences including assaults, assaults with weapons, weapons dangerous, assault causing bodily harm, and aggravated assault were also frequent. Other violence related offences included criminal harassment, and threatening.



BREAKDOWN BY VICTIM GROUP AND OFFENCE

BIAS	VICTIM	NUMBER & TYPE OF OFFENCES	BIAS	VICTIM	NUMBER & TYPE OF OFFENCES
RE=73	Catholic=1 Christians=4 Jewish=59 Muslims=9	1 Mischief 4 Mischief 3 Assaults 2 Criminal Harassment 44 Mischief 5 Threats 5 Wilful Promotion Hatred 1 Assault 4 Mischief 4 Threats	RA=41	Aboriginal Canadian=2 Arabs=1 Black=31 Chinese=1 Non-White=2 White=4	1 Criminal Harassment 1 Wilful Promotion of Hatred 1 Wilful Promotion of Hatred 8 Assaults 17 Mischief 5 Threats 1 Wilful Promotion of Hatred 1 Mischief 2 Mischief 1 Assault 2 Mischief 1 Threat
NA=21	Afghani=5 Iranian=1 Israeli=6 Korean=1 Pakistani=6 Polish=1 Somali=1	4 Assault 1 Mischief 1 Threat 6 Mischief 1 Mischief 3 Assault 2 Mischief 1 Threats 1 Assault 1 Mischief	SO=10	Homosexual=10 Gay males=8 Lesbian =2	3 Assault 1 Criminal Harassment 2 Mischief 2 Threats 1 Arson 1 Threats
MU=18	Multi-Bias=18	2 Assault 1 Criminal Harassment 8 Mischief 3 Threat 4 Wilful Promotion Hate	AG DI LN SF ET GE	Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil Nil	

Fig. 9



LOCATION OF OFFENCES

Type of Location	QTY	Types of Crimes – In Sequence of Most Often Committed
Apartment Bldg <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elevators ▪ Lobby ▪ Underground Parking 	20	Mischief ,Threat, Wilful Promotion Hatred, Criminal Harassment
Automobile	6	Mischief
Business Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Various types 	14	Mischief, Threats, Wilful Promotion Hatred, Criminal Harassment
Community Centre / Cultural Organizations	8	Threat , Assault
Cemetery	1	Mischief
Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Primary ▪ Junior & High ▪ College & University 	31	Mischief, Threat, Assault,
Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ City Hall ▪ Social Services 	1	Mischief
House / Dwelling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Private Houses 	12	Assault, Threat, Mischief, Wilful Promotion of Hate
Library	1	Mischief
Media <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ News Station ▪ Radio Station ▪ Television Station 	1	Threat
Medical Offices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hospital 	1	Threat
Parking Lots	6	Mischief
Toronto Police/ Police Station	1	Wilful Promotion of Hate
Retail	5	Wilful Promotion of Hate, Mischief
Street / Sidewalk	25	Assault, Threat, Criminal Harassment, Mischief
Toronto Transit Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subway Stations & Trains 	16	Mischief, Assault, Threat
Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Church ▪ Mosque ▪ Synagogue 	14	Mischief

Fig. 10



2004 HATE /BIAS OCCURRENCES BY DIVISION

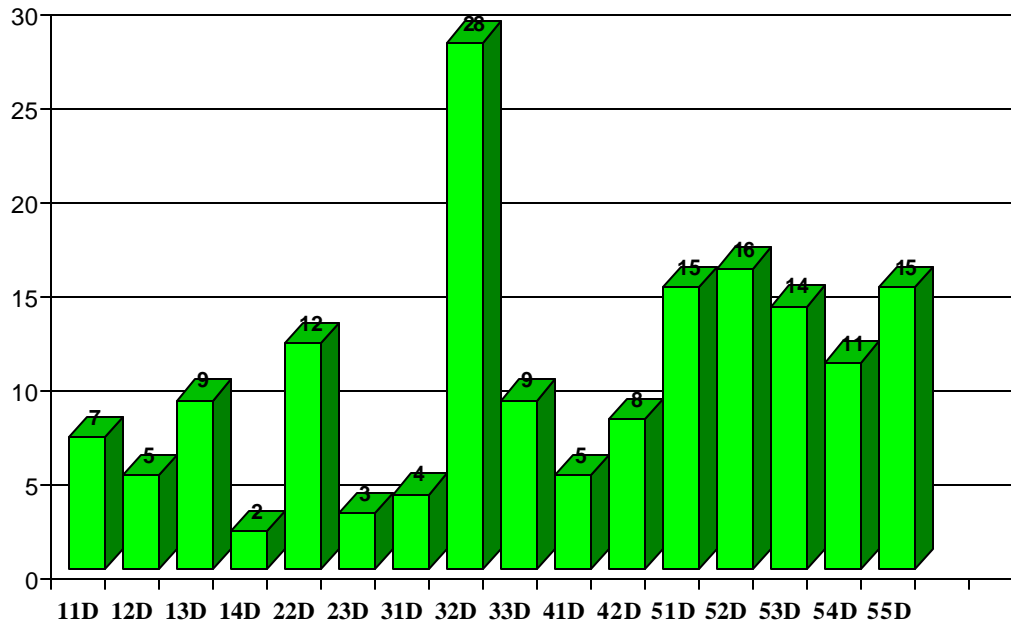


Fig. 11

11 Division – 7 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Black	Assault x2
Homosexual	Threats
Jewish	Criminal Harassment
Jewish	Mischief
Multi	Wilful Promotion Hatred
Muslims	Threat

13 Division – 9 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Black	Mischief x2
Christian	Mischief
Jewish	Assault
Jewish	Mischief x4
Multi	Mischief

12 Division – 5 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Aboriginal Canadian	Criminal Harassment
Black	Mischief
Jewish	Mischief x2
Somali	Mischief

14 Division- 2 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Black	Threat
Korean	Mischief

Hate / Bias Category Legend

AG-Age, DI-Disability, ET-Ethnicity, GE-Gender, LN-Language, MU-Multi-Bias, NA-Nationality
 RA-Race/Colour, RE-Religion, SF-Similar Factor, SO-Sexual Orientation



22 Division – 12 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Black	Threat
Black	Mischief x2
Christian	Mischief
Jewish	Mischief x5
Muslim	Assault
Non-White	Mischief
Polish	Assault

33 Division - 9 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Jewish	Assault
Jewish	Mischief x2
Jewish	Threats
Jewish	Wilful Promotion Hatred x2
Multi	Assault
Pakistani	Mischief
White	Mischief

23 Division – 3 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Jewish	Mischief
Multi	Wilful Promotion Hatred
Pakistani	Threats

41 Division – 5 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Occurrences
Black	Mischief x2
Homosexual	Criminal Harassment
Multi	Mischief
Multi	Threats

31 Division – 4 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Black	Mischief
Black	Wilful Promotion Hatred
Pakistani	Mischief
White	Assault

42 Division – 8 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Occurrences
Catholic	Mischief
Christian	Mischief
Homosexual	Mischief
Jewish	Mischief
Muslims	Threats x3
Non-White	Mischief

32 Division- 28 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Black	Mischief x2
Christianity	Mischief
Jewish	Assault
Jewish	Mischief x14
Jewish	Wilful Promotion Hatred x3
Multi	Mischief x3
Multi	Wilful Promotion Hatred x2
Muslim	Mischief
Pakistani	Threats

51 Division – 15 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Arabs	Wilful Promotion Hatred
Homosexual	Assault
Israel	Mischief x6
Jewish	Mischief x3
Lesbian	Threats
Multi	Mischief
Muslim	Mischief x2



52 Division – 16 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Aboriginal Canadians	Wilful Promotion Hatred
Afghani	Assault
Black	Assault x4
Black	Mischief
Black	Threat
Homosexual	Assault x2
Homosexual	Threat
Jewish	Mischief x2
Jewish	Threat x2
Multi	Mischief

54 Division – 11 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Afghani	Assault
Afghani	Mischief
Black	Assault
Black	Mischief x2
Iranian	Threats
Muslim	Mischief
Jewish	Mischief x2
Jewish	Threats
White	Mischief

53 Division – 14 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Black	Mischief
Black	Threat
Homosexual	Mischief
Jewish	Criminal Harassment
Jewish	Mischief x4
Jewish	Threat
Multi	Criminal Harassment
Multi	Threat x2
Pakistani	Assault x2

55 Division – 15 Occurrences	
Bias Type	Offence
Afghani	Assault x2
Black	Assault
Black	Mischief x3
Black	Threat
Chinese	Mischief
Jewish	Mischief x3
Lesbian	Arson
Multi	Assault
Multi	Mischief
White	Threat



The State of Hate in Toronto

2004 is the twelfth year the Toronto Police Service has collected statistics on hate/bias motivated offences. Some observations drawn from this period include the following:

- The average number of offences recorded annually is 222.
- The lowest recorded number of offences is 149, recorded in 2003.
- The highest recorded number of offences was 338, recorded in 2001.

- The most affected victim category has been Race-RA, with 1135 occurrences recorded over the past twelve years. Religion-RE (625) and Multi-Bias MU (349) rank second and third.

- The most affected victim groups, both in absolute terms and in their respective categories, have been Blacks (Race), Jews (Religion) and Gay Males (Sexual Orientation). Blacks and Jews are also frequently targeted in Multi-Bias occurrences.

- In 2004 offences were concentrated in just five categories (Religion, Race, Nationality, Multi-Bias and Sexual Orientation). In all previous years' reports except the first (1993), offences were distributed across a wider range of victim categories.

- In 2004 offences in the Religion-RE category accounted for 45% of all offences. Within this group offences against the Jewish community accounted for 59 of the 73 total occurrences, slightly more than double the number recorded in 2003 (29).



HATE CRIME UNIT EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES

In 2004 the Hate Crime Unit continued to focus its efforts on the prevention and criminal investigation of hate motivated crimes and on the pro-active education of police officers and community members in order to sensitize and equip them to combat hate.

Investigative Support Role and Intelligence Gathering

- The Hate Crime Unit continued to exchange information through its networks with Toronto Police Service divisions, Provincial, National and International Police Services.
- The Unit assisted police divisions with investigative support, case tracking and relevant intelligence exchange.
- The Unit attended and monitored events regarding possible hate activity as well as demonstrations with political overtones where the involved groups were strongly opposed to one another.
- The Unit conducted a number of investigations involving hate propaganda including several stemming from material posted on web sites.

Community Outreach

- The Hate Crime Unit continues to meet and consult with community organizations including, in 2004, the League for Human Rights-B'nai Brith Canada, The Council on American Islamic Relations-Canada, the Tamil Anti-Racism Committee, the Canadian Arab Federation, Somali Child and Family Services, the Canadian Jewish Congress and the "United Muslims" conference.
- The Hate Crime Unit continues to dialogue with community representatives for ways to improve the effectiveness of the Service's initiatives to reduce hate / bias crimes.



- The Hate Crime Unit conducted presentations for a variety of educational institutions, including Centennial College, Ryerson University and the University of Toronto.
- The Hate Crime Unit assisted in the planning of a two-day conference at Centennial College on hate crime and made presentations on hate crime investigation, prosecution and sentencing.

Media Outreach

- Hate Crime Unit members provided interviews to local and national media on a variety of hate / bias crime issues.

The Hate Crime Unit is committed to the Prevention and Investigation of Hate Motivated Crimes and to the Education of our police and community partners. Open consultation with the community in a mutually supportive manner is recognized as the most effective way of achieving this goal.