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**Toronto Police Service**

**2008 Annual**

**Hate/Bias Crime Statistical Report**

**Hate Crime Unit**

**Intelligence Division**

*“The Hate Crime Unit remains dedicated to the achievement of its complementary objectives: the prevention and thorough investigation of hate/bias motivated offences and the pro-active education of others to enable them to recognize and combat hate. Our goal is to encourage mutual acceptance amongst communities and to safeguard the freedoms, safety and dignity of all persons as guaranteed by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.”*



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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report contains salient information about the hate/bias victimization of various racial, religious, ethnic and other groups within the City of Toronto for 2008. In addition, this report provides information specific to community groups that were the target for Multi-Bias hate crimes.

In 2008, in the City of Toronto, there was an increase in reported hate/bias crimes from the previous year. There were 153 hate/bias occurrences recorded in 2008 in contrast with 130 recorded in 2007. These figures represent a 17.7% increase from the previous year. Over the past sixteen years, the average number of reported hate/bias occurrences is 202.

Although there was an increase in occurrences for 2008, the number of arrests and charges remained relatively the same as the previous year. This is partly due to the fact that the majority of the increase is attributed to occurrences involving mischief (ie.graffiti) where there is little or no suspect descriptions, as many of these occurrences transpire without the victim or witnesses present. There were 25 persons arrested for hate/bias motivated offences in 2008. The total number of charges laid in 2008 was 40.

The most targeted/affected victim group for 2008 was the Jewish community, followed by the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) community and the Black community. The most commonly reported hate/bias motivated offence in 2008 was Mischief, followed by Assault and Threats. The Jewish community is the most affected victim group for mischief occurrences, while the LGBT community is the most affected victim group for violent hate/bias motivated crimes, the most prevalent of which are assaults and threats.

It is important to recognize in evaluating this report that the information contained herein is an analysis of reported hate/bias motivated crime within the City of Toronto, and may not be a true reflection of the prominence of hate/bias crimes that permeate our society. The concern is that there may be a lack of reporting. The Toronto Police Hate Crime Unit recognizes this reality and consistently endeavours to encourage public reporting of hate crimes.

The most marked example of this commitment by the Service in 2008 was the unveiling of the RHVP (Reduce Homophobic Violence Period) media campaign. The Toronto Police Community Mobilization Unit launched a public awareness and education program which addresses the issue of homophobic and transphobic bullying and violence. It is an initiative of the Toronto Police Service's Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Community Consultative Committee and was developed by the Toronto Police Service in partnership with a large number of community partners and community service providers. In



2008, reporting of hate/bias motivated crimes against the LGBT community doubled, from 17 occurrences in 2007 to 34 occurrences in 2008.

## INTRODUCTION

The Toronto Police Service Hate Crime Unit (HCU) is a sub-unit of the Intelligence Division. It was created in 1993 and since then has been collecting, analyzing and publishing data on reported hate/bias crimes. Throughout 2008, there was 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.

There are 17 police divisions in the Toronto Police Service. In each division there is one officer assigned as a Divisional Hate Crime Coordinator. Each Hate Crime Coordinator is responsible for the investigation and tracking of hate/bias crimes within their respective division. The HCU provides investigative support to these divisional personnel and other units whenever requested or necessary, and arranges for expert witnesses to attend court when required.

The Hate Crime Unit conducts numerous training sessions throughout the year for front line police officers on hate crimes and related issues, as well as a number of training initiatives with other police services, government agencies, non-government agencies and the public. In addition, members of the HCU work with members of other law enforcement agencies involved in the investigation of hate/bias crimes.

There are two types of hate/bias motivated crimes: 1) those forms of expression that fit within the parameters of the **hate propaganda** sections of the Criminal Code; and 2) all other **criminal offences** where there is evidence to indicate bias, prejudice or hate as a motivating factor in the commission of the offences.

Hate propaganda is defined as ***any communication that advocates or promotes genocide or makes statements, other than in private, 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, nationality 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 as follows: AG-Age, DI-Disability, ET-Ethnicity, GE-Gender, LN-Language, MU-Multi-Bias, NA-Nationality, RA-Race/Colour, RE-Religion, SF-Similar Factor and SO-Sexual Orientation.

Members of the HCU are responsible for reviewing all suspected hate/bias occurrences to ensure proper identification/classification as hate motivated, and to ensure a thorough investigation is conducted. All relevant information is recorded and analyzed to produce this report and to help determine overall hate/bias crime trends and patterns. The analysis and this report are then used to develop strategies to address hate/bias crimes in our community, both from a prevention/enforcement perspective and an educational perspective.

Unfortunately, the data collected which forms the basis of this report may not accurately represent the prevalence of hate/bias criminal activity in Toronto. The prevailing reasons for this include public reluctance to report their victimization to police and a lack of awareness of what constitutes a hate/bias crime. Despite efforts made by community groups and media to encourage and assist victims to report hate/bias crimes to the police, under reporting continues to be a challenge.

The Toronto Police Service provides front line officers with a Hate/Bias Crime Procedure (05-16). This procedure provides direction to front line officers to assist them in properly identifying, recording and investigating hate/bias crimes. Consistent with this procedure, front line officers are obliged to notify the Hate Crime Unit of any occurrences. Through training, officers are encouraged to err on the side of caution by forwarding all suspected hate/bias motivated occurrences to the unit for review.

### **METHODOLOGY OF CATEGORIES**

The Service's Hate/Bias Crime Procedure requires all suspected hate/bias motivated occurrences to be reviewed by investigators of the HCU to ensure proper identification. Each occurrence is classified using the hate/bias categories contained within the hate/bias crime definition of the Criminal Code of Canada.

Comments and/or actions of a suspect during an incident can be significant in helping to determine the suspect's motive and bias; however, it is sometimes difficult to classify an occurrence with complete accuracy. Additional criteria used to assist in classifying occurrences include the victim's perception of the incident, culturally significant dates, symbols, history of the community and current events around the world.



In some cases, however, the suspect erroneously perceives the victim's background for which he or she is being targeted. This can be the case for some incidents involving visible minorities, where the suspect can be completely unaware of the victim's actual background and wrongly assume the victim belongs to a particular group. In this way, the victim becomes a target based on the suspect's misperception. This can also be found in the Sexual Orientation-SO category when a male is wrongly perceived by the suspect as being homosexual and becomes a victim of "gay bashing." In other cases, victims are targeted due to their association with members of identifiable groups, though the victims themselves are not members of those groups.

While it is recognized that every individual has multiple aspects to their identity, more than one of which could be cause for an offender to target them, it is the practice of the Unit to classify a hate/bias occurrence based on the best known information that exists relevant to the offender's perception of the victim.

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

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

Occurrences where more than one of the identifiable groups has been 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 immigrants, Asians and First Nations members will be categorized as Multi-Bias (MU).

Hate/bias motivated occurrences are coded as Ethnicity (ET) to denote offences where the victims share a common cultural or national tradition or to refer to victims by their origin by birth rather than their present nationality.

The Nationality (NA) category is used when a victim is targeted specifically because of his or her perceived nationality.

The categories of Age (AG), Language (LN), Gender (GE), Disability (DI), Sexual Orientation (SO) and Religion (RE) are typically clear in terms of why the victims have been targeted and thus 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**

While organized hate groups continue to exist in Toronto, the groups are commonly loose affiliations or informal gatherings of like-minded individuals. Chat lines, web sites and other forms of Internet-based contact remain popular as modes for recruitment, expression, information and communication. Analysis of those cases where offenders have been identified has revealed that, in the majority of cases, offenders have no known association to any commonly known hate groups.

## **OVERVIEW**

In 2008, there was an increase in the number of reported hate crimes compared to 2007. The Toronto Police Service Hate Crime Unit reported a total of 130 hate/bias motivated occurrences in 2007. That number increased to 153 in 2008, (See Fig.3-Pg.8) representing a 17.7% increase from the previous year. However, 153 occurrences for the year 2008 is still below the sixteen-year average of 202 occurrences by approximately 25%.

The number of hate/bias crimes recorded from year to year is variable. It is largely affected by a wide range of factors that are not always easily discernible. As previously mentioned, public reluctance to report their victimization significantly impacts statistical data and the interpretations we extrapolate from that data. Victims may be reluctant to report hate/bias crimes for several reasons, including:

- The victim may not recognize that the crime was motivated by bias or hate
- Fear of retaliation
- Lack of understanding of what constitutes a hate/bias crime, and uncertainty of the criminal justice system's response
- The victim may fear his/her sexual orientation may be exposed to family members or their employer
- Embarrassment and humiliation of being victimized

Hate/Bias crimes have a disproportionately greater impact upon their victims compared to that of most other types of crimes. Hate/bias motivated crimes have longer lasting serious side-effects for society as a whole. A hate/bias motivated crime not only victimizes the individual, but also the entire group that individual belongs to; resulting in the increased isolation, stress and vulnerability of that particular group. If police do not deal with reports of hate/bias crimes





immediately and appropriately, these hate/bias crimes can lead to increased social conflict between opposing groups and possible retaliation.

Mischief, Assault and Threatening occurrences, in that order, were the most frequently reported offences in 2008 (See Fig.1-Pg.7). Mischief was by far the most commonly reported offence, accounting for 75 occurrences or 49% of the total. In 2007, by comparison, there were 47 Mischief occurrences or 34% of the total. The Jewish community is the predominant victim group for mischief occurrences. Assault occurrences decreased from 31 last year to 20 in 2008. However, threats increased from 17 last year to 19 in 2008. The LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) community is the predominant victim group for violent crimes, the most common of which were assaults and threats.

Occurrences involving hate/bias crimes on or in relation to the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) decreased from 10 occurrences in 2007 to 7 occurrences in 2008.

Over the past year, uniform and non-uniform officers attended a number of events and demonstrations that had a potential for hate/bias activity. Officer presence is believed to be a contributing factor in preventing criminal offences, particularly hate motivated ones.

### 2008 OFFENCE BREAKDOWN BY CATEGORY

OFFENCE	AG	DI	ET	GE	LN	MU	NA	RA	RE	SF	SO	<u>TTL</u>
Advocate Genocide									1		1	<b>2</b>
Arson							1				1	<b>2</b>
Assault							6	4	3		7	<b>20</b>
Attempt Murder								1				<b>1</b>
B&E											1	<b>1</b>
Harassment						1	2	2	5		7	<b>17</b>
Mischief						12	6	13	39		5	<b>75</b>
Public Incitement Hate						1		1	1			<b>3</b>
Robbery								1			2	<b>3</b>
Threats							1	3	5		10	<b>19</b>
Wilful Promotion Hatred						3	3	2	2			<b>10</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>56</b>		<b>34</b>	<b>153</b>

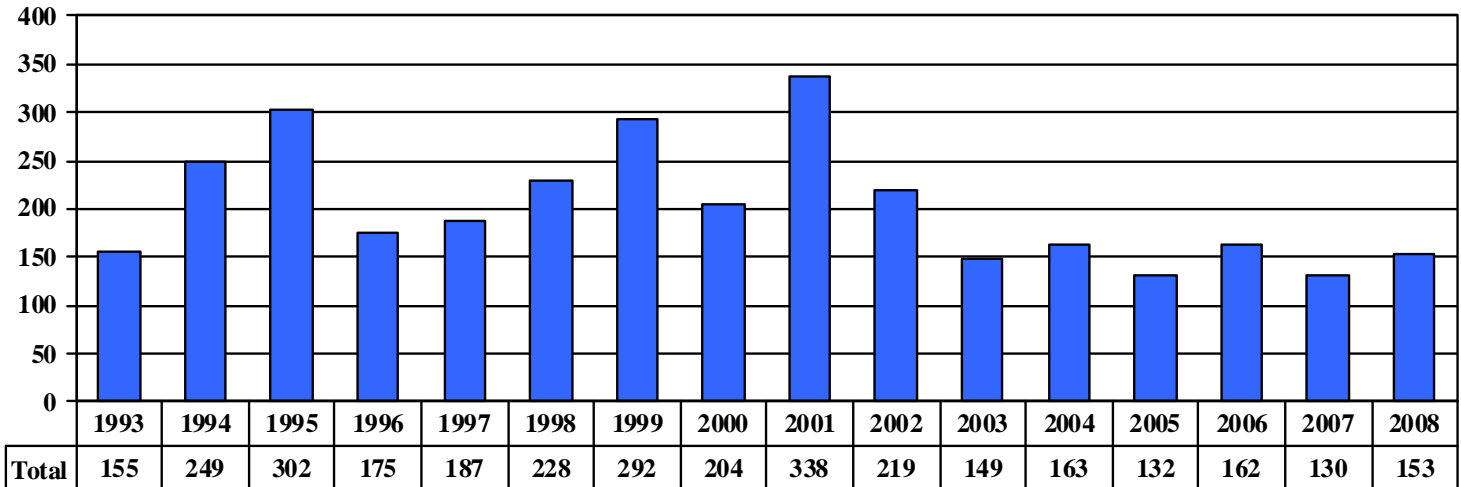
Fig.1

<b>2008 MONTHLY HATE/BIAS OCCURRENCES</b>											
JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
9	7	18	16	16	19	13	9	12	17	11	6

Fig. 2



**REPORTED HATE/BIAS CRIME OCCURRENCES: 1993 - 2008**



YEAR	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
% change from year previous	61%+	21%+	42%-	7%+	22%+	28%+	30%-	66%+	35%-	32% -	9%+	19%-	23%+	20%-	17.7%+

Fig. 3

**Total Hate/Bias Crimes – 1993 to 2008**

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
2005			1		2	16	7	49	39	5	13	132
2006			14		1	15	6	59	47	2	18	162
2007			4			14	11	44	38	2	17	130
2008						17	19	27	56		34	153
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>1314</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>3238</b>

Fig. 4



## **PATTERNS OF HATE/BIAS MOTIVATED OFFENCES**

The most prevalent hate/bias occurrences in 2008 were for the offence of Mischief (75), followed by Assaults (20) and Threats (19) (See Fig.1-Pg.7).

Mischief offences consisted mainly of graffiti. The hate/bias categories most targeted by mischief occurrences were Religion-RE (39), Race-RA (13) and Multi-Bias-MU (12) (See Fig.1-Pg.7). Common locations for mischief included educational facilities, dwellings, places of worship and public parks (See Fig.12-Pg.18).

Assaults and Threats were usually unprovoked. Assault occurrences mainly focused on the categories of Sexual Orientation-SO (7), Nationality-NA (6), and Race-RA (4). In relation to threat occurrences, Sexual Orientation-SO (10), Religion-RE (5) and Race-RA (3), were the categories that were most targeted. As in past years, according to the area named in the occurrence report, these kinds of offences tended to occur in the victim's environment; public street, dwelling, neighborhood, and public transportation.

Hate Propaganda offences decreased slightly in 2008 with a total of 12 occurrences (10 Wilful Promotion of Hatred, 2 Advocate Genocide). In comparison, in 2007 there were a total of 14 Hate Propaganda occurrences (8 Wilful Promotion of Hatred, 6 Advocate Genocide). The hate/bias categories targeted by Hate Propaganda offences include: Multi-Bias-MU with 3 occurrences, Nationality-NA with 3 occurrences, Religion-RE with 3 occurrences Race-RA with 2 occurrences, and Sexual Orientation-SO with 1 occurrence (See Fig.1- Pg.7).

In terms of offence location, the majority of reported hate/bias motivated crimes occurred at a University Campus (26), apartment buildings (22), retail premises (18), house/dwelling (17), street/sidewalk/vehicle (16), and over the internet (10) (See Fig.12-Pg.18).

The Internet and its various modes of communication (e-mail, chat rooms, message boards, web sites etc.) remain a popular method for communicating hate propaganda, threats and criminal harassment, most likely due to the perpetrator's ability to remain anonymous.

In 2008, the months with the highest activity of hate/bias motivated occurrences were June (19), March (18), October (17), April (16) and May (16). December was the month of lowest activity (6) (See Fig.2-Pg.7).



## PATTERNS OF VICTIM GROUPS

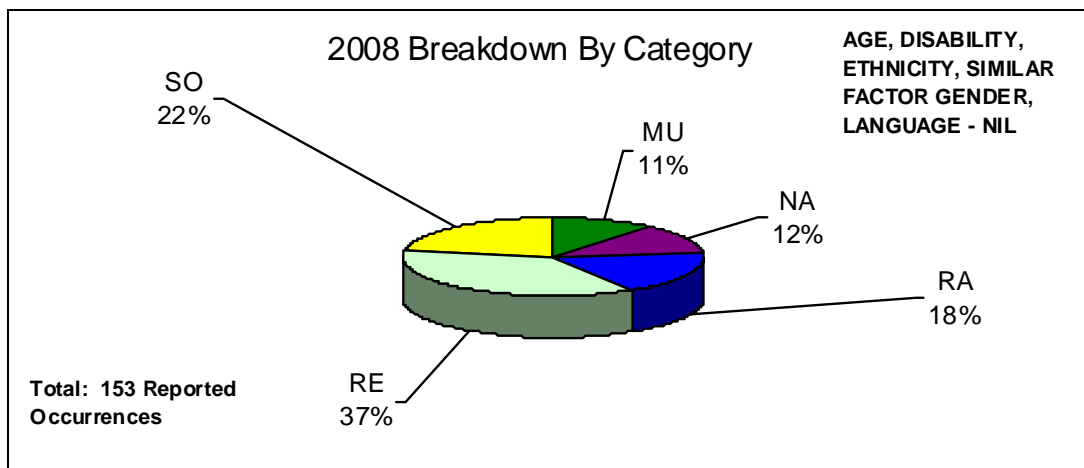


Fig. 4

The highest percentage of hate/bias criminal occurrences in 2008 appear to have been motivated by Religion-RE (37%=56), followed by Sexual Orientation-SO (22%=34), Race-RA (18%=27) and Multi-Bias-MU (11%=17).

The victim group most targeted in 2008 was the Jewish community with 46 occurrences. The LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) community was the next most targeted with 34 occurrences, followed by the Black community with 24 occurrences, the Pakistani community with 8 occurrences, and the Muslim community with 7 occurrences (See Fig.7-Pg.12).

In 2008, 37% of hate/bias reported occurrences were motivated by Religion-RE, which is an increase from the previous year. In 2007 there were 38 occurrences in the Religion-RE category and in 2008 there were 56. Members of the Jewish community (46) and the Muslim community (7) comprise the greater part of affected victim groups. The majority of occurrences were mischief (See Fig.11-Pg.17).

Occurrences in the Sexual Orientation-SO category represented 22% of total reported hate/bias crimes with the main offences being threatening, criminal Harassment and Assaults (See Fig.11-Pg.17). All the victims targeted were actual or perceived members of the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) community. Within this group, offences against gay males accounted for 25 of the 34 recorded occurrences. Occurrences in this category have doubled since the previous year, with 17 occurrences in 2007 and 34 occurrences in 2008. This increase is possibly a direct result of the Toronto Police Service's RHVP (Report Homophobic Violence Period) campaign, indicating a greater willingness



by members of the LGBT Community to report hate/bias motivated crimes to police.

The Race-RA category accounted for 18% of reported occurrences in 2008. Reported occurrences in this category have been steadily decreasing since 2006 with 59 occurrences that year, 44 occurrences in 2007, and 27 occurrences in 2008. As in previous years, the most targeted victim group in the Race-RA category for 2008 is the Black community (24). Other victim groups include the White community (2), and the East Asian community (1). (See Fig.11-Pg.17).

There were 19 occurrences in the Nationality-NA category, constituting 12% of reported occurrences in 2008. Offences in this category were committed against the Pakistani, Afghani, Chinese, Portuguese, Lebanese, Greek, Greek Macedonian, Somalian, and Israeli communities (See Fig.11-Pg.17).

The Multi-Bias-MU category had 17 occurrences in 2008. This category is used when a suspect targets more than one victim group in the same offence. Groups targeted in 2008 are represented in the chart below (Fig.6). As in the previous year, the two most targeted groups in the Multi-Bias-MU category continues to be the Jewish (12) and Black (9) communities. The majority of occurrences were mischief (See Fig.11-Pg.17).

<b>Victim Groups targeted in Multi-Bias occurrences (17)</b>			
Jewish	12	Chinese	1
Black	9	East Indian	1
LGBT	2	Pakistani	1
Immigrants	2	Native Canadian	1
Muslims	2	Non- White	1
Serbians	2	Orthodox	1

Fig. 6



**Victimized Groups in 2008**

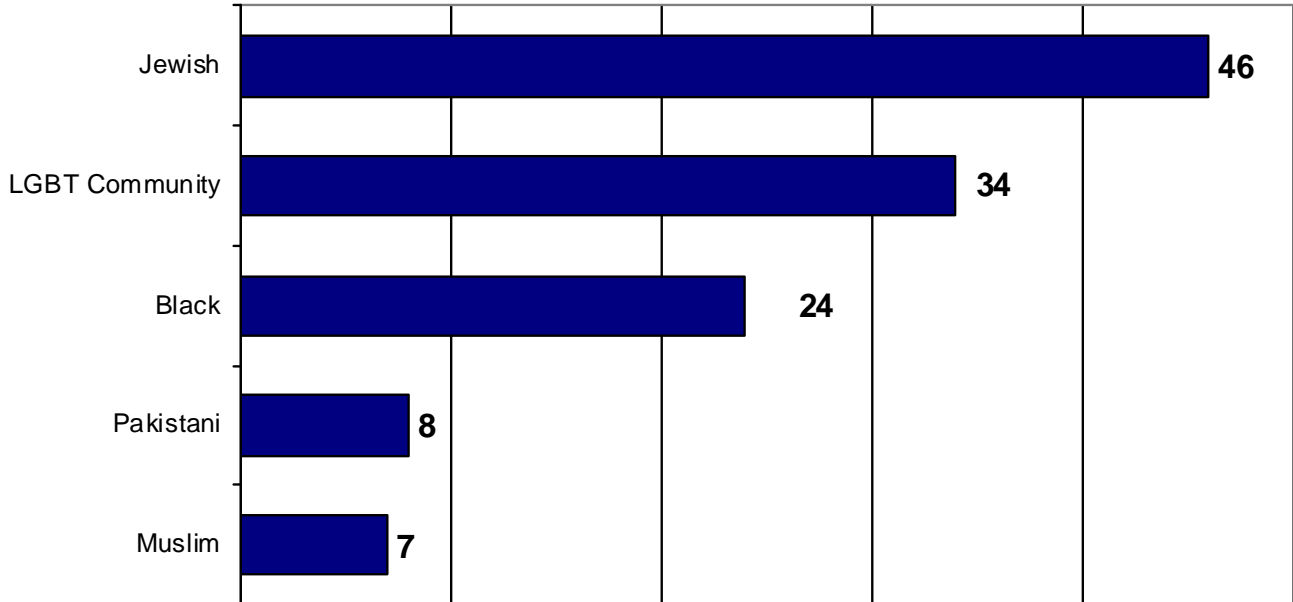


Fig. 7

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

**All Victim Groups\***

Afghani	1	Greek Macedonians	1	Non Muslims	1
Black	24	Israeli	1	Pakistani	8
Buddhists	1	Jewish	46	Portuguese	1
Catholic	1	LGBT Community	34	Somalian	1
Chinese	4	Lebanese	1	White	2
East Indian	1	Multi	17	<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>
Greek	1	Muslim	7		

Fig. 7a

\*Victim groups are categorized by suspect perception



**ACCUSED / SUSPECT IDENTIFICATION SPECIFIC TO AGE AND GENDER**

Age Range 9-17		Age Range 18-25	
18 Male Accused/ Suspects	2 Female Accused/ Suspects	16 Male Accused/ Suspects	4 Female Accused/ Suspects
Age Range 26-40		Over 40	
13 Male Accused/ Suspects	2 Female Accused/ Suspects	13 Male Accused/ Suspects	3 Female Accused/ Suspects

**Fig. 8**

Accused/suspect information is typically provided by victims and/or witnesses for hate/bias crimes. In 2008, victims and witnesses were able to provide information on accused/suspect identification in only 61 occurrences out of 153 in total. It is often very difficult to identify suspects as many hate/bias crimes occur without any witnesses present. Moreover, many hate/bias crimes occur without even the victim present, as in the case of hate motivated graffiti or mischief. Therefore, the lack of accused/suspect information for 92 hate/bias occurrences presents a challenge for solving these kinds of hate crimes. For example, there is no accused/suspect information for 65 of the total 75 hate/bias motivated mischief occurrences in 2008.

Among known suspects and charged persons, males form the dominant offender group with 60 male accused/suspects identified in 2008 compared to 11 females. Among identified persons committing hate/bias offences, the largest group consisted of males in the 9-17 year age group and the males in the 18-25 year age group.

**2008 ARRESTS AND CHARGES**

As in previous years, offenders are at times charged with a number of offences, not all of which are hate/bias motivated. Only those charges relating directly to hate/bias motivated criminal offences are counted below.

The number of arrests and charges in 2008 remained relatively the same as the previous year. In 2008, there were 25 persons arrested for hate/bias motivated offences, 18 adults and 7 young offenders. A total of 40 hate/bias motivated criminal charges were laid. These arrests and charges are in relation to 20 occurrences from 2008 (See Fig.9-Pg.14). In three of these occurrences more than one offender was arrested and charged. Also, many offenders were charged with more than one offence.



Presently, there are two cases from 2008 involving the charges of Wilful Promotion of Hate and/or Advocate Genocide which are before the Attorney General awaiting consent to proceed.

At year-end 2008 there are 12 cases involving 23 hate/bias motivated charges remaining before the courts arising from occurrences which transpired in 2008. There is still one case involving one hate/bias motivated criminal charge remaining before the courts arising from an occurrence left over from the year 2007.

**2008 HATE/BIAS CHARGES BY OFFENCE TYPE**

<b>CHARGES: 40</b>	<b>Qty.</b>		<b>Qty.</b>
Attempt Murder	1	Threatening death/bodily harm	6
Criminal Harassment	1	Weapons Dangerous	1
Dangerous Operation	1	Assault Causing Bodily Harm	4
Assault	8	Mischief	3
Assault with a Weapon	8	Mischief Relating to Religious Property	1
Aggravated Assault	3	Overcome Resistance: Choking	1
Cause Disturbance	1	Robbery	1

Fig.9

**SENTENCING**

The following sentencing findings are inclusive of all hate/bias criminal cases which concluded in the judicial system in the year 2008. These findings include several cases where the offences transpired in the year 2007 but did not conclude until some time in the following year. Therefore these sentencing findings are inclusive of 2007 and 2008 occurrences.

In 2008 there were 16 findings of guilt resulting in convictions, one case was withdrawn completely and one case was withdrawn with extrajudicial sanctions. Out of 16 convictions, ten offenders chose to plead guilty. Court dispositions have included custodial sentences, significant time spent in pre-trial custody, periods of probation with conditions, peace bonds, restitution, counselling and anti-racist education, community service orders and weapons prohibitions.

As previously mentioned, offenders are at times charged with a number of offences, not all of which are hate/bias motivated. Some of the cases below include non-hate motivated charges such as drug possession. However, all





charges (hate/bias and non-hate/bias) have been listed in Fig.10-Pg.15-16 to accurately reflect sentencing dispositions.

**HATE / BIAS COURT DISPOSITIONS WHICH CONCLUDED IN THE YEAR 2008**

<b>CHARGE(S)</b>	<b>SENTENCE</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assault</li> <li>2. Fail to stop after accident</li> <li>3. Threaten Death</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Withdrawn</li> <li>2. Guilty Plea: Suspended sentence, 12 months probation, \$100 restitution</li> <li>3. Withdrawn</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mischief Under</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 8 days pre-trial custody, 90 days conditional sentence, 3 years probation</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assault</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 8 days pre-trial custody, conditional sentence order 30 days, 1 year probation</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Possession of marihuana</li> <li>2. Assault</li> <li>3. Assault</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Guilty Plea: Conditional discharge, 1 year probation</li> <li>2. Withdrawn</li> <li>3. Withdrawn</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assault</li> <li>2. Threaten Death</li> <li>3. Obtain transportation by fraud</li> <li>4. Fail to Comply Probation</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Guilty Plea: 18 days pre-trial custody, 3 months jail custody, 1 year probation, and DNA order.</li> <li>2. Withdrawn</li> <li>3. Withdrawn</li> <li>4. Withdrawn</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mischief Under</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Guilty Plea: Conditional Discharge, 12 months probation, Restitution \$1250.00, counselling in anti-racist education</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Weapons Dangerous</li> <li>2. Assault with a Weapon</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Withdrawn Peace Bond 1year</li> <li>2. Withdrawn</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Threaten Death</li> <li>2. Assault with a Weapon</li> <li>3. Assault with a Weapon</li> <li>4. Dangerous Operation</li> <li>5. Mischief Under</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Withdrawn</li> <li>2. Withdrawn</li> <li>3. Withdrawn</li> <li>4. Withdrawn</li> <li>5. Conditional Discharge, 12 months Probation, road rage course.</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attempt Murder</li> <li>2. Assault</li> <li>3. Threatening Death</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 19 months pre-trial custody, 3 years probation, no contact with victim, counselling as directed, anger/substance abuse counselling, DNA order, lifetime firearm prohibition</li> <li>2. Withdrawn</li> <li>3. Withdrawn</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assault with a Weapon</li> <li>2. Threaten Death</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Withdrawn-extrajudicial sanctions</li> <li>2. Withdrawn-extrajudicial sanctions</li> </ol>

Fig. 10



**HATE / BIAS COURT DISPOSITIONS WHICH CONCLUDED IN THE YEAR 2008**

**CONTINUED**

<b>CHARGE(S)</b>	<b>SENTENCE</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assault with a Weapon</li> <li>2. Assault with a Weapon</li> <li>3. Assault</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Withdrawn</li> <li>2. Withdrawn</li> <li>3. Guilty Plea: 18 months probation, counselling as directed, no contact with victim, 30 hours community service order</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assault</li> <li>2. Assault with a Weapon</li> </ol>	Accused #1 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Guilty Plea: Suspended sentence, 2 years probation, not to be within 500 meters of victim, counselling, attend school regularly</li> <li>2. Withdrawn</li> </ol> Accused #2 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Guilty Plea: 2 years probation, essay on racism, continue counselling, continue school</li> <li>2. Withdrawn</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mischief Under</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Guilty Plea: 15 days intermittent custody, 12 months probation</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assault</li> <li>2. Fail to Attend Court</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Guilty Plea: 21 days pre-trial custody, 5 days concurrent custody, firearm prohibition order for 10 years, DNA order.</li> <li>2. Withdrawn</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mischief interfere with property</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Withdrawn</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assault cause bodily harm</li> </ol>	Accused #1 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 60 days conditional sentence, 18 months probation, DNA order</li> </ol> Accused #2 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2 days pre-trial custody, 6 months conditional sentence, 3 months house arrest</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Assault cause bodily harm</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Guilty plea to lesser and included offence of assault: 80 days pre-trial custody, 45 days custody, 2 years probation, firearm prohibition order for 5 years</li> </ol>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Robbery</li> <li>2. Assault</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Withdrawn</li> <li>2. Conditional discharge, 9 months probation, 30 hours community service order</li> </ol>

Fig. 10



**BREAKDOWN BY VICTIM GROUP AND OFFENCE**

BIAS	*VICTIM	NUMBER & TYPE OF OFFENCES	BIAS	VICTIM	NUMBER & TYPE OF OFFENCES
RACE	RA =27		NATIONALITY	NA=19	
	Black = 24	2 Assault 1 Assault with a Weapon 1 Assault-Threaten Death 2 Harassment 12 Mischief 1 Public incitement of Hate 1 Threaten Death 2 Threats 2 Wilful Promotion of Hate		Afghanistan = 1	1 Assault
	East Indian = 1	1 Attempt Murder		Chinese = 4	2 Assault 1 Criminal Harassment 1 Mischief
	White = 2	1 Mischief 1 Robbery		Greek = 1	1 Mischief
				Greek Macedonians = 1	1 Wilful promotion of hate
				Israeli = 1	1 Mischief
				Lebanese = 1	1 Assault
				Pakistani = 8	1 Arson 2 Assault 3 Mischief 1 Threaten Death 1 Wilful promotion of hate
		Portuguese = 1	1 Harassment		
			Somalian = 1	1 Wilful Promotion of hate	
RELIGION	RE =56		SEXUAL ORIENTATION	SO=34	
	Buddhists = 1	1 Threatening		All the victims targeted were actual or perceived members of the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) Community. Within this group, offences against gay males accounted for 25 of the 34 recorded offences.	1 Arson 2 Harassment 3 Threaten Death 1 Threatening 1 Assault 1 Advocate Genocide
	Catholics = 1	1 Mischief		Gay Males = 25	5 Assault 1 Assault Bodily Harm 1 B&E 5 Harassment 5 Mischief 2 Robbery 3 Threats 3 Threatening
	Jewish = 46	4 Harassment 37 Mischief 1 Public Incitement of Hate 3 Threatening 1 Wilful Promotion of Hate			
	Muslim = 7	3 Assault 1 Harassment 1 Mischief 1 Threat 1 Wilful promotion of Hate			
Non-Muslims = 1	1 Advocate Genocide				
MU=17	Mu=17 <b>(See Fig.5 on pg. 11 for further break-down)</b>	12 Mischief 1 Harassment 1 Public Incitement Of Hate 3 Wilful prom. hate			<b>*Victim Groups above categorized by suspect perception</b>

Fig. 11



### LOCATION OF OFFENCES

Type of location	Qty.	Types of crimes
Apartment Building <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ hallway</li> <li>▪ underground parking</li> <li>▪ elevator</li> <li>▪ vehicle</li> </ul>	22	B&E Criminal Harassment Harassment, Mischief, Threats,
Business/Retail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ various types</li> </ul>	18	Arson, Assault, Assault Bodily Harm , Harassment, Mischief, Threats,
Cemetery	2	Mischief
Commercial Corporate Place	1	Mischief
Community Centre / Cultural Organizations	4	Mischief, Wilful Promotion of Hate,
Construction Site	1	Mischief
Court house	1	Harassment
Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ primary</li> <li>▪ junior &amp; high</li> <li>▪ collegiate</li> </ul>	9	Assault, Mischief,
Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ post box</li> </ul>	1	Mischief
House / Dwelling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ private houses</li> <li>▪ rooming house</li> <li>▪ vehicle</li> </ul>	17	Assault with weapon, Harassment, Mischief, Threats, Threaten Death ,
Internet <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blog</li> <li>• E-mail</li> <li>• Face book</li> <li>• Site</li> <li>• YouTube</li> </ul>	10	Harassment, Mischief, Threats, Threaten Death, Wilful Promotion of Hate
Jail house	1	Threaten Death
Library	1	Assault
Medical Facilities	1	Assault
Parks	5	Mischief, Robbery, Threats
Parking lot	1	Threatening
Religious Facilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ church</li> <li>▪ mosque</li> <li>▪ Synagogue</li> </ul>	5	Harassment, Mischief, Wilful Promotion of Hate
Street Sidewalk Vehicle	16	Advocate Genocide, Assault, Harassment, Mischief, Robbery, Threats, Threaten Death, Wilful Promotion of Hate
Taxi	1	Assault
Toronto Transit Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ subway stations &amp; trains</li> </ul>	7	Assault, Mischief,
University	26	Advocate Genocide, Arson, Assault Mischief, Public Incitement of Hate, Wilful Promotion of Hate
Vehicle	3	Threaten Death, Mischief

Fig. 12



### **2008 HATE /BIAS OCCURRENCES BY DIVISION**

The police divisions with the highest numbers of hate/bias occurrences were 31 Division (24), 32 Division (23), 52 Division (17), 43 Division (12) and 13 Division (11). The most drastic difference from the previous year is found in 31 Division, from 1 occurrence in 2007 to 24 occurrences in 2008. This is attributed to 19 occurrences which transpired on York University campus. These occurrences primarily involve hate/bias motivated graffiti found on student club doors, washroom stalls, elevators and different student centres within York University.

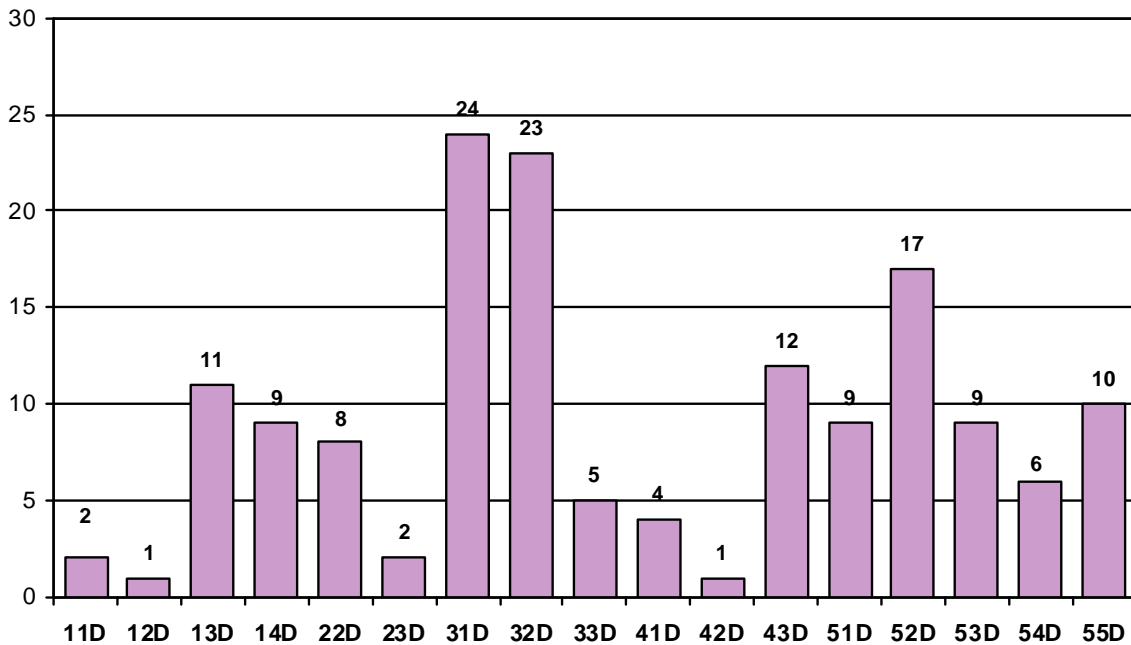


Fig. 13

<b>11 Division – 2 Occurrences</b>	
Victim Group	Offence
Black	Mischief
Gay Male	Harassment

<b>14 Division- 9 Occurrences</b>	
Victim Group	Offence
Black	Assault
Black	Robbery
Black	Assault
Pakistani	Assault
Portuguese	Mischief
Transgender	Intimidation

<b>12 Division – 1 Occurrence</b>	
Victim Group	Offence
Gay Male	Harassment

<b>13 Division – 11 Occurrences</b>	
Victim Group	Offence
Black	Assault
Gay Male	Harassment
Gay Male	Threatening
Jewish	Mischief x 5
Jewish	Assault
Pakistani	Assault
White	Robbery

<b>22 Division – 8 Occurrences</b>	
Victim Group	Offence
Black	Mischief x2
Black	Threats
Black	Threaten Death
Black	Wilful Promotion Hate
Jewish	Mischief
Muslim	Harassment
Pakistani	Assault



<b>23 Division – 2 Occurrences</b>	
<b>Victim Group</b>	<b>Offence</b>
Muslim	Assault
Pakistani	Assault

<b>31 Division – 24 Occurrences</b>	
<b>Victim Group</b>	<b>Offence</b>
Black	Assault with weapon
Black	Public Incitement of Hate
Black	Wilful Promotion of Hate
Greek	Mischief
Jewish	Mischief x 5
Jewish	Public Incitement of Hate
Jewish	Wilful Promotion of Hate
Multi	Mischief x5
Multi	Public Incitement of Hate
Multi	Wilful Promotion of Hate x2
Muslim	Wilful Promotion of Hate
Pakistani	Wilful Promotion of Hate
Portuguese	Harrassment
Somalians	Wilful Promotion of Hate
White	Mischief

<b>32 Division - 23 Occurrences</b>	
<b>Victim Group</b>	<b>Offence</b>
Gay Male	B&E
Gay Male	Threats
Jewish	Harassment X 3
Jewish	Mischief x 16
Jewish	Threatening
Multi	Wilful Promotion Hate

<b>33 Division - 5 Occurrences</b>	
<b>Victim Group</b>	<b>Offence</b>
Black	Mischief x2
East Indian	Attempt Murder
Gays	Threatened Death
Jewish	Threatening

<b>41 Division – 4 Occurrences</b>	
<b>Victim Group</b>	<b>Offence</b>
Chinese	Assault
Greek	Wilful Promotion of Hate
Lesbians	Threatening
Multi	Mischief

<b>42 Division – 1 Occurrence</b>	
<b>Victim Group</b>	<b>Offence</b>
Black	Threats

<b>43 Division – 12 Occurrences</b>	
<b>Victim Group</b>	<b>Offence</b>
Afghani	Assault
All Gays	Arson
Catholics	Mischief
Gay Female	Assault
Gay Male	Assault
Gay Males	Mischief
Israeli	Mischief
Jewish	Mischief
Multi	Mischief x2
Pakistani	Mischief x2

<b>51 Division – 9 Occurrences</b>	
<b>Victim Group</b>	<b>Offence</b>
Gay Male	Assault
Gay Male	Harassment
Gay Male	Threats
Gay	Threat
Jewish	Harassment
Jewish	Mischief
Lesbian / Homosexuals	Advocate Genocide
Multi	Mischief
Multi	Harassment



**52 Division – 17 Occurrences**

Victim Group	Offence
Black	Assault
Black	Assault-Threaten Death
Black	Threats
Chinese	Assault
Chinese	Criminal Harassment
Gay Lesbians	Threats
Gay Male	Assault
Gay Male	Mischief x 2
Gay Male	Robbery
Gay Male	Threat
Gay Male	Threaten Death
Jewish	Mischief
Muslim	Assault
Muslim	Mischief
Muslim	Threats
Non-Muslims	Advocate Genocide

**54 Division – 6 Occurrences**

Victim Group	Offence
Gay Male	Assault
Gay Male	Harassment
Jewish	Mischief x 2
Multi	Mischief
Pakistani	Mischief

**55 Division – 10 Occurrences**

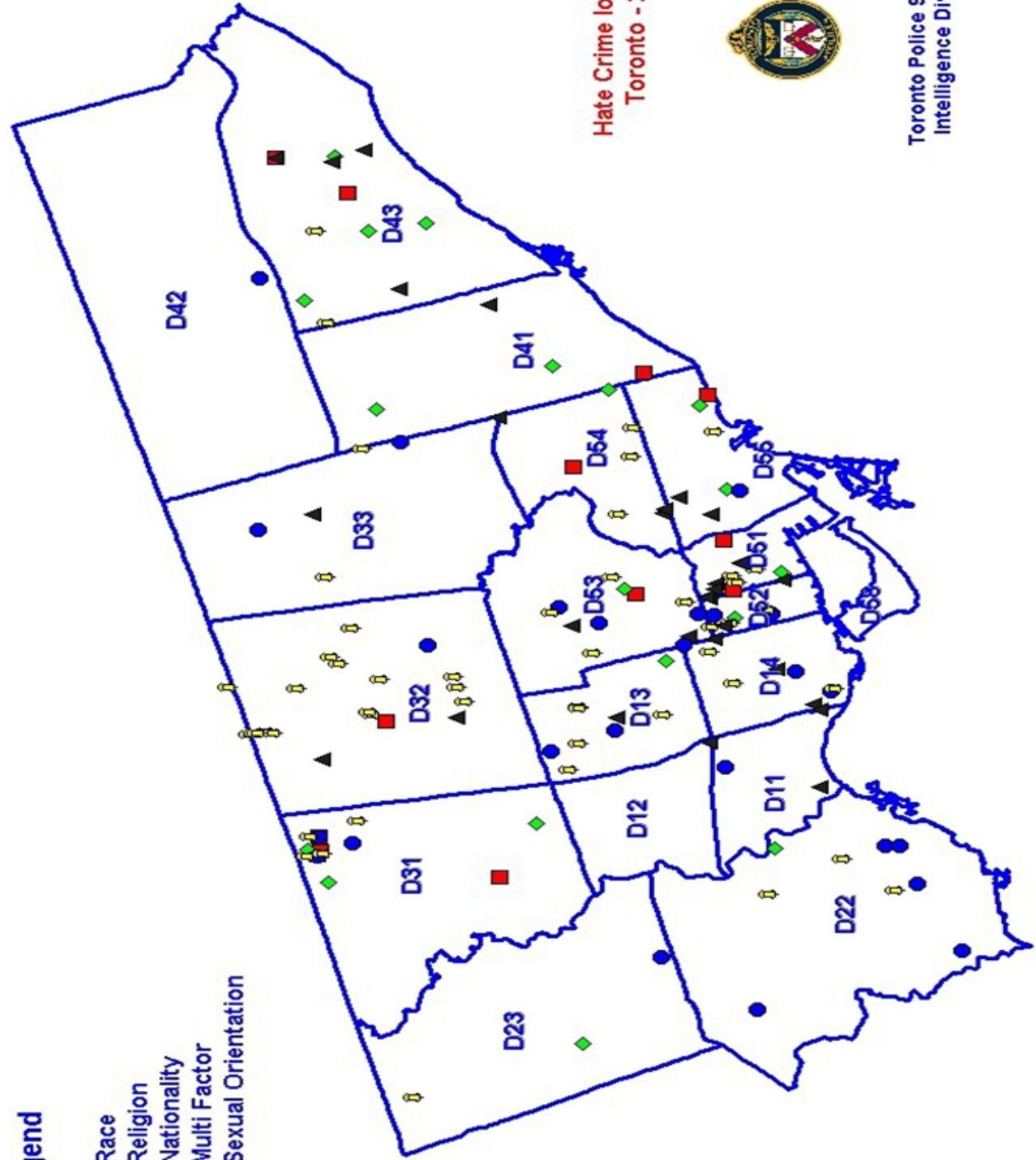
Victim Group	Offence
All Gays	Harassment
Black	Mischief x 2
Chinese	Mischief
Gay Male	Harassment
Gay Male	Assault
Jewish	Mischief x 2
Lesbians	Threaten Death
Multi	Mischief
Pakistani	Threaten Death

**53 Division - 9 Occurrences**

Victim Group	Offence
Black	Harassment
Black	Mischief x 3
Gay Males	Assault
Jewish	Mischief x 2
Multi	Mischief
Muslims	Assault
Multi	Advocate Genocide
Multi	Mischief
Muslims	Bomb Threat

**Legend**

- Race
- ‡ Religion
- ◆ Nationality
- Multi Factor
- ▲ Sexual Orientation



**Hate Crime locations  
Toronto - 2008**



Toronto Police Service  
Intelligence Division



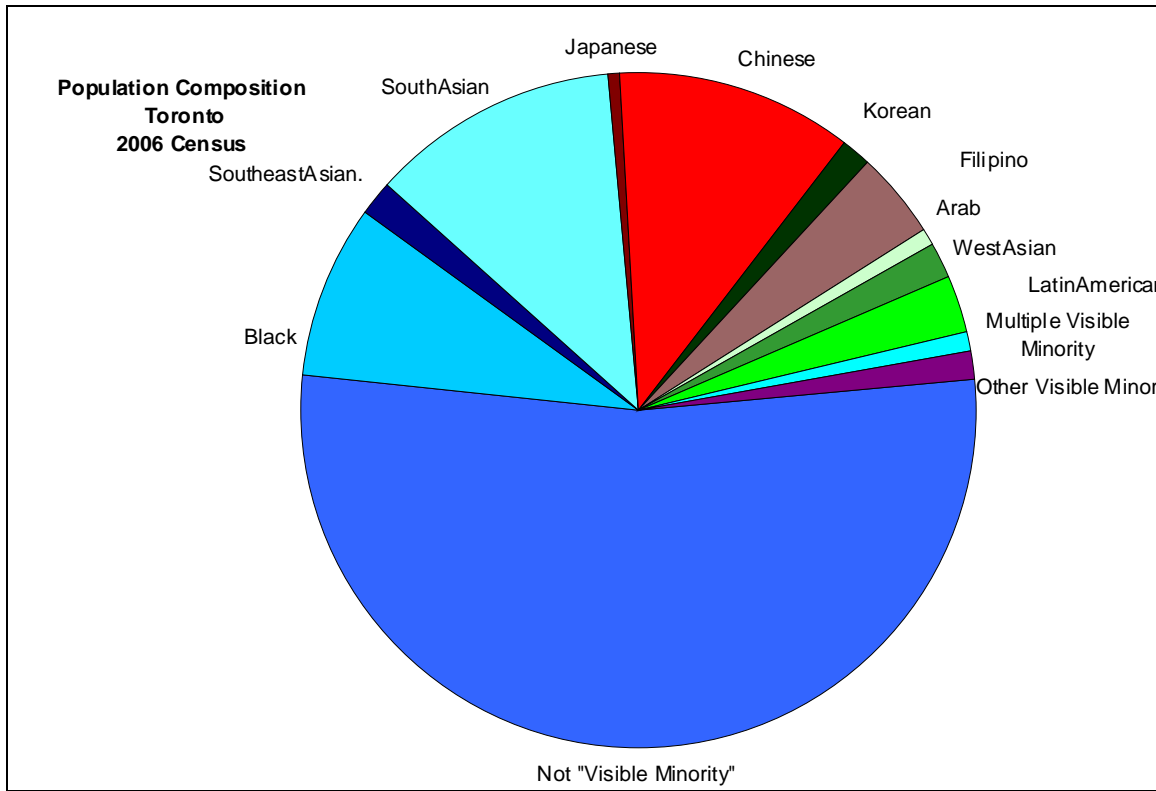


## **TORONTO POPULATION COMPOSITION AND RELIGION DEMOGRAPHICS**

The City of Toronto is made up of one of the most diverse populations of any city in the world. On the following page, there is a population composition pie chart and a religious affiliation table obtained from Statistics Canada showing the most current information available (2006) for the City of Toronto. These charts are provided to give some context to the statistics in this Report.

As noted earlier in the Report, among the most targeted groups in Toronto in 2008 were the Jewish community, followed by the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, and Transgender) community, and the Black community.

- The Jewish community makes up just over 4% of the population in the City of Toronto but was victimized in 30% of the total hate/bias crimes.
- According to the 2004 General Social Survey on Victimization by the Canadian Center for Justice Statistics (Statistics Canada), 362,000 Canadians (1.5%) identified themselves as gay, lesbian, and bisexual. It should be noted that research in the area of population representation of the LGBT community is limited, and the above statistic is not inclusive of transgender individuals. Furthermore, various sources indicate the number may possibly be closer to 5-9%. Despite the discrepancy in the actual percentage, the LGBT community was victimized in 22% of the total hate/bias motivated crimes in 2008.
- The Black community constitutes 8% of the population in the City of Toronto but was victimized in 16% of total hate/bias crimes in 2008.



**Religious Affiliation in Toronto**

	<b>% of population</b>		<b>% of population</b>
<b>Roman Catholic</b>	30.8%	<b>Hindu</b>	4.8%
<b>No Religion</b>	18.4%	<b>Jewish</b>	4.2%
<b>Muslim</b>	6.7%	<b>Christian (other)</b>	3.9%
<b>Anglican</b>	6.1%	<b>Buddhist</b>	2.7%
<b>United</b>	5.3%	<b>Greek Orthodox</b>	2.2%



## **THE STATE OF HATE IN TORONTO**

The Toronto Police Service has collected statistics on hate/bias motivated offences for 16 years. Some observations drawn from this period include the following:

- The annual average number of offences is 202.
- The lowest recorded number of offences was 130 in 2007.
- The highest number of offences was 338 in 2001.
- In 2008, offences occurred in the following five categories: Race, Religion, Multi-Bias, Sexual Orientation, and Nationality.
- The most affected victim category has been Race-RA, with 1314 occurrences recorded over the past 16 years, followed by Religion-RE (804), Multi-Bias MU (412), and Sexual Orientation (317).
- In 2008, the most affected victim groups, both in absolute terms and in their respective categories are the Jewish community-Religion (46), the LGBT community-Sexual Orientation (34), and the Black community-Race (24). The Black community and the Jewish community continue to be significantly targeted in Multi-Bias occurrences.
- Offences in the Religion-RE category represented 37% of all offences in 2008. Within this group, offences against the Jewish community accounted for 46 of the 56 recorded occurrences.
- Offences in the Sexual Orientation category represented 22% of all offences in 2008. Within this group, offences against gay males accounted for 25 of the 34 recorded occurrences.
- Offences in the Race-RA category represented 18% of all offences in 2008. Within this group, offences against the Black community accounted for 24 of the 27 recorded occurrences.



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## **HATE CRIME UNIT EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES**

### **Intelligence Gathering and Investigative Support Role**

- The Hate Crime Unit continued to exchange information through its networks with Toronto Police Service Divisions, provincial, national and international police services and law enforcement agencies. Of particular interest, throughout the year 2008 members of the Hate Crime Unit met with officers from the Norwegian Police Directorate as well as with a delegation from the United Kingdom. The delegation from the United Kingdom was comprised of law enforcement officers from the Metropolitan Police Violent Crime Directorate and the London Race Hate Crime Forum, as well as members of the judiciary, and legal counsel from the Society of Black Lawyers. Topics of discussion included the Toronto Police Service's initiatives in the fields of diversity and bias-free policing, as well as the United Kingdom's expanded/broader definition of Hate Crime. Additionally, the Hate Crime Unit met with members of the Jamaica Constabulary Force headed by the Commissioner of Police Rear Admiral Hardley Lewin. The Hate Crime Unit seized the opportunity to discuss the issues relating to hate lyrics originating from Jamaican Dance Hall artists and the further impact these hate lyrics have on our Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender community when these artists seek to perform in Toronto.
- The Hate Crime Unit assisted police divisions with investigative support, case tracking and relevant intelligence exchange.
- The Hate Crime 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. Most notable in the year 2008 the Hate Crime Unit monitored the demonstrations throughout the City of Toronto surrounding the declaration and recognition of Kosovo as an independent state as well as the demonstrations surrounding the 2008 Summer Olympics in China. The Hate Crime Unit is presently actively monitoring demonstrations throughout the City of Toronto in relation to the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine.



## **Training and Education**

- The Hate Crime Unit met with Hate Crime Coordinators from all 17 Divisions of the Toronto Police Service to discuss areas of community outreach with a focus towards education and training in schools. As a result of this initiative, Hate Crime Coordinators facilitated the incorporation of hate/bias crime education into lectures on bullying, diversity, vandalism/graffiti, and internet crime in elementary and high schools throughout Toronto. In the year 2008, Toronto Police Officers provided training and education on hate/bias crimes to approximately 81 elementary and high schools reaching a total of approximately 9348 students in Toronto.
- The Hate Crime Unit distributed a hate crime training video “Where does Hate Begin?” to front line uniform officers. This training video provides specific training for uniform front line patrol officers and was created by the Hate Crime Extremism Investigative Team (HCEIT). The HCEIT is composed of representatives from police services across the province and provides support, training and information material to police, Crown Attorneys and community groups on hate/bias crime. A total of approximately 1097 front line patrol officers received this training in the year 2008.

## **Community Outreach**

- The Hate Crime Unit continued to meet and consult with community organizations and representatives throughout 2008 for the purposes of education, negotiation, mediation for public order and safety, and to address community concerns specific to hate/bias discrimination. These community organizations and representatives include:
  - African Canadian Community Police Working Group on Anti-Black Hate Crime
  - EGALE (an organization advancing equality and justice for lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and trans-identified people)
  - The League for Human Rights-B'nai Brith Canada and Community Alliance Forum
  - Canadian Arab Federation
  - Canadian Islamic Congress
  - Canadian Jewish Congress
  - Jewish Defense League
  - United Jewish Appeal Federation of Greater Toronto
  - The Hasbara Fellowship
  - Palestine House
  - Tibetan Canadian Cultural Centre
  - Students for a Free Tibet
  - Tibetan Joint Action Committee of Toronto
  - Chiefs of Ontario



- First Nations Support for Kithenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug
  - The Regional Tibetan Youth Congress of Toronto
  - The Council for Human Rights in North Korea
  - The Serbian League of Canada
  - The Centre For Peace in the Balkans
  - Ryerson University Serbian Association
  - University of Toronto Serbian Students Association
  - York University Albanian Students Association
  - University of Toronto Albanian Students Association
  - Canadian Tamil Congress
  - The Sri Lanka Day Committee
  - The Tamil Rehabilitation Organization
  - The Tamil Women Organization
  - Canadian Tamil Youth Development Centre
  - the Sri Lanka United National Association
  - The Islamic Society of North America High School
  - Iranian Seniors Association
  - Iranian Women's Association
  - International Muslim Organization of Toronto
  - Paradise Forever Youth Group (a Muslim Youth Organization)
  - BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Hindu Temple
  - Neighbourhood Interfaith Group
  - University of Toronto
  - York University
  - Ryerson University
- The Hate Crime Unit continued its dialoguing with community representatives for ways to improve the effectiveness of the Service's initiatives to reduce hate/bias crimes.
  - The Hate Crime Unit partnered as a committed member of the Policing Standards Advisory Committee Hate Crimes Working Group (PSAC). This group was developed to address the recommendations/findings of the 2006 Hate Crimes Community Working Group Report which impacts directly on policing and works to improve the criminal justice system's response to victims of hate/bias crimes. The immediate focus for the PSAC Hate Crime Working Group is to develop a consistent working definition of what constitutes a hate crime for all police services in Ontario, and to develop and identify a consistent tracking methodology for hate crimes. The PSAC Hate Crimes Working Group includes representation from:
    - Ontario Association of Police Services Board
    - Toronto Police Services Board
    - Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police
    - Association of Municipalities of Ontario
    - Ontario Provincial Police



- Police Association of Ontario
  - Ontario Provincial Police Association
  - Ministry of the Attorney General
  - Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services
  - Ontario Police College
  - Toronto Police Association
- The Hate Crime Unit continues to be a committed member of the Anti-Black Hate Crimes Committee. This committee was formed in 2007 in response to the statistics gathered relating to crime motivated by race particular to the Black Community. The committee membership includes representation from:
    - Toronto Police Service Command
    - Toronto Police Service Hate Crime Unit
    - Toronto Police Service Community Mobilization Unit
    - Toronto Police Service Corporate Planning
    - Toronto Police Service Public Information Unit
    - The Black Community Police Consultative Committee
    - The African Canadian Legal Clinic
    - Toronto District School Board
  - The Hate Crime Unit continued to make presentations on the subject of hate/bias crime to educational institutions, community groups and other organizations as requested. The Hate Crime Unit lectured criminology and police foundation students at the University of Toronto and the University of Guelph Humber. The Hate Crime Unit also lectured and provided training to approximately 30 members of the management staff at York University in response to an increase in hate crime occurrences on campus. The Hate Crime unit participated and provided a presentation at a townhall meeting with 51 Division's LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender) community. The focus of this community meeting was on homophobic/transphobic crime prevention and what to do if you experience acts of hatred. In addition, a member of the Hate Crime Unit acted as a panelist providing hate crime expertise at a Community Alliance Forum conference hosted by the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith Canada.
  - The Hate Crime Unit joined the provincially-funded Hate Crime Extremism Investigative Team (HCEIT) in 2005 and remained a full partner through 2008. The HCEIT consists of thirteen Police Services that receive funding for the joint collection and sharing of information, enforcement and education of hate/bias crime.
  - The Hate Crime Unit partnered with the Empowered Students Partnership (ESP) program in 2007 and continued to work with them in 2008 as part of



ongoing program development in the area of hate crime education in the public school system. The ESP program is now in operation in 110 Toronto secondary schools. In 2008, the Hate Crime Unit partnered with the ESP program and embarked on the Empowered Student Partnerships Hate Crimes/ Racism Leadership Project. This project aims to work with a group of students and staff advisors from six targeted ESP programs from high risk schools located within 13 priority areas as identified by the City of Toronto. The Hate Crime Unit is presently working with the Canadian Safe Schools Network to develop and deliver a series of awareness/ leadership seminars to be rolled out with six priority ESP school committees over the course of the school year. The student participants would then take the information and skills gained and carry out hate crime/racism awareness campaigns within their schools and communities.

- The Hate Crime Unit assisted the Toronto Police Community Mobilization Unit in the launching of a public awareness and education program “RHVP-Report Homophobic Violence, Period.” RHVP focuses on youths between 13 and 25 years old and addresses the issue of homophobic and transphobic bullying and violence. It is an initiative of the Toronto Police Service’s Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Consultative Committee and was developed by the Toronto Police Service in partnership with a large number of community partners and community service providers. The program focuses on crime prevention strategies targeting homophobic and transphobic bullying before these actions reach the criminal threshold of a hate/bias crime. It provides education and awareness regarding patterns of behavior which may lead to the commission of hate crimes. In the case of an offence, the program stresses the need to report hate-motivated incidents and offers a number of options to both victims and bystanders if they do not feel comfortable to talk to police. Police and partner agencies are putting referral mechanisms in place and continue to strengthen the ones which currently exist. The program was officially launched during the Pride Festival in 2008. It consists of print material, a public service announcement, and lesson plans for anti-homophobia awareness training. Toronto Police Community School Liaison Officers and School Resource Officers received training in the Fall of 2008.

### **Media Outreach**

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





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**The Hate Crime Unit is committed to the prevention and investigation of hate/bias 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.**