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# **US Hate Crimes Motivated by Race and Ethnicity**

**AUGUST 2023 REPORT**

## US Hate Crimes Motivated by Race and Ethnicity

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# Assessment

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### US Hate Crimes Motivated by Race and Ethnicity

This report reexamines hate-crime data and statistics in the United States, providing an update to the current situation regarding hate crime incidents and identifying the groups most frequently targeted in hate crimes motivated by race and ethnicity. The Black community faces the highest number and relative share of these hate crimes in the United States. Five-year trends identified in federal and local data on hate crimes motivated by racial or ethnic bias show that the number of these hate crimes will likely continue to increase in the coming years.

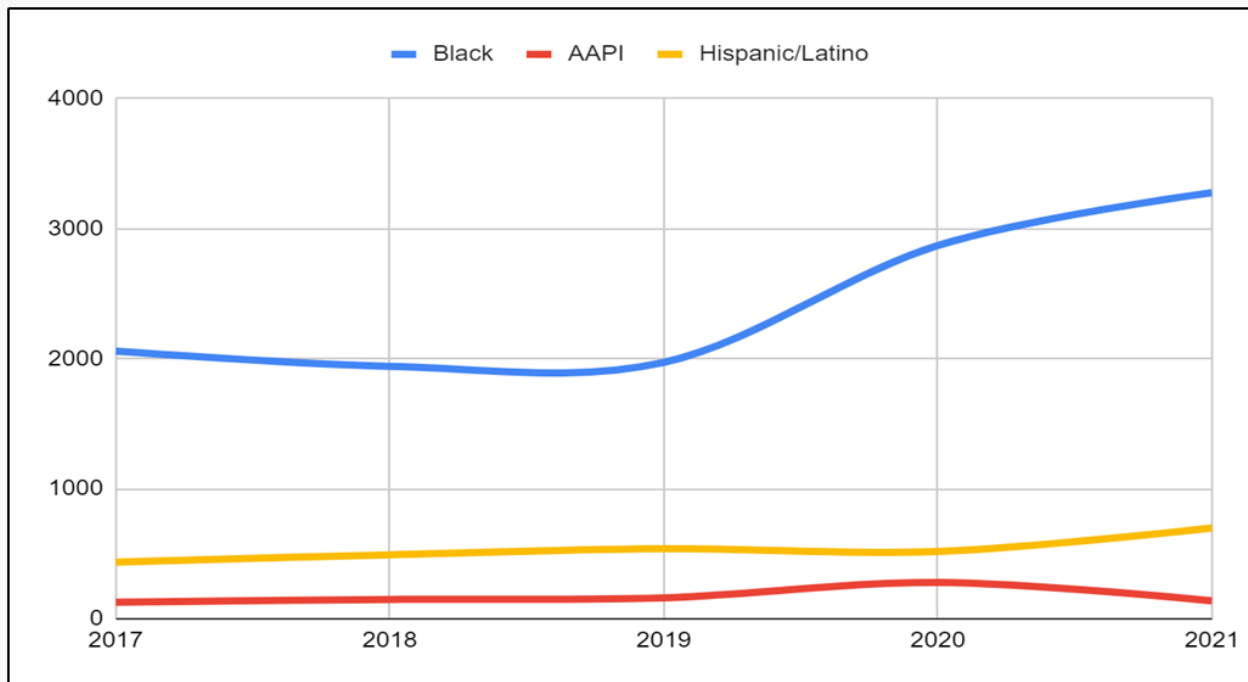
### Key Takeaways:

- According to the FBI, a total of 6,643 reported hate crime incidents involved biases against race or ethnicity.
- California, Oregon, and Texas most recently reported 11.4 percent, 68 percent, and 2.3 percent increases, respectively, in racially or ethnically motivated hate crimes.
- Anti-AAPI hate crimes have overall trended downward despite small increases in certain parts of the United States.
- Anti-Black and anti-Hispanic/Latino hate crimes have increased overall and are likely to continue increasing based on recent trends throughout the United States.

## US Hate Crimes Motivated by Race and Ethnicity

### Overview

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) publishes data each year on the number of hate crimes that have been committed in the United States. In March 2023, the FBI issued a supplemental report on previously released statistics on hate crimes committed in 2021, the latest year for which data is available. According to these statistics, a total of 6,643 reported hate crime incidents involved biases against race or ethnicity, representing approximately 61 percent of all reported hate crimes according to the FBI. No further updates to the FBI’s annual hate crime report were identified, and the 2022 report has not yet been released.



Above: Number of hate crimes committed with an anti-Black, anti-AAPI, or anti-Hispanic/Latino bias according to FBI data, 2017–2021

### Hate Crime Reporting in Largest US Cities

The three largest cities in the United States—New York City, Los Angeles, and Chicago—have now published full data on the number of hate crimes committed in their respective cities, and the states of California, Oregon, and Texas have published hate crime reports in the past month, detailing statewide hate crime statistics for 2022. The three largest US cities have all reported continual increases in overall hate crimes motivated by race and ethnicity over the past five years. The most recent statewide reports from California, Oregon, and Texas similarly

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show increases in hate crimes with these motivations, with 11.4 percent, 68 percent, and 2.3 percent, respectively.

New York City, Los Angeles, and Chicago have also published data to varying degrees regarding overall hate crime trends thus far in 2023, though only New York City and Los Angeles have published year-to-date comparisons for this data. New York City has reported a total decrease of 56 percent in hate crimes motivated by race or ethnicity comparing the first quarters of 2023 and 2022, and Los Angeles has reported a total decrease of 5.6 percent in these hate crimes between 1 January and 8 July 2023 compared to the same period in 2022. Texas state data for 2023 shows an overall decline of nearly 15 percent in hate crimes reported during the first seven months of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022.

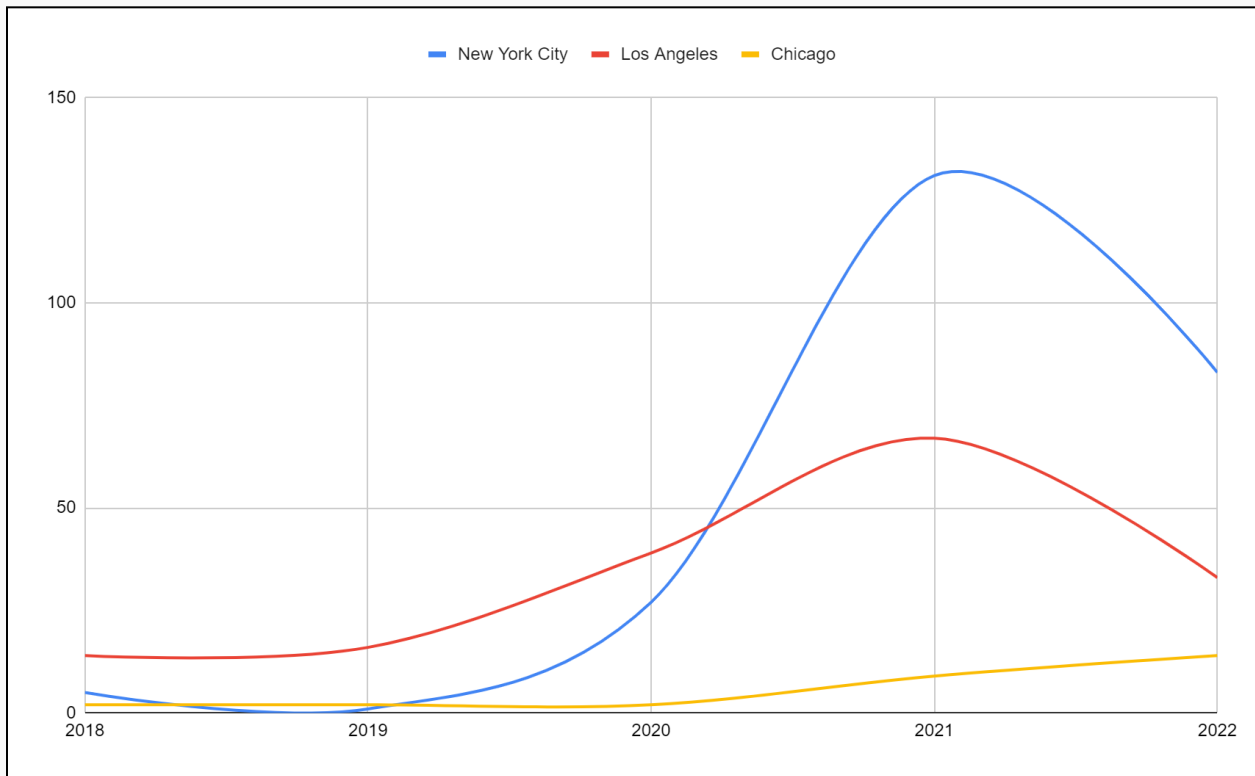
## Anti-Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Hate Crimes

Between 2020 and 2021, for example, an analysis of reported hate crimes in 24 major US cities found that hate crimes against Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) increased by an average of 189 percent in these cities. While the number of anti-AAPI hate crimes remains at historic highs, this number has been gradually trending downward since peaking in early 2022: Such hate crimes decreased by 48 percent in New York City, New York, and by 17 percent in Los Angeles, California. The surge in anti-AAPI hate crimes began in early 2020, coinciding with the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and the public accusations directed at China for allegedly allowing the virus to spread around the world.

New York City data showed a continued decrease in anti-AAPI hate crimes, by approximately 35 percent between Q1 2022 and Q1 2023, while no change was reported in Los Angeles during the first six months of 2023 compared to the first six months of 2022. The state of Texas has reported a 36 percent decrease in anti-AAPI hate crimes thus far in 2023.

While the number of reported anti-AAPI hate crimes is still significantly higher than in 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic, these hate crimes continue to trend downward, and future surges in anti-AAPI hate crimes are unlikely at this time.

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Above: Number of anti-AAPI hate crimes reported by the cities of New York City, Los Angeles, and Chicago, 2018–2022

## Anti-Black Hate Crimes

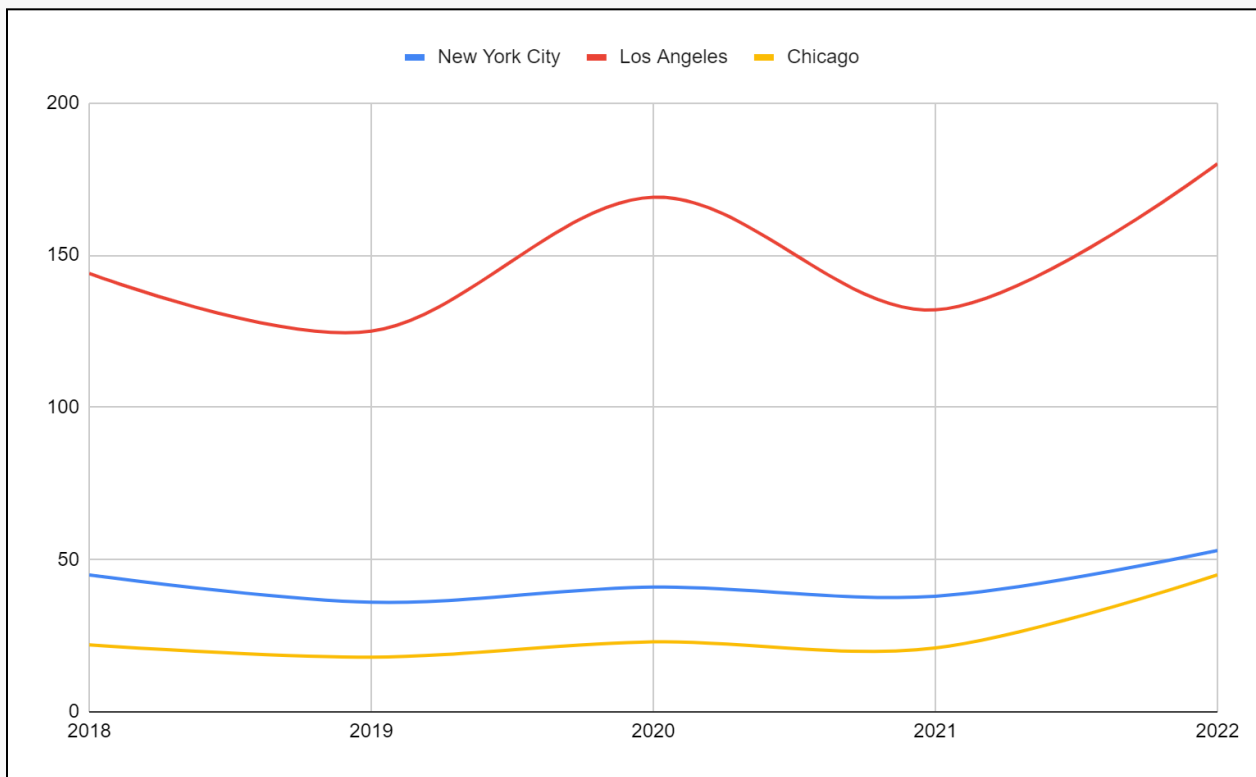
Hate crimes targeting Black Americans represent the greatest share of hate crimes committed with a racially or ethnically motivated bias. Notably, FBI hate crime data indicates that the number of reported hate crimes committed against Black Americans spiked in 2020 before decreasing somewhat the following year. In 2019, 1,972 anti-Black hate crimes were reported, and this rose to 2,871 in 2020 before falling to 2,233 in 2021. The Black population represents approximately 12.5 percent of the total US population, while anti-Black hate crimes represent approximately 30 percent of all reported hate crimes, according to the most recently updated FBI data.

Anti-Black hate crimes trended upward from 2021 to 2022 in the three largest US cities and in the most recently released hate crime reports for California and Oregon. From 2021 to 2022, anti-Black hate crimes increased by 39 percent in New York City, 36 percent in Los Angeles, and 114 percent in Chicago, with increases of 27 percent and 38 percent in the state of California and Oregon, respectively. No change in the number of anti-Black hate crimes reported in Texas was identified between 2021 and 2022.

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New York City data showed a notable 50 percent decrease in anti-Black hate crimes between Q1 2022 and Q1 2023, while Los Angeles reported a 9 percent decrease during the first six months of 2023 compared to the first six months of 2022. The state of Texas has reported a decrease of nearly 22 percent in anti-Black hate crimes in 2023.

Despite the decreases in reported anti-Black hate crimes thus far in 2023, overall trends over the past five years show steady increases in these hate crimes, particularly since 2020. This indicates the likelihood that anti-Black hate crimes will continue to increase throughout 2023, though these increases may be unevenly distributed throughout the United States.



*Above: Number of anti-Black hate crimes reported by the cities of New York City, Los Angeles, and Chicago, 2018–2022*

## Anti-Hispanic and Anti-Latino Hate Crimes

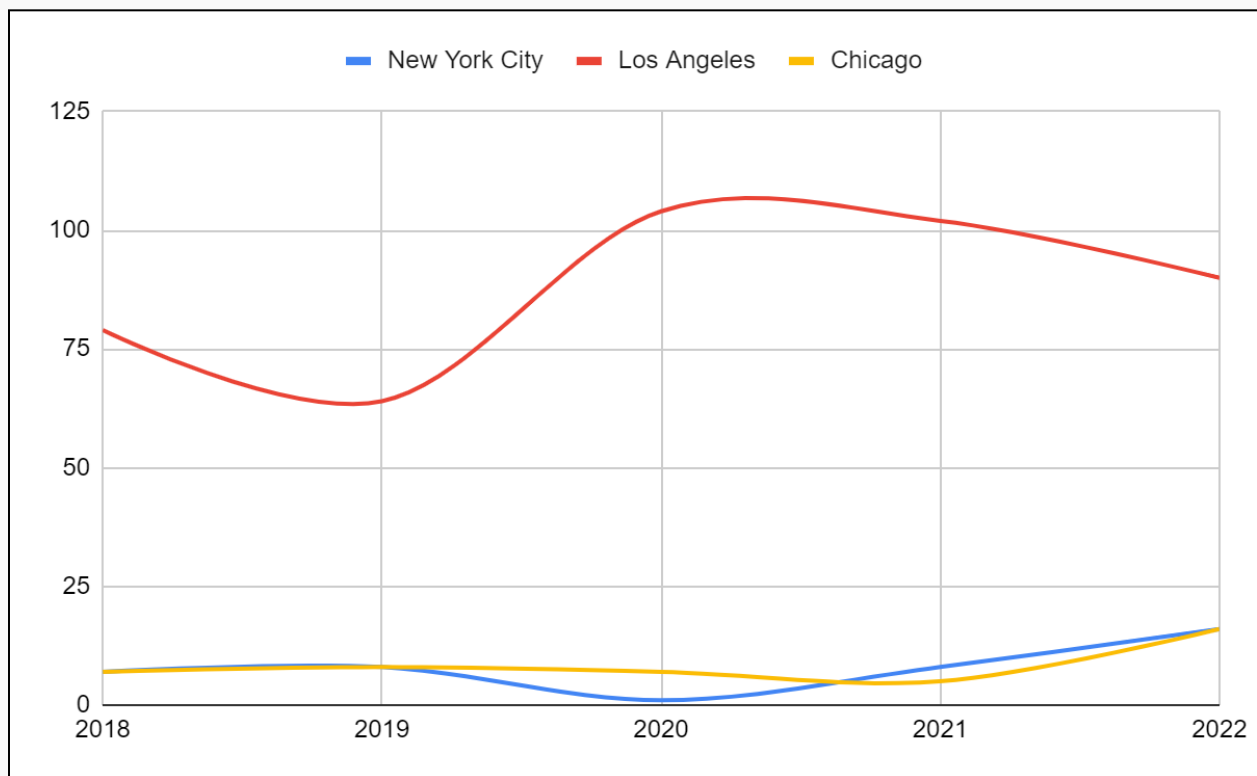
Hate crimes targeting the Hispanic or Latino have been increasing consistently throughout the United States, according to FBI hate crime data, peaking at 517. Data from major cities also showed continuous increases in the number of reported hate crimes targeting this community. The Hispanic and Latino population represents approximately 19 percent of the

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total US population, while anti-Hispanic and Latino hate crimes represent approximately 5.9 percent of all reported hate crimes according to FBI data for 2021.

Data from the three largest US cities is largely inconsistent in regard to anti-Hispanic/Latino hate crimes, with New York City and Chicago reporting increases of 100 percent and 220 percent, respectively, while Los Angeles reported an approximately 11.7 percent decrease in hate crimes with this motivation. From 2021 to 2022, California and Oregon reported 6.6 percent and 209 percent increases, respectively, while Texas reported a slight 1.7 percent decrease. These statistics indicate an overall increase in anti-Hispanic/Latino hate crimes between 2021 and 2022, despite the decrease in Los Angeles.

Data from 2023 on anti-Hispanic/Latino hate crimes is largely insufficient to identify broader trends in recent months. Only one such hate crime was reported in New York City in Q1 2023 compared to two that were reported during Q1 2022, while Los Angeles reported a 5.9 percent decrease in anti-Hispanic/Latino hate crimes during the first six months of 2023 compared to the same period in 2022. Texas has reported a notable 10.5 percent increase in anti-Hispanic/Latino hate crimes thus far in 2023, and combined with recent annual data from California, this may indicate an overall upward trend in these hate crimes in areas with a significant Hispanic/Latino population.



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*Above: Number of anti-Hispanic/Latino hate crimes reported by the cities of New York City, Los Angeles, and Chicago, 2018–2022*

## Conclusions

Overall trends identified in the United States, comparing 2021 and 2022 and based on available data for 2023, indicate a continually increasing number of hate crimes motivated by race and ethnicity in the country. Within this category, the numbers of anti-Black and anti-Hispanic hate crimes have trended upward over the past five years, and data for 2023 indicates that this trend will likely continue at least through this year. Anti-AAPI hate crimes, conversely, have continued to decrease in recent years with the gradual end of the COVID-19 pandemic, and data from 2023 supports the possibility of continued decreases in this category of hate crime.



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