### **Victims of Hate Crime Incidents**

- There were 7,106 single-bias incidents involving 8.493 victims.
- A percent distribution of victims by bias type shows that 59.6 percent of victims were targeted because of the offenders' race/ethnicity/ancestry bias; 20.6 percent were targeted because of the offenders' religious bias; 15.8 percent were victimized because of the offenders' sexual orientation bias; 1.9 percent were victimized because of the offenders' disability bias; 1.6 percent were targeted because of the offenders' gender identity bias; and 0.6 percent were victimized because of the offenders' gender bias.
- Sixty-nine (69) multiple-bias hate crime incidents involved 335 victims

### Offenses by Crime Category

Of the 5,084 hate crime offenses classified as crimes against persons in 2017, 44.9 percent were for intimidation, 34.3 percent were for simple assault, and 19.5 percent were for aggravated assault. Twenty-three rapes, 15 murders, and 1 offense of human trafficking—commercial sex acts were reported as hate crimes. The remaining 27 hate crime offenses were reported in the category of other.

There were 3,115 hate crime offenses classified as crimes against property. The majority of these (74.6 percent) were acts of destruction/damage/vandalism. Robbery, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, arson, and other offenses accounted for the remaining 25.4 percent of crimes against property.

"A hate crime is a crime plus the motivation for committing a crime based on bias."

### Resources

https://www.justice.gov/

https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/civil-rights/hate-crimes

https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/civil-rights

https://ucr.fbi.gov/hatecrime/2017/resource-pages/ hate-crime-summary.pdf



# HIGHLAND HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## **Terminology**

HATE: The term "hate" can be misleading. When used in a hate crime law, the word "hate" does not mean rage or anger or general dislike. It means bias against persons with specific characteristics that are defined by the relevant law.

Most hate crime laws cover crimes committed because of race, color, and religion. Many also prohibit crimes committed on the basis of perceived or actual disability, gender, gender identity, and sexual orientation.

*CRIME*: The "crime" in hate crime is often a violent crime, such as assault, murder, arson, vandalism, or threats to commit such crimes. It may also cover conspiring or asking another person to commit such crimes, even if the crime was never carried out.

*HATE CRIME:* A crime motivated by bias against race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity.

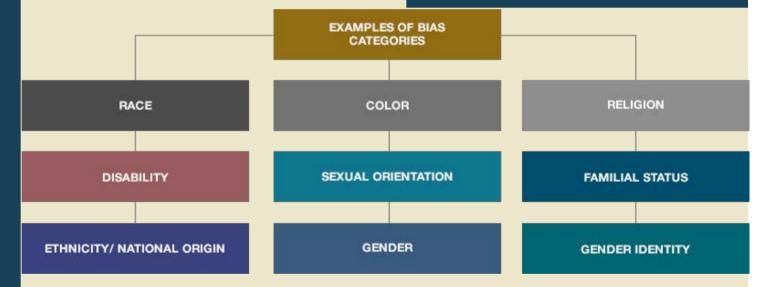
BIAS OR HATE INCIDENT: Acts of prejudice that are not crimes and do not involve violence, threats, or property damage.

"When someone is hostile to another person because of their DISABILITY, NATIONALITY, RACE, RELIGION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR TRANSGENDER IDENTITY and they show their hostility by INTIMIDATION, HARASSMENT, DAMAGIN PROPERTY, and VIOLENCE is a **HATE CRIME**."

#### HATE CRIME IN KENTUCKY

FBI reports 432 hate crimes in 2017. That is an increase of 79% from 2016. Reported hate crimes include offenses like intimidation and assault. Kentucky's state law on hate crimes does not cover murder. As for the penalties for committing a hate crime in Kentucky, it's up to a judge to decide at the time of sentencing whether to classify the crime as hate. According to Kentucky State Police, most hate crime committed in the Bluegrass is racially motivated and reasons following that, are based on religion and sexual orientation.

"Under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, people cannot be prosecuted simply for their beliefs. Many people may be very offended or upset about beliefs that are untrue or based upon false stereotypes. However, it is not a crime to express offensive beliefs or to join with others who share such views. On the other hand, the First Amendment does not permit anyone to commit a crime, just because that conduct is rooted in philosophical beliefs."



Since 1968, when Congress passed, and President Lyndon Johnson signed into law, the first federal hate crimes statute, the Department of Justice has been enforcing federal hate crimes laws. The 1968 statute made it a crime to use, or threaten to use, force to willfully interfere with any person because of race, color, religion, or national origin.

"On average, U.S. residents experienced an estimated 250,000 hate crime victimizations each year between 2004 and 2015. Most of these were not reported to law enforcement."