

2008



BIAS INCIDENTS

*in
New Jersey*

For the year ending December 31, 2008



New Jersey State Police
Uniform Crime Reporting Unit



TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSE REPORT 2008

Honorable Anne Milgram

Attorney General
State of New Jersey

Colonel Joseph R. Fuentes

Superintendent
New Jersey State Police

Major James S. Beshada

Commanding Officer
Identification and Information Technology Section
New Jersey State Police

Chief Robert Coulton

Ewing Township Police Department
President
New Jersey Association of Chiefs of Police

Prepared by:

State of New Jersey
Department of Law and Public Safety
Division of State Police
Uniform Crime Reporting Unit

INTRODUCTION

Crimes motivated by hate and bias tend to erode the basic fabric of society. Bias incidents having a racial, religious, ethnic, sexual or gender component as well as crimes against individuals with a handicap, manifest themselves in a wide spectrum of criminal activities. These bias incidents jeopardize the active and open pursuit of freedom and opportunity. They attack our citizens based on their race, religion, ethnic heritage, sexual orientation, handicap, or gender. Closely linked to such heritage are individual values, beliefs, and identities.

Realizing that no agency within the state was collecting complete data on bias incidents, a broad-based Ad Hoc committee was created to develop a comprehensive statewide reporting system. As a result of the committee's recommendation, Attorney General Executive Directive No. 1987-3 was issued mandating all New Jersey law enforcement agencies begin reporting bias incident offenses to the Division of State Police, Uniform Crime Reporting Unit on a monthly basis effective January 1, 1988. On August 15, 1996, legislation was enacted which enhanced the state's definition of a bias incident to include crimes that are gender or handicap-motivated.

The directive was instituted to capture vital data in an effort to identify the problem. This information permits proper evaluation of progress in preventing bias crime and assist with necessary planning for the future.

This twenty-first annual publication concerning bias crimes contains comparisons to the previous year's statistics. The published statistics and graphs are the result of data submitted by the police community of New Jersey.

Hopefully, the information contained in this publication will be of value to various segments of society and serve its intended purpose.



State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
P.O. Box 080
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0080

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

ANNE MILGRAM
Attorney General

*The Honorable Jon S. Corzine
Governor of the State of New Jersey*

*Honorable Members of the Senate and
Assembly of the State of New Jersey*

Dear Governor and Members of the Legislature:

Pursuant to the Attorney General's Executive Directive 1987-3, I herewith submit for your information and review the twenty-first annual report on bias incidents in New Jersey. The annual report is based on the bias incident reports submitted to the New Jersey Uniform Crime Reporting System by every New Jersey law enforcement agency for the year 2008.

It would have been impossible to complete this report without the cooperation of New Jersey law enforcement agencies. It is with appreciation to these dedicated public servants, and in the interest of developing strategies for identifying and addressing bias-motivated crimes, that this report is submitted.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Anne Milgram".

*Anne Milgram
Attorney General of New Jersey*



State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE
POST OFFICE BOX 7068
WEST TRENTON, NJ 08628-0068
(609) 882-2000

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

ANNE MILGRAM
Attorney General

COLONEL JOSEPH R. FUENTES
Superintendent

*The Honorable Anne Milgram
Attorney General
State of New Jersey
Hughes Justice Complex
Trenton, New Jersey*

Dear Attorney General Milgram:

Pursuant to the Attorney General's Executive Directive 1987-3, the twenty-first annual report on bias incidents in New Jersey is submitted. This report contains statistics related to bias incidents. All information is based on bias incident reports submitted to the New Jersey Uniform Crime Reporting System by every New Jersey law enforcement agency for the year 2008. The report contains comparisons and analyses between 2007 and 2008 data.

This report could not have been realized without the cooperation of all New Jersey law enforcement agencies. It is being forwarded for your information and presentation to the Governor and members of the Legislature.

Respectfully,

Joseph R. Fuentes
Colonel
Superintendent



BIAS INCIDENT STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Highlights of the 2008 bias incident offense statistics are listed below:

- New Jersey law enforcement agencies reported 772 bias incident investigations, resulting in 876 target-type based bias incident offenses in 2008, an 8% increase compared to 2007.
- Harassment accounted for 39% (340) of all bias incident offenses.
- Criminal mischief and damage to property accounted for 42% (372) of all bias incident offenses.
- Racial bias accounted for 47% (409) of all bias incident crimes in 2008.
- The target category of person accounted for 55% (486) of all bias offenses.
- The Black race represented the most frequent racial group victimized by bias crime, accounting for 40% (351) of all bias offenses.
- The Jewish religion represented the most frequent religious group victimized by bias crime, accounting for 29% (256) of all bias offenses.
- The Hispanic ethnicity represented the most frequent ethnic group victimized by bias crime, accounting for 4% (35) of all bias offenses.
- The most frequent day of occurrence was Wednesday (146 offenses).
- The most frequent month of occurrence was October (90 offenses).
- The most frequent place of occurrence was a school building, where 27% (238 offenses) of all bias incidents occurred.
- Forty-three percent (380) of all bias incident offenses were cleared, with 16% (141) being cleared by arrest, and 27% (239) being exceptionally cleared.
- A total of 169 arrests (96 adults and 73 juveniles) were made resulting from bias incidents. Compared to 2007, arrests increased 23 percent.

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES BY COUNTY 2007/2008

		Murder	Man- slaughter	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Larceny- Theft	Simple Assault	Fear of Bodily Violence	Arson
Atlantic	2007	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Bergen	2007	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	2	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	-	-
Burlington	2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Camden	2007	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	5	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Cape May	2007	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cumberland	2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Essex	2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	-
Gloucester	2007	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	3	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Hudson	2007	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	8	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	6	-	1
Hunterdon	2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mercer	2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Middlesex	2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	5	1	-
Monmouth	2007	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	9	1	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	13	5	-
Morris	2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-
Ocean	2007	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	7	2	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	3	-	-
Passaic	2007	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Salem	2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Somerset	2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
Sussex	2007	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Union	2007	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Warren	2007	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2007	1	0	0	2	12	5	1	46	11	1
	2008	0	0	0	1	19	3	2	47	9	1

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES BY COUNTY 2007/2008

Criminal Mischief	Damage to Property Threat of Violence	Weapons Offenses	Sex Offenses	Terroristic Threats	Trespass	Disorderly Conduct	Harassment	Desecration of Venerated Objects	All Other Bias Incidents	TOTAL
5	2	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	19
8	1	-	-	1	-	-	11	-	-	23
16	3	-	-	2	-	-	20	-	-	48
34	1	-	-	3	-	1	17	-	-	62
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	12
22	-	-	-	1	-	-	19	-	1	45
18	1	-	-	4	-	-	20	-	-	50
18	2	-	-	1	-	-	16	-	2	41
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	9
3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	5
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
8	1	-	-	1	-	1	10	-	5	29
18	4	-	-	7	-	-	12	-	1	47
17	-	-	-	-	-	2	21	-	1	47
29	-	-	-	-	-	2	16	-	1	50
5	1	-	2	3	-	-	5	-	-	26
7	1	-	-	9	-	-	11	-	2	41
4	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	1	15
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	5
16	1	-	-	1	-	-	13	-	-	33
21	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	1	34
43	2	-	-	5	-	1	41	-	7	101
39	2	-	-	4	-	-	48	2	4	110
37	3	-	-	5	-	9	107	-	12	186
64	1	-	-	4	-	8	108	-	7	215
12	-	-	1	1	-	1	15	-	1	31
26	-	-	-	1	-	-	13	-	6	49
32	3	-	-	4	-	5	43	-	2	101
29	1	-	-	4	-	-	29	-	1	71
20	1	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	2	34
6	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	1	3	16
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
16	2	1	-	-	-	-	8	1	-	29
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	23
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	8
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	5
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	14
14	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	20
3	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	12
6	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	11
268	23	1	3	26	0	19	353	2	35	809
358	14	0	0	37	0	12	340	3	30	876

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES/CLEARANCES/ARRESTS 2007/2008

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES		Number of Offenses	Offenses Cleared	Percent Cleared	Number of Arrests		
					Total Arrests	Adult Arrests	Juvenile Arrests
Murder	2007	1	1	100	3	3	-
	2008	-	-	-	0	-	-
Manslaughter	2007	-	-	-	0	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	0	-	-
Rape	2007	-	-	-	0	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	0	-	-
Robbery	2007	2	1	50	1	1	-
	2008	1	1	100	1	1	-
Aggravated Assault	2007	12	7	58	6	4	2
	2008	19	14	74	12	8	4
Burglary	2007	5	1	20	2	1	1
	2008	3	-	0	0	-	-
Larceny-Theft	2007	1	-	0	0	-	-
	2008	2	-	0	0	-	-
Simple Assault	2007	46	38	83	31	22	9
	2008	47	36	77	23	11	12
Fear of Bodily Violence	2007	11	6	55	1	-	1
	2008	9	6	67	2	1	1
Arson	2007	1	-	0	0	-	-
	2008	1	-	0	0	-	-
Criminal Mischief	2007	268	12	4	16	1	15
	2008	358	22	6	37	7	30
Damage to Property; Threat of Violence	2007	23	-	0	0	-	-
	2008	14	1	7	0	-	-
Weapons Offense	2007	1	1	100	1	1	-
	2008	-	-	-	0	-	-
Sex Offenses (Except Rape)	2007	3	3	100	2	2	-
	2008	-	-	-	0	-	-
Terroristic Threats	2007	26	13	50	7	4	3
	2008	37	25	68	18	12	6
Trespass	2007	-	-	-	0	-	-
	2008	-	-	-	0	-	-
Disorderly Conduct	2007	19	18	95	8	8	-
	2008	12	11	92	6	4	2
Harassment	2007	353	248	70	58	38	20
	2008	340	249	73	65	47	18
Desecration of Venerated Objects	2007	2	1	50	0	-	-
	2008	3	-	0	0	-	-
All Other Bias Incidents	2007	35	17	49	1	1	-
	2008	30	15	50	5	5	-
TOTAL	2007	809	367	45	137	86	51
	2008	876	380	43	169	96	73

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES

2004 through 2008

BIAS INCIDENT OFFENSES	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Murder	-	-	-	1	-
Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	-
Rape	-	-	-	-	-
Robbery	4	3	7	2	1
Aggravated Assault	5	15	25	12	19
Burglary	3	5	4	5	3
Larceny-Theft	-	1	3	1	2
Simple Assault	50	54	52	46	47
Fear of Bodily Violence	15	12	17	11	9
Arson	-	3	1	1	1
Criminal Mischief	391	346	290	268	358
Damage to Property; Threat of Violence	8	9	16	23	14
Weapons Offense	3	1	-	1	-
Sex Offense (Except Rape)	-	-	1	3	-
Terroristic Threats	41	33	28	26	37
Trespass	1	1	1	-	-
Disorderly Conduct	5	4	15	19	12
Harassment	322	292	339	353	340
Desecration of Venerated Objects	1	-	2	2	3
All Other Bias Incidents	19	13	24	35	30
TOTAL	868	792	825	809	876

BIAS INCIDENT SUMMARY

TARGET/TYPE – 2008

PERSON						486			
RACIAL		RELIGIOUS		ETHNIC		SEXUAL		OTHER	
	265		79		60		77		5
American Indian	1	Catholic	1	Arab	9	Bisexual	-	Gender	3
Asian	8	Hindu	1	Asian Indian	9	Heterosexual(F)	1	Handicap:	2
Black	225	Islamic	10	Hispanic	33	Heterosexual(M)	2	(1) Physical	1
White	25	Jewish	62	Asian	5	Homosexual(F)	13	(2) Mental	1
Other	6	Protestant	-	Nat. Origin	2	Homosexual(M)	55		
		Other	5	Other	2	Homosexual(M&F)	6		

PRIVATE PROPERTY						219			
RACIAL		RELIGIOUS		ETHNIC		SEXUAL		OTHER	
	76		122		8		13		0
American Indian	2	Catholic	6	Arab	-	Bisexual	-	Gender	-
Asian	2	Hindu	2	Asian Indian	1	Heterosexual(F)	-	Handicap:	0
Black	68	Islamic	3	Hispanic	2	Heterosexual(M)	-	(1) Physical	-
White	3	Jewish	107	Asian	2	Homosexual(F)	1	(2) Mental	-
Other	1	Protestant	1	Nat. Origin	2	Homosexual(M)	10		
		Other	3	Other	1	Homosexual(M&F)	2		

PUBLIC PROPERTY						171			
RACIAL		RELIGIOUS		ETHNIC		SEXUAL		OTHER	
	68		94		2		7		0
American Indian	-	Catholic	1	Arab	-	Bisexual	-	Gender	-
Asian	1	Hindu	1	Asian Indian	-	Heterosexual(F)	-	Handicap:	0
Black	58	Islamic	-	Hispanic	-	Heterosexual(M)	-	(1) Physical	-
White	5	Jewish	87	Asian	-	Homosexual(F)	-	(2) Mental	-
Other	4	Protestant	-	Nat. Origin	2	Homosexual(M)	5		
		Other	5	Other	-	Homosexual(M&F)	2		

BIAS INCIDENT SUMMARY

2008

Description of Incident		Place of Occurrence		Relationship of Victim to Offender	
Swastika	163	Residence	193	Acquaintance	130
Cross Burning	1	Religious Building	14	Neighbor	72
Graffiti	191	Government Building	19	Employee	7
In Person	365	School Building	238	Stranger	155
Letters	72	Business Establishment	128	Unknown	422
Telephone	42	Cemetery	2	Other	90
Other	42	Motor Vehicle	74		
		Highway	90		
		Parking Lot	44		
		Other	74		
TOTAL	876	TOTAL	876	TOTAL	876

TYPE OF BIAS									
RACIAL		RELIGIOUS		ETHNIC		SEXUAL		OTHER	
American Indian	3	Catholic	8	Arab	9	Bisexual	-	Gender	3
Asian	11	Hindu	4	Asian Indian	10	Heterosexual(F)	1	Handicap:	2
Black	351	Islamic	13	Hispanic	35	Heterosexual(M)	2	(1) Physical	1
White	33	Jewish	256	Asian	7	Homosexual(F)	14	(2) Mental	1
Other	11	Protestant	1	Nat. Origin	6	Homosexual(M)	70		
		Other	13	Other	3	Homosexual(M&F)	10		
TOTAL	409	TOTAL	295	TOTAL	70	TOTAL	97	TOTAL	5

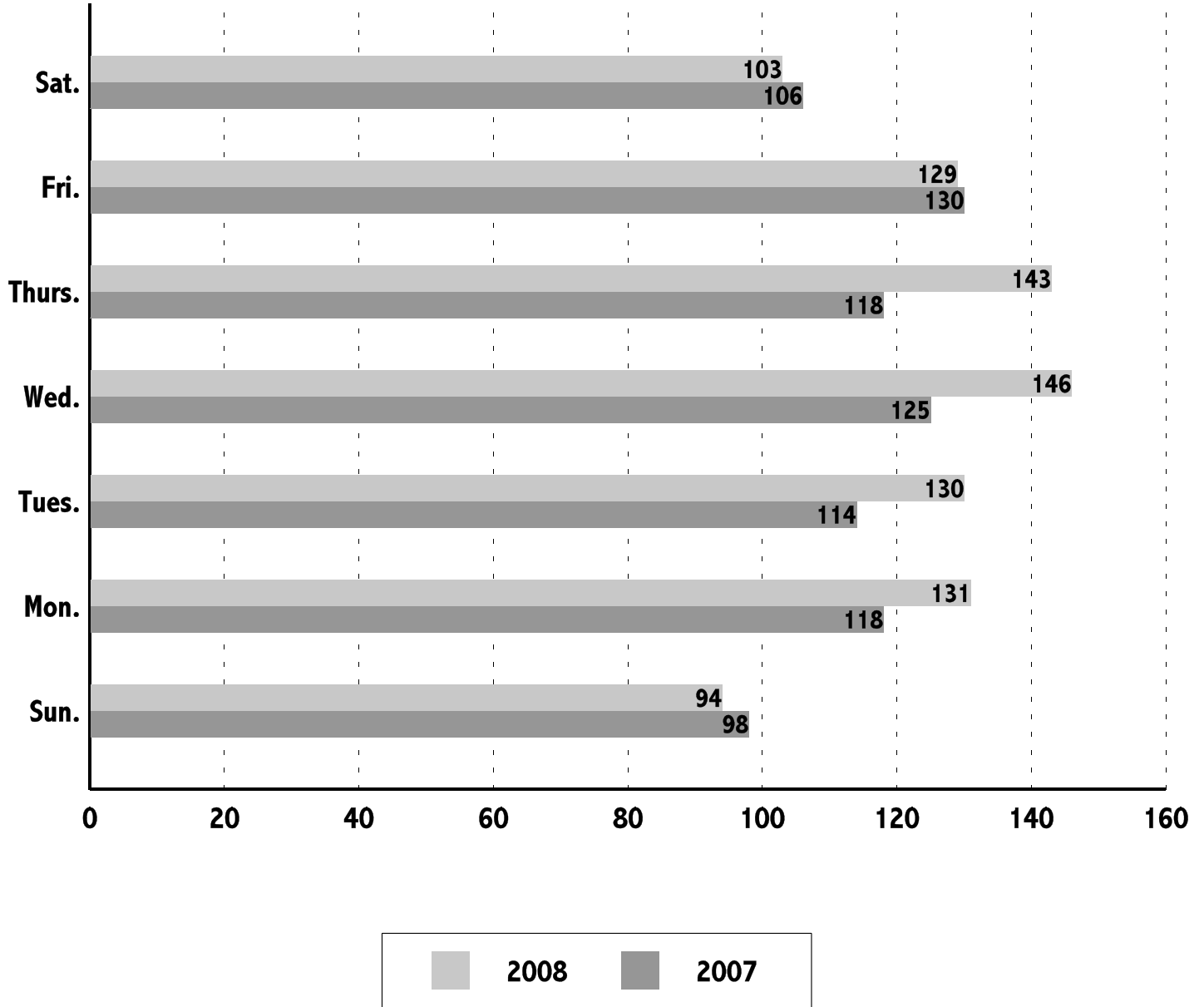
VICTIM/OFFENDER CHARACTERISTICS

2008

	VICTIM	OFFENDER
AGE		
10 and under	11	3
11 to 17	144	170
18 to 20	37	27
21 to 25	43	31
26 to 30	40	24
31 to 35	24	27
36 to 40	45	37
41 to 45	41	21
46 to 50	41	32
51 to 60	29	24
61 and over	31	26
TOTAL AGE	486	422
SEX		
Male	321	322
Female	165	100
TOTAL SEX	486	422
RACE		
American Indian	9	-
Asian	17	4
Black	230	63
White	208	345
Other	22	10
TOTAL RACE	486	422

BIAS INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK

2007/2008



BIAS INCIDENT BY MONTH

2007/2008

