# Reported Hate Crime at Schools: 2018-2022

## **Executive Summary**

Following residence/home and highway/road/alley, school was the third most common location for a reported hate crime offense to occur during the entire five-year period of 2018 to 2022, comprising as much as 10 percent of all reported hate crime offenses in the most recently observed year of 2022. During these five years, over 30 percent of juvenile victims of hate crime experienced the offense at school, and nearly 36 percent of juvenile offenders of hate crime committed the offense at school.

Transcending a basic count of reported hate crimes, this report analyzes the occurrences and fluctuations of specific bias types and bias-motivated offenses reported at schools from 2018 through 2022, and how these offenses relate to each bias type within the school environment.

#### Introduction

For more than three decades, the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program has collected and published data on hate crime incidents in accordance with the Hate Crime Statistics Act of 1990. The FBI's UCR Program defines hate crime as a committed criminal offense which is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias(es) against a race/ethnicity/ancestry, religion, sexual orientation, disability, gender, or gender identity. The goal of collecting data about these offenses is to better understand the scope of hate crime in our nation and the various facets of this unique crime phenomenon.

Participation in the data collection is voluntary for most agencies, but is mandatory for federal law enforcement agencies. Each year from 2018 to 2022, over 90 percent of the nation's population was represented within the *Hate Crime Statistics* reports<sup>1</sup>. The proportion of the represented population declined from 93.8 percent in 2018 to 91.1 percent in 2021. Over 305 million inhabitants, or 91.7 percent of the population, were represented in the 2022 hate crime report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Due to the low participation reflected in *Hate Crime Statistics, 2021*, in which 64.8 percent of the population was represented, the FBI's UCR Program engaged with states and later released *Supplemental Hate Crime Statistics, 2021*, in which 91.1 percent of the population was represented.

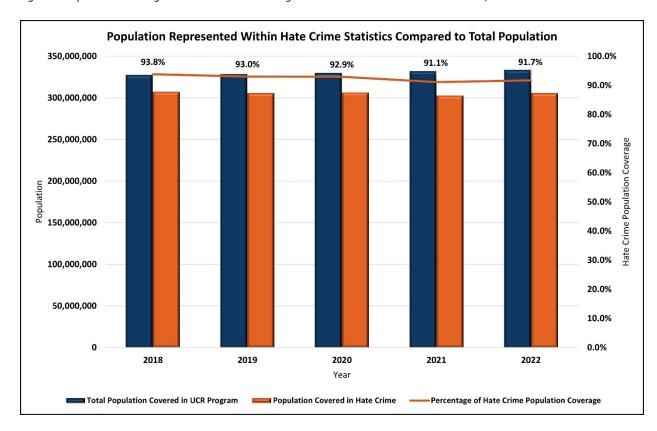


Figure 1: Population Coverage within the FBI's UCR Program and the Hate Crime Data Collection, 2018-2022

The hate crime data examined in this report were obtained from Master File Downloads<sup>2</sup> within the Documents & Downloads page accessible on the FBI's Crime Data Explorer (CDE) website. The master files were derived from the combined reports of law enforcement agencies that submitted hate crime data via the National Incident-Based Reporting System and those that submitted via the Summary Reporting System.

An incident may involve more than one offense. Reported hate crime incidents and related offenses increased from 2018 to 2022, ranging from 7,181 hate crime incidents involving 8,492 related offenses reported in 2018 to 11,643 hate crime incidents involving 13,346 related offenses reported in 2022. Location and bias motivation are associated with the offense level; therefore, this report will examine offense counts rather than incident counts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> These data provide an annual record of all reported bias-motivated incidents. Because these files include raw data submissions, some offenses may not meet the FBI's UCR Program's definition of a hate crime. In addition, data included in the examined hate crime master files may not match the data presented on the CDE's hate crime page, in the publication tables, or from more current sources.

Table 1: Total Reported Hate Crime by Year, 2018-2022

Year	Incidents	Offenses
2018	7,181	8,492
2019	7,874	9,132
2020	9,949	12,895
2021	10,891	12,470
2022	11,643	13,346

The UCR Program provides three school-related options regarding the location where an offense occurred:

- School Elementary/Secondary
  - Defined as institutions for the instruction of children from preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- School College/University
  - Defined as institutions for the higher education of individuals, which gives instruction in specialized fields; community colleges; trade schools.
- School/College
  - Unspecified definition.

Prior to 2010, School/College was the only data value for the location data element indicating a school as the location of a criminal offense and was used for all school locations, regardless of the age or advancement of enrolled students. In 2010, School – Elementary/Secondary and School – College/University were added as data values to distinguish the demographics of the enrolled students at the location of school-related offenses. Although agencies are encouraged to specify Elementary/Secondary or College/University when designating school as the offense location, the original comprehensive School/College location is still an option.

#### Reported Hate Crime at Schools

Each year from 2018 to 2022, School – Elementary/Secondary was the most frequently reported school-related location for the occurrence of a hate crime offense.

Table 2: Reported Hate Crime Offenses at School Locations by Year, 2018-2022

Year	School – College/University	School – Elementary/Secondary	School/College	Total
2018	221	392	87	700
2019	236	615	60	911
2020	144	327	29	500
2021	207	591	98	896
2022	306	890	140	1,336
Total	1,114	2,815	414	4,343

In 2018, 700 (8.2 percent) of the total 8,492 reported hate crime offenses occurred at school locations. This proportion increased to 10.0 percent in 2019, then decreased to 3.9 percent in 2020, a drop which may have been due to pandemic-related stay-at-home orders causing schools to shift from in-person classes to online learning. In 2021, 7.2 percent of reported hate crime offenses occurred at school locations, and in 2022, 10.0 percent of the total 13,346 reported hate crime offenses occurred at school locations.

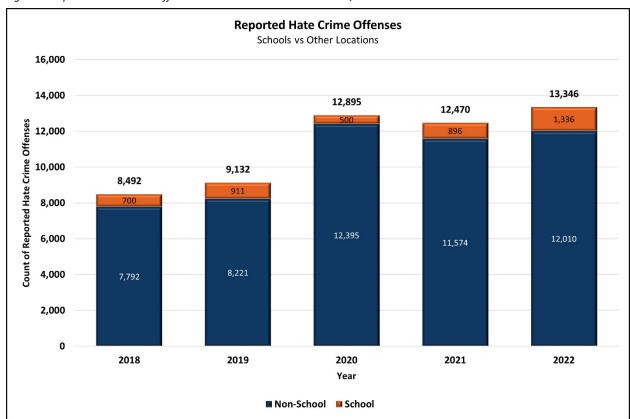


Figure 2: Reported Hate Crime Offenses at Schools and Other Locations, 2018-2022

When considering known, defined locations (i.e., excluding those offense locations described as Other/Unknown), the combined total of the three school location types indicates that school was the third most common location for a reported hate crime offense to occur during the entire five-year period of 2018 to 2022. The first and second most common locations for reported hate crimes to occur within this timeframe were Residence/Home and Highway/Road/Alley, respectively.

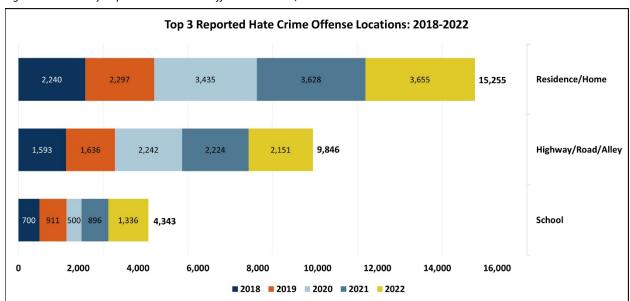


Figure 3: Commonly Reported Hate Crime Offense Locations, 2018-2022

Compared to the third most common location of school, which comprised from 3.9 to 10.0 percent of all reported hate crime offenses within the five observed years, the most common location of Residence/Home comprised between 25.2 and 29.1 percent of all reported hate crime offenses, and the second most common location of Highway/Road/Alley comprised between 16.1 and 18.8 percent of all reported hate crime offenses from 2018 to 2022.

The most common quarter for the occurrence of hate crimes reported at schools during the entire five-year period of 2018 to 2022 was October – December, with nearly a third (32.7 percent) of offenses reported for this quarter.

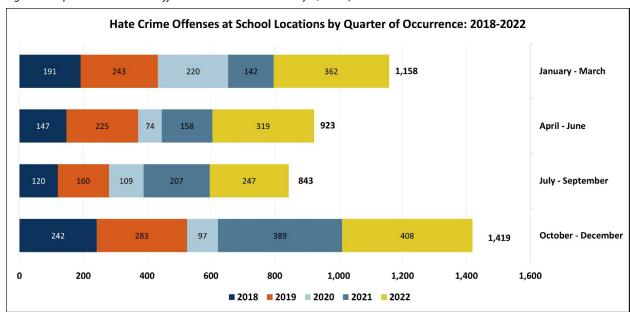


Figure 4: Reported Hate Crime Offenses at School Locations by Quarter, 2018-2022

The most common month for the occurrence of hate crime reported at schools during the entire five-year period of 2018 to 2022 was October, with an average of 4.1 hate crime offenses reported per day during this 31-day month.

Table 3: Reported Hate Crime Offenses at School Locations by Month of Occurrence, 2018-2022

Month	5-Year Offense Count: 2018-2022	Average Per Day
January	310	2.0
February	431	3.1
March	417	2.7
April	358	2.4
May	351	2.3
June	214	1.4
July	140	0.9
August	245	1.6
September	458	3.1
October	632	4.1
November	441	2.9
December	346	2.2
Total	4,343	2.4

A total of 5,652 juveniles were reported as victims of hate crime from 2018 through 2022, with 1,729 (30.6 percent) of these juvenile victims experiencing hate crime at school locations.

A total of 5,939 juveniles were reported as hate crime offenders from 2018 through 2022, with 2,134 (35.9 percent) of these juvenile offenders committing hate crime at school locations.

Table 4: Victims and Offenders of Hate Crime Offenses at Schools and Other Locations, 2018-2022

Location	Adult	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile
	Victims	Victims	Offenders	Offenders
School	1,401	1,729	718	2,134
Non-School	41,067	3,923	30,721	3,805
Total	42,468	5,652	31,439	5,939

From 2018 through 2022, the most common bias type of reported hate crime offenses at schools was Anti-Black or African American, with 1,690 reported hate crime offenses involving this bias type during the observed five years, followed by Anti-Jewish (745 offenses), and Anti-Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender (Mixed Group) (342 offenses). An offense can involve more than one bias type. A blank cell in Table 5 indicates no reported hate crime offenses at a school location for the bias type during the year.

Table 5 – Part 1: Hate Crime Offenses at Schools by Bias Motivation and Bias Type by Year, 2018-2022 (Table continued on next page)

Bias Motivation	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry:	399	542	344	511	828	2,624
Anti-White	54	49	22	47	73	245
Anti-Black or African American	237	333	225	348	547	1,690
Anti-American Indian or Alaska Native	8	5	1	8	3	25
Anti-Asian	12	27	17	17	32	105
Anti-Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	5		1		3	9
Anti-Multiple Races, Group	31	26	34	37	56	184
Anti-Arab	4	10	1	4	13	32
Anti-Hispanic or Latino	34	44	21	29	55	183
Anti-Other Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry	14	48	22	21	46	151
Religion:	179	281	110	140	240	950
Anti-Jewish	145	219	93	103	185	745
Anti-Catholic	2	4		6	4	16
Anti-Protestant	1		1		1	3
Anti-Islamic (Muslim)	16	26	4	8	17	71
Anti-Other Religion	4	4	7	2	5	22
Anti-Multiple Religions, Group	6	11	2	1	3	23
Anti-Church of Jesus Christ <sup>3</sup>					3	3
Anti-Jehovah's Witness						
Anti-Eastern Orthodox (Russian, Greek, Other)		2	1	5	2	10
Anti-Other Christian	1	12	1	3	3	20
Anti-Buddhist				2		2
Anti-Hindu				1	4	5
Anti-Sikh	4	3	1	8	12	28
Anti-Atheism/Agnosticism/etc.				1	1	2
Sexual Orientation:	109	134	71	210	262	786
Anti-Gay (Male)	53	65	26	68	94	306
Anti-Lesbian	11	22	9	25	26	93
Anti-Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender (Mixed Group)	41	44	32	103	122	342
Anti-Heterosexual	3		2	3	11	19
Anti-Bisexual	1	3	2	11	9	26

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 3}$  The anti-Mormon religious bias has been renamed anti-Church of Jesus Christ.

Table 5 – Part 2: Hate Crime Offenses at Schools by Bias Motivation and Bias Type by Year, 2018-2022 (Table continued from previous page)

Bias Motivation	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Disability:	12	20	7	19	36	94
Anti-Physical	4	5	5	4	12	30
Anti-Mental	8	15	2	15	24	64
Gender:	8	16	5	14	13	56
Anti-Male	2	3	2		2	9
Anti-Female	6	13	3	14	11	47
Gender Identity:	13	18	10	48	45	134
Anti-Transgender	11	12	10	27	29	89
Anti-Gender Non-Conforming	2	6		21	16	45

From 2018 through 2022, the most common reported hate crime offense at school locations was Intimidation, with 1,623 total reported offenses over the five observed years, followed by Destruction/Damage/Vandalism (1,543 reported offenses), and Simple Assault (826 reported offenses). A blank cell in Table 6 indicates no reported hate crime offenses at a school location during the year.

Table 6: Hate Crime Offenses at Schools by Year, 2018-2022

Offense	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
Crimes Against Persons:	427	536	265	577	850	2,655
Aggravated Assault	33	29	10	27	77	176
Simple Assault	121	141	63	216	285	826
Intimidation	272	359	190	323	479	1,623
Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter	1				2	3
Kidnapping/Abduction				3	2	5
Rape		1			1	2
Sexual Assault With An Object		1			1	2
Fondling		5	2	8	3	18
Crimes Against Property:	265	369	233	306	468	1,641
Arson	2	1	2	1	2	8
Burglary/Breaking and Entering	4	6	2	2	6	20
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	244	355	219	282	443	1,543
Extortion/Blackmail			1	1		2
False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game	1	1		1		3
Impersonation	1		1			2
Identity Theft					1	1
Hacking/Computer Invasion			2	3	1	6
Pocket-picking				1		1
Shoplifting			1			1
Theft From Building	4	1		3	6	14
All Other Larceny	4	1	4	10	5	24
Larceny (unspecified) <sup>4</sup>	5	1			1	7
Motor Vehicle Theft				1		1
Robbery		2	1	1	3	7
Stolen Property Offenses		1				1
Crimes Against Society:	8	6	2	13	18	47
Drug/Narcotic Violations	4	1	1	7	11	24
Drug Equipment Violations	1		1	1	4	7
Pornography/Obscene Material	1	1			2	4
Treason				1		1
Weapon Law Violations	2	4		4	1	11

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Larceny offenses submitted via the Summary Reporting System are unspecified.

Table 7 displays a breakdown of the three most common reported hate crime offenses at school locations (Intimidation, Destruction/Damage/Vandalism, and Simple Assault) by bias type from 2018 through 2022. An offense can involve more than one bias type. A blank cell in Table 7 is an indication that the hate crime offense was not reported at a school location for the bias type during the five observed years.

Table 7 – Part 1: Most Common Hate Crime Offenses at Schools by Bias Type, 2018-2022 (Table continued on next page)

Bias Motivation	Intimidation	Vandalism	
Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry:	1,097	842	491
Anti-White	91	31	81
Anti-Black or African American	726	613	261
Anti-American Indian or Alaska Native	3	4	4
Anti-Asian	60	8	26
Anti-Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	6		1
Anti-Multiple Races, Group	55	105	20
Anti-Arab	22	2	8
Anti-Hispanic or Latino	83	9	70
Anti-Other Race/Ethnicity/Ancestry	51	70	20
Religion:	267	588	51
Anti-Jewish	182	531	14
Anti-Catholic	6	6	
Anti-Protestant	1	1	
Anti-Islamic (Muslim)	34	16	18
Anti-Other Religion	5	7	6
Anti-Multiple Religions, Group	9	12	
Anti-Church of Jesus Christ <sup>5</sup>	1	2	
Anti-Jehovah's Witness			
Anti-Eastern Orthodox (Russian, Greek, Other)	7		2
Anti-Other Christian	11	4	2
Anti-Buddhist			2
Anti-Hindu	3	1	1
Anti-Sikh	7	8	5
Anti-Atheism/Agnosticism/etc.	1		1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The anti-Mormon religious bias has been renamed anti-Church of Jesus Christ.

Table 7 – Part 2: Most Common Hate Crime Offenses at Schools by Bias Type, 2018-2022 (Table continued from previous page)

Bias Motivation	Intimidation	Destruction/ Damage/ Vandalism	Simple Assault
Sexual Orientation:	304	204	193
Anti-Gay (Male)	110	83	90
Anti-Lesbian	52	10	25
Anti-Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender (Mixed Group)	127	101	67
Anti-Heterosexual	7	5	4
Anti-Bisexual	8	5	7
Disability:	30	7	37
Anti-Physical	11	3	14
Anti-Mental	19	4	23
Gender:	23	13	18
Anti-Male	5		4
Anti-Female	18	13	14
Gender Identity:	46	26	50
Anti-Transgender	34	19	29
Anti-Gender Non-Conforming	12	7	21

## **Summary**

Annual *Hate Crime Statistics* reports for 2018 through 2022 (considering *Supplemental Hate Crime Statistics*, 2021, for that year) consistently represented over 90 percent of the nation's inhabitants. Although population coverage decreased from 93.8 percent in 2018 to 91.7 percent in 2022, the volume of reported hate crime incidents and offenses increased from 7,181 incidents with 8,492 related offenses in 2018 to 11,643 incidents with 13,346 related offenses in 2022.

Hate crime offenses occurring at school locations fluctuated over the five observed years, comprising as few as 3.9 percent of all reported hate crime offenses in 2020 to as much as 10.0 percent of all reported hate crime offenses in 2019 and 2022. Despite the fluctuations, the combination of the three school-related location options (School – Elementary/Secondary, School – College/University, and School/College) remained the third most common location type for a reported hate crime offense to occur within the observed five years.

The fourth quarter of the calendar year, October through December, was the most common quarter for reported hate crimes at schools to occur. October was the most common month for

reported hate crimes at schools to occur, with an average of 4.1 offenses per day from 2018 through 2022.

From 2018 through 2022, over 30 percent of juvenile victims of hate crime experienced the offense at school, and nearly 36 percent of juvenile offenders of hate crime committed the offense at school.

The most frequently reported bias types for hate crime offenses at school locations from 2018 through 2022 were Anti-Black or African American, Anti-Jewish, and Anti-Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender (Mixed Group). The most frequently reported offenses were Intimidation, Destruction/Damage/Vandalism, and Simple Assault.

This examination of reported bias-motivated offenses goes beyond basic counts of hate crime occurring at school locations and provides a deeper understanding of conspicuous similarities amongst these events. Analyzing commonalities of reported hate crime offenses in schools can facilitate strategies to mitigate or prevent these offenses in the future.

To access the Master File Downloads used in this report as well as other hate crime data, visit the Documents & Downloads page of the FBI's CDE at <a href="cde.ucr.cjis.gov">cde.ucr.cjis.gov</a>.