



# Hate Crime Victimization, 2005–2019

SUMMARY | NCJ 300954

SEPTEMBER 2021

The rate of violent hate crime in the United States in 2019 (1.0 hate crimes per 1,000 persons age 12 or older) was not significantly different from the rate in 2005 (0.8 per 1,000). This is based on data reported by victims in the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). During the 15-year period from 2005 to 2019, the rate of violent hate crime victimizations fluctuated, ranging from about 0.6 to 1.1 per 1,000.

On average, U.S. residents experienced approximately 246,900 hate crime victimizations each year between 2005 and 2019. The number of hate crimes ranged from about 173,600 to 305,390 during this period. The number of total, violent, and property hate crime victimizations did not change significantly from 2005 to 2019. Overall, hate crime accounted for 1.6% of all nonfatal victimizations in 2019, up from 0.9% in 2005.

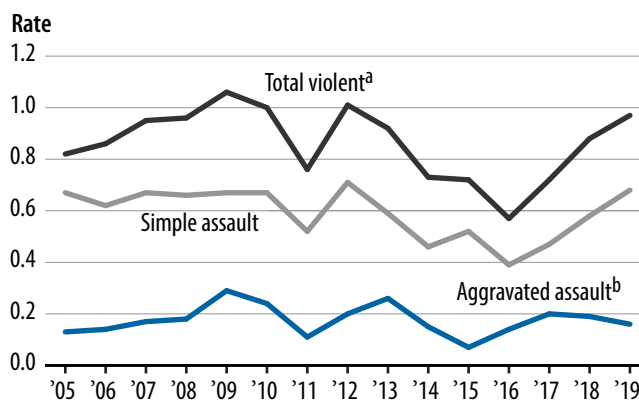
## Crime types and reporting to police

During the 5-year aggregate period of 2015-19, nearly 90% of all hate crimes captured by the NCVS were violent crimes, while 10% were property crimes. Victims indicated that nearly two-thirds (62%) of hate crimes during 2015-19 were simple assaults. While simple assaults accounted for the largest percentage of hate crimes during 2015-19, aggravated assault hate crimes (68%) were more likely than simple assault hate crimes (56%) to be reported to police. By comparison, about a third (35%) of hate crimes involving burglary or trespassing were reported to police during this period.

## Bias motivations for violent hate crimes

During 2015-19, an estimated 59% of violent hate crimes reported by victims were motivated by bias against their race, ethnicity, or national origin. In nearly a quarter of violent hate crimes, victims believed they were targeted because of bias against their gender (24%), against persons or groups they were associated with (23%), or against their sexual orientation (20%). About 1 in 10 were thought to be motivated by bias against the victim's disability (11%) or religion (9%).

## Rates of violent hate crime victimizations per 1,000 persons age 12 or older, 2005–2019



Note: Includes nonfatal incidents that police confirmed as bias-motivated, the victim perceived as bias-motivated because the offender(s) used hate language, or the victim perceived as bias-motivated because the offender(s) left behind hate symbols. Estimates are based on 2-year rolling averages centered on the most recent year (e.g., a 2005 estimate includes data for 2004 and 2005).

<sup>a</sup>Includes rape or sexual assault and robbery (not shown separately due to small numbers of sample cases), aggravated assault, and simple assault.

<sup>b</sup>The 2005 estimate for aggravated assault should be interpreted with caution as it is based on 10 or fewer sample cases or has a coefficient of variation greater than 50%.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, National Crime Victimization Survey, 2005–2019.

## Offenders in violent hate crimes

According to victim reports, males were offenders in a higher percentage (72%) of violent hate crime incidents during 2015-19 than their share of the U.S. population (49%). Additionally, victims reported that more than half (56%) of violent hate crimes were committed by a stranger. Victims also reported that a greater portion of violent hate crimes (23%) than violent nonhate crimes (13%) during this period involved multiple offenders.

The full report (*Hate Crime Victimization, 2005–2019*, NCJ 300954), related documents, and additional information about the Bureau of Justice Statistics are available on the BJS website at [bjs.ojp.gov](http://bjs.ojp.gov).