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GLOBAL TERRORISM: THREATS TO THE HOMELAND, PART I

Committee on Homeland Security

U.S. House of Representatives

310 Cannon House Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

Tuesday, September 10, 2019



Chairman Thompson, Ranking Member Rogers, and Members of the Committee, my name is Prof. Brian Levin. Thank you so very much for your service to our country and for another opportunity to present some of the latest findings, on extremism, primarily derived from our *Report To The Nation: 2019 Factbook On Hate & Extremism In The U.S. & Internationally*, which are both fascinating and cautionary.

I am a professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, who is also on faculty at our National Security Studies program at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB). I am here, however, on behalf of CSUSB's two-decade strong independent research and policy institution, the *Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism* ("CSHE"). Our quantitative and qualitative trend analysis on violent manifestations of political conflict and prejudice across both borders and the ideological spectrum, has been used by scholars, journalists and policymakers around the world.

As the best analysis is often a coordinated team effort, I want to take this brief opportunity to thank all the scholars who enabled CSHE to conduct this important research: our study co-author Legal Fellow Lisa Nakashima, as well as our Cal State based crew of Drs. Kevin Grisham and John Reitzel and our Research Fellow William Lambdin; along with Dr. James Nolan of West Virginia University and data analyst Andrew Thompson.

White Supremacist Motivated Fatalities Rise Along With Mass Shooting Events

White supremacist/far right extremists are now, the most ascendant transnational terror threat facing the homeland, in a fluid and somewhat diversifying risk matrix. According to CSHE's preliminary data, white supremacist/far right extremist motivated homicides have killed at least 26 people so far this year. More people were murdered domestically so far in 2019 by just a handful of white supremacists, than all of those killed in the whole of calendar year 2018 in every extremist/hate homicide event. The fatalities per incident are also trending up as semi-automatic rifles continue to be their weapon of choice.

This is coming at a time where, disturbingly, mass shootings overall, including those with mixed or no discernable ideological motives are also rising. The three main categories of violent mass offenders are listed below, and usually one element is primary, with at least one other often playing a more minor supporting role:

1. **The Ideologically Motivated** (Religious, Political or Hybrid)
2. **The Psychologically Dangerous** (Sociopath or Unstable)
3. **Revenge, Validation or Personal Benefit**

Through September 1, the Gun Violence Archive has enumerated 283 mass shootings (where at least four are shot) nationally in 2019, the first time since 2016 that there were more than an average of one per day. Moreover, fatalities by rifle (of which semi-automatics are a subset), at 403, reached their highest level in a decade in 2017 according to the FBI.

Violence Increases Around Political Divisions

Interestingly, our 2018 data showed the majority of white supremacist homicides clustered roughly before election time when polls indicated a possible party shift in a highly contested mid-term election. We also saw an increase in hate crime reports from major U.S. cities during

that time as well. 2018 was the fifth consecutive annual increase in police enumerated hate crime in our multi-city study, and the steepest increase since 2015, with nearly half the cities hitting decade highs - despite a drop in the first half of the year.

Similarly, the month of the fatal Charlottesville “Unite the Right” rally and the associated political controversy around it, was tied for the second worst month this decade for FBI reported hate crime. Except for election month 2016, the last months with higher totals than August 2017, were around the election of Barack Obama, when escalating anti-Black hate crime hit levels not seen since.

Election month, November 2016, was the worst month in 14 years with 758 FBI reported hate crimes. Interestingly, other data showed a corresponding increase in the volume of both bigoted speech on 4chan, as well as an increase in manipulative racially divisive ad buys by the Russians on Facebook around that time. The [Report On The Investigation Into Russian Interference In The 2016 Presidential Election](#) (Mueller Report), March 2019 concluded:

“Collectively, the IRA's social media accounts reached tens of millions of U.S. persons. Individual IRA social media accounts attracted hundreds of thousands of followers....According to Facebook, in total the IRA-controlled accounts made over 80,000 posts before their deactivation in August 2017, and these posts reached at least 29 million U.S persons and ‘may have reached an estimated 126 million people.’”

The day after the elections – November 9, 2016 - with 44 reported hate crimes, was the worst day in 13 years. It was also the day three interdicted militia extremists planned to truck bomb a Garden City, Kansas apartment complex populated by Somali-American Muslims. This pattern of bursts in hate crime, vile internet chatter, and terror around conflictual political events has been repeated elsewhere, as in the United Kingdom. There hate crimes not only rose around the Brexit vote, a sitting member of parliament was assassinated around that time as well. More recently, we have seen an increase in threats against American public officials, as well an escalation in precursor extremist activity or violence by other ideological movements as we embark on yet another highly conflicted election season.

2019 will reverse an overall downward trend in American extremist/hate homicides that we’ve seen over the last couple of years, due to the rising number of mass white supremacist killings. Out of last year’s total of 22 extremist motivated homicides, 17 were white supremacist/far right motivated, one was violent Salafist Jihadist, and there were none by the hard left or Antifa, though some of their localized splinters certainly have committed a steady string of crimes. Jews (for the first time) and African-Americans were the most common victims in fatal white supremacist attacks in 2018, while Latinos and Asians are this year.

A Changing Landscape

When I testified before this committee just four years ago, only weeks before the Paris and San Bernardino terror attacks, the landscape was different. Then, I warned that the most urgent transnational terror threat facing the American homeland came from violent Salafist Jihadists who were often inspired or orchestrated by more organized groups.

D'aesh in particular expanded not only its “caliphate” territory - to nearly the size of Michigan, but also its terrestrial and online communal presence, recruitment, and revenues. The reach of its fatal extremism, left an escalating violent string of fatalities in its wake on America, and elsewhere.

By the following summer of 2016, they inspired more horror, with another semi-automatic rifle rampage, this time at Orlando’s Pulse night club, killing 49 mostly LGBT victims, and supplanting the San Bernardino massacre as the most fatal post- 9/11 terror foreign influenced attack.

That year our center enumerated just three white supremacist / far right homicides. White supremacists, had changed their tactics in an attempt to openly enter the mainstream in the prejudice tinged fissures over debates on issues of public concern like terrorism and immigration. Neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and alt-right adherents engaged in more large public demonstrations in the two- and one-half years leading just into and after Charlottesville, than in the whole of the previous decade. Nazis and Holocaust deniers even ran for Congressional and Senate seats in California and Illinois. Since Charlottesville, however, public organized groups have splintered amidst legal, financial issues and internecine squabbles, leaving a fragmented extremist landscape.

White Nationalism is an Interconnected Transnational Threat to the Homeland

Earlier, in May I cautioned the Committee that: “For today’s digital, often loner white nationalist terrorist, internet platforms are force multipliers that record and disseminate not only graphic violence, but narcissistic manifestos as well, in a scripted online folkloric chain of violence. These extreme views are disturbingly common in the general population.”

Our aforementioned 137 page “Report to the Nation: 2019” released in July further elaborated on this threat in its summary:

“While white supremacists and ultra-nationalists will maintain their position at the top of the threat matrix, the risk is also diversifying well beyond the far right, to include those with antagonistic ideologies, those inspired by zealots and conflicts abroad, and those with more personal grievances in an increasingly coarse and fragmented socio-political landscape....

[H]ate mongers have increasingly migrated to splintered free speech, encrypted and affinity-based platforms, and messaging services, where hate speech is more prolific....The Internet has enabled...organizationally unaffiliated extremists and loners with a tool to congregate, radicalize, and broadcast not only bigotry, but disturbingly, lone acts of mass violence that reference prior attacks.”

The report further noted, “recently, terrorists used 8chan, Telegram, GAB, and Facebook around the time of their attacks.” 8chan, now temporarily non-operational, is a free speech platform whose “embrace infamy” homepage slogan was gift wrap on a noxious bazaar of deeply bigoted, misogynistic and violent bombast in their political speech section.

The Great Replacement

Within days of our latest report release, another link in this transnational horrific “chain of violence” that I discussed in May was forged. On the morning of August 3rd, a 21-year-old white male from Allen, Texas posted a methodical four-page diatribe on 8chan after driving across the state. It opened with praise for both the Christchurch terrorist who killed 49 at two mosques, and his lengthy manifesto entitled “The Great Replacement,” which was itself lifted off a 2012 French book by Renaud Camus, with the same title, about European “white genocide.” The New Zealand terrorist, in turn was also inspired by, yet another manifesto writing white supremacist terrorist who murdered 77 in Norway in 2011.

The young Texan further explained the influence that the French book had on him:

“This attack is a response to the Hispanic invasion of Texas....I am simply defending my country from cultural and ethnic replacement brought on by an invasion....Actually, the Hispanic community was not my target before I read the Great Replacement.” *Le grand remplacement* is a 2012 dystopian book lamenting the coming extinction of white Europeans on the continent by Muslim immigrants and other people of color, that has become a recent staple in an international chain. The killer concluded by warning, “This is just the beginning of the fight for America *and* Europe.” [Italics added].

Less than twenty minutes after uploading his hateful exhortation, its author opened fire on mostly older shoppers in a crowded El Paso Walmart with a legally purchased semi-automatic military style rifle killing twenty-two – the worst white supremacist/ far right terrorist attack since 168 perished in the Oklahoma City Murrah Federal Building bombing of April 19, 1995.

Leaderless Resistance and Propaganda of the Deed

That same year, Stormfront, the first white Supremacist website was launched by Don Black, a neo-Nazi white supremacist felon, whose vision of an international racist network was succinctly stated in its moniker “White Pride World Wide.” In 1995, I testified before another congressional committee about the central role that the “Leaderless Resistance” tactic plays regarding scripted violence by autonomous loners or small cells against those perceived as enemies of whites. News reports of random “propaganda of the deed” violent attacks against minorities alone was supposed to inspire other extremists. In today’s fragmented social media landscape, the white supremacist embrace of leaderless resistance has produced a “propaganda of the deed 2.0” effect. The violence is not only inspired by racist folklore, but through an accompanying text or video, the terrorist seeks to write the next chapter of it. Most of these young terrorists have no direct operational connection to, or affiliation with terror groups. However, the Internet has also apparently enabled newer small violent groups, with short half-lives, like the Kansas plotters, Atomwaffen Division, the Rise Above Movement and the Base to not only recruit individually, but to also assemble, across borders when necessary, for violent activities or training.

The spread of white nationalist and, to a lesser extent, other extremist viewpoints into an increasingly fragmented and sometimes violent mainstream socio-political landscape provides an overflowing elastic reservoir for intergroup conflict around the globe, where offenders are also co-influenced by a variety of factor ranging from conspiracy theories to misogyny. At its most jagged and unstable digital edges, it has resulted in political violence, intimidation and threats

with transnational reach. As then DNI director Coates stated to the Senate in January, “In the past two years, individuals with ties to violent ethno-supremacist groups in France, Sweden, and the United Kingdom have either carried out attacks on minorities and politicians or had their plots disrupted by authorities.” Britain’s intelligence agencies explained recently “Increasingly, the vital piece of information that might stop an attack is unlikely to be held by MI5, but buried somewhere else in the mountain of data generated each day, often scattered across the world.” And just last month the Swedish Security service observed “a development in the violent right-wing extremist scene that could increase the risk of certain individuals being inspired to carry out attacks or violent crime...[as] violent right-wing extremist ideology might be going from something considered extreme to something considered normal, could prompt certain individuals to become radicalized.”

As one can see, violent extremism is evolving and while currently dominated by white nationalists/far right ideologues, they do not exert a monopoly. Still, with 43 percent of American respondents to a 2018 Reuters poll saying whites are under attack, there is a wide bench from which these extremists can try to draw recruits.

Caution Respecting Major Statutory Overhauls

With dozens of statutes available to combat domestic terrorists and the unknown impact on civil liberties from major changes, I hold the same basic position today that I did when I testified almost 25 years ago regarding a broad overhaul of domestic federal statutes.

CSHE does however, support the following:

Enacting HR 3106, the Domestic Terrorism DATA Act to improve the availability and production of timely government data on terrorism and the Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act;

Enhancing both statutory and administrative provisions to counter the growing threat against public officials and elected office holders;

Amending 18 USC §231 to punish not only trainers, but trainees in violent methods designed to foment civil disorder;

Improving background checks and closing loopholes on firearms purchases, as well as the placement of restrictions on semi-automatic rifles, and extended magazines inter alia;

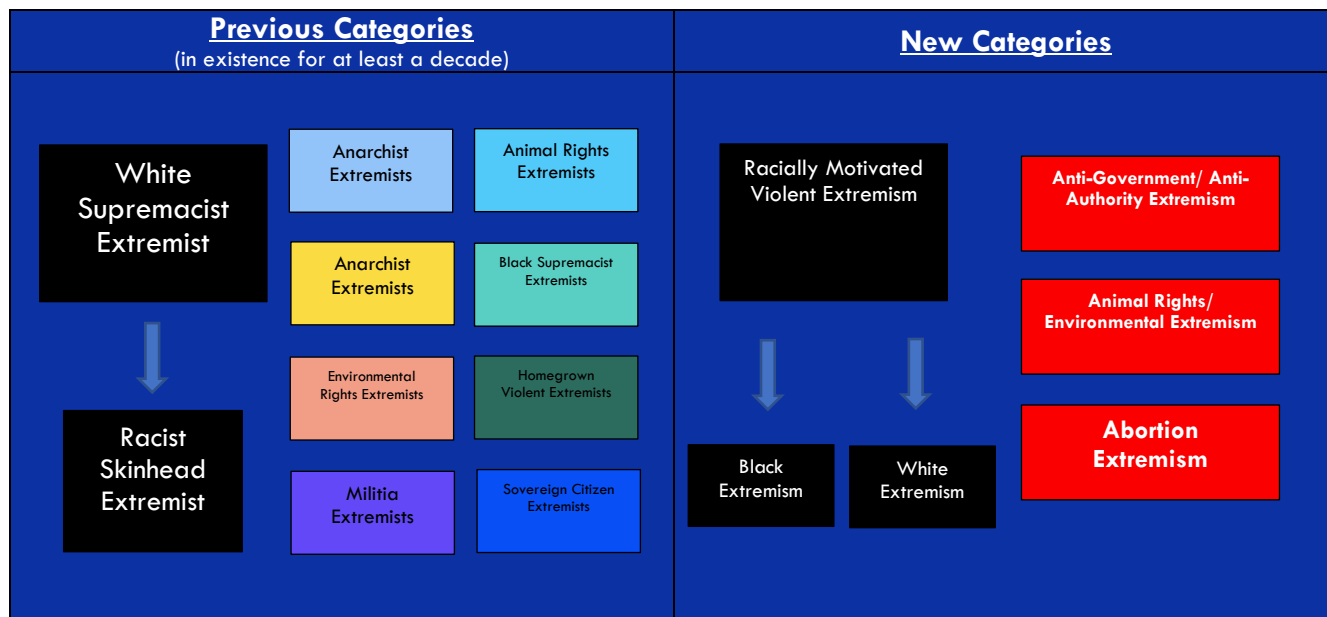
Providing greater funding and resources to enhance interagency coordination to combat the threat that white supremacist /far right extremism poses to the homeland.

As I noted in May, the domestic terror threat is a fluid one, with increasingly transnational and internet dimensions. The societal and international divisions that fuel extremism will likely be further exacerbated by a highly charged political season and increasing international instability. Thank you.

Prof. Brian Levin, Director, Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism – California State University, San Bernardino

Appendix: FBI Designations

► The FBI currently classifies domestic terrorism into four categories: [racially motivated violent extremism](#), [anti-government/anti-authority extremism](#), [animal rights/environmental extremism](#), and [abortion extremism](#) ([source](#)). Previously, the agency had tracked a broad array of categories of racially motivated crime, including the controversial



[“Black Identity Extremism.”](#) While the agency has since stopped using that term, it has also [stopped tracking “White Supremacist Extremism.”](#)

Though international terror threats have remained stable, the **FBI has seen a significant rise in the number of white supremacy domestic terrorism cases** in recent months ([source](#)). Since November 2018, the FBI has recorded approximately 100 international terrorism arrests and 90 domestic terrorism arrests ([source](#)). In 2017, there were approximately 150 arrests that the FBI classified as domestic terror, and about 120 in 2018. According to one FBI official who spoke to CNN, the agency is on course to match or exceed those numbers in Fiscal Year 2019 ([source](#)).

The FBI currently has about 5,000 terrorism-related investigations open, including 850 related to domestic terrorism, 1,000 related to ISIS and affiliated groups, and 1,000 for homegrown violent extremists ([source](#)). Of the 850 domestic terrorism investigations open, approximately [half are related to Anti-Government/Anti-Authority Extremism](#), and approximately [40 percent are related to Racially Motivated Violent Extremism](#). A [“significant majority”](#) of the Racially Motivated Violent Extremist cases currently open are related to [White Extremism](#), according to testimony given by Michael McGarrity, FBI Assistant Director for the Counterterrorism Division at a May 2019 hearing in front of the House Committee on Homeland Security ([source](#)).

APPENDIX TABLES Hate-Motivated Homicides from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018

DATE	PERPETRATOR NAME	IDEOLOGY OF PERPETRATOR	CITY, STATE	INSTRUMENTALITY	NUMBER OF FATALITIES	NAME OF FATALITY VICTIMS (IF 3 OR LESS)
11/2/2018	Scott Paul Beierle	Extreme Misogyny	Tallahassee, FL	Firearm	2	Nancy Van Vessem, Maura Binkley
10/27/2018	Robert Gregory Bowers	White Supremacy	Pittsburgh, PA	Firearm	11	Multiple
10/24/2018	Gregory Bush	White Supremacy	Jeffersontown, KY	Firearm	2	Maurice E. Stallard, Vickie Lee Jones
8/20/2018	Daniel Martinez	Hispanic Supremacy	Cerritos, CA	Firearm	2	Sam Ferguson, Alhmond Davis
8/19/2018	Joden Rocco	White Supremacy	Pittsburgh, PA	Knife	1	Dulane Cameron Jr.
7/2/2018	Ronald Lee Tidwell	White Supremacy	Shawnee, KS	Knife	1	MeShon Cooper
3/17/2018	John Daniel Carothers	White Supremacy	Murfreesboro, TN	Arson	1	Robert Miller
3/12/2018	Corey Johnson	Salafist-Jihad	Palm Beach Gardens, FL	Knife	1	Jovanni Brand
1/2/2018	Samuel Woodward	White Supremacy	Lake Forest, CA	Knife	1	Blaze Bernstein

Hate-Motivated Homicides from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

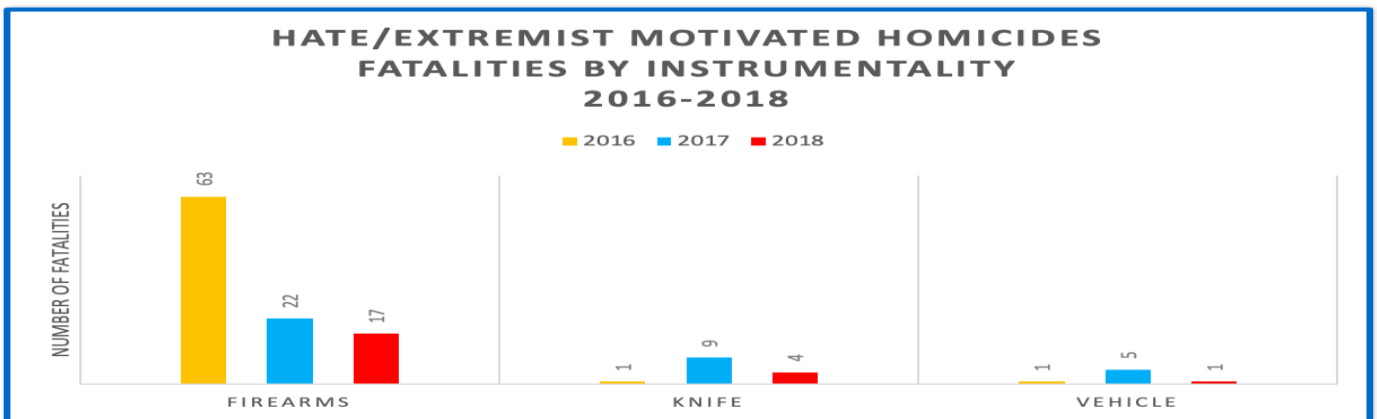
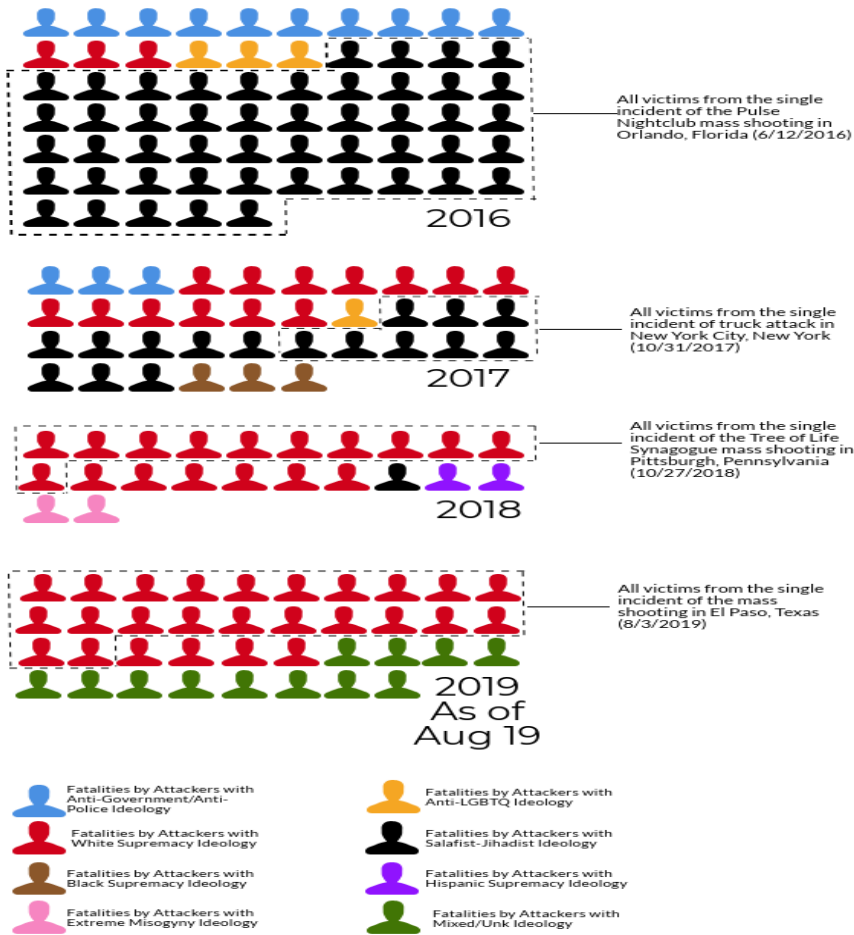
DATE	PERPETRATOR NAME	IDEOLOGY OF PERPETRATOR	CITY, STATE	INSTRUMENTALITY	NUMBER OF FATALITIES	NAME OF FATALITY VICTIMS (IF 3 OR LESS)
12/31/2017	Matthew Riehl	Anti-Police/Anti-Government	Highland Ranch, CO	Firearm	1	Zach Parrish
12/23/2017	Nicholas Giampa	White Supremacy	Reston, VA	Firearm	2	Scott Fricker, Buckley Kuhn-Fricker
12/7/2017	William Atchison	White Supremacy	Aztec, NM	Firearm	2	Paco Fernandez, Casey Jordan-Marquez
11/2/2017	Wendell Melton	Anti-LGBTQ	Henderson, NV	Firearm	1	Giovanni Melton
10/31/2017	Sayfullo Habibullaevic Saipov	Salafist-Jihad	New York City, NY	Vehicle	8	Multiple
9/14/2017	Kenneth James Gleason	White Supremacy	Baton Rouge, LA	Firearm	2	Donald Smart, Bruce Cofield
8/12/2017	James Alex Fields Jr	White Supremacy	Charlottesville, VA	Vehicle	1	Heather D. Heyer
7/5/2017	Alexander Bonds	Anti-Police/Anti-Government	Bronx, NY	Firearm	1	Miosotis Familia
6/19/2017	Robert Hunt	White Supremacy	Century Correctional Institution, FL	Knife	1	Jorge Slaughter
5/26/2017	Jeremy Joseph Christian	White Supremacy	Portland, OR	Knife	2	Ricky John Best, Taliesin Myrddin Namkai-Meche
5/20/2017	Sean Urbanski	White Supremacy	College Park, MD	Knife	1	Richard Collins III
5/19/2017	Devon Arthurs	Salafist-Jihad/ Fmr. Atomwaffen	Tampa, FL	Firearm	2	Jeremy Himmelman, Andrew Oneschuk

5/16/2017	Lloyd Montier Barrus, Marshall Barrus	Anti-Police/Anti-Government	Missoula, MT	Firearm	1	Mason Moore
4/18/2017	Kori Ali Muhammad	Black Supremacy	Fresno, CA	Firearm	3	Zackary Randalls, Mark Gassett, David Jackson
3/30/2017	James Harris Jackson	White Supremacy	New York, NY	Knife	1	Timothy Caughman
2/22/2017	Adam W. Purinton	White Supremacy	Olathe, KS	Firearm	1	Srinivas Kuchibhotla
1/31/2017	Joshua Cummings	Salafist-Jihad	Denver, CO	Firearm	1	Scott Von Lanken
1/6/2017	Esteban Santiago	Salafist-Jihad	Fort Lauderdale, FL	Firearm	5	Multiple

Hate-Motivated Homicides from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016

DATE	PERPETRATOR NAME	IDEOLOGY OF PERPETRATOR	CITY, STATE	INSTRUMENTALITY	NUMBER OF FATALITIES	NAME OF FATALITY VICTIMS (IF 3 OR LESS)
9/16/2016	Nicholas Glenn	Anti-Police/Anti-Government	Philadelphia, PA	Firearm	1	Unidentified Female Victim
8/23/2016	Stanley Vernon Majors	White Supremacy	Tulsa, OK	Firearm	1	Khalid Jabara
8/21/2016	Aaryn Snider	White Supremacy	Fort Wayne, IN	Knife	1	Samuel Hardrix
8/10/2016	Russell Courtier	White Supremacy	Gresham, OR	Vehicle	1	Larnell Malik Bruce Jr.
7/17/2016	Gavin Long	Anti-Police/Anti-Government	Baton Rouge, LA	Firearm	3	Brad Garafola, Matthew Gerald, Montrell Jackson
7/7/2016	Micah Xavier Johnson	Anti-Police/Anti-Government	Dallas, TX	Firearm	5	Multiple
7/7/2016	Lakeem Keon Scott	Anti-Police/Anti-Government	Bristol, TN	Firearm	1	Jennifer Rooney
7/4/2016	Monte Tyree Johnson, Lolonta Little	Anti-LGBTQ	Washington, D.C.	Firearm	1	Deeniquia Dodds
6/12/2016	Omar Mateen	Salafist-Jihad	Orlando, FL	Firearm	49	Multiple
3/29/2016	Shehada Khalil Issa	Anti-LGBTQ	North Hills, CA	Firearm	2	Amir Issa, Rabihah Issa

Extremist/Racial Homicides, 2016-2019 Fatalities by Ideology of Perpetrator



APPENDIX TABLE: FBI Hate Crime by Month and Year

CSHE-WVU EXCLUSIVE: FBI Reported Hate Crime Varies by Month, 1992-2017

► Over the last decade, the worst months for reported hate crimes were around presidential elections in **November 2016** (758, the worst in fourteen years) and **October 2008** (722). **August 2017**, the month of the violent **Charlottesville rally**, at **663 incidents**, was tied for the second worst month since **November 2008**, even though the homicide and assaults there were not reported as hate crimes.

The **worst months overall for hate crime were September and October 2001**, with almost 3,000 after the 9/11 attacks.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1992	495	514	615	608	829	546	492	559	478	569	524	433
1993	634	596	568	686	689	651	718	680	623	662	617	479
1994	406	455	612	541	502	461	509	533	552	585	418	379
1995	584	573	709	671	564	715	719	691	757	855	586	522
1996	686	679	756	783	757	790	812	760	776	761	651	548
1997	561	598	740	715	788	712	712	673	695	758	584	512
1998	595	597	651	662	707	688	736	655	663	763	549	485
1999	566	642	636	777	738	638	704	711	684	710	581	488
2000	561	629	751	743	702	653	663	685	740	879	596	461
2001	624	552	735	809	741	762	684	711	1942	1043	616	511
2002	544	519	701	708	673	666	651	633	767	643	537	420
2003	528	488	683	673	697	649	641	678	681	681	615	475
2004	523	630	685	701	741	654	670	633	646	718	585	463
2005	542	541	622	678	680	600	612	625	612	677	548	426
2006	559	535	637	735	700	690	742	641	682	695	611	499
2007	553	479	632	675	717	686	688	658	744	743	574	475
2008	561	591	674	683	721	669	684	673	680	722	667	458
2009	478	491	565	549	615	591	557	639	594	628	500	405
2010	474	437	600	663	613	538	558	619	657	634	473	362
2011	440	387	516	539	589	553	548	572	552	571	470	485
2012	560	544	589	577	629	571	611	568	590	518	465	371
2013	395	394	476	524	566	561	594	560	510	507	440	387
2014	324	383	434	483	512	504	505	550	490	548	366	380
2015	412	364	437	512	558	562	592	544	481	469	462	457
2016	382	385	496	489	492	538	612	521	536	568	758	491
2017	544	576	632	560	648	641	580	663	631	642	579	479

FBI Hate Crime data obtained from [National Archives of Criminal Justice Data](#). Color distribution of cells conditioned on the tenth, fiftieth, and ninetieth percentiles.

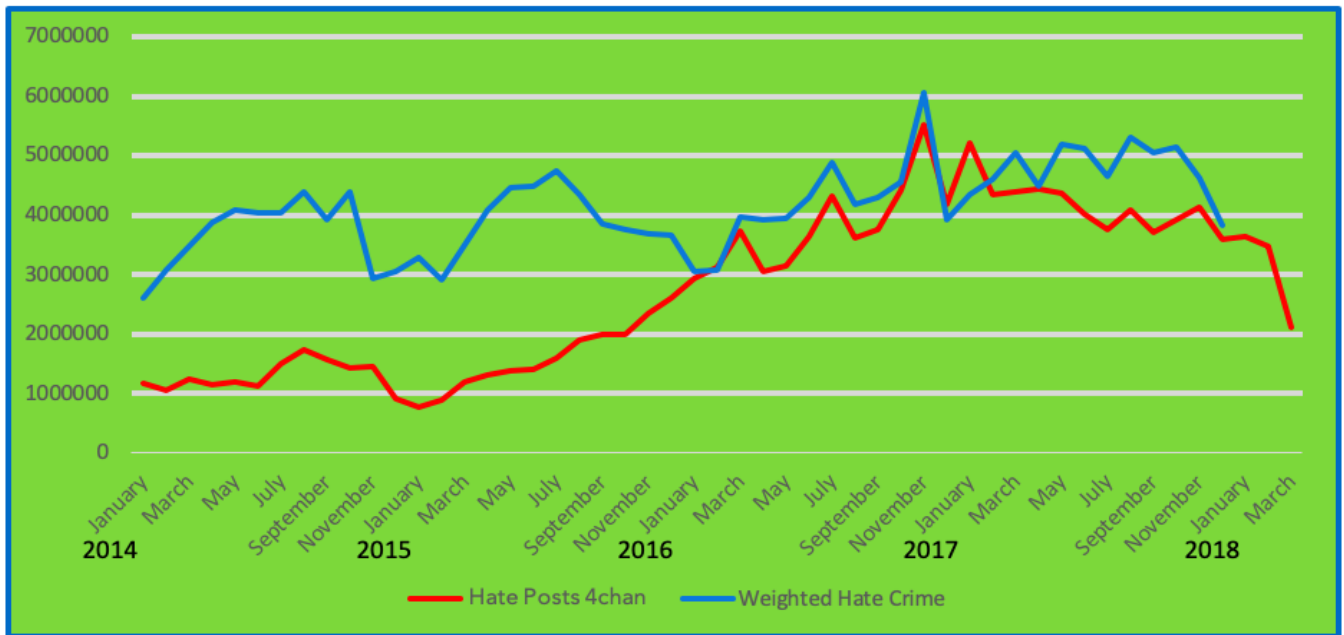
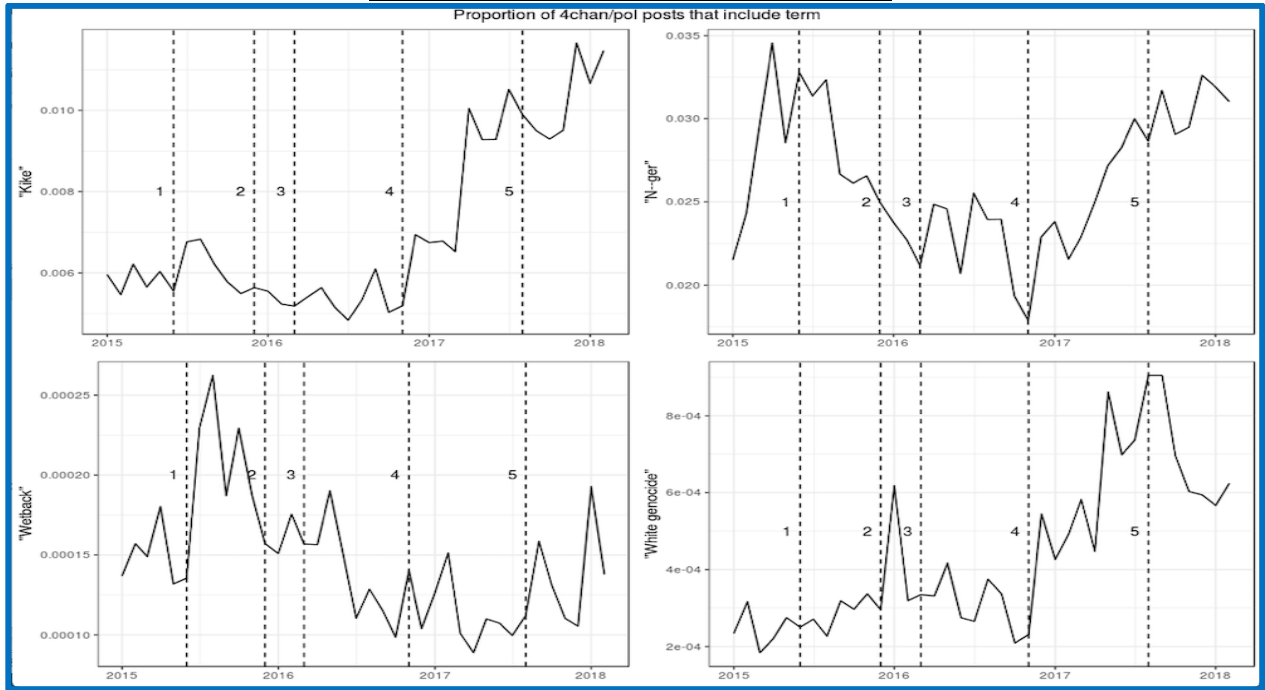
Bold box around cells indicates five most frequent months for hate crimes and two additionally significant months:
 1) Apr. 29, 1992 Rodney King Verdict, May 1992; 2) O.J. Simpson Trial, Oct. 1995; 3) Welfare Reform Debate, Spring-Summer 1996;
 4) U.S.S. Cole Bombing/Palestinian Intifada, Oct. 2000; 5) September 11th Terror Attacks, Sept.-Oct. 2001;
 6) 2016 U.S. Presidential Election, Nov. 8, 2016; 7) Heather Heyer's murder during the Unite the Right Rally, Aug. 12, 2017

FBI: Hate Crime, Last 10 Years

Year	Number	Number Change	Percentage Change
2017	7,175	+1,054	+17.2%
2016	6,121	+271	+4.6%
2015	5,850	+371	+6.8%
2014	5,479	-449	-7.6%
2013	5,928	-645	-9.8%
2012	6,573	+351	+5.6%
2011	6,222	-406	-6.1%
2010	6,628	+24	+0.4%
2009	6,604	-1179	-15.1%
2008	7,783	+159	+2.1%

APPENDIX: Hate Speech on 4chan (Andrew Thompson) and U.S. Hate Crime & 4chan Hate Speech

Hate Term Frequency on 4chan: 2015-2018



Appendix: POLITICAL VIOLENCE AND THREATS

► According to Capitol Police Chief Steven A. Sund, [threats against members of Congress continue to grow in 2019](#). In Fiscal Year [2018](#), the department opened approximately [4,894 cases](#), whereas in [2019](#), the department has already

opened [2,502 cases](#). Testifying before the House Administration Committee, Chief Sund told members threats against members of Congress in fiscal year 2019 are [on par to surpass the number made in fiscal year 2018](#) ([source](#)).

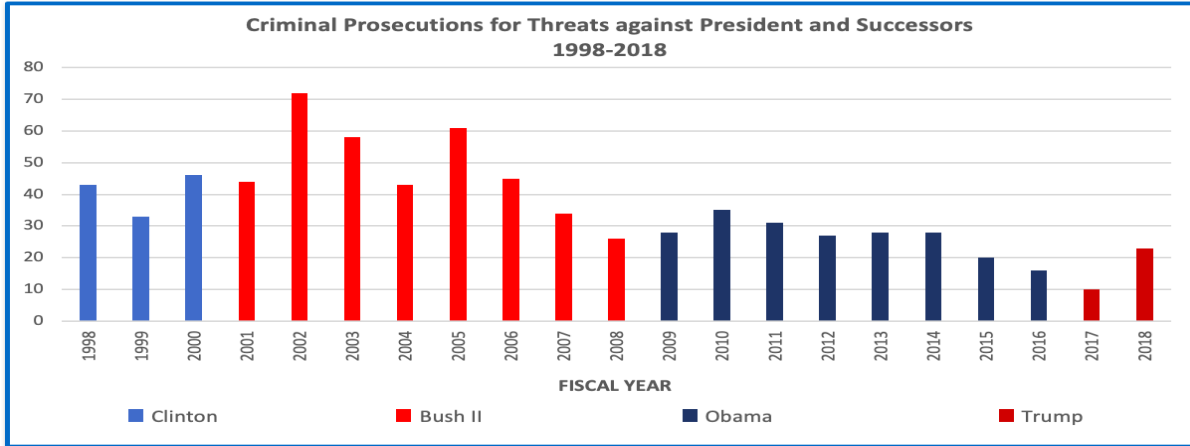
Chairman Bennie Thompson of the House Homeland Security Committee sent a letter to Michael Stenger, U.S. Senate Sergeant at Arms, requesting an emergency meeting to examine the U.S. Capitol Police Board’s approach for protecting members of Congress in the face of increased threats to their lives. *Source:* [Twitter](#)

CSHE: Crimes and Threats Against Civilian Public Officials, 2018-2019

Date	State	Target	Details of Crime	Source
7/26/19	OK	University of Tulsa, Professor Susan Barrett, and then-Senior Vice Provost Winona Tanaka	Christopher Barnett, a Republican candidate for Oklahoma governor in 2018, was charged with threatening an act of violence against the University of Tulsa and members of its administration and faculty, after stating he would shoot fans exiting the University’s football stadium.	Tulsa World
7/18/19	MD	Congresswoman Frederica Wilson	Darryl A. Varnum, a Pentagon cybersecurity contractor, called the congresswoman’s district office in late June and left a voice message threatening to kill her if she introduced a vaccinations bill. He has been charged with threatening to kill a member of Congress.	The Daily Beast
7/9/19	TX	Congresswoman Veronica Escobar	Rep. Escobar, along with those surrounding her, have received death threats because of a report that claims that her aides have improperly assisted asylum seekers in Mexico	Politico
7/8/19	NY	President Trump	Resident of Highlands, NY was arrested following threats made against President Trump and law enforcement	Mid Hudson News
7/2/19	PA	Chester County judge and sheriff’s deputy	Michael McHugh was arrested for threatening to shoot a judge and sheriff’s deputy	Daily Local News
7/2/19	OR	Portland City Hall	Bomb threat reported against Portland City Hall. However, no device was found.	Oregon Live
7/1/19	AZ	Phoenix Police dispatcher	Multiple threats made against Phoenix Police staff after a video of an altercation between police and a family went viral	Fox 10 Phoenix
6/20/19	NC	VA Senate Candidate Qasim Rashid	Joseph Cecil Vandevere threatened Candidate Rashid with lynching via Twitter	The Daily Beast
6/7/19	SD	Mayor Paul TenHaken and Sioux Falls City Council	Christopher Bruce made threats against Sioux Falls mayor and city council members and was arrested for a stalking charge	ABC - KSFY
6/4/19	UT	Unnamed members of Congress	Scott Haven arrested for making threats against lawmakers opposed to or critical of the Trump administration in more than 2,000 calls over 3 years	The Hill
6/1/19	FL	Congressman Matt Gaetz	Amanda Leigh Kondrat’yev charged with battery for throwing drink at Rep. Gaetz	Huffington Post
5/29/19	WA	President Trump and family, and unspecified synagogues	Chase Bliss Colasurdo pleaded guilty for making interstate threats through online posts against President Trump’s family and threatening to bomb synagogues	Seattle Times
5/17/19	PA	FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai and his family	Marka Man was sentenced to a year and a half in federal prison for threatening to kill FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai over rollback of net neutrality regulations	Fox News
4/26/19	CA	Congressman Devin Nunes	Multiple threats against Representative Nunes	Washington Examiner
4/1/19	FL	Senator Cory Booker, Congressman Eric Swalwell, and Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib	John Kless pleaded guilty to transmitting threats through interstate communication Sen. Booker, Rep. Tlaib and Rep. Swalwell	The New York Times
3/27/19	WV	President Trump	Eric Leonardo Charron, an armed man accused of threatening President Trump, pleaded guilty to reckless driving and being a prohibited person in possession of a firearm	WOAY
3/23/19	NY	Congresswoman Ilhan Omar	Patrick W. Carlineo, Jr. was charged with threatening to assault and murder Rep. Omar	NBC News
3/21/19	FL	Congresswoman Maxine Waters and other members of Congress	Richard Mel Phillips was sentenced to 18 months for threatening to kill members of Congress	Daily Commercial
3/3/19	OR	Senator Ron Wyden	James Arthur Sickler was sentenced to two years of federal supervision after threatening Sen. Ron Wyden	The Hill
3/1/19	NY	President Barack Obama and Congresswoman Maxine Waters	Stephen J. Taubert sentenced to four years in prison for making racist threats to kill President Obama and Rep. Maxine Waters	Roll Call
2/1/19	MD	Prominent cable news journalists and Democratic politicians	Lt. Christopher P. Hasson took illicit opiates and stockpiled weapons to carry out terror attacks	The New York Times
12/13/18	NY	Unidentified U.S. Senator	Michael Brogan charged with making threats of violence against an unidentified U.S. senator	Roll Call
11/15/18	OK	President Trump and members of law enforcement	Harold Vandenburg was arrested for threatening law enforcement and President Trump	Fox2Now
10/26/18	PA	President Trump and Sarah Palin and family	In 2008, suspect Shawn Christy started a long journey of making bizarre threats against Sarah Palin and her family, but was eventually arrested on June 12, 2019 for threatening to “put a bullet” in President Trump’s head	The Morning Call

10/26/18	FL	Variety of public officials, including Presidents Obama and Clinton, Sens. Cory Booker and Kamala Harris, and major Democratic donors, including George Soros and Tom Steyer	Cesar Sayoc mailed 16 explosive devices to a variety of public officials	CNN
10/19/18	NY	Two unnamed U.S. Senators	Ronald DeRisi was arrested for allegedly threatening to murder and assault two U.S. senators over their support for the successful nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court	CNBC
10/17/18	MN	Republican Party members	Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party staffer was suspended for posting on social media that Democrats would execute Republicans	Free Beacon
10/15/18	VT	Vermont House of Representatives candidate Deserae Morin	Candidate Morin received a letter threatening her with rape and murder	Newsweek
10/15/18	MN	Minnesota House candidate Shane Mekeland	Candidate Mekeland reportedly suffered an attack, resulting in a concussion, while at a restaurant in St. George Township	Star Tribune
10/9/18	MN	Justice Kavanaugh	Teacher tweeted out a suggestion that someone should kill Justice Kavanaugh	Star Tribune
10/7/18	CO	Wife of Senator Corey Gardner	Senator Corey Gardner's wife received a text message containing a video of a beheading	9 News - NBC
10/3/18	KY	Family of Senator Rand Paul	After having the home address and phone number of Senator Rand Paul released to the public, threats of violence have been made against him and his family	CNN
10/2/18	DC	Unknown	Deadly poison ricin sent in envelopes to Secretary of Defense James Mattis and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson	New York Post
10/2/18	TX	Unknown	Powder mailed to campaign Headquarters of Senator Ted Cruz	News Week
10/1/18	MD	Kellyanne Conway	Mary Elizabeth Inabinett shook Kellyanne Conway at a restaurant in Bethesda, MD before being escorted out of the establishment	CBS News
9/9/18	CA	Congressional candidate Rudy Peters	Farzad Vincent Fazeli attempted to stab Congressional candidate Peters with a switchblade	San Francisco Chronicle
9/1/18	CT	President Trump	Gary Joseph Gravelle, also known as Roland Prejean, threatened to kill President Trump, mentioning use of explosives and bio-toxins	New Haven Register
8/3/18	NY	Congressman Steve Scalise and Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers	Carlos Bayon left threatening voicemail messages against Reps. Scalise and McMorris Rodgers	Life News
7/26/18	TN	Congresswoman Diane Black	Clifton Ward was arrested for threatening to assault and murder Congresswoman Diane Black	WKRN
7/7/18	NY	Aide to Representative Lee Zeldin	Martin Astrof threatened Lee Zeldin and "Trump supporters" before nearly striking a campaign worker with his car	Fox News
7/2/18	CA	Unnamed Oregon elected official	Nathaniel Blaine Luffman wrote emails and sent voicemails to an unnamed Oregon elected official	East Bay Times
Total:		41		

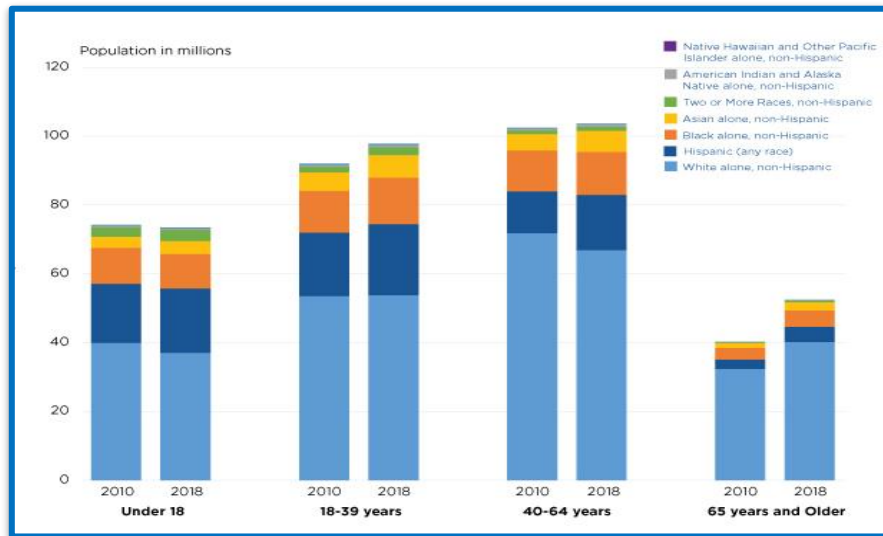
Criminal Prosecutions for Presidential Threats



*Prosecutions counted in chart were charged under 18 U.S.C § 871 – Threats against President and successors to the Presidency, under which anyone who “knowingly and willfully. . . [threatens] to take the life of, to kidnap, or to inflict bodily harm” upon the president, vice president, ex-presidents and ex-vice presidents, members of their families, presidential and vice presidential candidates, or members of their families (within 120 days of the general election) faces up to five years in prison for each count, and a \$250,000 fine. (Sources: Quartz, TRAC, Legal Information Institute).

Appendix: American Young People in Most Diversified Demographic Pool

U.S. Census: of Race and Origin by



Distribution Hispanic Age Group

Appendix: Terrorism in Federal Law

Term	Statute Number	Statute Text	FBI Working Definition
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International Terrorism	18 U.S. Code § 2331(1)	“The term “international terrorism” means activities that . . . involve violent acts or acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State, or that would be a criminal violation if committed within the jurisdiction of the United States or of any State. . . appear to be intended. . . to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping; and. . . occur primarily outside the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, or transcend national boundaries in terms of the means by which they are accomplished, the persons they appear intended to intimidate or coerce, or the locale in which their perpetrators operate or seek asylum.”	According to the FBI, <i>International Terrorism</i> constitutes terrorism perpetrated by individuals and/or groups inspired by or associated with designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs), a list of groups maintained by the U.S. Department of State, or nations, i.e. state-sponsored terrorism.
International Terrorism Charging Statute	18 U.S.C. § 2332b – Acts of Terrorism Transcending National Boundaries	“Whoever, involving conduct transcending national boundaries and in a circumstance described in subsection (b). . . kills, kidnaps, maims, commits an assault resulting in serious bodily injury, or assaults with a dangerous weapon any person within the United States; or. . . creates a substantial risk of serious bodily injury to any other person by destroying or damaging any structure, conveyance, or other real or personal property within the United States or by attempting or conspiring to destroy or damage any structure, conveyance, or other real or personal property within the United States; in violation of the laws of any State, or the United States, shall be punished as prescribed in subsection (c).”	
Domestic Terrorism	18 U.S. Code § 2331(5)	“[T]he term “domestic terrorism” means activities that. . . involve acts dangerous to human life that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State; appear to be intended to intimidate or coerce a civilian population; to influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping; and. . . occur primarily within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States. . . .”	<i>Domestic Terrorism</i> constitutes terrorism perpetrated by individuals and/or groups inspired by or associated with primarily U.S.-based groups or movements, espousing extremist ideologies of a political, religious, social, racial, or environmental nature.

Source: [FBI](#)

In April 2019, the FBI established the **Domestic Terrorism-Hate Crimes Fusion Cell** to achieve the closely-related goals of combating domestic terrorism and providing justice to those who are victims of hate crimes ([source](#)).

Appendix : INTERNATIONAL Hate Crime Data/ United Kingdom

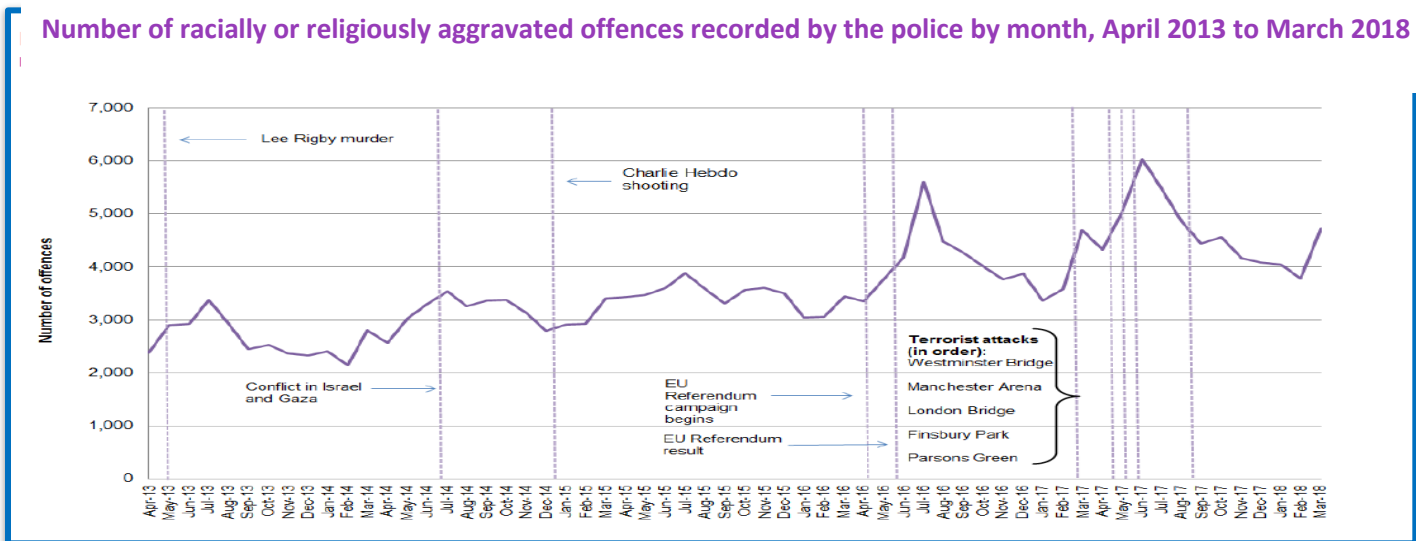
► In Europe, many countries have hate crime laws that also punish hate speech, but prohibitions vary by nation. the [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe \(OSCE\)](#) tracks and documents hate incidents and hate crimes by country. The OSCE’s criteria for hate crimes is **two-fold**: 1) the act must constitute [an offense under criminal law](#), and 2) the act must be [motivated by bias](#) ([source](#)).

Hate Crime by Nation in 2017

COUNTRY RANK BY SIZE	COUNTRY POP.	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Austria #96	8.79 million	302 -29%	425 8%	395 112%	186 69%	110 21%	91 54%	59 -42%	101 63%	62
Canada #38	35.88 million	2073 47%	1409 3%	1362 5%	1295 14%	1140 -19%	1414 7%	1322 -6%	1401 -5%	1473
France #21	62.81 million	1505 -18%	1835 3%	1790 8%	1662 -6%	1765 -25%	2357 na	dnr na	2 na	dnr
Germany #19	80.46 million	7913 120%	3598 18%	3046 <1%	3059 -34%	4647 3%	4514 12%	4040 7%	3770 -18%	4583
Greece #84	10.76 million	128 220%	40 -33%	60 -15%	71 -35%	109 10800%	1 na	dnr na	2 nc	2
Hungary #92	9.83 million	233 606%	33 na	dnr na	79 84%	43 13%	38 3%	37 95%	19 27%	15
Italy #23	62.25 million	1048 42%	736 33%	555 -7%	596 26%	472 565%	71 4%	68 21%	56 -58%	134
Poland #37	38.42 million	886 1%	874 232%	263 -66%	778 3%	757 185%	266 20%	222 -12%	251 29%	194
Sweden #91	10.04 million	dnr na	4862 <1%	4859 14%	4258 8%	3943 -29%	5518 <1%	5493 7%	5139 -11%	5797
United Kingdom #22	65.11 million	95552 18%	80763 29%	62518 18%	52853 10%	47986 1%	47676 -6%	50688 -6%	53946 -8%	58692

Source: [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe \(OSCE\)](#)

Number of racially or religiously aggravated offences recorded by the police by month, April 2013 to March 2018



Source: [Hate Crime, England and Wales, 2017/18](#)

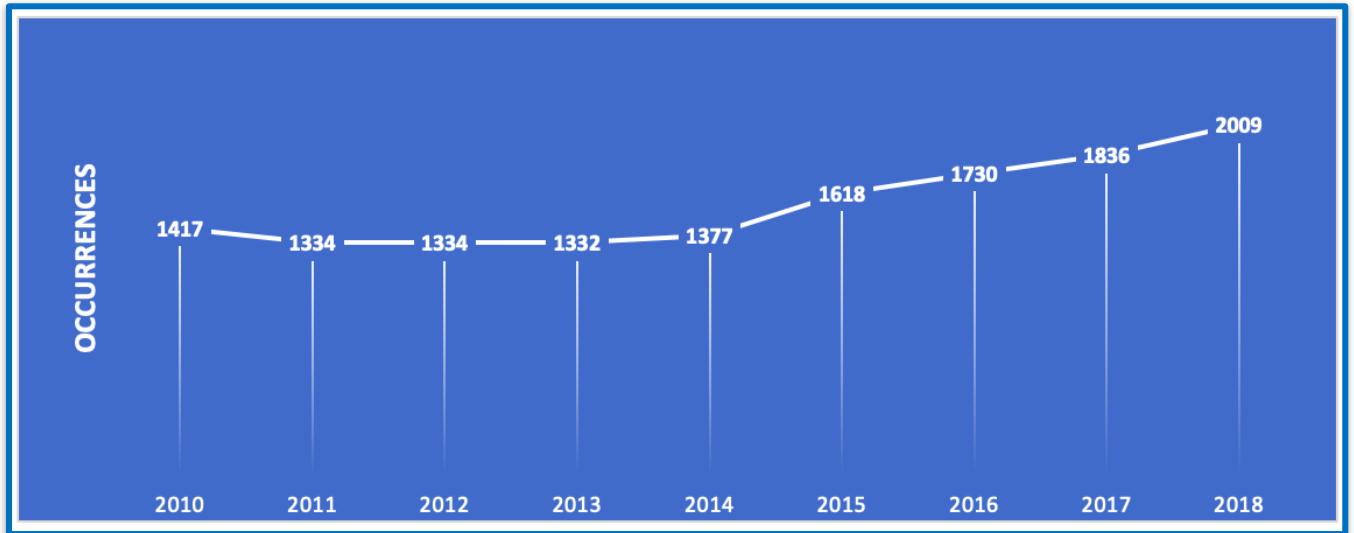
Appendix : Hate Crimes in U.S. Cities: 2018

Hate Crimes in 30 Major U.S. Cities: 2010-2018, 38 Million Total Population, 11.5% of U.S. Population

► In contrast to a 3.5 percent decline in crime overall in major U.S. Cities in 2018 (source), these latest hate crime data mirror a multi-year rise across myriad other representative crime, social science, and digital datasets on prejudice and fragmented intergroup cohesion, also presented here. While this incremental rise occurred globally across many surveys, there is variation regarding targeting, timeframes, and localities. distinct spikes occurred across data sets around conflictual, violent or political catalytic events, and during times of increased Russian social media manipulation.

The 2018 total marked a 42 percent increase over 2010's total of 1,417 and a 51 percent increase over 2013's decade low of 1,324. Moreover, full year increases reversed steep first half declines. In several cities with large percentage increases derived from very low numbers of reports, much of the rise is likely from improved efficiencies known as "reporting effect."

Not all data sets were up as hate crime in the ten largest American cities fell under one percent in 2018, after four



increases, to 1,030, on a large anomalous drop in Phoenix. Still, totals exceeded one thousand for only the second time this decade, with seven of the cities rising, and half hitting decade highs: Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, Dallas, and Philadelphia. The 2018 total is 32 percent above 2010's total, and fifty percent above 2013's decade low of 684.

So far in 2019, major cities like New York, Los Angeles and Chicago are also up.

Appendix : Reuters Poll

► The Percent of Americans who say white people are under attack in the U.S. has risen to 43 percent in 2018, up from 39 percent in 2017. The number who say racial minorities are under attack in the U.S. has also risen, to 57 percent in 2018, up from 54 percent in 2017. While 23 percent said they didn't know whether they supported the alt-right in 2017, a greater number (28 percent) in 2018 said the same. The number of people who said they strongly or

somehow support neo-Nazism went up by one percentage point in 2018, to 5 percent, while the number who strongly or somewhat support white nationalism has also gone up one percentage point in 2018, to 8 percent.

