Hate Crimes Against Juveniles Reported to Police

Juveniles are more likely than adults to experience a hate crime.

- According to police reports for 1997-1999, juveniles made up nearly a quarter (23%) of all individual hate crime victims, but only 11% of victims of other kinds of crime.


Most juvenile victims of hate crimes are male teens.

- Eighty-one percent of the juvenile victims of hate crimes were ages 12 to 17.
- Boys made up two-thirds (69%) of all juvenile hate crime victims, compared to only 53% of the victims of crime victimizations in general.


Hate crimes against juveniles involve more serious violence than those against adults.

- Sixty-three percent of hate crimes against juveniles involved violent assaults (simple and aggravated assault), compared to 39% of hate crimes against adults.


Most hate crimes against juveniles reflect racial and ethnic biases.

- For 1997 through 1999, 38% of hate crimes against juveniles had anti-Black motivations and 22% had anti-White motivations.
- A further 13% were motivated by anti-Hispanic biases.


A disproportionate number of hate crimes against juveniles occur at school.

- A fifth (21%) of hate crimes against juveniles occur at school, while only one tenth (10%) of all other types of crime against juveniles occur there.

Many of the perpetrators of hate crimes against juveniles are themselves juveniles and known to the victim.

- Sixty-four percent of offenders committing hate crimes against juveniles are themselves under 18 years of age.
- A majority (56%) of offenders who commit violent hate crimes against a juvenile are known to their victim, compared to only 39% of those who commit a hate crime against an adult.