

VICTIMIZED COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE OF HATE CRIMES & INCIDENTS IN ALBERTA: 2019-2022 ANALYSIS

The Alberta Hate Crimes Committee (AHCC) recognized that hate crimes and hate motivated incidents in communities across Alberta were increasing and that there was a lack of understanding in how vulnerable communities were feeling and experiencing these occurrences. AHCC acknowledged this gap by listening to those most affected and undertook a research study of the community perceptions of hate between 2019-2022. To produce this report, focus groups, key stakeholder interviews, and surveys were conducted in communities across Alberta in November and December of 2022. Presented below are some of key findings from the report:

- Communities affected the highest by hate crimes and incidents were based on race/ethnicity, 2SLGBTQIA+, religion, those with lower incomes, people with disabilities, and the homeless.
- Most of those asked what the difference between a “hate crime” and “hate incident” is did not know there was a difference between them or thought they were one thing.
- Majority felt hate crimes and incidents have increased (50% surveyed/85% experts)
- The hate that communities noticed the greatest were through verbal abuse like threatening someone, negative insults, public displays of hate, vandalizing places of worship, general misbehaving, and assault. Also, community members pointed out they are affected by negative slurs, online/social media harassment, and hateful symbols.
- Communities felt that most hate happened in public spaces and public transit, and online with social media affecting them deeply. Other places they identified were schools, places of worship, businesses, and the healthcare system.
- The most amount of targeted hate perceived by participants were from strangers, work colleagues, and law enforcement. When asked about specific people who target them a large majority said white men, diverse ethnic backgrounds, and religious groups.
- Most participants said they did not report hate crimes; Of those that did report, over 50% noted that they had a negative experience during the process.
- The common reasons why participants said they did not report was feeling unsure about the justice systems, scared about their privacy not being kept, humiliation or shame about what happened to them, lack of support systems, scared of law enforcement, and that hate crimes/incidents are considered normal.

What Do Alberta Communities Affected by Hate Crimes/Incidents Recommend?

- 1. Improve Education and Representation**
 - Justice sector training in hate crimes, bias and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)
 - Public education and training on hate crime
- 2. Increase Community Input, Oversight and Trust**
 - Support collaborative efforts in community
 - Encourage and increase community hate crime community navigators
- 3. Update and Standardize Hate-Related Regulation and Definitions**
 - Civilian input and oversight regarding hate
 - Support a national framework for mitigating and responding to hate
- 4. Improve Case and Reporting Methods**
 - Standardizing processes for collecting and responding to hate in Alberta
 - Reviewing Alberta Human Rights Act as it relates to reporting hate incidents
- 5. Increase Law Enforcement and Community Capacity to Mitigate Hate**
 - Additional resources for responding, mapping, tracking, and preventing hate
 - Support for victims of hate, including mental health

To learn more please access the full report visit AlbertaHateCrimes.org

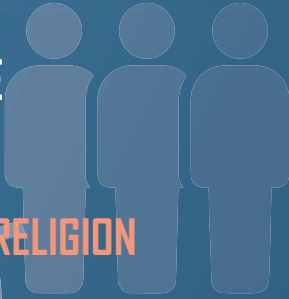


HATE CRIMES & INCIDENTS IN ALBERTA

2019-2022 ANALYSIS

VICTIMIZED COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

COMMUNITIES HIGHEST
AFFECTED BY HATE CRIME



2SLGBTQIA+

RACE/ETHNICITY/RELIGION

LOWER INCOME/HOMELESS

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



PEOPLE DON'T KNOW
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN

"HATE CRIME" & "HATE INCIDENT"

HATE CRIMES & INCIDENTS INCREASED



MOST HATE CRIMES UNREPORTED
BECAUSE OF UNCERTAINTY IN JUSTICE SYSTEM

OF THOSE REPORTED,
50% NOTED NEGATIVE EXPERIENCE



- MISBEHAVING
- HATEFUL SYMBOLS
- PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF HATE
- VERBAL ABUSE
- THREATENING
- ASSAULT
- INSULTS
- SOCIAL MEDIA HARASSMENT
- VANDALISM
- NEGATIVE SLURS

