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May 21, 2025

## Tri-State Hate Crime Data Findings

### Incidents By Month (Line Graph)

Based on the chart, we see that there is an exponential increase in recorded hate crimes when comparing 2020 and 2023. Peaking at 193 recorded cases of hate crimes in November 2023, which is nearly a 200% increase compared to the previous year, which recorded 45 incidents. An interesting pattern to note is that the lowest valleys in the chart are in December of each year. This could be explained by the fact that it is the holiday season during that month.

### Victim Location Frequency (Bar Graph)

In this chart, we look at the victim count per specified location across the tri-state. For New York, the most common locations where victims were targeted were in residences/homes, street/alley/road/sidewalk/highway, and other/unknown in that respective order. For New Jersey, we see a similar trend for the first two locations being the most common target zones, with the third most common location being schools. Lastly, Connecticut follows the same trend as the previous two, with the same 2 most targeted locations; the third location, however, is religious buildings. Furthermore, we can conclude that Connecticut may be the safest amongst the tri-state region when it comes to hate crimes, as displayed across all locations, it has fewer reported incidents overall.

### Targetted Groups (Pie Chart)

In this chart, we see which groups are targeted in these hate crimes. The top three most targeted groups are the following: Jewish, Blacks/African Americans, and Gays. These three groups alone make up nearly 2/3 of the pie chart. If I were to add on to this, I could have added the date dimension to see the frequency of these biased groups.

### Comparison of Offenses (Pie Chart) + Heat Map

I applied the principle I previously mentioned with my other pie chart, but in the form of a heat map. These two charts are paired together because while the pie chart demonstrates the count of incidents per offense type, the heat map shows the change in frequency over time. The three most common offense types are intimidation, damage/vandalism/destruction, and simple assault (most common to least). This is also reflected in the heat map, as we see the darkest blocks appear under those columns. It is also important to note how most of the columns get darker the lower you go down the map, which represents an increase in those offenses over time.

### Final Statement

Connecticut, having the lowest hate crime reporting, may be an appealing state for those who want to move into or along the tri-state region. However, generally speaking, hate crimes are going up across all states. When we get access to 2024 data, I expect a big jump in these statistics. It will be interesting to see what major changes we see in the dataset for this last year.