

# Hate Crimes and Bias Incidents in Oregon: What You Should Know



## What is a Bias/Hate Crime?

Under Oregon law, the legal name for a hate crime is a *bias crime*, which is crime motivated by bias against another person's race, color, disability, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity<sup>[1]</sup>

- Threats
- Use of a weapon
- Damage to property
- Assault/Injury/Touch



## What is a Bias Incident?

A *bias incident* is any hostile expression that may be motivated by another person's race, color, disability, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The act does not need to be a crime<sup>[1]</sup>

- Use of slurs/Hate speech
- Mimicking/mocking
- Discrimination
- Offensive "jokes"

## Oregon DOJ's Bias Response Hotline

The hotline was created in 2020 to provide support, resources, information and funds to survivors of bias incidents/crimes<sup>[2]</sup>

1-844-924-BIAS

- Why report?
- Support survivors
  - Access resources
  - Track data<sup>[3]</sup>



## Reports in Oregon

# 1,683

There were 1,003 bias incidents and 471 bias crimes reported to the Oregon DOJ Bias Response Hotline in 2021.<sup>[4]</sup> In the same year, 300 additional bias crimes were reported to law enforcement.<sup>[4]</sup> In 2019, a survey estimated 1,265,440 bias crimes and incidents prompting the introduction of the Hotline<sup>[5]</sup>

## Individuals Affected 7 out of 10

Black Americans have experienced a bias or hate related incident within their lifetime<sup>[6]</sup>

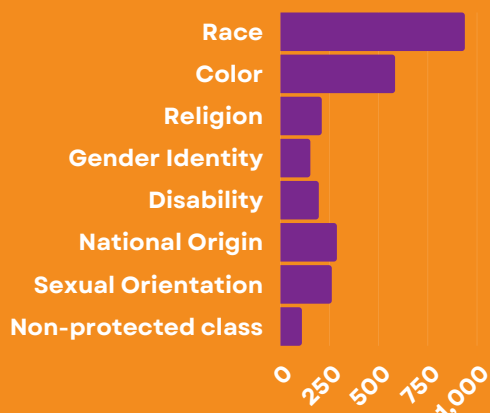


## Other Terms You Should Know

Even though *hate crime* is the term people may be most familiar with, and *bias crime* and *bias incident* are the legal terms in Oregon, these may not describe the experiences that many Oregonians face. Other more applicable terms may be:

- Hate violence*
- Hate incidents*
- Anti-Black Violence*
- Racial Violence*
- Racism*
- Discrimination*

## Protected Classes



56% of all reports to Oregon DOJ's Bias Response Hotline were perpetrated for racial reasons in 2021<sup>[7]</sup>




## Who is at Risk?

# 42%





In 2021, 42% of reports to Oregon DOJ's Bias Response Hotline were due to Black/African-American bias<sup>[7]</sup>

# Resources & Where to Find Help

If you or someone you know has experienced a hate incident, you have many resources, including:

- 1  • Oregon DOJ's Bias Response Hotline: 1-844-924-BIAS (2427)
  - Non-emergency and confidential
  - Interpretation in 240+ languages, accepting all relay calls
  - Report online at [StandAgainstHate.Oregon.gov](https://standagainsthate.oregon.gov) 1
- 2  • Oregon DOJ's Crime Victim & Survivor Services Division:
  - Counseling and medical bills covered for victims of hate and bias
  - [justice.oregon.gov/victims/compensation](https://justice.oregon.gov/victims/compensation) 2
- 3  • Oregon's Coalition against Hate Crime:
  - [oregoncahc.org](https://oregoncahc.org) 3
  - Call the police (Dial 911) (for crimes)

## Additional Resources Include:

- 4  • Governor's Advocacy Office (GAO):
  - To file a formal discrimination complaint against the Oregon Dept. of Human Services: <https://tinyurl.com/GAODHS> 4
- 5  • Oregon U.S. Attorney's Offices:
  - For support following civil rights offenses and more: Portland (503) 727-1000, Eugene (541) 465-6771, Medford (541) 776-3564
- 6  • Oregon Department of Education
  - To file reports of discrimination in the educational context: <https://tinyurl.com/ODECV1> 5
- 7  • Equal Employment Opportunity Commission:
  - To file a charge of discrimination in the employment context: <https://tinyurl.com/FCHD11> 6
- Fair Housing Council of Oregon
  - To report illegal housing discrimination: <https://tinyurl.com/FHCOreport> 7

## References

1. <https://www.doj.state.or.us/oregon-department-of-justice/civil-rights/bias-and-hate/whats-the-difference-between-a-hate-or-bias-crime-and-a-bias-incident/>
2. <https://www.doj.state.or.us/oregon-department-of-justice/civil-rights/bias-and-hate/>
3. <https://www.doj.state.or.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/StandAgainstHateTrifold.pdf>
4. <https://www.doj.state.or.us/oregon-department-of-justice/civil->

## Additional References

5. <https://www.oregon.gov/cjc/CJC%20Document%20Library/OCVS%20Chapter%201%20Overall%20Trends.pdf>
6. <https://www.oregon.gov/cjc/CJC%20Document%20Library/SB577ReportJuly2022.pdf>
7. <https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/press-release/poll-7-in-10-black-americans-say-they-have-experienced-incidents-of-discrimination-or-police-mistreatment-in-lifetime-including-nearly-half-who-felt-lives-were-in-danger/>