Bias and Hate Crime Victimization During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Florida State University
Center for Criminology & Public Policy Research
Hate Crime Research and Policy Institute

Brendan Lantz, Ph.D.
Marin R. Wenger, Ph.D.
Between March 2020 and May 2020:

• Roughly 29% of Asian survey respondents experienced discrimination

• Roughly 16% of Asian survey respondents reported being the victim of a hate crime

• Only 24% of these hate crime victims reported the incident to the police

• Over 44% of Asian respondents indicated that they knew someone personally who had been the victim of a hate crime

• Nearly 32% of Asian respondents indicated that they had changed their personal behavior in order to avoid bias motivated harassment or violence

• Almost 13% of non-Asian respondents indicated that they fear Asian people may spread unusual diseases
Experiences with Racial Discrimination, by Race/Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>% of Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Discrimination Experiences by Type (Asian Respondents)

- Insults: 34%
- Refused Services in Bar/Nightclub: 11%
- Refused Services in Hotel/Motel: 10%
- Refused Other Services: 12%
- Other: 33%

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While nearly 16% of Asian survey respondents indicated that they had been the victim of a hate crime, only 24% of them reported the incident to the police.
Even if they have not experienced biased harassment, threats, or violence themselves, roughly 44% of Asian respondents indicated that they knew someone personally who had been a victim.
Roughly 61% of non-Asian survey respondents indicated agreement with some form of anti-Asian xenophobia during the COVID-19 pandemic.
About the Survey

The results presented here are from the first of a series of detailed web-based surveys administered to 4,188 respondents throughout the United States in May 2020. Survey respondents were broadly representative of the U.S. according to race/ethnicity (65% non-Hispanic White, 11% non-Hispanic Black, 6%; non-Hispanic Asian; 12% Hispanic; and 5% other race) and sex (51% male; 49% female), with an additional oversampling of 900 Hispanic, Asian and Black Respondents.

About the Hate Crime Research & Policy Institute

The Hate Crime Research & Policy examines the ways that hate, bigotry, and extremism influence the victimization of people on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, and other personal characteristics. This includes research related to victimization experiences, spatial and community-level influences on hate crime, victim interactions with the criminal justice system, and the impact of public policy on hate crime offending. Hate crimes have increased significantly across the nation in recent years, and the mission of the institute is to (1) conduct research to advance knowledge on hate crime and (2) develop evidence-based recommendations for improving policies related to hate and bias crime.

Contributors

Brendan Lantz, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Director, Hate Crime Research & Policy Institute
Contact: blantz@fsu.edu

Marin R. Wenger, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Affiliate, Hate Crime Research & Policy Institute
Contact: mwenger@fsu.edu