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## **Jewish Community Remains Most-Targeted Religious Group According to New FBI Data, Despite Significant Underreporting of Hate Crimes**

*Secure Community Network Applauds Law Enforcement Agencies That Report Hate Crimes to FBI*

Hate crime statistics released by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) earlier today continue to show that the largest percentage of religiously motivated hate crimes are those targeting the Jewish community. At the same time, the FBI and the Secure Community Network (SCN) have identified an alarming underreporting of state and local data throughout the [hate crime statistics](#) from the 2021 Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

For 2021, hate crimes representing anti-Jewish bias accounted for 32% of all those reported to the FBI, more than those targeting any other religious group. The 324 reported antisemitic crimes included property damage, vandalism, intimidation, assaults, burglary, and breaking and entering. By contrast, 1,435 incidents were reported in 2021 to SCN's [National Jewish Security Operations Command Center](#), which monitors information, intelligence, threats, and incidents impacting the Jewish community in real-time, and coordinates with law enforcement and other partners.

"These statistics are a striking reminder that the Jewish community remains a top target for hate crimes amidst the troubling targeting of the entire faith community. SCN continues to work closely with the FBI and our other law enforcement partners nationwide to combat these threats," said SCN National Director and CEO Michael Masters. "Behind these statistics are the people whose lives are impacted, and we are grateful to the law enforcement agencies and their officers across the U.S. for protecting and serving the Jewish community. At the same time, there is more work to do: there is an absence of data from 1 in 3 law enforcement agencies. We urge every law enforcement agency to work to participate in the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Only with a full understanding of the problem can we hope to fully address the hate crimes that target too many individuals and communities in our country."

While there appeared to be a dramatic drop in hate crimes from 2020 – in which more than twice as many religiously motivated hate crimes targeting the Jewish community were reported to the FBI (683 or 65%) – the FBI [noted](#) that the discrepancy resulted primarily from fewer law enforcement agencies submitting data through its new reporting system, the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Despite a five-year transition supported by federal grants, the statistics from many reporting entities – including some of the largest law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and some entire states – are not reflected in the system.

In total, 37% of law enforcement agencies, representing approximately a third of the U.S. population, did not report into the FBI's system for 2021. In releasing the 2021 data, the FBI [clearly stated](#) the problem: "Although the hate crime statistics reported to the UCR Program are lower in 2021, hate crime statistics overall are not decreasing. The lower numbers are in direct correlation with the NIBRS transition."

While federal law enforcement agencies are required by law to report hate crimes brought to their attention to the FBI on a monthly or quarterly basis, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies are not required by law to report hate crimes to the FBI.

Hate crime statistics include only committed criminal offenses motivated by bias, which exclude many forms of hate speech and suspicious activity – and even some types of threats – that may not be investigated or prosecuted. As a result, hate crime data does not fully represent the level of risk to the Jewish community. In just the last six months, SCN's intelligence analysts have identified over 4,400 risk events that directly impacted the Jewish community. After thorough vetting, more than 200 individuals were referred to law enforcement for further investigation, leading to the arrests of numerous potentially violent offenders.

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*The **Secure Community Network** (SCN), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is the official safety and security organization of the Jewish community in North America. Founded in 2004 under the auspices of The Jewish Federations of North America and the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, SCN serves as the central organization dedicated exclusively to the safety and security of the American Jewish community, working across 146 federations, 50 partner organizations, over 300 independent communities, and other partners in the public, private, nonprofit, and academic sectors. SCN is dedicated to ensuring that Jewish organizations, communities, life, and culture can not only exist safely and securely, but flourish. Learn more at [securecommunitynetwork.org](https://securecommunitynetwork.org).*