

# **HATE** **CRIME** in California **2002**

## **PROSECUTORIAL DATA**

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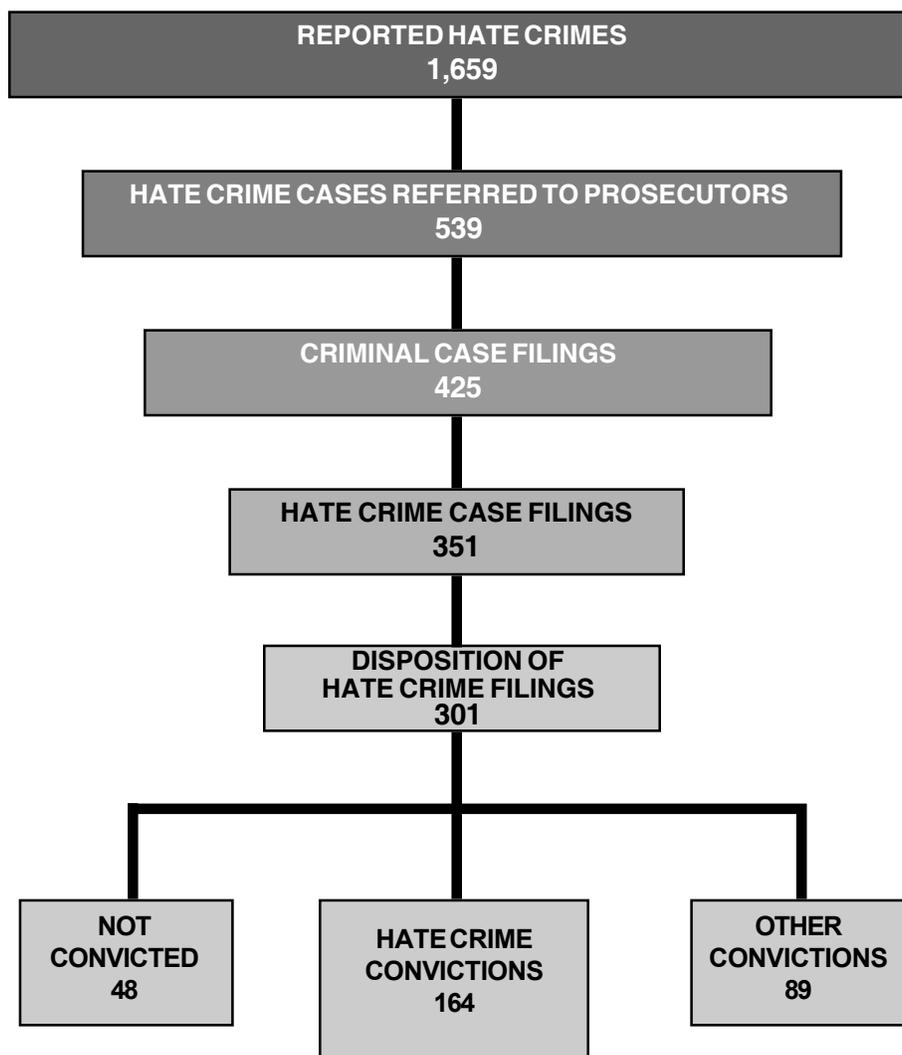
**INTERPRETING PROSECUTORIAL DATA**

There are many factors that must take place for a case to be forwarded for possible prosecution in California’s criminal justice system. In our continuing effort to bring clarity to the nature and value of prosecutorial data, this brief overview is provided.

At the request of district attorneys, collection procedures were modified to ensure the collection of all juvenile, as well as all adult, case data. The overview below contains all juvenile and adult prosecution data submitted for 2002.

In addition, the reader is advised that relating the number of hate crimes reported by law enforcement agencies to the number of hate crimes prosecuted by district attorneys and elected city attorneys is not possible. First, crimes often occur in different reporting years than their subsequent prosecutions. Second, the number of crimes reported by law enforcement is much higher than those warranting prosecutorial action.

**HATE CRIME PROSECUTION DISPOSITIONS, 2002**



Source: Tables 1, 8, 9, and 10.

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**TOTAL CASES REFERRED**  
Hate Crimes, 2002



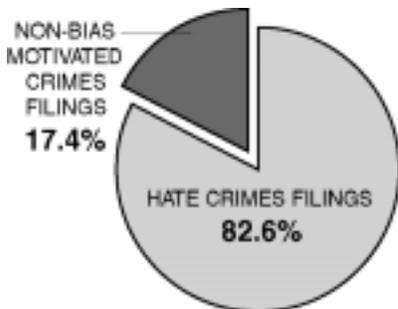
Source: Table 9.

**TOTAL CASES REFERRED**

In 2002, of 539 cases that were referred by law enforcement agencies for prosecution:

- 425 cases (78.8 percent) were filed for prosecution.
- 114 cases (21.2 percent) were rejected for prosecution for various reasons (e.g., insufficient evidence, witness not available, defendant not available, etc.).

**TOTAL CASES FILED FOR PROSECUTION**  
Hate Crimes, 2002



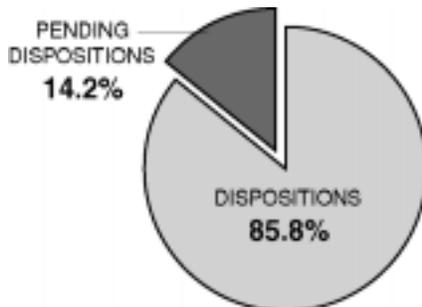
Source: Table 9.

**TOTAL CASES FILED FOR PROSECUTION**

In 2002, of 425 cases filed by District Attorney and elected City Attorney offices for prosecution:

- 351 cases (82.6 percent) were filed as hate crimes.
- 74 cases (17.4 percent) were filed as non-bias motivated crimes.

**TOTAL HATE CRIME CASE FILINGS**  
Hate Crimes, 2002



Source: Tables 9 and 10.

**TOTAL HATE CRIME CASE FILINGS**

In 2002, of 351 hate crime case filings:

- 301 cases (85.8 percent) resulted in a disposition.
- 50 cases (14.2 percent) are pending a disposition.

**TOTAL DISPOSITIONS**

In 2002, of 301 cases with a disposition:

- 164 cases (54.5 percent) resulted in a hate crime conviction.
- 89 cases (29.6 percent) resulted in other convictions.
- 48 cases (15.9 percent) resulted in no conviction.

**TOTAL DISPOSITIONS**

Hate Crimes, 2002



Source: Table 10.

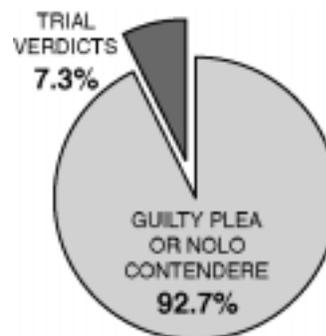
**HATE CRIME CONVICTIONS**

In 2002, of the 164 hate crime convictions:

- 152 convictions (92.7 percent) were either a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.
- 12 convictions (7.3 percent) were trial verdicts.

**HATE CRIME CONVICTIONS**

Hate Crimes, 2002



Source: Tables 8 and 10.

**Continue to Trend Data →**