INTRODUCTION

Portland United Against Hate (PUAH) developed ReportHatePDX (RHPDX) in 2017 as an online reporting tool designed to collect anonymous data about everyday experiences of hate across the Portland, Oregon metro area. This report summarizes incidents reported between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020. This report aims to present trends in the data to inform and guide city governance and policy decisions towards developing solutions to the epidemic of hate. In 2020, RHPD received 351 entries that detail hate incidents.

There are four main data sections in this report: (1) who reports, (2) when and where incidents took place, (3) incident details, (4) actions taken in response to the incident, and (5) key findings.

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Portland United Against Hate (PUAH) developed ReportHatePDX (RHPDX) in 2017 as an online reporting tool designed to collect anonymous data about everyday experiences of hate across the Portland, Oregon metro area.

This report summarizes incidents reported between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020. This report aims to present trends in the data to inform and guide city governance and policy decisions towards developing solutions to the epidemic of hate.
In 2020, RHPD received 351 entries that detail hate incidents. In this report, we analyzed this data to understand:
What groups of people are targeted in hate incidents, in terms of age, gender, and race/ethnicity.

• Where hate incidents occur: in what part of the metro area, and in what setting;
• What time of day hate incidents occur;
• What type of incidents that occur;
• How often and what types of injury and property damage result from hate incidents;
• The perceived motivation of perpetrators of hate incidents;
• Who perpetrates hate incidents;
• If and to whom hate incidents are reported.
One third (34%) of reported targets are under the age of 20.

- BIPOC Portlanders are disproportionately targets of reported hate incidents, comprising 72% of reported targets, and race/ethnicity is the most commonly reported motivation of hate incidents (44%).

- Downtown (33%) and Southeast (28%) have the most reports of hate incidents among the six regions of the city.

- Almost half (46%) of reported hate incidents occurred on streets or sidewalks, with a significant number of incidents in businesses, homes, parks, schools, and on public transit.

- Law enforcement perpetrated nearly a quarter (24%) of reported incidents.
- Less than one-fifth of incidents (19%) reported through RHPDX were also reported to police.
Between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2020, 351 incidents of hate were reported to PUAH. Of those, 56% (197) were reported through RHPDX and 44% (154) were reported through PUAH's partner organizations such as Latino Network and the Q Center.

Of the incidents reported (351), 50% were targets of hate (108), 24% were witnesses (52), 26% were “other” (55). This last category consisted of:

- Incidents reported to a PUAH staff member or staff of a PUAH partner organization
- Incidents first reported on social media and then submitted to RHPDX
- Incidents first reported to other organizations or victim advocates
- Incidents reported on behalf of a friend, child, partner, neighbor, or congregant

People reporting hate came from all age groups, genders, and racial/ethnic backgrounds. Of those who reported their age (259), those between the ages of 10-19 (27%, 69) had a higher reporting average, followed by those between the ages of 30-39 (24%, 61) and 40-49 (17%, 45). One-third of reported targets (34%, 87) were children or teens (see Figure 1 below).

**FIGURE 1: REPORTED TARGETS BY AGE**
One-third of reported targets are children and teens.
People who reported the target’s gender (301) mostly identified as cisgender women (55%, 168), followed by cisgender men (33%, 100) and genderqueer1 (7%, 20).

Trans women comprised 3% (8) and trans men comprised 1% (2) of reported targets. (See figure 2 below.)

Figure 2: Reported Targets by Gender

Cis women are the targets in more than half of reported incidents, but trans and genderqueer folks comprise 10%.
Similar information about race and ethnicity of targets was collected on RHPDX (322). For the sake of this report, a few larger racial/ethnic categories were chosen to better understand who is reporting (see Figure 3 above). Latinx targets (42%, 135) were the highest proportion of reported targets, followed by white (23%, 73), Black (18%, 59) and Asian/Asian American targets (13%, 41). The racial/ethnic makeup of targets shows that people of color are overrepresented in RHPDX data. According to 2010 Census data, the racial/ethnic composition of Portland is 9% Latinx, 6% Black/African American, and 7% Asian/Asian American.
WHERE AND WHEN:

Reporters on RHPDX can specify what area of the Portland metro area the incident occurred. RHPDX quadrant data (204) shows that most of the hate incidents occurred Downtown (33%, 67). Three reports (1.5%) responded to this question by indicating that the target is homeless. Other areas where incidents were reported in the city include Southeast (28%, 57), Northeast (13%, 27), Southwest (12%, 24), North (8%, 17), and Northwest (4%, 9) (see Figure 4 below).

FIGURE 4: DATA BY CITY QUADRANT

The highest rates of reported hate occur in Downtown Portland.
In addition to geographic areas, RHPDX incident setting data (214) shows that 46% occur in streets/sidewalks (98), followed by businesses (11%, 23), the target’s home (9%, 20), and public parks (9%, 19). Despite the closure of school buildings for much of 2020, 3% of reported incidents (6) occur at K-12 schools.
The majority of incidents occurred in the evening hours, between 5:00pm and 11:59pm, with the second largest number of incidents occurring in the early morning hours, between 12:00am and 7:59am.

In terms of when incidents occur, the majority (36%, 31) occurred in the evening hours, between 5:00pm and 11:59pm, with the second largest number of incidents (17%, 17) occurring in the early morning hours, between 12:00am and 7:59am.
Additionally, reporters can indicate the date the incident occurred (regardless of when it is reported). RHPDX incident date data (211) shows that 25% of all incidents reported in 2020 occurred in June (53), followed by July (14%, 30) and August (22%, 24).

Interestingly, 16 incidents from 2019 and 5 incidents from 2018 were reported in 2020.

1/4 of reported incidents occurred in June
RHPDX data includes information on the category of hate (e.g., physical assault, vandalism, hate speech, etc.), whether injury or property damage resulted, motivation of hate (i.e. race/ethnicity, religion, gender, and sexuality), and perpetrator information.

**Categories of Hate:**
RHPDX data on categories of hate (215) show that physical assault (27%, 58) was the most frequent form of hate reported, followed by verbal harassment (17%, 37), physical threats/intimidation (14%, 30), and vandalism/property damage/graffiti (13%, 28) and other (11%, 24) (see Figure 8).

The 'other' category includes racist flyers, attempts to "rip yarmulke off [target's] head," hate mail, harassment with noise, leaving animal feces, and nooses.

Reporters provided narrative accounts of either being targets of or witnesses to physical threats/intimidation:

"In the course of a peaceful demonstration at the Justice Center, Portland Police indiscriminately attacked protesters with tear gas, OC gas, 'pepper balls,' grenades, and other weapons. I believe these attacks to be politically motivated by the political bias of PPB, specifically their opposition to any and all police accountability and abolition work." (June 5, 2020)

- "Several police 'bullrushes' (line ups where they rush the crow and beat people). Police pushed everyone into residential areas, pepper spraying indiscriminately. Police set off flash bangs (which can deafen you). They also set off tear gas or just smoke bombs-not clear. Then there were more bull rushes... Herded us unsafely into the narrow pitch dark, uneven streets and attacked us continually from behind even as we obeyed their orders." (Aug. 8, 2020)

- "I am a Black census worker who was called antifa even after I explained why I had a mask and helmet on, told to 'get the fuck out of here' and then spit on." (Sep. 2, 2020)
After physical threats/intimidation, the next most common forms of hate reported were verbal harassment and physical assault (each 15%, 20). Some descriptions of these incidents of verbal harassment include:

- “Incident happened during the COVID-19 pandemic. The perpetrator said 'Your people should be killed' [to a Chinese and Vietnamese woman target].” (March 26, 2020)

- “Our next door neighbors have started calling one of my roommates 'faggot.'” (May 14, 2020)

- "My landlord said I was invisible during night time because I was black in front of other tenants and his wife." (October 13, 2020)
Descriptions of incidents of physical assault include:

“Threatened to stomp, burn, enslave, and/or kill African Americans and/or POC.” (June 17, 2020)

• “A box cutter was pulled on me. I was on the job only doing my job when this happened. I shouldn’t have to worry about getting killed the job because of my race.” (July 5, 2020)

• "A white supremacist intentionally followed the end of our march [Kid-Centered March for Black Lives] with his car, and engaged our community safety volunteers in an attempt to provoke an altercation. During this incident, the man brandished a gun. Our security team was able to de-escalate the situation rapidly and the man left without further incident... Upon reviewing the pictures that the security team took, we were made aware that the man was wearing a Three Percenter hat, which denotes an extremist group that has been targeting protesters." (August 18, 2020)

• "We were on our walk and two men were on their driveway near the street one older and one about 20. The older man took his leaf blower set it on his shoulder like a rifle aimed it at my 11 year old and laughed." (December 24, 2020)
Injury or Damage to Property

When asked to report on injuries sustained (199), 63% (125) said they did not sustain an injury, while 30% (59) did sustain an injury. Damage to property (178) during a hate incident was reported in 21% (33) of reports (see Figure 9 below).

Details of injuries included serious physical injuries and mental health impacts:

- “I approached a verbal altercation between two men. Other witnesses described that the white man grabbed and threw the black man to the ground. I approached the black man to ask if he was ok and he said no, that the other man had grabbed and attacked him. Meanwhile the white man called him the n-word twice and also yelled at me saying damn women always getting involved mind your own damn business’. Someone said they had called police and the black man hurriedly walked away as did the white man but not before after stopping another women tell her that the police were after the black man and he was trying to stop home from running away’. The white man got in his truck and sped away. [I am] traumatized by racist and misogynistic epithets.” (February 29, 2020)

- “Shot point blank in the forehead, laceration, 7 stitches.” (July 25, 2020)

- “Medics shot with buckshot, flash bangs, rubber bullets, pepperballs” (July 26, 2020)

FIGURE 9: DATA ON INJURY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE

Injury was reported more than property damage

- no
- yes
- maybe

0 20 40 60 80 100 120 140

property damage injury
Motivation

- RHPDX data on hate motivation (204) shows that the most cited motivation is race/ethnicity (44%, 90), followed 'other' (29%, 59) (see Figure 10).

- RHPDX asks reporters to select a single motivation, yet incidents of hate sometimes include multiple motivations. Data for motivations described as “other” by the reporters include additional details that we coded as:

  » police brutality/disproportionate police response (16), which was only perpetrated by law enforcement
  » politics/ideology (15), in which the perpetrator is motivated by the target’s political views (includes targets with both conservative and progressive ideologies)
  » protest (13), in which perpetrators target protesters because they are protesting
  » protest support (6), which involved law enforcement targeting medics and legal observers at protests
  » race (2)
  » COVID (1)
  » nativism (1)

**FIGURE 10: DATA ON PERPETRATOR MOTIVATIONS FOR HATE**

Race/ethnicity was the most reported motivation for hate incidents
Perpetrators

The majority of reported perpetrators of hate incidents are “individuals or groups of individuals” (55%, 113). Law enforcement perpetrated 24% of incidents (49) and reporters did not know who the perpetrators were in 18% of reports (36). Government agencies comprised 2% (3) of reported perpetrators (see Figure 11 below). The details in the “other” category included the target’s landlord (2).

FIGURE 11: DATA ON PERPETRATORS

The majority of reported perpetrators of hate incidents are “individuals or groups of individuals” (55%, 113). Law enforcement perpetrated 24% of incidents (49) and reporters did not know who the perpetrators were in 18% of reports (36). Government agencies comprised 2% (3) of reported perpetrators (see Figure 11 below). The details in the “other” category included the target’s landlord (2).
Most respondents (72%, 131) said that their hate incident was either not reported (64%, 117) or was possibly reported (8%, 14). Of those who provided details about reporting elsewhere, 34 reported to the police or called 911; 18 reported to other government agencies or elected officials; 6 reported to community organizations, and 4 reported to a school or school district (See Figure 12 below). One reporter wrote, "I didn’t report because I’m not confident the police can handle things like this appropriately and I was more worried about [the target]."

**FIGURE 12: DATA ON REPORTING ELSEWHERE**

81% of incidents were not reported to the police

**KEY FINDINGS**

- One-third (34%) of reported targets are under the age of 20.
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- Law enforcement perpetrated nearly a quarter (24%) of reported incidents.
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A tool kit brought to you by Portland United Against Hate to use throughout the rest of the month of July. In this toolkit, you will find info data graphics for each of the 8 key findings from the 2020 Report Hate PDX annual report, as well as a video clip montage of all key highlights. In addition, we will also link the actual report from our PUAH website, on the day it goes live.

This 2020 RHPDX Annual Data Graphics & Report digital toolkit. Each digital content item will be issued daily by PUAH, and coalition partners are welcomed to use them as available and as it works for your individual organization social media plans.

Special thanks to the Coalition of Communities of Color team for managing the RHPDX database, running the data analysis, and supporting us the entire process.

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#PortlandUnitedAgainstHate

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Report Hate PDX - RHPDX incident report portal