# TENNESSEE



2012

Prepared by Tennessee Bureau of Investigation Crime Statistics Unit



Governor

#### TENNESSEE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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April 25, 2013

#### Ladies and Gentlemen:

I would like to present the <u>2012 Hate Crime</u> report. This is the annual report published by the TBI presenting information on reported crimes motivated by bias that occurred in Tennessee. The information contained in the report is based on crime statistics information submitted by law enforcement agencies in Tennessee to TBI's Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS) program. TIBRS is the state version of the FBI's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) program. Please see <a href="https://www.tncrimeonline.com">www.tncrimeonline.com</a> for additional information.

The groups toward which bias motivated crimes may be directed are based on the national definitions and conform to the same standards used in the annual Hate Crime Report published by the FBI for the United States. Any offense may be motivated by bias. The bias motivation is an element of the offense and is not reported as a separate crime occurrence.

I am very proud of the efforts of all participating law enforcement agencies in the state to provide the data necessary to produce this report. Our combined efforts have resulted in this annual report detailing the nature of bias motivated crime occurrences in our state.

Sincerely

Mark Gwyn
Director



#### Introduction

The current report examines hate crimes reported to the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS) by Tennessee law enforcement agencies for the year 2012. Agencies were contacted and asked to verify the accuracy of hate crime(s) reported for their jurisdiction. An examination of hate crime data revealed several trends and noteworthy facts. Specifics are detailed in the body of the report.

#### **Bias Motivation**

The key element of any hate crime is the presence of bias motivation. The criminal act, itself, does not constitute a hate crime; rather, the commission of the act as a direct result of the perpetrator's perception of the victim's membership in a certain social group constitutes a hate crime. Such hate crimes are committed on the basis of differences in personal characteristics such as appearance, language, nationality, or religion. For our purposes, six bias categories are utilized: Anti-Racial; Anti-Religious; Anti-Ethnicity/National Origin; Anti-Disability; Anti-Sexual; and Non-Specific. Please note that there is an "Unknown" bias code in the Non-Specific category. The "Unknown" bias code's single purpose is to serve as a category for those offenses thought to be bias motivated that are currently under investigation by the respective law enforcement agency. These crimes demonstrate characteristics of a hate crime; however, the investigation has not revealed a specific bias motivation code/category. It should be noted that a hate crime may or may not have occurred as there has not been a conclusive determination of bias motivation in these ongoing cases. Once the investigation is completed and a full determination has been made regarding the crime's specific bias motivation (if any), agencies are responsible for removing the "Unknown" bias code and properly categorizing the hate crime. Incidents that do not involve facts and/or evidence of the offender's bias motivation are to be reported as "None."

#### **Categories of Bias Codes**

Anti-Racial	Anti-Religious	Anti-Sexual
White	Jewish	Male Homosexual
African American	Catholic	Female Homosexual
Asian/Pacific Islander	Protestant	Homosexual (Gay & Lesbian)
American Indian/Alaskan Native	Islamic	Bisexual
Multi-Racial Group	Other Religion	
	Multi-Religious Group	
	Atheism/ Agnosticism	
Non-Specific	Anti-Ethnicity/National Origin	Anti-Disability
Unknown	Hispanic	Physical Disability
None	Other Ethnicity/National Origin	Mental Disability

#### Methodology

The TBI collects crime data from all agencies across the state of Tennessee. Hate crimes reported by those agencies are specifically examined each year. The resulting hate crime data includes criminal offenses committed against persons and property that are motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against a race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, or national origin, or disability. Motive, defined as something that causes a person to act, exists at the root of classifying hate crimes. Because motivation is subjective, it can be difficult to know with certainty whether a crime was the result of the offender's bias.

Moreover, the presence of bias alone does not necessarily mean that a crime can be considered a "hate crime". Law enforcement investigation is crucial for accurate hate crime reporting, because it must reveal sufficient evidence to lead a responsible and prudent person to conclude that the offender's actions were motivated, in whole or in part, by his or her bias. Only then can law enforcement report an incident as a hate crime.

#### **Data Collection**

All law enforcement agencies are mandated by the Federal Statute Hate Crimes Statistics Act of 1990 to report all hate crimes to the Attorney General.

According to the national data collection guidelines, a hate crime may involve multiple offenses, victims, and offenders, within one incident. Counting of crimes follows the same standards used in the Crime in Tennessee publication. Crimes against persons are a count of the individual victims. When submitting crimes against property or society, however, agencies count one offense for each distinct incident regardless of the number of victims.

This report uses the minimally accepted designations for race and ethnicity as established by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and published in the Federal Register. The revised standards have five minimum categories for data on race and two categories for data on ethnicity. In complying with the published standards, the following racial designations are used in the hate crime data collection program: White, African American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Multiple Races. The ethnic designations are Hispanic and Other Ethnicity/National Origin.

#### **Evidence a Crime is Motivated by Bias**

Certain qualifications are required to classify any crime as a "hate crime." The presence of an offender holding a certain prejudice or bias does not, alone, imply that the crime committed was motivated by that particular bias.

- The offender and the victim were of different race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, and/or ethnicity/national origin. For example, the victim was black and the offender was white.
- ➤ Bias-related verbal comments, written statements, or gestures were made by the offender, which indicated his/her bias. For example, the offender shouted out a racial epithet at the victim.
- ➤ Bias related drawings, markings, symbols, or graffiti were left at the crime scene. For example, a swastika was painted on the floor of a synagogue.
- ➤ Certain objects, items, or things which indicate bias was involved. For example, the offenders wore white sheets with hoods covering their faces or a burning cross was left in front of the victim's house.
- The victim is a member of a racial, religious, disability, sexual-orientation, or ethnic/national origin group which is overwhelmingly outnumbered by other residents in the neighborhood where the victim lives and the incident took place. This factor loses significance with the passage of time; i.e. it is most significant when the victim first moved into the neighborhood and becomes less and less significant as time passes without incident.
- The victim was visiting a neighborhood where previous hate crimes were committed against other members of his/her racial, religious, disability, sexual-orientation, or ethnic/national origin group and where tensions remained high against his/her group.
- Several incidents occurred in the same locality at or about the same time and the victims were all of the same race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin.
- ➤ A substantial portion of the community where the crime occurred perceived the incident as motivated by bias.
- The victim was engaged in activities promoting his/her race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin. For example, the victim was a member of the NAACP or participated in gay rights demonstrations.
- The incident coincided with a holiday or a date of particular significance relating to race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin, e.g., Martin Luther King Day, Rosh Hashanah.

#### **Federal and Local Hate Crime Legislation**

Bias motivated crimes or hate crimes have been the topic of numerous discussions and forums in legislation across the United States for several years. The strong push for legislative action often follows highly publicized incidents in which some form of bias is determined to be the main motivation for the criminal offense. These cases involving hate crime have significantly contributed to the development or enhancement of federal and/or state hate crime statutes.

The chart below details some significant Hate Crime Statutes at both the federal (United States) and local (state of Tennessee) levels.

Ten	nessee Hate Crime Statutes (State)	United States Hate Crime Statutes (Federal)		
1989	Tennessee Code Ann. 39-17-311	1969 Hate Crimes Provision Act		
Criminali	zes intentional desecration of places of	Permits federal punishment for bias motivated		
worship	and burial as well as the state or national	crimes b	ased on religion, race, and national origin	
flag.				
1990	Tennessee Code Ann. 39-17-309	1990	Hate Crime Statistics Act	
civil right as dama	es intimidation of others from exercising to through injury or threat of injury as well ging or defacing real or personal property s D felony. Also allows victims to seek	United S Attorney	tall law enforcement agencies in the tates to submit annual hate crime data to General. Establishes guidelines for data n and states that data will only be used for	
	s in criminal or civil court in addition to the		and/or statistical purposes. Attorney	
	penalties.	General will publish an annual summary of data acquired.		
2008	Tennessee Code Ann. 40-35-114	1999	Hate Crimes Prevention Act	
court ma sentence or physic sentence defendar color, dis	mends Criminal Sentencing Reform Act of 1989 so ourt may consider enhancing defendant's entence when the victim is vulnerable due to age r physical or mental disability. Also enhances entence if victim was intentionally selected due to efendant's belief or perception of race, religion, or national origin, or national origin, achieve bodily injury or death.  2009 Matthew Shepard & James Byr Extends Federal Hate Crime Act of 1969 to crimes motivated by individual's actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, gender.		or national origin. Adds gender, sexual on and disabilities as federal hate crime es. Offenses prosecuted as felonies when arm, or explosive is used to attempt or bodily injury or death.  Matthew Shepard & James Byrd, Jr. Act Federal Hate Crime Act of 1969 to include notivated by individual's actual or	
		identity, or disability.		

#### **Quick Facts**

- In 2012, 397 offenses were reported as Bias Motivated in the state of Tennessee
- ➤ About 1 in every 3 Hate Crimes were determined to be racially motivated at 35.5%
- Overall, bias motivated crimes increased 70.4% from 2011 to 2012; this significant increase could largely be attributed to the dramatic increase in bias motivated category of "Unknown" which nearly tripled in 2012 (169) from 2011 (62)

Note: The reported number of 2012 Unknown Bias motivated offenses is expected to decrease significantly. Please see footnotes on page 24.

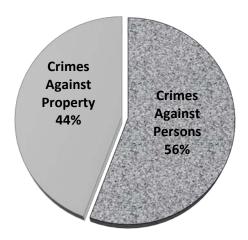
- Simple Assault was the most frequently reported bias motivated offense (85) in 2012
- In 2012, the number of Damage/Destruction/Vandalism hate crime offenses decreased 16.9% from the previous year
- 42 victims and 46 offenders of 2012 hate crimes were juveniles (under age 18)
- ➤ 66 hate crime offenses were committed by individuals from the 18 to 24 age group
- 12pm to 3pm was the most commonly reported time period for bias motivated crimes
- ➤ 18.3% of hate crimes occurred on Saturday (the most frequently reported day of week in 2012)
- In 2012, males (50.1%) were victimized at only a slightly higher rate than females (48.3%)
- 41 bias motivated offenses were cleared by arrest in 2012
- Residence/Home was found to be the most common location type for 2012 hate crimes
- ➤ The most often documented Sexual Bias was Anti-Homosexual (Gays & Lesbians) accounting for 54.3% of all Sexual Biases in 2012
- Anti-Physical Disability Bias decreased 75.0% in 2012 to 1 from 4 reported in the previous year

# **Bias Motivation Offense Analysis (2010-2012)**

	20	12	2011		2010	
	Total	% of Total	Total	% of Total	Total	% of Total
Bias Motivation	Offenses	Offenses	Offenses	Offenses	Offenses	Offenses
Racial Bias	141	35.5%	93	39.9%	108	62.1%
Anti-White	54	13.6%	18	7.7%	18	10.3%
Anti-African American	80	20.2%	70	30.0%	86	49.4%
Anti-American Indian/Alaskan Native	1	0.3%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%
Anti-Asian/Pacific Islander	3	0.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Anti-Multi-Racial Group	3	0.8%	4	1.7%	4	2.3%
Ethnicity/National Origin Bias	21	5.3%	15	6.4%	11	6.3%
Anti-Hispanic	11	2.8%	6	2.6%	8	4.6%
Anit-Other Ethnicity/National Origin	10	2.5%	9	3.9%	3	1.7%
Religious Bias	12	3.0%	14	6.0%	12	6.9%
Anti-Jewish	5	1.3%	5	2.1%	3	1.7%
Anti-Catholic	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.6%
Anti-Protestant	0	0.0%	2	0.9%	2	1.1%
Anti-Islamic	1	0.3%	3	1.3%	4	2.3%
Anti-Multi-Religious Group	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%
Anti-Other Religion	6	1.5%	3	1.3%	2	1.1%
Sexual Bias	46	11.6%	39	16.7%	23	13.2%
Anti-Male Homosexual (Gay)	11	2.8%	19	8.2%	12	6.9%
Anti-Female Homosexual (Lesbian)	5	1.3%	0	0.0%	5	2.9%
Anti-Homosexual (Gays & Lesbians)	25	6.3%	17	7.3%	5	2.9%
Anti-Heterosexual	4	1.0%	3	1.3%	0	0.0%
Anti-Bisexual	1	0.3%	0	0.0%	1	0.6%
Disability Bias	8	2.0%	10	4.3%	8	4.6%
Anti-Physical Disability	1	0.3%	4	1.7%	4	2.3%
Anti-Mental Disability	7	1.8%	6	2.6%	4	2.3%
Unknown	169	42.6%	62	26.6%	12	6.9%
Total	397	100.0%	233	100.0%	174	100.0%

#### **Comparison of Offense Types Motivated by Bias**

#### **Property vs. Persons**



Bias motivated offenses categorized in TIBRS as Crimes Against Persons accounted for 221 and Crimes Against Property made up 176 of all Hate Crimes in the state of Tennessee.

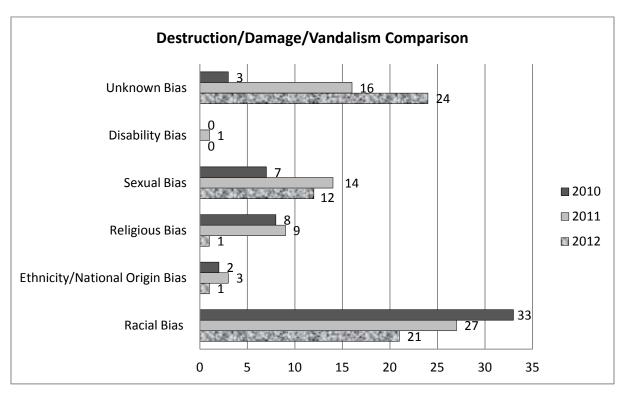
- Simple Assault made up the largest "Crimes Against Persons" offense category for hate crimes in 2012.
   Eighty-five Simple Assault offenses motivated by bias were reported, which accounts for 21.4% of all bias motivated offenses for the year.
- 20.2% of bias motivated offenses were Intimidations making this offense the second most frequently reported offense in 2012.
- Of TIBRS bias motivated offenses reported, 14.9% were Destruction/Damage/Vandalism

Hate crimes, by their nature, are typically committed against individuals. Society is rarely reported as the victim of bias motivated offenses. As such, hate crime offenses are documented in one of two TIBRS categories that report crimes with individual victims: Crimes Against Persons or Crimes Against Property.

Crimes Against Persons		
Offense Type	Number	
Forcible Rape	4	
Forcible Fondling	3	
Aggravated Assault	47	
Simple Assault	85	
Intimidation	80	
Stalking	2	
Total	221	
Crimes Against Property	<b>y</b>	
Offense Type	Volume	
Arson	3	
Burglary	29	
Counterfeiting/ Forgery	3	
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	59	
Fraud – False Pretenses	1	
Fraud – Credit Card/ATM	3	
Fraud – Welfare	2	
Fraud – Welfare	1	
Robbery	2	
Theft – Shoplifting	13	
Theft From Building	10	
Theft From Coin Machine	1	
Theft From Motor Vehicle	18	
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	5	
Theft – All Other Larceny	20	
Motor Vehicle Theft	4	
Stolen Property Offenses	2	
Total	176	

#### **Crimes Against Property**

The TIBRS Crimes Against Property category includes such offenses as Arson, Burglary, and Destruction/Damage/Vandalism. Of the 176 bias motivated crimes against property, 33.5% (59) were reported as Destruction/Damage/Vandalism. Over the past three years, this offense has consistently been reported most frequently of all other Crimes Against Property when Bias Motivation is present. The graph below compares bias motivated Vandalism offenses from 2010-2012. It is clear that Race has spurred most Vandalism offenses over the past 3 years.



Vandalism over the Years: Analysis of Hate Crime Offenses

- From 2011 to 2012, bias motivated vandalism offenses decreased 15.7% from 70 to 59
- Racial Bias, though the most common motivation for Vandalism offenses, has decreased by 27.6% since 2009 with 21 offenses reported in 2012 (the lowest in four years)
- Vandalism offenses motivated by Religious Bias have shown a dramatic decline from 16 in 2009 to 1 in 2012, which is a difference of -93.8%.
- Sexual bias has varied over the past several years with regards to vandalism offenses showing no clear trends. In 2012, Sexual Bias motivated 20.3% of reported vandalisms

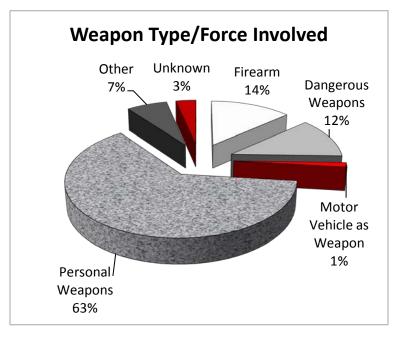
#### **Crimes Against Persons**

During 2012, various types of biases resulted in many violent crimes documented by TIBRS. The number of Aggravated Assaults more than tripled in 2012 as compared to the previous year. Hateful, violent

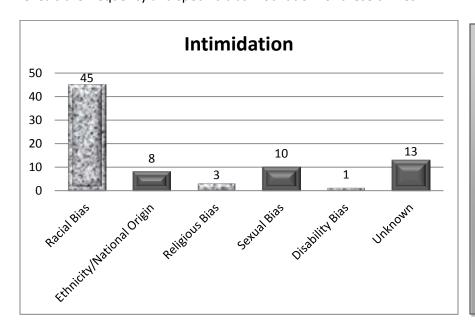
acts resulted in numerous reported victim injuries with Apparent Minor Injury having the highest frequency (50) followed by Severe Laceration (6) and Unconsciousness (6).

Several types of weapons were utilized in violent bias motivated crimes. Of the 149 weapons reported, the most commonly reported Type of Weapon/Force Involved was the category of Personal Weapons (94) which includes the use of hands, feet, teeth, etc. to inflict injury. Firearm and Dangerous Weapons were reported at 13.4% and 12.1% respectively.

The chart (to right) details Weapon Types used in 2012 Bias Motivated offenses.



TIBRS defines the offense of Intimidation as "unlawfully placing another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack." Eighty such bias motivated Intimidation offenses were reported in 2012, which is a 35.6% increase from the previous year. The graph below reveals the frequency and specific bias motivation for these crimes.



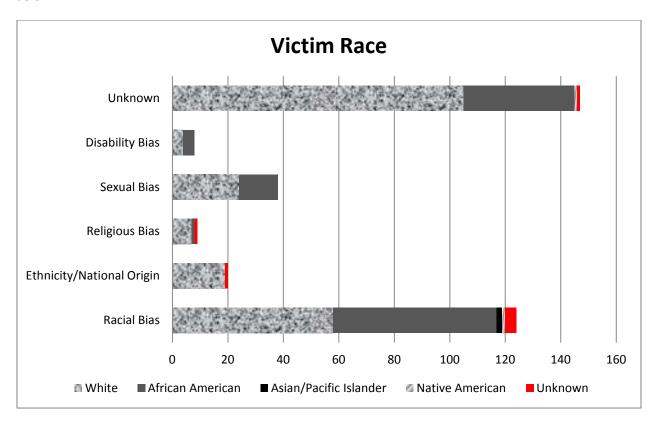
The 2012 racially motivated Intimidation offenses, being the largest category, were reviewed closely to identify any significant findings. Results revealed that 35 of the 45 racial bias Intimidation offenses were specifically reported as Anti-African American bias. This accounts the overwhelming majority of racerelated Intimidation hate crimes at 77.8% and is the most frequently reported bias motivation of all Intimidation offenses at 43.8%.

#### **Hate Crime Victims**

In 2012, 175 victims of hate crimes were males and 167 victims were females (4 victims were documented as having unknown gender). Males (50.1%) were victimized at a slightly higher rate, than females (48.3%) in 2012. In the state of Tennessee, 124 people were victims of Racial Bias making this the largest known bias motivation category in 2012. White males (22) and African American males (33) were the most commonly targeted groups for racially motivated crimes. The 2012 data shows a 17.9% increase in Sexual Bias offenses from the previous year. Of the 43 victims of Sexual Bias, 28 were males (17 white, 11 African American) making them almost 2 times more likely to be victimized than females. Tennessee law enforcement agencies reported 169 victims of Unknown Bias. In these cases, it has been determined that characteristics of a bias motivated offense exist; however, a specific category of bias is pending due to ongoing investigation of the event.

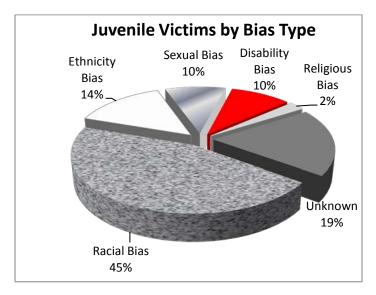
Individuals aged 18 to 24 and 25 to 34 were victimized at the same rate during 2012 with 75 victims reported in each age group. Coincidentally, the same is true for the age groups 35 to 44 and 45 to 54 with both of these groups having 47 hate crime victims. Juvenile victims are detailed on the next page.

The most commonly reported victim races were White (217) and African American (118). Asian/Pacific Islanders and Native American/Alaskan Native accounted for 2 victims each in 2012 while only 1 victim was reported as Native American. Seven victims have a documented race of Unknown. See graph below.



#### **Juvenile Victims and Offenders**

The 2012 data reveals that 12.1% of all hate crime victims were juveniles. Upon further examination, the juvenile data mirrors adult hate crime in several areas. Of note, Racial Bias is the most commonly reported motivation for Juvenile hate crimes just as is found in those perpetrated by adults. Also similar to adult victims, juvenile males are victimized at a higher rate than females. In 2012, 24 juvenile males were victims of hate crimes as compared to 18 juvenile females. There were 6 victims under the age of 10 (2 White females; 4 White males) with three (50.0%) of these victims reporting the bias motivation as Ethnicity/National Origin Bias. Twenty-one adult offenders were reported as having committed hate crimes against individuals under the age of 18. The remaining offenders of hate crimes committed against juveniles were other juveniles (18 male offenders; 5 female offenders).



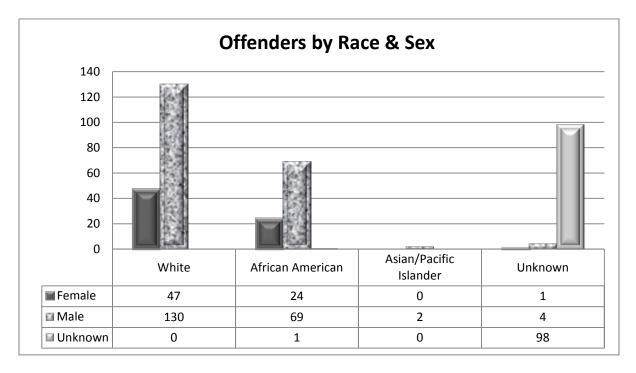
Juvenile Victims				
Offens	е Туре		Volume	
Forcible Rape			3	
Forcible Fondlin	g		3	
Aggravated Assa	ault		9	
Simple Assault			18	
Intimidation			9	
Total			42	
Offenders A	Against Juve	nile V	ictims/	
Offender Age	Male		Female	
Under 18	18		5	
18 to 24	5		0	
25 to 34	2		0	
35 to 44	1		1	
45 to 54	4		2	
55 to 64	5		0	
Unknown	0		1	
Total	35		9	

Of the Juvenile victims of hate crimes in 2012, the reported races were White (18), African-American (23) and Native American/Alaskan Native (1). African-American juveniles were most often targeted due to racial bias 47.8%; the same is true for their White counterparts (38.9%). Juvenile whites were exclusively targeted for Ethnicity/National Origin bias while African Americans were the only race of juveniles reported as victims of Disability Bias (4).

- Analysis of TIBRS offenses committed against juveniles reveals that 42.9% of juvenile victims were victims of Simple Assault
- Several bias motivations were documented for the 18 reported Simple Assaults
  - 7 Racial Bias
  - 2 Ethnicity/National Origin Bias
  - 3 Sexual Bias
  - o 3 Disability Bias
  - o 3 Unknown

#### **Hate Crime Offenders**

When analyzing 2012 hate crime data, it was found that 368 individuals were documented as offenders. This is a distinct count of individual offenders; however, it should be noted that some individuals were reported as an offender of multiple hate crime offenses which increases the number of offenders in the current detailed analyses of race, sex, and age. As a point of reference, the analysis of offender by race and sex was completed using the sum of 376; while the analysis of offender by age and sex utilized the sum of 393.



Examination of 2012 Hate Crime offender data revealed males to be the most common perpetrators of bias motivated crimes at 54.5%. More specifically, white males accounted for 34.6% and black males accounted for 18.4% of all hate crime offenders. As compared to the 205 males, only 72 (19.1%) of hate crime offenders were female. Offenders with "Unknown" gender and race accounted for 26.1%.

In 2012, 19 females were reported as having committed racially motivated criminal offenses which is 26.4% of all female hate crime offenders.

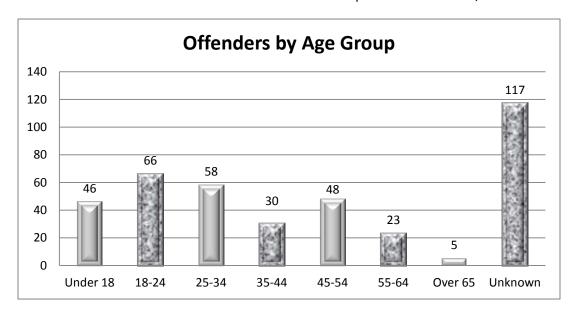
The most commonly reported perpetrators of 2012 Ethnicity/National Origin Bias offenses were white offenders (males – 6; females – 9)

The most frequent perpetrators of Sexual Bias offenses in 2012 were African American males. Of the 41 Sexual Bias offenders, 16 (39.0%) were African American males.

Offenders of Disability Bias hate crimes in 2012 were equally distributed between the African American and White races. One White female and three White males were documented in this category; the

converse is true for the African Americans with one documented male and three documented female offenders.

Of the 273 known offender races, only two offenders were not identified as being either African American or White. Both of these offenders were males with reported race of Asian/Pacific Islander.



Forty-six juvenile offenders (those under the age of 18) committed bias motivated crimes with Simple Assault being the most commonly reported offense for this age group (24).

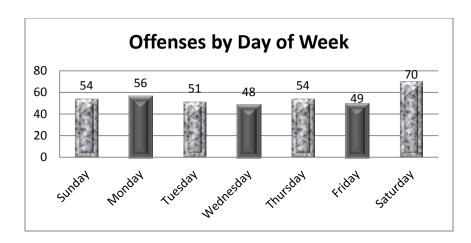
29.8% of offenders were reported to have an Unknown age. The largest age group of known offenders was the 18 to 24 cohort. Sixty-six hate crime offenders were between the ages of 18 and 24 accounting for 23.9% of offenders with known age, and 16.8% of all offenders.

Offenders with Unknown Race, Sex, and Age were examined closely to identify offenses and bias motivations.

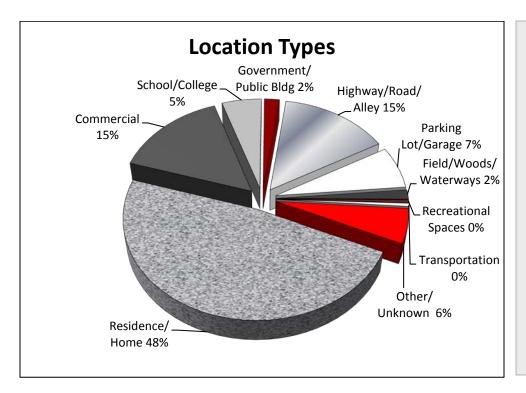
- Findings reveal that Unknown Offenders committed 103 bias motivated offenses accounting for 25.9% of all reported hate crimes in 2012
- 23.3% hate crimes having Unknown offenders were documented as Destruction/Damage/ Vandalism; and 19.4% were reported as Burglary

2012 Hate Crimes Committed by Offenders with Unknown Race, Sex, & Age			
Offense Type	Frequency		
Forcible Rape	1		
Aggravated Assault	5		
Simple Assault	4		
Intimidation	9		
Arson	3		
Burglary	20		
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	24		
Fraud – Credit Card/ATM	2		
Fraud – Welfare	1		
Theft – Shoplifting	3		
Theft From Building	4		
Theft From Motor Vehicle	13		
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	3		
Theft – All Other Larceny	10		
Motor Vehicle Theft	1		

2012 Hate Crimes: When & Where



Time of day and day of week were examined in an effort to identify when hate crimes most often occurred in 2012. Results reveal very little variation in time of day. The most frequently reported time period for hate crimes was between the hours of 12pm and 3pm with 73 incidents. Following behind were 12am-3am, 3pm-6pm, and 9pm-11pm with 63, 59, and 49 incidents respectively. According to the 2012 TIBRS data, Saturday was the most popular day for Bias Motivated offenses with 70 reports.



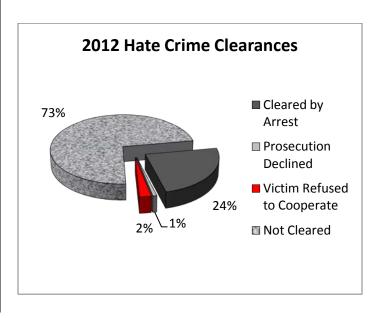
Examination of the offense locations for 2012 hate crimes revealed the location Residence/Home as most often reported. Detailed below are specific offenses and the frequency with which Residence/Home was documented as the place where the hate crime occurred:

- Intimidation (52.5%)
- Aggravated Assault (44.7%)
- Simple Assault (31.8%)
- Destruction/Damage/ Vandalism (52.5%)

#### **Hate Crimes by Clearance**

Of the 397 hate crimes reported in 2012 in the state of Tennessee, 382 clearance types were reported. Ninety-one of those (23.8%) were cleared by arrest in TIBRS. Approximately 3.0% of all hate crimes were cleared exceptionally as a result of victims refusing to cooperate or prosecution declined by the district attorney. Various factors contribute to the low clearance rate of bias motivated crimes. Among other things, time of day and location in which the offense occurs could affect the availability of essential law enforcement investigation elements such as evidence, witnesses, etc. Additionally, victim fear of retaliation should also be considered when evaluating the clearance of hate crimes. Examination of the 2012 Victim to Offender relationship data reveals that 38% of victims knew their offenders. This gives insight into the dilemma of uncooperative victims and/or witnesses law enforcement agencies potentially face when investigating hate crimes.

2012 Hate Crimes Cleared by Arrest		
Offense Type	Volume	
Forcible Rape	1	
Aggravated Assault	26	
Simple Assault	28	
Intimidation	6	
Burglary	3	
Counterfeit/Forgery	2	
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	4	
Fraud – False Pretense	1	
Fraud – Impersonation	2	
Theft – Shoplifting	9	
Theft From A Building	2	
Theft – All Other Larceny	4	
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	
Stolen Property Offenses	2	
Total	91	



The table (above) details 2012 bias motivated offenses cleared by arrest.

- The offense most frequently cleared by arrest was Simple Assault accounting for 30.8% of all arrests for bias motivated offenses in 2012
- Only 7.5% of Intimidation offenses were cleared by arrest
- More than half of the reported Aggravated Assaults were cleared by arrest (55.3%)

### **Racial Bias by Jurisdiction**

Anti-African American Bias			
Jurisdiction	Crimes Against Persons	Frequency	
Ardmore Police Department	Intimidation	1	
Blount County Sheriff's Office	Simple Assault	1	
	Intimidation	1	
Chattanooga Police Department	Intimidation	1	
Clarksville Police Department	Intimidation	1	
Cleveland Police Department	Intimidation	2	
Dyersburg Police Department	Simple Assault	2	
Elkton Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1	
Giles County Sheriff's Office	Intimidation	1	
Hamilton County Sheriff's Office	Simple Assault	2	
Hendersonville Police Department	Simple Assault	1	
Kingsport Police Department	Stalking	1	
	Simple Assault	1	
Knoxville Police Department	Intimidation	4	
Lexington Police Department	Intimidation	2	
Maryville College	Aggravated Assault	1	
Memphis Police Department	Simple Assault	3	
	Intimidation	6	
	Aggravated Assault	8	
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office	Intimidation	1	
Nashville Metro Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1	
	Intimidation	2	
Shelby County Sheriff's Office	Intimidation	2	
	Aggravated Assault	1	
Spring Hill Police Department	Aggravated Assault	3	
	Simple Assault	1	
Sumner County Sheriff's Office	Intimidation	1	
Washington County Sheriff's Office	Intimidation	1	
White House Police Department	Intimidation	1	
Williamson County Sheriff's Office	Intimidation	2	
Winchester Police Department	Intimidation	3	

Anti-African American Bias	
Damage/Destruction/Vandalism	
Jurisdiction	Frequency
Blount County Sheriff's Office	1
Cheatham County Sheriff's Office	1
Clarksville Police Department	1
Dyersburg Police Department	1
Franklin Police Department	1
Knox County Sheriff's Office	1
Knoxville Police Department	2
Memphis Police Department	1
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office	1
Nashville Metro Police Department	1
Rutherford County Sheriff's Office	1
Tipton County Sheriff's Office	1
University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center	1

Anti-White Bias			
Jurisdiction	Crimes Against Persons	Frequency	
Baxter Police Department	Intimidation	1	
Bethel Springs Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1	
	Intimidation	1	
Brighton Police Department	Simple Assault	1	
Chattanooga Police Department	Simple Assault	1	
Clarksville Police Department	Intimidation	1	
Dyersburg Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1	
Jamestown Police Department	Simple Assault	2	
Johnson City Police Department	Simple Assault	1	
Knox County Sheriff's Office	Simple Assault	1	
Memphis Police Department	Simple Assault	2	
	Aggravated Assault	1	
	Intimidation	3	
Middle Tennessee State University	Intimidation	1	
Milan Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1	
Nashville Metro Police Department	Simple Assault	1	
Red Bank Police Department	Intimidation	1	
Robertson County Sheriff's Office	Forcible Fondling	1	
Scott County Sheriff's Office	Simple Assault	6	
	Intimidation	3	
Shelby County Sheriff's Office	Aggravated Assault	1	
	Intimidation	1	
White House Police Department	Simple Assault	1	

Anti-White Bias	
Damage/Destruction/Vandalism	
Jurisdiction	Frequency
Knoxville Police Department	1
Memphis Police Department	1
Sevierville Police Department	1

Anti-American Indian/Alaskan Native Bias			
Jurisdiction Crimes Against Persons Frequency			
Sevierville Police Department	Simple Assault	1	

Anti-Asian/Pacific Islander Bias		
Jurisdiction	Crimes Against Persons	Frequency
Knoxville Police Department	Aggravated Assault	2

Anti-Multi Racial Group Bias		
Jurisdiction	Crimes Against Persons	Frequency
Lenoir City Police Department	Intimidation	1
Memphis Police Department	Intimidation	1

Anti-Multi Racial Group Bias	
Damage/Destruction/Vandalism	
Jurisdiction	Frequency
Blount County Sheriff's Office	1

# **Ethnicity/National Origin Bias by Jurisdiction**

Anti-Hispanic Origin Bias		
Jurisdiction	<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>	Frequency
Morristown Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Nashville Metro Police Department	Intimidation	1
Rhea County Sheriff's Office	Aggravated Assault	1
Sevierville Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Shelby County Sheriff's Office	Aggravated Assault	1
Sullivan County Sheriff's Office	Intimidation	5
University of Tennessee at Knoxville	Simple Assault	1

Anti-Other Ethnicity/National Origin Bias		
Jurisdiction	<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>	Frequency
Elkton Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Mason Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Memphis Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Morristown Police Department	Intimidation	2
Shelby County Sheriff's Office	Aggravated Assault	1
Sullivan County Sheriff's Office	Intimidation	2

Anti-Other Ethnicity/National Origin Bias	
Damage/Destruction/Vandalism	
Jurisdiction Frequency	
Bledsoe County Sheriff's Office	1

# **Religious Bias by Jurisdiction**

Anti- Jewish Bias		
Jurisdiction	Crimes Against Persons	Frequency
Clarksville Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office	Intimidation	1

Anti-Other Ethnicity/National Origin Bias	
Damage/Destruction/Vandalism	
Jurisdiction Frequency	
Memphis Police Department	1

Anti-Islamic Bias		
Jurisdiction	Crimes Against Persons	Frequency
Knoxville Police Department	Intimidation	1

Anti-Other Religious Group Bias		
Jurisdiction	Crimes Against Persons	Frequency
Memphis Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Nashville Metro Police Department	Intimidation	1

# **Sexual Bias by Jurisdiction**

Anti-Male Homosexual (Gay) Bias		
Jurisdiction	Frequency	Frequency
Alcoa Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Chattanooga Police Department	Aggravated Assault	3
Kingsport Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Nashville Metro Police Department	Intimidation	2
Loudon County Sheriff's Office	Aggravated Assault	2
Memphis Police Department	Simple Assault	3

Anti- Male Homosexual (Gay) Bias	
Damage/Destruction/Vandalism	
Jurisdiction Frequer	
Lookout Mountain Police Department	1

Anti-Female Homosexual (Lesbian) Bias		
Jurisdiction	Crimes Against Persons	Frequency
Clarksville Police Department	Intimidation	1
Memphis Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1
	Intimidation	1
Union City Police Department	Intimidation	1

Anti-Female Homosexual (Lesbian) Bias		
Damage/Destruction/Vandalism		
Jurisdiction	Frequency	
Union City Police Department	1	

Anti-Homosexual (Gays and Lesbians) Bias		
Jurisdiction	<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>	Frequency
Columbia Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Jackson Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1
Jamestown Police Department	Intimidation	1
Knoxville Police Department	Intimidation	2
	Aggravated Assault	1
	Simple Assault	1
Lebanon Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Lenoir City Police Department	Intimidation	1
Memphis Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1
	Simple Assault	1
Murfreesboro Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1
Nashville Metro Police Department	Intimidation	1
Pigeon Forge Police Department	Intimidation	1
Washington County Sheriff's Office	Intimidation	1

Anti-Homosexual (Gays and Lesbians) Bias		
Damage/Destruction/Vandalism		
Jurisdiction	Frequency	
Dyersburg Police Department	1	
Johnson City Police Department	3	
Lebanon Police Department	1	
Memphis Police Department	2	
Nashville Metro Police Department	1	
Pigeon Forge Police Department	1	

Anti- Heterosexual Bias		
Jurisdiction	<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>	Frequency
South Carthage Police Department	Forcible Fondling	1
Spring Hill Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1
Memphis Police Department	Simple Assault	2

Anti- Heterosexual Bias	
Damage/Destruction/Vandalism	
Jurisdiction	Frequency
Spring Hill Police Department	1

# **Disability Bias by Jurisdiction**

Anti-Physical Disability Bias		
Jurisdiction	Crimes Against Persons	Frequency
Baxter Police Department	Simple Assault	1

Anti-Mental Disability Bias		
Jurisdiction	<b>Crimes Against Persons</b>	Frequency
Clarksville Police Department	Simple Assault	3
Knoxville Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Millington Police Department	Stalking	1
Shelby County Sheriff's Office	Aggravated Assault	1
Tennessee Technology Center at Murfreesboro	Intimidation	1

#### **Unknown Bias by Jurisdiction**

Unknown Bias		
Jurisdiction	Crimes Against Persons	Frequency
Chattanooga Police Department	Aggravated Assault	2
Dyer Police Department	Simple Assault	1
*Dyersburg Police Department	Simple Assault	23
	Aggravated Assault	2
	Forcible Fondling	1
	Forcible Rape	1
	Intimidation	5
Elizabethton Police Department	Intimidation	7
Gallaway Police Department	Simple Assault	1
Jackson Police Department	Simple Assault	1
	Aggravated Assault	1
Mason Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1
Memphis Police Department	Forcible Rape	1
	Aggravated Assault	1
Montgomery County Sheriff's Department	Simple Assault	2
Nashville Metro Police Department	Simple Assault	1
	Aggravated Assault	1
Oak Ridge Police Department	Forcible Rape	2
Shelby County Sheriff's Office	Simple Assault	1
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation	Aggravated Assault	2
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga	Intimidation	1
	Simple Assault	1
Van Buren Sheriff's Office	Simple Assault	1
Vanderbilt University	Simple Assault	1
Wartburg Police Department	Aggravated Assault	1

\*Footnote: Dyersburg Police Department reported a total 99 Unknown Bias motivated offenses in 2012. Fifty-one percent of all Crimes Against Persons with Unknown Bias were reported by this agency. This agency's numbers appear inflated. Please check the <a href="mailto:theta:th

Unknown Bias		
Damage/Destruction/Vandalism		
Jurisdiction	Frequency	
Bledsoe County Sheriff's Office	1	
*Dyersburg Police Department	15	
Millington Police Department	1	
Munford Police Department	1	
Nashville Metro Police Department	4	
Tennessee Technology Center at Nashville	1	
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga	1	

<sup>\*</sup>Footnote: Dyersburg Police Department reported 62.5% of all Damage/Destruction/Vandalism offenses with Unknown Bias motivation in 2012. This agency's numbers appear inflated. Please check the <a href="mailto:theory.com">theory.com</a> website for updated information.

# TIBRS Group A Offense Definitions

#### **Arson (200)**

To unlawfully and intentionally damage, or attempt to damage, any real or personal property by fire or incendiary device.

#### **Assault Offenses**

An unlawful attack by one person upon another.

#### Aggravated Assault (13A)

An unlawful attack by one person upon another wherein the offender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration or loss of consciousness.

#### Simple Assault (13B)

An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration or loss of consciousness.

#### Intimidation (13C)

To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

#### Stalking (13D)

To intentionally and repeatedly follow or harass another person in such a manner as would cause that person to be in reasonable fear of being assaulted, suffering bodily injury or death.

#### Bribery (510)

The offering, giving receiving or soliciting of any thing of value (i.e., a bribe, gratuity or kickback) to sway the judgment or action of a person in a position of trust or influence.

#### **Burglary/Breaking and Entering (220)**

The unlawful entry into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a felony or a theft.

#### **Counterfeiting/Forgery (250)**

The altering, copying or imitation of something, without authority or right, with the intent to deceive or defraud by passing the copy or thing altered or imitated as that which is original or genuine; or the selling, buying or possession of an altered, copied or imitated thing with the intent to deceive or defraud.

#### Vandalism Intentional Destruction/Damage of Property (290)

To willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

#### **Drug/Narcotic Offenses**

The violation of laws prohibiting the production, distribution, and/or use of certain controlled substances and the equipment or devices utilized in their preparation and/or use.

#### **Drug/Narcotic Violations (35A)**

The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance.

#### **Drug Equipment Violations (35B)**

The unlawful manufacture, sale, purchase, possession or transportation of equipment or devices utilized in preparing and/or using drugs or narcotics.

#### **Embezzlement (270)**

The unlawful misappropriation by an offender to his/her own use or purpose or money, property, or some other thing of value entrusted to his/her care, custody or control.

#### Extortion/Blackmail (210)

To unlawfully obtain money, property, or any other thing of value, either tangible or intangible, through the use or threat of force, misuse of authority, threat of criminal prosecution, threat of destruction of reputation or social standing or though other coercive means.

#### **Fraud Offenses**

The intentional perversion of the truth for the purpose of inducing another person or other entity in reliance upon it to part with something of value or surrender a legal right.

#### False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game (26A)

The intentional misrepresentation of existing facts or conditions, or the use of some other deceptive scheme or device to obtain money, goods, or other things of value.

#### Credit Card/Automatic Teller Machine Fraud (26B)

The unlawful use of a credit or debit card or automatic teller machine for fraudulent purposes.

#### Impersonation (26C)

Falsely representing one's identity or position, and acting in the character or position thus unlawfully assumed, to deceive others and thereby gain a profit or advantage, enjoy some right or privilege, or subject another person or entity to an expense, charge, or liability which would not have otherwise been incurred.

#### Welfare Fraud (26D)

The use of deceitful statements, practices or devices to unlawfully obtain welfare benefits.

#### Wire Fraud (26E)

The use of an electric or electronic communications facility to intentionally transmit a false and/or deceptive message in furtherance of a fraudulent activity.

#### **Gambling Offenses**

To unlawfully bet or wager money or something else of value; assist, promote or operate a game of chance for money or some other stake; possess or transmit wagering information; manufacture, sell, purchase, possess or transport gambling equipment, devices or goods; or tamper with the outcome of a sporting event or contest to gain a gambling advantage.

#### **Betting/Wagering (39A)**

To unlawfully stake money or something else of value on the happening of an uncertain event or on the ascertainment of a fact in dispute.

#### Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling (39B)

To unlawfully operate, promote or assist in the operation of a game of chance, lottery or other gambling activity.

#### **Gambling Equipment Violations (39C)**

To unlawfully manufacture, sell, buy, possess or transport equipment, devices and/or goods used for gambling purposes.

#### **Sports Tampering (39D)**

To unlawfully alter, meddle in or otherwise interfere with a sporting contest or event for the purpose of gaining a gambling advantage.

#### **Homicide Offenses**

#### Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter (09A)

The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

#### Negligent Manslaughter (09B)

The killing of another person through negligence.

#### **Justifiable Homicide (09C)**

The killing of a perpetrator of a serious criminal offense by a peace officer in the line of duty; or the killing, during the commission of a serious criminal offense, of the perpetrator by a private individual.

\* Justifiable homicide is not an actual offense and is not included in an agency's crime counts. Justifiable Homicide is not considered a crime.

#### **Kidnapping/Abduction (100)**

Definition – The unlawful seizure, transportation, and/or detention of a person against his/her will, or of a minor without the consent of his/her custodial parent(s) or legal guardian.

#### **Larceny/Theft Offenses**

The unlawful taking, carrying, leading or riding away of property from the possession, or constructive possession, of another person.

#### Pocket-Picking (23A)

The theft of articles from another person's physical possession by stealth where the victim does not become immediately aware of the theft.

#### Purse Snatching (23B)

The grabbing or snatching of a purse, handbag, etc., from the physical possession of another person.

#### **Shoplifting (23C)**

The theft, by someone other than an employee of the victim, of goods or merchandise exposed for sale.

#### Theft from a Building (23D)

A theft from within a building which is either open to the general public or where the offender has legal access.

#### Theft from Coin-Operated Machine or Device (23E)

A theft from a machine or device which is operated or activated by the use of coins.

#### Theft from Motor Vehicle (23F)

The theft of articles from a motor vehicle, whether locked or unlocked.

#### Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories (23G)

The theft of any part or accessory affixed to the interior or exterior of a motor vehicle in a manner which would make the item an attachment of the vehicle or necessary for its operation.

#### All Other Larceny (23H)

All thefts which do not fit any of the definitions of the specific subcategories of Larceny/Theft listed above.

#### **Motor Vehicle Theft (240)**

The theft of a motor vehicle.

#### Pornography/Obscene Material (370)

The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, publishing, sale, purchase or possession of sexually explicit material, e.g., literature, photographs, etc.

#### **Prostitution Offenses**

#### Prostitution (40A)

To unlawfully engage in sexual relations for profit.

#### **Assisting or Promoting Prostitution (40B)**

To solicit customers or transport persons for prostitution purposes; to own, manage or operate a dwelling or other establishment for the purpose of providing a place where prostitution is performed; or to otherwise assist or promote prostitution.

#### Robbery (120)

The taking, or attempting to take, anything of value under confrontational circumstance from the control, custody or care of another person by force or threat of force or violence, and/or by putting the victim in fear of immediate harm.

#### **Sex Offenses, Forcible**

#### Forcible Rape (11A)

The carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

#### Forcible Sodomy (11B)

Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

#### Sexual Assault With An Object (11C)

To use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

#### Forcible Fondling (11D)

The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

#### Sex Offenses, Non-forcible

Unlawful, non-forcible sexual intercourse.

#### Incest (36A)

Non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

#### **Statutory Rape (36B)**

Non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent. Note: By Tennessee Statute the victim must be between ages 13-17 and the offender must be at least four years older than the victim for an offense to be classified as Statutory Rape.

#### **Stolen Property Offense (280)**

Receiving, buying, selling, possessing, concealing or transporting any property with the knowledge that it has been unlawfully taken, as by burglary, embezzlement, fraud, larceny, robbery, etc.

#### Weapon Law Violations (520)

The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices or other deadly weapons. This category includes violations such as the manufacture, sale or possession of deadly weapons; carrying deadly weapons, concealed or openly; using, manufacturing, etc., silencers; and furnishing deadly weapons to minors.

# TIBRS Group B Offense Definitions

There are eleven Group B offense categories and they encompass all of the crimes which are not Group A offenses, with the exception of most traffic offenses which TIBRS does not collect information on.

#### Bad Checks (90A)

Knowingly and intentionally writing and/or negotiating checks drawn against insufficient or nonexistent funds.

#### **Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations (90B)**

The violation of a court order, regulation, ordinance or law requiring the withdrawal of persons from the streets or other specified areas; prohibiting persons from remaining in an area or place in an idle or aimless manner; or prohibiting persons from going from place to place without visible means of support.

#### **Disorderly Conduct (90C)**

Any behavior that tends to disturb the public peace or decorum, scandalize the community or shock the public sense of morality.

#### **Driving Under the Influence (90D)**

Driving or operating a motor vehicle or common carrier while mentally or physically impaired as the result of consuming an alcoholic beverage or using a drug or narcotic.

#### **Drunkenness (90E)**

To drink alcoholic beverages to the extent that one's mental faculties and physical coordination are substantially impaired.

#### Family Offense, Nonviolent (90F)

Unlawful, nonviolent acts by a family member (or legal guardian) which threaten the physical, mental or economic well-being or morals of another family member and which are not classifiable as other offenses, such as Assault, Incest, Statutory Rape, etc.

#### **Liquor Law Violations (90G)**

The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession or use of alcoholic beverages.

#### Peeping Tom (90H)

To secretly look through a window, doorway, keyhole or other aperture for the purpose of voyeurism.

#### Runaway (90I)

A person under 18 years of age who has left home without the permission of his/her parent(s) or legal guardian.

#### **Trespass of Real Property (90J)**

To unlawfully enter land, a dwelling or other real property.

#### All Other Offenses (90Z)

All crimes which are not Group A offenses and not included in one of the specifically named Group B crime categories listed above.

Includes: Contempt of Court, Failure to Appear, Violation of Probation/Parole