



BIAS
MOTIVATED
INCIDENTS
REPORT

FALL 2002

Prepared by
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BIAS MOTIVATED INCIDENTS REPORT

The Pennsylvania State University

Fall 2002

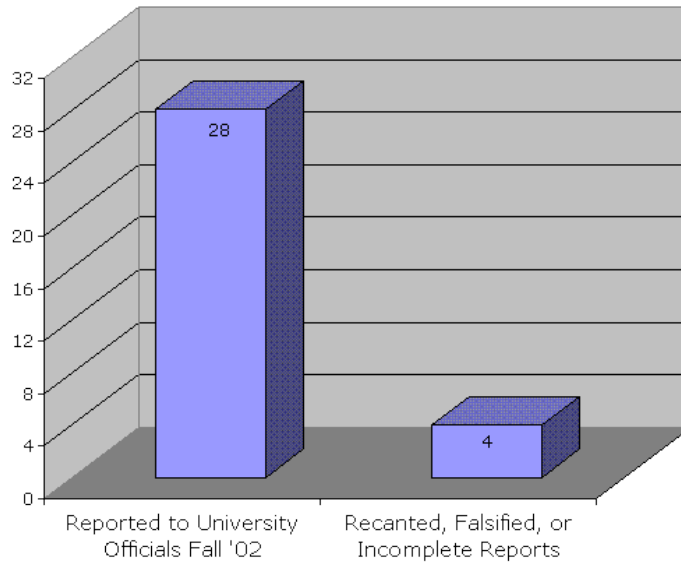
INCIDENT SUMMARY

- The majority of reports were indirect (individuals were not targeted) nonlife threatening bias activity (Tier I) followed in frequency by direct (individuals were targeted) nonlife threatening bias activity (Tier II). There were two reported incidents of direct life threats (Tier III). In each of these reports the life threat was communicated through a mediated device and was not acted upon by the perpetrator.
- Residence Life was the most common source of reports followed by the Report Hate Web Site and, with an equal number of reports, Police Services and other Student Affairs offices.
- Twenty reports originated from the University Park campus and four from non-University Park campus locations. Four reports were incomplete, falsified, or recanted by the submitter and/or target.
- Students were the most commonly reported targets (14) followed in frequency by staff (4) and faculty (1). In reports where staff members were targeted, half of the reports (2) indicated they were targeted when they intervened in an incident that occurred between students.
- In reports where race was identified, the most common targets were Caucasian/Caucasian Americans and African/African Americans, followed by Asian Pacific Islander/Asian Pacific Americans. When Caucasian/Caucasian American males were targeted, it was most likely due to their perceived or actual sexual orientation.
- The most frequently reported motivation for bias incidents was real or perceived sexual orientation, followed in frequency by race/ethnicity, religious beliefs/spirituality, and gender.
- Vandalism/graffiti was the most commonly reported type of offense followed equally by verbal harassment and general intolerance (offensive behaviors). The least frequent type of offense was harassment by mediated communication and terroristic threats.
- The majority of incidents were reported to have taken place in residence halls and dining commons followed in equal number by campus grounds, University buildings, and the surrounding community.
- September was the most common month for reported incidents followed equally by August, October, and November. December was the least common month for reported incidents.
- More incidents were reported on Saturdays followed in frequency by Tuesdays, Fridays, and Wednesdays. Mondays were the least common day for reported incidents.
- The most common time of day for reported incidents was evening (5:00 – 11:00 p.m.), followed in frequency by day (10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.), and lastly, night (11:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m.).
- Alcohol usage was not determined to be a contributing factor in the majority of reported incidents. There was one confirmed report of alcohol usage.

- Of the twenty-eight reports made to the University, four were incomplete, falsified, or recanted by the submitter and/or target and, as a result, were not included in this summary. In cases where follow-up was possible, the University provided support and resources for targets, investigated the incidents and, where appropriate, established educational sanctions and/or civil penalties equivalent to the actions of the perpetrators.

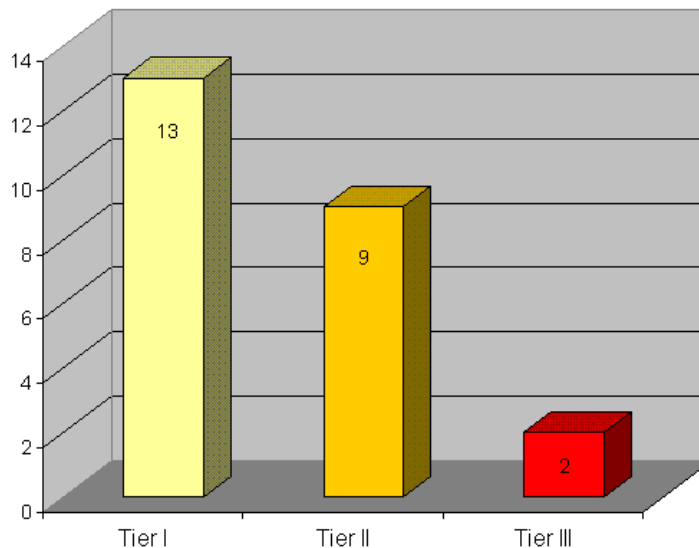
Number of Reports

The number of reports submitted to the university, as well as those that were incomplete, falsified, or recanted by submitters and/or targets.



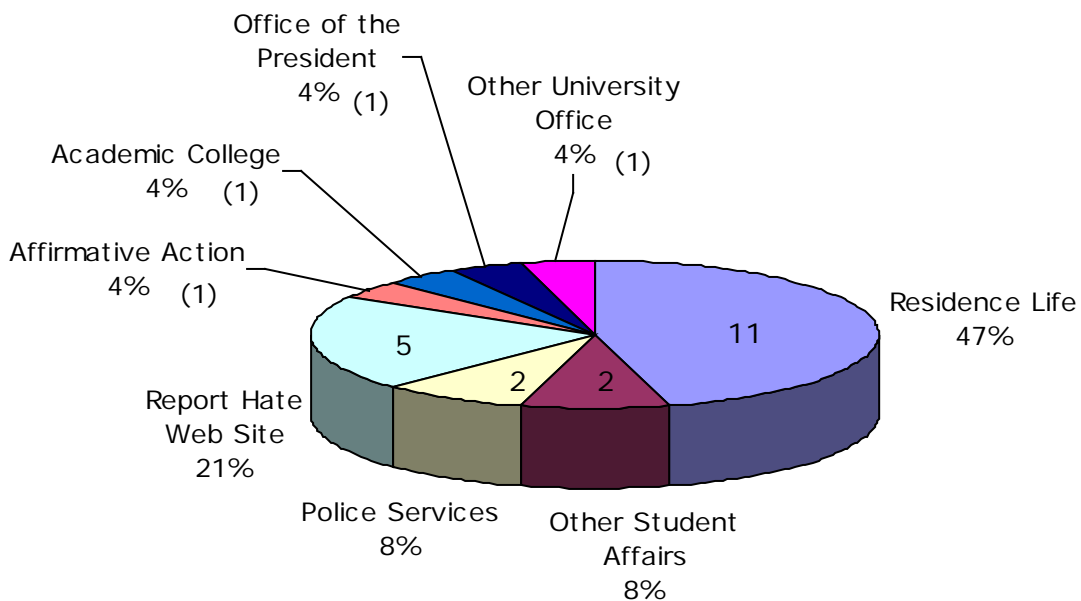
Severity of Reports

We are using a three-tier classification of reported incidents based on whether individuals were targeted, there were perceived or actual life threats, and the behavior of the perpetrators was active or passive in nature. Tier I includes indirect and nonlife threatening (typically offensive behaviors) activities, Tier II includes direct (involve a specific target) and nonlife threatening activities, and Tier III includes direct activities that involved threat of or actual life threatening behaviors.



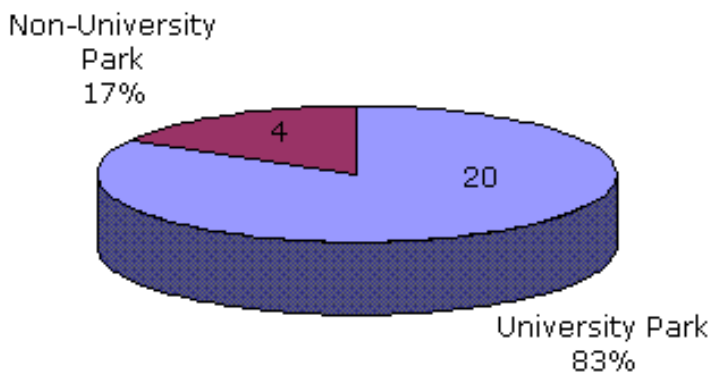
Reporting Official

The unit to which incidents were first reported.



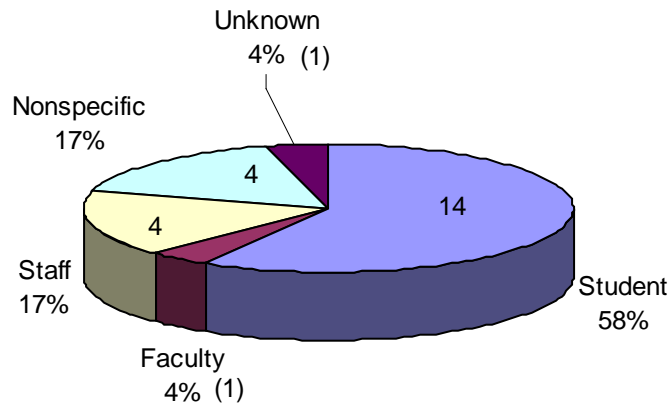
Campus Location

The individual campuses within the multicampus system where targets and/or submitters reported incidents occurred.



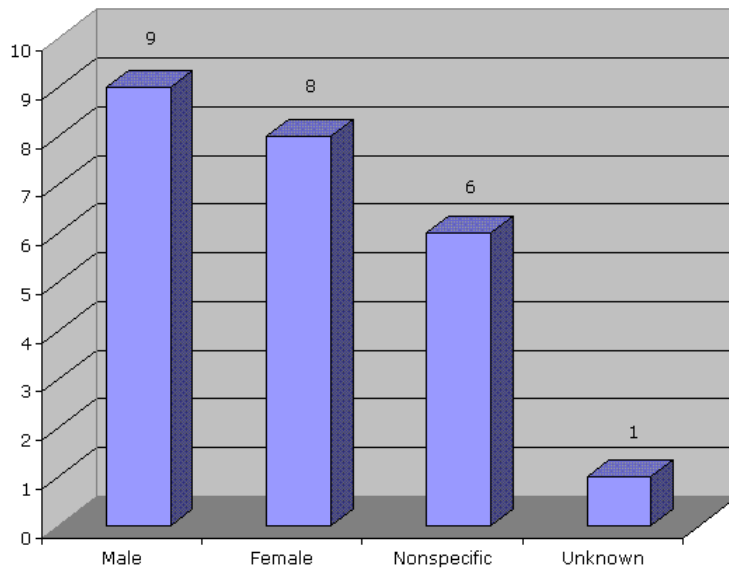
Faculty, Staff, or Student Status

The reported standing or relationship of the targets with the University.



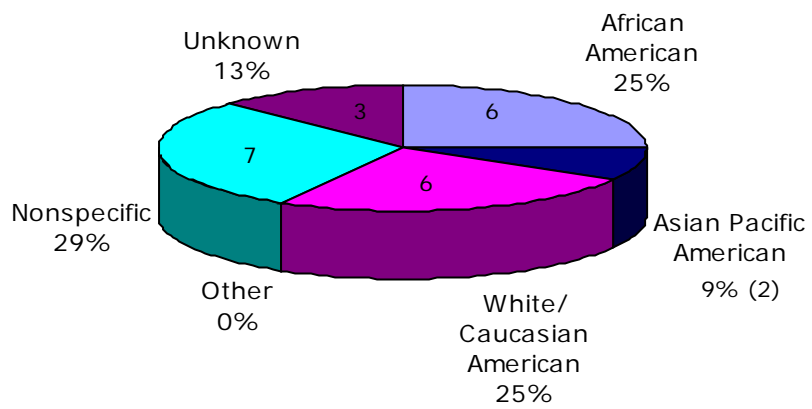
Gender of Target

The reported gender or gender identity of the targets.



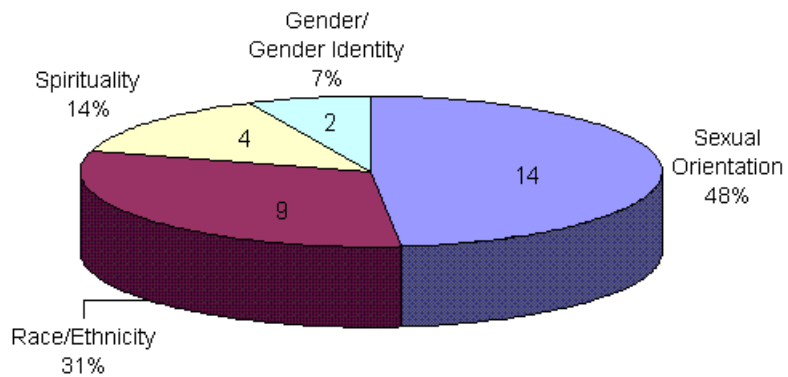
Race of Target

The reported racial identity of the targets.



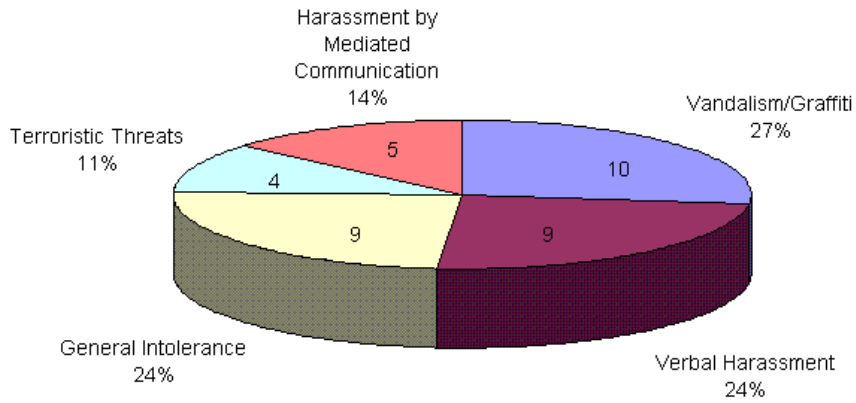
Targeted Issue

The perceived motivation for the incidents.



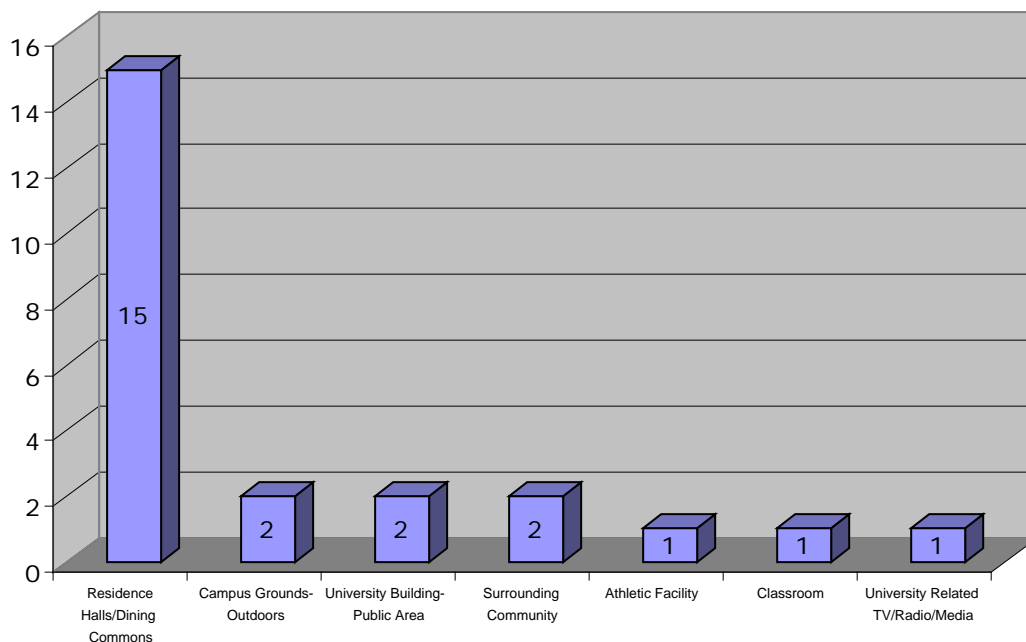
Type of Offense

The reported types of wrongdoing perpetrated against the targets.



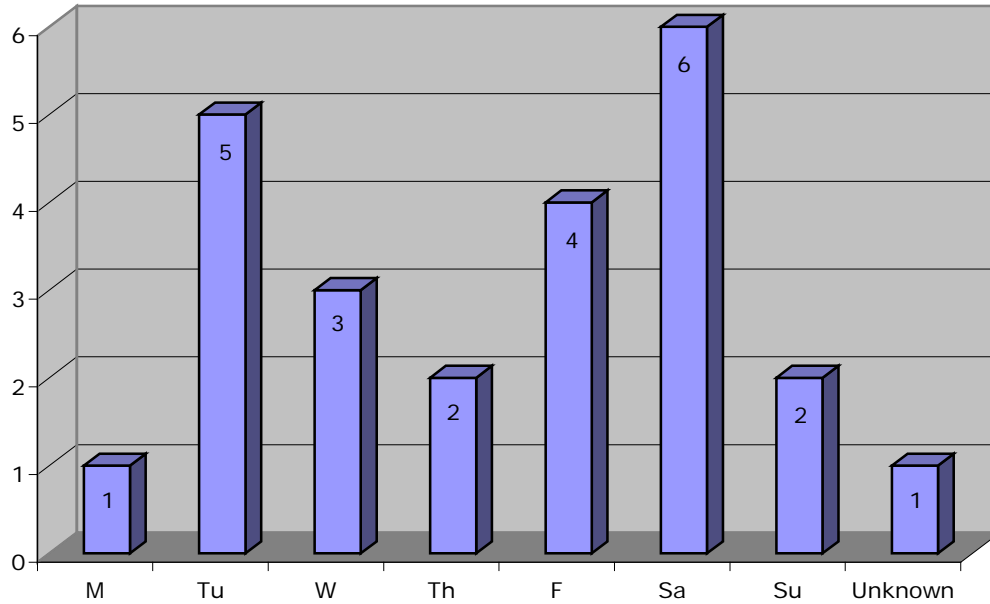
Geographic Location

The physical sites on campus or in the surrounding community where incidents allegedly occurred.



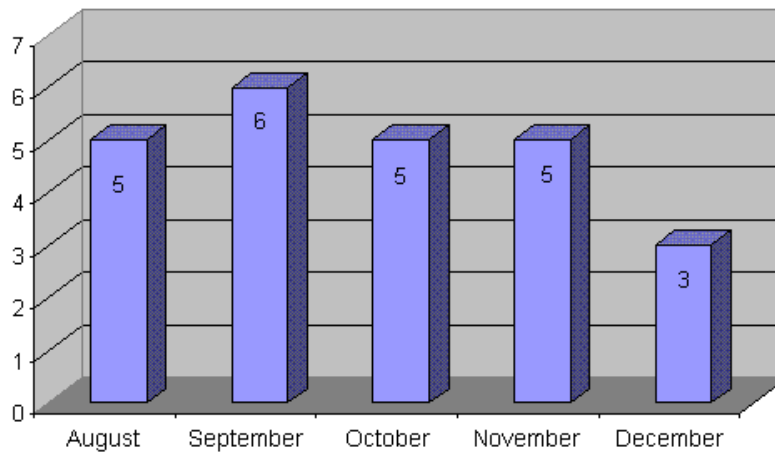
Day of Incident

The days the incidents were reported to have taken place.



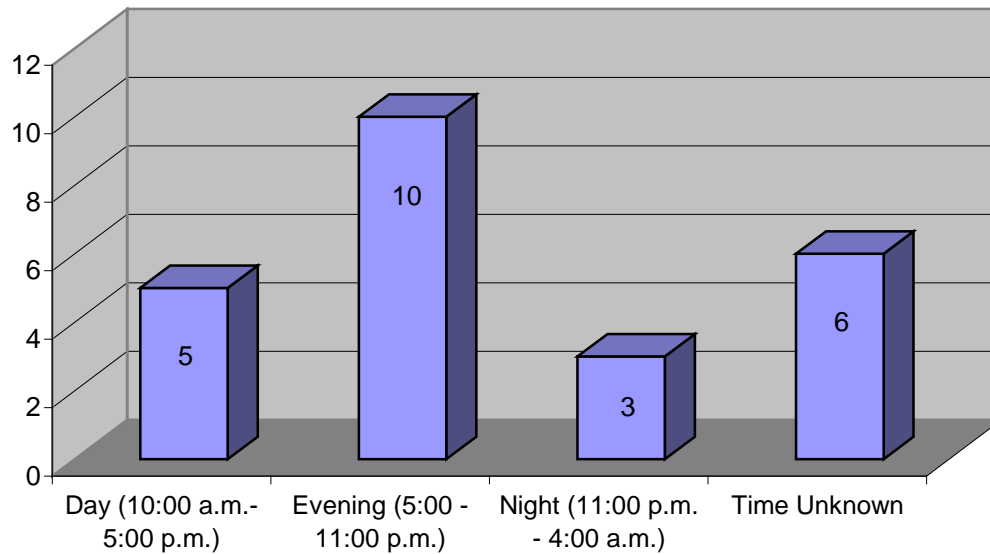
Month of Incident

The months the incidents were reported to have taken place.



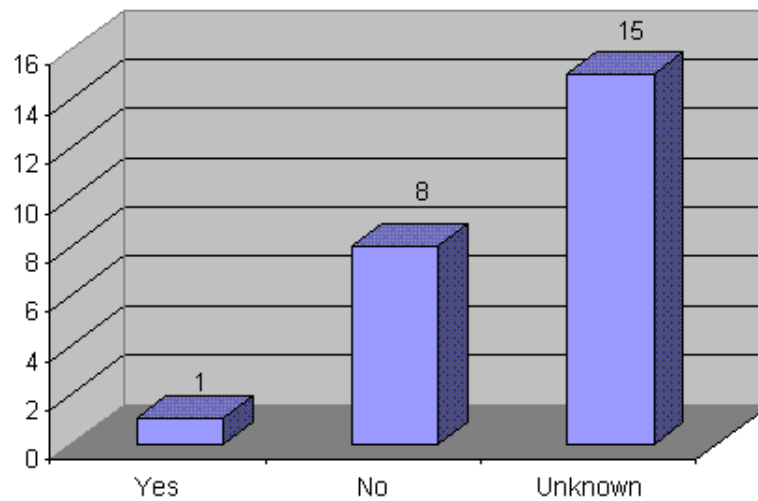
Time of Incident

The times the incidents were reported to have taken place.



Alcohol Involved

Incidents where alcohol was reported to be a contributing factor.



For more information regarding this incident summary please contact:

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