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#65

REPORT  
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For Information

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DATE: March 20, 2017

SUBJECT: **2016 ANNUAL HATE/BIAS MOTIVATED CRIME REPORT**

FROM: Brian Adams, Deputy Chief, Operations Support Services

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Chief's Management Group receive the 2016 Annual Hate/Bias Motivated Crime Report as information.

And further,

That a copy of this report be forwarded to the Police Services Board as part of the Annual Reporting Requirements.

**REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- The total number of Criminal Code offences reported to Peel Regional Police in 2016 was 38,154. Of those, 59 or 0.15%, have been designated as hate motivated crimes. There have been no discernible divisional or geographic trends identified in reported hate crimes.
- In comparison to 2015, the number of reported hate crimes decreased by 6.3% in 2016 (63 to 59). The vast majority (66.1%) of hate crime reports continue to be mischief/graffiti related offences. Eighteen, 30.5% of reported hate/bias crimes, were of a violent nature.
- Religion was the most common motivating factor in hate related crimes; the Jewish faith was the most targeted, being victim in 23 (39%) of all reported crimes.
- In 2016, 19 (32.2%) of the 59 reported hate crimes resulted in charges.

**DISCUSSION**

**Background**

The Peel Regional Police (PRP) Diversity Relations Bureau was established in 1986 and entrusted with the responsibility of fulfilling the PRP commitment to educate employees and

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members of the community regarding hate/bias motivated crimes, incidents and hate propaganda. The efforts to maintain open, current and forthright dialogue with all segments of the Peel community have evolved to now include formalized Chief's Advisory Committees; administered by the Diversity Bureau in accordance with direction received from the advisory committee and/or Chief of Police.

One of the Bureau's primary mandates is to monitor and statistically analyze hate crime and/or racially biased motivated incidents with an end to identify and address related discernible trends within the Region of Peel. The annual report serves to document statistical data.

The direction provided to PRP employees on hate or biased motivated crime is governed in accordance with Directive 1-B-130(F); serving to assist in understanding how to accurately identify, record and investigate hate/bias crimes.

A hate biased crime or incident is defined as:

- (a) *"hate/bias crime" – means a criminal occurrence committed against a person or property, which is motivated solely or in part, by the offender's hate/bias or prejudice based on race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, or similar factor.*
- (b) *"hate/bias incident" – means incidents which involve behaviours that, though motivated by bias against a victims' race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability or sexual orientation, or similar factor, are not criminal acts. (For example, disrespectful/discriminatory or hostile speech).*

All reports of incidents and/or occurrences are forwarded to the Regional Hate/Bias Crime Coordinator, Diversity Bureau for review; ensuring that support and specialized knowledge is provided to investigative bureaux. The Bureau coordinator is also responsible for liaising on a regular basis with the local Assistant Crown Attorneys assigned the Hate Crime portfolio.

The investigation of all incidents/occurrences is the responsibility of the respective divisional criminal investigation bureaux or related centralized investigative bureau. (i.e. Homicide, Robbery etc.) Beyond the Diversity Bureau, investigators are supported by PRP Intelligence Services who provide context based on information shared amongst police services and governmental agencies on hate crime and extremism.

PRP also has five (5) Divisional Hate/Bias Crime Coordinators, who act as a resource to divisional personnel during hate/bias motivated crimes. When possible the divisional coordinators will take an active role in open investigations.

There are two types of hate/bias motivated crimes. One relates to what is commonly referred to as hate propaganda, that being forms of expression within the scope of the definition of advocating genocide or the wilful promotion of hatred as described in sections 318 and 319 of the Criminal Code. And secondly, all other criminal offences where evidence establishes that bias, prejudice or hate was a motivating factor in the commission of the offence. For hate propaganda related prosecutions, police require consent of the Crown.

In instances where hate is established as a motivating factor in the commission of a crime, such as an assault, upon conviction the Crown is entitled to argue that hate be considered an aggravating factor in consideration of penalty.

Further, under the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2001, a provision was added to the Criminal Code allowing the court to impose greater penalties for the criminal offence of mischief involving religious property (a building, structure or part thereof).

### 1. Findings

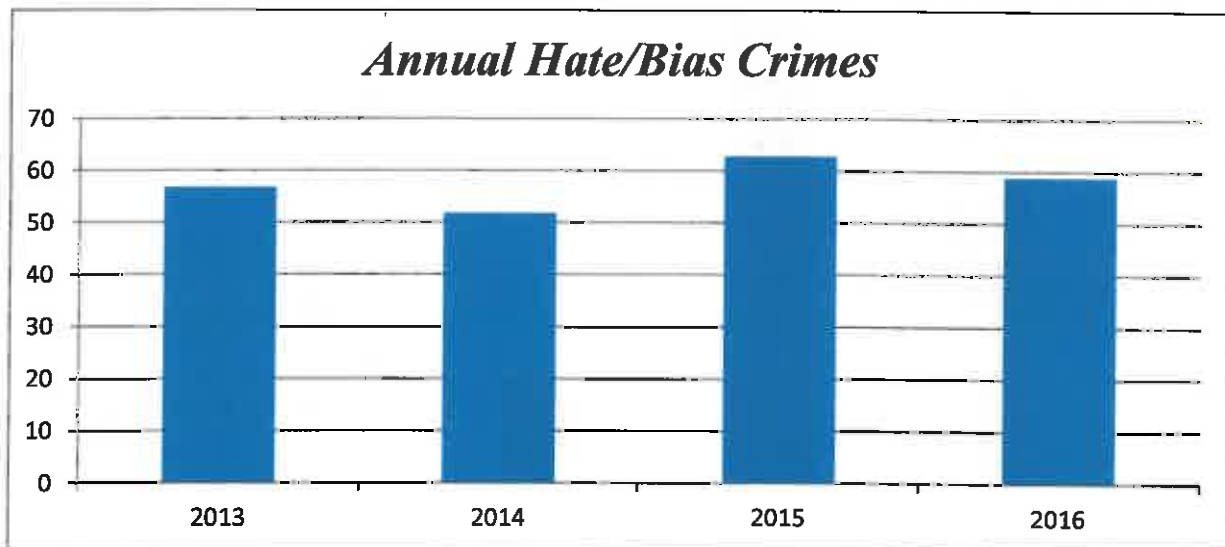
The information presented in the annual report is based on reported occurrences. Although believed to be a true reflection of the prevalence of hate crime in the Region, it is acknowledged that there may be unreported incidents and as such there are limitations in interpreting the data. The Diversity Bureau undertakes proactive outreach programs aimed at reducing victim reluctance to report incidents of hate and to ensure the community members are made aware of what constitutes a hate/bias crime.

#### Annual Hate/Bias Crimes

During the period of January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, Peel Regional Police recorded 38,154 Criminal Code offences. Of those, 59 have been designated as hate/bias motivated crimes. Hate crime offences accounted for 0.15% of all reported criminal offences that occurred in Brampton and Mississauga.

As noted in the chart below, the number of reported hate/bias crime offences has fluctuated minutely over the past four years.

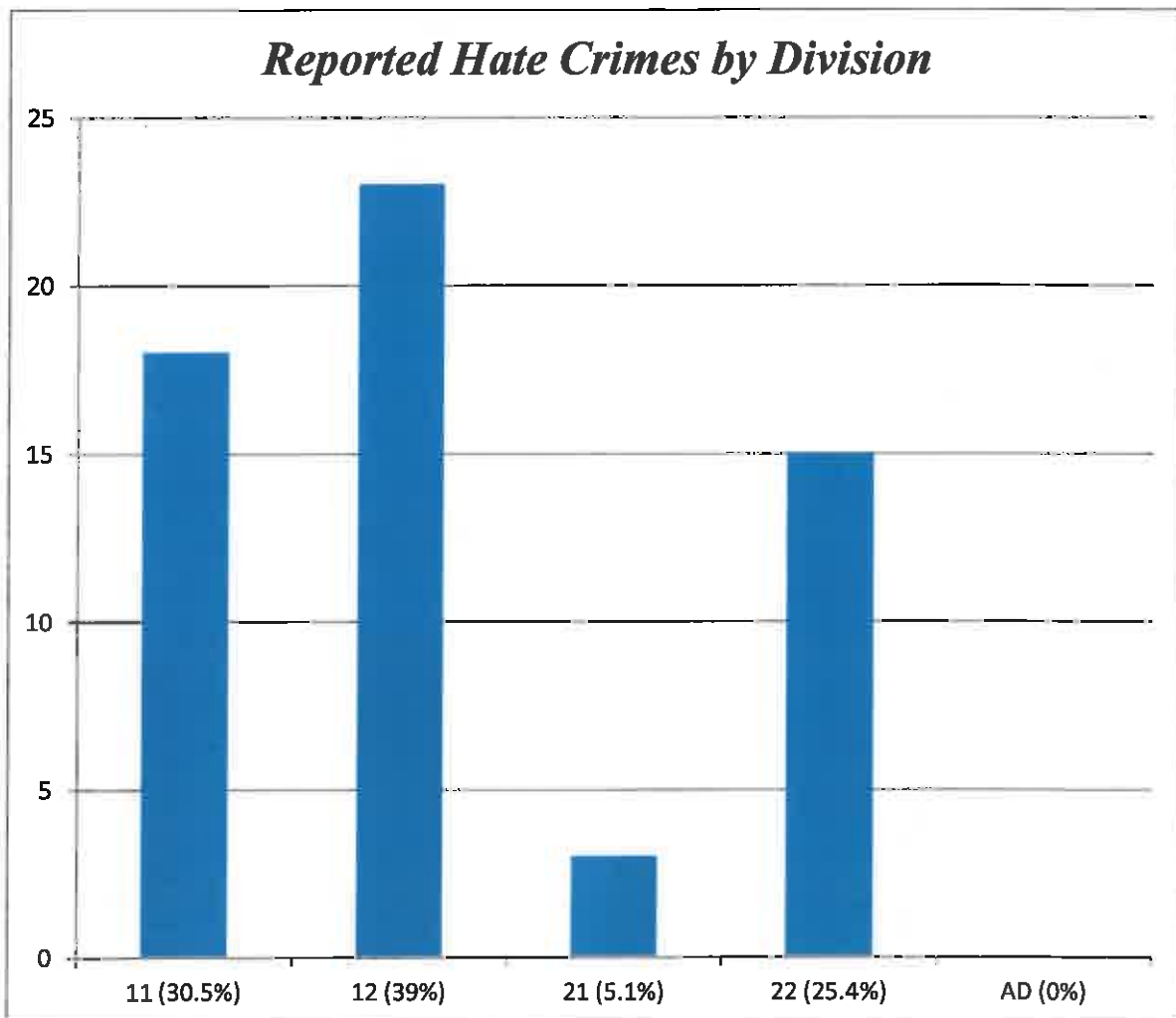
**Chart 1**  
**Police - reported hate crimes; total 2013 to 2016**



### Reported Hate Crimes by Division

Hate/bias motivated crimes reported to Peel Regional Police in 2016 are broken down by Division as indicated in the chart below: 11 Division had 18 (30.5%) of the crimes, 12 Division had 23 (39%) of the crimes, 21 Division had 3 (5.1%) of the crimes, 22 Division had 15 (25.4%) of the crimes and the Airport Division had 0 (0%) of the crimes. No trend has been identified over the course of four years.

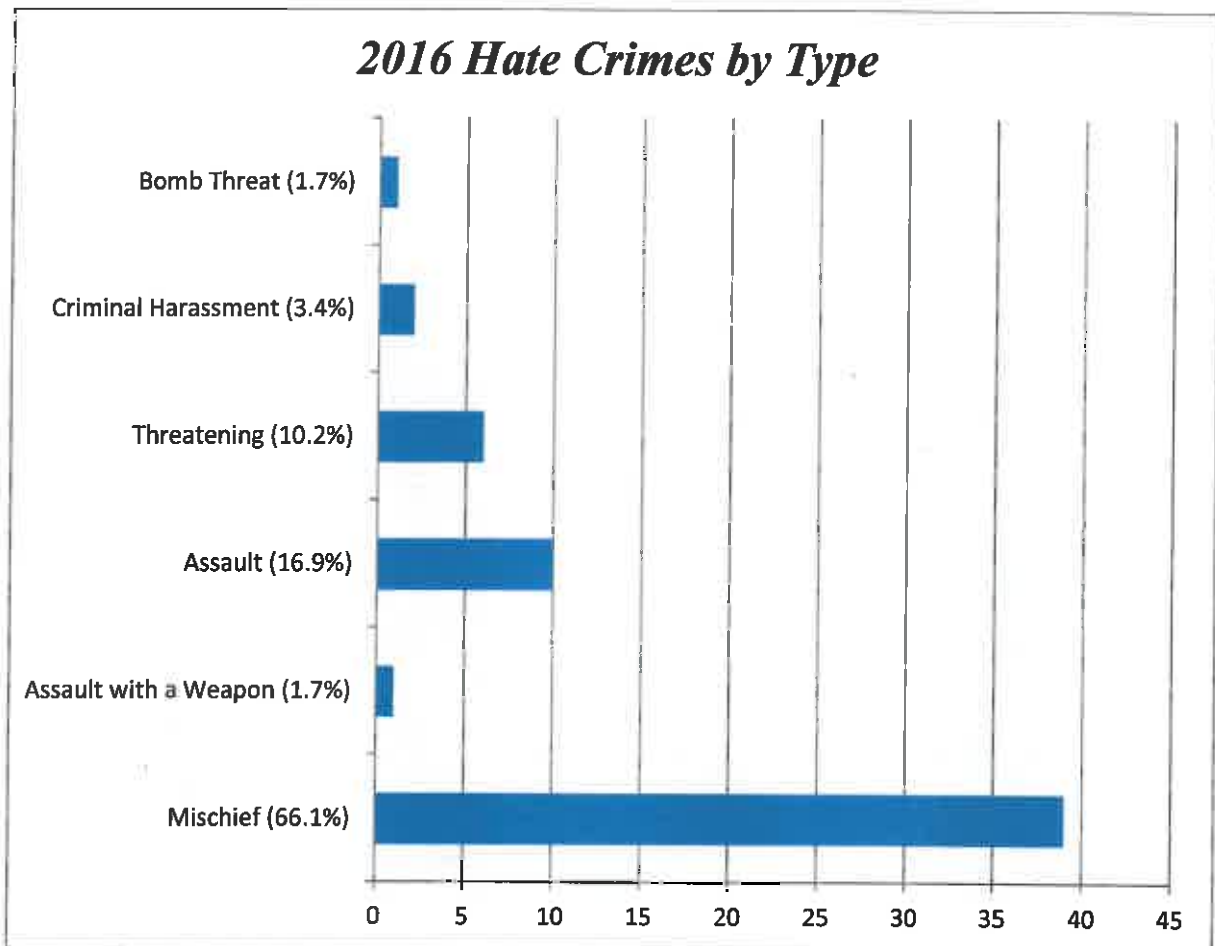
**Chart 2**  
**Police – reported hate crimes by Division 2016**



### Hate Crimes by Type

Peel Regional Police recorded 59 occurrences of hate/bias crimes in 2016. Among these, there were 39 mischief offences (66.1%), six (6) threatening (10.2%), ten (10) assaults (16.9%), one (1) assault with a weapon (1.7%), one (1) bomb threat (1.7%), two (2) criminal harassment (3.4%). Illustrated in (Chart 3) is the breakdown of hate occurrence types. *(Note: in instances where multiple offences occur, for statistical purposes only the most severe is recorded)*

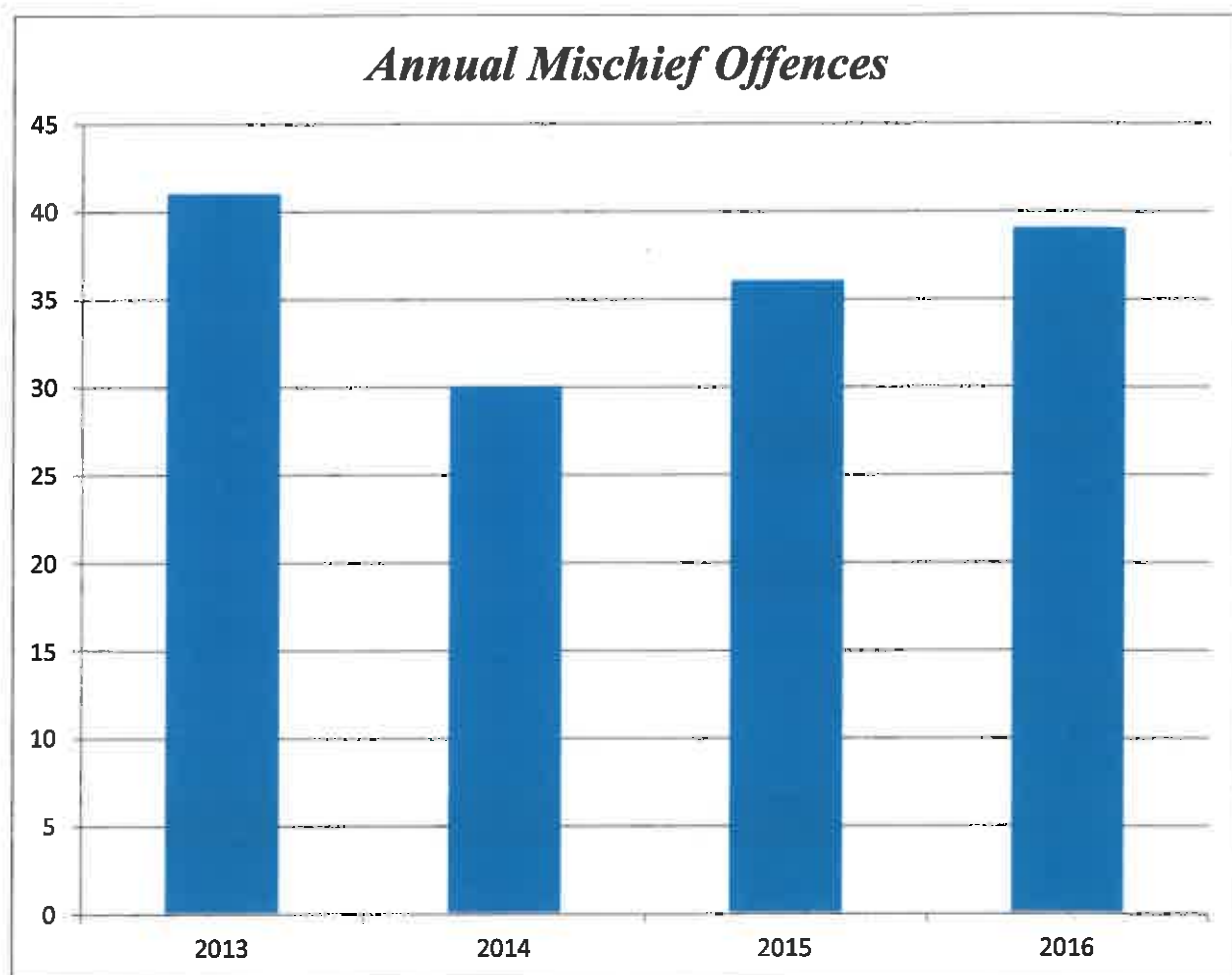
**Chart 3**  
Police – reported hate crimes by type of offence, 2016



### Mischief Remains the Highest Reported Incident Type

Of the 59 total reported incidents of hate/bias crimes in 2016, mischief accounts for 66.1% with 39 reports. Of the 39 mischief reports, all were crimes involving graffiti. A year to year comparison shows that the number of crimes involving mischief has fluctuated slightly over the last few years, increasing by 8.3% from 2015 to 2016.

**Chart 4**  
**Police – reported hate crimes, mischief 2013 to 2016**

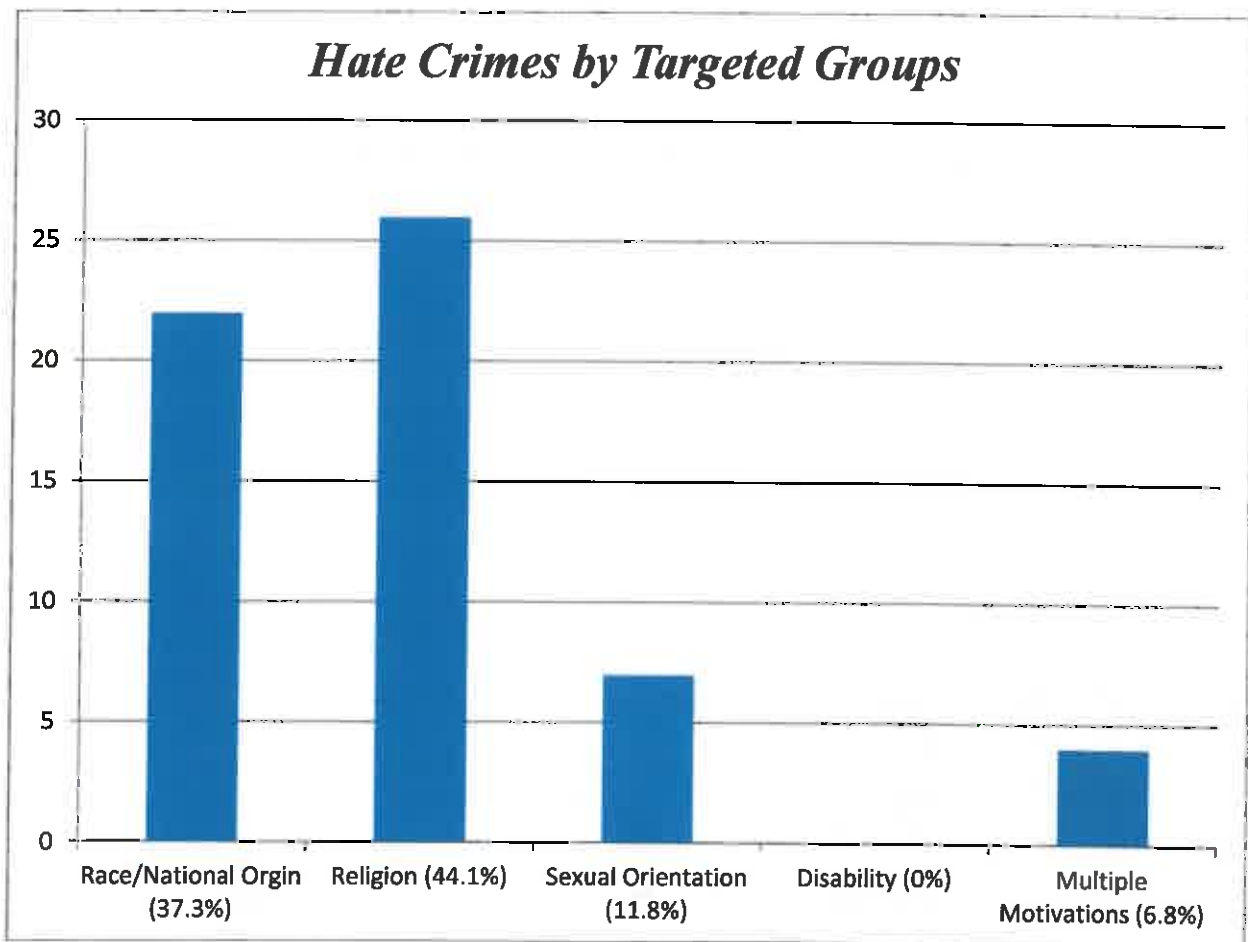


## Targeted Groups

Among the 59 hate crimes reported to Peel Regional Police in 2016, 22 (37.3%) targeted race/national origin, 26 (44.1%) religion, 7 (11.8%) sexual orientation and 4 (6.8%) included multiple motivating factors. In 2016 there was a notable increase of reported hate crimes targeting the area of sexual orientation from 1 in 2015 to 7 in 2016.

### Chart 5

#### Police – reported hate crimes, targeted groups

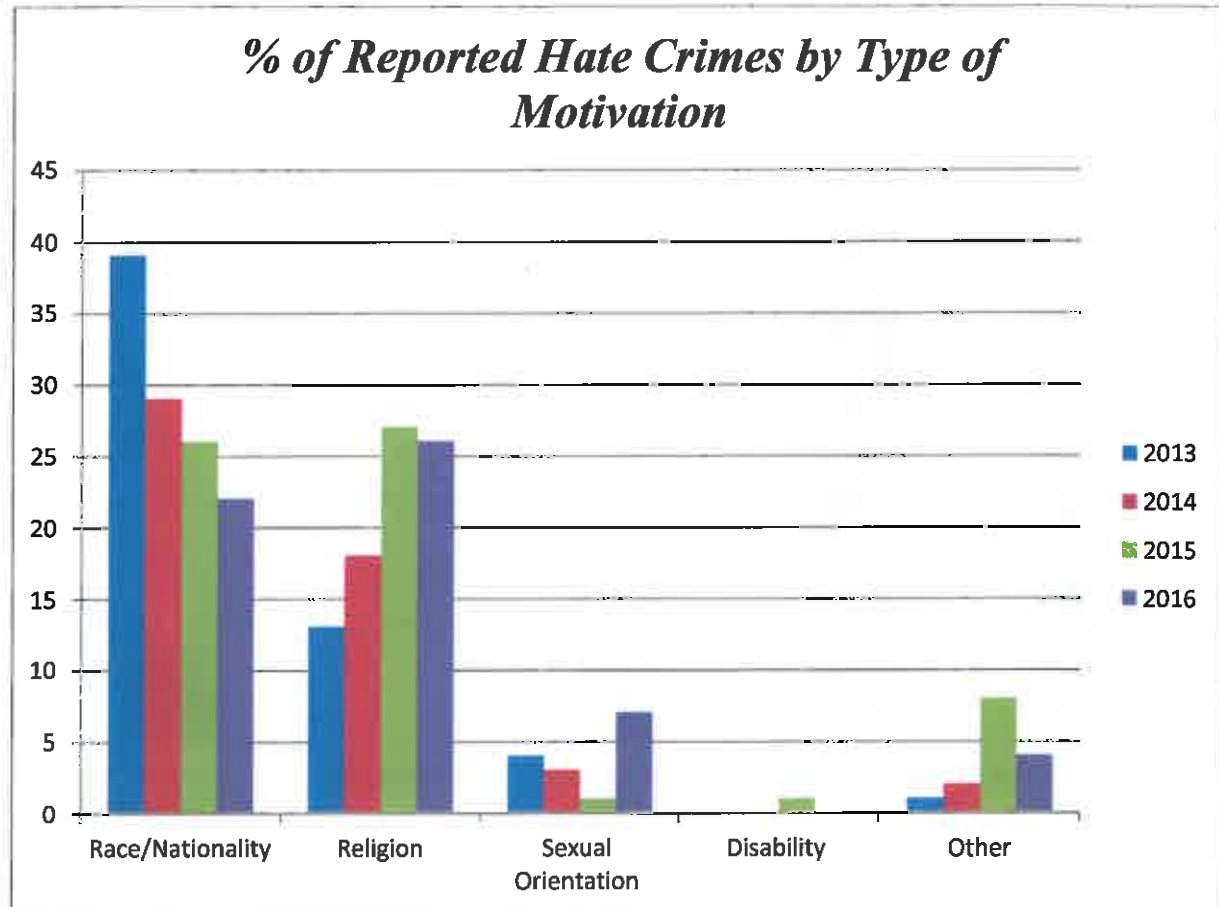


### Religion is the Most Common Motivation for Hate Crimes

During 2016 the total number of race/national origin motivated hate crimes continued to decrease; reaching the lowest point in a four year period. Similarly, there was a slight decrease of hate crimes motivated by religion. Included in the "other" category in 2016 there were four (4) reports of crimes with multiple hate motivations. In two (2) cases, the motivating factors included race, religion and sexual orientation; in one (1) case the motivation included race and religion while the remaining case was motivated by numerous factors including race, religion, sexual orientation and disability.

#### Chart 6

Police –Percentage of reported hate crimes, by type of motivation, 2013 to 2016



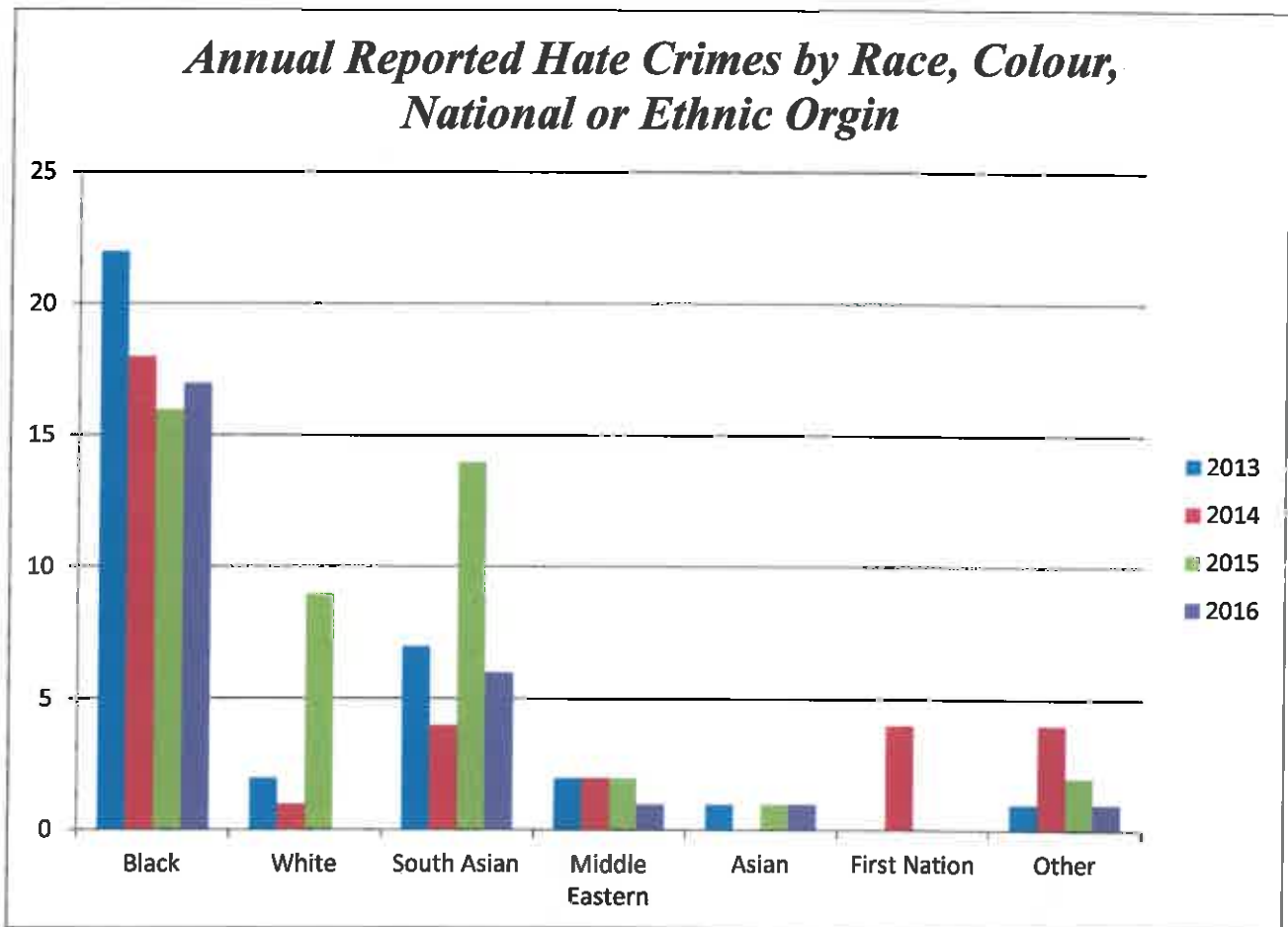


**Type of Race/Colour/National or Ethnic Origin as Motivation for Hate Crimes**

Statistical review of victimization based on ethnic and/or racial background identified a variance in 2016 in comparison to 2015. There was a slight increase in the victimization of members of the Black community, from 16 in 2015 to 17 crimes in 2016 (6.3%). Victimization of persons of South Asian heritage decreased from 14 in 2015 to 6 crimes in 2016 (57.1%) and the number of occurrences where the White community was targeted decreased from 9 in 2015 to no reported crimes in 2016.

**Chart 7**

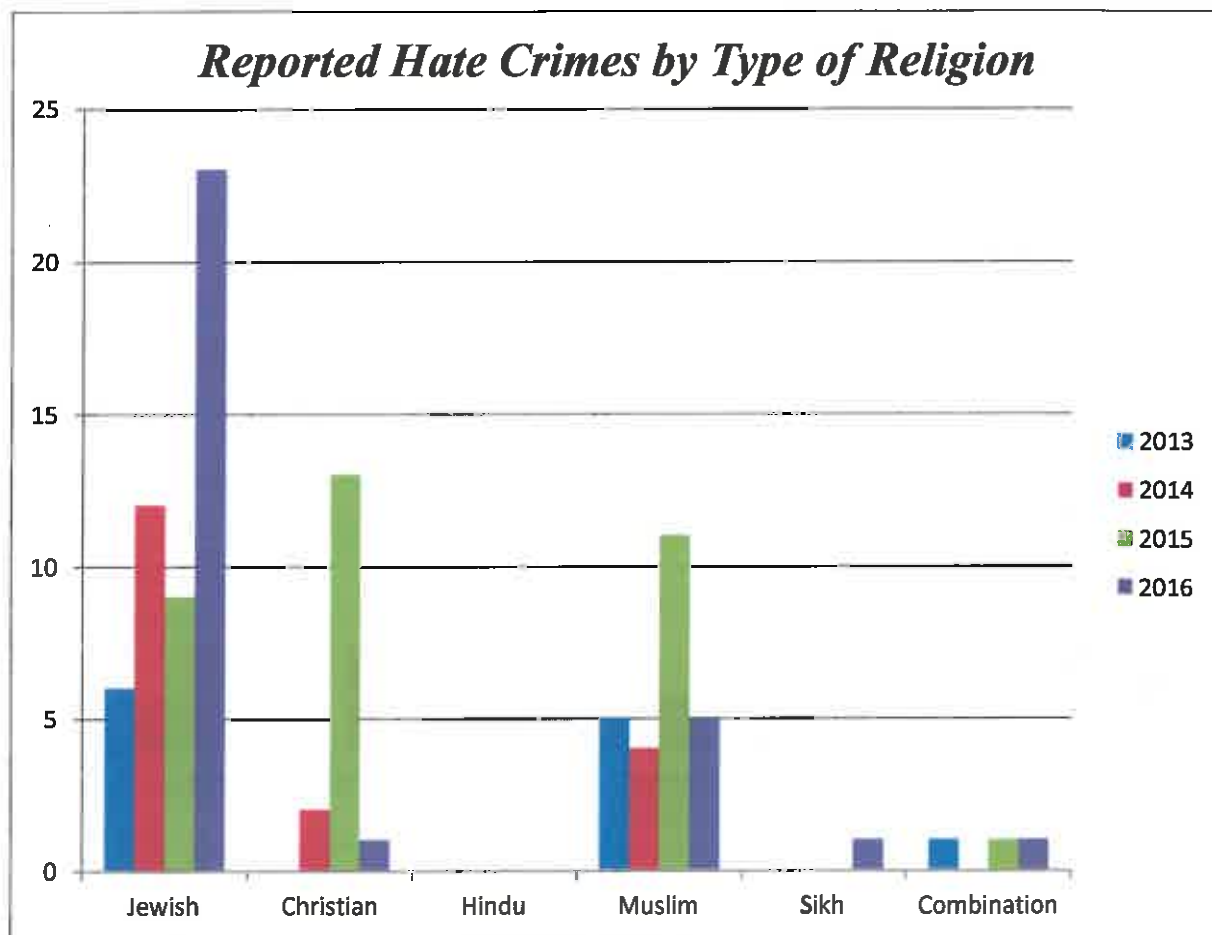
**Police – Number of reported hate crimes, by type of race, 2013 to 2016**



### Type of Religion as Motivation for Hate Crimes

In 2016, 30 (50.8%) of the 59 hate motivated crimes reported to Peel Regional Police targeted religion. The highest increase in victimization was experienced by the Jewish community, from 9 occurrences in 2015 to 23 in 2016 (an increase of 155.6%). A minor increase was also experienced in the Sikh religion, from zero in 2015 to one in 2016. There was a reduction in reported crimes targeting the Christian faith, from 13 in 2015 to 1 reported crime in 2016 (92.3%). The second largest percentage reduction in targeted religious victimization involved the Muslim community, from 11 reported crimes in 2015 to 5 in 2016 (54.5%). No other religious denomination was impacted by hate motivated crimes during 2016. Categorized as combined victimization is one incident where the hate expressed related focused on two separate religions, the Jewish and Catholic faiths.

**Chart 8 Police – reported hate crimes, by type of religion**

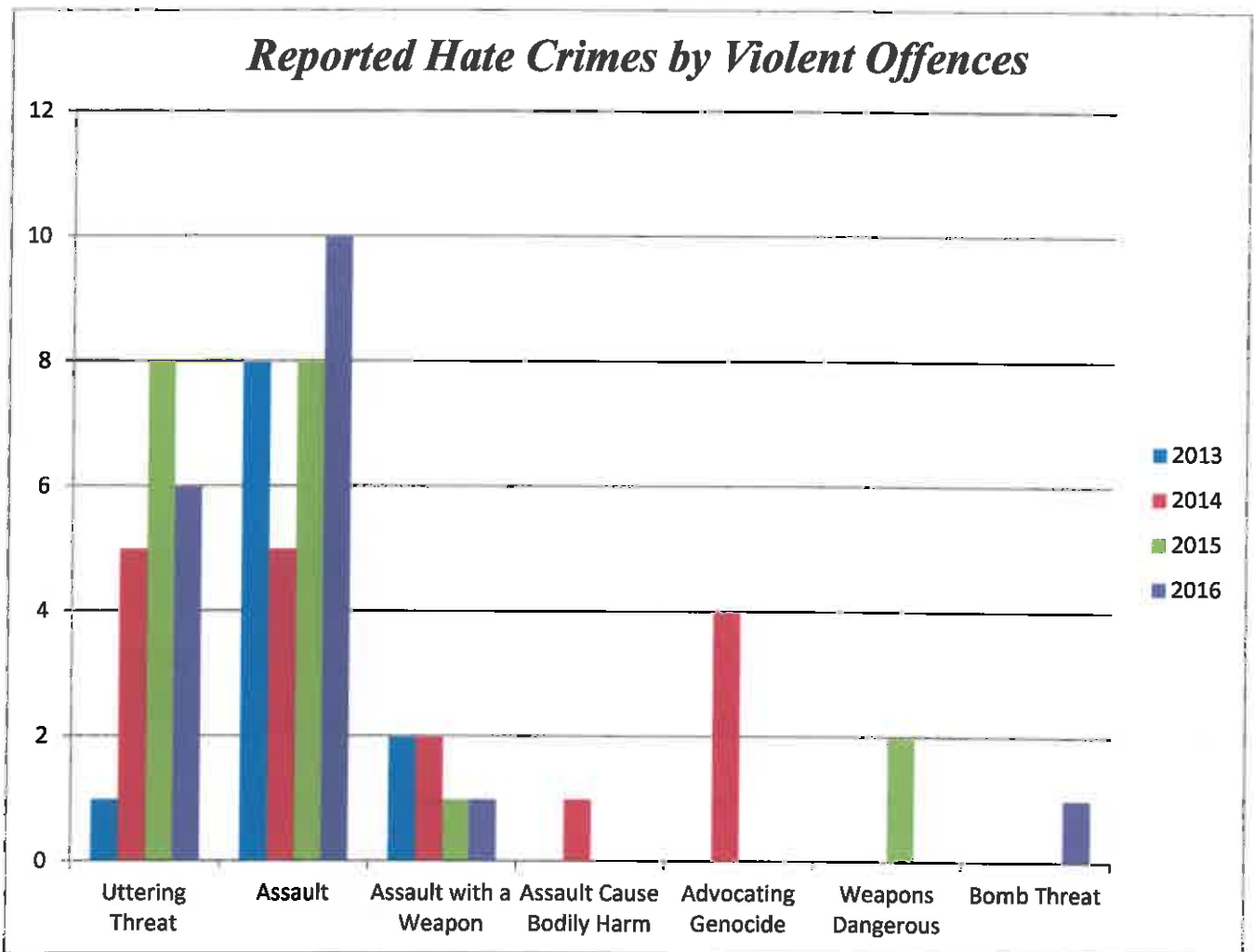


### Violent Hate Crimes

In 2016, 18 of the 59 (30.5%) hate crimes reported to Peel Regional Police involved acts of violence. The types of offences include threatening (6), assault (10), assault with a weapon (1) and bomb threat (1). In cases where multiple offences have taken place, the most severe is captured for this report.

**Chart 9**

**Police – reported hate crimes, by violent offences**



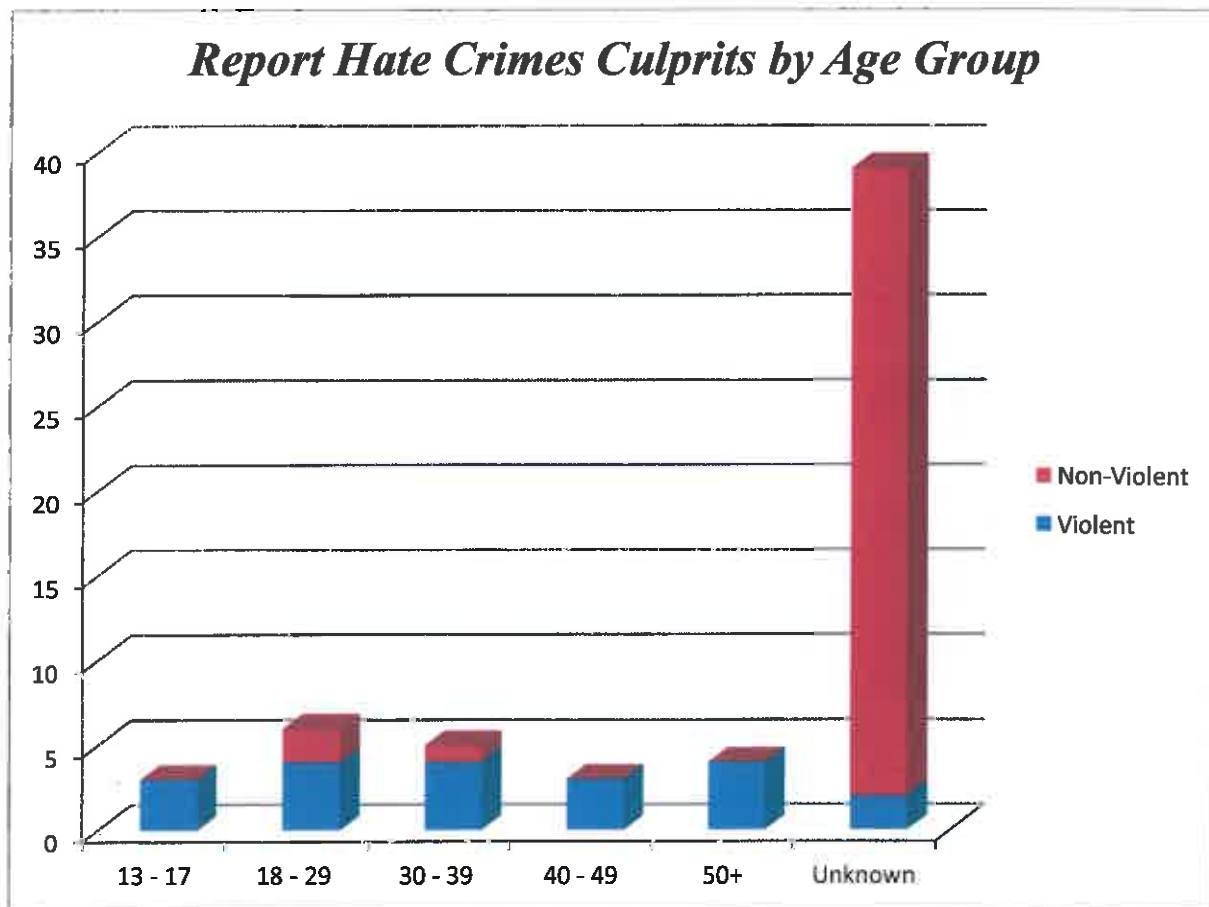
### Hate Crime Rates Highest Among Youth and Young Adults

The 2016 hate/bias offence occurrence reports were reviewed and the data related to the individual culprits analyzed. Twenty-one culprits were identified; the remaining occurrences, mostly graffiti related crime, remain unsolved and as such the culprit's descriptors are unknown. The following information was noted:

Most offences, both violent and non-violent, are committed by persons between the ages of 13 and 39.

Of the 21 known culprits, 15 were male and 6 were female. Three of the 21 were between the ages of 13-17, six were between the ages of 18-29, five were aged 30-39, three were aged 40-49 and four were aged 50 or older.

**Chart 10**  
Police – reported hate crimes culprits, by age group

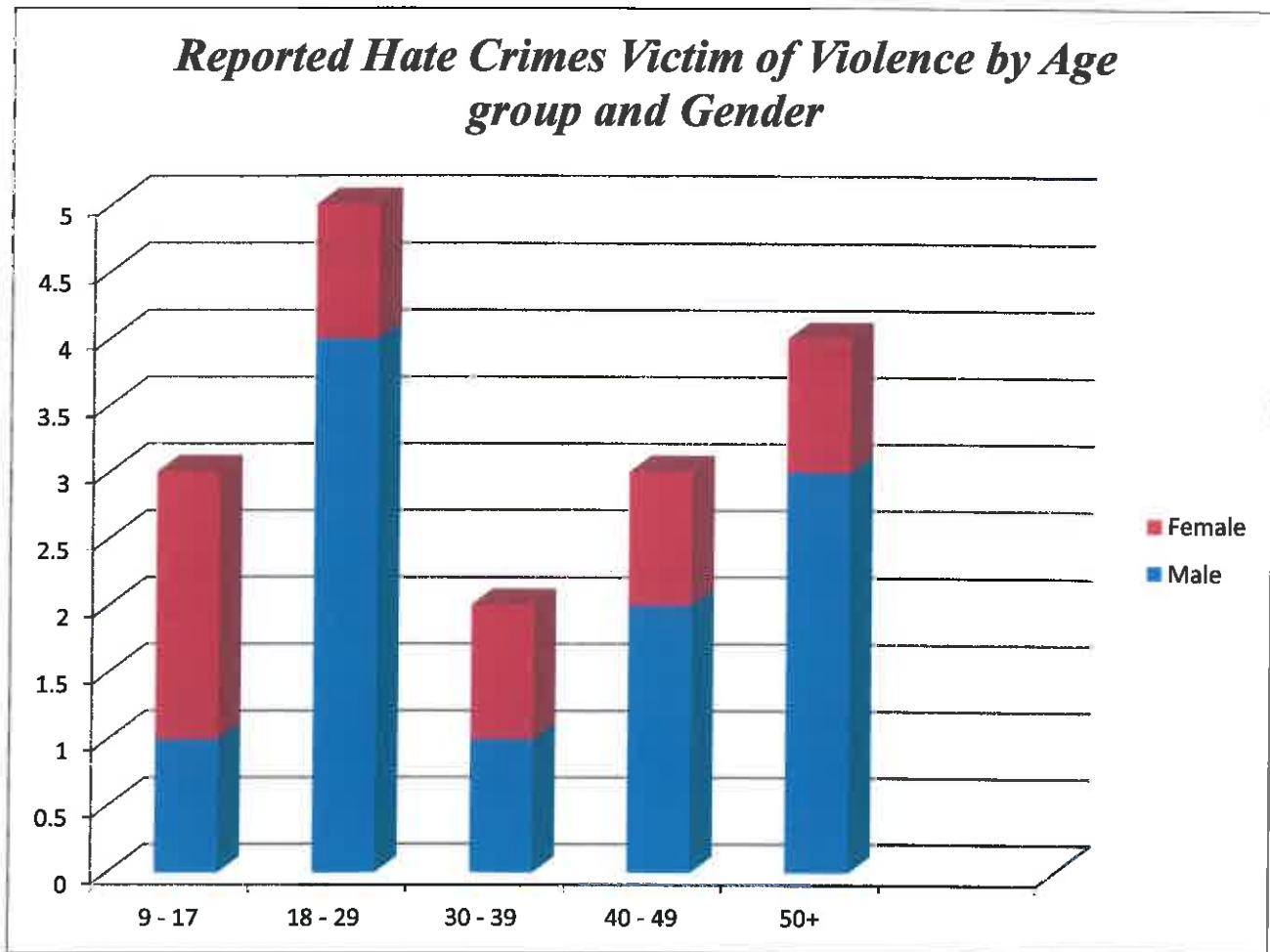


### Age and Gender of Victim

Seventeen persons were victims of reported hate/bias violent crimes, 11 were male and 6 were female. One of the male victims was White while five of the victims were Black, three were South Asian and two were of Middle Eastern descent. Of the victimized females, one was White, one was Black, one was Middle Eastern, one was Asian, one Hispanic (Mexican) and one was listed as unknown/undisclosed. No trend has been identified in relation to the age of the victims over the past 4 years.

#### Chart 11

Police – reported hate crimes, victims of violence by age group and gender



**CONCLUSION**

In 2016, Peel Regional Police reported 59 hate crimes; a slight decrease from 2015. The 2016 census data indicates the combined population of Brampton and Mississauga is 1,315,237. Visible diverse persons make up over half of the total population. The 2011 census data indicates the top three ethno-cultural groups in Peel Region to be South Asian, Black and Asian (Chinese). Irrespective of the fact that the Regional community is increasingly more diverse, hate/bias motivated crimes reported to police continues to be low.

**Approved for Submission:**A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Adams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B' and 'A'.

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Brian Adams, Deputy Chief, Operations Support Services

*For further information regarding this report, please contact Inspector Magdi Younan at extension 3609 or via e-mail at [magdi.younan@peelpolice.ca](mailto:magdi.younan@peelpolice.ca)*

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