

Offences related to national internal security
2001

Report from the Swedish Security Service

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Introduction

This report will present statistics on reported offences related to White Power, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and homophobia in 2001.¹ The Swedish Security Service (Säpo) has published this type of statistics annually since 1996. All of these reports have been published in Swedish and English, and can most easily be accessed via the Internet homepage of the Swedish Police: www.polisen.se.

The survey is part of Säpo's obligation to prevent and expose offences against national internal security. This work is carried out by Säpo's Protection of the Constitution Section and focuses on combating activities that, through the use of violence, threat or undue force, aim at changing the Constitution, influencing the political institutions or authorities to make decisions in a given direction or preventing citizens from exercising their constitutional civil rights and freedoms. The survey also aims to supplement the official crime statistics and give a picture of the developments over time as concern offences with this type of motive.

The author of this report is Michael Johnson, analyst at Säpo's Protection of the Constitution Section.

¹ This English translation is an abridged version of the original report, which also contains statistics of offences linked with anti fascism/left-wing extremist ideology plus an analysis section.

Report layout

The report is divided into two main sections; method and reported offences with a hate crime motive.

The method section opens with definitions of the key concepts used in the report. This is followed by a presentation and discussion of the data on which the report is based and of the fundamental perspective and working methods employed in the gathering and processing of such data. The section ends with a description of a few of the key categories in the presentation system. This chapter is essential to further understanding of the report. Section two presents statistics on hate crime reported to the police. The section is divided into five chapters; offences motivated by xenophobia, offences related to the White Power ideology, offences motivated by anti-Semitism, offences motivated by homophobia and finally a separate presentation of the offence agitation against an ethnic group. Most of the chapters in section two first give a presentation of developments over time concerning the respective groups of offences followed by a breakdown of offences into offence categories. Then follow a presentation of the geographical distribution and of crime trends.

Method

Definitions of the concepts used in the report

The offences that will be described in this report can, somewhat simplified, be divided into two main categories. These differ from each other depending on whether the perpetrator's targeting the victim is motivated by the latter's characteristics/belonging to a particular group or by his or her opinions. Offences in the first category are related to physiological factors (e.g. skin colour), religion (in this survey Judaism) and sexual orientation (in this survey homosexuality). These characteristics are more difficult to change compared with the personal opinions that the perpetrator opposes in the second of the two main categories. Here, the perpetrator does not agree with the opinions of certain individuals, groups, companies or of the society as a whole. These opinions are more easily changed in comparison with characteristics or group membership and an individual, a group, a company etc. most often ceases to be the target of this type of offence following a change of opinion on the issue in question.

Offences in the first main category stem from hatred against individuals and will henceforth be referred to under the generic term of hate crime. This concept has been established in the USA for a long time and has

also come to be used in Sweden in later years.² There is no generally agreed definition of this concept but it is most commonly used as a label on certain expressions and actions motivated by negative feelings and opinions about the victim's race, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation and it is in this sense it will be used in the report. Offences of the second category³ are not primarily about personal characteristics but personal opinions and will henceforth be referred to as offences motivated by anti-fascism or left-wing ideology. Perpetrators of such offences consistently dislike and oppose opinions related to a fascist ideology, and the ideology on which these criminal acts are based is on the far left of the political spectrum.

In spite of this important distinction there is a central ideological similarity between perpetrators from these two categories: an anti-democratic view. Both movements consider themselves to possess key insights as concerns the essence of a good society, insights, which in their view motivate and justify the use of illegal methods. A common argument against representative democracy is that it does not really reflect the will and intentions of the citizens.

White Power ideology is about the struggle for survival of the white race. It is based on European National Socialism and the American "White Supremacy" ideology. The key concept behind the White Power movement is the racist and anti-Semitic idea of a Jewish world conspiracy. According to this concept, the world is controlled by a "Zionist Occupation Government", abbreviated into ZOG, consisting of so-called "spiritual Jews" regarded as part of the Jewish conspiracy aiming to crush the white race. This conspiracy is assumed to include practically the entire Establishment, such as government, parliament, judicial system and the media. Immigration, homosexuality, liberalism and communism are means supposedly used by these institutions or individuals in the conspiracy. Somewhat simplified, the White Power ideology can be described as a generic term for views aiming at the preservation of a human race consisting of a white, heterosexual and non-Jewish population. The term **White Power movement** refers to the groups, organisations and associations advocating and basing their actions on a White Power

² Tiby, E (1999): *Hatbrott? Homosexuella kvinnors och mäns berättelser om utsatthet för brott*. Kriminologiska institutionen, Stockholms universitet. (Report on hate crime against homosexuals. In Swedish only.)

Brå (2002): *Hatbrott. En uppföljning av rättsväsendets insatser*. Rapport 2002:9. (Report on hate crime. In Swedish only.)

³ There will be no further references to this category in this English translation.

ideology. This movement is revolutionary and rejects political solutions.⁴ **Xenophobia** in this report refers to a negative attitude, disrespect or hatred directed against a person or a group on the grounds of skin colour, ethnic or cultural background. In this report, xenophobia comprises also **racism**; negative treatment of some individuals based on the conception that there are several human races. Since it is often not possible to decide from the police reports upon which the survey is based whether the perpetrator had a racist motive or not we have chosen to use the term xenophobia throughout this report. Racism is here seen as one of several causes of hostility towards anything or anyone perceived as different and strange. **Anti-Semitism** comprises all hostility towards Jews, Judaism and Jewish property. This hostility may have religious as well as racist causes. Anti-Semitism has been and still is an important part of White Power ideology. An offence motivated by anti-Semitism need not be directed against a person with a Jewish background but may be directed against Judaism or the Jewish people, e.g. when a person is called a "bloody Jew" without being of Jewish descent. **Homophobia** refers to dislike and fear of homosexuality and homosexuals. An offence motivated by homophobia need not target a homosexual person directly but may involve statements expressing a dislike of homosexuality, such as calling someone a "bloody queer" without this person being homosexual.

Data used in the report

The survey of offences related to national internal security is based on offences in Sweden reported to the police. All such reports have been input into the police report data base RAR, which has then been searched for reports relevant to this survey. The selection is based on details in the reports, of which offence classification and the short free text are the most important. Information on the scene of crime, time, date, perpetrator and victim may also be of interest. In the selection and assessment pro-

⁴ On White Power cf. e.g.: Lodenius, A-L & Wikström, P (1997): *Vit makt och blågula drömmar. Rasism och nazism i dagens Sverige*. Natur och Kultur. Stockholm. (On racism and Nazism in Sweden. In Swedish only.)

Löw, H (1998): *Nazismen i Sverige 1980-1997. Den rasistiska undergroundrörelsen: musiken, myterna, riterna*. Ordfront förlag. Stockholm. (On Nazism in Sweden. In Swedish only.)

cess the reports are supplemented with information from other sources. Säpo's surveillance register may contain important information on suspects and victims and their connections to White Power or anti-fascist movements. Information in the media, e.g. if it has turned out that a certain organisation or movement has claimed responsibility for a criminal act, may be an important piece in the jigsaw. Another source of important information is police staff involved in investigations, who can provide access to further information on reports containing insufficient or ambiguous data. Finally, the rapporteur's (see below) local knowledge of events and persons is often of vital importance.

In most cases a police report is a first description of an event and it is in general based on information from the victim. This means that at a later stage of the judicial process, when more information has been acquired – possibly from a suspect – the assessment of the event may change. It could be that no offence was committed, or maybe the initial classification turned out to be incorrect. It is however on this first classification and the other data in the original police report in the RAR system that this survey is based.

When analysing report statistics it is important to remember that such statistics do not reflect the actual crime rate. For every crime category you also have to consider what is known as hidden statistics, i.e. the difference between the actual crime rate and crime reported to the police. The magnitude of the hidden statistics is affected chiefly by the chances that offences are reported to the police and by the risk of detection. Both factors are affected above all by circumstances such as the relation between the victim and the perpetrator, the seriousness of the offence, insurance terms and any changes to these, police resources and priorities plus media focus on certain crime categories. The last two factors in particular are likely to affect the willingness to report offences to the police and the risk of detection when it comes to offences of interest to this survey. One such example is that awareness among the public and the police when it comes to detecting and reporting the use of swastikas, Hitler salutes and racist propaganda is likely to be affected by these factors.

Another relevant problem in this context is what is usually referred to as internal hidden statistics. The problem here is to determine to what extent incidents that have been reported to the police and which may be relevant to this survey are detected and identified as such. Has the victim or a witness told the police that he or she got the impression that the incident was motivated by xenophobia, homophobia, anti-Semitism or an anti-

fascist/left-wing ideology and in that case, was this mentioned in the police report? If not, the report will not be included in the statistics on which the survey is based. Language problems, varying police experience and knowledge of this type of crime motive, changes in victims' willingness to reveal that they are homosexual, plus media attention are examples of factors that may affect the internal hidden statistics and thus the entire statistical material.

Looking at the problems surrounding report statistics described above we can see that drawing conclusions on the crime rate from the data at hand presents an obvious difficulty. The data may however possibly lend itself to cautious conclusions on changes and trends over time, though only if factors that have nothing to do with the actual crime rate, but in other ways affect statistics, can be kept under control. We will here touch upon two such factors of key importance to the statistics of this report.

The first has to do with the fact that changes to administrative procedures in the collection and processing of crime statistics may actually affect statistics. Rying⁵ describes two such administrative changes having previously affected report statistics; one occurring when crime statistics was reorganised in connection with the nationalisation of the police force in the mid-1960s, and the other when the report system RAR was introduced in the early 1990s. Since no major change to administrative procedures that may be relevant to report statistics has taken place during the last few years we consider this factor not to have significantly affected the statistics of this survey.

The other factor has to do with the fact that isolated events given extensive media coverage may affect statistics by resulting in increased public willingness to report offences and in reallocation of resources within the police force. In 2001 no isolated hate-crime event received particular attention in the media. We take this to mean that this factor does not significantly affect the statistics of this survey. One specific event related to anti-fascism/left-wing ideology given enormous media coverage did however occur in 2001; the Gothenburg riots in connection with the European Council meeting. The large number of reported offences linked to this event will be presented separately in this report. The event may however indirectly have affected statistics for the period following the

⁵ Rying, M (2000): *Dödligt våld i Sverige 1990-1998. En deskriptiv studie*. Kriminologiska institutionen. Stockholms Univ. (Study of lethal violence in Sweden. In Sw. only)

riots as public and police attitudes to this type of crime have changed, something that may have led to increased willingness to report it.

Working method

The RAR system is county-based and nationwide searches are not possible. Therefore, each county has a rapporteur responsible for making continuous searches of the RAR on the basis of established criteria in order to retrieve reports relevant to the survey. Apart from actual statements or written notes or graffiti in connection with the offence, the choice of victim or crime scene may also indicate that a particular report should be retrieved. Victims who are known anti fascists/left-wing activists/White Power supporters or offences targeting animal breeders are examples of this. The rapporteurs have in most cases been the same for the past few years and may therefore be considered as being very skilled as a result of their experience and in-house training. The retrieved reports are then forwarded to the group at the Protection of the Constitution Section in Stockholm responsible for assessment of the reports on the basis of a coding scheme taking a number of aspects into account, as well as for database input, analysis and production of this annually published report.

Perspective

The perspective aimed for in the assessment of the reports is that of the victim/plaintiff (in certain cases that of a witness). It is on this person's version and interpretation of the event that the report is largely based and the group working with the survey aim to add as little of its own interpretation as possible. Should it be apparent from a report that the victim thinks or believes that the motive, or one of the motives, of the offence may be relevant for this report this is taken as a starting point. The word 'motive' is not used in a psychological or legal sense, but in terms of the victim's interpretation of the perpetrator's motive. The

perpetrator's real motive is most often unknown. There are several stages leading up to what is interpreted as a motive in the survey. The perpetrator's real motive is interpreted by the victim who in his turn describes it to the police officer taking down the report, who then interprets and describes it in the free text section of the report and allocates one or several suitable offence codes to the event. The police report is then interpreted by the rapporteur who decides whether or not to forward it to the central unit in Stockholm producing the publication you are now reading, where the reports sent in are assessed on the basis of the information they contain plus, in certain cases, additional data.

Key presentation categories

The following section describes three presentation categories of key importance to this report. The first is about the possible connection of reported offences to certain ideologies or movements, the second is about two differing statistical approaches to police reports, and the last is about the breakdown of offences into categories that will be used throughout this report.

Connections to ideologies and movements

Since one of the key aspects in this survey is the assessment of whether the offences are related to White Power or anti-fascist/left-wing ideologies or movements, or have no ideological connections, the police reports have been divided into four categories:

1. Xenophobic/homophobic/anti-Semitic offences **without ideological connections**.
2. **Offences with ideological connections.** Examples of common offences in this category are graffiti in the form of swastikas and so-called Hitler salutes with no obvious connections to the White Power movement. In many cases it cannot be excluded that the

perpetrator only wanted to provoke someone or attract attention and did not have an ideological motive as such.

3. **Offences with connections to ideological movements** are offences presenting signs of involvement by individuals from the White Power movement. Examples include graffiti incorporating the names of specific organisations, and posters, stickers and propaganda featuring messages from White Power or anti-fascist/left-wing movements although not mentioning any particular organisation. Signs that the offence was organised and the type of offence can also sometimes be interpreted as an indication of a connection to ideological movements.
4. **Offences with an established connection to ideological movements.** This category includes offences with a clear connection to the White Power movement. Offences committed at concerts arranged by the White Power movement, offences where the suspect is a known supporter of the same movement, offences in the form of leaflets and other propaganda signed by the above-mentioned organisations or groups are examples of offences that can be assessed as belonging to this category. The offence does not have to be committed in the name of a specific group if the perpetrator can be proven to have connections to the movement in question and the offence is in line with the ideology of this movement.

Statistical presentation methods

This report will present statistics on the number of offences reported to the police as well as on the number of police reports per principal offence reported.

Number of offences reported to the police

Statistics based on the number of reported offences includes all offences registered in the police reports. This is how the official Swedish crime statistics for reported offences is presented. Austria, Denmark, Finland, Scotland, Italy, and Switzerland also uses this principle. There is however a disadvantage with this approach; when taking down the report, different police officers may have differing opinions on how many

offences (offence codes) are generated by a certain event. An event appearing to one police officer as assault may appear to another as assault, unlawful threat and harassment. Two seemingly similar events may thus generate a varying number of offences.

One example clearly illustrating this is when graffiti incorporating swastikas is reported. Some of these reports contain one offence; graffiti or agitation against an ethnic group, some contain two; graffiti and agitation against an ethnic group. The ratio of one approach to the other may change and thereby affect statistics (on the number of offences) over time. Changes in Police Academy training in how to take down reports and an increased workload within the police force, which may result in less time to write reports, may be two factors affecting statistics in this way. The reason why differences arise is that behind every police report is a subjective assessment made by a police officer using the information at hand at the time of taking down the report. The offence/s reported may in many cases be seen as a selection of offences and incidents in an event or chain of events. This survey uses statistics on reported offences in order to follow up already existing statistical series.

Number of police reports and principal offences

Statistics based on the number of police reports disregards the fact that a police report may contain several offences. The most serious offence, in terms of penalty, is chosen as principal offence and entered into statistics. This principle, used in many European countries, e.g. England, France, Germany, Greece, Holland and Portugal, means that the total number of offences is lower than if all offences are counted. This does not really matter in this context, since report statistics is not particularly suited for measuring the crime rate, but rather for measuring changes and trends regardless of on which level they take place. No event is lost from statistics and the most serious and most relevant offences are included. The offences excluded from statistics are chiefly the more peripheral ones, the ones that are affected the most by subjective assessments.

Previous Security Service reports on offences related to national internal security have presented offences reported to the police in breakdown-by-county tables only in terms of number of police reports. The breakdown-by-county tables in the present report will show also the principal offence in terms of principal offence category.

Principal offence here refers to the most serious offence in a police report where the motive has been assessed as relevant to this survey. This means that the most serious offence in the report, in terms of penalty, does not automatically become the principal offence in this context.

Offence categories

In all presentations of reported offences these will be divided into nine categories. These categories include the most frequently occurring offences in the police reports plus certain offences of particular interest to this survey. The categories and their code numbers are described in the appendix. Apart from these categories, the number of reported offences that have not been classified is also given. Offences in previous Säpo reports on offences against national internal security have, for this report, also been categorised in this way to make comparison possible.

It should be mentioned here that the term *crime of violence* is used when the two categories serious assault and assault are joined and discussed as one, that attempted murder is presented under serious assault and, finally, that the offence category criminal damage refers to all forms of criminal damage except graffiti.

Miscellaneous

Since the number of inhabitants varies considerably between the counties, the reported offences in the breakdown-by-county tables are presented in relation to population, i.e. offences per 100,000 inhabitants. This gives a better picture of differences as it may otherwise be difficult to compare a police report in Stockholm, with 1.8 million inhabitants, to a police report in e.g. Blekinge County, with a population of 150,000. Statistics on the population of each county is based on information per 31 December 2000 from Statistics Sweden. The tables describing these data contain certain truncation errors due to the fact that the computer programme used (SPSS) calculates with more decimals than are later presented.

All pre-2001 statistics in this report have been taken from previous Säpo reports on "Offences related to national internal security". These reports exist for the years 1997-2000 and are available on the Internet address of the Swedish Police: www.polisen.se.

Reported offences with a hate crime motive

The total number of hate crimes reported in 2001 was 3968. Their distribution was as follows:

Table 1
Number of reported hate crimes, breakdown by sub-category.

	Related to White Power	Not related to White Power	Total
Xenophobic	373	2297	2670
Anti-Semitic	21	94	115
Homophobic	8	200	208
White Power related offences only	975	-	975
Total	1377	2591	3968

Offences motivated by xenophobia

This chapter will present reported offences motivated by xenophobia. Statistics include all reported offences of this type, also offences related to the White Power ideology and movement.

Crime trends and offence categories

Figure one shows that reported offences motivated by xenophobia continued to increase in 2001. This increase however slowed down from nine per cent in 2000 to four per cent in 2001. There has been a continuous increase since this type of statistics was first compiled in 1997 and the number of reported offences has since increased by 52%.

Figure 1

Number of reported offences motivated by xenophobia. 1997-2001.

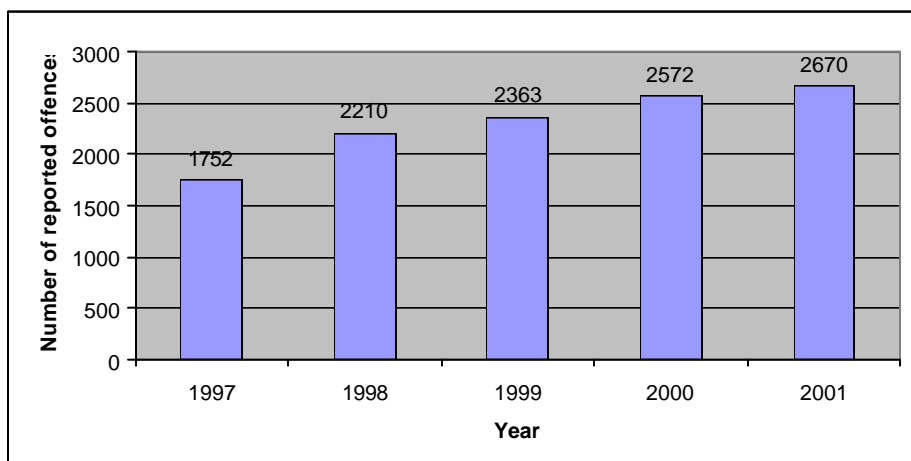


Table two shows that unlawful threat/harassment was the largest offence category by far in 2001 and also one of the categories to increase the most in absolute numbers, in 2000 as well as in 2001. Agitation against an ethnic group was another offence category to increase significantly in the past two years. From 1999 to 2001 this category increased by 57%. Unlawful discrimination was the category that saw the largest decrease between 1999 and 2000, i.e. 25%, before it stabilised on a lower level in 2001. The number of offences related to the White Power ideology and movement fell between 2000 and 2001 from 21% to 14%.

Table 2

Number of reported offences motivated by xenophobia, White Power(WP) related and total, breakdown by offence category. 1999-2001.

Offence category	1999		2000		2001	
	WP (%)	Total	WP (%)	Total	WP (%)	Total
Murder/manslaughter	100	1	0	0	0	0
Serious assault	29.0	31	55.2	29	12.0	25
Assault	11.9	435	14.1	377	7.8	409
Threat/Harassment	10.9	852	18.2	1003	9.8	1038
Slander/Libel	15.7	319	6.5	337	1.7	360
Criminal damage	22.9	118	47.3	165	39.5	134
Graffiti	41.4	58	52.6	76	58.1	74
Ethnic agitation	35.3	249	35.9	354	29.4	391
Discrimination	0	210	0	158	0.6	160
Other offences	22.1	68	30.8	52	17.6	51
Unclassified	13.6	22	9.5	21	21.4	28
Total	13.4	2363	20.9	2572	13.9	2670

The percentage of reported xenophobic offences related to White Power fell between 2000 and 2001 by seven per cent following a 7.5% increase between 1999 and 2000. This means that reported xenophobic offences unrelated to White Power increased by 13% between 2000 and 2001. The decrease in offences related to White Power between 2000 and 2001 concerned all offence categories except graffiti.

Crimes of violence

Out of the 25 reported serious assault offences two referred to attempted murder; a bomb attack on a foreign citizen's car and a case where the perpetrator knifed the victim. Both cases had xenophobic backgrounds, although neither was assessed as having any connections to the White Power ideology/movement. Out of the remaining 23 reports concerning serious assault three were connected to the White Power ideology as victims or witnesses had described the perpetrators as "Nazis". In one case the perpetrators had sung Nazi battle songs in connection with the assault. Out of a total of 409 reported assault offences eight per cent were related to the White Power ideology/movement, chiefly in the form of Nazi statements (mainly "Sieg Heil") or gestures (mainly Hitler salutes) made by the perpetrator/s in connection with the offence, or because victims or witnesses for other reasons identified the perpetrators as Nazis.

It was not possible in any of these cases to prove a definite connection to the White Power movement. In most of the cases unrelated to the White Power ideology the perpetrator, while committing the offence, had made negative statements about the victim's origin or skin colour.

Unlawful threat/harassment

In 2001 there were 1038 police reports concerning unlawful threat/harassment. Approximately ten per cent of these could be linked to the White Power ideology/movement. In 69 cases a link to a Nazi ideology was established due to the fact that the perpetrator had made Nazi statements or signed written threats with e.g. swastikas. In 32 reports there was a connection to the White Power movement, although in most cases relatively uncertain. The perpetrator may have stated, orally or in writing, that he or she represented an organisation or may have included the name of an organisation in graffiti expressing threats or harassment. In the 90% of the reports lacking a connection to the White Power ideology/movement a large proportion of the offences were linked to the victim's origin or skin colour, e.g. through statements such as "bloody nigger", "bloody foreigner" or "wog".

Slander/libel

Out of the 360 reported cases of slander/libel in 2001 only a few were established as being related to the White Power ideology/movement. In these cases the perpetrator, in connection with the offence, had made Nazi statements, such as "Sieg Heil", or sprayed swastikas together with depreciatory statements. The most common offence was calling someone a "wog" or a "bloody nigger", etc. There were in many cases some other event or conflict behind these reports, such as neighbours on bad terms with each other or a road accident.

Agitation against an ethnic group

115 out of the 391 reports in this category, i.e. 29%, were related to the White Power ideology/movement. 21 of these showed a clear connection to the White Power movement and concerned mainly reports concerning posters, stickers and other propaganda with a xenophobic message. 28 cases referred mainly to anonymous xenophobic posters and propaganda plus xenophobic graffiti including the names of organisations. The majority of the remaining 66 consisted in swastikas or Nazi slogans incorporated in graffiti together with xenophobic messages. The remaining 276 that could not be established as being related to the White Power ideology referred to statements perceived as falling under this

offence category. One person has for instance reported all members of the Swedish Parliament, with Göran Persson bearing the main responsibility, for e.g. agitation against an ethnic group, gross fraud and gross theft.

Criminal damage

40%, i.e. 53 reports out of the total of 134 cases of criminal damage showed connections to the White Power ideology/movement. Three reports referred to xenophobic posters and stickers with connections to the White Power movement, six to posters with connections to White Power ideology, and 44 to Nazi messages, mainly swastikas, that had been scratched into objects, mainly cars. The other 81 consisted largely of xenophobic messages scratched into other objects, smashed house windows and other criminal damage to motor vehicles.

Graffiti

Out of the 74 reports on graffiti, 58%, i.e. 43 reports, were connected to the White Power ideology/movement. Two of them had definite connections to the White Power movement, as the graffiti appeared when individuals or groups within the White Power movement were putting up posters. In six cases the graffiti contained names of White Power organisations, next to xenophobic messages. 35 of the reports were about Nazi symbols, mostly swastikas, together with xenophobic messages. The remaining 31 referred to graffiti involving only xenophobic messages, such as "bloody wog", "nigger" etc.

Many of the reports on criminal damage and graffiti also include the offence agitation against an ethnic group.

Unlawful discrimination

Out of the 160 reported cases of unlawful discrimination only one was related to the White Power ideology/movement. A shopkeeper had a xenophobic poster from the White Power movement glued to his shop window. A large part of the remaining 159 reports refer to persons having been denied entry to restaurants or feeling that they have not had equal employment opportunities due to their origin or skin colour.

Other offences

Out of the 51 reported offences here categorised as other offences 18%, i.e. nine offences, showed connections to the White Power ideology/movement. Of these, six cases referred to unlawful billposting, where it is apparent that the White Power movement was behind four of them,

two referred to Hitler salutes and one to arson. In this latter case, an unknown perpetrator had thrown a Molotov cocktail against a building used by an immigrant group. This incident also included swastikas and the message "foreigners go home" scribbled on the front of the house. Out of the 42 offences with no connections to the White Power ideology/movement 18 referred to reports categorised also in the police coding scheme as "other offences".⁶ Nine of these referred to robbery, theft or fraud, and five to arson. The remaining reports referred to solitary cases of sexual harassment, hit-and-run driving, knives offences, misuse of office, false alarm, computer intrusion and carelessness endangering the public.

Unclassified reports

Out of the 28 reports with no code number, connections to the White Power ideology/movement were found in six cases. These referred to unlawful billposting or dissemination of propaganda, and in four cases it was clear that the White Power movement was behind these offences. The remaining reports were very similar to reports of agitation against an ethnic group, slander/libel, insulting conduct and unlawful threat/harassment.

Geographical distribution

Since there are no comparable statistics for the year 2000⁷, statistics for 1999 will be used for comparison with the data from 2001.

⁶ See BRÅ (National Council for Crime Prevention):Coding of offences.

⁷ The statistics on reports per county in 2000 also included cases where Swedes had been reported as well as cases where the perpetrator and the victim were both immigrants.

Table 3

Number of police reports of offences motivated by xenophobia, breakdown by county. 1999 and 2001⁸

County	1999	2001
Blekinge	30	34
Dalarna	10	52
Gotland	5	2
Gävleborg	45	47
Halland	33	53
Jämtland	13	10
Jönköping	41	50
Kalmar	26	53
Kronoberg	17	20
Norrbottn	29	31
Skåne	289	323
Stockholm	604	654
Södermanland	62	78
Uppsala	53	56
Värmland	36	43
Västerbotten	31	28
Västernorrland	21	36
Västmanland	55	74
Västra Götaland	253	296
Örebro	71	120
Östergötland	75	54
Total	1799	2114

Table three shows that the number of police reports of offences motivated by xenophobia increased by 18% between 1999 and 2001. The proportionally largest increases occurred in the counties of Dalarna (420%), Kalmar (more than a doubling), Västernorrland and Örebro (approx. 70% each). The figures for Gotland, Östergötland and Jämtland Counties fell noticeably.

⁸ For one of the reports in the data from 1999 the scene of crime was unknown. This report has not been included in the above table.

Table four gives the number of reports of offences motivated by xenophobia in relation to the population per county, presented per principal offence. There were in total 23,80 reports of offences motivated by xenophobia per 100,000 inhabitants in the country in 2001. Unlawful threat/harassment, assault and agitation against an ethnic group made up a majority of offences. The county showing the highest proportion of offences was Örebro, with 44 offences per 100,000 inhabitants. Stockholm and Södermanland Counties were second and third. Counties showing a low proportion of reports were above all Gotland (3.5 reports per 100,000 inhabitants, a total of two reports), Kronoberg plus the four northernmost counties (Västernorrland, Jämtland, Västerbotten and Norrbotten). Counties above the national average in a specific offence category were above all Örebro, showing a fourfold increase in reports concerning unlawful threat/harassment, Västmanland and Blekinge where reports concerning assault doubled, Stockholm and Skåne with a doubling of slander/libel and unlawful discrimination reports, plus finally Kalmar which showed a high level of reports on agitation against an ethnic group.

Table 4

Number of police reports of offences motivated by xenophobia, breakdown by principal offence and county. Per 100,000 inhabitants.

County	Serious assault	Assault	Thr. Hara.	Sland. Libel	Crimin. damage	Graff.	Ethn. agit.	Discr.	Other	Unclas.	Total / county
Blekinge	0.7	8.0	8.0	0.7	0.7	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	22.6
Dalarna	0.0	4.7	6.8	1.1	0.0	1.1	2.9	1.4	0.0	0.7	18.7
Gotland	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5
Gävleborg	0.7	3.2	5.7	2.9	0.7	0.7	1.1	1.8	0.0	0.0	16.8
Halland	0.4	2.5	7.3	4.0	0.7	0.7	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.4	19.3
Jämtland	0.0	0.8	3.9	1.5	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.7
Jönköping	0.0	3.7	4.6	0.3	1.2	0.9	0.8	1.8	0.3	0.0	15.3
Kalmar	0.0	2.5	6.4	1.3	1.7	0.0	6.8	2.1	0.0	1.7	22.5
Kronoberg	0.0	1.7	6.2	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.3
Norrbottn	0.4	3.1	5.1	1.2	0.0	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.0	22.1
Skåne	0.3	3.8	9.8	2.6	0.7	0.4	7.2	3.3	0.5	0.1	28.6
Stockholm	0.4	4.8	13.3	6.9	1.2	0.8	4.8	2.4	0.4	0.8	35.9
Södermanl.	0.8	4.7	13.3	2.3	2.3	0.8	5.1	0.8	0.4	0.0	30.5
Uppsala	0.0	6.8	4.4	2.4	0.7	0.3	0.7	2.0	1.0	0.7	19.0
Värmland	0.0	1.5	6.5	1.8	1.1	0.7	2.9	1.1	0.0	0.0	15.6
Västerbotten	0.0	2.0	4.7	0.8	0.0	0.8	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.0
Västernorr.	0.4	4.5	3.6	1.6	0.0	1.6	2.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	14.6
Västmanl.	0.0	8.6	12.5	2.7	0.8	0.8	1.2	1.9	0.0	0.4	28.8
Västra Götal.	0.3	3.4	5.6	2.7	0.9	0.6	4.9	1.1	0.3	0.1	19.8
Örebro	0.4	4.8	32.5	2.6	0.0	0.0	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0	43.9
Östergötl.	0.0	3.6	4.1	0.2	1.0	0.2	3.4	0.2	0.2	0.0	13.1
Nat. average	0.3	4.0	8.9	3.0	0.8	0.6	4.0	1.6	0.3	0.3	23.8

Summary

The annual increase in reported offences with xenophobic motives for the country as a whole, observable in Security Service statistics since 1997, continued also in 2001, although at a slower pace. The offence category to increase the most during the year was agitation against an ethnic group. Criminal damage saw the largest drop. The most frequently occurring offences were unlawful threat/harassment, assault and agitation against an ethnic group.

Changes in the number of reports on a county level could be compared only with 1999 figures. In that time, the number of reports increased by

18% and Dalarna was the county that showed the largest increase by far, taking population figures into account. Örebro, followed by Stockholm, had the highest levels of offences motivated by xenophobia, taking population figures into account, and Gotland and Jämtland the lowest. Örebro showed a fourfold increase in unlawful threat/harassment reports, taking population figures into account, Västmanland and Blekinge showed a doubling of the number of assault offences, Stockholm and Skåne showed a doubling of the offences slander/libel and unlawful discrimination, and finally Kalmar showed a high level of reports on agitation against an ethnic group.

Offences related to the White Power ideology

This chapter will address offences committed from a White Power ideology perspective. Followers of this ideology are not united in one organisation only but can rather be considered as belonging to a movement consisting of a few large and more or less constant organisations plus several smaller groups and unorganised individuals. The three key organisations of this movement are Nationalsocialistisk front (NSF, National Socialist Front), Svenska Motståndsrörelsen/Nationell Ungdom (SMR/NU, Swedish Resistance Movement/National Youth) plus Blood and Honour Scandinavia (B&H).

The NSF is headquartered in Karlskrona where it was founded in 1994 and is, as its name implies, a national socialist organisation. The NSF is a hierarchical organisation with a central leadership, the national council, and sub-groups and is found mainly in southern Sweden. Its paper has been published since 1996 and is nowadays called "Den Svenske Nationalsocialisten" (The Swedish National Socialist). From the manifesto it appears that the organisation works for national self-sufficiency, repatriation of all non-European immigrants, establishment of state race control to "ensure the spiritual and biological soundness of the Nordic race" and state control of the media. As of April 1999 the NSF regards itself as a political party with the ambition to obtain parliamentary seats and "use democratic means to abolish democracy".

The SMR/NU is headquartered in the Stockholm area, where a majority of its supporters can also be found. The SMR does not see itself as an organisation but rather as a "national-minded network". It nevertheless has a hierarchical structure, with leading posts, members, associated members and sympathisers. The network has made it its mission to "protect Swedish history, Swedish culture and Swedish identity" by fighting integration and "the annihilation of our people through an amalgamation of races and peoples". The SMR publishes the magazine/

Internet magazine *Folktribunen*. The NU, the youth organisation of the network, is organised in the same way as the parent organisation. In later years, the NU has disseminated large amounts of racist and xenophobic propaganda.

B&H Scandinavia is part of an international network of producers/distributors of White Power music. The Swedish branch of the network is among the largest within this field in Sweden.

Crime trends and offence categories

As shown in figure two the number of reported offences related to the White Power ideology has seen a continuous increase between 1997 and 2000. The largest increases took place in 1998 and in 2000. The increase of 2000 was followed by a decrease of almost the same magnitude in 2001. In this context the year 2000 appears as deviant in relation to the trend observable above all when comparing 1998 and 2001.

Figure 2

*Number of reported offences related to the White Power ideology. 1997-2001.*⁹

⁹ As the number of reported White Power related offences with directly racist, anti-Semitic and homophobic backgrounds was not included in the statistics for 1997 and 1998, figures for these years have been estimated on the basis of the proportion of offences with this background in 1999 and in 2000. For this estimate, tables 11 and 12 of the 1999 survey and tables 1 and 2 of the 2000 survey were used. Police reports with this background amounted to 27% in 1999 and 28% in 2000. The figure 27.5% was used for the estimate.

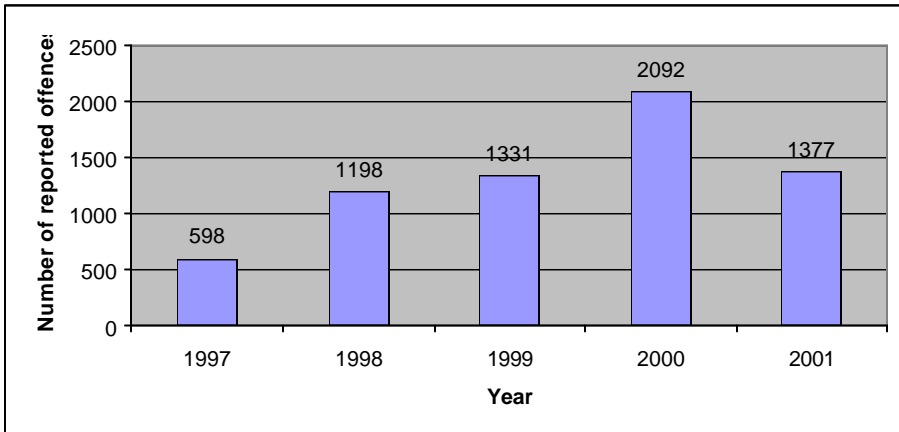


Table five presents changes between the years 1999 and 2001 per offence category. The table shows that the most frequently occurring offence in 2001, as in the two previous years, was agitation against an ethnic group. The number of police reports for all categories, with the exception of unlawful discrimination, fell in 2001 following an increase in 2000. The largest drop this past year occurred in the categories unlawful threat/harassment and agitation against an ethnic group.

Table 5
Number of reported offences related to the White Power ideology, breakdown by offence category. 1999-2001.

Offence categories	1999	2000	2001
Murder/manslaughter	4	0	0
Serious assault	20	29	16
Assault	100	108	61
Threat/Harassment	272	440	223
Slander/libel	21	40	17
Criminal damage	226	389	242
Graffiti	258	423	361
Ethnic agitation	330	534	378
Discrimination	0	0	2
Other offences	80	103	57
Unclassified	20	26	20
Total	1331	2092	1377

Geographical distribution

Table six presents police reports concerning offences related to the White Power ideology per county for the years 1999 to 2001. The table shows that the number of offences fell in 2001 following an increase in 2000. In the counties of Blekinge, Gotland, Halland, Jämtland, Kronoberg, Norrbotten, Stockholm, Värmland, Västernorrland and Örebro the number of reports in 2001 fell even under the 1999 level, whereas it fell to above the 1999 level in Gävleborg, Jönköping, Kalmar, Södermanland, Uppsala, Västmanland, Västra Götaland and Östergötland Counties. Dalarna, Skåne, Västerbotten and Södermanland deviated from this pattern. In Dalarna the number of reports increased continuously between 1999 and 2001 and showed the largest rise in total (250%) of all counties. Dalarna was also the only county to show a rise between 2000 and 2001. Västerbotten was the only county to show a continuous drop between 1999 and 2001. Skåne and Södermanland showed relatively large increases between 1999 and 2000 followed by stabilisation in 2001. The largest drops between 2000 and 2001 occurred in Gotland (72%), Jämtland (56%) and Jönköping (45%). The largest drop in terms of number of reports occurred in Västra Götaland: minus 139 reports (40%).

Table 6

Number of police reports related to the White Power ideology, breakdown by county. 1999-2001.

County	1999	2000	2001
Blekinge	35	40	27
Dalarna	10	16	35
Gotland	16	18	5
Gävleborg	17	36	22
Halland	26	38	23
Jämtland	7	9	4
Jönköping	39	74	41
Kalmar	44	97	76
Kronoberg	13	15	9
Norrbottn	19	23	17
Skåne	152	220	216
Stockholm	240	344	235
Södermanland	25	56	54
Uppsala	14	28	20
Värmland	43	46	32
Västerbotten	34	32	18
Västernorrland	15	18	13
Västmanland	28	50	31
Västra Götaland	200	348	209
Örebro	41	53	31
Östergötland	64	147	83
Total	1082	1708	1201

Tables seven to nine show the number of reports per principal offence in relation to county population. Table seven shows the number of reports related to the White Power ideology but without signs of connections to the White Power movement. The perpetrator may for instance have shown that he sympathised with the Nazi ideology or used symbols with Nazi connotations. Table eight shows reports where a weak or possible connection to the White Power movement may be suspected, e.g. because the perpetrator wrote the name of, or said that he belonged to, an organisation although it has not been possible to confirm this in any other way. Table nine, finally, shows the reports assessed as having clear connections to the White Power movement. These reports may refer to printed fly-posters and stickers featuring the name of the White Power organisation behind them, parties and concerts arranged by organisations that are part of the movement plus offences, relevant to this survey, where the perpetrator is a known follower of the White Power movement. See the chapter on methods for further description of the categories.

Table 7

Number of police reports related to the White Power ideology, without connections to the White Power movement, breakdown by principal offence and county. Per 100,000 inhabitants.

County	Serious assault	Assault	Thr. Hara.	Sland. Libel	Crimin. damage	Graff.	Ethn. agit.	Discr.	Other	Unclas.	Total / county
Blekinge	0.7	2.0	3.3	0.0	1.3	0.7	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0
Dalarna	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.1	5.4	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.3
Gotland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.7
Gävleborg	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.7	2.1	1.8	0.0	0.4	0.0	5.4
Halland	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.4	2.9	1.5	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.0
Jämtland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5
Jönköping	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.0	1.5	6.1	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.0
Kalmar	0.4	1.7	0.8	0.0	1.7	5.1	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.4	11.9
Kronoberg	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4
Norrbottn	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	1.6	2.7	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.2
Skåne	0.1	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.7	2.9	3.5	0.0	0.3	0.1	10.5
Stockholm	0.1	0.9	1.8	0.1	2.5	3.6	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	10.8
Södermanl.	0.0	0.4	3.1	0.0	2.3	6.2	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.2
Uppsala	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0	1.4	1.4	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.8
Värmland	0.4	0.0	2.2	0.0	2.2	3.6	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.5
Västerbotten	0.4	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.8	2.3	0.8	0.0	0.4	0.0	5,5
Västernorr.	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.8	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.5
Västmanland	0.0	0.4	1.6	0.0	1.6	1.9	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	6.2
Västra Götal.	0.1	0.2	1.1	0.1	1.9	2.8	2.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	8.6
Örebro	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.4	0.4	2.2	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6
Östergötland	0.2	0.5	2.4	0.0	1.0	4.9	3.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	12.6
Nat. average	0.1	0.5	1.3	0.1	1.6	3.1	2.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	8.8

Table seven shows that the most frequently reported principal offence related to the White Power ideology but without connections to the White Power movement is graffiti, with 35% of the report total. The largest share of the graffiti offences consisted of symbols or texts relating to Nazism. The second and third most frequently reported principal offences were agitation against an ethnic group and criminal damage. The latter category mostly referred to Nazi symbols or texts scratched into various objects.

Also a large proportion of reports concerning agitation against an ethnic group referred to sprayed or scratched Nazi symbols and texts. In reports

of graffiti and criminal damage also including the offence agitation against an ethnic group the latter has been counted as the principal offence. 46% of the reports stating agitation against an ethnic group as the principal offence were about symbols or texts, mainly related to Nazism, as part of graffiti or scratched into objects. In total, 65% of all reports with connections to the White Power ideology were about painted or scratched Nazi messages, usually in the form of swastikas. There was also a relatively large proportion of reports on unlawful threat.

In the reports concerning crimes of violence the connection to the White Power ideology mostly consisted in the victim describing the perpetrator as a Nazi or in the perpetrator himself showing that this was the case, e.g. through Hitler salutes and/or cries of "Sieg Heil". In some cases the perpetrator has sported Nazi symbols, tattooed or as part of his clothing.

Södermanland County showed the absolutely highest number of police reports of offences related to the White Power ideology in relation to population, 17.2 per 100,000 inhabitants. This is almost double the national average. The most frequently occurring reports refer to graffiti, agitation against an ethnic group and unlawful threat/harassment. Jämtland County showed what was by far the lowest number of reports, i.e. two (1.5 per 100,000 inhabitants). One of these referred to criminal damage and the other to agitation against an ethnic group. The highest number of reports on serious assault, assault and unlawful threat/harassment came from Blekinge County.

Table 8

Number of police reports with doubtful or possible connections to the White Power movement, breakdown by principal offence and county. Per 100,000 inhabitants.

County	Serious assault	Assault	Thr. Hara.	Sland. Libel	Crimin. damage	Graff.	Ethn. agit.	Discr.	Other	Unclas.	Total / county
Blekinge	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7
Dalarna	0.0	0.7	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8
Gotland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gävleborg	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4
Halland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jämtland	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.5
Jönköping	0.0	0.3	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2
Kalmar	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.4	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1
Kronoberg	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6
Norrbottn	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Skåne	0.0	0.1	1.8	0.1	0.4	0.5	1.8	0.0	0.1	0.0	4.7
Stockholm	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	2.1
Södermanl.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Uppsala	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
Värmland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Västerbotten	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Västernorr.	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6
Västmanland	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1
Västra Götal.	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.9
Örebro	0.0	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.9
Östergötland	0.0	0.2	1.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7
Nat. average	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2

Table eight shows that the dominating offences in this relatively small statistical group were agitation against an ethnic group and unlawful threat/harassment. Ten per cent of the reported ethnic agitation offences refer to graffiti and criminal damage. This is to be compared with reported ethnic agitation offences related only to the White Power ideology where as many as 46% referred to offences including criminal damage and graffiti. The county showing the highest number of reports in relation to population was Kalmar; 8.1 per 100,000 inhabitants. Ethnic agitation offences made up the majority of these reports.

Table 9

Number of police reports with clear connections to the White Power movement, breakdown by principal offence and county. Per 100,000 inhabitants.

County	Assault	Thr. Hara.	Sland. Libel	Crimin. damage	Graff.	Ethn. agit.	Discr.	Other	Unclas.	Total / county
Blekinge	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0	0.7	5.3
Dalarna	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.7	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5
Gotland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gävleborg	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.1
Halland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Jämtland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jönköping	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
Kalmar	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	6.8	0.0	0.4	3.0	12.3
Kronoberg	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1
Norrbottn	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Skåne	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	3.1	0.1	0.3	0.0	3.9
Stockholm	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.3
Södermanl.	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.2	0.0	1.2	0.0	3.1
Uppsala	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	1.0
Värmland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.7
Västerbottn	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8
Västernorr.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Västmanl.	0.4	0.0	0.8	0.4	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7
Västra Götal.	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.9	0.0	3.5
Örebro	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.4	1.8
Östergötland	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.2	1.5	0.0	1.9	0.0	4.9
Nat. Average	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.4	0.1	2.5

Table nine shows that reports with clear connections to the White Power movement in more than half of the cases (52%) had agitation against an ethnic group as principal offence. This was followed by criminal damage and other offences, jointly making up 32% of reports. Most of the reported ethnic agitation offences referred to unlawful bill-posting and dissemination of propaganda. Also criminal damage offences almost exclusively referred to unlawful bill-posting. A relatively large share of the report total was classified as other offences. Most of these referred to illegal posting of posters or stickers with Nazi and/or racist propaganda, a few to dissemination of racist or Nazi messages in magazines or on the Internet. Twelve of the reports lacked classification. A majority of these also referred to Nazi and/or racist propaganda. In other words, the largest share of reports with clear connections to the White Power movement

consisted in propaganda dissemination in various ways. As for the geographical distribution of reports with clear connections to the White Power movement, Kalmar County yet again stood out as the county with the highest number of reports in relation to population. A majority of these reports referred to agitation against an ethnic group, criminal damage and unclassified offences.

Kalmar County's high number of White Power related offences, especially offences with connections to the White Power movement, can be explained partly by an actual increase in offences and partly by increased willingness to report offences. In 2001 there was a very active SMR/NU local group in Kalmar, a fact that on a couple of occasions caused the local police organisation to urge its police officers to report all right-wing and left-wing extremist propaganda and graffiti. This resulted in a large number of reports concerning above all agitation against an ethnic group and graffiti. As can be seen in table 10, the SMR/NU was the group generating the highest number of reports of offences attributable to a particular organisation.

Offences related to the White Power movement/organisations

Table ten shows that a very large share of the reports with clear connections to the White Power movement involve the SMR and the NSF. These two organisations generated an almost equal number of reports. Most of the reports of offences attributable to the SMR came from Västra Götaland, Kalmar and Östergötland Counties and most of the reports attributable to the NSF came from Skåne and Västra Götaland Counties.

Table 10
Number of police reports with clear connections to the White Power movement, breakdown by White Power organisation and county.¹⁰

County	SMR/NU	NSF	B&H	Other groups	Other	Total / county
Blekinge	0	8	0	0	0	8
Dalarna	2	2	0	0	3	7
Gävleborg	2	1	0	0	0	3
Halland	1	0	0	0	0	1
Jönköping	0	0	0	0	1	1
Kalmar	24	5	0	0	0	29
Kronoberg	0	2	0	0	0	2
Skåne	6	36	0	1	1	44
Stockholm	8	5	3	2	6	24
Södermanland	0	8	0	0	0	8
Uppsala	1	1	0	0	1	3
Värmland	2	0	0	0	0	2
Västerbotten	0	0	0	2	0	2
Västmanland	0	1	0	0	6	7
Västra Götaland	30	19	0	2	1	52
Örebro	0	3	0	0	2	5
Östergötland	19	1	0	0	0	20
Total	95	92	3	7	21	218

Summary

The number of reported offences related to the White Power ideology increased between 1997 and 2000. In the last of these years the increase was very strong. In 2001 the number of reports fell by as much as they had increased in 2000. This can be interpreted as though the year 2000 was an exceptional year as regards reported offences related to the White Power ideology. The drop in 2001 as compared with 2000 concerned all offence categories, although in numerical terms unlawful threat/

¹⁰ The category Other includes reports related to known persons within the White Power movement without direct links to any specific organisation plus reports established in connection with parties organised within the White Power movement but not really hosted by any specific organisation. The category also includes offences related to the web site "Info 14".

harassment, agitation against an ethnic group and criminal damage saw the largest decline. This drop concerned all counties except Dalarna. The counties that saw the largest decline in relation to population were Gotland¹¹, Jämtland and Jönköping. Västra Götaland saw the largest decline in numerical terms. The most frequently reported offence in 2001 was agitation against an ethnic group in the form of dissemination of White Power propaganda and Nazi related graffiti. Most reports concerned offences related to the White Power ideology without connections to the White Power movement, whereas a considerably smaller number had connections to the White Power movement. Kalmar was the county showing the highest share of reports related to the White Power movement in relation to population. Södermanland County had the highest number of White Power ideology related reports in relation to population. The SMR/NU and the NSF were behind most reports with proven connections to the White Power movement.

¹¹ Figures concerning Gotland should however be interpreted with caution since the county has a small permanent population but many temporary visitors in summer.

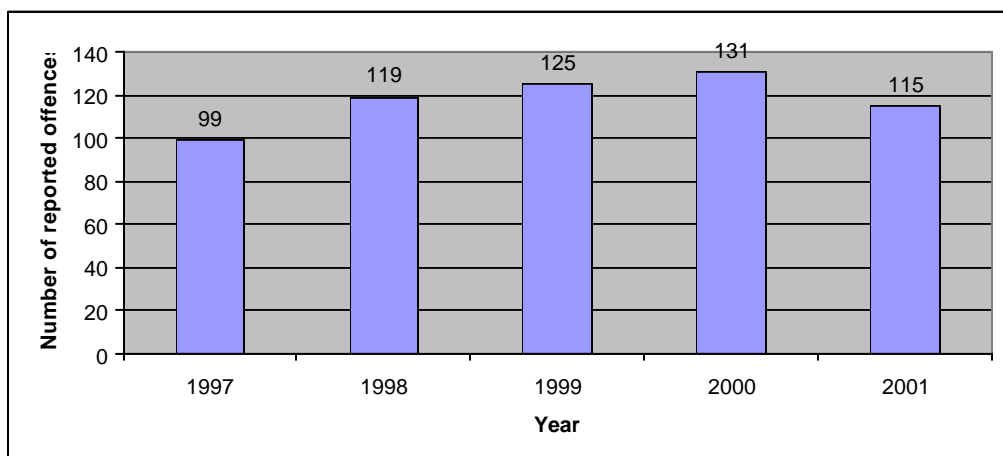
Offences motivated by anti-Semitism

The following chapter will address criminality directed against persons of Jewish descent, Judaism and Jewish interests. The offence need not necessarily be directed at a Jewish victim, it would be enough if the offender believes the victim to be Jewish or that the offender demonstrates general disrespect of Judaism in connection with the offence, for the offence be included in the statistics. Special interest has been attached to offences motivated by anti-Semitism since anti-Semitic ideas by tradition always have been strong in the White Power world and in Nazism.

Crime trends and offence categories

Figure three shows a decline in reported crime motivated by anti-Semitism in 2001.

Figure 3
Number of reported offences motivated by anti-Semitism. 1997-2001.



The number of reported offences motivated by anti-Semitism fell by 12% between 2000 and 2001. The continuous up-trend observed since collection of statistics started in 1997 was broken and the reported offences motivated by anti-Semitism in 2001 counted the lowest number since 1997.

Table 11
Number of reported offences motivated by anti-Semitism, White Power (WP) related and total number, breakdown by offence category. 1999-2001.

Offence categories	1999		2000		2001	
	WP (number)	Total	WP (number)	Total	WP (number)	Total
Serious assault	1	1	0	0	0	1
Assault	2	10	0	8	0	7
Threat/Harassment	8	39	8	43	7	41
Slander/Libel	3	10	0	9	1	9
Criminal damage	1	9	2	3	1	8
Graffiti	6	17	4	8	8	12
Ethnic agitation	12	32	14	50	4	33
Discrimination	0	0	0	1	0	0
Other offences	2	3	0	8	0	1
Unclassified	1	4	0	1	0	3
Total	36	125	28	131	21	115

Table 11 reveals that unlawful threat/harassment was the most frequently reported offence in 2001. The White Power related part of the reported offences steadily decreased between 1999 and 2001, from 29% to 18%. In particular the share of White Power related offences classified as agitation against an ethnic group diminished significantly. Of the 21 offences connected with White Power none had any perceivable connection to the White Power movement. The connection with White Power ideology was in all cases determined by the fact that the offender had used some kind of Nazi symbol in connection with the offence, mostly swastikas.

The major changes between the year 2000 and 2001 are found in the increase in damage and graffiti offences, while the offence agitation

against an ethnic group and other offences have decreased. The number of ethnic agitation offences decreased rather significantly both in number, from 50 to 33, and expressed as a percentage, by 33%.

None of the crimes of violence had any obvious connection with White Power ideology and only in one case the report described a victim attacked on the grounds of his Jewish descent. The victim was wearing a Star of David and this appears to have triggered the offender assaulting him. In the remaining cases the reports do not reveal whether the victim is in fact Jewish or if the offender believes the victim to be Jewish. The offender in the other seven cases (one serious assault and six cases of assault) has made statements such as “bloody Jew” or “Jewish swine”.

Of the 41 cases of unlawful threat/harassment motivated by anti-Semitism seven could be linked to White Power ideology. These offences include two instances of painted swastikas and statements about Jews, two instances of letter-threats with swastikas against a person of Jewish descent, two instances of verbal threats against a woman who the offenders had called a “bloody Jewish whore” and threatened to brand with a swastika between her breasts. In the last case the offender was doing a Hitler salute while making insulting statements about Jews. In five more instances the motive referred to Israel’s role in the Middle East conflict. One example is a bomb-threat in connection with a handball match between a Swedish and an Israeli team. A demonstration was held prior to the match. In five instances the victim was called a Jew as the offender perceived him as mean and greedy. In eleven of the 41 reports it was clear that the victim was Jewish.

Of the nine instances of slander/libel one had links to White Power ideology. These instances involved shouting of “bloody Jewish pig, Sieg Heil” at the victim. The remaining eight reported offences mostly referred to someone being called a “bloody Jew”. It was not clear in any of the cases if the victim was of Jewish descent.

Of the eight criminal damage offences one was linked with White Power ideology. In this case the offender had painted a swastika and “Jewish swine” on a car. The remaining offences mainly involved criminal damage to property of Jewish persons or Jewish congregations (two offences).

The eight reports of graffiti linked to the White Power movement referred to written anti-Jewish statements combined with swastikas. The other offences comprised insulting graffiti about Jews or Judaism.

The four reports of agitation against an ethnic group related to White Power ideology involved graffiti of swastikas and Hitler salutes in combination with insulting statements about Jews. Of all 33 offences in this category, twelve were directed against one single victim, generally in the form of insults or threats. Of the 21 remaining offences nine were cases where the media or the Internet had been reported. The other offences were mostly about anti-Jewish graffiti.

The three unclassified reports dealt with incidents difficult to define, involving elements of threat/harassment/slander/libel. None of them were linked to the White Power ideology/movement.

Geographical distribution

The distribution of reports including anti-Semitic motives by county presented in table twelve, shows that Stockholm and Skåne are the counties with the largest shares of reports including anti-Semitic motives both in absolute numbers and in relation to population. Together the two counties had about 60% of all reports, but only 33% of the country's population.¹² Also in 2000 these counties were over-represented. In both counties a large share of the reports originated from the city centres of Stockholm and Malmö¹³. Of the 38 reports from Stockholm County 15 originated from the city centre of Stockholm, and nine out of Malmö County's 23 reports originated from Malmö city centre. Also Gothenburg had a large share, a third, of all reports in Västra Götaland County. No specific location in these three cities generated more than one report. No other county had more than five reports.

¹² For the whole country the reporting rate was 1.1 reports per 100,000 inhabitants. Excluding the offences related to anti-Semitism in Stockholm and Skåne as well as the population of these counties, the rate was 0.7 per 100,000 inhabitants.

¹³ Areas with a Stockholm or Malmö postal address.

Table 12
Number of police reports including anti-Semitic motives, breakdown by principal offence and county.

County	Serious assault	Assault	Thr. Hara.	Sland. Libel	Crimin. damage	Graff.	Ethn. agit.	Unclas.	Total/ county
Blekinge	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dalarna	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Halland	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Jönköping	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Kalmar	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
Kronoberg	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Skåne	0	1	6	1	4	2	9	0	23
Stockholm	1	3	15	7	2	2	7	1	38
Södermanl.	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Uppsala	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Värmland	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Västmanl.	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3
Västra Götal.	0	1	7	0	1	3	6	0	18
Örebro	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Östergötl.	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	5
Total	1	7	35	8	8	9	31	3	102

Summary

Reported crime motivated by anti-Semitism decreased by twelve per cent in 2001 after having increased since 1997. Also the share of White Power related criminality motivated by anti-Semitism decreased and none of the offences could be linked to the White Power movement. The most frequently reported offences were unlawful threat/harassment, followed by agitation against an ethnic group. In relation to population, Stockholm and Skåne Counties were clearly over-represented and the city centres counted the highest rates.

Offences motivated by homophobia

This chapter addresses reported crime motivated by homophobia. This type of crime refers to offences directed directly against homosexuals on the grounds of their sexual orientation, offences where the offender believes the victim to be homosexual and commits crimes against him/her on these grounds or where the offender expresses contempt of homosexuals or homosexuality.

Homosexuals are and have been a “moral enemy” to Nazis and continue to bear this role for today’s White Power supporters. In most ideological programmes of White Power organisations there are texts expressing hatred towards homosexuals and in White Power music lyrics instigating violence are frequent.

Crime trends and offence categories

Reported offences motivated by homophobia have, as shown in figure 4, increased by 12% in 2001 after a down-trend.

Figure 4
Number of reported offences motivated by homophobia. 1997-2001.

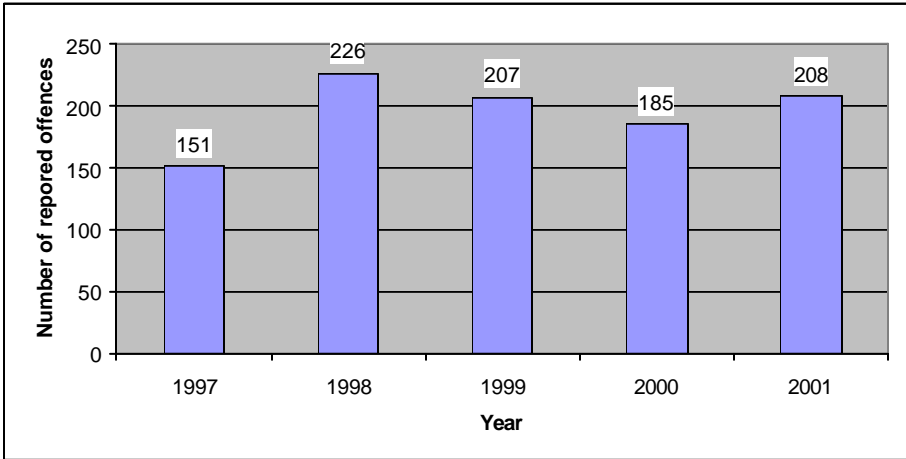


Table 13 reveals the most frequently reported offences these past three years to be unlawful threat/harassment. A relatively large share of the increase in 2001 falls under the categories of violence and slander/libel.

Table 13
Number of reported offences motivated by homophobia, related to White Power (WP) and total, by offence category 1999-2001.

Offence categories	1999		2000		2001	
	WP (number)	Total	WP (number)	Total	WP (number)	Total
Murder/manslaughter	0	0	0	1	0	0
Serious assault	1	1	2	2	0	5
Assault	4	59	7	36	1	45
Threat/Harassment	4	82	12	75	2	79
Slander/libel	0	36	2	31	0	42
Criminal damage	1	9	5	17	3	10
Graffiti	1	10	4	10	0	9
Ethnic agitation	0	0	1	4	1	6
Discrimination	0	3	0	5	0	6
Other offences	1	6	0	4	1	5
Unclassified	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	12	207	33	185	8	208

Contrary to the total number of reported offences motivated by homophobia the part linked to the White Power ideology/movement fell from 18% in 2000 to four per cent in 2001. The lower level of 2001 is more in line with the levels of 1999 and 1998 of six and nine per cent respectively. This indicates that the part of reported homophobic offences linked to the White Power ideology/movement in 2000 deviated from the levels of the preceding years and of the following year.

The largest part of reported offences motivated by homophobia were thus of so-called “every-day character”, i.e. nothing has emerged to indicate a link to the White Power ideology/movement. Of the eight reported offences linked to White Power one involved assault. The offender had in connection with the offence shouted “Sieg Heil” and called the victim a “fag”. In two reports unlawful threat/harassment including graffiti was reported. In the first case an unknown perpetrator painted a swastika on the victim’s door. The victim is homosexual and therefore found it

unpleasant. In the second case the victim, who is overtly homosexual, was subjected to threat and harassment by “neo-Nazis”. Burning paper had i.a. been thrown in the letter slot. The victim is on a “death list” established by Nazis. One police report included a criminal damage offence where a paving stone was thrown through the window of a building used by a homosexuals’ association. In connection with the damage the words “fag slaughter” and a swastika had been painted. The reported case of agitation against an ethnic group involved music on the Internet encouraging violence against homosexuals. The offence categorised as other offences is described as bill-posting on the doors of the RFSL (Swedish federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights) with the text “homosexuality is wrong”. The posters were signed by a local White Power group.

Of the reported offences here classified as not being linked to the White Power ideology/movement, five were serious assault, of which one attempted murder. The latter involved a letter-threat against an overtly homosexual man. The circumstances surrounding the threat were such that the police assessed it as very serious. Of the remaining four reports two involved knife slashing, where one was committed by masked perpetrators and one case of assault using a bottle as a weapon. Of the 50 reported crimes of violence (five cases of aggravated assault and 45 of assault) nine cases involved a homosexual victim being attacked on the grounds of his sexual orientation. In the remaining reports of violent crime the homophobic features consisted of the victim being called a “bloody fag” or similar. The victim was also assaulted and called a “fag” or, a “bloody fag” etc. on the grounds of clothes, way of dancing or in one case because he was training to be ballet dancer. The offences in the remaining offence categories mostly refer to the victim being subjected to insulting statements regarding homosexuals or written expressions in the form of e.g. graffiti. In most reports it is not clear whether the victim is homosexual. In many other cases, on the contrary, it is clear that the victim is not homosexual and that the purpose of the negative statements has been to depreciate and insult.

It may be mentioned that a religious movement was reported twice for homophobic statements published in its magazine.

Geographical distribution

In 2001 a total number of 177 police reports including homophobic motives were counted. Table 14 gives a picture of the distribution of principal offences by county and offence category. Stockholm County had the highest rate, both in absolute numbers and in relation to population. Not counting Stockholm County the rate of the rest of the country was 1.2 reports per 100,000 inhabitants, which should be compared with the rate of Stockholm which is 5.0.¹⁴ This is an increase compared to the year 2000 when the corresponding rate was 4.0. Of the other counties only Skåne had more than ten reports.

As for the high-rate categories; assault, unlawful threat/harassment and slander/libel, Stockholm County stood for at least half of these. 42% of all reported incidents in Stockholm County took place in the city centre¹⁵, a decrease compared to the year 2000, when more than half of the total took place there. The drop may be connected with the fact that there was no particular hot-spot in 2001. This was however the case in 2000 when the meeting premises of an association for homosexuals had eight reports.

¹⁴ 2.0 reports/100,000 inhabitants for the whole country.

¹⁵ The postal address of the scene of crime was Stockholm.

Table 14
Number of police reports including homophobic motives, breakdown by principal offence and county.

County	Serious assault	Assault	Thr. Hara.	Sland. Libel	Crimin. damage	Graff.	Ethn. agit.	Discr.	Other	Unclas.	Total / county
Blekinge	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Dalarna	1	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Gotland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gävleborg	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Halland	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Jämtland	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Jönköping	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Kalmar	0	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
Kronoberg	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Norrbottn	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Skåne	0	3	3	7	1	1	2	2	0	0	19
Stockholm	0	22	37	22	3	3	2	2	0	0	91
Södermanl.	0	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Uppsala	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
Värmland	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Västerbotten	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4
Västernorrl.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Västmanl.	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	0	3	0	8
Västra Götal.	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	2	0	7
Örebro	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Östergötl.	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	5	44	66	33	6	7	6	4	5	1	177

Summary

Reported crime motivated by homophobia increased by 12% in 2001. The part related to White Power fell significantly from 18% to four per cent, and thus reached a level similar to that of 1998 and 1999. The most frequently occurring offences were unlawful threat/harassment, assault and slander/libel. The clearly largest share of police reports including homophobic motives originated in Stockholm County and more specifically Stockholm City. Apart from Stockholm County only Skåne had more than ten police reports of offences motivated by homophobia.

Agitation against an ethnic group

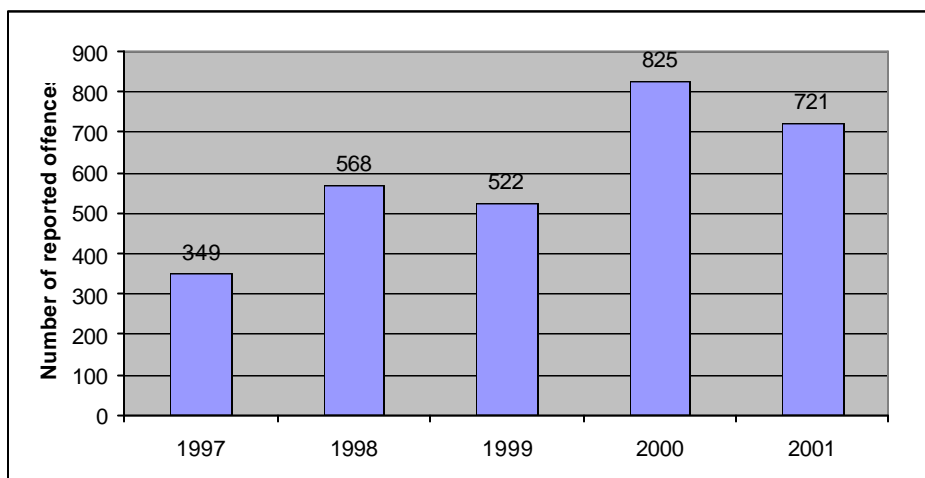
The offence agitation against an ethnic group is described in Chapter 16, section 8 of the Swedish Penal Code where it is stated that “A person, who, in a disseminated statement or communication, threatens or expresses contempt for a national, ethnic or other such group of persons with allusion to race, colour, national or ethnic origin or religious belief shall, be sentenced for agitation against a national or ethnic group to imprisonment for at most two years or, if the crime is petty, to a fine”. Together with parallel provisions in the Fundamental Law on Freedom of Expression and the Freedom of the Press Act practically all expressions of racism are prohibited regardless of whether expressed in speech, writing or other media. In order for the act to be punishable dissemination of the racist statement is required, though dissemination within a small circle suffices. Agitation against an ethnic group is not a crime to be brought to court by the injured party, as the intention is to protect specific well-defined groups. The offence can in other words not be committed against an individual.

Crime trends and other reported offences

Figure 5 shows that the number of reported ethnic agitation offences fell by 13% in 2001, but is still on a high level compared to 1997 and 1999.

Figure 5

Number of reported cases of agitation against an ethnic group, 1997-2001.



Of the 721 reported offences in 2001, 42 reports have been excluded on the grounds of not being relevant in the context of this report. Of these 17 were wrongly classified, in some cases as a result of misunderstanding the definition of this offence. Examples of this are:

- a director-general reported for having insinuated that the generation born in the forties are not paying their way in society.
- a report against a young man for wearing communist symbols and badges on his jacket when participating in a demonstration arranged by Ung Vänster (Young left).
- someone writing a word referring to sex on the door of the injured person. The person had previously found a message on the door saying “stop nagging bloody swine”.

The 25 remaining excluded reports have referred to xenophobic/racist offences committed by minority groups (immigrants) against the majority group (Swedes) or between various groups of immigrants. Statistics covering this type of reports will not be presented in this year’s report.

In what follows the presentation includes the remaining 679 reported offences. However, the latter include the six reported offences against homosexuals although not covered by the provisions and the offences

where the report relatively clearly suggests that the offence was against one individual injured party and not against an ethnic group.

Of the 679 reported agitation against ethnic group offences 183, i.e. 27%, included at least one more offence. The distribution between the offence categories was as follows:

Table 15
Number of offences reported together with the offence agitation against ethnic group by offence category.

Offence category	Number
Serious assault	2
Assault	36
Threat/Harassment	70
Slander/libel	6
Criminal damage	41
Graffiti	40
Discrimination	2
Other offences	15
Total	212

Table 15 shows that of the 212 offences 38% involved graffiti and criminal damage, 33% unlawful threat/harassment and 18% assault.

Geographical distribution

Table 16 gives a picture of the geographical distribution of the offence agitation against an ethnic group. The table shows that in 2001 most offences, in absolute numbers, were reported in the counties with the highest population density; Stockholm, Västra Götaland and Skåne. The highest rate of reports in relation to population, however, is found in the counties of Kalmar, Skåne, Blekinge and Södermanland. The lowest rate of reports in relation to population was found in Gotland, Kronoberg and three of the northern counties; Jämtland, Norrbotten and Västernorrland. A trend observed is that the report rates in relation to population are high in the southern and low in the northern parts of the country. The largest

share, more than 80%; of offences linked to the White Power ideology/movement was seen in the counties of Kalmar, Blekinge and Gävleborg and the smallest in Västernorrland County (17%) and Stockholm (35%). The rate of the country as a whole was 55%.

Table 16
Number of reported agitation against ethnic group offences, breakdown by county. Absolute numbers and per 100,000 inhabitants.

County	Number	Number/ 100,000 inh.
Blekinge	17	11.30
Dalarna	15	5.39
Gotland	1	1.74
Gävleborg	11	3.94
Halland	16	5.82
Jämtland	2	1.54
Jönköping	13	3.97
Kalmar	37	15.72
Kronoberg	4	2.26
Norrbottn	6	2.34
Skåne	167	14.79
Stockholm	125	6.86
Södermanland	26	10.15
Uppsala	9	3.06
Värmland	13	4.73
Västerbotten	12	4.69
Västernorrland	6	2.43
Västmanland	14	5.45
Västra Götaland	138	9.23
Örebro	12	4.39
Östergötland	35	8.51
Total	679	7.64

Summary

The number of reports concerning the offence agitation against ethnic group decreased by 13% during the year. This could be compared with the 58%-increase in 2000. The distribution between counties proves the highest reporting rate per 100,000 inhabitants to be in Kalmar, Skåne, Blekinge as well as Södermanland and the lowest in Gotland, Kronoberg as well as three of the four northern counties. In relation to population a relatively high number of agitation against ethnic group offences was reported in southern Sweden and a rather low number in the northern parts of the country.

Appendix

Offence categories

Offence categories based on the National Council for Crime Prevention's (BRÅ) coding of offences¹⁶:

1- Serious assault

302,304	Attempted murder
371-388	Serious assault

2-Assault

351-368	Assault
394	Bodily harm
396	Inflicting of danger
1701-1704	Violence to public servant

3-Unlawful threat and harassment

401-414	Unlawful intrusion, unlawful threat and harassment
1705*	Threat or outrageous conduct toward public servant

¹⁶ BRÅ (1999): coding of offences used when reported or suspected.

4-Slander and libel offences

501 Slander and libel offences

5-Criminal damage (except graffiti)

1201-1206 Criminal damage

6-Graffiti

1207 Graffiti

7-Agitation against ethnic group

1604 Agitation against ethnic group

8- Unlawful discrimination

1605 Unlawful discrimination

9- Other offences

415 Computer intrusion
607-638 Sexual offences
801-897 Unlawful appropriation
901-932 Fraud
1301-1303 Carelessness endangering the public
1706 Violent resistance
2001 Misuse of office
3006 Hit-and-run driving
4013 Other offences according to special legislation
punishable with imprisonment
4030 Personal Data Act
1602 False alarm
1304. Carelessness endangering the public
9007, 1606, 9001 Others

*The crime code of anti-fascist/left-wing ideological offences 1705 is categorised as 9, under hate crimes this offence is categorised as 3.