



U.S. Representative • 9th CD, New York • Brooklyn-Queens

ANTHONY D. WEINER

Report

ANTI-SEMITISM ON THE RISE

AN ANALYSIS OF ANTI-SEMITIC TRENDS IN NEW YORK CITY



Prepared by the Office of
Congressman Anthony D. Weiner

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Executive Summary

Under the federal *Hate Crimes Statistics Act*, the New York Police Department is required to compile data on anti-Semitic incidents as they occur, as are police departments across the country. Those stats show that at the end of

2003 the City saw a troubling spike in anti-Semitic incidents, the most in one quarter in the past three years.

Incidents included swastikas and anti-Semitic graffiti on synagogues, homes and other buildings; tires slashed on 28 cars in the predominantly Jewish community of Borough Park; two menorah's knocked over in Queens; and a rock thrown through the window of a Jewish center in Brooklyn.

In order to better understand the extent of the problem in the New York City area, we analyzed recent trends in anti-Semitic hate crimes as reported by the New York Police Department. Our key findings were as follows:

- There were 57 anti-Semitic hate crimes in the fourth quarter of 2003, the worst quarter in three years, and the second worst quarter since 1997.
- There were 21 hate crimes in November 2003, the worst month for anti-Semitic hate crimes in three years.
- From January 2001 to September 2003, the City averaged 29 incidents per quarter.
- The first three quarters of 2003 were relatively quiet, with 22 incidents in the first quarter, followed by 17 incidents in the second and 19 in the third.

The good news is that in January only 3 anti-Semitic incidents were reported. But this month, 5 incidents involving swastikas, slurs, and one possible bias motivated assault have all been reported. Some are concerned that Mel Gibson's new film "The Passion of the Christ" may spur more anti-Semitic incidents.

What's clear is that while the vast majority of New Yorkers live together in harmony, anti-Semitism still persists here, and demands the collective attention of all citizens of good faith.

Table I: New York City Anti-Semitic Crimes by Quarter - 2001-2003

Jan-Mar 01	35
Apr-Jun 01	37
Jul-Sept 01	34
Oct-Dec 01	45
Jan-Mar 02	19
Apr-Jun 02	35
Jul-Sept 02	26
Oct-Dec 02	31
Jan-Mar 03	25
Apr-Jun 03	17
Jul-Sept 03	19
Oct-Dec 03	57

Source: NYPD, NY State Division of Criminal Justice Services

Anti-Semitic Hate Crimes in NYC

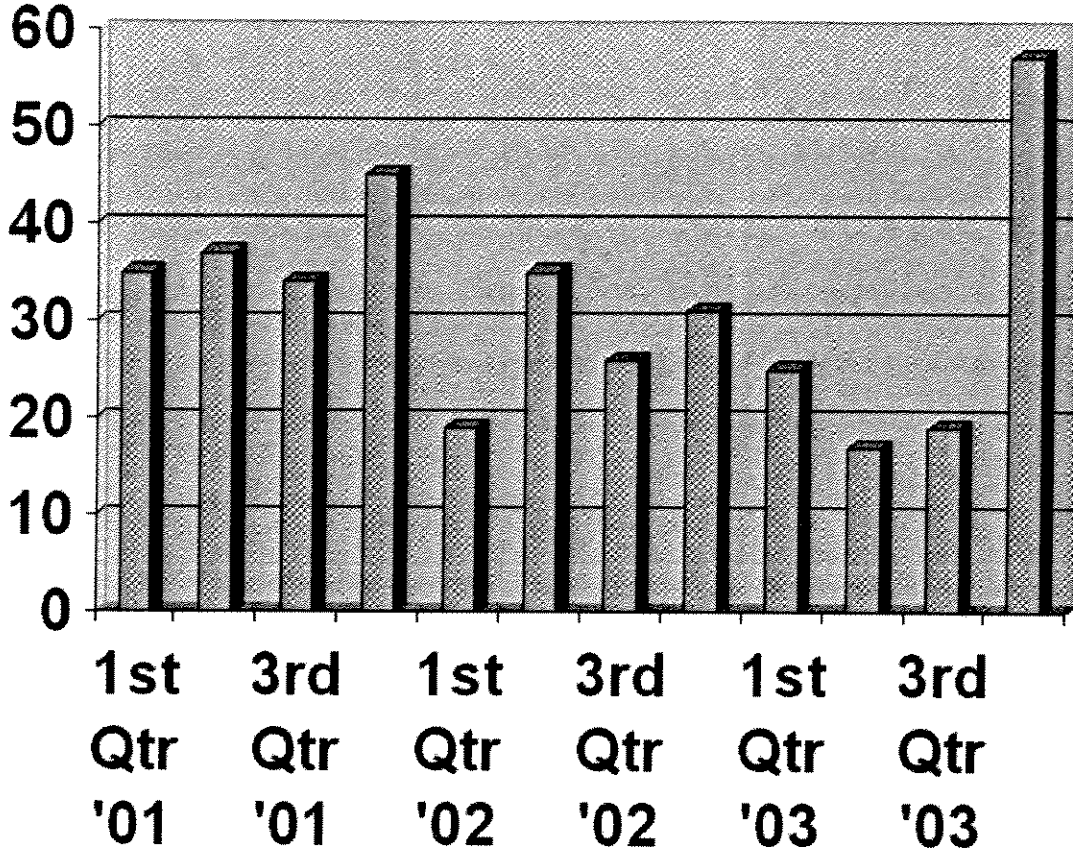


Table II: New York City Anti-Semitic Hate Crimes by Month - 2001-2004

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2001	16	13	6	9	18	10	12	8	14	19	15	11	151
2002	4	5	10	15	9	11	7	8	11	10	11	10	111
2003	6	10	9	5	3	9	7	3	9	20	21	16	118
2004	3	5*											8

* as of 2/20/04

Source: NYPD, NY State Division of Criminal Justice Services

Table III: Suffolk County Anti-Semitic Hate Crimes by Month - 2002-2003

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2002	2	6	13	11	2	6	5	3	2	4	5	4	63
2003	3	2	7	4	8	1	2	7	5	4	5	5	53

Source: *Suffolk County Police Department*

Table IV: Nassau County Anti-Semitic Hate Crimes by Month - 2002-2003

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2002	2	6	3	9	5	9	8	4	6	5	4	4	65
2003	0	8	6	3	6	6	3	3	4	4	18	4	65

Source: *Nassau County Police Department*

Table V: Selected Anti-Semitic Incidents 10/1/03-12/31/03

10/4: A fire in Flushing Avenue, Williamsburg left eight Hasidic families and some Polish and Hispanic families homeless.

10/6: Tires on 40 cars were slashed in Crown Heights on Yom Kippur.

11/3: Swastikas and Anti-Semitic graffiti found on truck at 60-47 Wetherole Street, Rego Park.

11/7: Swastika found in Yeshiva University dormitory, Amsterdam Avenue and 185th Street.

11/9: Swastika's found inside elevator doors of office building, in Queens.

11/18: Anti-Semitic graffiti found on Fresh Meadows home, in Queens.

11/18: Swastika's and "KKK" found on wall and garage of home, in Queens.

11/18: Anti-Semitic graffiti found on homeowners fence, in Queens.

11/19: Rock thrown through Madison Jewish Center window, 2989 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn.

11/21: Anti- Semitic graffiti written on front door of the Clearview Jewish Center, 16-50 Utopia Parkway, Brooklyn.

11/23: Tires slashed on 11-parked cars on 46th Street (between 16th and 17th Ave) Borough Park.

11/27: Tires slashed on 50 cars in Borough Park, Brooklyn, on 44th and 45th Streets.

11/27: Swastikas found in elevator at 99-54 Queens Boulevard, Queens.

11/28: Swastikas found on elevator and basement walls in apartment complex at 99-16 67th Road in Rego Park, Queens.

11/28: Swastikas found on Avenue N Jewish Center, 321 Avenue N Brooklyn, NY 11230

11/29: Swastikas found on walls and floors of former synagogue, Talmud Torah, on 114th Street in Ozone Park, Queens.

11/29: Swastikas carved on front door of Congregation sons of Israel Synagogue on 33-21 Crescent Street in Long Island City, Queens.

11/29: Swastikas and Anti-Semitic graffiti found on apartment door on Avenue V in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn.

11/29: Swastikas and Anti-Semitic graffiti found on apartment building on 114th St, Queens.

11/29: Swastikas painted on elevator and in basement of apartment on 99-16 67th Rd. in Forest Hills.

11/29: Swastika and Anti-Semitic graffiti found on front door of victim's apartment, in Brooklyn.

11/30: 2 Swastikas found in stairwell of apartment building on Shore Parkway in Bath Beach, Brooklyn.

11/30: Swastika found on home on Ocean Parkway, in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn.

11/30: Swastika found on wall of Sephardic Community Center at 1901 Ocean Parkway, in Brooklyn.

12/1: Anti-Semitic graffiti found inside the elevator of an apartment building on Ross Street in Williamsburg.

12/3: Swastika found on door of 1402 West 4th Street home in Gravesend, Brooklyn.

12/3: Anti-Semitic words and symbols painted on cars parked along East 18th Street, Flatbush, Brooklyn.

12/19: A 12-inch gold-colored swastika was spray-painted on a stanchion supporting an elevated subway track in Sheepshead Bay, police said yesterday. The vandalism was discovered at Avenue R between East 15th and 16th Streets.

2/16/04: Fifteen swastikas and the words "Kill all Jews" were discovered scrawled with marking pen inside a Coney Island apartment building.

Source: *NYPD, Anti-Defamation League, news reports*

Table VI: Selected Incidents 2/04

2/1: Swastikas and anti-Semitic slurs found on several Williamsburg buildings.

2/12: Swastikas found on Greenridge (Staten Island) home as well as on Bensonhurst (Brooklyn) apartment.

2/16: - Fifteen swastikas and the words "Kill all Jews" were discovered scrawled with marking pen inside 3000 Ocean Parkway

Congressman Anthony D. Weiner

Reports List