

LOS ANGELES COUNTY REPORT

3.20.20 - 10.28.20

245 incidents of hate in Los Angeles County were reported to Stop AAPI Hate, the nation's leading aggregator of COVID-19-related hate incidents against Asian Americans, from March 19 - October 28, 2020.

The following patterns emerged from the data:

- A significant majority of incidents, 186 of the total or 76%, involved verbal harassment.
 Physical assaults constituted nearly 8%, civil rights violations, including workplace discrimination and refusal of service (barred from establishment, barred from transit), constituted 8% and online harassment constituted just under 3% of all incidents.
- Over 40% of reported hate incidents were committed at a business and 37% were committed in a public street, sidewalk, park or recreation area.
- The vast majority of individuals reporting to Stop AAPI Hate believed that they were discriminated against because of their race or ethnicity, with almost 90% citing race and 73% citing ethnicity as key factors.
- Women reported hate incidents at a rate more than twice that of men.
- Chinese Americans experienced the highest rates of hate (35%), followed by Korean Americans (22%) and Japanese Americans (12%).



EXAMPLES OF DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

Verbal Harassment:

- I was at our local park with my mom, taking our daily walk. We both, of course, had our
 masks on. When we started walking up and down the flight of stairs we always do reps
 on, this lady that was on the opposite side of us with her husband, she kept making
 racist remarks to both me and my mom, for example, "Get off these steps, do you know
 about the Chinese disease", and she even referred to me as "Asian boy."
- I was walking with my Chinese American boyfriend in our neighborhood on a street we have never been to, wearing masks and holding a box of donuts. We passed a man, probably between 40-50, who was also wearing a mask and sunglasses, who stared at us for a solid ten minutes while we walked around the block. When we crossed to the side of the street opposite him, he began yelling, "Who are these Chinese people walking around, taking pictures of our houses? F--k off, stay out of Highland Park!"
- I was in the grass with my puppy when a lady started screaming at me to "get off the sidewalk" and "move" out of her way. She kept yelling "f****** Asian!" "G--damn Asians!" "Go back to your country you f****** Asian!" And she also went on a tirade on how I was going to "eat my dog." I was so shocked because we weren't even on the sidewalk or in her way but she came up and got in my face with her Doberman Pinscher.

Physical Assault:

- As my friend and I were walking out of a spa, a man across the street at a bus stop screamed slurs at us and blamed us for the outbreak. He then proceeded to chase us and attempt to throw his basket at us. We ran down Peck Road to, a Mexican food place and he went back to the bus stop.
- While I was walking up the street I live on, a White male, 20s in appearance, noticed me
 and picked up a cup of coffee--filled--from the street and flung it at me. The spill missed
 me by a few feet. He appeared angry, proceeded to give me the middle finger, and calls
 me a racial slur ("chink") before walking away.
- A guy attacked me from behind and waved his fist when I sat quietly on the platform
 waiting for the subway. There was no one else except me and him at the time. Because I
 was wearing a mask, he scolded me as a "chink" and a communicator of COVID-19. I
 hid under the platform camera, He then tried to use the front wheel of his bicycle to
 attack me.

Shunning/Avoidance

- I was at a grocery store in Koreatown, and the cashier who appeared to be ethnically Viet was telling the previous customers to watch out for the Koreans. She said they were bringing the virus to the USA.
- As I walked out of Eagle Rock Plaza, a woman said, "Oh my God! China brought the virus here!" When I crossed her path to walk toward my car and to confirm if that



- comment was meant for me, she jumped back and nearly yelled, "Oh my God! Please don't give me the virus!
- Bodega customers rolled their eyes, muttered comments ("unbelievable") and wouldn't
 walk into the store until I and my partner (also Asian) left. It didn't seem to be an issue of
 capacity as there were more people in the bodega after we left.

Workplace Discrimination

- I am a physician. I was wrapping up the end of the work day; and I was being facetious with the office staff by my remark about how I fantasized myself jumping on a plane to escape the chaos. The nurse overheard my comment and in a serious tone told me I should "go back to China" despite the fact that I was born in Los Angeles. My mother was born in Thailand and father was born in Vietnam. I had a somewhat similar incident with the two other physicians in the office.
- My White female and Latina coworkers sporadically mock "Asian accents". This isn't a
 one time incident. I worked with two White girls and 1 Latina who keep making "Ching
 Chong" noises or accents in a mocking tone.

Refusal of Service/Barred from Establishment:

- The ride-hailing service driver would not let me sit in front when there was space. He stared at me the entire ride in the rear view mirror; then when he picked someone else up, he let that White man sit in front.
- I usually take my daughter to ride her scooter or roller skate in the parking lot of a church near our home. The director of an unaffiliated preschool (also shut down temporarily) on site insisted on shooing me and my daughter nearly 70 feet away to the other side of the parking lot and told me to keep my distance even though I was already 25 feet away from her. Today, she came out to the parking lot snapping photos of me and my daughter and threatening to call the police if I didn't leave immediately.

Coughed/Spat On:

- Parked at a grocery store parking lot, I sat in my car for a few minutes before heading
 inside with lots of foot traffic around me. As I left my car to go inside, an older White
 male pulled up into the parking spot to the right of me. When I returned to my car, there
 was spit and phlegm all over the passenger (right) side door.
- I was crossing the street, and an unmasked Brown man was on the other side. I didn't think much of it because I live in a POC-heavy neighborhood and some of them don't wear masks, but they leave me alone. As I passed him, he spat at me from behind (so clearly he was waiting for me to cross so he could do this) and then followed me for about half a block, upon which I turned and ran across the street to hide behind a van and make sure he kept walking without following me home.

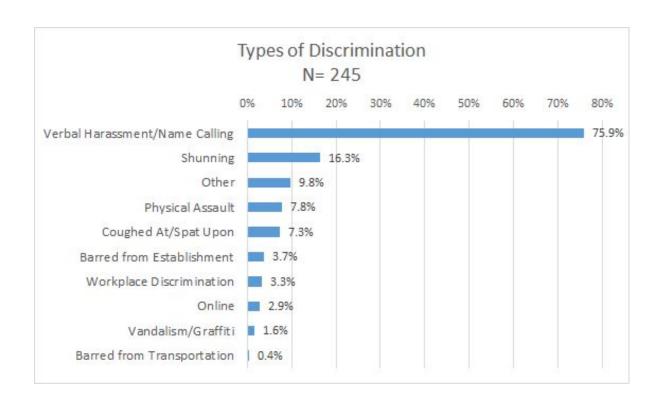


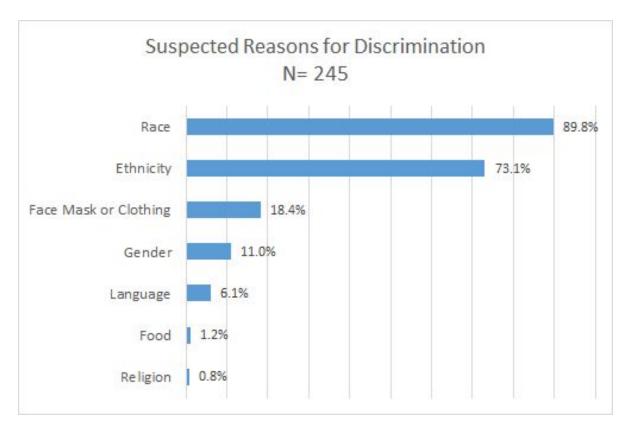
Online Harassment:

- Instagram post by a White man including the phrase "Some dude in China eats a raw bat and starts a global pandemic."
- I received an insulting text message from my client with inappropriate gender and racial terms involved, ".....have a nice day bitch ass Asian ho. That's the f--king way I feel about the Chinese."

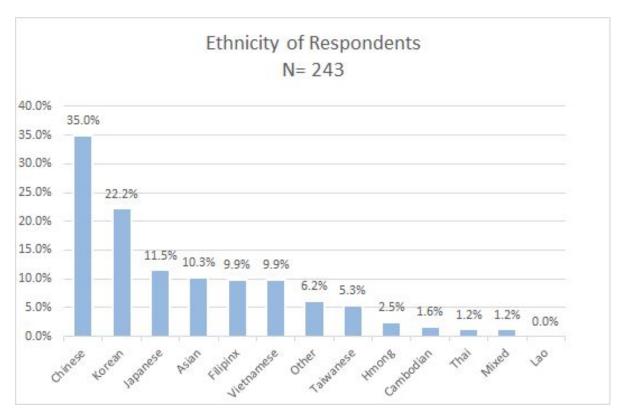


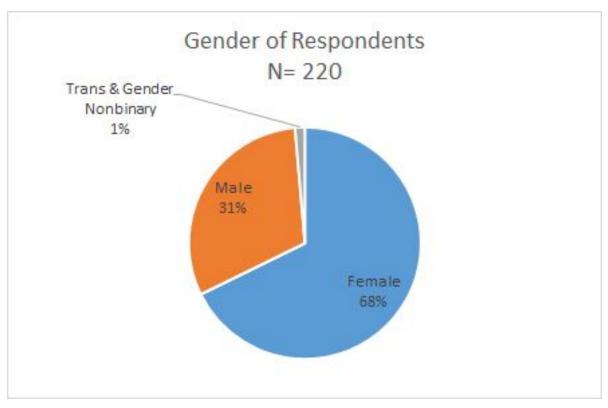
APPENDIX



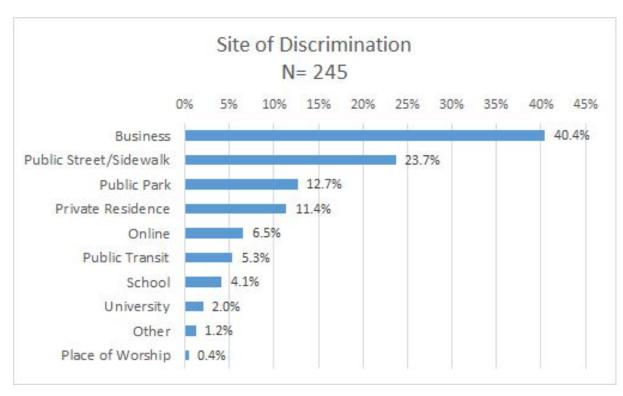


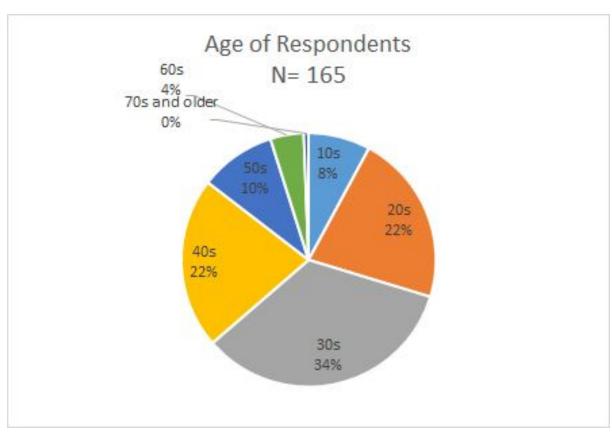
















Stop AAPI Hate, a national coalition aimed at addressing anti-Asian discrimination amid the pandemic, was founded by the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON), Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) and San Francisco State University's Asian American Studies Department.



The <u>Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council</u> (A3PCON) is a coalition of more than forty community-based organizations that serve and represent the 1.5 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the greater Los Angeles area, with a particular focus on low-income, immigrant, refugee and other vulnerable populations.



<u>Chinese for Affirmative Action</u> (CAA) was founded in 1969 to protect the civil and political rights of Chinese Americans and to advance multiracial democracy in the United States. Today, CAA is a progressive voice in and on behalf of the broader Asian American and Pacific Islander community. We advocate for systemic change that protects immigrant rights, promotes language diversity, and remedies racial and social injustice.



<u>SF State Asian American Studies</u> (AAS) is the oldest and largest such academic program in the nation. Founded after the 1968-69 Black Student Union and Third World Liberation Front student strike, it maintains the strike's values of student activism, social justice, and community self-determination.