

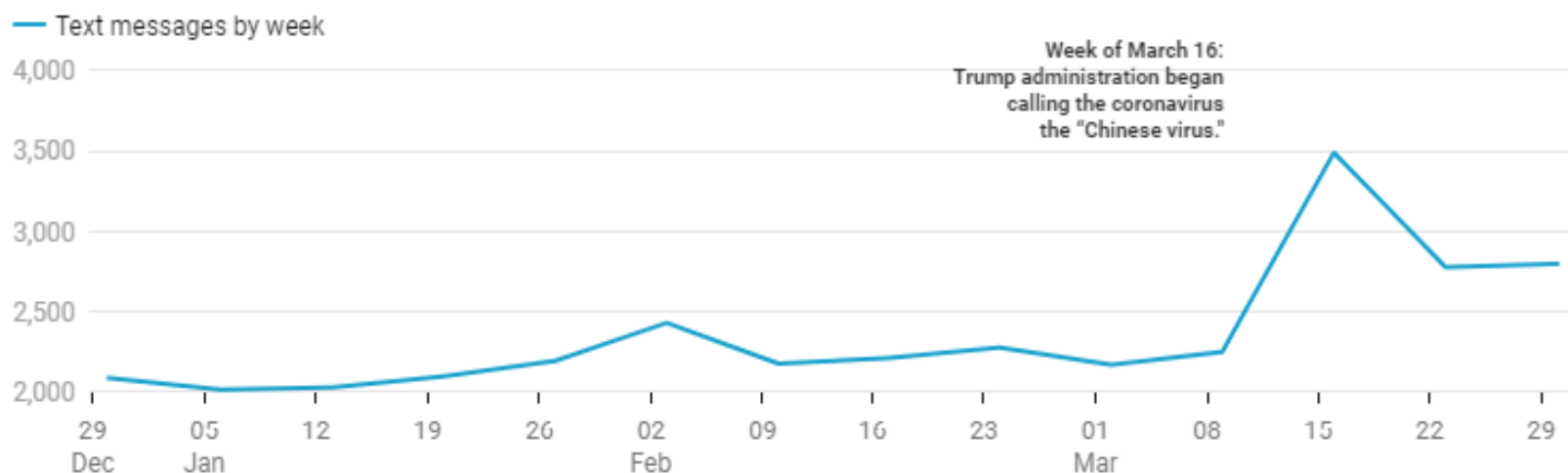
THE FEDERAL RESPONSE TO ANTI- ASIAN RACISM IN THE UNITED STATES

United States Commission on Civil Rights

Dr. Marik Xavier-Brier, Director, Office of Civil Rights Evaluation

Crisis Text Line sees spike in activity from Asian Americans

The mental-health support Crisis Text Line received a fairly regular number of texts this year from people identifying as Asian – until the week that President Donald Trump called the coronavirus the “Chinese virus.” The line also saw a large increase in crisis counselor applications from Asian Americans in the latter half of March.



Source: [Crisis Text Line](#) • [Get the data](#) • Created with [Datawrapper](#)

[Crisis Text Line](#), a nonprofit group that provides free mental health support via text message, said its counselors have received a 39 percent increase in texts from Asians between the first week in January and the last week in March. The biggest spike during that period happened the week Trump began using the phrase “Chinese virus.”

“The FBI assesses hate crime incidents against Asian Americans will likely surge across the United States, due to the spread of the coronavirus disease... endangering Asian American communities. The FBI makes this assessment based on the assumptions that a portion of the U.S. public will associate COVID-19 with China and Asian American populations.”

81% reported an increase of violence against them

45% reported experiencing at least one offensive incident

32% reported that they feared being attacked

27% reported people acting uncomfortable around them

27% reported being subjected to racial slurs and/or jokes

16% reported being told to “go back to your home country”

14% reported being blamed for the covid outbreak

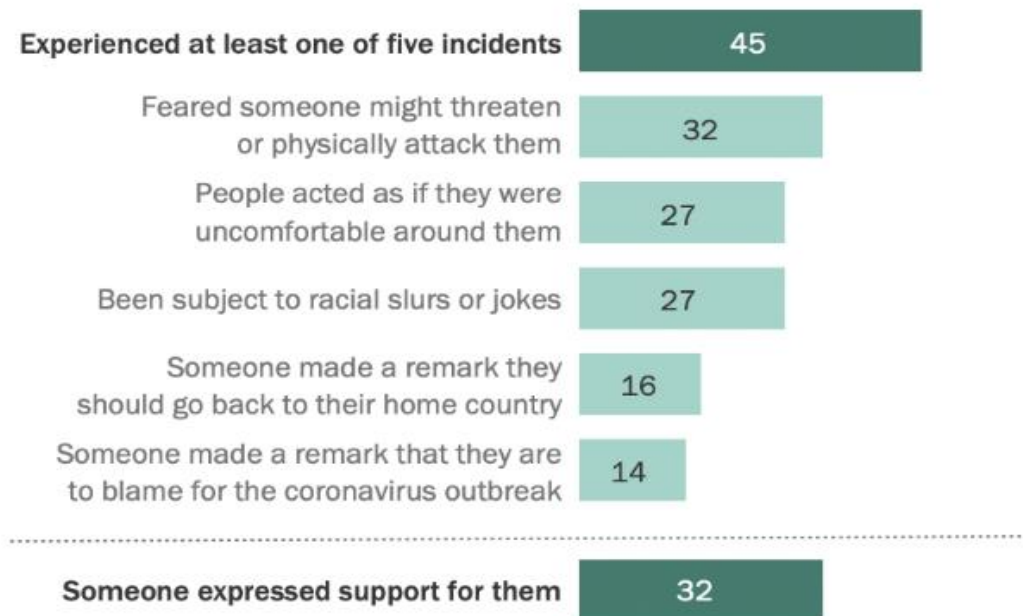
Eight-in-ten Asian Americans say violence against them in the United States is increasing ...

% of Asian adults who say violence against Asian Americans in the U.S. is ...*



... and nearly half experienced an incident tied to their racial or ethnic background since the pandemic began

% of Asian adults who say each of the following has happened to them since the coronavirus outbreak because of their race or ethnicity*

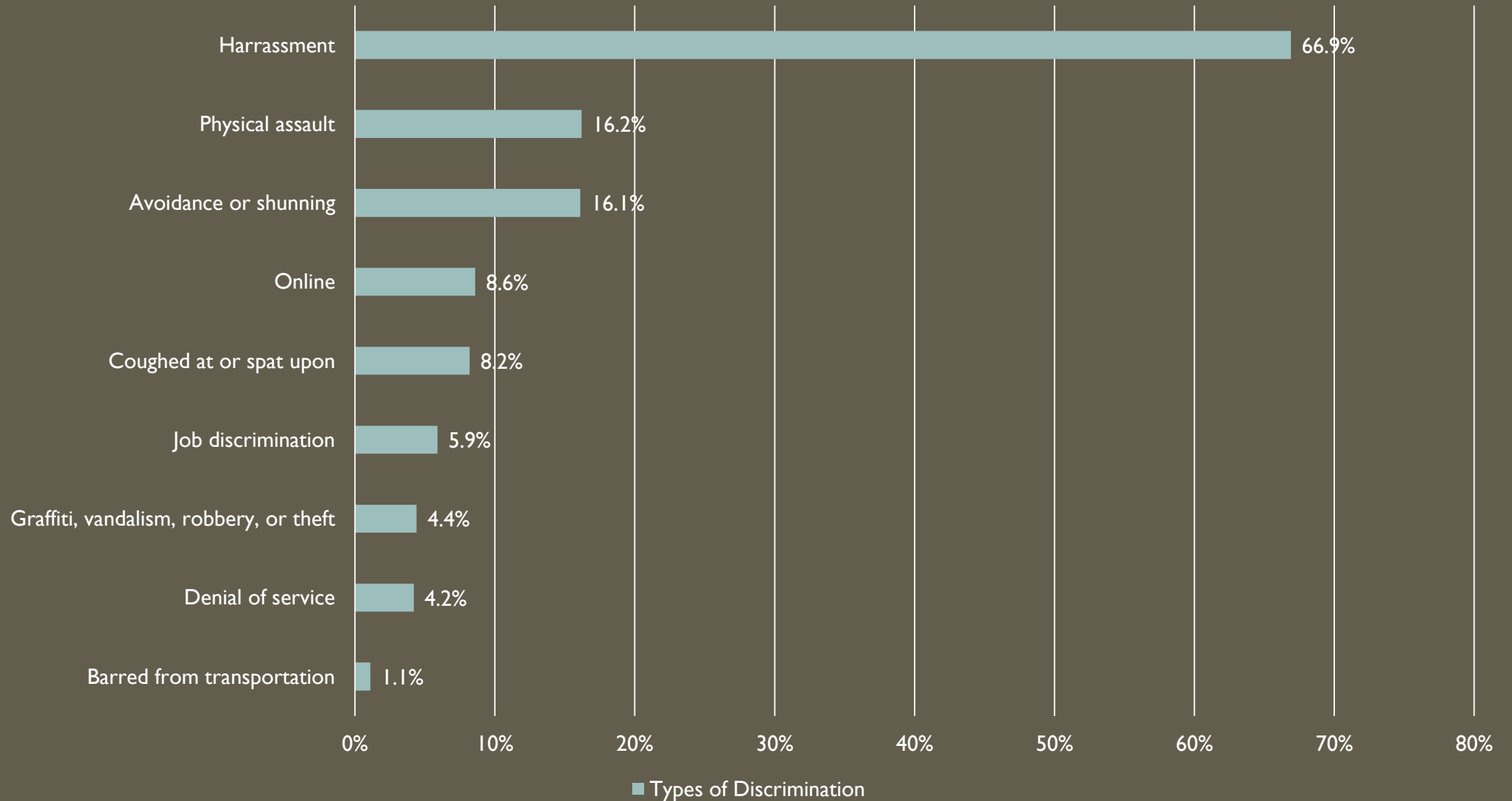


*Asian adults were interviewed in English only.

Note: Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding. No answer responses not shown.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted April 5-11, 2021.

NATIONAL TRENDS (MARCH 2020-DECEMBER 2021)



FBI ANTI-ASIAN BIAS (2018-2021)

	Incidents	Offenses*	Victims ¹	Known Offenders ²
2018	148	171	177	125
2019	158	205	215	153
2020	279	330	342	239
2021 (original)	305	363	384	247
2021 (update)[†]	746	820	845	680

	2019		2020		2021		2021 (updated)	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Bias Incidents	158		279		305		746	
Victims								
Individual	202		316		388		713	
Business	12		15		12			
Other	6		19		9			
Total	225		356		411		845	
Offense Type								
Intimidation	53	25%	116	34%	136	36%	227	28%
Simple Assault	82	38%	103	30%	106	28%	270	33%
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	28	13%	54	16%	60	16%	149	18%
Aggravated Assault	32	15%	47	14%	47	12%	109	13%
Robbery	3	1%	7	2%	11	3%	28	3%
Burglary	3	1%	3	1%	6	2%	14	2%
Larceny-theft	5	2%	6	2%	8	2%	8	1%
Arson	2	1%	0	0%	1	0%	5	1%
Murder	4	2%	0	0%	2	0%	2	0%
Other	4	2%	5	1%	6	2%	8	1%
Total	216		341		381		820	
Offender Race								
White	83	52%	126	52%	132	50%	319	49%
Black	35	22%	53	22%	82	31%	215	33%
Asian	5	3%	6	2%	5	2%	16	3%
Native Hawaiian	1	1%	1	0%	1	0%	1	0%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	1%	0	0%	1	0%	2	0%
Multiple	26	16%	12	5%	17	6%	21	3%
Unknown	7	4%	46	19%	24	9%	78	12%
Total	150		244		262		652	

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The FBI should require local law enforcement to submit hate crime data, or Congress should make the collection and submission mandatory
- Federal civil rights agencies should be required to collect and report critical data related to civil rights enforcement and the Attorney General should publish this data annually
- Law enforcement agencies should improve data collection, requiring the tracking and reporting of both hate incidents and hate crimes, and ensure reporting forms are easy to complete correctly when a crime is a suspected hate crime.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- DOJ should provide safety training & workshops in the respective languages of targeted communities, expand federal funding for community advocacy groups fighting hate crimes, and codify the role of the language access coordinator to ensure that all individuals have equal access to justice and access to federal programs and benefits regardless of language access.
- Congress should expand Title II of the Civil Rights Act to include retail stores and other businesses where discrimination occurs to protect employees and customers from bias-based discrimination and harassment.