

Germany Hate Crime Report 2021

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2021 Hate Crime Report.

For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/germany

For more information about ODIHR's Hate Crime Report, visit: hatecrime.osce.org/our-methodology

Summary

Germany regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Close collaboration with civil society in the area of hate crime victim support has been established at the level of federal states, namely with the Weisser Ring civil society organization (CSO) and a number of specialized CSOs. The Federal Ministry of Justice and the Federal Victims' Commissioner are in regular contact with a number of victim support institutions and victims' representatives. Germany has conducted victimization surveys to measure under-reported hate crimes. The most recent report covering 2012-2017 is available [here](#).

In 2021, ODIHR, together with Federal Ministries, organized a virtual study visit to Germany on strengthening co-operation between the Government and civil society on hate crime victim support.

[Hate crime data collection in Germany](#)

[Support for hate crime victims in Germany](#)

[Hate crime capacity building in Germany](#)

[Germany's hate crime legislation](#)

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Germany's efforts to address the prosecution of hate crimes, including by improving co-operation among relevant stakeholders, including civil society, as well as by submitting information on police records. However, based on the available information, it observes that Germany has not reported data on hate crimes recorded by the prosecution and judiciary to ODIHR. In addition, ODIHR observes that Germany would benefit from raising awareness among and building the capacity of criminal justice officials to address hate crime.

Official Data

The total number presented here and in the breakdown below may include hate speech offences, which fall outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition. A criminal incident with more than one bias motivation is registered under all relevant categories. Therefore, a single incident may be recorded under multiple entries in the breakdown below.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2021	10,501	not available	not available

Police data by bias motivation

The breakdown below may include hate speech offences, which fall outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition. One criminal incident may be recorded with more than one bias motivation in the breakdown below.

9,236

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

3,027

Anti-Semitic hate crime

870

Anti-LGBTI hate crime

This category only includes hate crimes committed with a bias based on sexual orientation.

732

Anti-Muslim hate crime

340

Gender-based hate crime

This category also includes hate crimes committed with a bias based on gender identity.

118

Disability hate crime

109

Anti-Christian hate crime

109

Anti-Roma hate crime

38

Other hate crime based on religion or belief

Police data by type of crime

The breakdown below may include hate speech offences, which fall outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition. One criminal incident may be recorded with more than one bias motivation in the breakdown below.

11,536

Unspecified

1,157

Damage to property

This category includes cases of vandalism.

1,089

Physical assault

625

Threats/ threatening behaviour

114

Theft/ robbery

This category includes the criminal offence of aggravated theft, including cases of burglary.

23

Arson

18

Desecration of graves

8

Disturbance of the peace

7

Homicide

2

Sexual assault

National Developments

In January 2021, amendments to the Act Governing Social Compensation Law of 12 December 2019 came into force to improve the regulation of outpatient trauma clinics. In particular, the Law aims to establish a statutory entitlement for treatment in such clinics, including providing immediate psychological assistance for victims of crime. In August 2021, a new Guideline on the payment of hardship benefits for victims of terrorist and extremist attacks entered into force that improves transparency for victims.

In April 2021, the Act on Combating Right-Wing Extremism and Hate Crime, adopted by the **German Federal Parliament**, came into force. The act includes amendments to various federal laws. In particular, it extends the sentencing provision on aggravating circumstances of the German Criminal Code [Section 46 (2)StGB] and explicitly mentions anti-Semitic motives as an example of motives evidencing contempt for humanity.

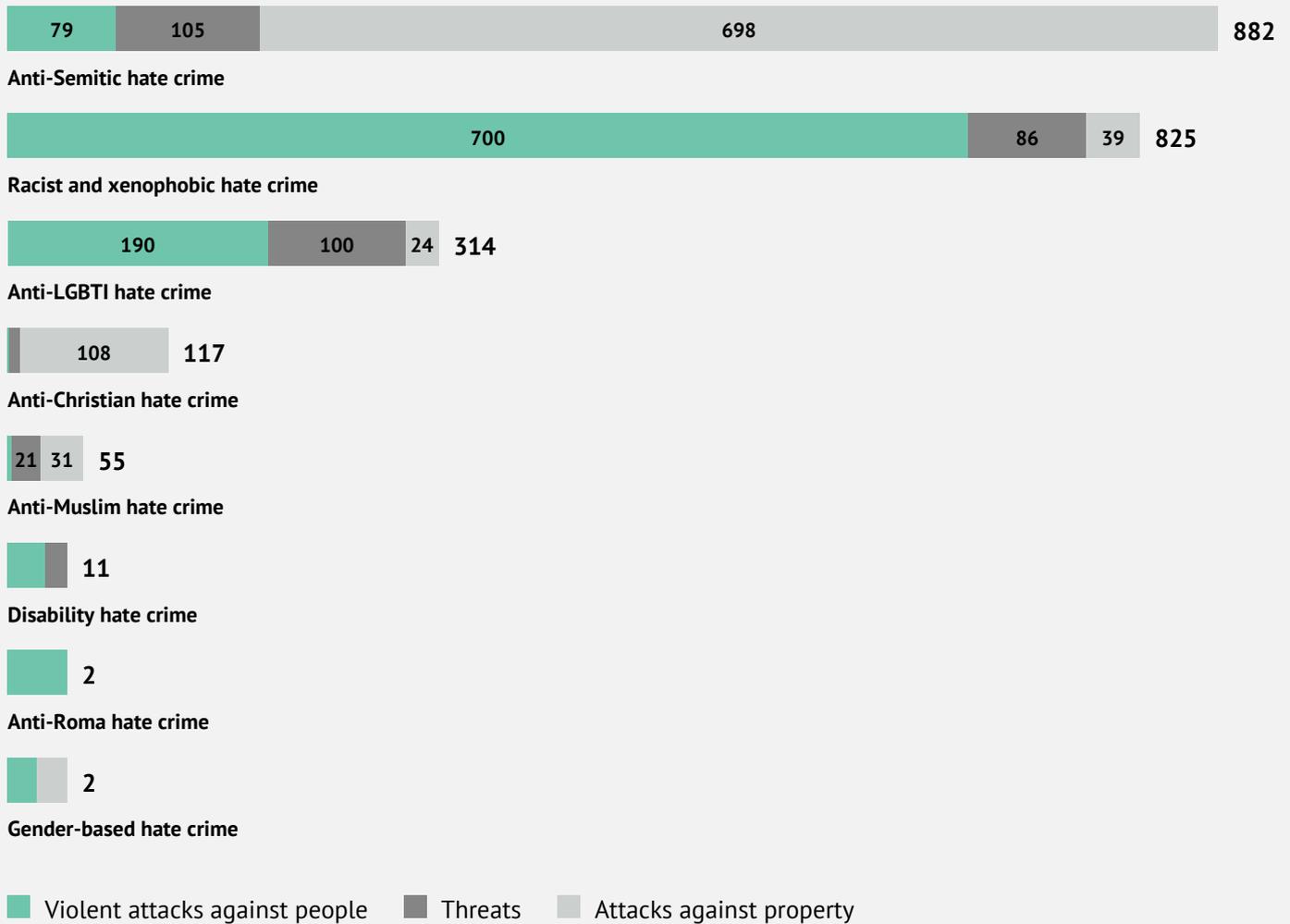
In September 2021, the **Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ)**, the **Association of Counselling Centres for Victims of Right-wing, Racist and Anti-Semitic Violence (VBRG)**, and ODIHR co-organized a two-day virtual event as part of ODIHR's [hate crime victim support project](#). The aim of the event was to present the German support system, especially for persons affected by hate crime, to participants from various European countries. The project was funded by the EU Commission and the **German Federal Foreign Office**, and aimed to facilitate an exchange of best practices and the development of new strategies to better support the victims of hate crime.

In October 2021, the **Federal Victims' Commissioner** hosted a workshop to improve support for and enhance networking between initiatives and organizations that care for victims of right-wing violence. The aim of the workshop was to enable victim (protection) commissioners and central contact points of the Länder to strengthen their networking with the counselling centres for victims of right-wing violence and the centres for democracy.

The **Federal Ministry of Justice** continued funding a project of the German Institute for Human Rights (DIMR), aimed at improving the prosecution of racist crimes and structures of co-operation between various actors (the justice system, public prosecutor's office, police, and victim protection associations, among others). It consists of pilot projects in three Länder and is intended to last three years.

Incidents reported by civil society

Total 2,193 incidents



Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

In addition to the incidents summarized below, this graph includes the following numbers of hate incidents reported as statistics: 873 reported by the Federal Association of Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism (RIAS); 898 reported by the Association of Counseling Centers for Victims of Right-wing, Racist and Antisemitic Violence in Germany (VBRG); and 203 reported by MANEO.

[View civil society incidents for Germany, 2021](#)