OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2019 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/bosnia-and-herzegovina

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

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Summary

Bosnia and Herzegovina regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR via the Ministry of Interior. There is no formal system for recording and collecting hate crime data in the country. In co-operation with ODIHR and the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the authorities of Republika Srpska have worked to improve hate crime recording and data collection through ODIHR's Information Against Hate Crimes Toolkit (INFAHCT) programme, including through a diagnostic workshop held in April 2022. Bosnia and Herzegovina has also co-operated with ODIHR and the OSCE Mission to train law enforcement officers and criminal justice professionals on addressing hate crimes.

Bosnia and Herzegovina's Gender Action Plan, 2023-2027, includes hate crime prevention activities as part of its strategic implementation.

Hate crime data collection in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Support for hate crime victims in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Hate crime capacity building in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bosnia and Herzegovina's hate crime legislation

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR observes that Bosnia and Herzegovina has not reported on cases of hate crimes separately from cases of hate speech.

Official Data

Police records include criminal offences that may fall outside of the OSCE's definition of a hate crime. In some cases, hate speech provisions were also applied to incidents that would fall under this definition. One incident involved two separate criminal offences and is, therefore, counted twice under the police records.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2019	21	13	9

Police data by bias motivation

The data below consists of records reported by the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA) and the Ministries of the Interior of the Republika Srpska, Central Bosnia Canton, Zenica-Doboj Canton and Sarajevo Canton. The breakdown consists of the following bias motivations: racism and xenophobia, bias against Muslims, bias against members of other religions (including offences with a bias against Orthodox Christians) and sexual orientation.



Anti-Muslim



Other hate crime based on religion or belief

The incident under the category of "Threats" was classified as the criminal offence of Incitement to hatred, but constituted an individual threat with violence. Some cases reported to ODIHR were motivated by bias against persons of Orthodox Christian faith and Serb nationality.



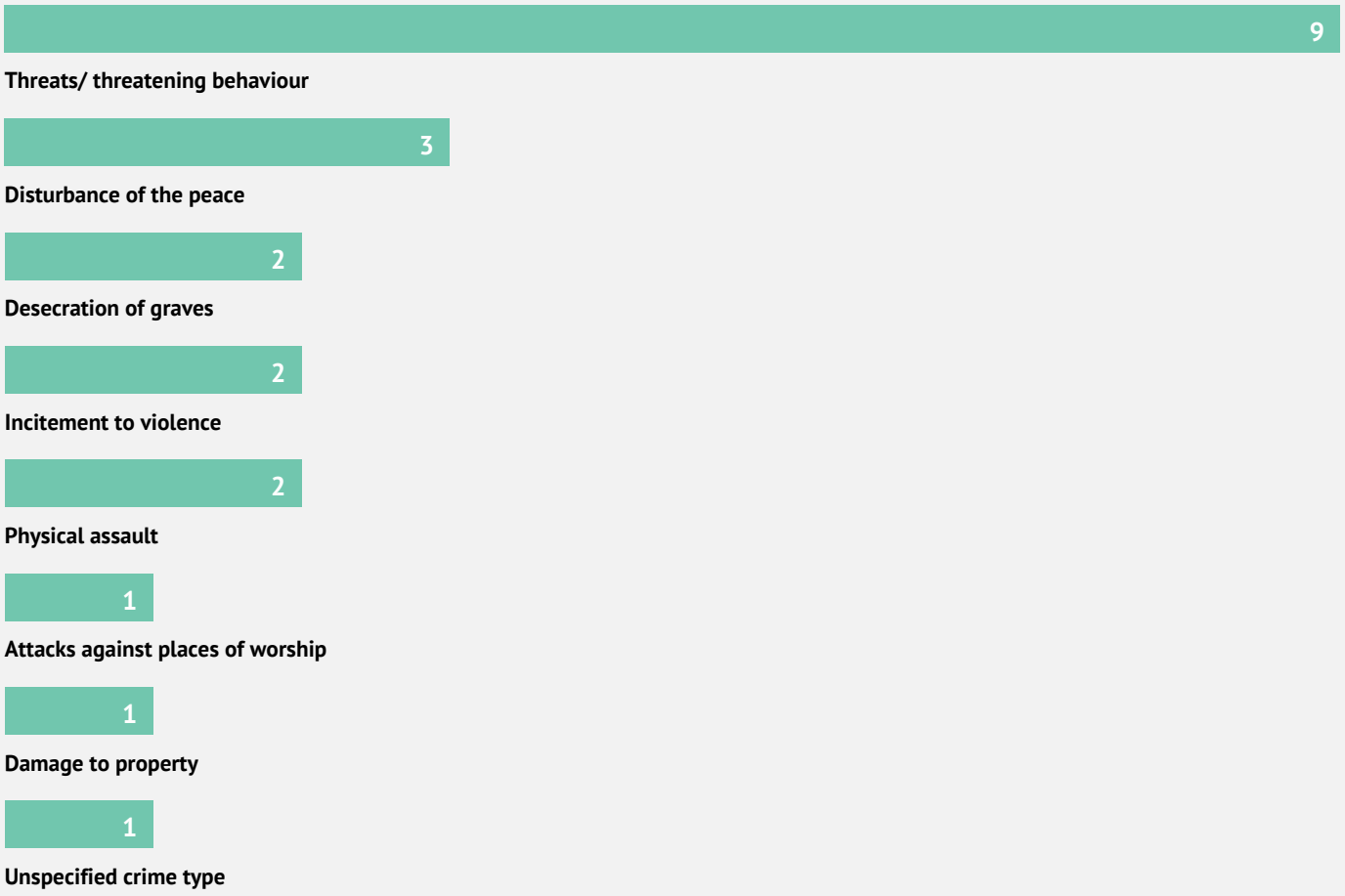
Racist and xenophobic



Anti-LGBTI

Police data by type of crime

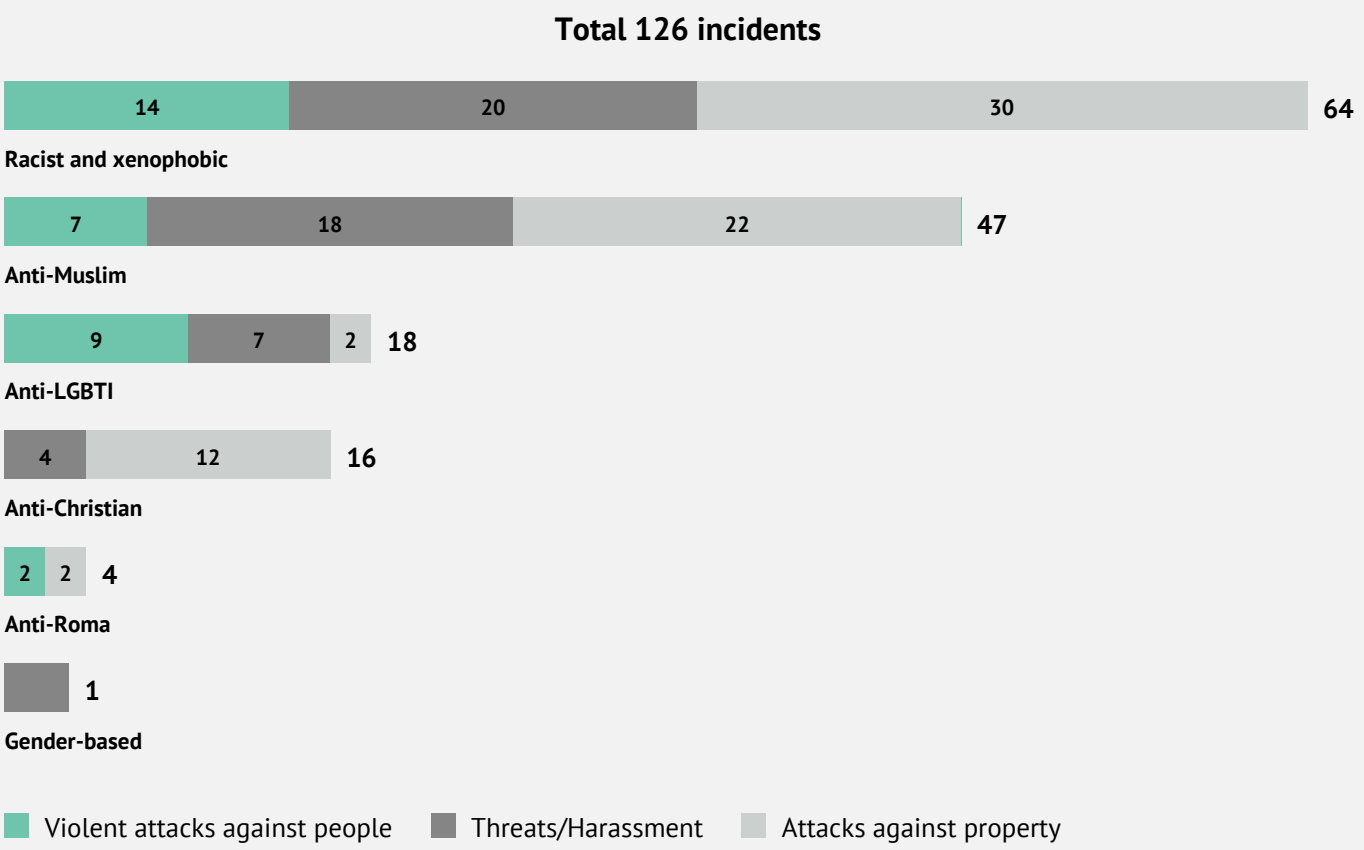
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National Developments

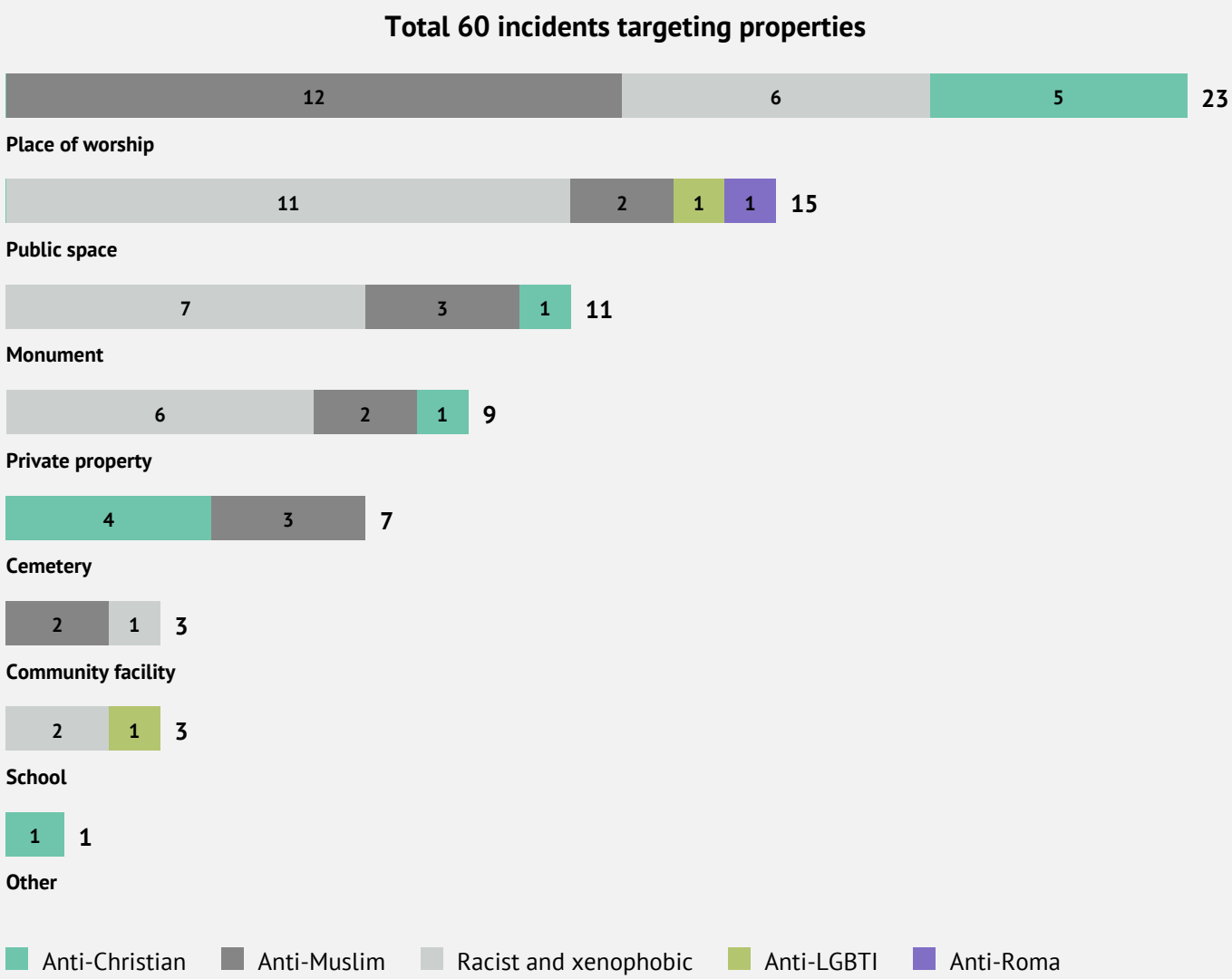
In 2020, Bosnia and Herzegovina reported hate crime data to ODIHR for the first time since 2016.

Incidents reported by civil society

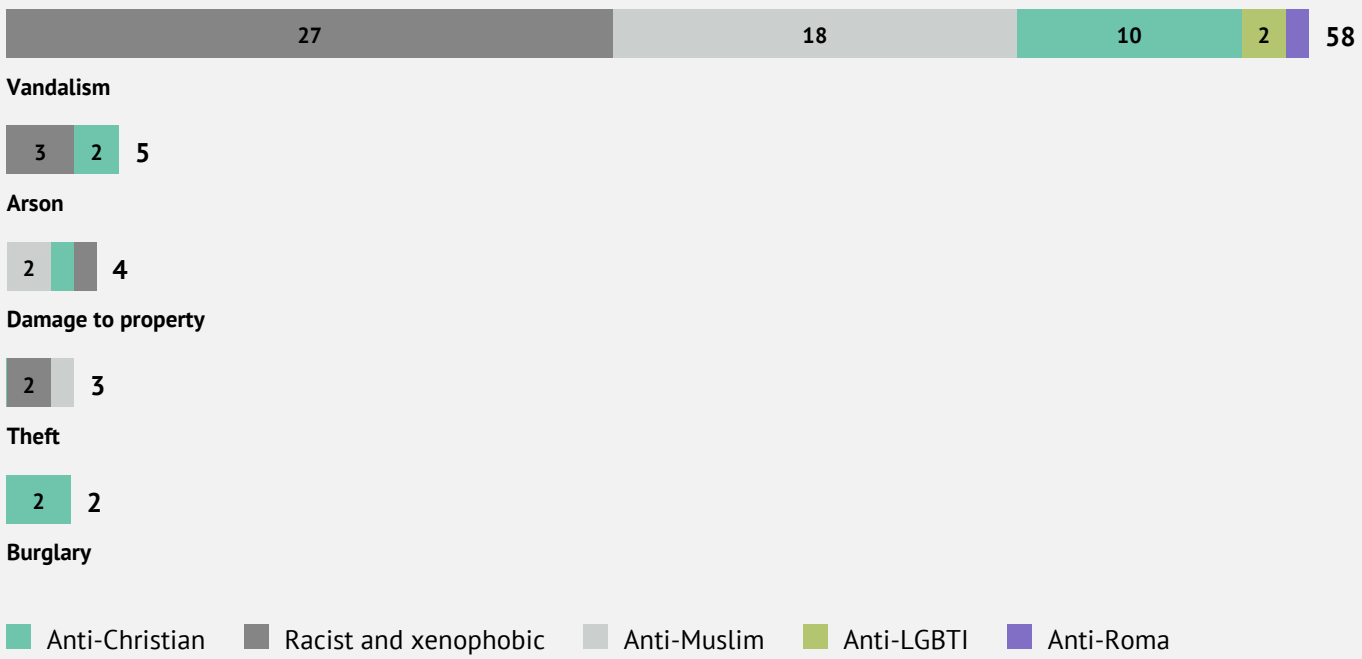


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2019