OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2022 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/canada

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

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Summary

Canada regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR and regularly publishes hate crime statistics. Canada conducts regular victimization surveys to measure unreported hate crime.

Canada has several interrelated and co-ordinated initiatives in place to ensure a comprehensive approach to hate crimes through government and community partnerships. Canada's 'Action Plan on Combatting Hate' (Action Plan) and 'Changing Systems, Transforming Lives: Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2024-2028' are two comprehensive initiatives that fund and support a variety of government and community-led projects on addressing hate. The initiatives were developed through extensive community engagement and build on existing strategies. The Action Plan foresees the creation of a Ministerial Advisory Council on Combatting Hate, which serves as a forum for ministers and community leaders to directly engage and exchange feedback on the Action Plan's implementation, and also to discuss existing and emerging issues on addressing racism and hate.

Hate crime data collection in Canada
Support for hate crime victims in Canada
Hate crime capacity building in Canada
Canada's hate crime legislation

ODIHR's Key Observation

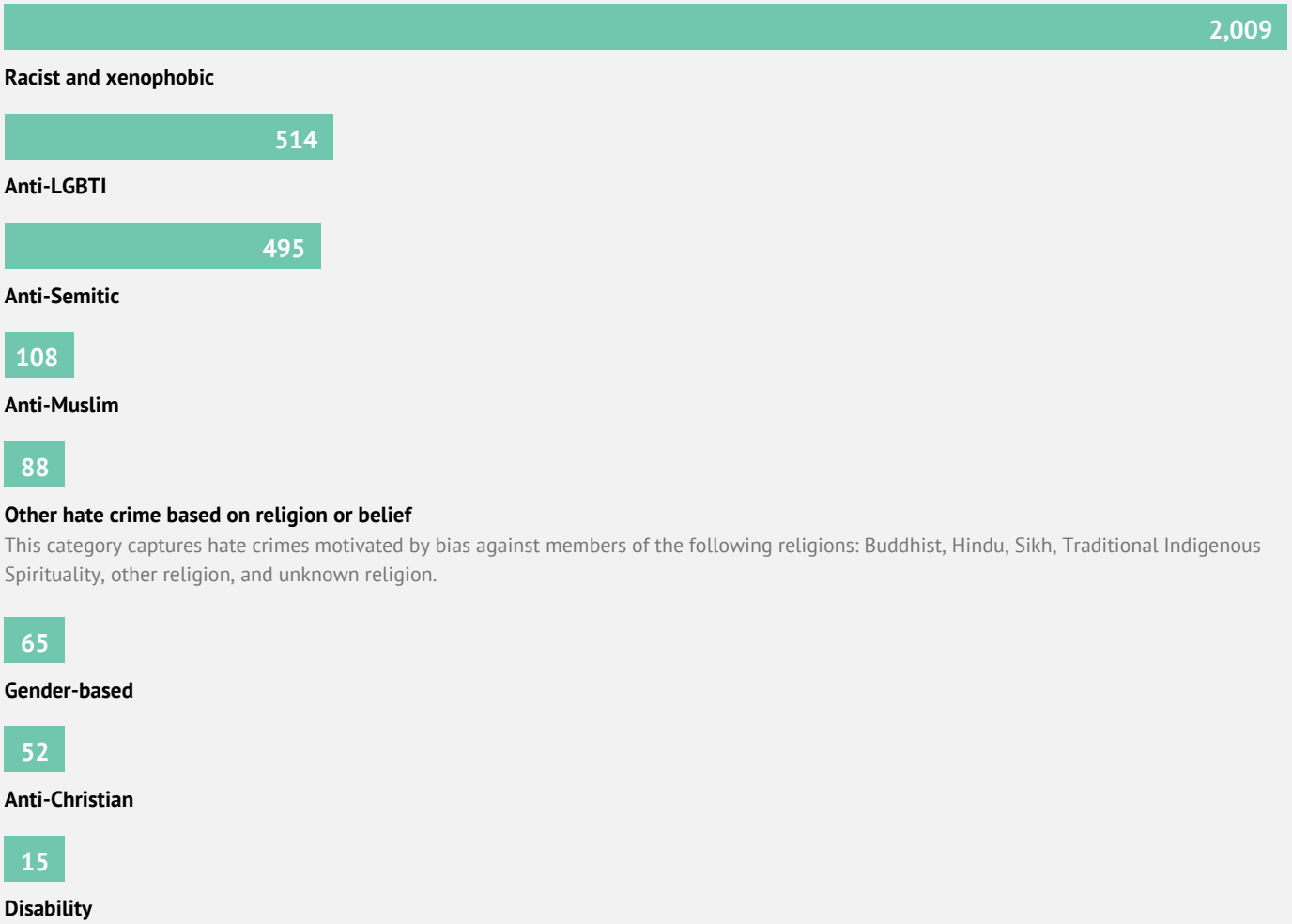
ODIHR recognizes Canada's efforts to improve its hate crime recording and data collection methodology to enable the further disaggregation of data, as well as the regular submission of information on police records to ODIHR. However, based on the available information, it observes that Canada has not reported hate crime data recorded by prosecution and judiciary to ODIHR. In addition, ODIHR observes that Canada would benefit from ensuring that hate crimes are addressed in a comprehensive manner, including by introducing a co-ordination mechanism.

Official Data

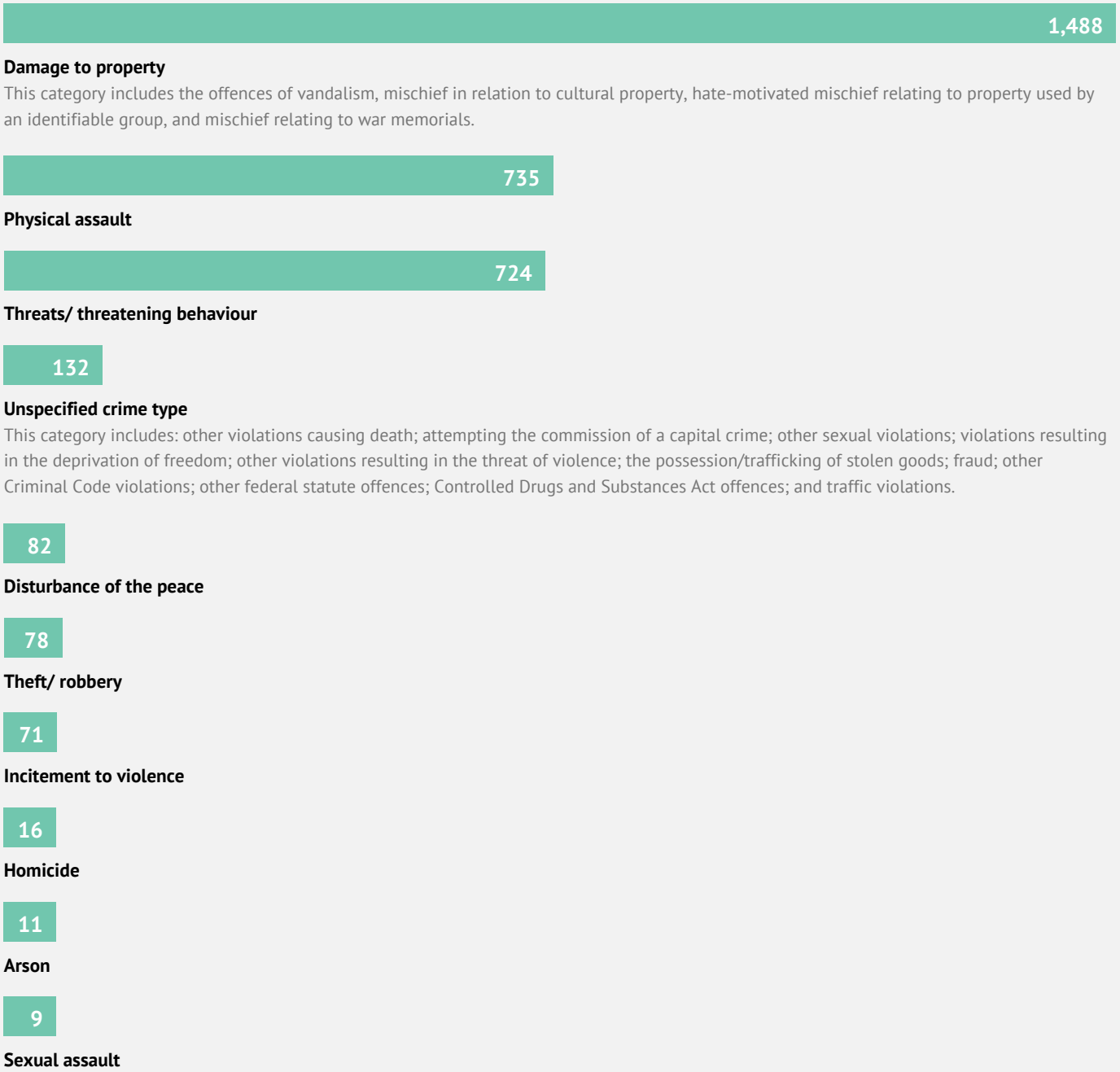
Hate crime data presented here may not match data presented elsewhere. Differences may be due to some incidents being reported through a supplemental survey that collects data in aggregate form, updates to historical incidents following police investigations, and changes to reporting and dissemination practices. Data on prosecuted and sentenced cases was submitted in the 2023 Hate Crime Reporting cycle, and thus was added to this table retrospectively in October 2024. Data on prosecuted and sentenced cases covers the 2021/2022 fiscal year (1 April 2021 to 30 March 2022). Number of prosecution figures reflect a “charge” in the Integrated Criminal Court Survey (ICCS). A charge refers to a formal accusation against an accused person or company involving a federal statute offence that has been processed by the courts and received a final decision. A charge is considered to be completed under any of the following conditions: the accused is acquitted or found guilty and sentenced (if applicable); the accused is found unfit to stand trial; the charge is stayed, withdrawn, dismissed, or discharged at preliminary hearing; the charge has been waived out of the province or territory. Sentence figures reflect a “guilty” decision in the ICCS. A decision is a judgment made by the court. The decision categories are as follows: Guilty; Acquittal; Stay, Withdrawn, Dismissed; and Other decisions. Guilty findings include guilty of the charged offence, of an included offence, of an attempt of the charged offence, or of an attempt of an included offence. This category also includes guilty pleas, and cases where an absolute or conditional discharge has been imposed. The data on prosecuted and sentenced case include offences that fall outside the OSCE’s hate crime definition, but could not be disaggregated and therefore excluded from the above number.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2022	3,576	47	15

Police data by bias motivation



Police data by type of crime



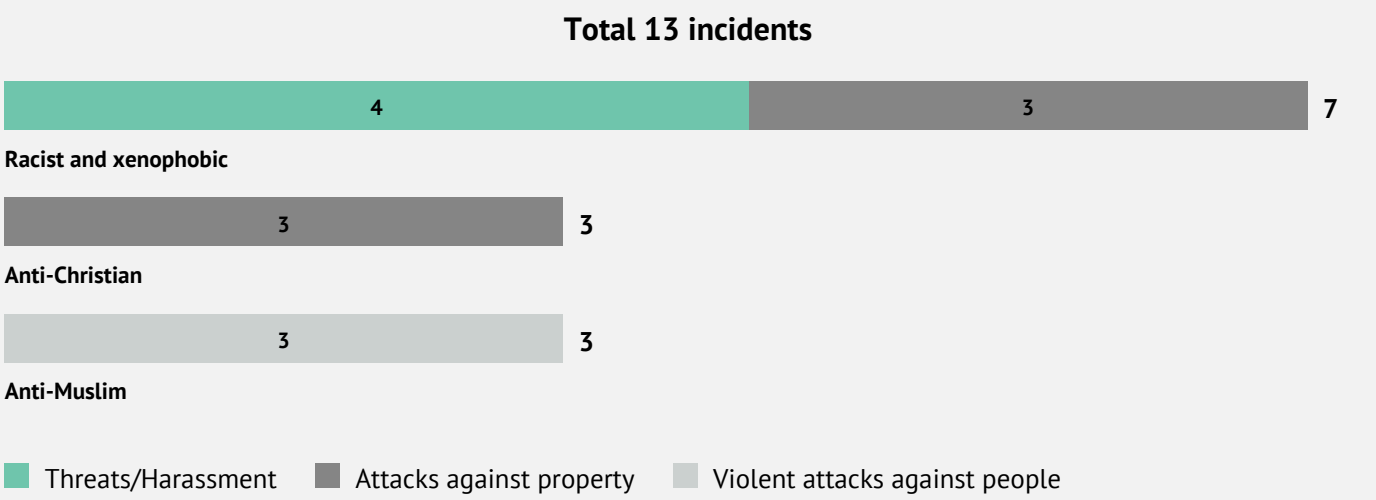
National Developments

In 2022, a new offence of "wilful promotion of anti-Semitism" was introduced into the Criminal Code of Canada.

In 2022, a new Hate Crime Chiefs of Police National Roundtable Task Force was created. The Task Force aims to increase awareness of the scope, nature and impact of hate crimes in Canada at the community and interpersonal levels among the Canadian public and police. Activities of the Task Force include: developing publicly available information to promote a shared understanding of hate crimes; highlighting the ways in which hate crimes can be reported to police; updating police training related to hate crimes; improving engagement with victims and communities; exploring how hate crimes can be captured and reported more effectively; identifying measures to support the prosecution process; and exploring the creation of national standards. This will be achieved by working together to leverage the various experiences and knowledge of the members, as well as by drawing on work already undertaken by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, Canadian Race Relations Foundation and other partners and groups.

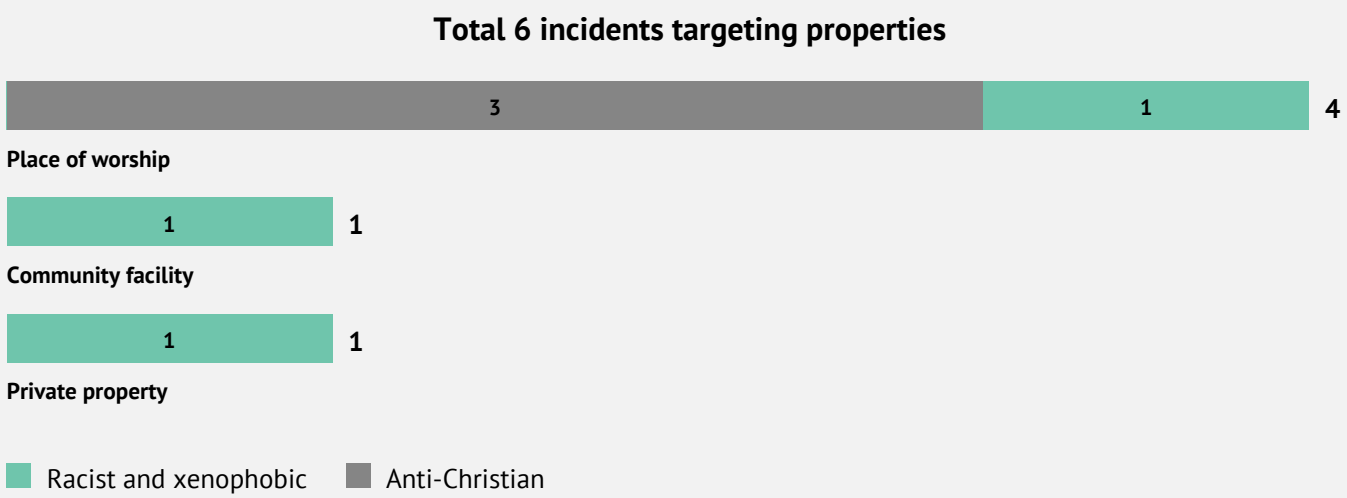
The Human Rights Commissioner for British Columbia launched an inquiry into hate incidents that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. The inquiry aimed to understand the historical antecedents for hate and discrimination and respond to present and future issues related to hate during the pandemic. The inquiry was ongoing in 2022, and the report was published in March 2023.

Incidents reported by civil society

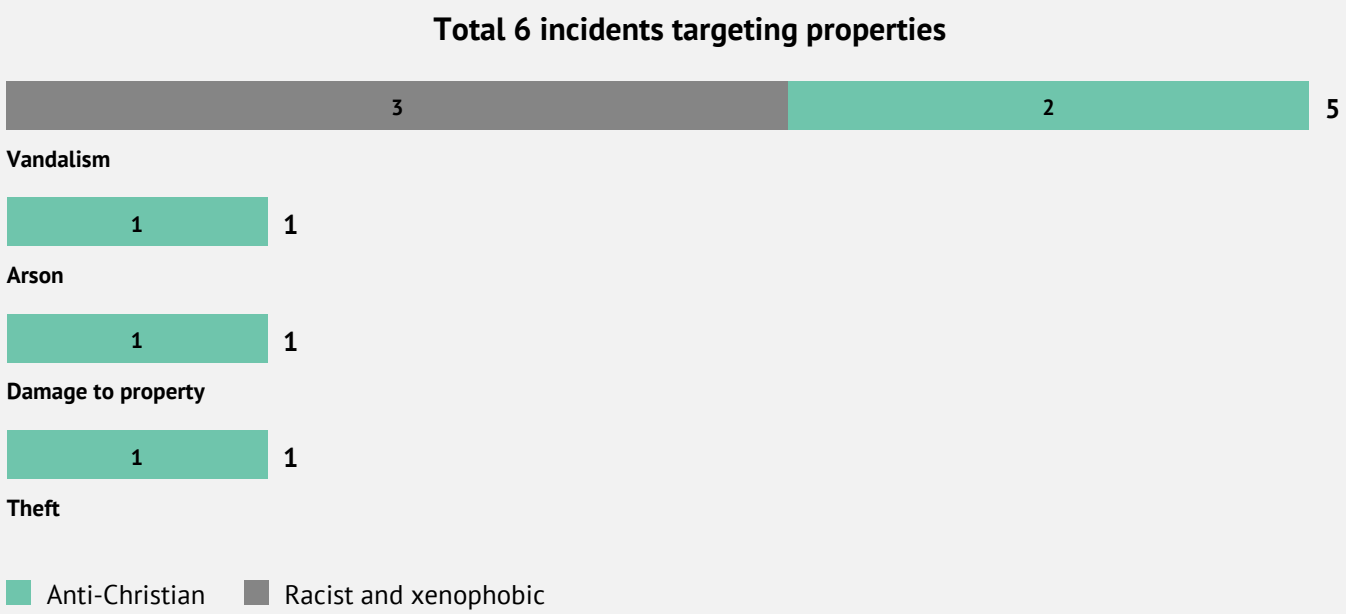


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Canada, 2022