OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2025 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

2025

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 enhance their policy and co-ordination framework to address hate crime, including by adopting the Action Plan on Combatting Hate. ODIHR observes that Canada has met most of its OSCE commitments on hate crime.

Official Data

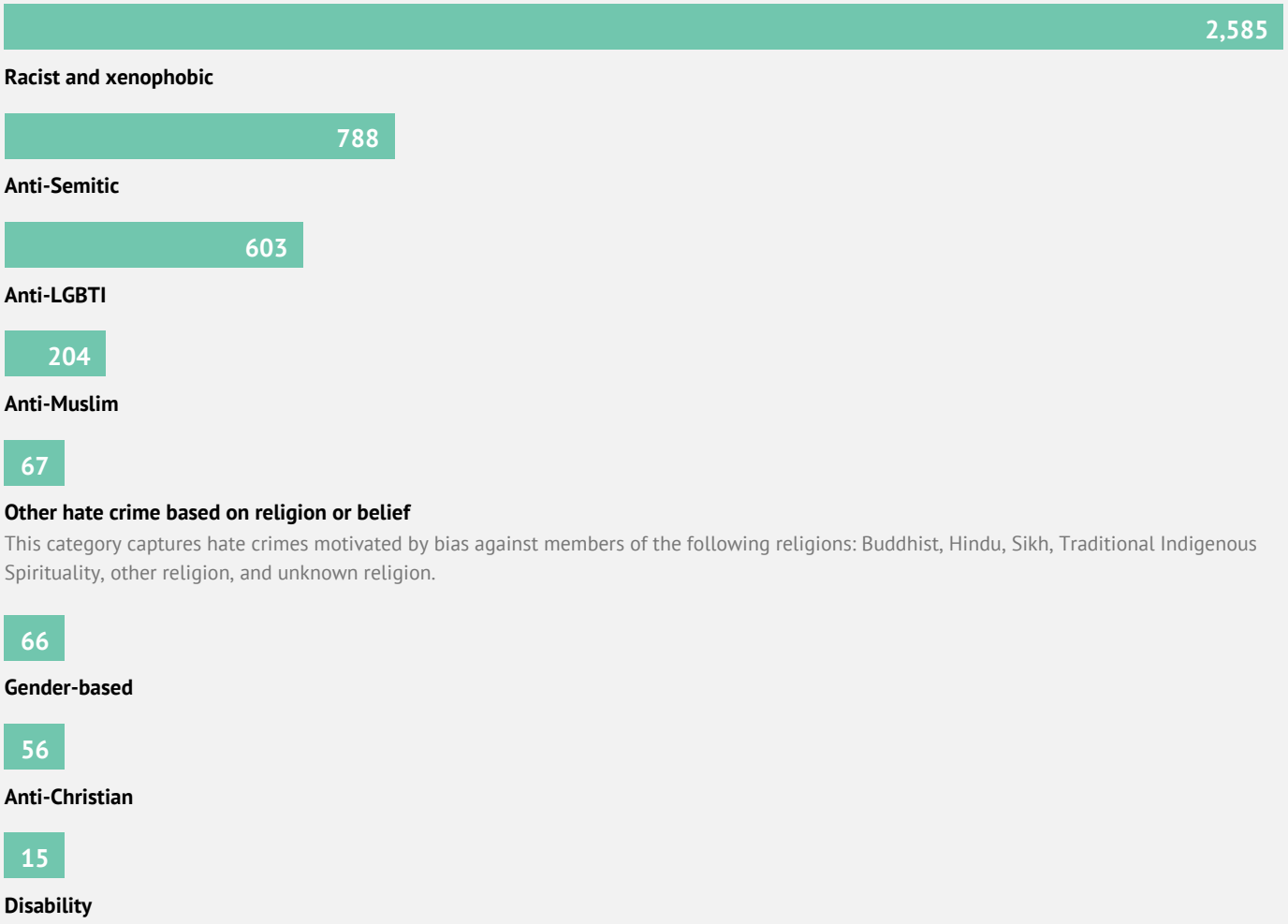
Police-reported hate crime data presented here may not match data presented elsewhere. Differences may be due to some incidents being reported through a supplementary survey that collects data in aggregate form, updates to historical incidents following police investigations, and changes to reporting and dissemination practices. Police-reported data represents criminal incidents, each of which may include a number of violations. Police figures include hate speech offences. Data on prosecuted and sentenced figures are based on the fiscal year (1 April through 31 March) and reflect the most recent year for which data is available (2024-2025). The data may include offences that fall outside the OSCE's hate crime definition.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2025	4,708	50	3

Police data by bias motivation

Police-reported data are collected as criminal incidents. One incident can involve multiple violations. Counts are presented based on the most serious violation in the incident. Due to this approach, hate speech offences have not been excluded from the below breakdown, as they could have been committed in conjunction with additional bias-motivated offences.

Given the ODIHR-reported categories, the below disaggregation does not include hate crime incidents motivated by age, other factors, and unknown motivations collected through the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey. These are however included in the total police-recorded figure above.



Police data by type of crime

Police-reported data are collected as criminal incidents. One incident can involve multiple violations. Counts are presented based on the most serious violation in the incident. Due to this approach, hate speech offences have not been excluded from the below breakdown, as they could have been committed in conjunction with additional bias-motivated offences.

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Damage to property

This category includes the offences of vandalism, mischief in relation to cultural property, hate-motivated mischief relating to property used by an identifiable group, and mischief relating to war memorials.



Physical assault

This category does not include violations for unlawfully causing bodily harm, criminal negligence causing bodily harm, or other assaults.



Threats/ threatening behaviour



Harassment



Other

This category includes: other violations causing death; attempting the commission of a capital crime; other sexual violations; violations resulting in the deprivation of freedom; other violations resulting in the threat of violence; the possession/trafficking of stolen goods; fraud; other Criminal Code violations; other federal statute offences; Controlled Drugs and Substances Act offences; and traffic violations. Advocating genocide and public incitement of hatred, although typically hate speech offences, are also presented here for reasons stated above. Finally, this category includes those crimes which could not be presented separately due to their low number and the resulting violation of confidentiality rules.



Disturbance of the peace



Theft/ robbery



Burglary

National Developments

Spearheaded by Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2024-2028, in 2024 the Government of Canada launched Canada's Action Plan on Combatting Hate. This plan is intended to empower communities with the resources they need to identify and prevent hate, increase support to victims and survivors, and create a co-ordinated approach across government to protect Canadians. This includes strengthening co-ordination between law enforcement and at-risk communities, enhanced readiness, and increased collaboration with provincial and territorial governments.

Incidents reported by civil society

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of hate incidents in Canada from the following civil society organizations:

- Catholic Civil Rights League (CCRL)
- International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF)
- International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism (LICRA)
- National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM)
- TGEU – Trans Europe and Central Asia

To learn more about these organizations, visit the Contributors page.

Individual incidents submitted by CSOs have been analysed by ODIHR. Those that are broadly considered to be hate crimes within the OSCE definition (criminal offence committed with a bias motive) are listed in the tables below according to the bias motivation category. Some incidents involved multiple biases and may be listed in multiple categories.

ODIHR's insights

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of 98 hate incidents that took place in Canada targeting a total of 145 victims in the following bias motivation categories: anti-Christian, anti-Muslim, anti-Semitic, gender-based, other religion or belief and racist and xenophobic hate incidents.

ODIHR observes that the majority of incidents involved either an anti-Muslim bias, or both an anti-Muslim *and* a racist and xenophobic bias motivation. These incidents mostly targeted visibly Muslim women and included a number of attempted car-ramming attacks. A significant number of incidents also targeted Muslim children while in the company of their parents in spaces such as a day care parking lot, shops, mosques and the victim's neighbourhood. ODIHR also received nine reports of anti-Palestinian incidents, most of which occurred in the context of pro-Palestinian rallies and other expressions of support.

Almost all of the anti-Christian incidents reported to ODIHR targeted the Catholic community and involved property attacks against churches. ODIHR also observes two incidents of anti-Catholic violence targeting a parishioner and a pastor while at worship. ODIHR received four incidents of anti-Semitic property attacks, including the widespread theft of mezuzahs from the homes of Jewish residents, as well as vandalism and property damage targeting synagogues. Finally, ODIHR received two reports of gender-based abductions targeting women and carried out by armed men.

It should be noted that ODIHR did **not** receive any reporting on Canada relating to anti-LGBTI, anti-Roma, and disability hate incidents, and received a low level of reporting on anti-Semitic, gender-based and other religion or belief hate incidents. This indicates potential gaps in the information reported here.
Please note that incidents reported here are based on voluntary civil society submissions and as such do not reflect the actual number of incidents or the most targeted communities in Canada.

To address under-reporting, ODIHR encourages any civil society organizations or groups that monitor hate incidents to report these to ODIHR at hatecrimereport@odihr.pl.

To export an Excel sheet with summaries of all incidents from Canada click here.

View civil society incidents for Canada, 2025

