

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2011 Hate Crime Report.

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

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

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Summary

Finland regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR and has conducted victimization surveys to measure unreported hate crime incidents. The Finnish police closely co-operate with the Finnish Human Rights League, the Finnish Red Cross and Finnish Victim Support to develop a co-ordinated response to combat hate crimes. These organizations, along with the national police and other key authorities, form a network tasked by Finland's Ministry of Justice with monitoring hate crime in Finland and developing effective preventative measures.

In 2017, Finland implemented ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crimes for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme, training over 1,000 police officers. The programme's hate crime modules have since been integrated into pre- and in-service training for police.

[Hate crime data collection in Finland](#)

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

[Hate crime capacity building in Finland](#)

[Finland's hate crime legislation](#)

Official Data

Police figures include crimes of defamation, other hate speech crimes and crimes of discrimination. These are, however, not included in the breakdowns below. Prosecution and sentencing figures only include crimes of ethnic agitation, aggravated ethnic agitation, discrimination, work discrimination and extortionate discrimination.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2011	1,418	29	12

Police data by bias motivation

909

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

Official figures record 909 racist and xenophobic hate crimes: 640 physical assaults including three attempted murders, 108 cases of damage to property/vandalism, 23 cases of disturbance of the peace, and 138 cases of threats.

360

Unspecified

73

Hate crime against Christians and members of other religions

Official figures record 73 anti-religious crimes, including 29 physical assaults, 25 cases of damage to property/vandalism, 5 disturbances of domestic peace and 14 cases of threats.

59

Anti-LGBTI hate crime

Official figures record 59 hate crimes, including 48 physical assaults based on bias against LGBT, one case of disturbance of the peace, two cases of damage to property and eight cases of threats.

17

Disability hate crime

Official figures record 17 cases of crimes based on bias towards people with disabilities including 12 physical assaults, two cases of threats, and three cases of damage to property.

Police data by type of crime

729

Physical assault

389

Unspecified

162

Threats/ threatening behaviour

138

Damage to property

'Damage to property' includes 'vandalism'

National Developments

New hate crime amendments entered into force on 1 June 2011. These amendments increased the applicability of the general sentencing enhancement for bias-motivated crime to specifically include motivations against “race”, religion, sexual orientation and disability. Additionally, the provision no longer requires the victim to be a member of a specific group, provided that the victim or targeted property was perceived by the offender to be associated with a particular group.

The **National Police Board** issued instructions for police on recording and categorizing hate crime, which entered into force in January 2012. The categorization method aims to provide more detailed information on hate crimes, including prevalence, victims and perpetrators, in order to improve understanding of the issues around hate crime and better detect patterns of linked incidents for better informed policing responses.

Incidents reported by civil society

No data reported to ODIHR.

[View civil society incidents for Finland, 2011](#)