OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2020 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

1 2020

Summary

Germany regularly reports to ODIHR.

Germany has conducted victimization surveys to measure under-reported hate crimes. A recent crime survey report is available here. Close collaboration with civil society in the area of hate crime victim support has been established at the federal level, namely with the Weisser Ring civil society organization (CSO) and a number of specialized CSOs. The German government funds several organizations and projects to monitor hate incidents and assist hate crime victims, including the Competence Network Against Antisemitism (KOMPAS), and the Competence Network on Hate on the Net. The Federal Ministry of Justice and the Federal Victims' Commissioner are in regular contact with a number of victim support institutions and victims' representatives.

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. In 2023, the Federal Ministry of the Interior and Community of Germany, in co-operation with ODIHR and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, organized a hate crime data workshop to review the existing hate crime recording and data collection framework and identify gaps. Following the workshop, ODIHR and FRA prepared a report summarizing the main issues and measures to improve hate crime recording in Germany, as identified by workshop participants.

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 in addressing the prosecution of hate crimes, namely through improving the cooperation between the relevant stakeholders, as well as the submitted information regarding 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 the raising awareness and building the capacity of criminal justice officials about hate crimes.

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
2020	10,240	not available	not available

Police data by bias motivation

One criminal incident may be recorded with more than one bias motivation in the breakdown below.



Police data by type of crime

One criminal incident may be recorded with more than one bias motivation in the breakdown below.



Unspecified crime type



Physical assault



Damage to property

This category includes cases of vandalism.



Threats/ threatening behaviour



Theft/ robbery



Desecration of graves



Arson



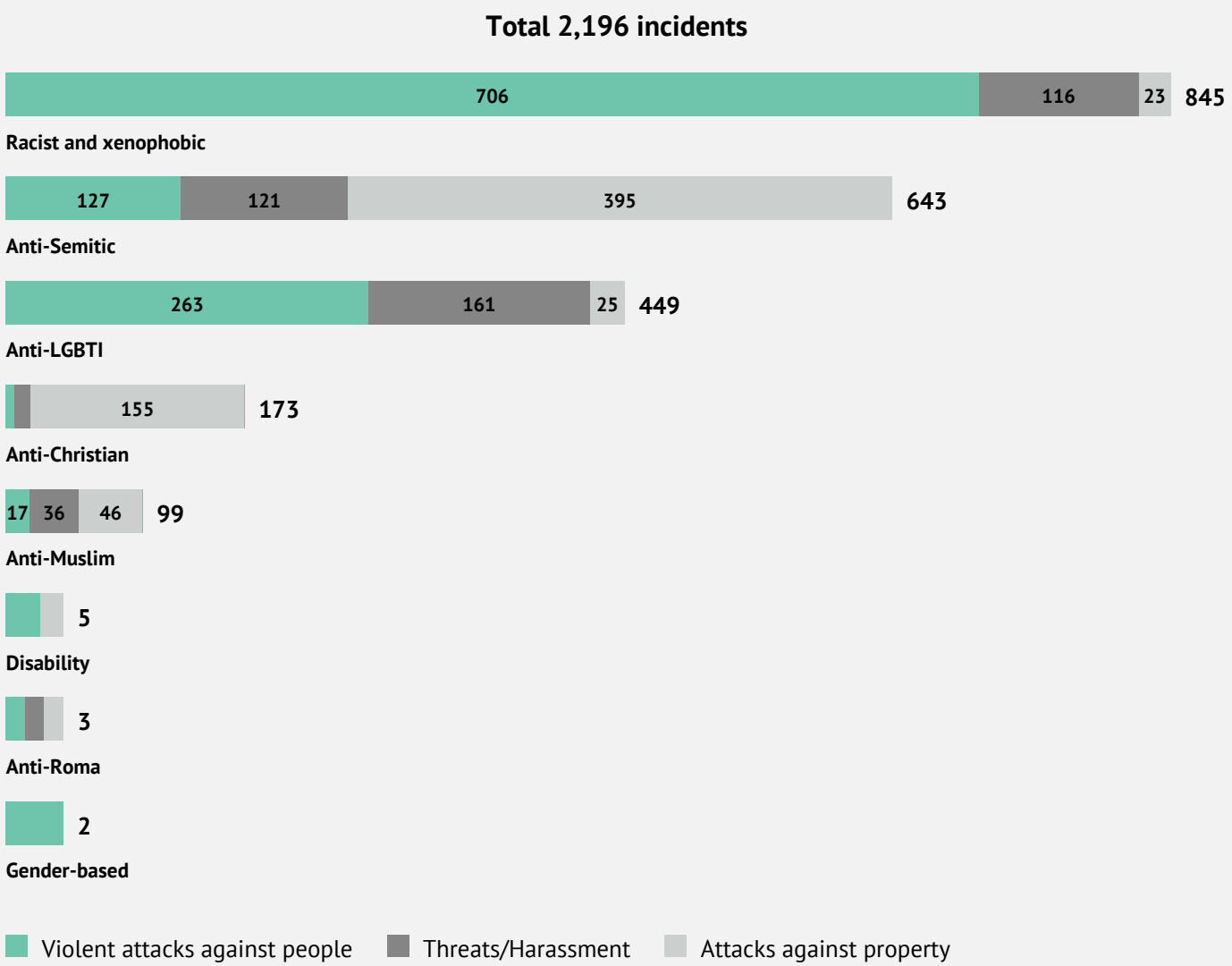
Homicide

National Developments

In 2020, the **German Federal Parliament** passed the Act on Combating Right-Wing Extremism and Hate Crime to give better protection to victims of hate speech and hate crimes. Most of its parts came into effect in April 2021. The Act includes amendments to various federal laws. In particular, it extended 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.

The **Federal Ministry of Justice** funded a project of the German Institute for Human Rights (DIMR), which intended to improve the prosecution of racist crimes and, in particular, structures of cooperation between various actors (justice system, public prosecutor's office, police, victim protection associations, etc.). It consists of pilot projects in three Länder and is intended to last three years.

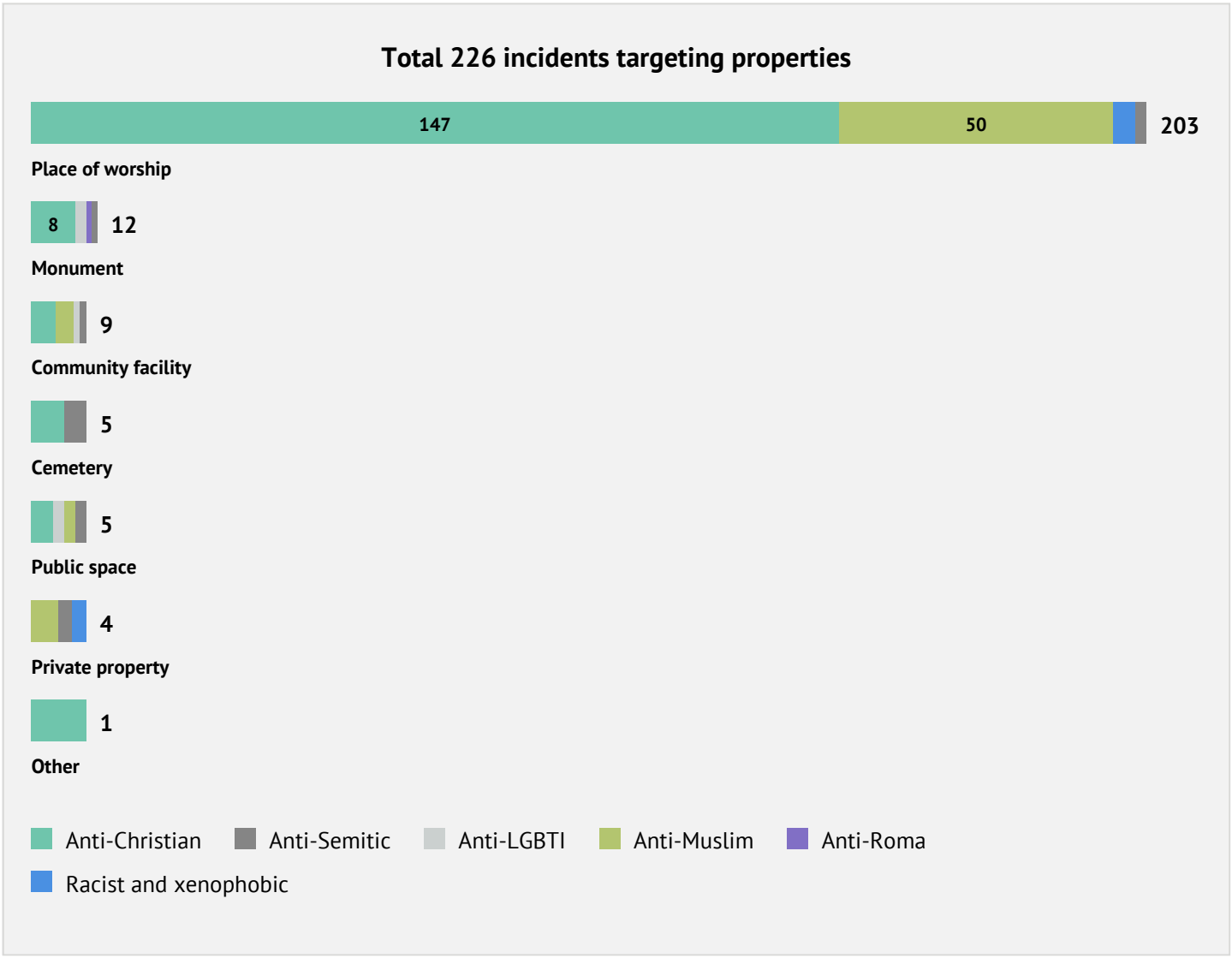
Incidents reported by civil society



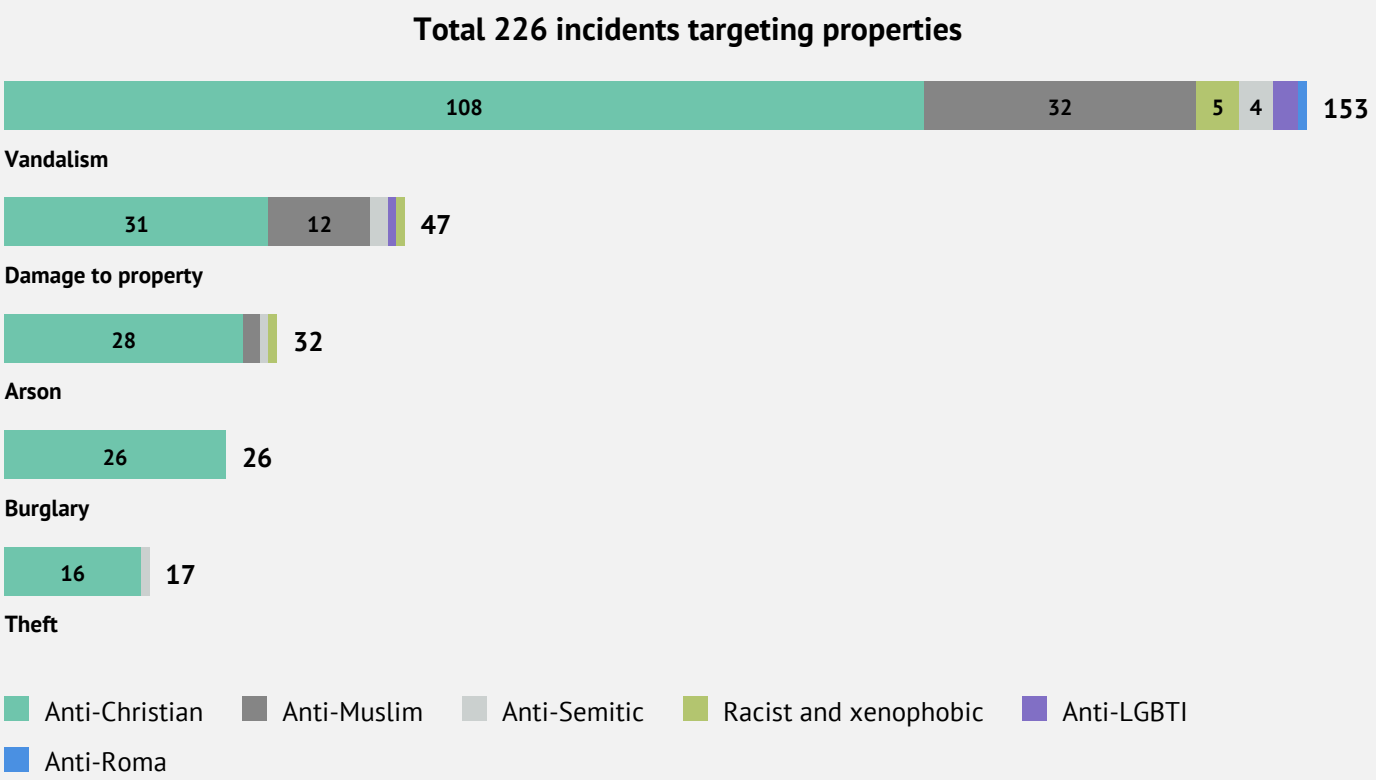
Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

In addition to incidents summarized below, this graph includes the following numbers of hate incidents reported as statistics: 6 reported by jugendschutz.net; 521 reported by RIAS/VDK; 990 reported by VBRG; 304 reported by MANEO; and 59 reported by Kantor Center.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Germany, 2020