OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2021 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 2021

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 to address the prosecution of hate crimes, including by improving co-operation among relevant stakeholders, including civil society, as well as by submitting information on 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 raising awareness among and building the capacity of criminal justice officials to address hate crime.

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
2021	10,501	not available	not available

Police data by bias motivation

The breakdown below may include hate speech offences, which fall outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition. One criminal incident may be recorded with more than one bias motivation in the breakdown below.



Police data by type of crime

The breakdown below may include hate speech offences, which fall outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition. One criminal incident may be recorded with more than one bias motivation in the breakdown below.



Unspecified crime type

1,157

Damage to property

This category includes cases of vandalism.

1,089

Physical assault

625

Threats/ threatening behaviour

114

Theft/ robbery

This category includes the criminal offence of aggravated theft, including cases of burglary.

23

Arson

18

Desecration of graves

8

Disturbance of the peace

7

Homicide

2

Sexual assault

National Developments

In January 2021, amendments to the Act Governing Social Compensation Law of 12 December 2019 came into force to improve the regulation of outpatient trauma clinics. In particular, the Law aims to establish a statutory entitlement for treatment in such clinics, including providing immediate psychological assistance for victims of crime. In August 2021, a new Guideline on the payment of hardship benefits for victims of terrorist and extremist attacks entered into force that improves transparency for victims.

In April 2021, the Act on Combating Right-Wing Extremism and Hate Crime, adopted by the **German Federal Parliament**, came into force. The act includes amendments to various federal laws. In particular, it extends 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.

In September 2021, the **Federal Ministry for Family Affairs**, **Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ)**, the **Association of Counselling Centres for Victims of Right-wing, Racist and Anti-Semitic Violence (VBRG)**, and ODIHR co-organized a two-day virtual event as part of ODIHR's hate crime victim support project. The aim of the event was to present the German support system, especially for persons affected by hate crime, to participants from various European countries. The project was funded by the EU Commission and the **German Federal Foreign Office**, and aimed to facilitate an exchange of best practices and the development of new strategies to better support the victims of hate crime.

In October 2021, the **Federal Victims' Commissioner** hosted a workshop to improve support for and enhance networking between initiatives and organizations that care for victims of right-wing violence. The aim of the workshop was to enable victim (protection) commissioners and central contact points of the Länder to strengthen their networking with the counselling centres for victims of right-wing violence and the centres for democracy.

The **Federal Ministry of Justice** continued funding a project of the German Institute for Human Rights (DIMR), aimed at improving the prosecution of racist crimes and structures of co-operation between various actors (the justice system, public prosecutor's office, police, and victim protection associations, among others). It consists of pilot projects in three Länder and is intended to last three years.

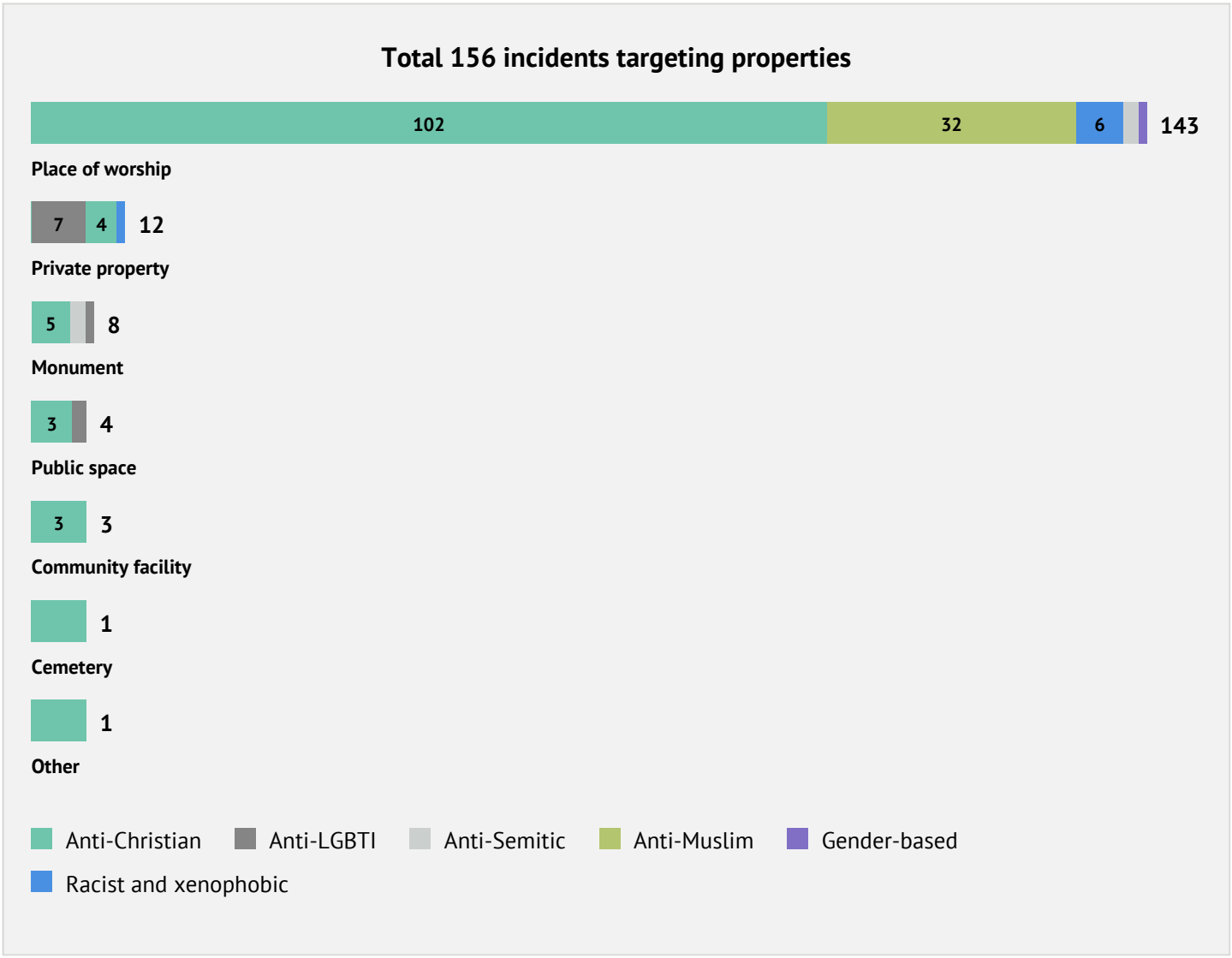
Incidents reported by civil society



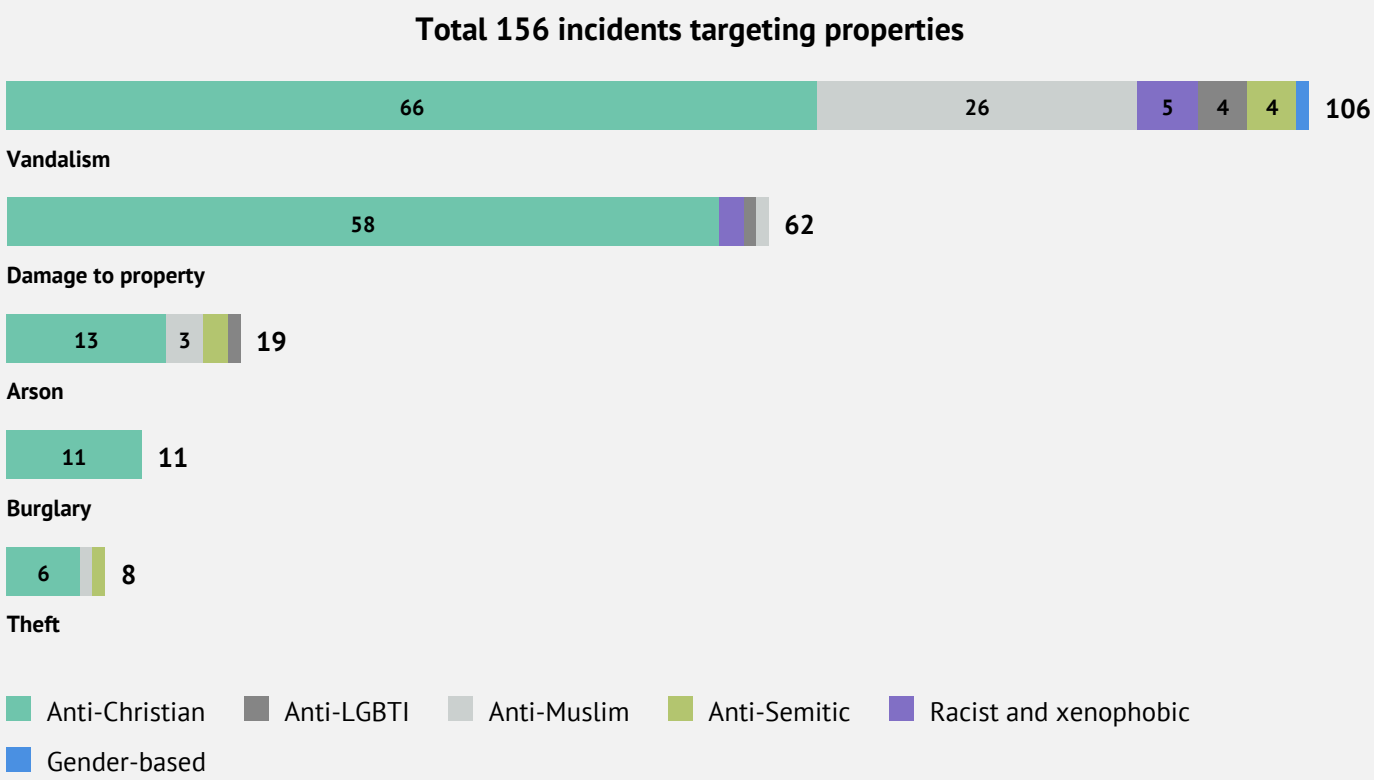
Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

In addition to the incidents summarized below, this graph includes the following numbers of hate incidents reported as statistics: 873 reported by the Federal Association of Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism (RIAS); 898 reported by the Association of Counseling Centers for Victims of Right-wing, Racist and Antisemitic Violence in Germany (VBRG); and 203 reported by MANEO.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Germany, 2021