OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

1 2022

Summary

Germany regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. 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 Federal Ministry of Justice and the Federal Victims' Commissioner are in regular contact with a number of victim support institutions and victims' representatives. Germany has conducted victimization surveys to measure under-reported hate crimes. The most recent report covering 2012-2017 is available here.

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.

The German government funds several organizations and projects to monitor hate incidents and assist hate crime victims. These include the Competence Network Against Antisemitism (KOMPAS), which consists of five experienced civil society organizations that register anti-Semitic incidents and develop measures to prevent anti-Semitism. The government also funds the Competence Network on Hate on the Net, which advises victims of hate speech, strengthens civil society networks, and develops media literacy materials.

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 enhance hate crime data collection and recording, as well as efforts to ensure the provision of specialist hate crime victim support. 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 combat 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
2022	11,520	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.

	10,038

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

	2,641

Anti-Semitic hate crime

	1,422

Anti-LGBTI hate crime

This category includes 1,005 hate crimes committed with a bias based on sexual orientation, and 417 hate crimes committed with a bias based on gender identify.

	610

Anti-Muslim hate crime

	220

Gender-based hate crime

	145

Anti-Roma hate crime

	135

Anti-Christian hate crime

	88

Disability hate crime

	40

Other hate crime based on religion or belief
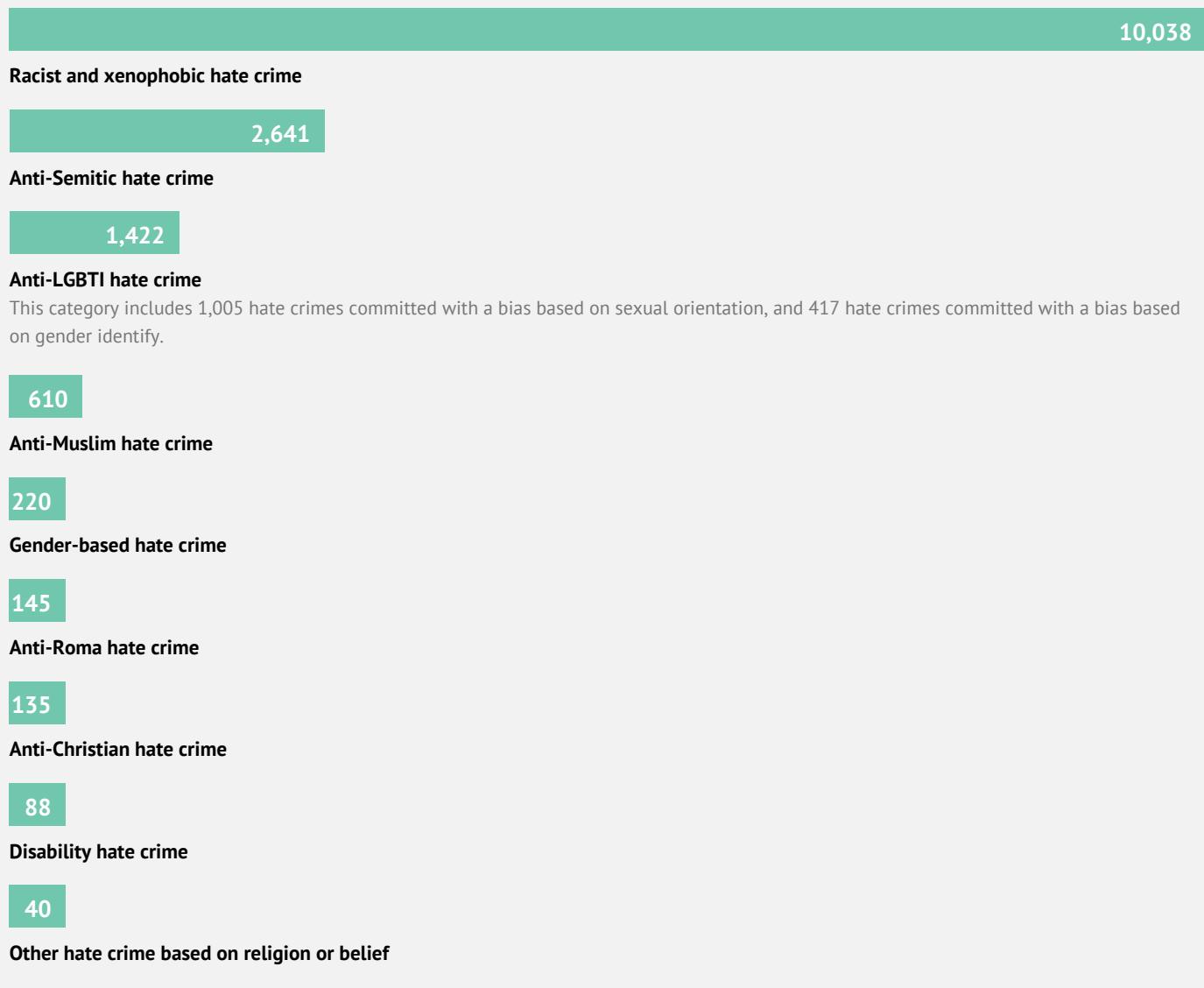
Police data by type of crime

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.

	12,039

Unspecified
This category includes crimes registered by the police that do not fall under other categories, and may include offences that are outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition.

1,451

Physical assault

953

Damage to property
This category includes cases of vandalism.

680

Threats/ threatening behaviour

149

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

28

Desecration of graves

26

Arson

8

Disturbance of the peace

5

Homicide

National Developments

In 2022, there were several ongoing projects to **improve hate crime data**, whereby police co-operated with victim associations and prevention institutions at the local level. For example, the Berlin Criminal Police Office co-operated with the Gay Anti-Violence Project "Maneo" and the Research and Information Centre for Antisemitism (RIAS). The Federal Ministry of the Interior and for Community started a research project on co-operation between civil society and the police in recording hate crime. The aim of the research project was to further improve co-operation between police forces and victim associations. The study is intended to identify best practices for such co-operation in Germany and abroad.

The **Federal Ministry of Justice** organizes a yearly conference on racism at the **German Judicial Academy**. In 2022, the conference addressed racism in connection with criminal law, and focused on prosecuting crimes involving racism, racist motives as aggravating circumstances, identifying racist motives, and protecting victims during criminal proceedings, among other topics.

In addition, the **Federal Ministry of Justice** provided financial support to projects run by civil society organizations (CSOs) relevant to addressing hate crimes. One such project, titled "Digital Violence in a Volatile Environment: New Phenomena, Forms of Violence and Groups of Victims" and run by the CSO HateAid, deals with new and virulent developments in the field of digital violence.

In November 2022, the **German Federal Government's National Strategy against Antisemitism and for Jewish Life** was adopted. Addressing anti-Semitic hate crime and tackling under-reporting are key issues featured in the document.

In 2022, a project of the **German Institute for Human Rights (DIMR)** on racism, anti-Semitism and right-wing extremism, funded by the Ministry of Justice was completed. The aim of the project was to make the prosecution of racist and anti-Semitic crimes more effective and, in particular, to increase the number of reported crimes. In particular, the project was designed to improve the structures of co-operation between various actors – including within the justice system, public prosecutor's office, police, and victim protection associations – as part of pilot projects in three Länder. In addition, action strategies were developed to establish or expand appropriate co-operation structures, such as the creation of round tables on relevant crimes, appointment of contact persons in the public prosecutor's office, the police and the courts for victims of such crimes, and further development of existing structures or those currently being set up in the area of victim protection (such as central contact points, victim advocates, psychosocial process support) with regard to the specific target group of victims of racist, anti-Semitic and right-wing extremist crimes.

Incidents reported by civil society

Total 2,281 incidents

Racist and xenophobic hate crime
622 | 241 | 63 — **926**

Anti-Semitic hate crime
62 | 78 | 634 — **774**

Anti-LGBTI hate crime
205 | 84 | 27 — **316**

Anti-Christian hate crime
196 — **225**

Anti-Muslim hate crime
29 — **41**

Gender-based hate crime
— **14**

Disability hate crime
— **9**

■ Violent attacks against people   ■ Threats/Harassment   ■ Attacks against property
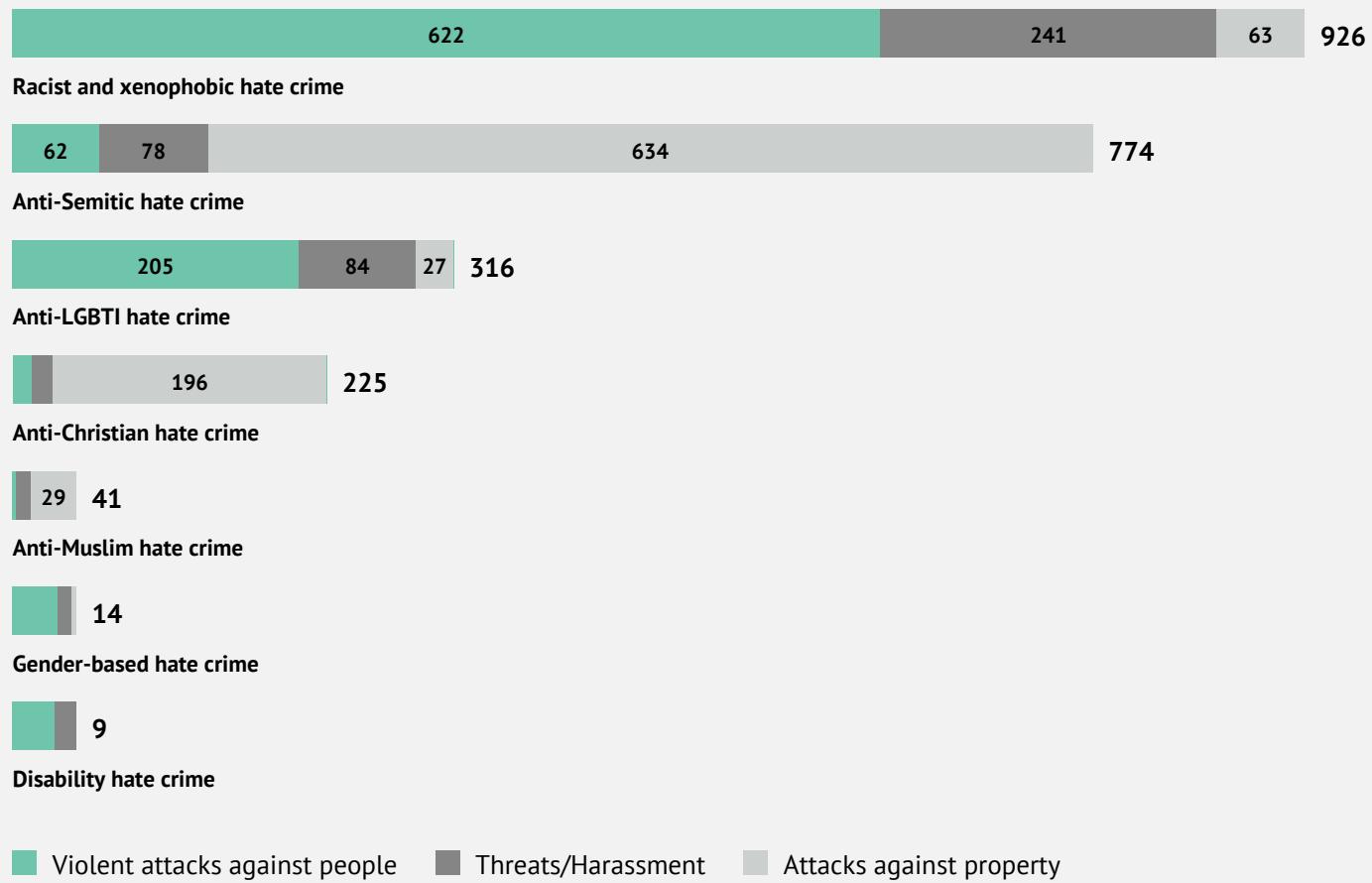
Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

In addition to incidents submitted with detailed descriptions, this graph includes the following figures reported as statistics: 29 anti-Muslim incidents reported by FAIR International; 723 anti-Semitic incidents reported by the Federal Association of Departments for Research and Information on Antisemitism (RIAS); 888 racist and xenophobic, 116 anti-LGBTI and 9 disability hate incidents reported by the Association of Counseling Centers for Victims of Right-wing, Racist and Antisemitic Violence in Germany (VBRG); and 158 anti-LGBTI incidents reported by MANEO.

Targeted properties

Total 266 incidents targeting properties

185	8	7 5 **205**

Place of worship

8	6	**22**

Private property

11	7	**20**

Monument

6	**11**

Cemetery

6	**9**

Public space

8

Community facility

3

School

1

Other

- ■ Anti-Christian hate crime
- ■ Anti-LGBTI hate crime
- ■ Anti-Muslim hate crime
- ■ Anti-Semitic hate crime
- ■ Gender-based hate crime
- ■ Racist and xenophobic hate crime

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Type of property attack

Total 266 incidents targeting properties

64	23	13	5	5	111

Vandalism

100	5	3		110

Damage to property

44	5	5	3	57

Arson

16	17
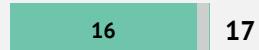
Theft

- ■ Anti-Christian hate crime
- ■ Anti-Muslim hate crime
- ■ Anti-Semitic hate crime
- ■ Racist and xenophobic hate crime
- ■ Anti-LGBTI hate crime
- ■ Gender-based hate crime

View civil society incidents for Germany, 2022