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/italy

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

1 2020

Summary

Italy regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Annual reports on hate crimes have been published since 2010 and can be accessed here.

The Observatory for Security against Discriminatory Acts (OSCAD) carries out activities to prevent, counter and monitor hate crimes. OSCAD works closely with the National Office Against Racial Discrimination (UNAR), which deals with non-criminal hate incidents and co-ordinates a permanent consultation group to promote LGBTI rights and protection.

Italy implemented ODIHR's TAHCLE (Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement) programme in 2014. Italy also participated in ODIHR's project on "Building a Comprehensive Criminal Justice Response to Hate Crime", which included the training of police, civil society, and lawyers on hate crime investigation and victim support, and the mapping of available hate crime data in the Lombardy region.

Hate crime data collection in Italy
Support for hate crime victims in Italy
Hate crime capacity building in Italy
Italy's hate crime legislation

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Italy's efforts in raising awareness among its police about hate crimes targeting groups that are not explicitly covered by the current criminal legislation, as well as the submitted information regarding police records. However, based on the available information, it observes that since 2018, Italy has not reported data on hate crimes recorded by the prosecution and judiciary to ODIHR. In addition, ODIHR observes that Italy would benefit from reviewing its existing legal framework in order to ensure that bias motivations can be effectively acknowledged and appropriate penalties can be imposed on the perpetrators.

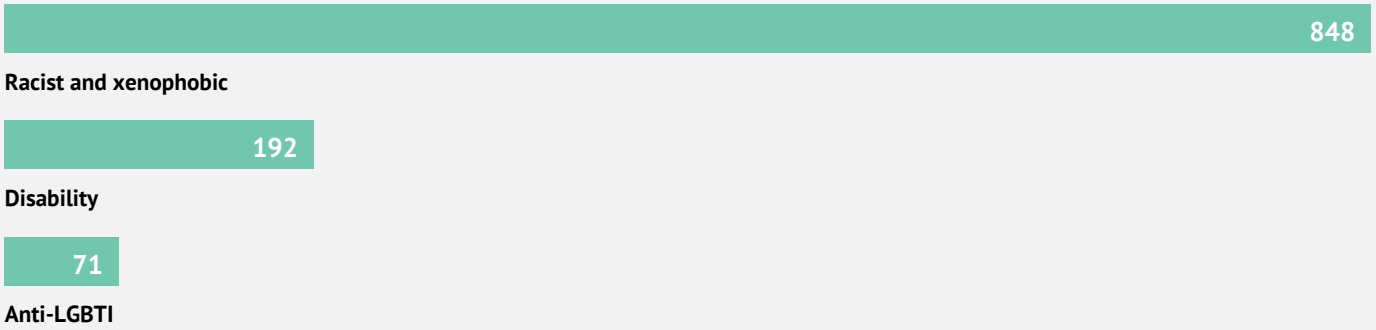
Official Data

The data refers to the number of criminal offences, with one incident potentially involving several offences and one offence involving potentially more perpetrators. Data include both substantial crimes and crimes aggravated by a general penalty enhancement. The reported numbers include some cases of hate speech and discrimination. 16 further hate speech offences committed online and handled by the Postal and Communications Police Service were not included here.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2020	1,111	not available	not available

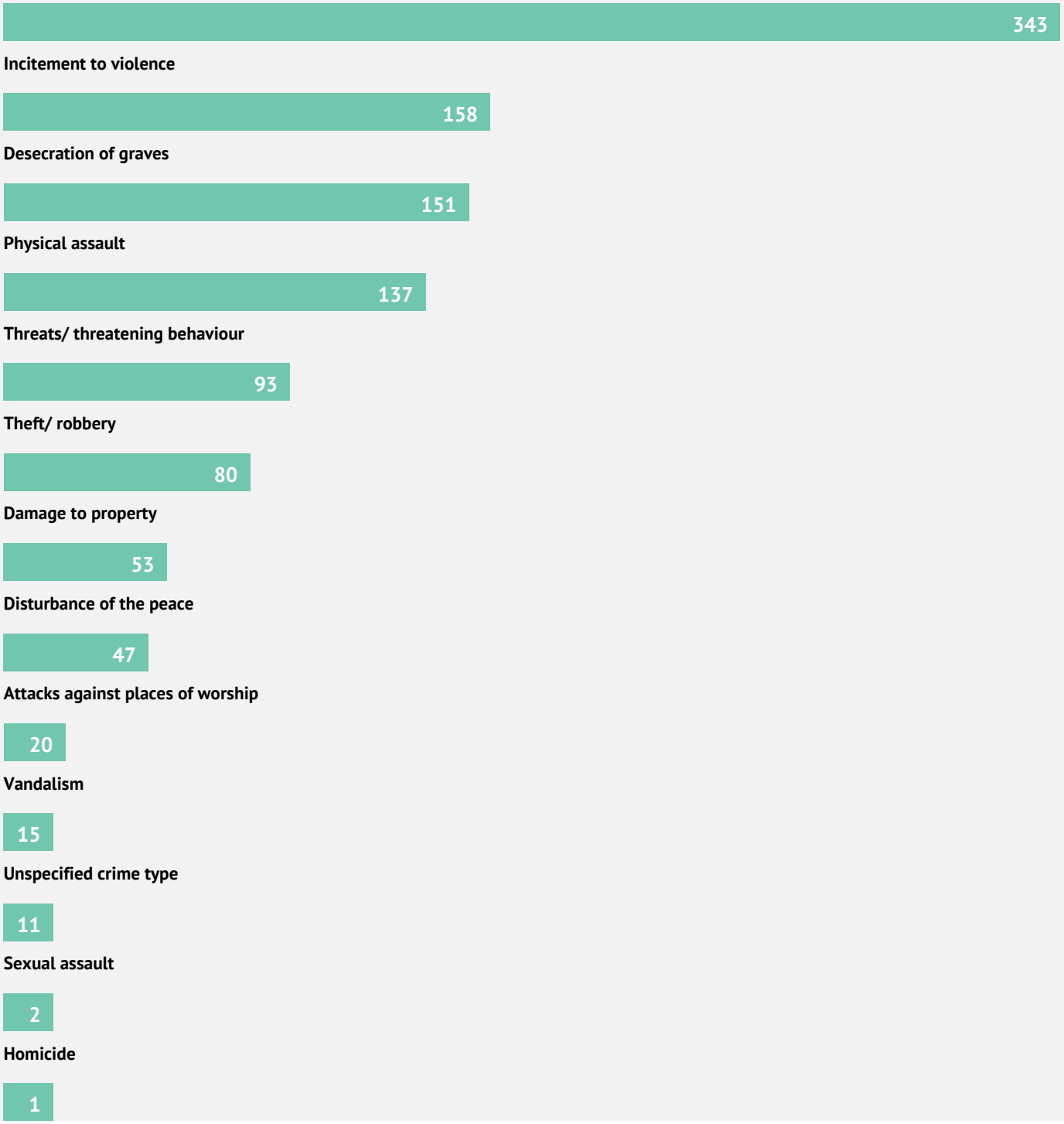
Police data by bias motivation

The data presented here includes information from the police database (SDI) and information gathered by the Observatory for Security against Acts of Discrimination (OSCAD). The breakdown below consists of: (i) SDI data covering the following bias motivations: "race/colour"; ethnicity; nationality; language; anti-Semitism; bias against Roma and Sinti; bias against Muslims; and bias against members of other religions; and (ii) OSCAD data on hate crimes motivated by bias against "sexual orientation and transgender identity" and bias against people with "disability".



Police data by type of crime

The data presented here includes information from the police database (SDI) and information gathered by the Observatory for Security against Acts of Discrimination (OSCAD). The breakdown below consists of: (i) SDI data covering the following bias motivations: "race/colour"; ethnicity; nationality; language; anti-Semitism; bias against Roma and Sinti; bias against Muslims; and bias against members of other religions; and (ii) OSCAD data on hate crimes motivated by bias against "sexual orientation and transgender identity" and bias against people with "disability".



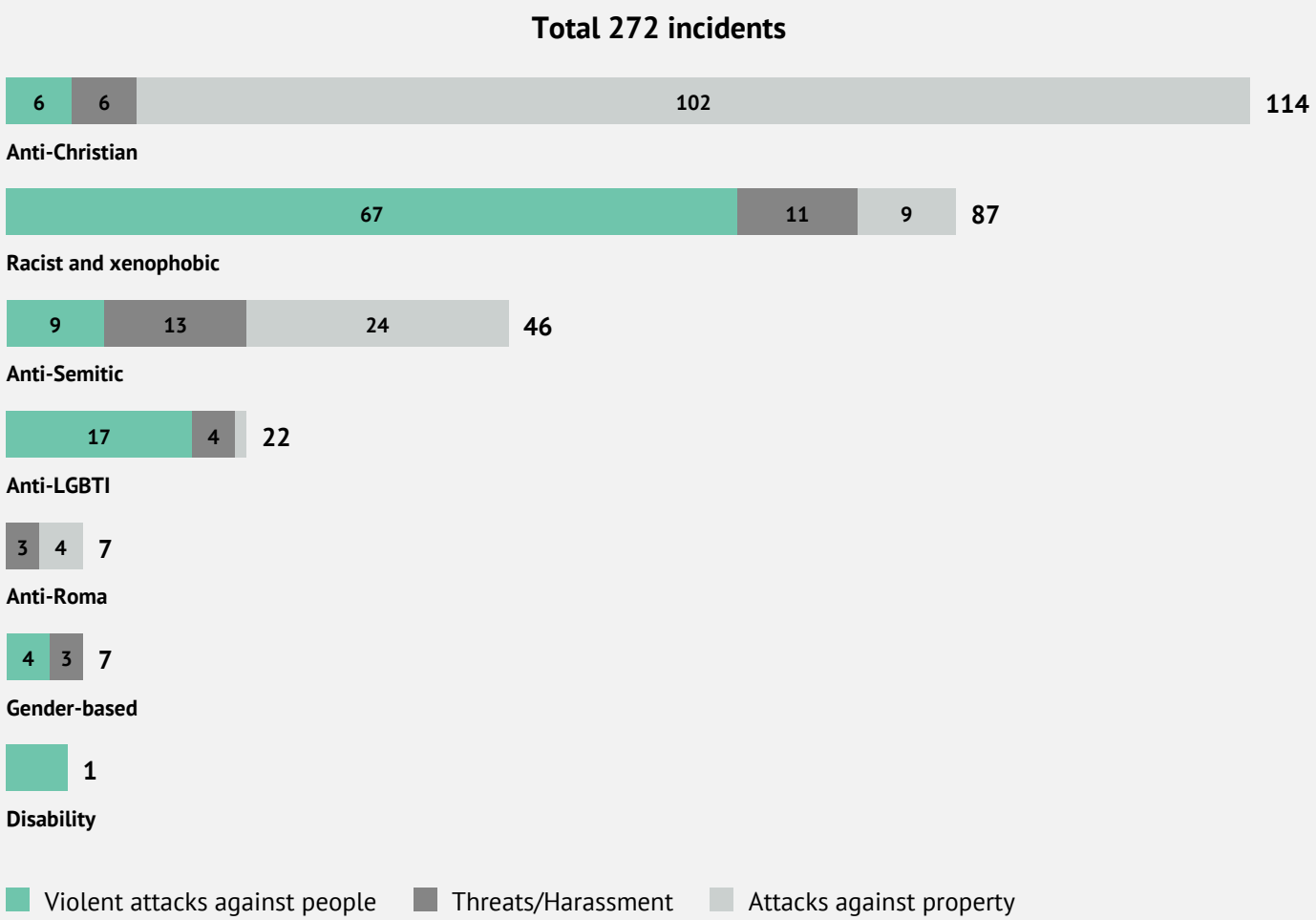
Arson

National Developments

In January 2020, a conference entitled "Victims of Hatred" was organized under the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, with the participation, among others, of the Minister of the Interior, the Minister for Equal Opportunities, and the Chief of Police-Director General of Public Security. Based on the conference, a paper entitled "When Hatred Becomes A Crime- Hate Crimes Characteristics and Legislation" was published in the official **National Police** (*Polizia di Stato*) monthly review "Polizia Moderna" of January 2020. The paper is an easy-to-read informative tool, to allow for better understanding of hate crimes, their characteristics and peculiarities, bias indicators, vulnerable victims, and relevant legislation (both national and international). The paper was also published in Italian and English on the websites of the Ministry of the Interior, the National Police and the Carabinieri Corps. Another paper entitled "Hatred of disabled people" addressing disability hate crimes was published in Polizia Moderna (October 2020 issue) and in Italian and English on the mentioned websites, as well as being disseminated among the Italian and international police forces and stakeholders.

In 2020, **OSCAD** further adapted of three training modules developed in the framework of the project "Facing all the facts" ("What a hate crime is", "Bias Indicators" and "Vulnerable victims") on the SISFOR (multi-agency) online platform. It also implemented a fourth module dedicated to ethnic-racial discriminatory profiling. The four modules constituted the teaching materials for a professional training day in 2021 ("When hatred becomes a crime") for all officers of the National Police, available through the mentioned SISFOR platform.

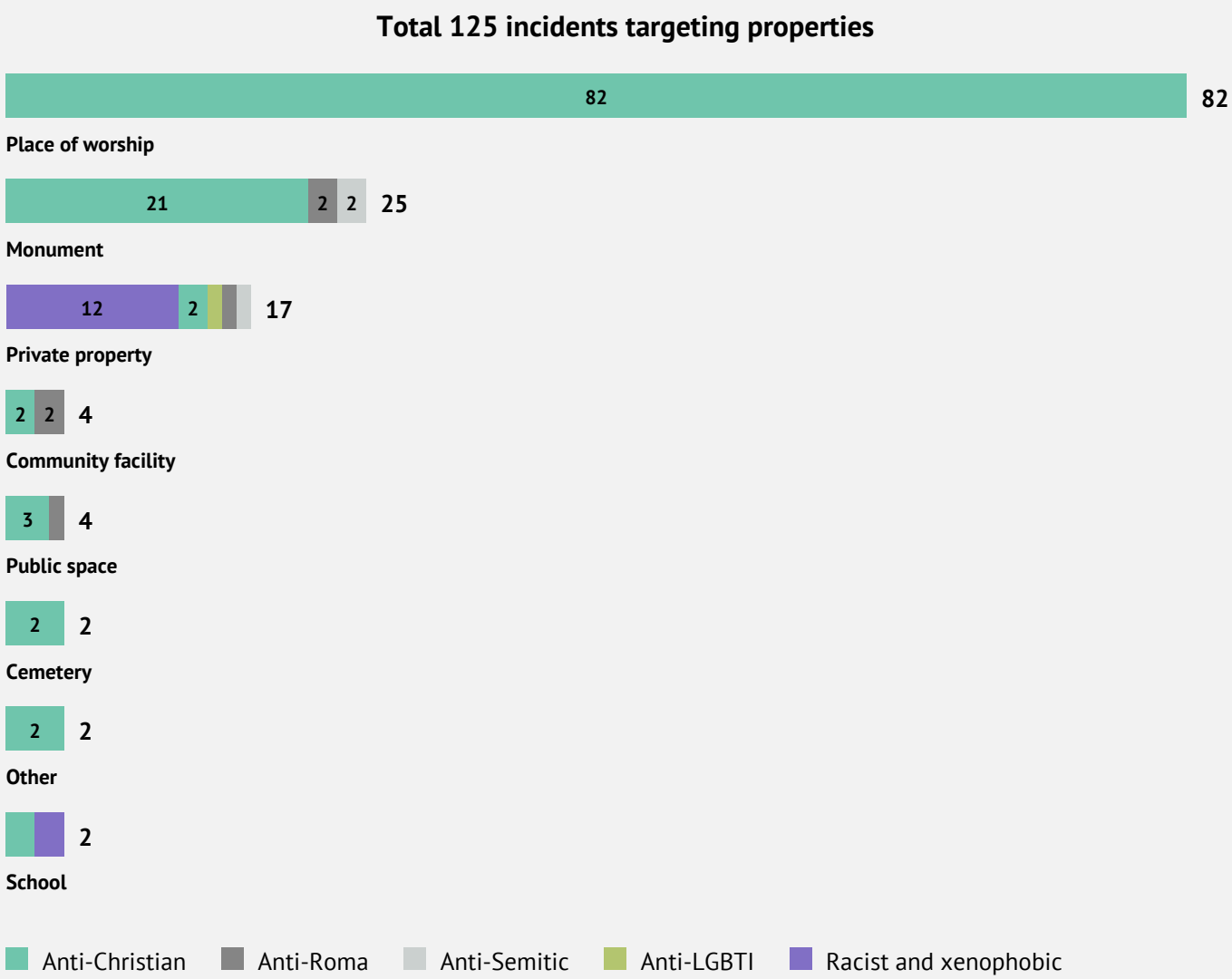
Incidents reported by civil society



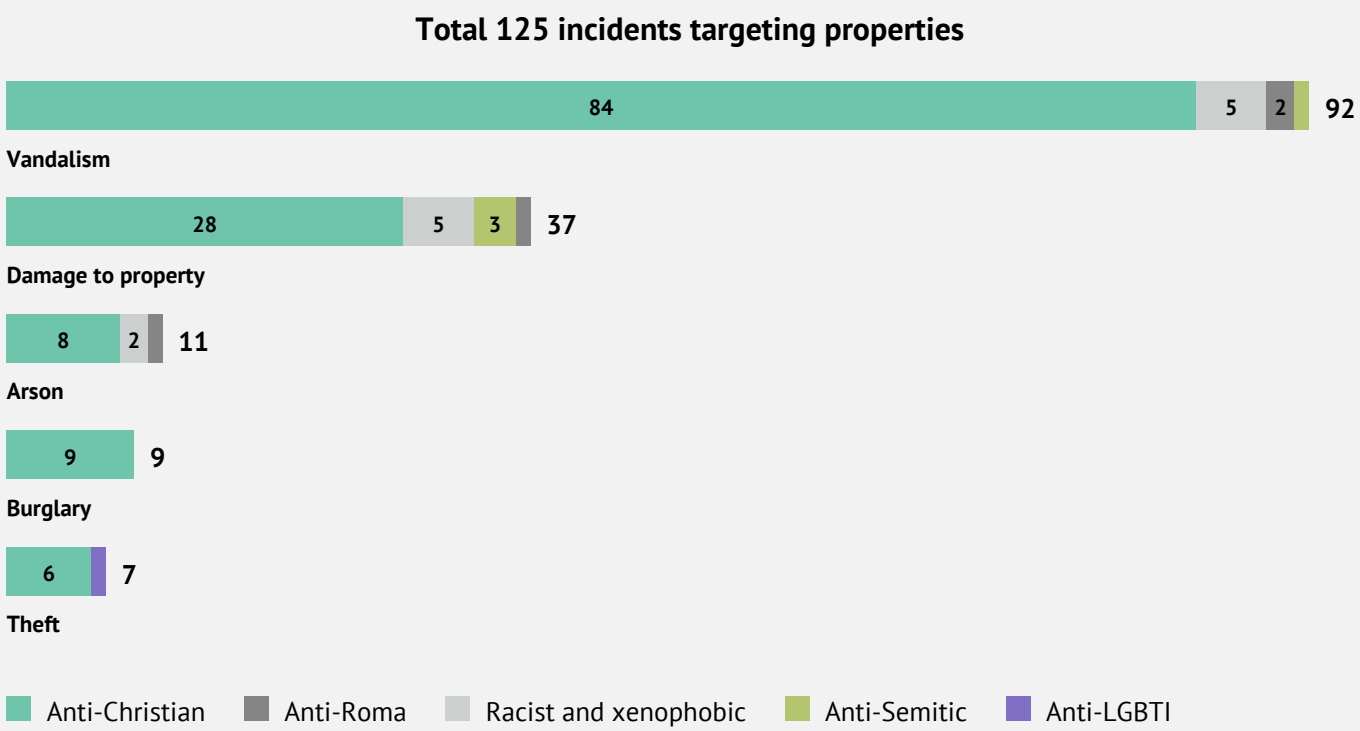
Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

In addition to incidents summarized below, this graph includes the following numbers of hate incidents reported as statistics: 35 reported by Observatory of Anti-Semitism; and 8 reported by Kantor Center.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Italy, 2020