OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2025 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

2025

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 to increase the capacity of the police and magistrates on hate crime identification, investigation and punishment. However, based on the available information, it observes that Italy does not disaggregate some records by bias motivations and that Italy's hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes. 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.

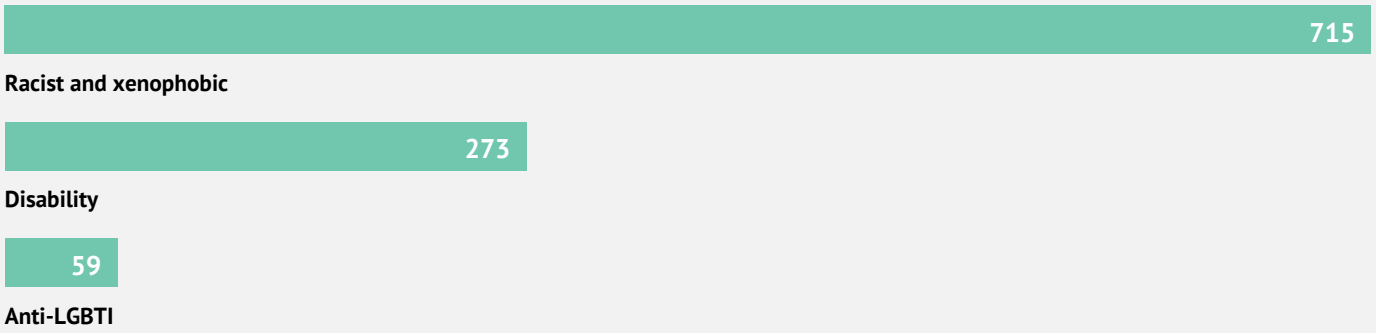
Official Data

The police recorded figure refers to the number of alleged criminal offences, with one incident potentially involving several offences and one offence potentially involving more than one perpetrator. The data include both substantive offences and aggravated crimes that involve an increased penalty. The prosecution and sentencing figures relate to either individuals under investigation or those sentenced (respectively), where a hate crime aggravating circumstance provision was invoked in the procedure. All the figures above may include offences that fall outside the OSCE's definition of a hate crime but which could not be excluded.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2025	1,047	339	112

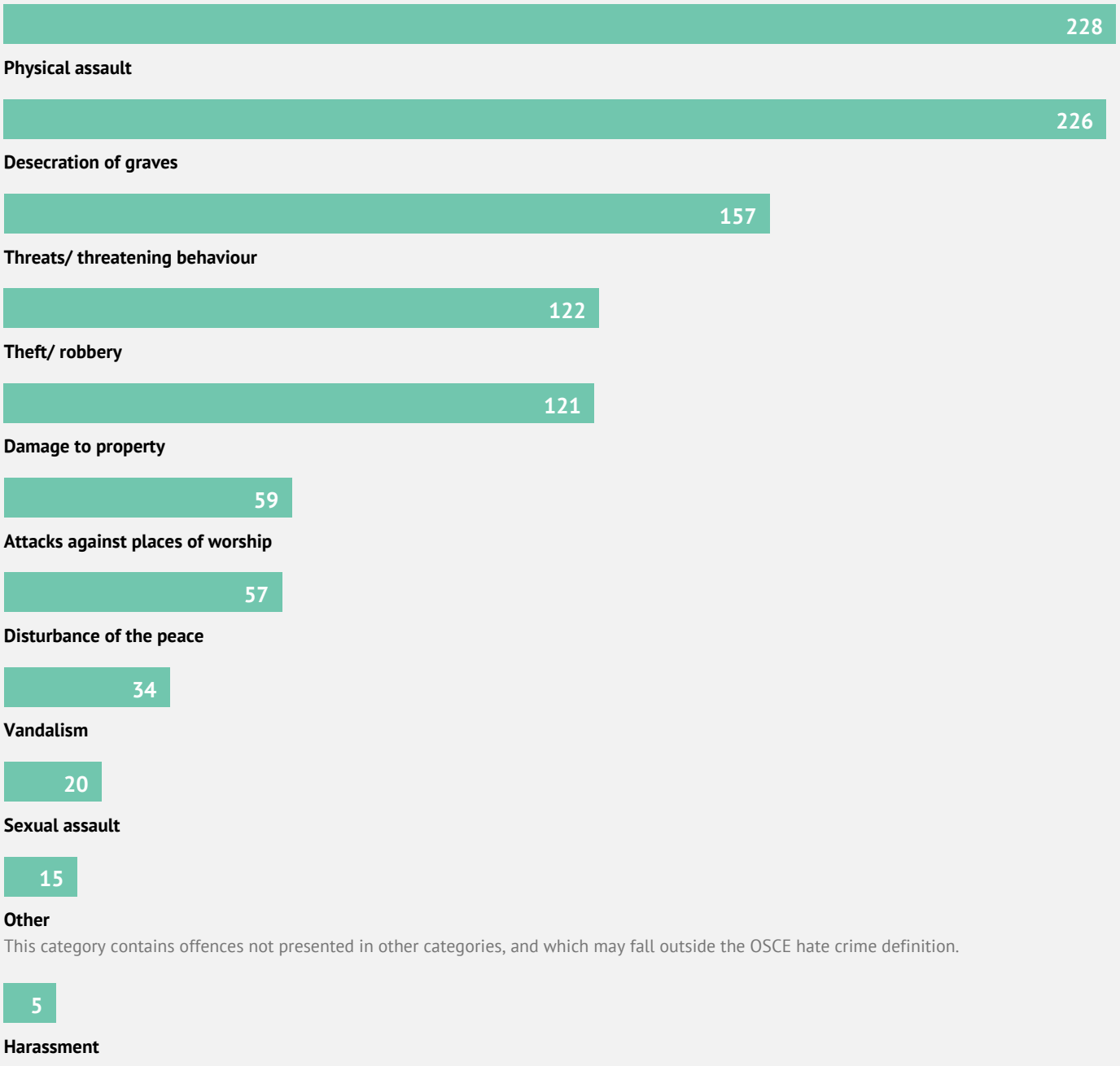
Police data by bias motivation

Police data include information taken 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"/skin colour; ethnicity; nationality; language; anti-Semitism; bias against Roma and Sinti; bias against Muslims; anti-Christian bias; 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 disability. Due to the separate recording systems used by the police and by OSCAD, the data registered by OSCAD might not be present in the police database (SDI).



Police data by type of crime

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2

Arson

1

Homicide

National Developments

Due to the social alarm caused by the high number of homicides of women committed by men in recent years, the Italian Parliament approved Law No. 181 (2 December 2025), 'Introduction of the offence of femicide and other normative measures for combating violence against women and protecting victims'. Consequently, the offence of femicide, along with specific aggravating circumstances for certain offences committed as acts of discrimination and hatred against women, were introduced into the Italian Criminal Code (art. 577–bis).

In 2025, Italy published the National Strategy for Combating Antisemitism and adopted a new National Action Plan against Racism, Xenophobia, and Intolerance, both of which focus on hate crime monitoring, victim protection and staff training.

In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the number of training courses organized by the High School for the Judiciary, including recording, investigating and prosecuting hate crimes. The number of participating magistrates has also increased considerably and exceeded 2,700 participants in 2025 alone.

In 2025, the Observatory for Security against Acts of Discrimination (OSCAD) trained 11,366 police officers on hate crimes. A total of 79,756 personnel were trained by OSCAD between 2012 and 2025.

As part of the Facing all the Facts project, OSCAD joined the initiative on the 'Fight Against Antisemitism through training and awareness-raising activities (F.A.D.E.). Established in 2021, the initiative also involved co-operation with the Union of Italian Jewish Communities (UCEI), the Foundation for the Centre of Contemporary Jewish Documentation (CDEC), and Reflect - Research Evaluation Training Technical Assistance S.R.L., with the National Office Against Racial Discrimination (UNAR) as a lead partner. OSCAD also contributed to the development of educational materials for training courses on "Understanding, recognizing and responding to antisemitism" and "Combating antisemitism: an operational guide for the police". Both training courses aim to improve the ability of public authorities to identify, prosecute and combat incidents of anti-Semitic discrimination and hatred, and draw on the police training guidelines developed by ODIHR. The two training courses were published in December 2025 on the Sisfor e-learning platform for law enforcement agencies and are currently available to all police officers.

Following the first "Victims of hatred" event held in 2020, a second event held in Milan in 2025 followed the same format, bringing together state institutions, civil society organizations and numerous school groups. The event focused on hate speech, social media, artificial intelligence, sport and remembrance as a means of combating the resurgence of anti-Semitism.

Incidents reported by civil society

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of hate incidents in Italy from the following civil society organizations:

- European Association of Jehovah's Witnesses
- Gay Center/Gay Helpline
- International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF)
- Lunaria
- Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe (OIDAC)
- Solidarity with Others

To learn more about these organizations, visit the Contributors page. ODIHR also received reports of incidents recorded by the Holy See as part of their ongoing monitoring across the OSCE region.

Individual incidents submitted by CSOs have been analysed by ODIHR. Those that are broadly considered to be hate crimes within the OSCE definition (criminal offence committed with a bias motive) are listed in the tables below according to the bias motivation category. Some incidents involved multiple biases and may be listed in multiple categories.

ODIHR's insights

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of 224 hate incidents that took place in Italy targeting a total of 164 victims in the following bias motivation categories: anti-Christian, anti-LGBTI, anti-Muslim, anti-Roma, anti-Semitic, and racist and xenophobic. In addition, approximately 10 per cent of incidents involved multiple biases, such as anti-LGBTI *and* gender-based, racist and xenophobic *and* disability, and racist and xenophobic *and* anti-LGBTI.

ODIHR observes that the majority of incidents reported were motivated by anti-Christian bias, almost all of which involved property damage and vandalism targeting Catholic churches and other property, including statues, shrines and nativity scenes. ODIHR also observes a large number of racist and xenophobic incidents, mostly violent attacks targeting victims of African or North African origin, with half of all racist incidents carried by groups of perpetrators. A few racist incidents occurred after the victims were accused of petty crime.

A significant number of anti-LGBTI incidents were also reported, most of which involved physical assault or threats/harassment, with many targeting young people and perpetrated by a group. A limited number of anti-Semitic incidents were also reported, most of which involved violent attacks against visibly Jewish people and in some cases included references to the conflict in the Middle East.

It should be noted that ODIHR did **not** receive any reporting on Italy relating to other religion or belief hate incidents, and received a low level of reporting related to anti-Muslim, anti-Roma and anti-Semitic hate incidents. This indicates potential gaps in the information reported here.

In addition, one reporting organization submitted 176 statistical incidents for which descriptions are not available in the tables below, including 170 anti-Semitic hate incidents and 6 racist and xenophobic hate incidents.
Please note that incidents reported here are based on voluntary civil society submissions and as such do not reflect the actual number of incidents or the most targeted communities in Italy.

To address under-reporting, ODIHR encourages any civil society organizations or groups that monitor hate incidents to report these to ODIHR at hatecrimereport@odihr.pl.

To export an Excel sheet with summaries of all incidents from Italy click here.

View civil society incidents for Italy, 2025