

Netherlands Hate Crime Report 2023

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2023 Hate Crime Report.

For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/netherlands

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

Summary

The Netherlands regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. [Police](#) and [prosecution](#) statistics are published annually. A victimization survey is conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics every two years and the results are published [here](#).

The Netherlands' Criminal Code contains no hate crime provisions, and hate crimes are addressed as "criminal offences with a discriminatory aspect". The Public Prosecution Service provides guidance on investigating and prosecuting such offences ([Aanwijzing Discriminatie](#)), including on prioritising discrimination offences.

In October 2021, the Netherlands appointed a National Coordinator against Discrimination and Racism to ensure a comprehensive approach to countering discrimination and hate crime, including with the involvement of civil society.

In May 2022, a new State Commission against Discrimination and Racism (State Commission) was tasked with conducting research into discrimination and racism, including hate crimes.

The Ministry of the Interior (Mol) regularly consults civil society organizations (CSOs) on anti-discrimination policies. In particular, the Mol has entered into a formal co-operation agreement with the CSO Discriminatie.nl, which monitors discrimination in the Netherlands.

[Hate crime data collection in the Netherlands](#)

[Support for hate crime victims in the Netherlands](#)

[Hate crime capacity building in the Netherlands](#)

[The Netherlands's hate crime legislation](#)

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR. However, based on the available information, it observes that the Netherlands does not collect data on hate crimes at the level of the judiciary. In addition, ODIHR observes that the Netherlands would benefit from reviewing the existing legal framework in order to ensure that bias motivations can be effectively acknowledged and appropriate penalties imposed on the perpetrators.

Official Data

Police-recorded figures only include hate crime incidents within the OSCE definition. Hate speech incidents, including insults, are not included in the figures above (5,694 incidents of insults were recorded in 2023). Where multiple biases are registered for an offence, each bias is registered separately. For judicial and technical reasons, not all hate crime incidents are fully disaggregated. Data on prosecuted cases only include hate crime incidents within the OSCE definition. Prosecutor data present the number of criminal discriminatory offences that can be legally qualified, rather than the number of incidents. One alleged criminal offence or hate crime fact can lead to the registration of more than one discriminatory ground. The judiciary does not record hate crimes, as the discriminatory motive does not need to be proven in court or addressed in judicial decisions. The discrepancy between the police and the prosecution figures can be explained by the different approaches to recording (including a perception-based recording and a broader framework for recording by the police), the fact that not all reported incidents lead to a prosecution (e.g., due to the victim’s preference for an alternative solution or a lack of evidence), and the fact that not all registered hate incidents are found plausible by the prosecution.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2023	3,301	97	not available

Police data by bias motivation

The breakdown below does not include hate speech incidents, including insults, which were recorded separately. The category 'other' in the breakdown below includes incidents that may fall outside the OSCE's hate crime definition. The charts below present the total numbers for each bias motivation; disaggregation by the type of crime is available for some bias motivation categories only.

1,282

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

959

Anti-LGBTI hate crime

255

Anti-Muslim hate crime

231

Anti-Semitic hate crime

50

Disability hate crime

9

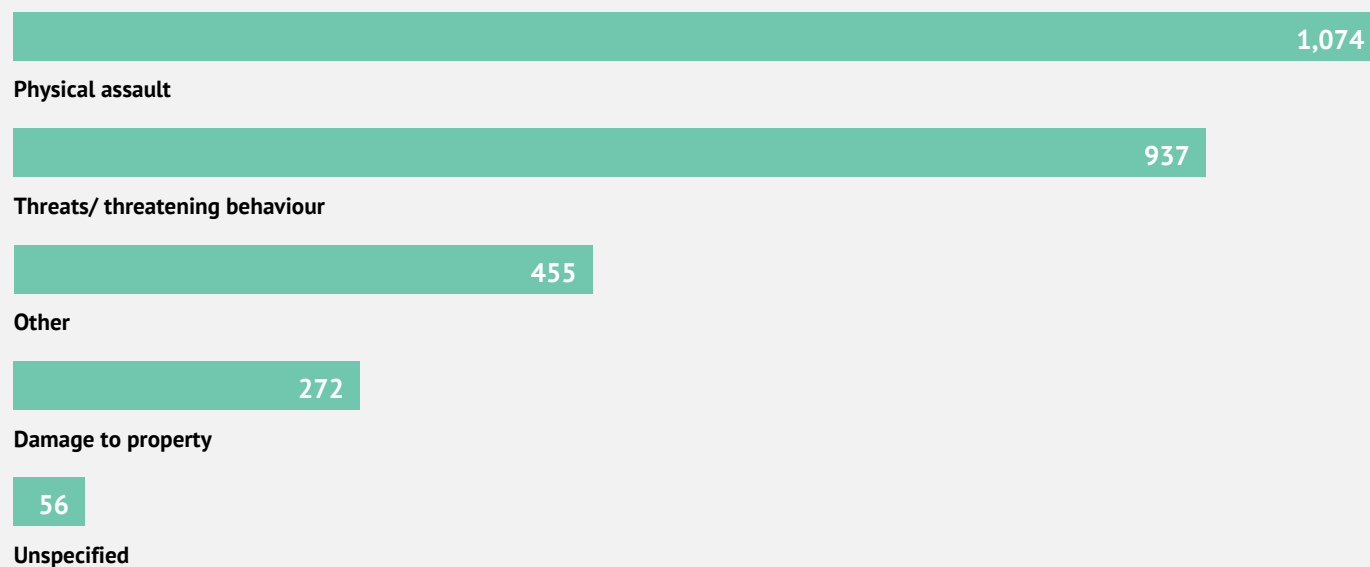
Anti-Christian hate crime

8

Other hate crime based on religion or belief

Police data by type of crime

The breakdown below does not include hate speech incidents, including insults, which were recorded separately. The category 'other' in the breakdown below includes incidents that may fall outside the OSCE's hate crime definition. The charts below present the total numbers for each bias motivation; disaggregation by the type of crime is available for some bias motivation categories only.



National Developments

In 2023, a revised version of a **draft bill** aimed at introducing a criminal provision of general application on aggravating circumstances was pending before the Dutch Parliament. In line with the bill, when a discriminatory aspect is proven, the maximum term of imprisonment imposed may be increased by one third.

In 2023, the **National Co-ordinator against Discrimination and Racism (NCDR)** developed a multi-year [programme against discrimination and racism](#). This initiative builds on a comprehensive [national programme](#) to strengthen anti-discrimination measures introduced by the NCDR in 2022. The NCDR works closely together with the different ministries and the **National Co-ordinator on Combating Anti-Semitism (NCAB)**.

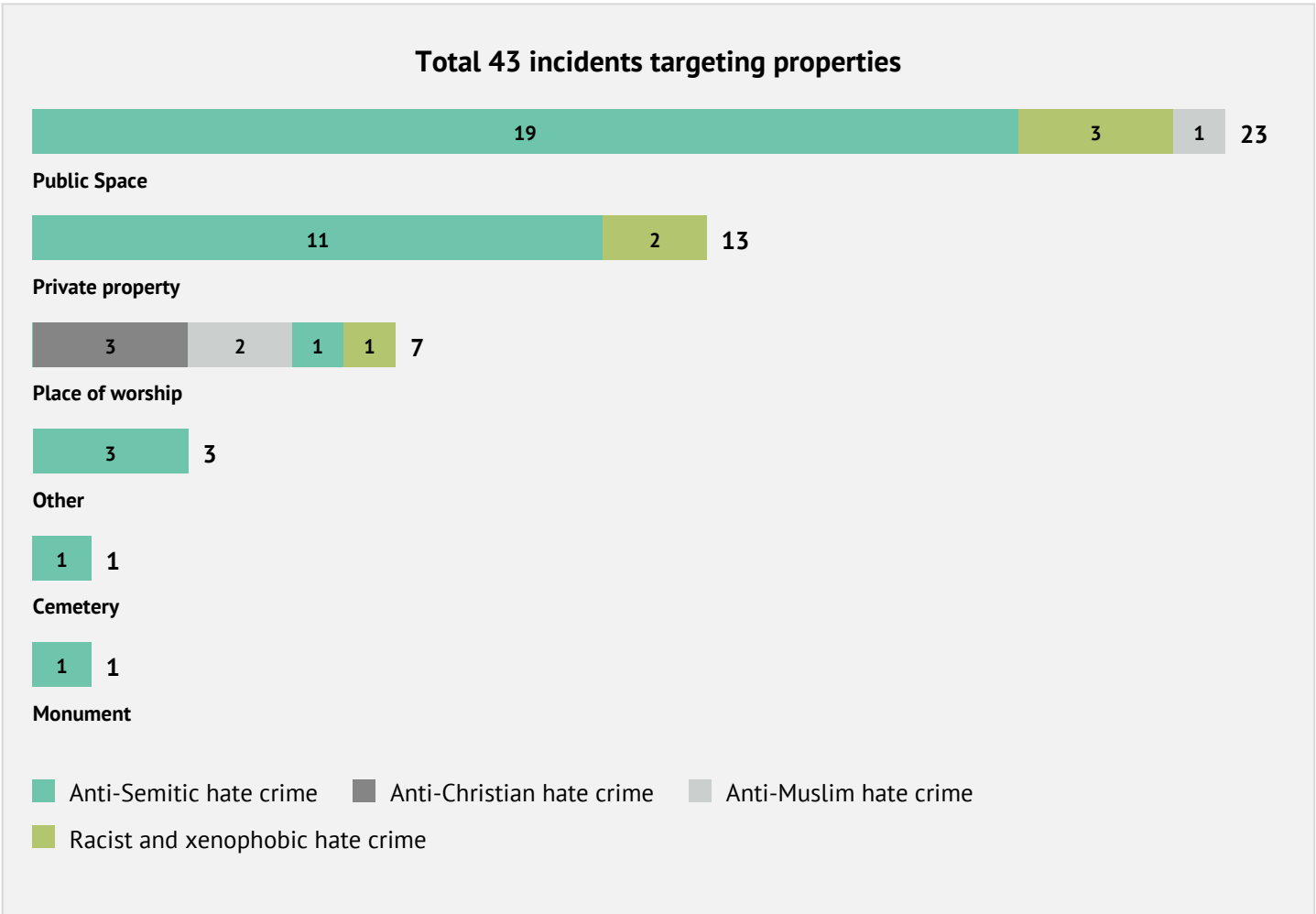
Incidents reported by civil society

Total 158 incidents

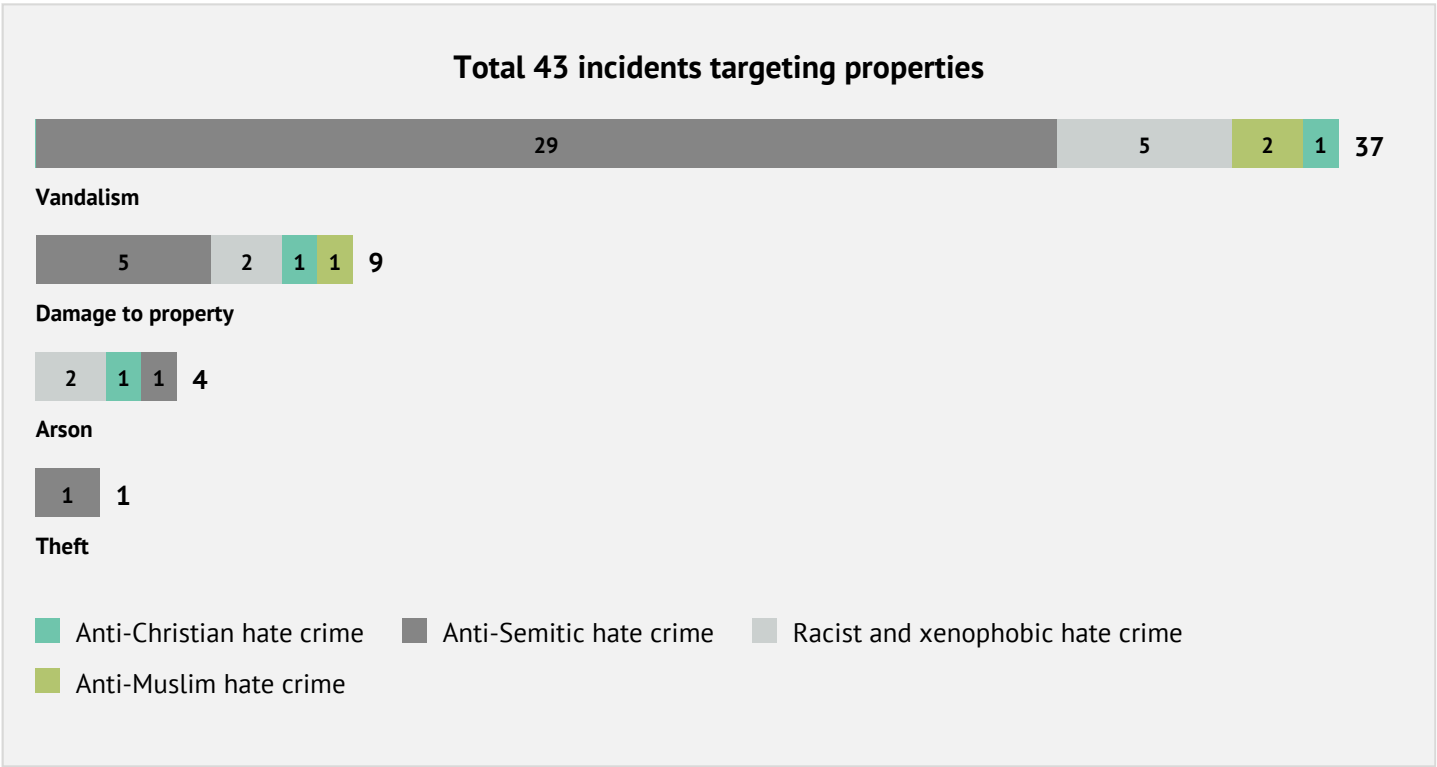


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



[View civil society incidents for Netherlands, 2023](#)