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/norway

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

1 2021

Summary

Norway regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. In 2021, the Norway Police established a National Expertise Group on Hate Crime. The Group is part of the Oslo Police District and is a reinforcement of the Oslo Police District's Hate Crime Unit. The mandate of the Group is to build the capacities of the regional police districts through training and guidance and, if necessary, to provide assistance in specific cases.

The Attorney General's Annual Circular, which sets out the annual goals and priorities for the police and prosecution services, has consistently included hate crime as a priority area for more than 20 years. This means that hate crime cases, regardless of the severity, are given priority and cannot be dismissed due to capacity or other reasons within police districts.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Norway's efforts to address a wider range of bias motivations through amendments to the Criminal Code. However, based on the available information, it observes that Norway's hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that Norway would benefit from ensuring that hate crimes are addressed in a comprehensive manner, including by introducing a co-ordination mechanism.

Official Data

The records presented in this table include incidents of hate speech and discrimination, which fall outside of the OSCE's definition of hate crime. The sum of disaggregated incidents below adds up to more than the total because crimes can be recorded under more than one bias motivation. The records on prosecuted and sentenced cases do not include all hate crimes recorded in 2021.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2021	959	54	17

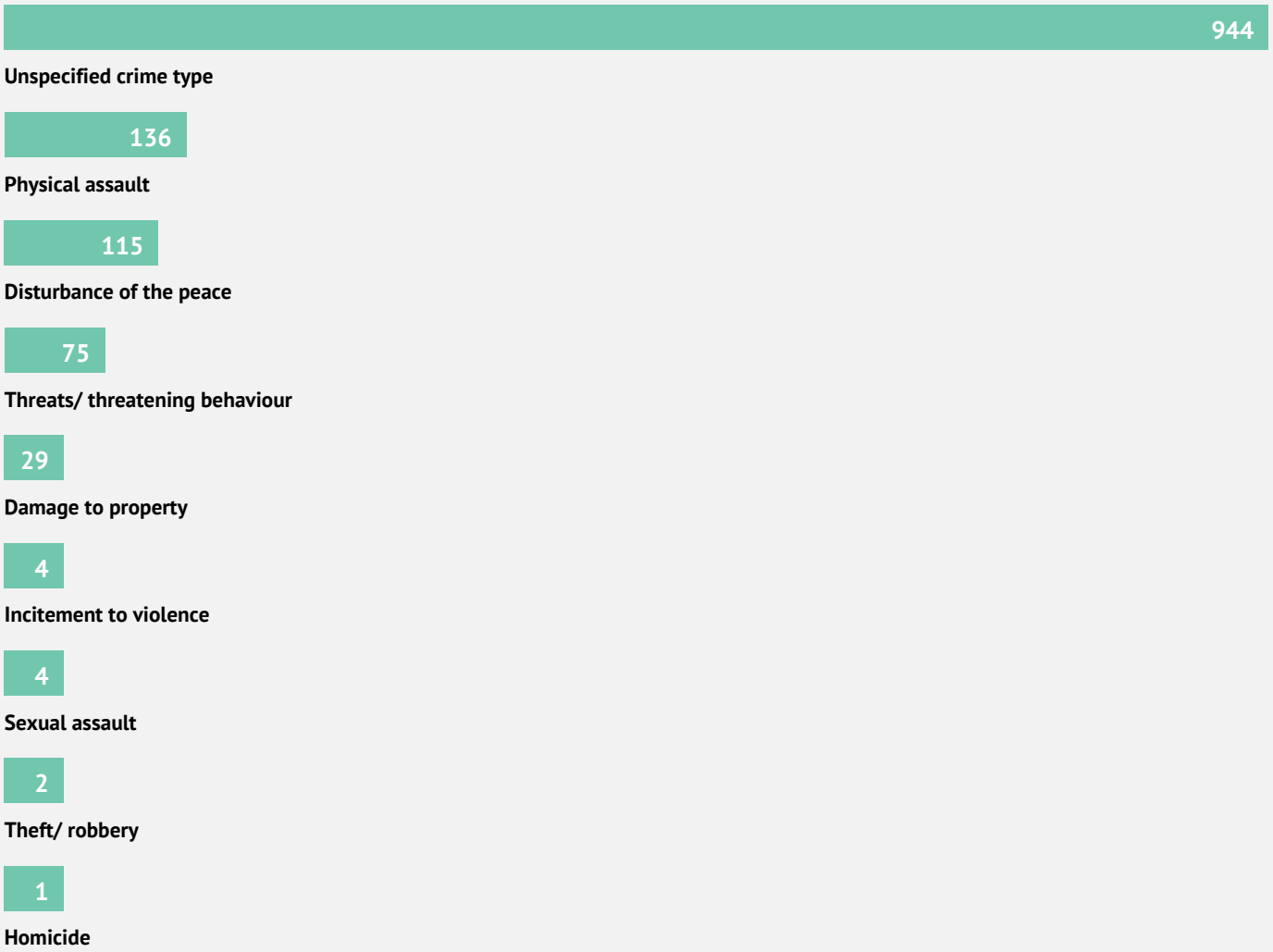
Police data by bias motivation

In the breakdown below, the numbers do not correspond with the total number of police-recorded hate crimes. This is because: (i) there may be several motives registered in one criminal case; and (ii) the police records included incidents of hate speech and discrimination. Such incidents were excluded as they constitute hate speech and discrimination, which fall outside of the OSCE's definition of hate crime.



Police data by type of crime

In the breakdown below, the numbers do not correspond with the total number of police-recorded hate crimes. This is because: (i) there may be several motives registered in one criminal case; and (ii) the police records included incidents of hate speech and discrimination. Such incidents were excluded as they constitute hate speech and discrimination, which fall outside of the OSCE's definition of hate crime.



National Developments

In January 2021, amendments to Section 77 of the Criminal Code (Aggravating circumstances) came into force, following their adoption by the **Norwegian Parliament** in November 2020. The amendments extended the list of protected characteristics to gender identity and gender expression, while also changing the term “homosexual orientation” to “sexual orientation”. The amendments have thus allowed harsher penalties to be imposed for crimes motivated by a wider range of protected grounds.

In 2021, the **Norwegian Police** established a "National competence environment" on hate crime. Its main duty is to increase capacity and build a common framework and standards among police and prosecutors to counter hate crime, including through dialogue and co-operation with civil society.

Incidents reported by civil society

No data reported to ODIHR.

View civil society incidents for Norway, 2021