

Poland Hate Crime Report 2018

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2018 Hate Crime Report.

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

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

Summary

Poland regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Several public bodies are involved in monitoring and/or collecting data on hate crimes, primarily the police and the Prosecutor's Office. Hate crime data are regularly published.

There is a high degree of hate crime specialization in both police and prosecutor structures. More than 100 specialist hate crime prosecutors have been appointed, and a network of hate crime co-ordinators was established in the police in 2014. In 2015, following a request by the lower house of parliament, ODIHR provided a [legislative review](#) of proposed changes to the Criminal Code of Poland, including on hate crime provisions.

In 2023, Polish police participated in a three-day train-the-trainer workshop as part of ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement ([TAHCLE](#)). In 2018, the Ministry of the Interior, ODIHR and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency co-organized a workshop on understanding and improving hate crime recording and data collection based on ODIHR's Information Against Hate Crimes Toolkit ([INFAHCT](#)) programme. In 2019, ODIHR co-operated with the Commissioner for Human Rights in Poland to issue a [report](#) on the nature and scale of unreported hate crimes against members of selected communities in Poland.

A draft bill is being developed to amend the Penal Code to strengthen criminal law protection against criminal discriminatory grounds for conduct on the basis of disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

[Hate crime data collection in Poland](#)

[Support for hate crime victims in Poland](#)

[Hate crime capacity building in Poland](#)

[Poland's hate crime legislation](#)

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR observes that Poland has not reported on hate crimes separately from cases of hate speech.

Official Data

Police, prosecution and sentencing figures include cases of hate speech.

| Year | Hate crimes recorded by police | Prosecuted | Sentenced |
|------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 2018 | 1,117 | 397 | 315 |

Police data by bias motivation

The numbers presented here refer to police investigations initiated as hate crimes. The numbers also include incidents of hate speech, which are considered crimes under Polish penal law.

197

Anti-Semitic hate crime

174

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

62

Anti-Muslim hate crime

43

Anti-Roma hate crime

20

Other hate crime based on religion or belief

This category includes crimes committed with bias against Christians.

7

Anti-LGBTI hate crime

All hate crimes in this category were motivated by bias against sexual orientation.

1

Gender-based hate crime

Police data by type of crime

The numbers presented here refer to police investigations initiated as hate crimes. The numbers also include incidents of hate speech, which are considered crimes under Polish penal law.

388

Unspecified

This category includes hate speech incidents, which fall outside of the OSCE's hate crime definition.

61

Physical assault

40

Threats/ threatening behaviour

4

Damage to property

4

Incitement to violence

4

Theft/ robbery

2

Attacks against places of worship

1

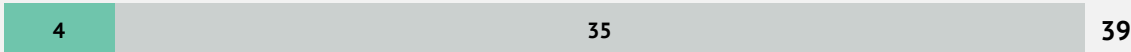
Desecration of graves

Incidents reported by civil society

Total 106 incidents



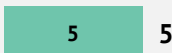
Racist and xenophobic hate crime



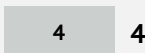
Anti-Christian hate crime



Anti-LGBTI hate crime



Anti-Muslim hate crime



Anti-Semitic hate crime



Anti-Roma hate crime



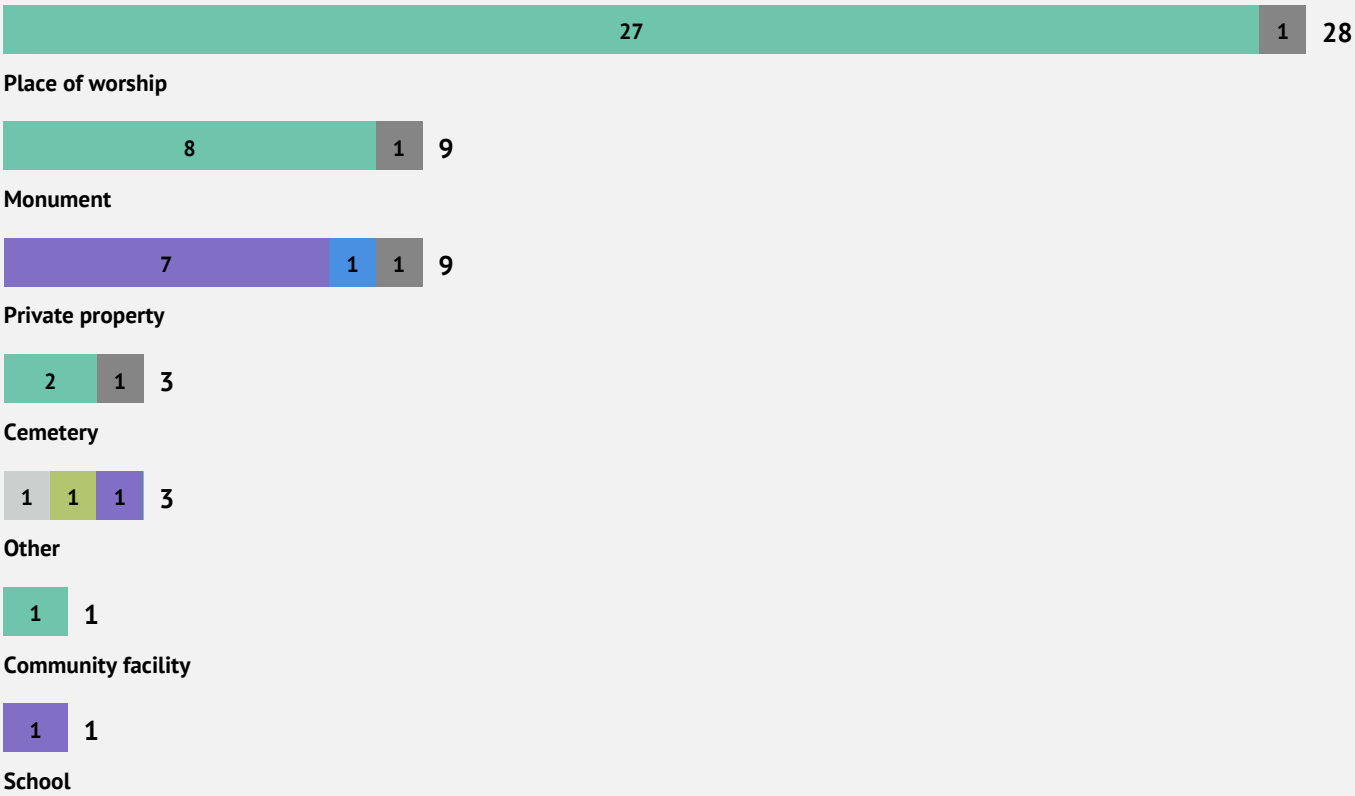
Gender-based hate crime

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.

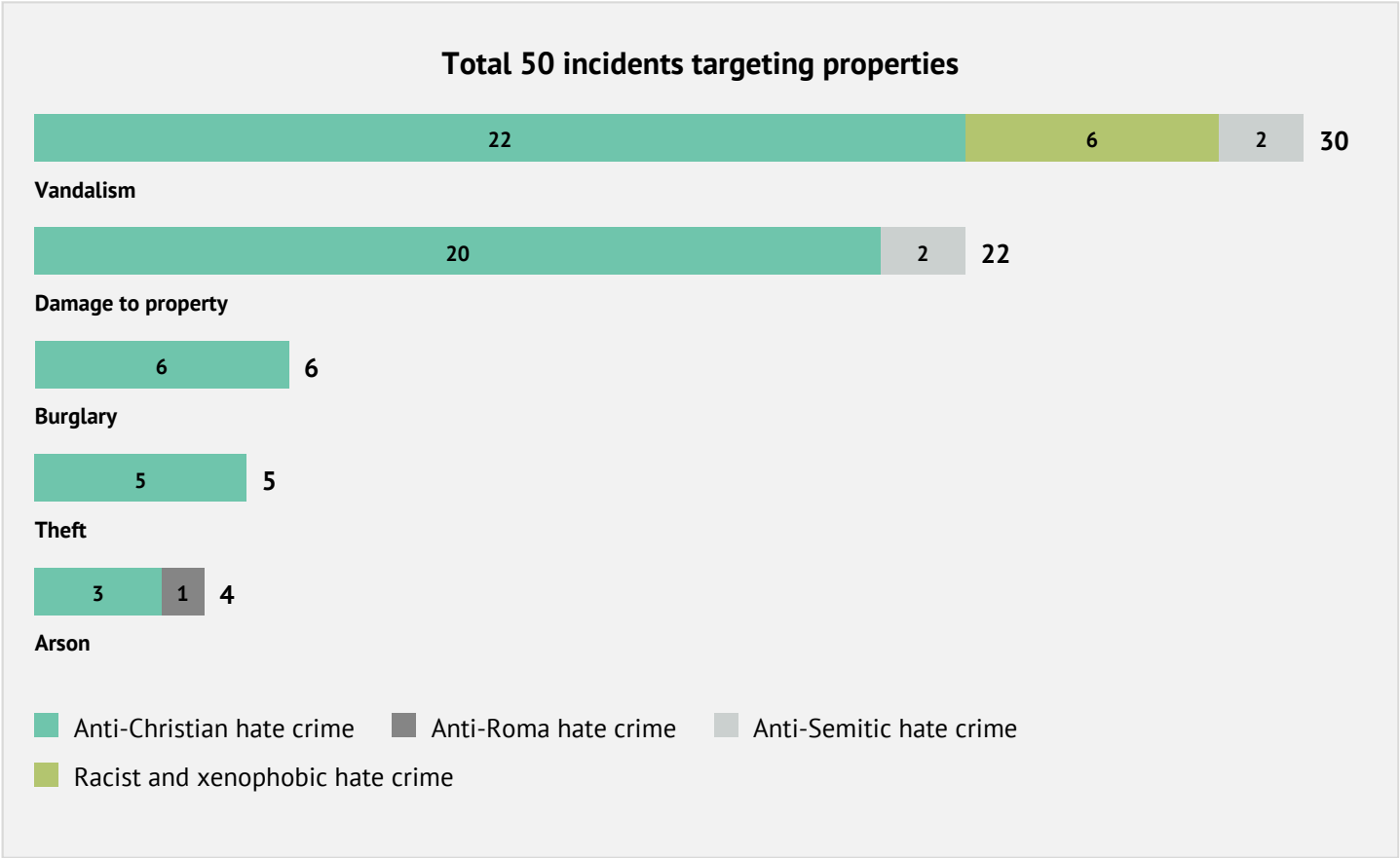
Targeted properties

Total 50 incidents targeting properties



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

Type of property attack



[View civil society incidents for Poland, 2018](#)