OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

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/serbia

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

1 2023

Summary

Serbia regularly reports data on hate crimes to ODIHR. In 2018, the Office of the Prosecutor General, with the support of the OSCE Mission to Serbia and ODIHR, developed *Guidelines for the prosecution of hate crimes in the Republic of Serbia*. A network of contact persons working on hate crime within the prosecution services was established and, with the OSCE Mission's assistance, Serbia's Judicial Academy has developed, integrated and implemented a hate crime training plan and programme.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

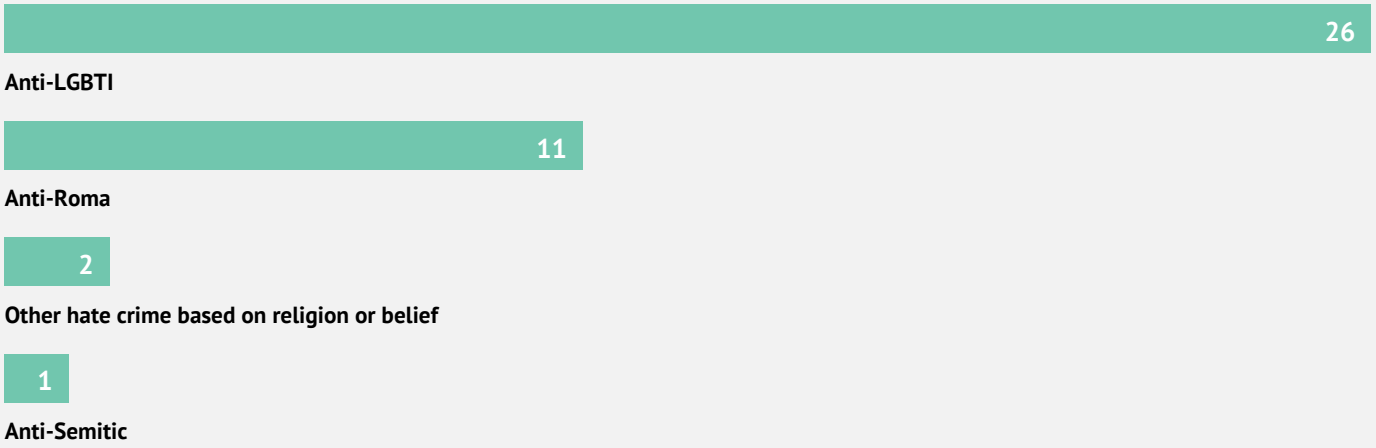
ODIHR recognizes Serbia's efforts to regularly report hate crime data to ODIHR and build the capacity of prosecutors to address hate crime. However, based on the available information, it observes that Serbia's recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes, and that law enforcement agencies of Serbia have not recorded the bias motivations of hate crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that Serbia would benefit from raising awareness among and building the capacity of police to address hate crime.

Official Data

The above data refer to the number of accused and convicted persons, not the number of criminal acts. The above figures include the offences of incitement to hatred, defamation, and discrimination/violation of equality, all of which fall outside the OSCE's definition of hate crime.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2023	53	4	2

Police data by bias motivation



Police data by type of crime

40

Unspecified crime type

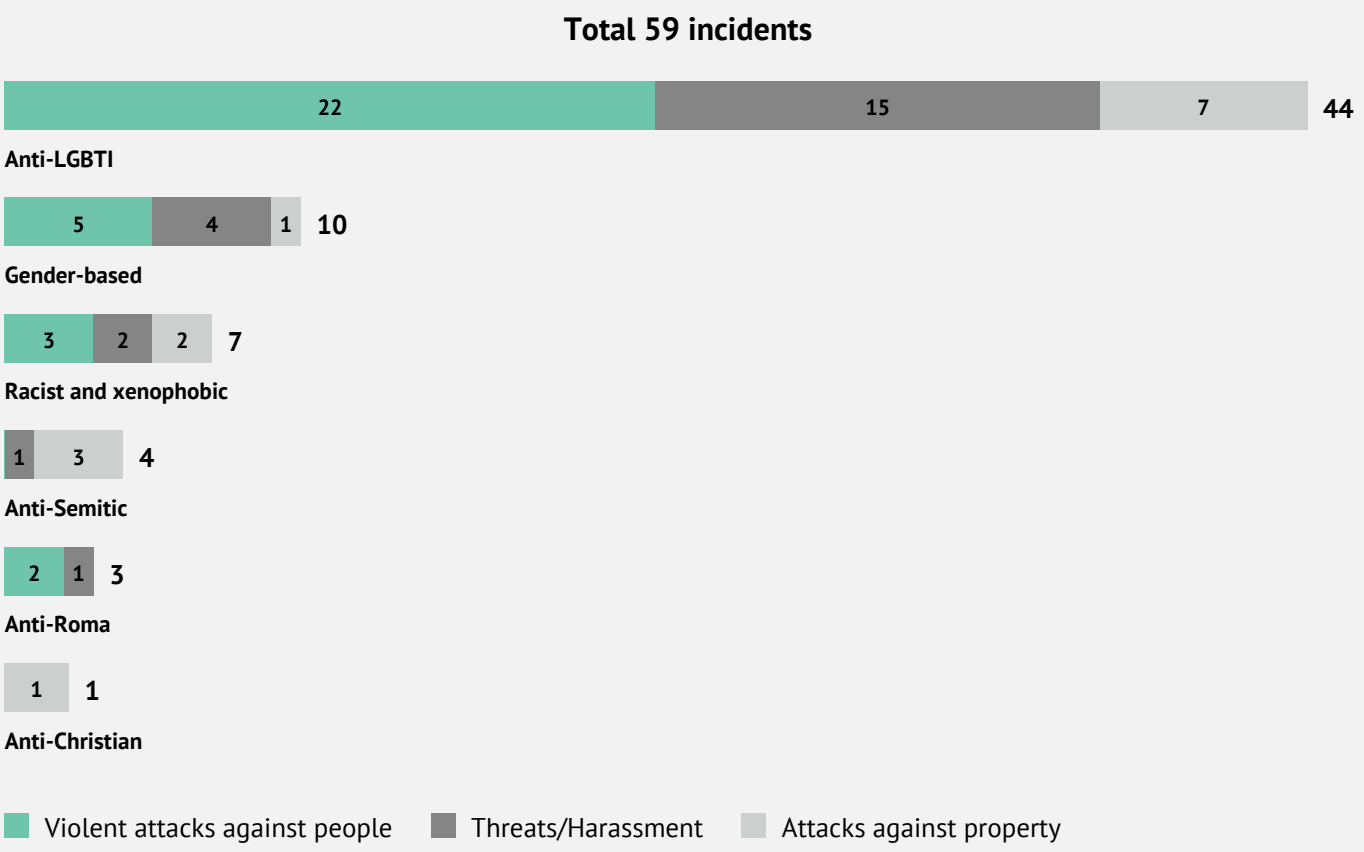
National Developments

In May and June 2023, the Police Administration in Niš co-operated with the OSCE Mission to Serbia to train the heads of police stations and regional police departments on crime prevention, community policing and the implementation of prevention projects in line with the Beccaria standards. A similar training event was also held in Vrnjačka Banja.

In October 2023, a representative of the Police Administration participated in a Regional Seminar on Police Action in Diverse Societies. The seminar was the first in a series of activities planned within two joint projects of the European Union and the Council of Europe on promoting equality and combating racism in the region.

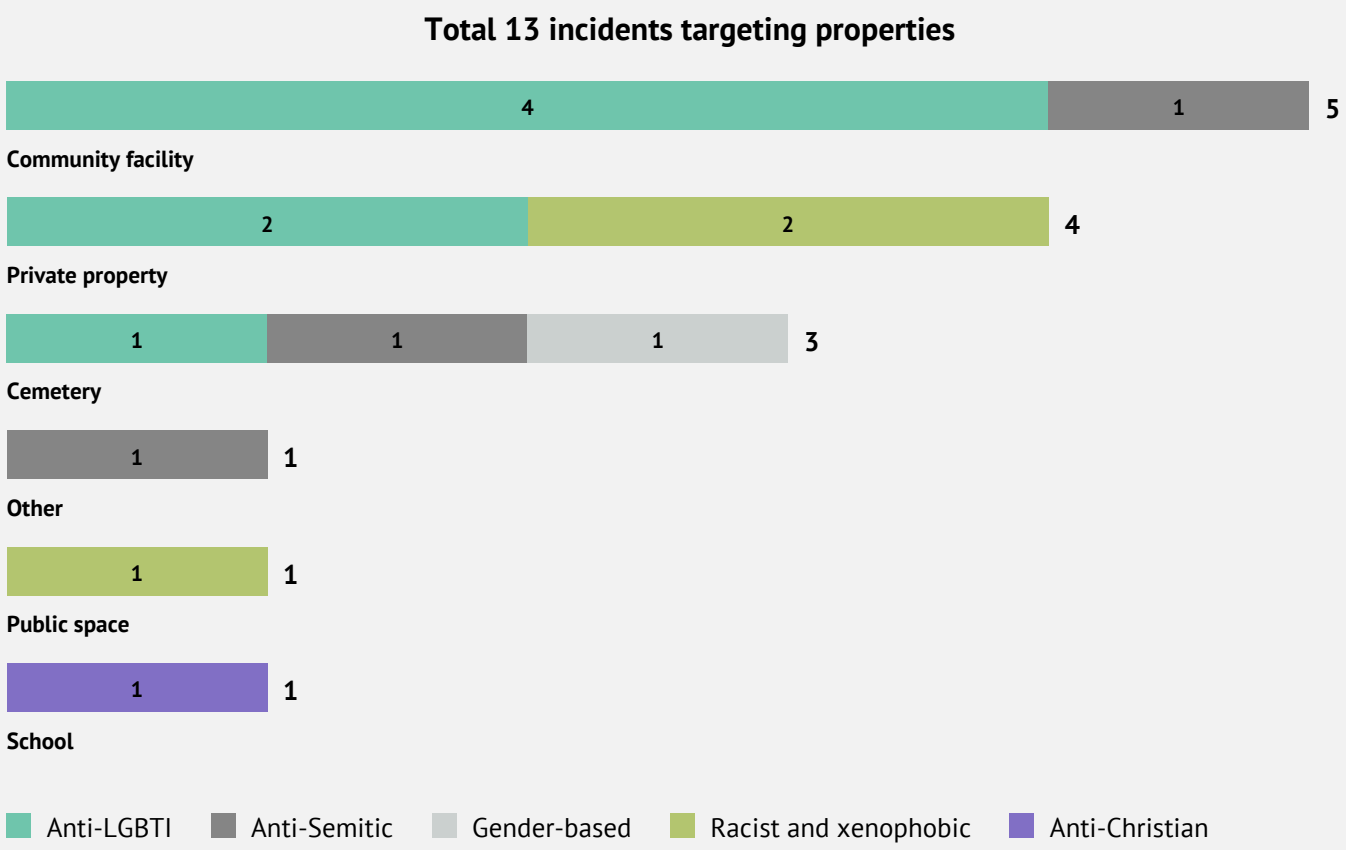
The Police introduced Mobile Information Centres to improve communication with the public and help identify priority security issues. In 2023, the Mobile Information Centres operated in 117 cities and municipalities, allowing police officers to provide the public with information on how to exercise their rights, offer security tips, and present the work of the police with the aim of improving communication and increasing the availability of the police.

Incidents reported by civil society

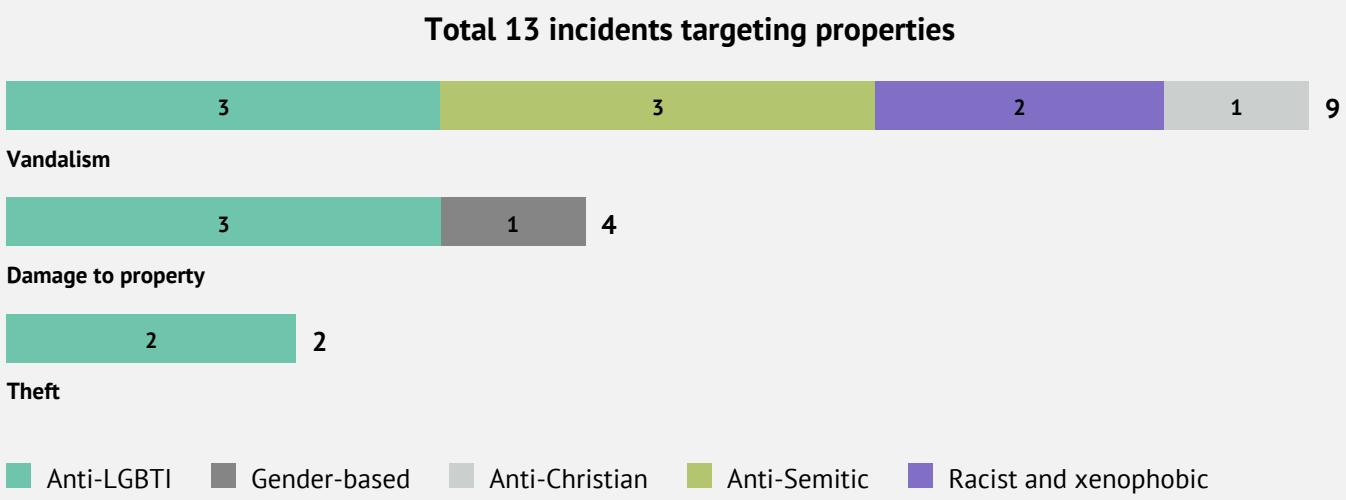


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Serbia, 2023