OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2015 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/sweden

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

1 2015

Summary

Sweden regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Hate crime reports are published every second year. Since 2016, the Government has implemented a national plan against racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime. The plan takes an integrated approach and comprises strategies and measures to prevent and combat racism and hate crime through co-ordination and monitoring, education and research, and support for and co-operation with civil society. A new Action Plan to Combat Racism and Hate Crimes was launched in December 2024.

Three different victimization surveys are conducted at one, two and three-year intervals in order to measure unreported hate crime.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

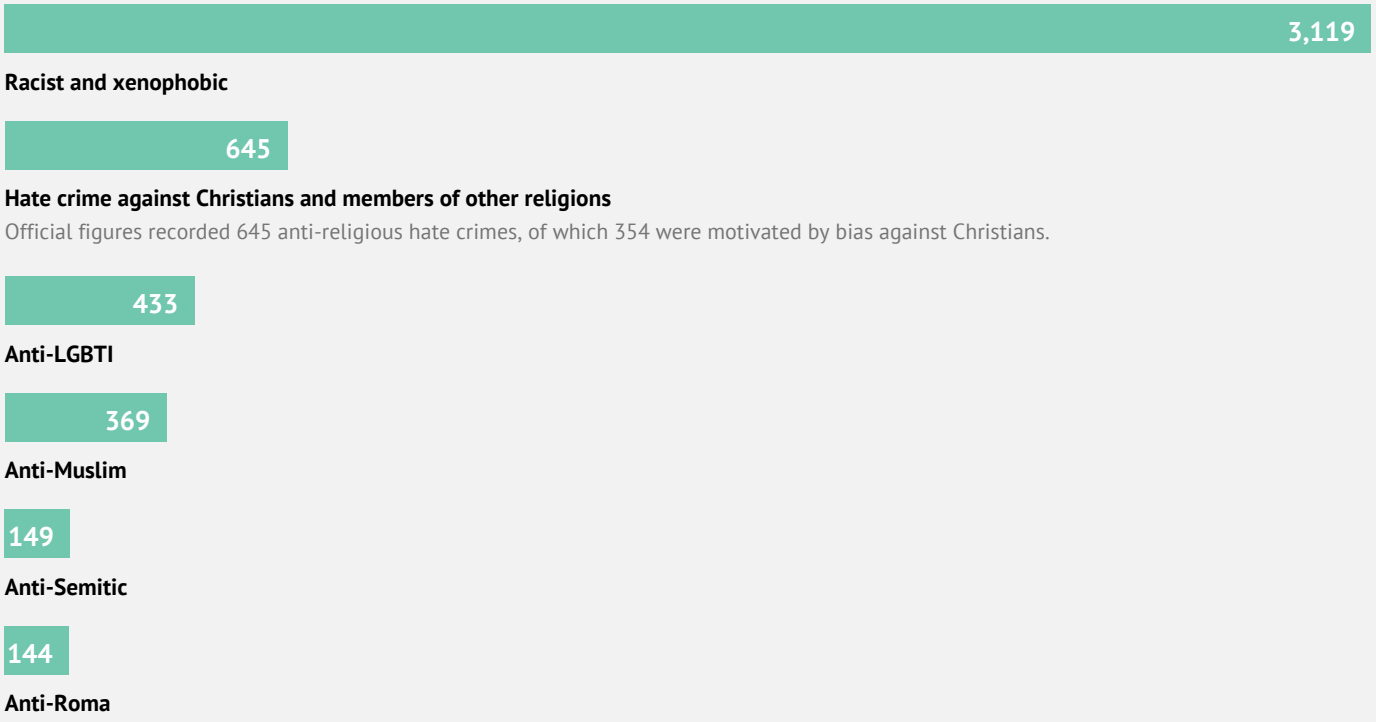
ODIHR observes that Sweden has not reported information on sentenced hate crime cases to ODIHR.

Official Data

Figures reported to ODIHR comprised 6,984 estimated hate crime reports. This number included incidents related to defamation, hate speech, and unlawful discrimination. The number displayed represents only hate crimes according to the OSCE definition. The number of prosecuted cases reflects prosecutorial decisions taken in 2014, only submitted in 2016 due to the reporting cycle.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2015	4,859	255	not available

Police data by bias motivation



Police data by type of crime



Threats/ threatening behaviour

Includes crimes that are officially categorized as 'unlawful threats and non-sexual molestation'.



Vandalism

Includes crimes that are officially categorized as criminal damage/graffiti.



Physical assault

Includes a selection of crimes of a violent nature: homicide, assault and violence against a public servant.

National Developments

The **Swedish National Police Board** continued its project aimed at increasing efforts to counter hate crimes, which was extended until May 2016. The **Swedish Police Authority** western region began preparatory work for the establishment of a special team to investigate hate crimes and started developing a regional action plan to counter hate crimes. The **Swedish Prosecution Authority** designed a study to review 300 cases of hate crime to improve the quality of legal proceedings and organized a hate crime seminar to increase the competence of hate crime prosecutors.

Incidents reported by civil society

No data reported to ODIHR.

View civil society incidents for Sweden, 2015