OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2025 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/united-kingdom

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

2025

Summary

The United Kingdom regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR.

Authorities collaborate closely with civil society, including through Information Sharing Agreements concluded between the police and the Community Security Trust (CST), Galop and Tell MAMA, which enable the exchange of recorded data about incidents. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) regularly convenes an external consultation group (ECG) on hate crime, whose members include community organizations, victim advocacy groups, academics with relevant expertise and others. ECG members scrutinize CPS policies and practices, and suggest where improvements can be made.

In Northern Ireland, the Department of Justice chairs a multi-agency Hate Crime Delivery Group (HCDG) to identify strategic, cross-governmental priorities and develop new approaches to dealing with hate crime. The group meets quarterly and includes representatives of government departments, criminal justice agencies and victim groups. The Department of Justice and Northern Ireland Policing Board jointly fund Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) to engage and consult with the local community, and work with local partners to identify and prioritize local community safety and policing issues and develop initiatives and projects to address these.

In Scotland, there is Independent Police Advisory Council (IPAC). The IPAC sits at a strategic level, acting as a critical friend and partner to support Police Scotland to deliver sustainable improvements to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and Human Rights outcomes across the service. The Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021 became an Act of Parliament on 23 April 2021. The Act entered into force on 1 April 2024.

The UK's College of Policing has developed guidelines for police on responding to hate crime, and the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) has issued relevant guidance for prosecutors and published public policy statements on particular hate crime strands.

Police and prosecution data, which cover the reporting period from April to March of the following year, are regularly published by the relevant criminal justice agencies of England and Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland.

Hate crime data collection in the United Kingdom
Support for hate crime victims in the United Kingdom
Hate crime capacity building in the United Kingdom
The United Kingdom's hate crime legislation

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes the United Kingdom's efforts to regularly report hate crime data to ODIHR and to address hate crime in a comprehensive manner. However, it observes that the United Kingdom would benefit from raising awareness among and building the capacity of criminal justice officials to address hate crime, particularly in respect of some of the more isolated victim groups.

Official Data

Due to the national reporting cycle, official figures for 2025 are expected to become available in late autumn and will be added to this chart once submitted to ODIHR.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2025	not available	not available	not available

No data reported to ODIHR.

National Developments

In 2025, Police Scotland commissioned the LGBTQI+ Police Scotland Citizens' Panel, aimed at strengthening trust in police among Scotland's LGBTI community through a meaningful engagement with diverse citizens. The Panel ran from January to April 2025 and was facilitated by the Shared Futures Foundation. The Panel heard from 18 expert commentators who shared their opinions and lived experience. The Panel produced 16 recommendations for police covering training and education; transparency, trust, and accountability; community engagement and visibility; internal police culture; and feeling safe, seen, and welcome while interacting with the police.

Police Scotland also established the Community Relationship Specialist (CRS) role within the national Policing Together Division. The CRS function operates at the intersection of prevention, trust-building, inclusion, and organizational learning. Its work directly supports Police Scotland's statutory responsibilities under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) and aligns with the Joint Strategy for Policing (2020), the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2022–26, and the Engagement and Participation Framework. The CRS role also contributes to the delivery of the Police Scotland Strategic Plan, particularly in strengthening public confidence and legitimacy, preventing harm, and promoting fairness and equity in policing.

Police Scotland continues to expand the cadre of voluntary Community Advisors, who are selected representatives from minorities communities. The advisors provide police Scotland with advice in relation to their area of knowledge and identify any possible impact, significance or consequence of particular incidents. This assists Police Scotland minimize the potential negative impact or risk to that particular community.

To enhance and accurately capture community engagement undertaken by officers and staff within Police Scotland, a Community Engagement App was launched in 2025. This App allows officers and staff to record details of Community Engagement visits on the go and is a tool designed to:

- Strengthen trust with minoritized communities;
- Demonstrate inclusive, ethical policing;
- Help to identify and respond to community-specific issues; and
- Support better operational awareness and decision-making.

Incidents reported by civil society

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of hate incidents in the United Kingdom from the following civil society organizations:

- Community Security Trust (CST)
- European Association of Jehovah's Witnesses
- European Office of the Church of Scientology for Public Affairs and Human Rights
- International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF)
- Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe (OIDAC)
- Solidarity with Others
- TGEU – Trans Europe and Central Asia

To learn more about these organizations, visit the Contributors page. ODIHR also received reports of incidents recorded by the Holy See as part of their ongoing monitoring across the OSCE region.

Individual incidents submitted by CSOs have been analysed by ODIHR. Those that are broadly considered to be hate crimes within the OSCE definition (criminal offence committed with a bias motive) are listed in the tables below according to the bias motivation category. Some incidents involved multiple biases and may be listed in multiple categories.

ODIHR's insights

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of 87 hate incidents that took place in the United Kingdom targeting a total of 189 victims in the anti-Christian, anti-LGBTI, anti-Muslim, anti-Semitic, other religion or belief, and racist and xenophobic bias motivation categories, as well as a couple of incidents involving both anti-LGBTI and gender-based bias motivations.

ODIHR observes that the majority of incidents reported were motivated by anti-Christian bias and involved vandalism and property damage targeting churches and Christian cemeteries. Several anti-Christian incidents of threats and physical assault were also reported, most of which targeted Jehovah's Witnesses engaged in public preaching.

The anti-Semitic incidents reported to ODIHR included homicides and a car-ramming targeting Jewish worshippers outside a synagogue, as well as physical assaults against visibly Jewish boys and a series of property attacks targeting Jewish places of worship and properties. ODIHR also received several reports of anti-Muslim incidents, including physical assaults, bombing attacks and harassment targeting Muslim worshippers, as well as vandalism and arson attacks against mosques. Several anti-LGBTI incidents were also reported, including physical assaults and threatening behaviour targeting victims due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. Finally, the few racist and xenophobic incidents reported to ODIHR included a series of property attacks targeting Asian businesses, as well as a physical assaults and incidents of threats/harassment based on the victims' skin colour and/or ethnicity.

It should be noted that ODIHR did **not** receive any reporting on the United Kingdom relating to anti-Roma and disability hate incidents, and received a low level of reporting related to anti-LGBTI, anti-Muslim, anti-Semitic, gender-based and racist and xenophobic hate incidents. This indicates potential gaps in the information reported here.

In addition, one reporting organization submitted 645 statistical incidents for which descriptions are not available in the tables below, including 528 anti-Semitic hate incidents, 115 racist and xenophobic hate incidents, 1 anti-Muslim hate incident and 1 anti-Christian hate incident.

Please note that incidents reported here are based on voluntary civil society submissions and as such do not reflect the actual number of incidents or the most targeted communities in the United Kingdom.

To address under-reporting, ODIHR encourages any civil society organizations or groups that monitor hate incidents to report these to ODIHR at hatecrimereport@odihr.pl.

To export an Excel sheet with summaries of all incidents from the United Kingdom click here.

View civil society incidents for United Kingdom, 2025