OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2022 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/austria

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

1 2022

Summary

Austria regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Implemented in 2021, Austria's new hate crime recording system represents a good practice in the region. The Austrian Ministry of the Interior is also a member of the civil society network "Hate Crime Kontern", which strengthens hate crime co-ordination and victim support, and co-operates directly with civil society organizations. Hate crime statistics collected by the Ministry are published online each year.

In January 2023, Austria implemented ODIHR's Diagnostic Workshop to Assess National Structures and Services for Hate Crime Victim Support.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Austria's long-term efforts to improve its hate crime recording and data collection mechanism as well as its hate crime victim support system. However, based on the available information, it observes that Austria's hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that Austria would benefit from raising awareness among and building the capacity of criminal justice officials, including prosecutors and judges, to address hate crimes.

Official Data

Police records represent the number of offences recorded as hate crimes; a total number of 7,095 cases were registered, some of which involved more than one bias motivation. Police-recorded hate crimes include 4,080 offences that fall outside of the OSCE definition of hate crime. These include cases defined as "right-wing extremism" under the Prohibition Act, insults, and honour. Prosecution and sentencing figures are based on the same recording methodology as police-recorded figures. Prosecution figures exclude 1,689 cases prosecuted under the Prohibition Act (§§ 3a-3h VerbotsG) and sentencing figures exclude 106 cases sentenced under the Prohibition Act (§§ 3a-3h VerbotsG), and which fall outside of the OSCE definition of hate crime.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2022	5,865	3,035	272

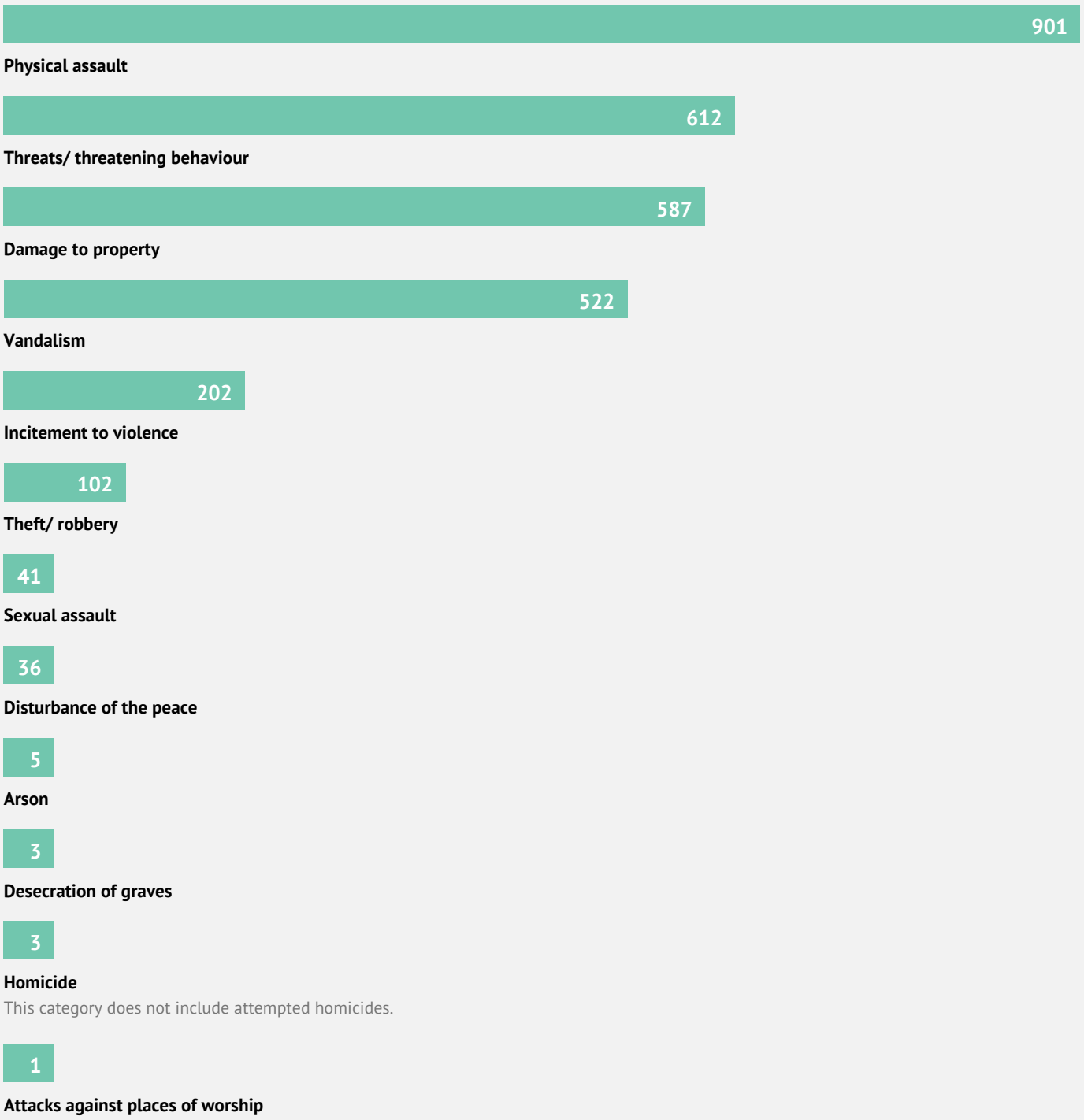
Police data by bias motivation

The number of police-recorded cases excludes 3,875 offences recorded under the Prohibition Act (§§ 3a-3h VerbotsG) and 205 offences classified as insults or honour crimes, all of which fall outside of the OSCE's definition of hate crime.



Police data by type of crime

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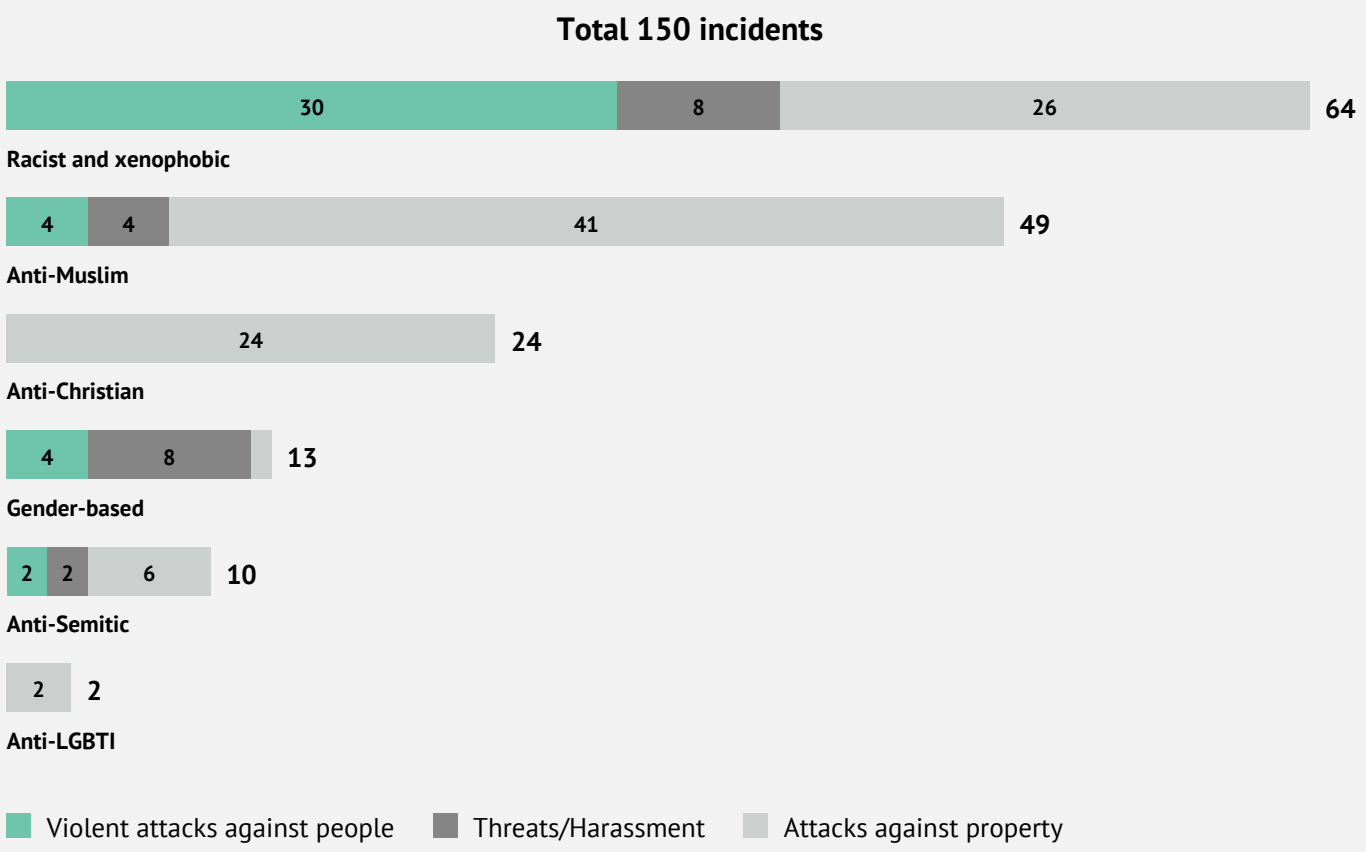
National Developments

In 2022, the following **training sessions** were offered to criminal justice professionals: Hate Crime Online and Offline (delivered by the civil society organizations Weisser Ring, ZARA, and PSV Wien); Cybercrime and Social Media (OLG Innsbruck); a workshop on investigating and prosecuting online hate speech; and tools on cyberforensics, online hate and anti-Semitism, and hate crimes.

As of 17 January 2023, a total of 26,548 police officers had completed the training sessions. In addition, 205 police officers from the Federal Provinces were trained to deliver training events to front-line officers and to serve as contact points for CSOs and victim support organizations.

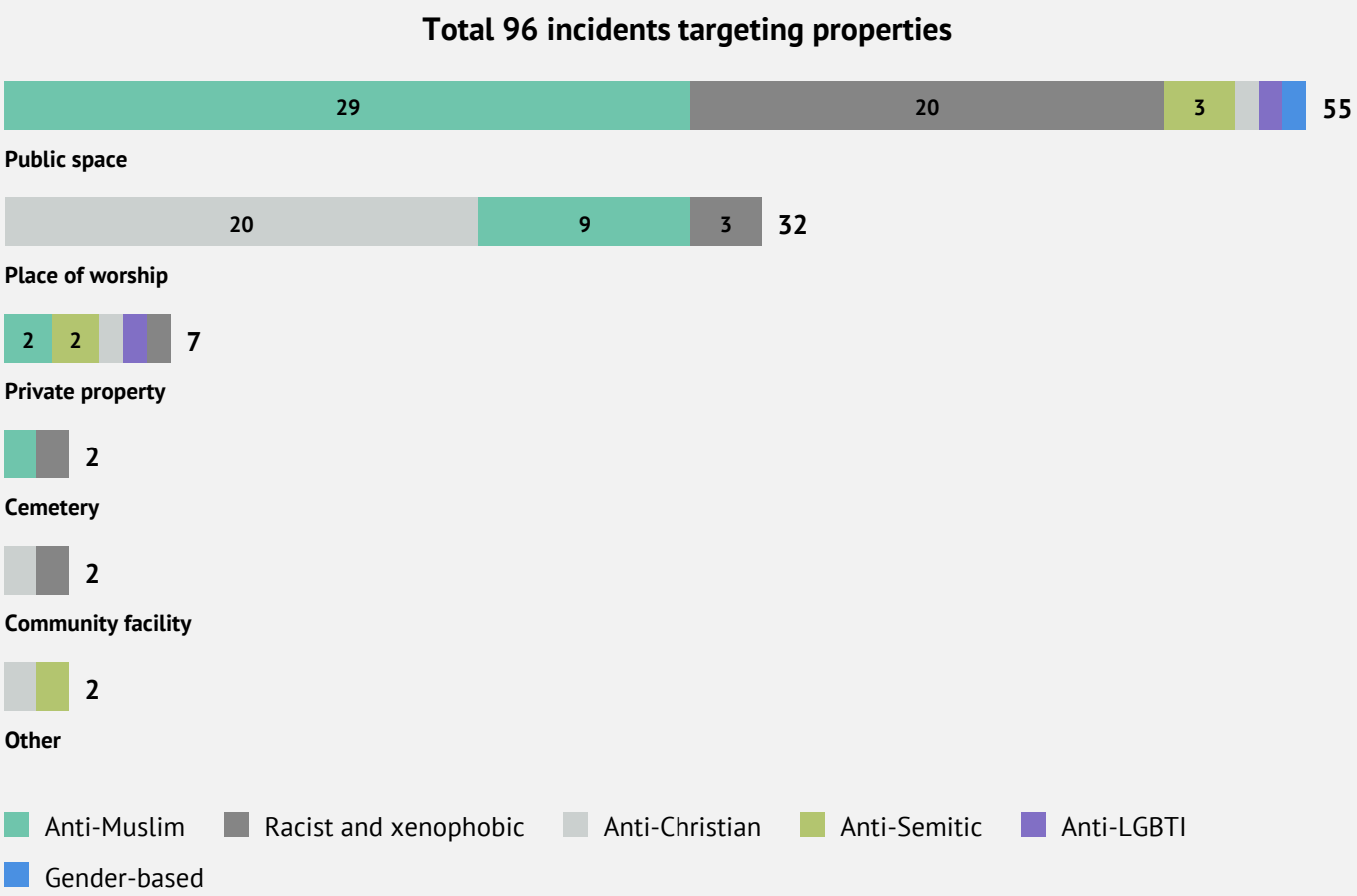
There were several **notable hate crime cases** in 2022. In Styria, a person with a neurological impairment was threatened due to their disability. The police recorded this incident as a hate crime and a dangerous threat. The regional court imposed a preliminary injunction on the perpetrator. Also in Styria, two children were physically assaulted while being subjected to racist insults. The police recorded the insult and the physical injury and sent the case to the prosecution. In Vienna, a person was attacked after refusing to lower a rainbow flag. The police recorded the physical injury and sent the case to the prosecution.

Incidents reported by civil society

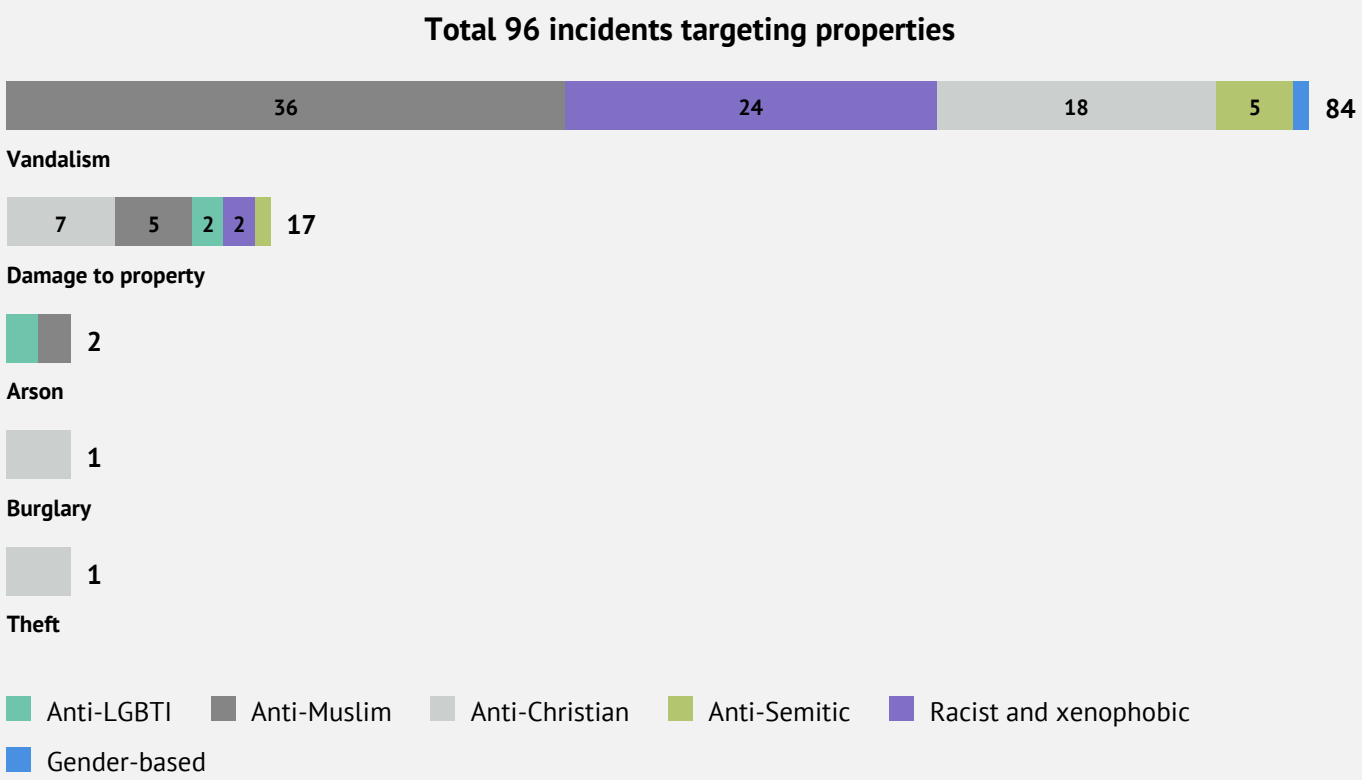


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Austria, 2022