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/croatia

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

2025

Summary

Croatia regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR.

Since 2006, Croatia has implemented ODIHR's Law Enforcement Outreach Programme (LEOP) followed by the updated Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE) programme.

In 2021, the government adopted an updated inter-agency "Protocol for Procedure in Cases of Hate Crime", establishing state authorities' responsibilities in addressing hate crime and revising the responsibilities of the dedicated Working Group for monitoring hate crimes. In 2021, the Working Group participated in ODIHR's diagnostic workshop to assess national structures and services for hate crime victim support, resulting in a set of ODIHR recommendations to the relevant state authorities. Data on hate crimes are regularly published by the Office for Human Rights and the Rights of National Minorities.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

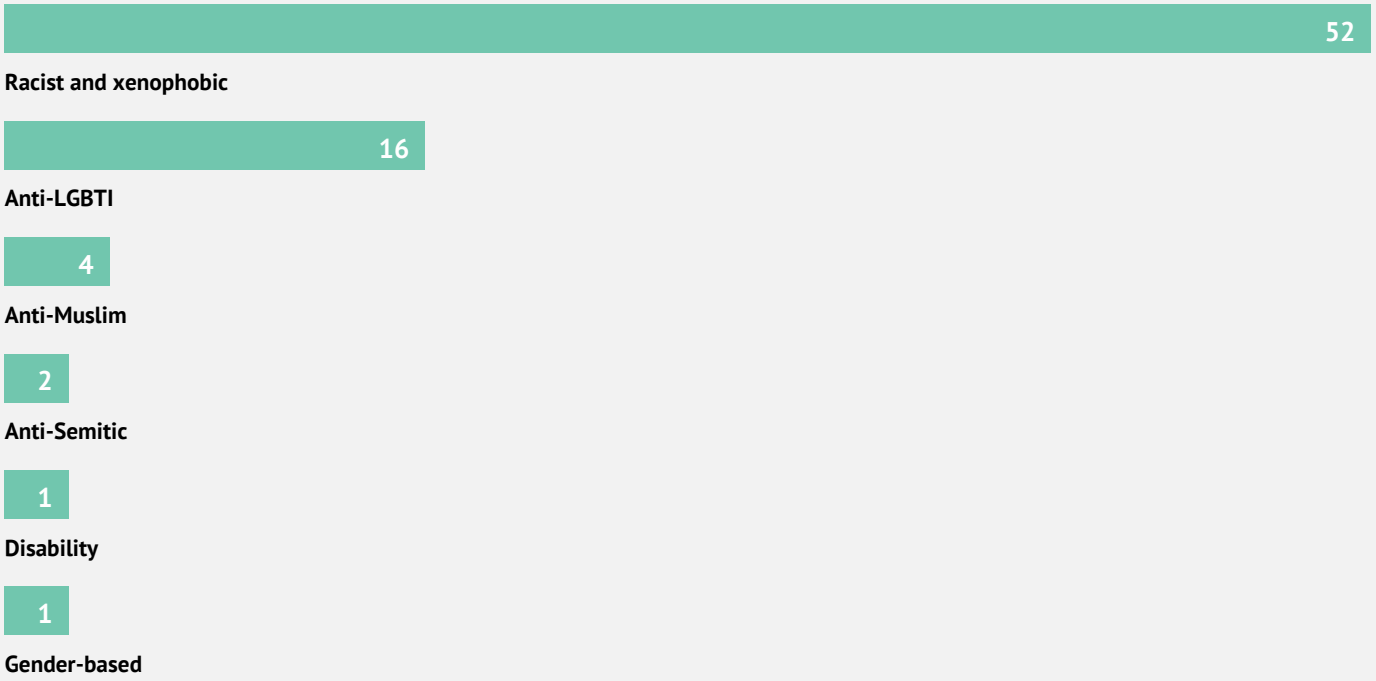
ODIHR recognizes Croatia's efforts to build capacity of criminal and misdemeanour judges and court advisers to effectively address hate crimes. ODIHR observes that Croatia would benefit from raising awareness among and building the capacity of criminal justice practitioners to address hate crime.

Official Data

These data refer only to hate crimes under Article 87 paragraph 21 of the Criminal Code of Croatia (aggravating circumstance). In addition, the police recorded 197 misdemeanour crimes motivated by hatred, and 56 final judgments were passed for these misdemeanours.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2025	75	59	4

Police data by bias motivation



Police data by type of crime



National Developments

In 2025, the Judicial Academy organized hate crime training events:

- Three one-day workshops on "Hate Crime and Hate Speech" for criminal and misdemeanour judges and court advisors, as well as deputy state attorneys and state attorney advisors. A total of 61 participants attended the workshops. The training focused on the bias motives related to religion and ethnic origin, especially in the context of anti-Semitism, and on recognizing approval or denial of the Holocaust as a manifestation of the criminal offence of public incitement to violence and hatred under Article 325 of the Criminal Code.
- Two one-day workshops on the topic of "Hate Crime, Investigation of Criminal Offences and the Quality of Reasoning of Court Decisions", aimed at criminal and misdemeanour judges and court advisors, as well as deputy state attorneys and state attorney advisors. A total of 25 participants attended the workshops.
- Two one-day workshops on hate crime case law in Croatia and the European Court of Human Rights, aimed at criminal and misdemeanour judges and advisors of municipal and county courts, as well as state attorneys at the municipal and county levels. A total of 27 participants attended the workshops.

Incidents reported by civil society

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

- Croatian Civil Society Coalition
- International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF)
- Lesbian Organization Rijeka - LORI
- Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians in Europe (OIDAC)
- Zagreb Pride

To learn more about these organizations, visit the Contributors page. In addition, the Holy See also submitted reports of incidents monitored in Croatia by its representatives.

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 39 hate incidents that took place in Croatia targeting a total of 59 victims in the following bias motivation categories: anti-Christian, anti-LGBTI, and racist and xenophobic. In addition, several incidents involved multiple biases, such as both racist and xenophobic *and* anti-Christian, gender-based and anti-LGBTI, and anti-Semitic *and* anti-LGBTI.

ODIHR observes that racist and xenophobic incidents made up the majority of incidents reported, and included a significant number of violent attacks against foreigners and members of the Serb minority. Many of these incidents were accompanied by ultranationalist expressions rooted in historical ethnic conflicts. Several racist incidents involved violent armed robberies targeting migrant delivery drivers. ODIHR also observes a significant number of violent attacks targeting young LGBTI victims, including two incidents in the context of LGBTI-rights events. Finally, ODIHR observes a few anti-Christian incidents targeting places of worship, and two incidents of anti-Semitic vandalism targeting monuments and public spaces.

It should be noted that ODIHR did **not** receive any reporting related to anti-Muslim, disability, and other religion or belief hate incidents in Croatia, and a low level of reporting related to anti-Roma, anti-Semitic and gender-based hate incidents. This indicates potential gaps in the information reported here.
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 Croatia.

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 Croatia click here.

View civil society incidents for Croatia, 2025