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/denmark

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

2025

Summary

Denmark regularly reports hate crime data and information to ODIHR. Hate crime statistics are regularly published on the Danish National Police website.

The Ministry of Justice conducts annual victimization surveys to measure unreported hate crimes. The Danish National Police has previously engaged in dialogue on hate crime with a number of community stakeholders.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes Denmark's efforts to ensure transparency and a uniform practice by the police and prosecution as to the application of Section 266 b and 81 (6). However, based on the available information, it observes that Denmark has not reported data on hate crimes recorded by the prosecution to ODIHR. In addition, ODIHR observes that Denmark would benefit from addressing hate crimes comprehensively, including by introducing a co-ordination mechanism.

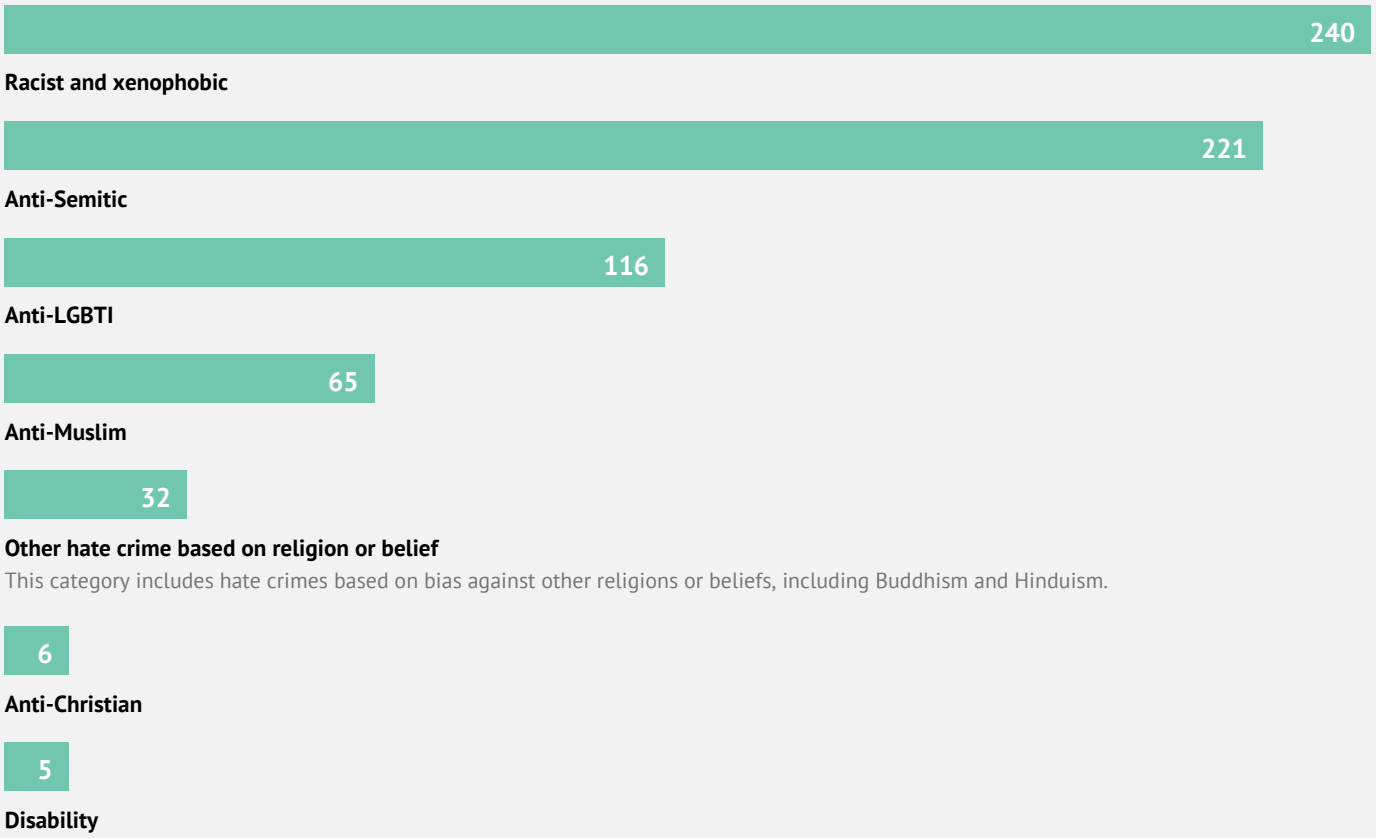
Official Data

Police-recorded cases include hate crimes registered with more than one bias motivation. The police recorded 627 hate crimes in line with the OSCE's hate crime definition, involving a total of 539 bias motivations. Police records presented here exclude cases of hate speech and criminal discrimination, which are recorded separately but are included in the total number in the Danish National Police report on hate crimes in 2025. The number of indictments/prosecutions is unknown as the hate crime provision is only applied at sentencing. The sentencing figure reflects cases in which the hate crime sentence uplift was applied in line with the aggravating circumstance provision (section 81 (6)) of the Criminal Code. As such, due to different methodologies, the data on sentencing is not directly comparable to police records of potential hate crimes.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2025	627	not available	28

Police data by bias motivation

The Danish National Police can record hate crime cases as involving multiple motives; thus, some incidents are registered under more than one bias motivation. For this reason, the totals in some crime-type categories in the charts below may be higher than the actual number of offences registered by police under those categories. Potential hate incidents with no investigative follow-up are also included in this breakdown.



Police data by type of crime

The Danish National Police can record hate crime cases as involving multiple motives; thus, some incidents are registered under more than one bias motivation. For this reason, the totals in some crime-type categories in the charts below may be higher than the actual number of offences registered by police under those categories. Potential hate incidents with no investigative follow-up are also included in this breakdown.



Other

This category includes the offences of arson, attacks against places of worship, and disturbance of the peace, as well as potential hate incidents without investigative follow-up.



Vandalism

This category includes the offences of desecration of graves and damage to property.



Threats/ threatening behaviour



Physical assault

This category includes the offences of physical assault, violence against law enforcement and other public authorities, violence against witnesses, and attempted homicide.



Harassment

This category includes the offences of stalking and harassment of public authorities.



Theft/ robbery



Burglary

National Developments

In 2025, a law that increases penalties for hate crimes (among other crimes) by 50 per cent came into effect. The law is applicable in zones and time periods designated as problematic by the National Police. The law has not been activated or used in 2025.

Denmark implemented 12 new initiatives to address anti-Semitism in 2025. These initiatives included the strengthened monitoring of and a mapping of anti-Semitism on social media, the development of educational materials to address anti-Semitism, and the establishment of a National Coordinator for Combating Anti-Semitism in the Danish National Police, as well as the establishment of coordinators for combating anti-Semitism and hate crimes in the Copenhagen Police District. Denmark plans to expand the establishment of coordinators for combating anti-Semitism and hate crimes to all police districts in 2026.

Incidents reported by civil society

For 2025, ODIHR received reports of hate incidents in Denmark from the European Association of Jehovah's Witnesses.

To learn more about the organizations that report hate incidents to ODIHR, visit the Contributors page.

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 23 anti-Christian hate incidents targeting 22 members of the Jehovah's Witness community in Denmark. ODIHR observes that a low number of incidents were reported in Denmark for 2025.

ODIHR observes that a significant number of the incidents reported involved the physical assault and harassment of Jehovah's Witness victims engaged in public witnessing in the street, including one sexual assault that was also motivated by the victim's gender. ODIHR also observes a number of property attacks targeting Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Halls in Denmark.

It should be noted that ODIHR did **not** receive any reporting on Denmark related to anti-LGBTI, anti-Muslim, anti-Roma, anti-Semitic, disability, racist and xenophobic, or other hate incidents based on religion or belief, and a low level of reporting on gender-based 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 Denmark.

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 Denmark click here.

View civil society incidents for Denmark, 2025