OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2021 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/france

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

1 2021

Summary

France regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR.

Since 2012, DILCRAH has served as an inter-ministerial body and platform for co-operation to address hate crime, including through research and financial support to civil society organizations (CSOs). DILCRAH, along with several civil society organizations, is involved in training judges, prosecutors, police officers, and gendarmes.

The Central Office for Combating Crimes against Humanity and Hate Crimes (OCLCH) is an inter-agency body made up of police officers and gendarmes. It is responsible for leading and co-ordinating the fight against crimes against humanity and hate crimes. OCLCH supports local units, serves as the national contact point for both units and external entities, conducts investigations, provides expertise, and prepares threat assessments within its area of responsibility.

Hate crime data are regularly published by the National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (CNCDH). France regularly conducts surveys on hate crime victimization to monitor unreported hate crimes.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes France's efforts to improve its hate crime data collection and report hate crimes recorded by the prosecution and judiciary to ODIHR. However, based on available information, it observes that France's hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that France would benefit from enhancing its efforts to build the capacity of criminal justice officials to address hate crime.

Official Data

The police figures reported to ODIHR do not include cases of incitement to hatred, defamation or public insult. However, the records disaggregated by bias motivation presented below may include such offences, which for the most part fall outside of the OSCE's definition of hate crime.

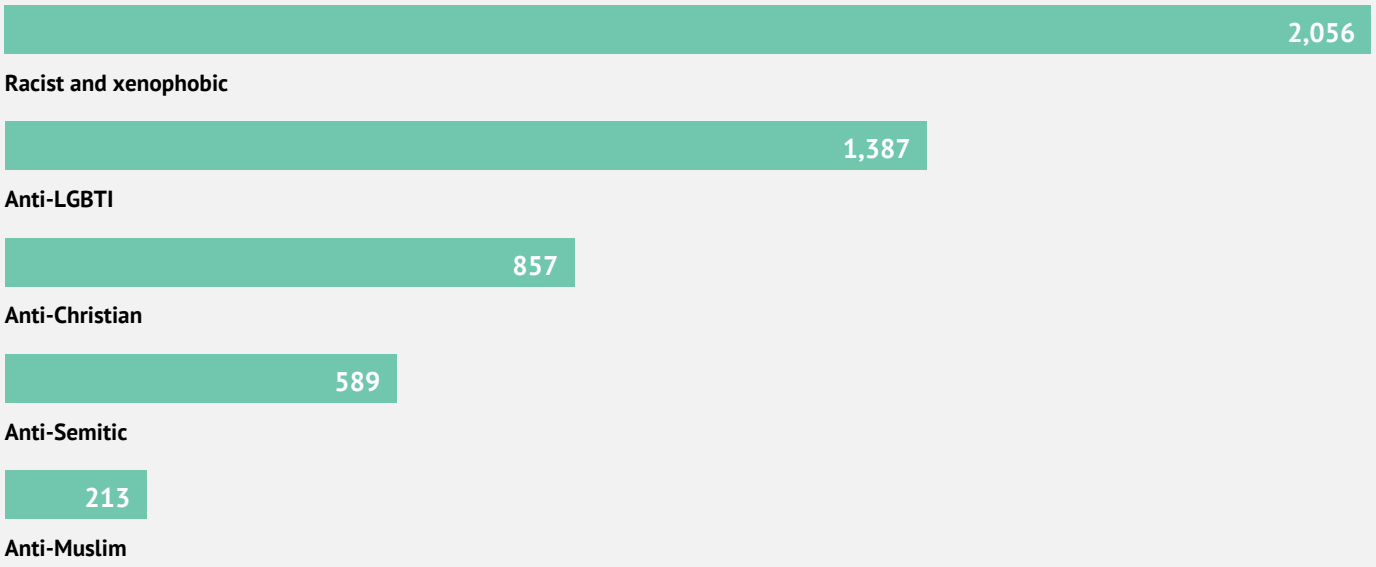
Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2021	3,443	486	425

Police data by bias motivation

The police provide data disaggregated by racism and xenophobia, including anti-religious hate crime, and by bias on the grounds of sex/gender, including hate crimes committed with bias based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Data under these categories were collected by the French Ministerial Statistical Department for Internal Security (SSMSI).

The anti-Christian, anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim hate crimes presented below were collected by the Central Service of Territorial Intelligence (SCRT) and disaggregated separately by the Ministry of the Interior. Data on anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim hate crimes have been consulted with civil society organizations that monitor such crimes. Data collected by the Central Service of Territorial Intelligence may include acts of hate speech that fall outside of the OSCE's definition of hate crime.

The SSMSI data on racism and xenophobia presented below includes the SCRT data on Anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim and anti-Christian hate crimes. These three categories are, however, also shown separately for a better understanding of these bias motivations. For this reason, the total number of crimes shown in the table above does not match the total number of crimes shown in the graph below, as some offences are listed twice. In particular, the total number of "threats" is 1,922, and the total of "unspecified acts" is 23.



Police data by type of crime

The police provide data disaggregated by racism and xenophobia, including anti-religious hate crime, and by bias on the grounds of sex/gender, including hate crimes committed with bias based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Data under these categories were collected by the French Ministerial Statistical Department for Internal Security (SSMSI).

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Threats/ threatening behaviour

Data collected by the Central Service of Territorial Intelligence may include acts of hate speech that fall outside of the definition of hate crime used by the OSCE. Anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim and anti-Christian hate crimes are also listed here under the category of racist and xenophobic hate crime. The correct total number under this category is 1,922.



Unspecified crime type

Data collected by the Central Service of Territorial Intelligence under this category may include homicides, terrorist attacks, arson, or violent assaults. Anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim and anti-Christian hate crimes are also listed here under the category of racist and xenophobic hate crime. The correct total number under this category is 23.



Physical assault

Data collected by the French Ministerial Statistical Department for Internal Security on physical violence also include sexual violence.



Incitement to violence

Data collected by the French Ministerial Statistical Department for Internal Security on incitement to violence include incidents of disturbance of peace.



Damage to property

Data collected by the French Ministerial Statistical Department for Internal Security on damage to property include robberies, thefts, burglaries, and arsons.



Sexual assault

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Desecration of graves

Data collected the French Ministerial Statistical Department for Internal Security on the desecration of graves may include incidents of desecration of sacred places.

National Developments

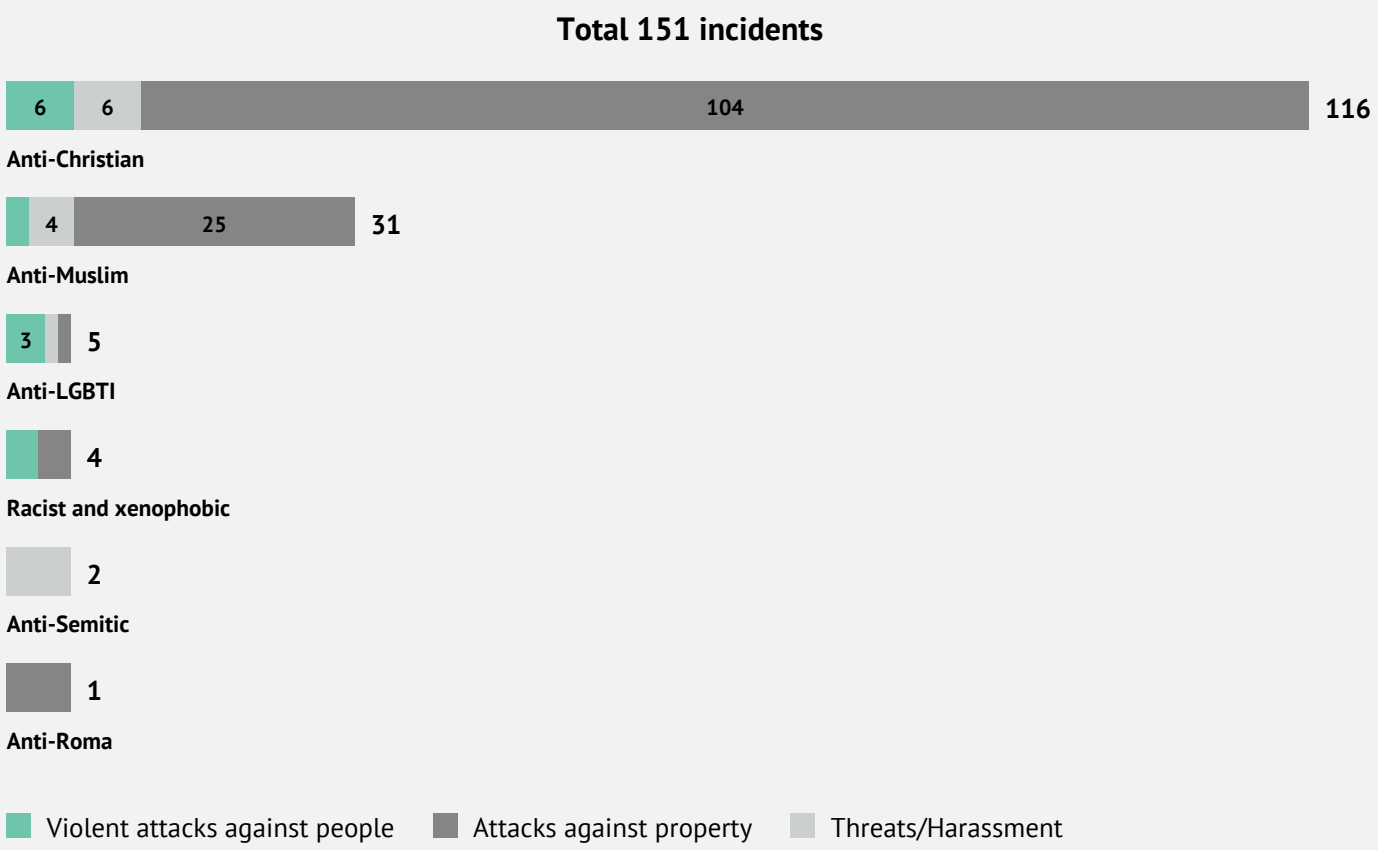
The Act of 29 July 1881 on the freedom of press was amended by Act no. 2021-1109 of 24 August 2021, which introduced an aggravating circumstance in cases of incitement to violence against a person or group of persons on account of their origin, ethnic group, nation, race or religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability, when such incitement is committed by a person exercising public functions.

In October 2021, a four-party agreement was signed by the **National Police College of Saint-Cyr-au-Mont-d'Or,** the **Police Training Centre of Chassieu,** the **Maison d'Izieu**, a memorial to the exterminated Jewish children and DILCRAH. The agreement follows an earlier agreement of 2018 and incorporates a one-day training on sensitization for police cadets each year. As part of the training, cadets visited the Maison d'Izieu memorial in November 2021, where they discussed stereotypes and prejudices in relation to the work of state representatives.

Furthermore, representatives of **DILCRAH**, the **Ministerial Statistical Department for Internal Security (SSMSI)** within the Ministry of the Interior and the **Office of the Defender of Rights** joined a scientific committee to analyse anti-LGBTI hate incidents reported through an online application launched by the organization "FLAG!". The first set of data became available in 2021.

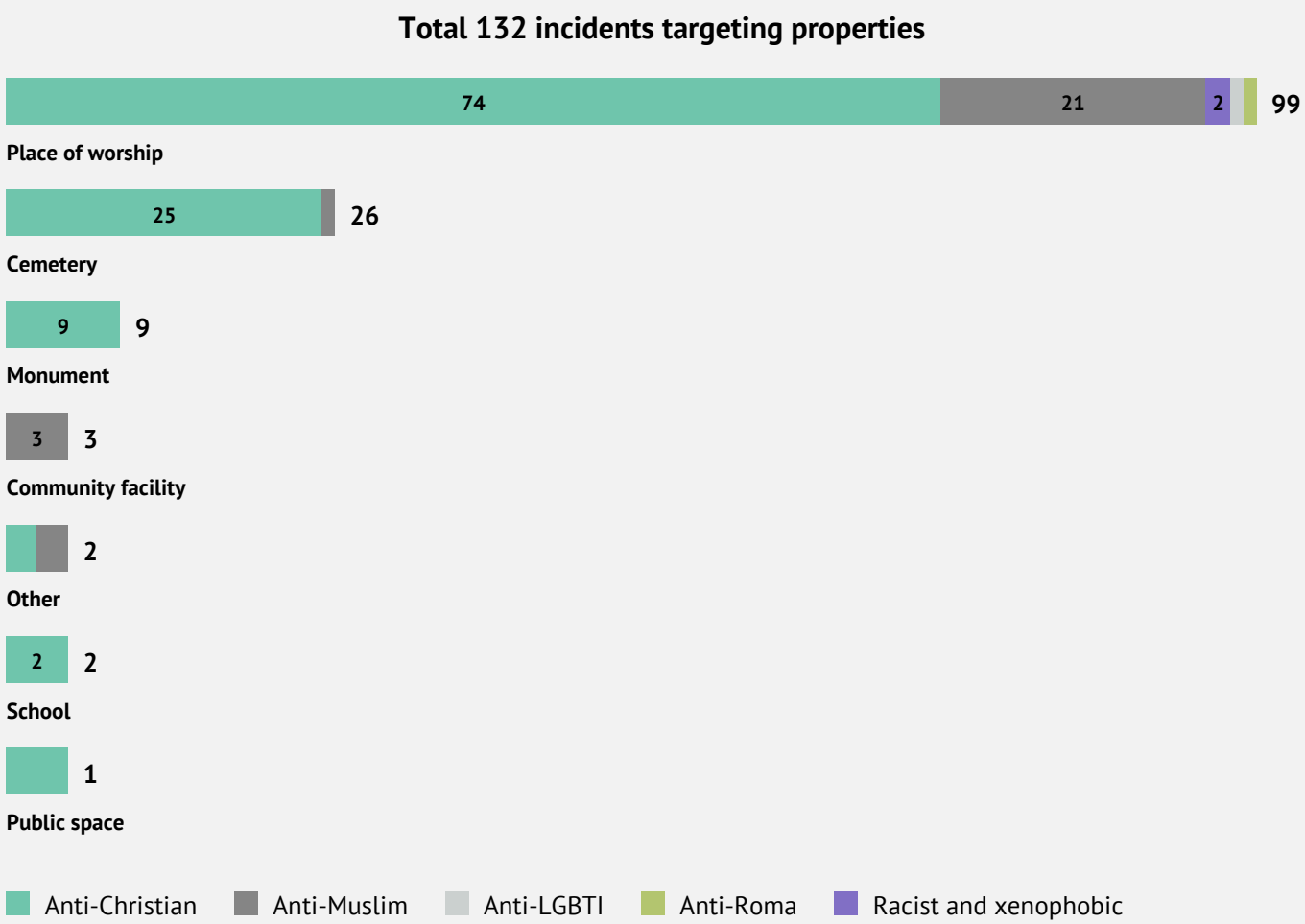
In May 2021, the **Ministry of Justice**, the International League against Racism and Anti-Semitism (LICRA), the Association of Counseling Centers for Victims of Right-wing, Racist and Anti-Semitic Violence in Germany (VBRG), and ODIHR co-organized a virtual study visit on individual needs assessment and referrals as part of ODIHR's project on hate crime victim support. The event featured speakers from various national agencies and organizations providing support to hate crime victims. Participants discussed modes of co-operation among criminal justice system professionals and hate crime victim support organizations, as well as methods to assess the needs of victims and build capacity.

Incidents reported by civil society

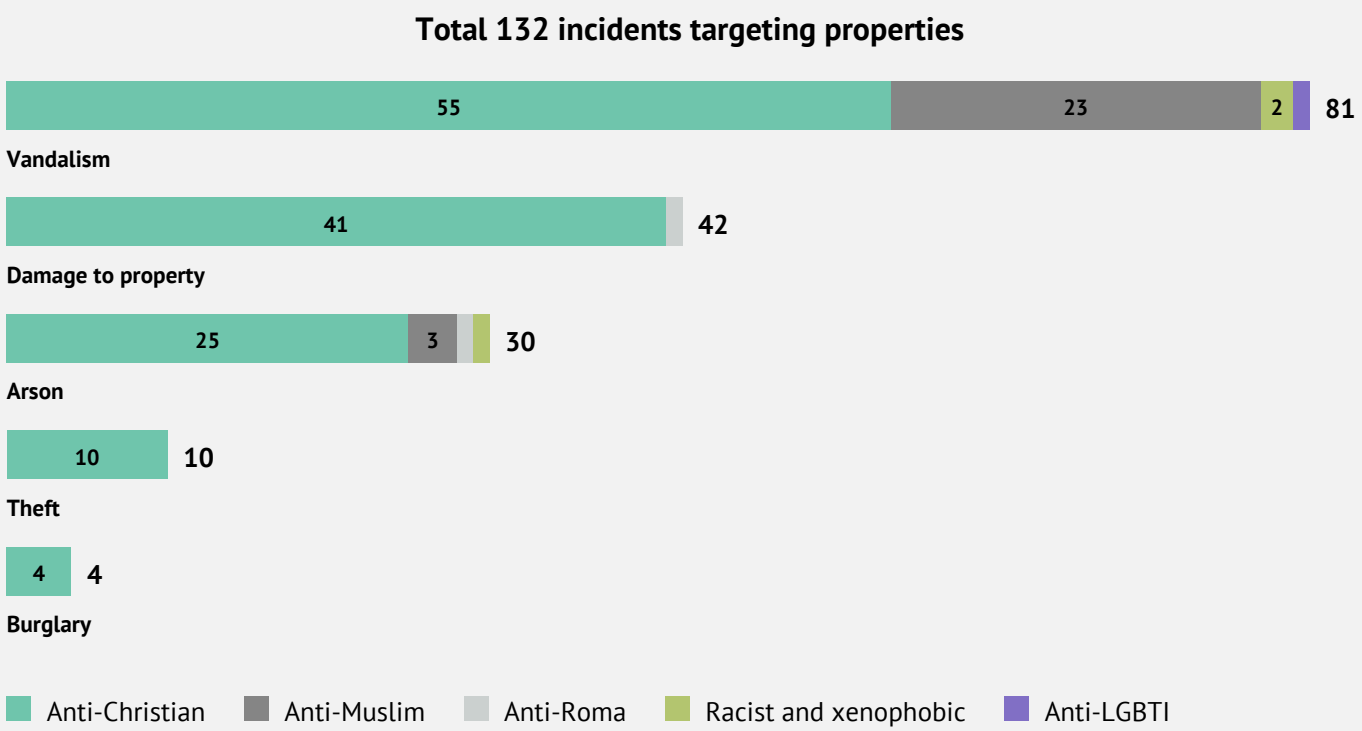


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for France, 2021