OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2019 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/ireland

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

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Summary

Ireland regularly submits hate crime data to ODIHR. Ireland's annual hate crime statistics can be accessed here.

In February 2020, Ireland co-organized a workshop with ODIHR and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights to enhance the understanding and recording of hate crimes. Based on ODIHR's Information Against Hate Crimes Toolkit (INFAHCT) programme, the workshop produced a number of recommendations for relevant state authorities. In July 2021, the Garda launched an online hate crime reporting system.

In April 2022, the Garda took part in ODIHR's Online Training on Sensitive and Respectful Treatment of Hate Crime Victims. Also in 2022, a comprehensive and mandatory Online Hate Crime Training Programme for Garda officers was launched.

In 2023, the Garda formalized the reporting process between civil society and the Garda National Diversity Unit to facilitate reporting and reduce under-reporting of hate crimes.

The Criminal Justice (Hate Offences) Act 2024 came into force on 31 December 2024. The new legislation provides for increased prison sentences for certain crimes, where proven to be motivated by hatred, or where hatred is demonstrated. For example, the legislation ensures that assault aggravated by hatred, or damage to property aggravated by hatred, will attract higher prison sentences. Where hatred is not proven, a person can still be charged with assault or damage to property.

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

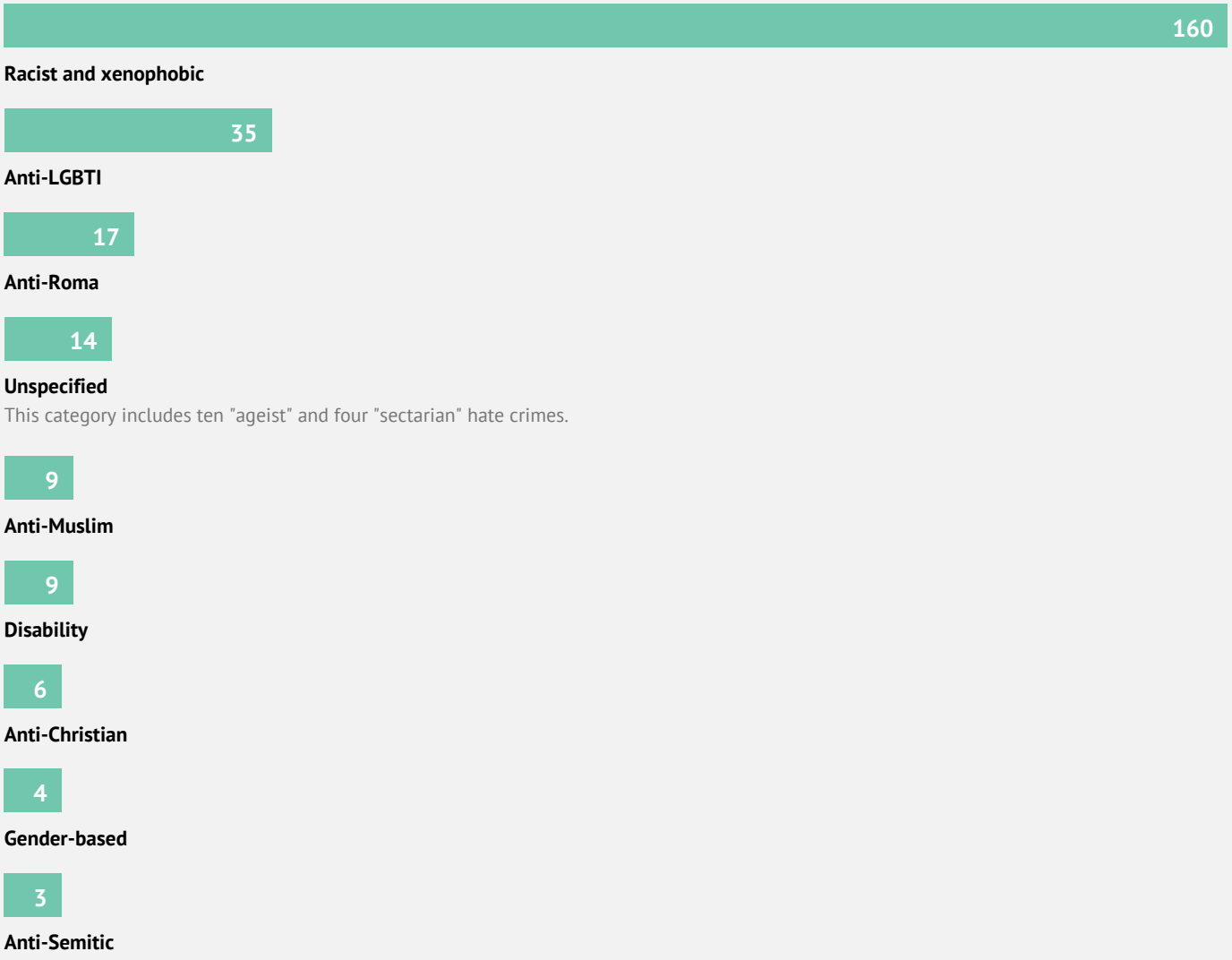
ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR observes that Ireland has not reported to ODIHR the numbers of prosecuted hate crime cases and information on sentenced hate crime cases.

Official Data

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2019	251	not available	not available

Police data by bias motivation



Police data by type of crime

257

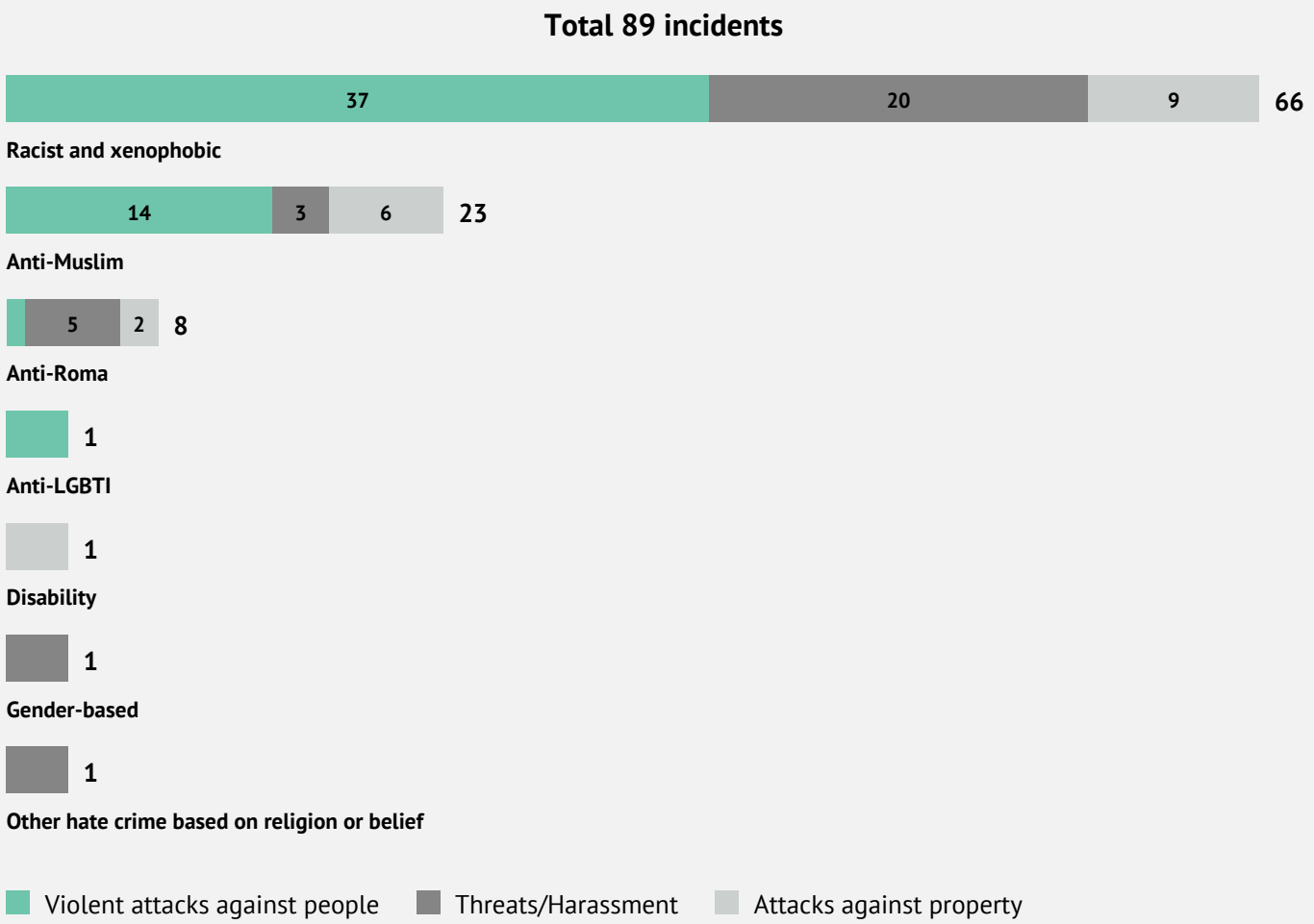
Unspecified crime type

National Developments

In October 2019, An Garda Síochána launched the *Garda Diversity & Integration Strategy 2019-2021*. The strategy focuses on enhancing the identification, reporting, recording, investigating and prosecuting of hate crimes. It contains a working hate crime definition (attached) that is in line with international good practices and the McPherson "perception test". It also recognizes the current and emerging diversity of communities, and aims to protect all diverse and minority groups in society. The strategy contains numerous initiatives and commitments aimed at increasing public confidence in reporting hate crime, such as online reporting, third party referrals, diversity consultation days, increased intercultural awareness and the establishment of a national diversity forum. The launch of the strategy also coincided with a public awareness-raising campaign on reporting hate crime. In 2019, An Garda Síochána introduced a monitoring section in the Garda National Diversity and Integration Unit (GNDIU) to ensure the quality and robustness of hate crime data.

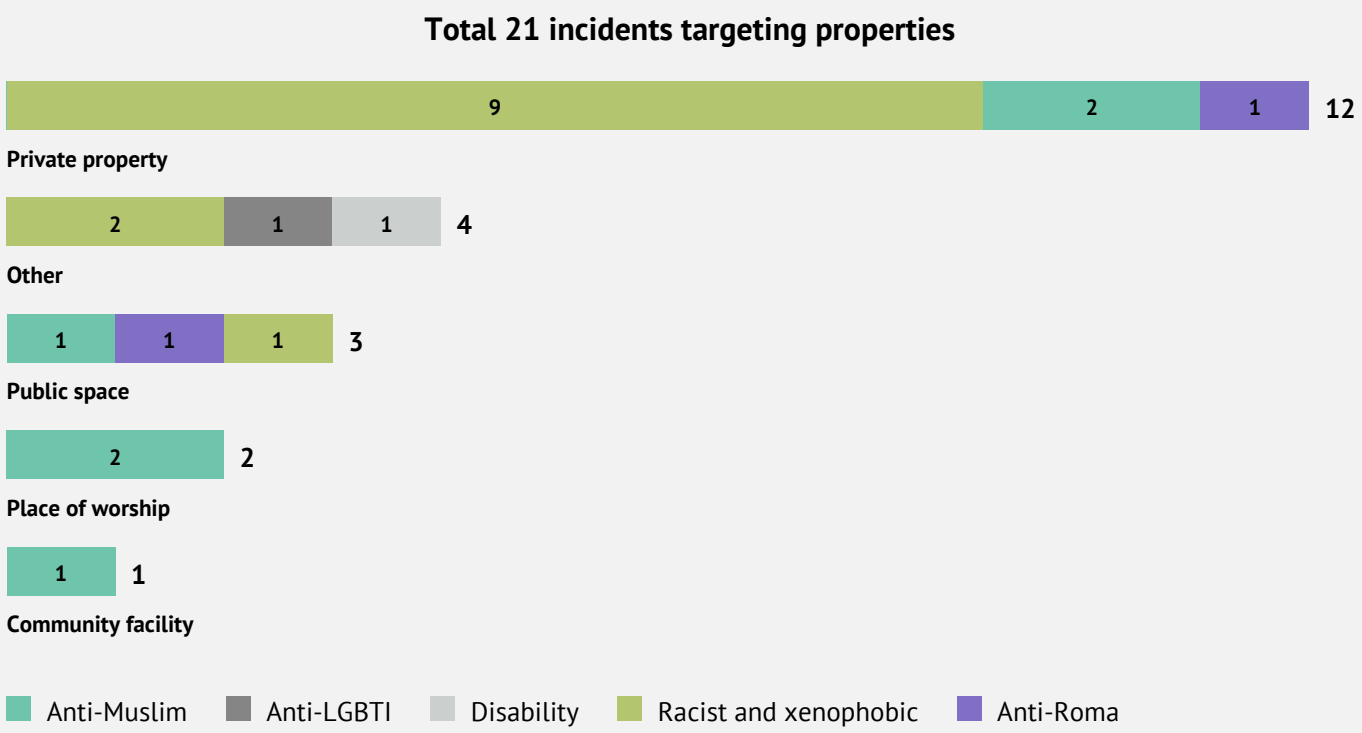
Changes were also introduced in PULSE (the relevant national database). Due to the absence of hate crime provisions in Ireland's Criminal Code, there is currently no differentiation between a victim of hate crime or any other type of victim. With the changes, a victim of hate crime or non-crime hate incident will be easily identifiable by marking a hate-related indicator in an incident on PULSE. This will provide greater visibility when supervising and reviewing such cases, thereby helping to prevent re-victimization and enabling a more efficient analysis of hate crime data. Hate crime posters are displayed in the public and parading areas of every Garda station to provide information about reporting hate crime.

Incidents reported by civil society

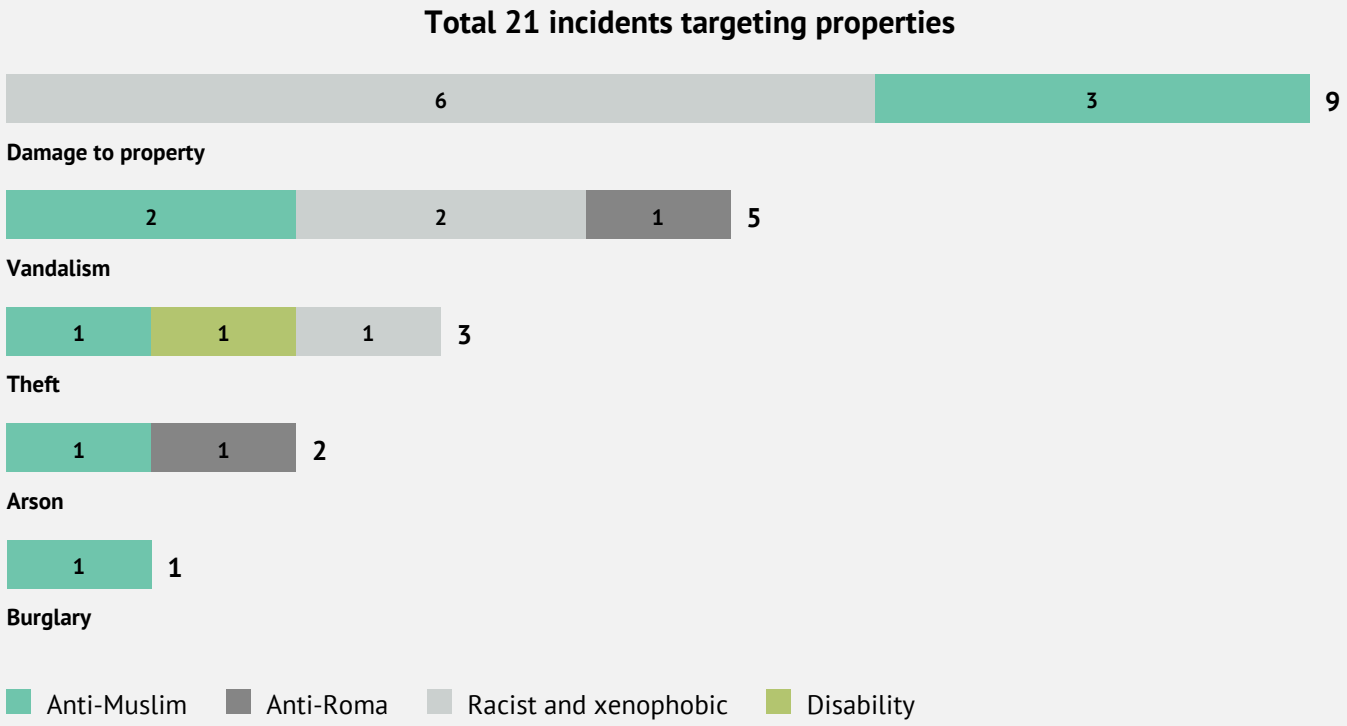


Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Ireland, 2019