OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2020 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/netherlands

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

1 2020

Summary

The Netherlands regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Police and prosecution statistics are published annually. A victimization survey is conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics every two years and the results are published here.

A National Co-ordinator against Discrimination and Racism, appointed in October 2021, is tasked with ensuring a comprehensive approach to countering discrimination and hate crime, in co-operation with civil society organizations (CSOs). A State Commission against Discrimination and Racism is tasked with conducting research into discrimination and racism, including hate crimes.

The Ministry of the Interior (MoI) regularly consults CSOs on anti-discrimination policies. In particular, the MoI has entered into a formal co-operation agreement with the CSO Discriminatie.nl, which monitors discrimination in the Netherlands.

Hate crime data collection in the Netherlands
Support for hate crime victims in the Netherlands
Hate crime capacity building in the Netherlands
The Netherlands's hate crime legislation

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR recognizes the Netherlands' research efforts in addressing the needs of hate crime victims. However, based on available information, it observes that the Netherlands' hate crime recording and statistics do not sufficiently distinguish hate crimes from other crimes. In addition, ODIHR observes that the Netherlands would benefit from reviewing the existing legal framework in order to ensure that bias motivation can be effectively acknowledged and appropriate penalties imposed on the perpetrators.

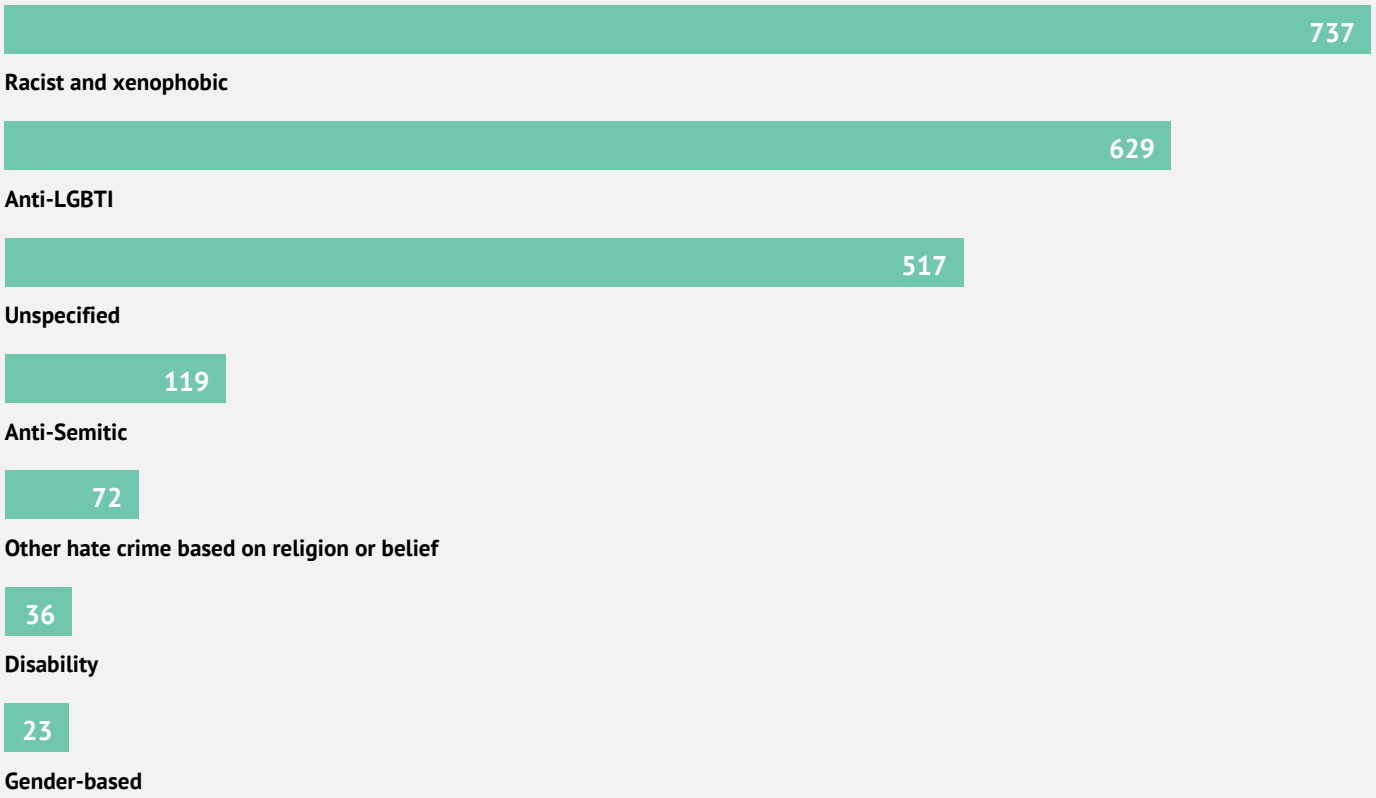
Official Data

Figures reported to ODIHR and presented here include hate speech and discrimination offences (or "basic forms of discrimination"), as well as hate crimes ("common offences with a discriminatory motive"). Most of the cases reported by police include physical assaults (699), threats (638) and damage to property (602). The remaining part of the police records may (194) may include instances of hate speech which do not fall under the OSCE definition of hate crime. Where multiple biases are registered in an offence, each of them is reported individually in the breakdown below. Data from prosecutors and courts refer to the "discriminatory facts" found in incidents, rather than the number of incidents.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2020	2,133	409	not available

Police data by bias motivation

The police figures include hate speech incidents, data reported by local anti-discrimination services and online hate speech incidents, which cannot be disaggregated. Hate crimes recorded by the police can only be disaggregated by either bias motivation or type of crime (both breakdowns were reported to ODIHR) but not simultaneously by both. The disaggregation below shows the total numbers for each bias motivation.



Police data by type of crime

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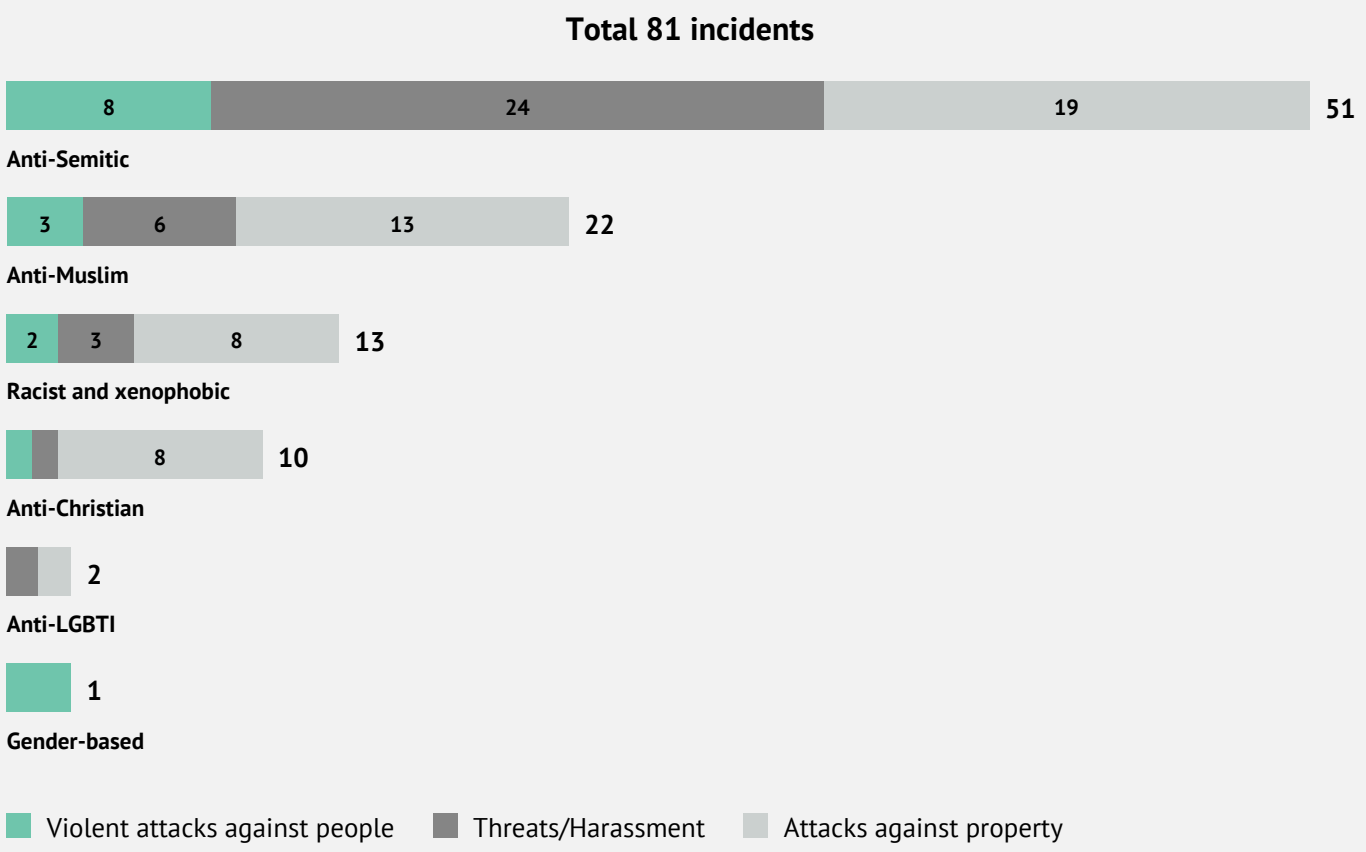
Unspecified crime type

National Developments

In 2020, the Research and Documentation Centre (WODC) conducted a study on the specific needs of victims of hate crimes in the context of criminal proceedings and victim support. The study concluded, among others, that training programmes and criminal justice agents must pay attention to the appropriate treatment of hate-crime victims. Based on the study, the Ministry of Justice and Security initiated consultations with the police, Victim Support Netherlands and the ADVs to discuss the procedure the police follow when referring people who report or file criminal complaints involving hate crimes. The aim of these consultations is to identify any problems and, if necessary, implement targeted improvements.

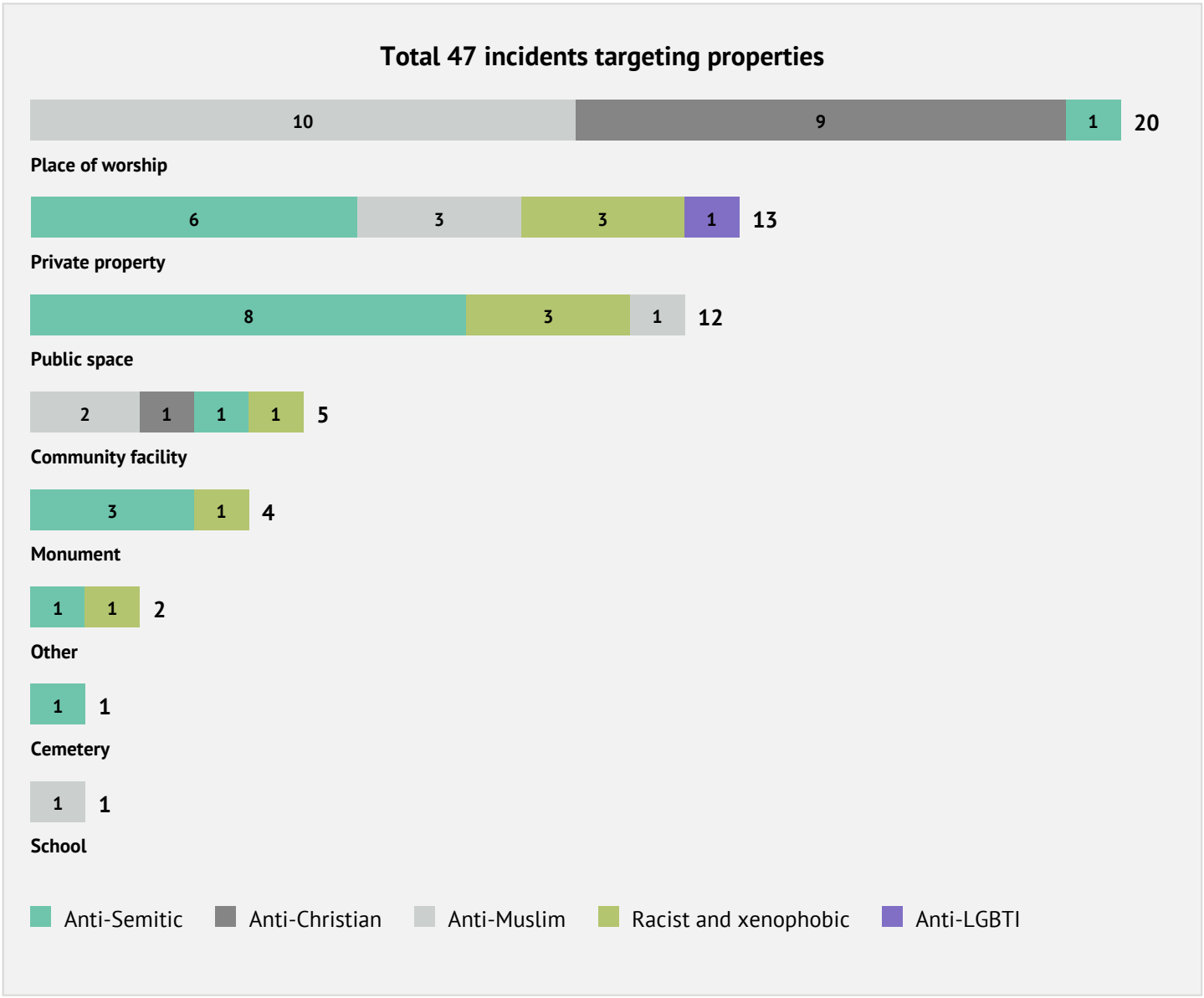
Incidents reported by civil society



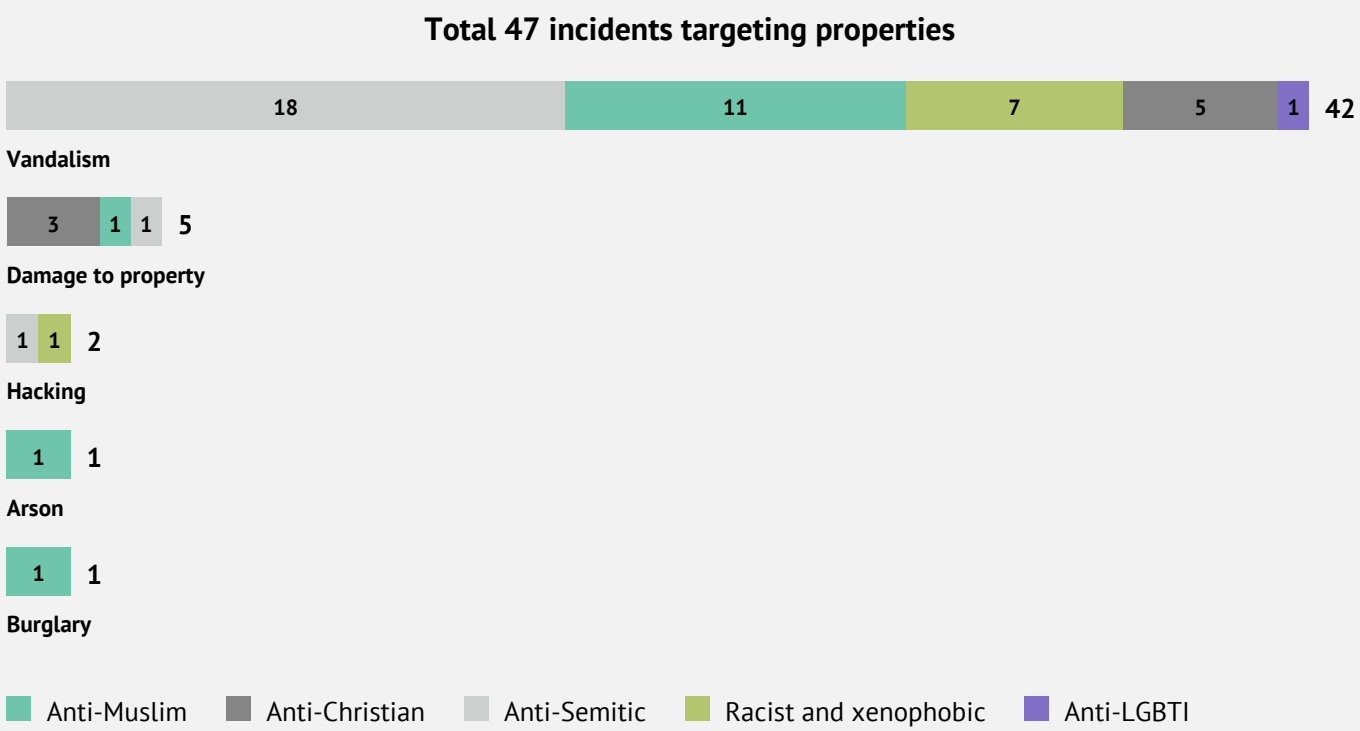
Please note that the total number of incidents may be lower than the sum of incidents presented in the breakdown chart above, as some incidents involve multiple bias motivations.

In addition to incidents summarized below, this graph includes 7 hate incidents reported by Kantor Center as statistics.

Targeted properties



Type of property attack



View civil society incidents for Netherlands, 2020