

Poland Hate Crime Report 2015

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2015 Hate Crime Report.

For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/poland

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

Summary

Poland regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Several public bodies are involved in monitoring and/or collecting data on hate crimes, primarily the police and the Prosecutor's Office. Hate crime data are regularly published.

There is a high degree of hate crime specialization in both police and prosecutor structures. More than 100 specialist hate crime prosecutors have been appointed, and a network of hate crime co-ordinators was established in the police in 2014. In 2015, following a request by the lower house of parliament, ODIHR provided a [legislative review](#) of proposed changes to the Criminal Code of Poland, including on hate crime provisions.

In 2023, Polish police participated in a three-day train-the-trainer workshop as part of ODIHR's Training Against Hate Crime for Law Enforcement (TAHCLE). In 2018, the Ministry of the Interior, ODIHR and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency co-organized a workshop on understanding and improving hate crime recording and data collection based on ODIHR's Information Against Hate Crimes Toolkit (INFAHCT) programme. In 2019, ODIHR co-operated with the Commissioner for Human Rights in Poland to issue a [report](#) on the nature and scale of unreported hate crimes against members of selected communities in Poland.

A draft bill is being developed to amend the Penal Code to strengthen criminal law protection against criminal discriminatory grounds for conduct on the basis of disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

[Hate crime data collection in Poland](#)

[Support for hate crime victims in Poland](#)

[Hate crime capacity building in Poland](#)

[Poland's hate crime legislation](#)

ODIHR's Key Observation

ODIHR observes that Poland has met most OSCE commitments on hate crime data collection and reporting. ODIHR further observes that recording of bias motivations by police should be further strengthened and such data reported to ODIHR.

Official Data

The drop in the total amount of cases recorded by the police is due to the capacity of Poland to disaggregate hate crime cases from offenses related to hate speech or discrimination, which was not the case in previous years. Prosecutors and sentencing figure include cases of hate speech and discrimination.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2015	263	229	195

Police data by bias motivation

133

Racist and xenophobic hate crime

The **Ministry of the Interior** recorded 133 hate crimes motivated by racism and xenophobia.

50

Anti-Semitic hate crime

The **Ministry of the Interior** recorded 50 hate crimes and hate incidents motivated by anti-Semitism.

42

Anti-Muslim hate crime

The **Ministry of the Interior** recorded 42 hate crimes motivated by anti-Muslim bias.

26

Anti-Roma hate crime

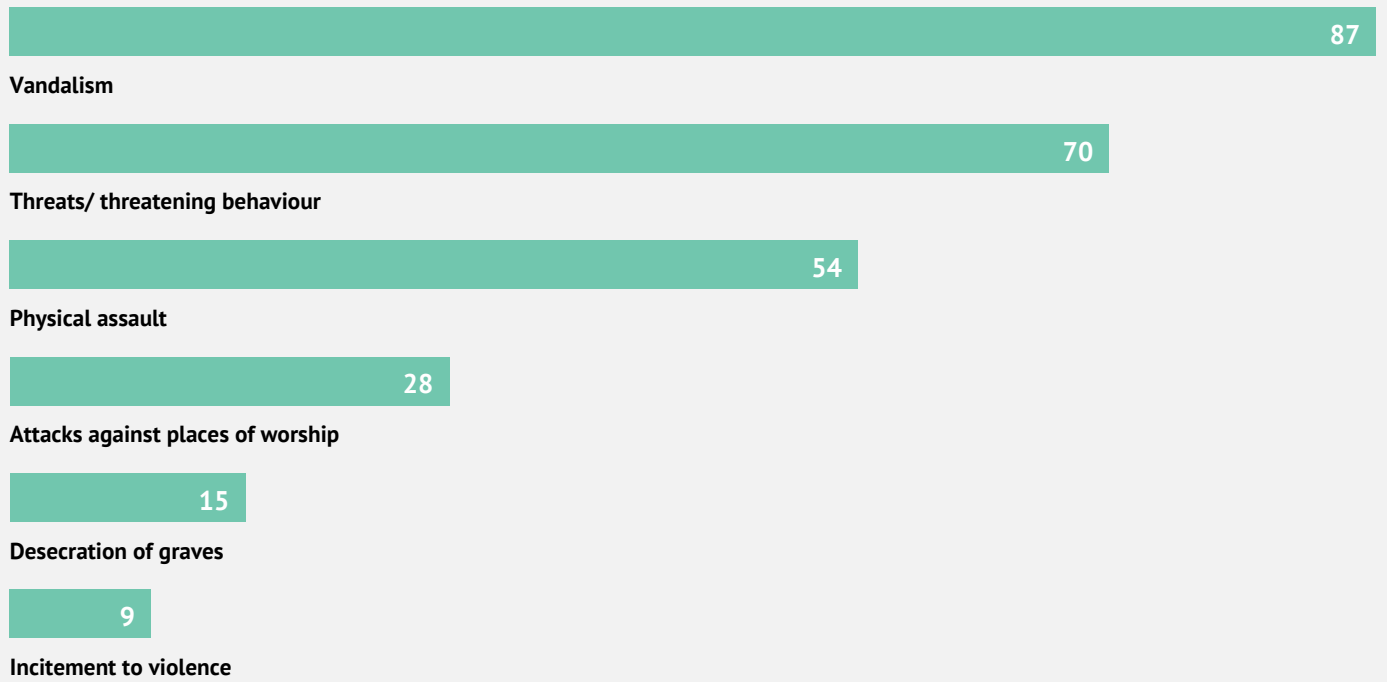
The **Ministry of the Interior** recorded 26 hate crimes motivated by bias against Roma and Sinti.

12

Hate crime against Christians and members of other religions

The **Ministry of the Interior** recorded 12 hate crimes motivated by anti-Christian bias.

Police data by type of crime



National Developments

A **working group on countering hate crimes** was created. The main objectives of the group are to facilitate communication between relevant actors and design tailored reactions to hate crimes. The working group is composed of representatives from groups that experience hate crimes, civil society groups working on hate crime issues, representatives of the Ministry of the Interior, the administration and the police, as well as representatives of other institutions as necessary (e.g., the Ombudsman, Border Guard and other ministries).

On 1 July 2015, a modified electronic statistical charter was introduced that obliges courts to provide information on the motivation of hate crime perpetrators. These changes were aimed at enhancing the hate crime data-collection process and ensuring more effective monitoring of perpetrators' motivation.

On 16 September 2015 **the National Jurisdiction and Prosecution School of Poland** and ODIHR signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the implementation of the Prosecutors and Hate Crime Training (PAHCT) programme. Training began in December 2015.

Incidents reported by civil society

No data reported to ODIHR.

[View civil society incidents for Poland, 2015](#)