OSCE ODIHR
HATE CRIME REPORTING

Information contained in this report was compiled as part of ODIHR's 2014 Hate Crime Report.
For more information, including on previous years' reporting, please visit: hatecrime.osce.org/sweden

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

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Summary

Sweden regularly reports hate crime data to ODIHR. Hate crime reports are published every second year. Since 2016, the Government has implemented a national plan against racism, similar forms of hostility and hate crime. The plan takes an integrated approach and comprises strategies and measures to prevent and combat racism and hate crime through co-ordination and monitoring, education and research, and support for and co-operation with civil society. A new Action Plan to Combat Racism and Hate Crimes was launched in December 2024.

Three different victimization surveys are conducted at one, two and three-year intervals in order to measure unreported hate crime.

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

ODIHR's Key Observation

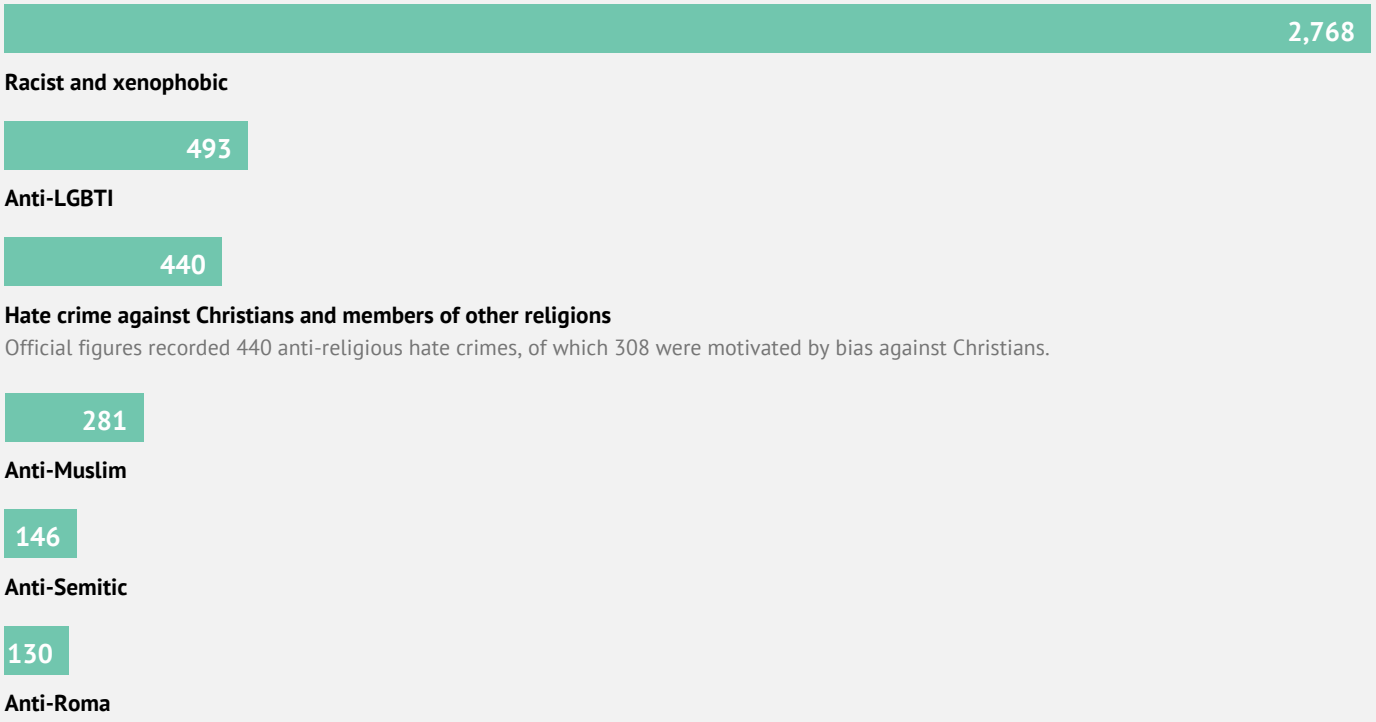
ODIHR observes that Sweden has not reported information on sentenced hate crime cases to ODIHR.

Official Data

Figures reported to ODIHR comprised 6,269 estimated hate crime reports. This number included incidents related to defamation, hate speech, and unlawful discrimination. The number displayed represents only hate crimes according to the OSCE definition. The year-to-year drop in police numbers displayed here is thus due to improved separation of hate crimes from other cases. The number of prosecuted cases reflects prosecutorial decisions taken in 2013 and reported in 2015.

Year	Hate crimes recorded by police	Prosecuted	Sentenced
2014	4,258	279	not available

Police data by bias motivation



Police data by type of crime



Threats/ threatening behaviour

Includes crimes that are officially categorized as 'unlawful threats and non-sexual molestation.'



Physical assault

Includes a selection of crimes of a violent nature: homicide, assault and violence against a public servant.



Vandalism

Includes crimes that are officially categorized as criminal damage/graffiti.

National Developments

The government issued a directive making the **National Council for Crime Prevention (BRÅ)** responsible for the production of hate crime statistics and tasked it with continuing to improving these statistics.

A special investigator has been appointed by the **Swedish National Police Board (Rikspolisstyrelsen)** to enhance co-operation between the criminal justice system, civil society and academic researchers. The police, together with the **Swedish Prosecution Authority** and **BRÅ,** have agreed on a common definition of the term "hate crime" to be used across the criminal justice system. Furthermore, a number of recommendations pertaining to combating hate crime have been formulated.

The **Swedish Prosecution Authority (*Åklagarmyndigheten*)** implemented a project aimed at improving the identification and prosecution of hate crimes. A seminar on victimization and experiences of hate crimes for approximately 25 specially-appointed hate crime prosecutors was held.

The **Swedish Crime Victim Compensation and Support Authority**, in co-operation with the **Jönköping Victim Support Services** and the **Ängelholm Victim Support Services**, organized hate crime training events for employees of local victim support services, as well as representatives of the police. It also provided funding for a research project and a conference that dealt with hate crime issues. Furthermore, in co-operation with the **Ombudsman for Children in Sweden**, it created a website aimed at children between 14 and 17 that contains information regarding hate crimes, including information on how to report it.

Incidents reported by civil society

No data reported to ODIHR.

View civil society incidents for Sweden, 2014