2020 Hate Crime Data Key Findings

Overview of contributions

- **42** states contributed to the report
- **136** civil society contributors
- **36** states submitted official statistics
- **46** states covered by civil society data
- **22** states submitted police statistics by bias motivation
- **33** states covered by IGOs data

In its Key Observations, ODIHR suggests

- **14 states** to report on hate crimes to ODIHR
- **12 states** to record bias motivation
- **12 states** to record hate crime and hate speech separately
- **7 states** to provide complete police, prosecutorial and judicial data
- **16 states** to improve their legislation
- **30 states** to strengthen training and raise awareness

Incident data

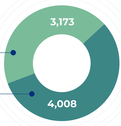
The first graphic shows the total number of hate incidents reported to ODIHR by civil society, international organizations and the Holy See, including both descriptive incidents and those for which only statistical information is available. The second graphic shows the percentage of types of crime by bias motivation.

These graphics do not fully reflect the prevalence of hate crimes in the OSCE area. Data are not comparable across countries or bias motivations.

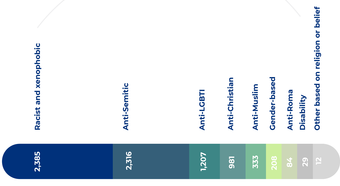
7,181 total number of incidents reported to ODIHR

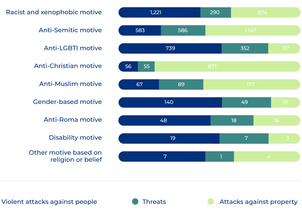
3,173 statistical incidents disaggregated by state, bias motivation and type of crime

4,008 descriptive incidents



7,181 Incidents





Who are the victims?

The vast majority of hate crimes go unreported, meaning we will never know the actual number of victims. Incidents reported to ODIHR by civil society provide insight into these figures. Presentation below shows how many victims were directly hurt in **violent** and **threatening** incidents whose detailed descriptions ODIHR received.

Number of descriptive incidents reported | Number of victims affected directly by these incidents | Average number of victims per incident

	Number of descriptive incidents reported	Number of victims affected directly by these incidents	Average number of victims per incident
Racist and xenophobic motive	674	2,092	3.1
Anti-Semitic motive	349	623	1.8
Anti-LGBTI motive	667	1,136	1.7
Anti-Christian motive	114	243	2.1
Anti-Muslim motive	143	352	2.5
Gender-based motive	199	414	2.1
Anti-Roma motive	71	178	2.5
Disability motive	24	37	1.5
Other motive based on **religion or belief**	8	20	2.5

Impact of COVID-19

- Of all reported incidents where bias motivations intersected with COVID-19, 7/8 were racist and xenophobic incidents; the remaining 1/8 targeted mostly Roma and Jews.
- All the racist and xenophobic incidents committed in connection with COVID-19 were anti-Asian. In 86% cases, the victims were in fact Chinese or of other East-Asian descent.
- Reported anti-Asian hate crime has significantly increased year-to-year: constituting 9 % of all reported racist and xenophobic incidents in 2020 (less than 1 % in 2019).
- This confirms the disproportionately high targeting of Asians during the pandemic and a massive increase in the targeting of Asian people.

Incident stories

A Black female legislator was killed when she was shot at and stabbed. Racist chants were made during the murder.

A gay couple was pushed and subjected to homophobic insults during a Christmas parade.

Eleven worshippers at a synagogue were shot dead during a Sabbath morning service. Six people, including four police officers, were injured. During the attack, the congregation was subjected to anti-Semitic insults and death threats.

A female sex worker was subjected to misogynist insults, choked, raped and threatened to be killed with a knife by an elderly man at his flat.

Around 300 Roma persons left their homes after having been subjected to death threats. Six of their homes were subsequently targeted in arson attacks.

Several gravestones, vases and a statue in a Catholic cemetery were vandalized.

A young man with a disability was severely beaten up by two men who also attempted to rob him. One of the perpetrators filmed the incident and posted the video on social media.

A Buddhist monument was vandalized when a woman climbed on it and damaged it with a sledgehammer while uttering anti-Buddhist slurs

The Muslim community was threatened when a comment praising a recent anti-Muslim attack and inciting violence towards worshipers at mosques was published on social media.

An Asian woman was subjected to racist insults, including references to COVID-19, was spat at, and had her hair pulled by a woman. The incident was prosecuted as a hate crime.

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