



# Antisemitism overview - Poland

Overview of antisemitic incidents recorded in Poland in 2014-2024

## Contents

<b>1.</b>	<b>Poland .....</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1.	Official data .....	3
1.2.	Unofficial data .....	6

# 1. Poland

The country overview provides a descriptive analysis of the available official and unofficial data. 'Official data' refers to those collected by law enforcement agencies, authorities that are part of criminal justice systems and relevant state ministries. 'Unofficial data' refers to those collected by civil society organisations, including Jewish community organisations. All data presented are based on the countries and organisations' own definitions and categorisations of antisemitism. Some of these draw on the IHRA Working definition of antisemitism, which was endorsed by all EU member states, except Malta. Albania, North Macedonia and Serbia also adopted the IHRA Working definition on antisemitism. (i) Where available, the country overview provides a breakdown of the data by month following 7 October 2023, showing stark increases in recorded antisemitic incidents following the Hamas attacks and the and the ensuing military intervention in Gaza.

This publication is part of a larger series of overviews of antisemitic incidents. FRA and its predecessor (the EU Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia) have monitored antisemitism since 2004.

## 1.1. Official data

The Ministry of the Interior and Administration collect data on racist incidents brought to its attention, including antisemitic incidents. The unit responsible for these tasks in the ministry was the Human Rights Protection Team until October 2016, when the task was taken over by the Unit for European Migration Network and Combating Human Trafficking of the Department for Migration Analyses and Policy. In 2020, the responsibility for data collection was transferred to the Unit for Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings and Hate Crimes of the Department for Migration Analysis and Policy. Since October 2021, following organisational changes, this task has been coordinated by the Public Order Department.

In 2015, a new hate crime recording system was introduced, with the aim of ensuring that the Ministry of the Interior and Administration had a complete picture of hate crime cases in Poland and was able to produce detailed and diverse analyses. The system refers all hate crime investigations that the police lead to the Ministry of the Interior and Administration. Statistics on hate crime are produced using an analytical system that is based on cases that entered the national police information system.

These statistics include both crimes identified at the recording stage as hate crimes when entering the case’s legal category into the system, and other crimes that included a hate crime component and were committed against people because of their national, ethnic, racial, political, religious or non-denominational affiliations.

In 2024, 125 antisemitic hate crime incidents were recorded, compared with 143 incidents in 2023, and 130 incidents in 2022 and 111 in 2021 (Table 1). Figure 22 shows that in 2015–2020 – the period for which comparable data are available – the numbers of recorded antisemitic incidents ranged from 73 incidents in 2017 to 179 incidents in 2018. No information regarding online incidents was provided for 2022, 2023, and 2024. (ii)

The overall trend in recorded incidents in 2015–2020 suggests a decrease in the number of incidents. However, from 2021 to 2023 is shown an increase in recorded incidents. This could in part be due to changes in the data collection methodology.

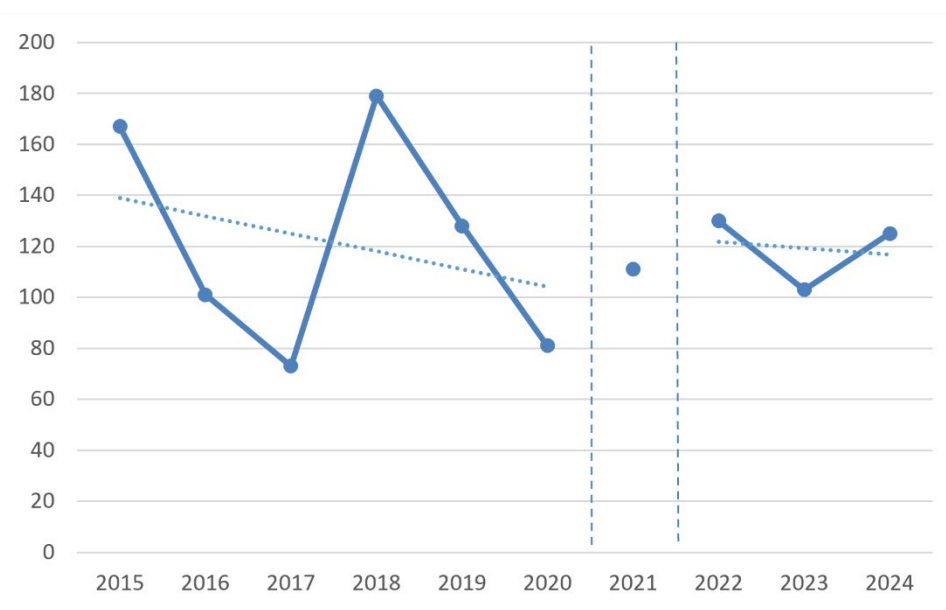
**Table 1: Antisemitic incidents recorded in Poland, 2014–2024**

Year	Number of antisemitic incidents
2014	39
2015	167 <sup>(a)</sup>
2016	101
2017	73
2018	179
2019	128
2020	81
2021	111 <sup>(b)</sup>
2022	130 <sup>(c)</sup>
2023	103
2024	125

- (<sup>a</sup>) Not comparable with previous years because of changes in data collection methodology.
- (<sup>b</sup>) Number of cases the NLO extracted from the national police information system using keyword 'antisemitism'. Therefore, the data are not comparable with those of previous years.
- (<sup>c</sup>) Number of cases the NLO extracted from the national police information system from incidents meeting the legal qualification of hate crime, using keywords 'Israel', 'Antisem-' and 'Jew-'. Therefore, the data are not comparable with those of previous years.

Source: Ministry of the Interior and Administration, 2013–2023.

**Figure 1 – Recorded antisemitic incidents, 2015-2024**



*Alternative text: A line chart shows the evolution of antisemitic incidents recorded between 2015 and 2024. The number of incidents recorded per year decreased from just above 160 in 2015 to around 80 in 2020. In 2021 the data is not comparable, but as of 2022 it is comparable again. The dotted line represents a trend line. See Box B1 below for details.*

Source: Ministry of the Interior and Administration, 2016–2024.

*NB: The dotted linear regression line indicates the trend based on data for 2015–2020. The data prior to 2015 were not included because changes were made to the data collection methodology, thereby limiting comparability. Data for 2021 onward are the number of cases extracted from the national police information system using keyword 'antisemitism'. Data from 2022 are the number of cases extracted from the national police information system from incidents meeting the legal qualification of hate crime,*

using keywords 'Israel', 'Antisem-' and 'Jew-'. Vertical lines indicate changes in the data collection methodology.

## 1.2. Unofficial data

The 'Never Again' Association (Stowarzyszenie 'Nigdy Więcej') reports racist and xenophobic incidents – including antisemitic incidents – that come to its attention to ODIHR. Details of the recorded incidents have been published in the association's magazine and dedicated Brown Book reports. <sup>(iii)</sup> In addition, other civil society actors report on antisemitism and collaborate with ODIHR (Table 2).

**Table 2: Disaggregated antisemitic incidents recorded by selected civil society organisations and communicated to ODIHR, 2014–2024 <sup>(a)</sup>**

Year	Attacks against property <sup>(b)</sup>	Physical assault	Threats	Total
2014	16	1	3	20
2015	1	0	0	1
2016	3	0	0	3
2017	2	0	0	2
2018	0	0	0	0
2019	36	2	3	41
2020	14	3	3	20
2021	12	0	6	18
2022	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	488
2023	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	894
2024	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1,493

(<sup>a</sup>) Excluding reports from international organisations

(<sup>b</sup>) Some acts of vandalism occurring on the same day are aggregated as one incident even though they involve several acts.

NB: n.a., not available.

*Source:* Data compiled by ODIHR 2013–2021, with input from the ‘Never Again’ Association, the Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland, the Jewish Community of Warsaw and the Open Dialogue Foundation. Data for 2022–2024 compiled by Jewish Association Czulent.

### Box B 1 – Identifying trends in antisemitic incidents

To identify trends that underlie annual changes in the number of recorded incidents, linear regression lines (trend lines) were fitted to the data. This country overview presents trend lines where the following two conditions are fulfilled:

- the data were collected using the same methodology for at least three years in a row.
- the mid-point of the trend line for the series was not below 20 cases.

If the number of recorded incidents is low, the direction and magnitude of the trend is likely to be highly susceptible to change from one year to the next, making reliable trend analysis difficult. The number of recorded incidents is considered to be low if there were under 20 cases per year in all or most of the years between 2014 and 2024, resulting in the mid-point of the trend line falling under 20 cases.

It should also be emphasised that ascending or descending trend lines should not be interpreted as growing or declining antisemitism. The increase or decrease in recorded incidents may mean, for example, that more people are reporting incidents in a given year or that the police are becoming more efficient in recording incidents as antisemitic.

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(<sup>i</sup>) See an overview of EU Member States and accession countries that adopted the [working definition of antisemitism](#) by the 2016 International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

(<sup>ii</sup>) Ministry of the Interior and Administration, 2013–2023.

(<sup>iii</sup>) For more information, see the [Stowarzyszenie ‘Nigdy Więcej’ web page](#).