



Summary of Open Source Anti-Semitic Incident Statistics

Updated: December 2020

This summary provides an overview of open source statistics regarding reported anti-Semitic incidents in the United States and Canada. All statistics included in this summary were obtained through open sources and may contain unofficial data. This summary should be considered preliminary in nature. Exact counts are subject to change pending official end-of-year data reporting.

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Hate Crime Data (2015 – 2019)

According to the FBI's 2019 hate crimes report, of the 1,650 reported hate crime offenses motivated by religious bias in 2019, 60.3% were motivated by anti-Jewish bias.

The FBI also reported that 16.7% of religious bias hate crime incidents occurred in houses of worship (synagogues, churches, mosques, temples).

FBI Hate Crime Data				
Year	Total Number of Reported Hate Crime Offenses	Offenses Motivated by Religious Bias	Percent Motivated by Anti-Jewish Bias*	Percent Occurring at a HOW**
2019	8559	1650	60.2%	16.7%
2018	8496	1550	57.8%	15.4%
2017	8437	1679	58.1%	15.0%
2016	7321	1538	54.2%	15.2%
2015	6885	1354	51.3%	16.0%

* Represents the percentage of offenses classified as Motivated by Religious Bias that were subcategorized as Motivated by Anti-Jewish Bias.

**HOW = Houses of Worship - includes synagogues, churches, mosques, etc.

Of all hate crime offenses reported in 2019, The FBI has indicated a 12.8% increase in aggravated assaults and a 6.7% increase in simple assaults from 2018. The total number of hate crime offenses motivated by religious bias increased by 6.5% from 2018 to 2019. Since October 2018, there have been four deadly attacks against the Jewish community. Three of those attacks occurred in 2019, resulting in a total of 6 deaths.

ADL – 2019 Data

In 2019, the ADL reported a total of 2,107 antisemitic incidents across the U.S., a 12% increase over the 1,879 incidents reported in 2018.

In 2019, there was a 49% increase in extremist propaganda incidents, as compared to 2018.

In 2019, 11% of the recorded anti-Semitic incidents occurred in Jewish institutions/schools.

In 2019, 186 anti-Semitic incidents took place on university and college campuses, a decrease of 7% from 2018.

The states with the highest numbers of incidents were New York, New Jersey, California, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania. Of those New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania experienced increases over 2018.

ADL	2017	2018	2019
Assault	19	39	61
Harassment	1015*	1066	1127
Vandalism	952	774	919
Annual Total	1986	1879	2107

*Of the total number of harassment cases in 2017, 163 were part of a spree of bomb threats made against Jewish institutions by an Israeli-American teen and a second individual who was charged with making copy-cat threats.

Publicly Reported Notable Incidents and Arrests

The below is an illustrative set of recent incidents and arrests from across the country. It is not intended to be exhaustive.

- **12 December 2020:** A driver shouting anti-Semitic slurs hit and dragged a member of Chabad of the Bluegrass with his car during a Hanukkah celebration in Lexington, Kentucky.
- **05 October 2020:** An unknown individual punctured the tires of over two dozen vehicles in a Jewish neighborhood of New York, New York.
- **19 September 2020:** Seven members of the neo-Nazi group 14 First were photographed in Spokane, Washington posing and holding a banner near a Jewish house of worship.
- **25 August 2020:** Authorities stated that a fire was intentionally set at a Chabad in Newark, Delaware
- **23 August 2020:** A team associated with the anti-Semitic website GoyimTV hung a banner reading "The Jews Want A Race War" over a heavily trafficked highway in Los Angeles, California.
- **22 July 2020:** A Holocaust memorial in Charleston, South Carolina was vandalized with anti-Semitic phrases involving concentration camps.
- **01 July 2020:** A public graffiti wall in Athens, Ohio was defaced with swastikas and SS bolts.
- **28 June 2020:** Three individuals stopped their vehicle at a Yeshiva in Ossining, New York to throw rocks at the building and yell obscenities at local residents.
- **23 June 2020:** A Jewish man was stabbed in the head in Carson City, Nevada by an unknown individual shouting "Heil Hitler, you piece of s***!"
- **13 June 2020:** Video footage at the Nashville Holocaust Memorial showed four unidentified men covering a section of the monument with a tarp featuring anti-Semitic phrases and symbology.
- **08 June 2020:** The principal of a charter school in Glendale, Arizona was removed from his position after a series of anti-Semitic and racists messages were released to the public.
- **02 May 2020:** An individual was reported walking into a store in Stow, Ohio carrying a sword and a hatchet. While inside, the individual asked about the location of Kent State University and stated that he was looking for Jews to kill. The individual was later arrested on 15 June 2020 for charges relating to firearms. Of note, the same individual was identified as one of two who marched with anti-Semitic signs at a demonstration in Cleveland, Ohio on 18 April 2020.
- **15 April 2020:** A Massachusetts individual was arrested and charged in connection with an attempted arson at a Longmeadow Jewish assisted living residential facility.
- **13 April 2020:** A Maryland individual was charged with felony second-degree arson and defacing religious property for vandalism at a Rockville Synagogue and for setting fires at a church in Wheaton.
- **11 March 2020:** An individual was arrested for arson and burglary causing between \$25,000 and \$30,000 in damage at Temple Emanuel of Pueblo, Colorado.
- **26 February 2020:** The Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested a founder of violent neo-Nazi group Atomwaffen Division, charging him with making interstate threats during a "swatting" campaign.
- **23 February 2020:** Numerous Jewish Community Centers across the country received emailed bomb threats. The sender claimed to have placed explosive devices in unknown areas and stated that if anyone attempted to arrest the sender, the bombs would be remotely detonated. At the time, authorities investigated and determined there was no credible threat to the facilities that received the emails.
- **28 December 2019:** A man entered a Rabbi's home in Monsey, New York, and stabbed five people. The alleged attacker was arrested in New York City a couple of hours later.
- **12 December 2019:** A New York man was arrested for pointing a gun at a Jewish man in Brooklyn, New York.
- **10 December 2019:** Two individuals shot and killed a police officer at a cemetery and three civilians in a kosher supermarket in Jersey City, New Jersey. The two suspects were killed when engaging law enforcement at the scene.
- **20 November 2019:** A Jewish man was stabbed outside a synagogue in Monsey, New Jersey.

- **17 November 2019:** A New Jersey man was arrested for allegedly ordering the vandalism of two synagogues in other states.
- **02 November 2019:** A Pueblo, Colorado man was arrested for allegedly planning to bomb a Pueblo synagogue.
- **14 October 2019:** A Florida individual, armed with a knife, was arrested after allegedly assaulting two individuals as they left holiday services at a local synagogue.
- **08 October 2019:** A gunman opened fire outside a synagogue in Halle, Germany. The alleged offender attempted to enter the synagogue but was thwarted by security measures the synagogue had in place. After unsuccessful attempts to enter the facility, the alleged offender shot and killed two adults - one outside the synagogue and one at a nearby shop - and injured several others before being arrested by German authorities.
- **06 September 2019:** A Florida individual was arrested after allegedly making threats to attack a local synagogue.
- **17 August 2019:** An Ohio man was arrested after allegedly making an online threat toward the Jewish Community Center of Youngstown, Ohio.
- **10 August 2019:** A Las Vegas, Nevada man was arrested for allegedly planning to firebomb a Las Vegas synagogue or local LGBTQ bar.
- **23 July 2019:** An Iowa man was charged for allegedly making threats, via phone and email, to a Manhattan-based Jewish organization.
- **16 June 2019:** A California man was arrested after allegedly threatening in an online chatroom to kill Jews in a synagogue attack.
- **22 May 2019:** A New Jersey-based individual was arrested for allegedly attempting to provide material support to Hamas, making false statements, and making a threat against pro-Israel supporters.
- **27 April 2019:** A man entered the Chabad of Poway, opening fire on congregants. The alleged shooter killed one congregant and wounded three others.
- **26 April 2019:** The FBI arrested a California-based individual for allegedly providing material support to terrorists. According to reports, the individual indicated his desire to carry out an attack in retaliation for the New Zealand attacks and said he wanted to kill Jews as they walked to synagogue.
- **16 January 2019:** The Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested a Georgia-based individual for allegedly attempting to destroy a U.S. Government facility with an explosive. The individual indicated he wished to attack the Washington Monument, the White House, the Lincoln Memorial, and a specific synagogue in the Washington, D.C. area.
- **10 December 2018:** An Ohio-based individual was arrested and charged in federal court with one count of attempting to provide material support to the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS) for allegedly planning an attack on a synagogue in the Toledo, Ohio area.
- **07 December 2018:** Police in Washington arrested an individual who was accused of making threats to carry out mass killings and violating Washington state's hate crime law. The individual, who claimed to be a member of the Ku Klux Klan, referred to himself as "Active Shooter 327" and posted on his social media accounts, "Gonna make the news some more and shoot some Jews in 2025."
- **23 November 2018:** Police in Los Angeles arrested an individual after security camera footage showed him making a U-turn in his vehicle and then driving into a group of people, braking before hitting anyone. Other footage showed the man then backing up the vehicle and then attempting to hit the group again. The possible targets believed the man targeted them because they were Jewish.
- **05 November 2018:** A New York-based individual was arrested and charged with hate crimes after anti-Semitic messages were found at a Brooklyn synagogue. The individual was also charged with setting several fires, including one in the coat closet of a Yeshiva school in the Williamsburg neighborhood and other locations associated with the Jewish community in Brooklyn.
- **27 October 2018:** A man shouting anti-Semitic slurs opened fire inside the Tree of Life Congregation, a Jewish synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The alleged shooter killed 11 congregants and wounded four police officers and two others.