

Antisemitic cases January – June 2025 in Austria

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Summary

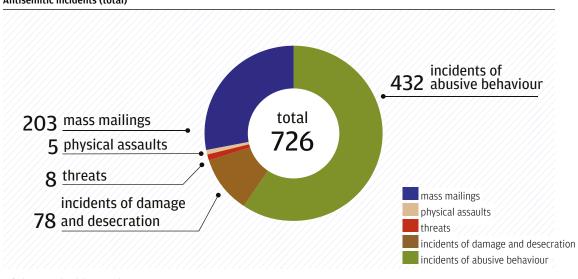
Between 1 January 2025 and 30 June 2025, the Reporting Centre for Antisemitism of the Jewish Community of Vienna (IKG) recorded a total of 726 antisemitic incidents in Austria. During the same period last year, there were 808 incidents, while in the first half of 2023, the number stood at 311.

While the genocidal massacre committed by Palestinian terrorist organisations in Israel on October 7, 2023, and the subsequent war have posed major challenges to Jewish people worldwide over the past two years, the number of reported and verified incidents now appears to have levelled off at a high level. This trend in Austria mirrors developments in other countries, as evidenced by published data as well as by active exchanges of experience with partner organisations.

Despite the persistently high number of antisemitic incidents, there has been a relative decline in reports submitted by affected individuals. The shifting boundaries in ever larger parts of social, media, and political discourse – already described in last year's report – have left clear marks. This breaking of the dam and the accompanying loss of restraint have led many Jewish people to a certain emotional numbness – not in the sense of indifference, but as a protective response to ongoing, chronic strain. Increasingly, those affected withdraw rather than report incidents: discrimination, insults, open threats, and even assaults are more often endured rather than spoken about. Consequently, it must be assumed that the number of unreported antisemitic incidents in Austria is higher than in previous years.

This report does not present a comprehensive picture of antisemitism in Austria. The statistics include only those incidents that were reported and subsequently verified as clearly antisemitic by the experts of the Reporting Centre for Antisemitism, in accordance with the IHRA definition of antisemitism.

Antisemitic incidents (total)



Of the 726 incidents, there were:

5 physical assaults (first half of 2024: 16; first half of 2023: 6)

8 threats (22; 4)

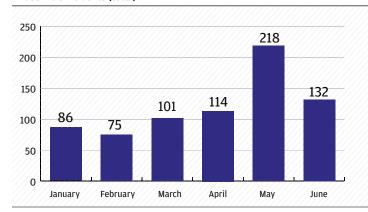
78 incidents of damage and desecration (92; 45)

203 mass mailings (401; 77)

432 incidents of abusive behaviour (277; 179)



Antisemitic incidents (total)



After 74 reported antisemitic incidents in December of the previous year, the number rose to 86 in January. The provisional annual peak was reached in May with 218 incidents. This represents the third-highest figure since the beginning of the systematic recording and documentation of antisemitic incidents in Austria.

Manifestations of Antisemitism

The Reporting Centre for Antisemitism categorises incidents according to five forms of manifestation. It should be noted that a single incident may exhibit multiple manifestations.

At the beginning of the 2025 reporting period, the Reporting Centre for Antisemitism introduced the category "Anti-Judaic antisemitism", thereby taking another step toward improving the comparability of data on antisemitic incidents with that of other countries.

Referring to publications by the German partner organisation RIAS, the Reporting Centre for Antisemitism defines this manifestation as follows:

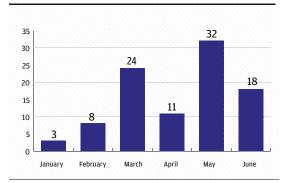
Anti-Judaic antisemitism refers to the religiously shaped form of hatred toward Jews. Its core lies in the attribution of collective guilt: Jews are portrayed as "murderers of God" and have, for centuries, been demonised as enemies of Christendom through legends of ritual murder, blood libel, and host desecration. These narratives have persisted as a cultural residue even after major theological reevaluations in the 20th century. Today, they reappear in new forms: old accusations are translated into political contexts and updated.

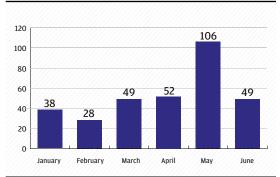
Since the massacres committed by Palestinian terrorist organisations on October 7, 2023, and the subsequent ongoing war, it has become evident how classical anti-Judaic motifs are projected onto Israel and intertwined with traditional religious enemy images. These are regularly disseminated even through mainstream media.



Anti-Judaic Antisemitism: 96 incidents (13,2%)

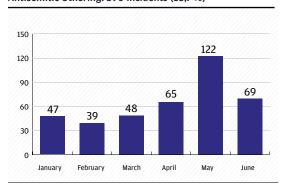
Shoah Relativisation/Denial: 322 incidents (44,3%)

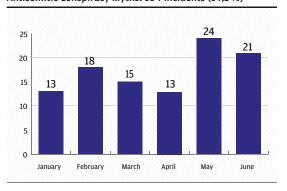




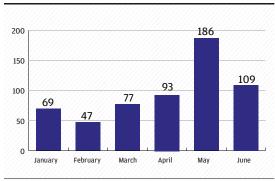
Antisemitic Othering: 390 incidents (53,7%)

Antisemitic Conspiracy Myths: 104 incidents (14,3%)





Israel-Related Antisemitism: 581 incidents (80%)

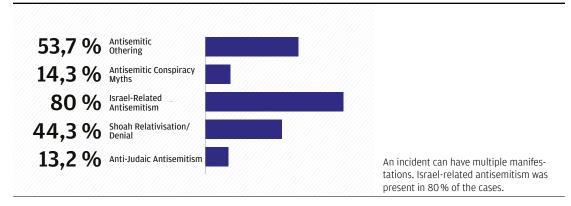


Israel-Related Antisemitism remains by far the most common form: it was present in 80 % of incidents in the first half of the year and usually occurred in combination with at least one other form. Thus, this share increased slightly compared to 2024 (71.3 %). The same applies to Antisemitic Conspiracy Myths, whose share rose only marginally from 13.22 % in 2024 to 14.33 % in the first half of 2025.

However, the previously mentioned shifts in boundaries within public discourse are particularly striking when it comes to Shoah Relativisation/Denial and Antisemitic Othering. The former increased by more than half to 44.33 %, while Othering jumped by more than two-thirds to 53.72 %.



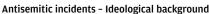
Manifestations

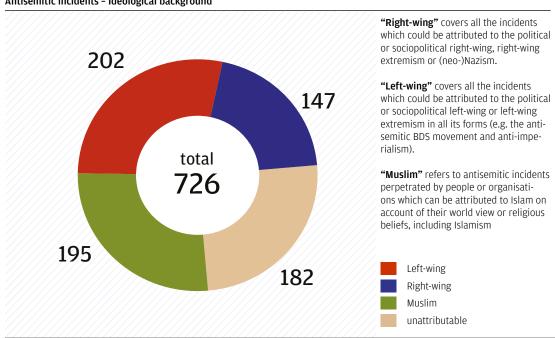


Call for or Glorification of Terror

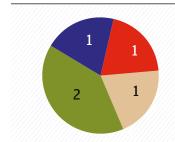
As part of its recording effort, the Reporting Centre now additionally indicates whether they contain a call for terror or violence or glorify such acts. Such cases, which can be criminally relevant (e.g., under \S 282a of the Criminal Code), were identified 77 times in the first half of the year, accounting for 10,6% of all registered incidents.

Ideological Background



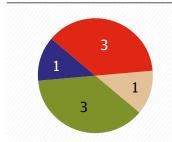


Assaults (5)



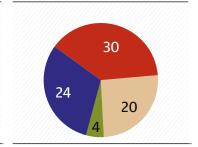
The number of physical attacks (5) was significantly lower in the first half of the year than in the same period of the previous year (16). In the weeks following June 30, however, more physical attacks were recorded than in the entire first half of the year. Due to the low number of cases, a breakdown by ideological background appears to be of limited significance.

Threats (8)



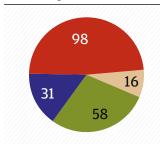
A similar pattern to that observed with assaults can also be seen in the case of threats: in the first weeks after the end of the reporting period, there were more such incidents than in the entire first half of the year (8), compared to 22 cases during the same period in 2024. With regard to the ideological background, threats from Muslim and left-wing sources were recorded in three cases each, while one case had a right-wing background.

Damage and desecration (78)



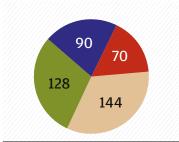
In the case of antisemitic property damage, incidents with a right-wing, left-wing, or unattributable background were roughly evenly balanced, while there were hardly any cases with a clearly Muslim background.

Mass mailings (203)



The situation is different for mass mailings and abusive behaviour. In the case of mass mailings, a left-wing background accounted for almost half of the incidents, while one-quarter were attributed to the Muslim spectrum. A Right-wing background slightly outnumbered unattributable cases in this category.

Abusive behaviour (432)



Abusive behaviour was mostly ideologically unattributable; 30 % of the incidents were categorised as Muslim, and 20 % as right-wing. Among all categories, incidents attributed to the left-wing spectrum accounted for the lowest share (16 %).



