



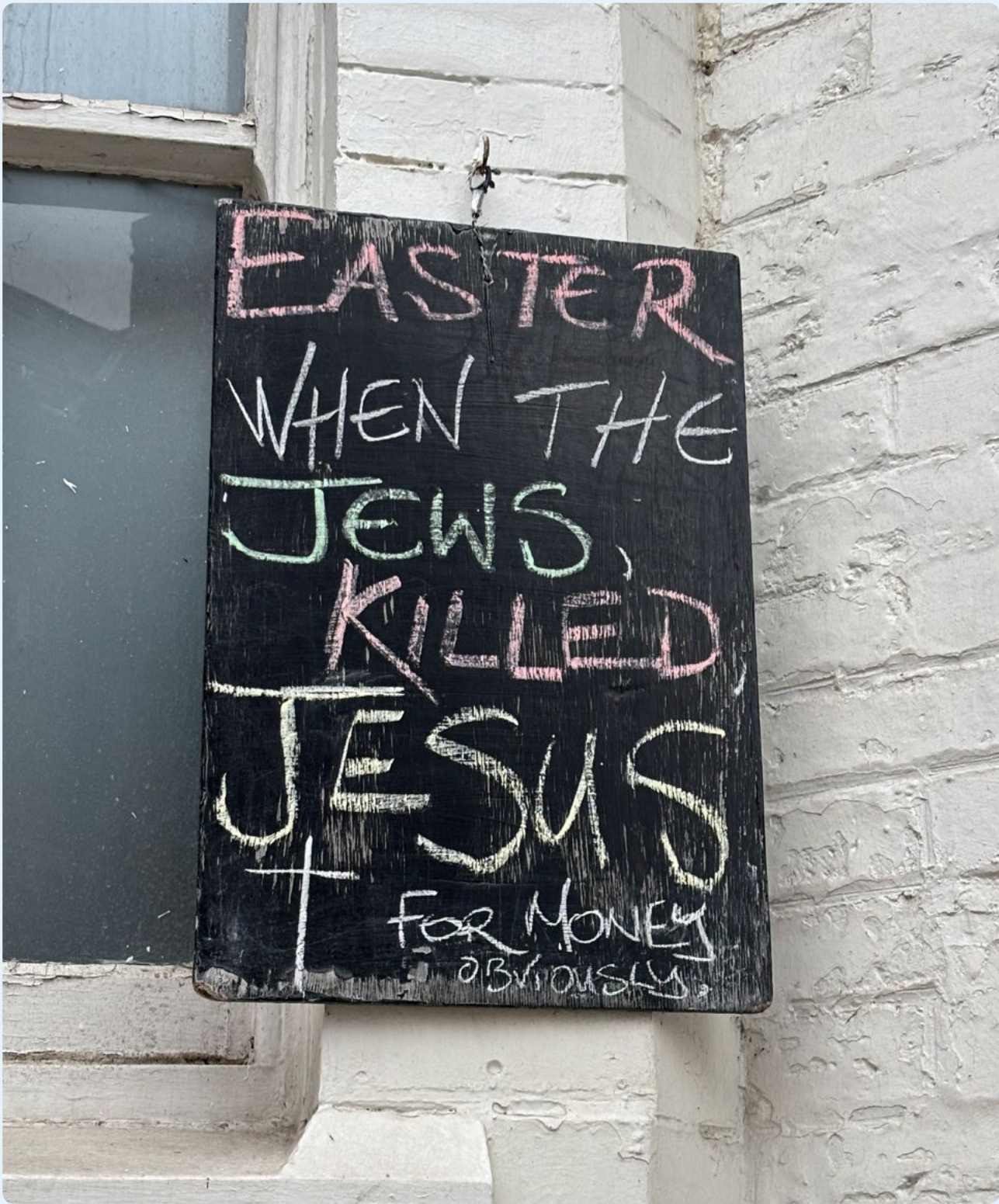
ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

January - June

2026



Placard blaming Jews for killing Jesus, Cheshire, April 2026



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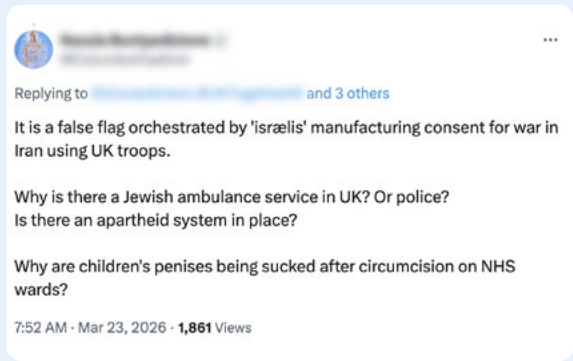
Executive summary

- ▶ CST recorded 1,926 antisemitic incidents across the UK in the first half of 2026, the second-highest total ever reported to CST in the first six months of any year, exceeded only by the 2,019 incidents recorded from January to June 2024. This is an increase of 21% from the 1,598 incidents recorded in the first half of 2025. CST recorded 965 incidents in the first six months of 2023, and 823 incidents from January to June 2022.¹
- ▶ The increase from the half-year total recorded in 2025 – at the time the second-highest January-to-June figure ever reported – is further confirmation that antisemitic incident levels following 7 October 2023 have stabilised over the longer term at a far higher rate than reported prior to Hamas’ terror attack on Israel. The 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first six months of 2026 is more than the total for the entire year of 2022 – the last full year before the 7 October attack.
- ▶ In the six months leading up to 7 October 2023, CST recorded a monthly average of 161 antisemitic incidents per month. In the first six months of 2026, this monthly average was 321 incidents, a 99% increase from that earlier period. Prior to October 2023, CST had only ever recorded monthly incident totals exceeding 200 on five occasions, and over 300 twice, each correlating with past periods when Israel was at war. In the first half of 2026, CST logged over 200 instances of anti-Jewish hate in every month, and over 300 in March, April, May and June.
- ▶ The sustained level of antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the first half of 2026 – and the rise in monthly totals from March onwards – occurred in the context of war between Israel, the United States and Iran, which began on 28 February.² There was a sudden rise in reports

of anti-Jewish hate, with 89 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the week following the airstrikes, a 71% increase from the 52 incidents logged during the week preceding them. Taking a longer-term view, CST logged 527 cases of antisemitic hate in the 57 days between 1 January and 27 February inclusive, and 656 incidents in the 57 days following (including 28 February): an increase of 24%. The charging on 18 March of two men for allegedly conducting hostile reconnaissance on Jewish community locations in London for Iranian intelligence further demonstrated the potential global ramifications of war in the Middle East, increasing Jewish communal fear in the UK.³

- ▶ Antisemitic activity that appeared to be instigated by Iran extended to physical attacks on the Jewish community in the UK. On 13 July 2026, the UK Government designated the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and Harakat Ashab al-Yamin al-Islamia (HAYI) under the National Security Act 2023.⁴ HAYI had publicly claimed responsibility for seven attacks at UK locations linked to Jewish and Israeli communities, and Persian-language media.⁵ These included at least four acts of arson or attempted arson of synagogues and Jewish communal organisations in London that are counted within this report’s statistics.
- ▶ The first of these arson attacks took place on 23 March 2026 when four ambulances belonging to Hatzola – a Jewish charity that provides an ambulance service for the Jewish and wider community – were set ablaze.⁶ On the same day, CST recorded what was at the time the joint-highest daily total for antisemitic incidents in the first half of 2026, with 25 reports of anti-Jewish hate.⁷ Eleven of these 25 incidents were online

Post on X with multiple antisemitic conspiracy theories about the Hatzola ambulances arson, March 2026



antisemitic reactions to the attack with a diverse range of anti-Jewish narratives.

- ▶ The second attempted arson for which HAYI claimed responsibility was carried out on 15 April 2026, when Finchley Reform Synagogue was targeted.⁸ On 17 April HAYI claimed responsibility for an unsuccessful arson attempt against the former offices of a Jewish charity in Hendon, and on 19 April they claimed a petrol bombing at Kenton United Synagogue.^{9 10} On 29 April, Essa Suleiman allegedly travelled to Golders Green in north London and stabbed two visibly Jewish men. This was formally declared a terrorist incident by police.¹¹ On 5 May, the site of a disused synagogue in east London was subject to another arson.¹² In the three-week period after the arson on Finchley Reform Synagogue, CST recorded 327 antisemitic incidents, an 83% rise from 179 reports of anti-Jewish hate in the three weeks preceding the attack. The quick succession of notable, potentially lethal antisemitic incidents is likely to have contributed to this further temporary increase in anti-Jewish hate. As observed in previous years, high-profile assaults on Jewish life can inspire more antisemitic acts from those who are subsequently emboldened to share their prejudice.
- ▶ CST recorded 21 antisemitic incidents on the day of the Golders Green stabbing attack,¹³ the

joint-fourth highest daily total in the first half of the year; 24 antisemitic incidents on the day after the attack, the joint-third highest daily total between January and June; and 26 antisemitic incidents on the day following that, the highest daily total of the period. Of the 71 cases of anti-Jewish hate recorded across these three days, 16 (23%) were explicitly linked to the stabbing. Four involved face-to-face abuse directed at Jewish people in public – including at those who gathered in Golders Green in solidarity with the Jewish community in the hours following the attack – and 12 took place on social media or via email.

- ▶ The Golders Green knife attack was the sole incident severe enough to be categorised as Extreme Violence in the first half of 2026, meaning it involved a threat to life of Grievous Bodily harm (GBH). This is a fall from the three such incidents reported between January and June 2025.
- ▶ CST recorded 135 incidents as Assault in the first six months of 2026, an increase of 82% from 74 incidents of this type reported in the first half of 2025 and the highest ever six-monthly total in this category. Taken together with the single case of Extreme Violence, physical attacks on Jewish people constitute 7% of the six-monthly total, compared to 4% in the corresponding period in 2025. It is notable that of these 136 acts of physical violence, 93 (69%) occurred over the 77 days between the arson attack on Finchley Reform Synagogue on 15 April and 30 June: 43% of the period covered in this report. This may indicate that not only did the overall volume of antisemitism increase following this incident, but the general severity of the antisemitism did too.
- ▶ Cases of Damage & Desecration to Jewish property fell by 18%, from 94 in the first half of 2025 to 77 between January and June 2026. These 77 incidents include the five arson attacks claimed by, or potentially linked to, HAYI. Twenty-six of these involved damage done to the homes and vehicles of Jewish people, 19 to synagogues, ten to Jewish schools, seven to Jewish businesses and organisations, three to supermarket aisles displaying kosher food, two to

1- The incident totals for past years and months in this report may differ from those previously published by CST, due to the late reporting of some incidents to CST by incident victims, witnesses or other sources. Figures published in this report are also subject to change for the same reason.

2- [Iran's leader Ali Khamenei killed in joint US Israeli strikes, Trump says - BBC News](#)

3- [Two men charged with allegedly spying on London Jewish community for Iran - BBC News](#)

4- HAYI is also known as the Islamic Movement of Companions of the Right (IMCR).

5- [UK sanctions Iran-linked criminal group that publicly claimed responsibility for recent attacks on Jewish locations - GOV.UK](#)

6- [Arson attack on Jewish charity ambulances being investigated by counter-terror police - BBC News](#)

7- This total includes the arson itself. 23rd March ended up being the second-highest daily incident total logged by CST in the first six months of 2026, having been later surpassed by the total for 1st May.

8- [Two arson arrests after Finchley synagogue targeted in antisemitic attack - BBC News](#)

9- [Police treating arson attack as antisemitic hate crime - BBC News](#)

10- [Two arrested over Kenton synagogue arson attack - BBC News](#)

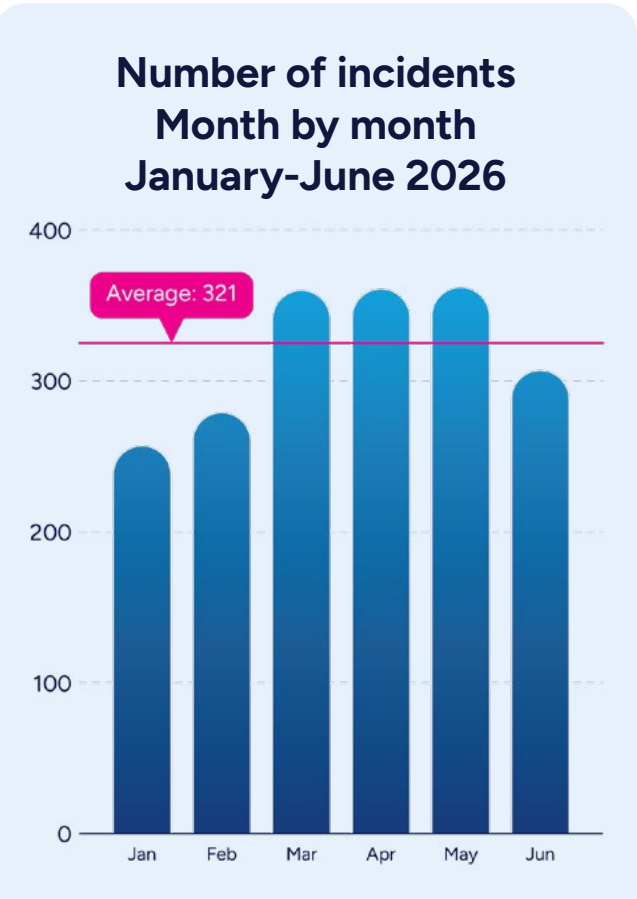
11- [Declaration of a terrorist incident in Golders Green, London - Counter Terrorism Policing](#)

12- [Counter-terror investigation into east London synagogue fire - BBC News](#)

13- This total includes the attack itself.

an Eruv (a physical boundary that allows observant Jews to carry needed things in public on the Sabbath), and one to a Jewish cemetery.

- ▶ There were 126 incidents reported to CST in the category of Threats in the first six months of 2026, which includes direct threats and explicit incitement of violence to people, institutions or property, as opposed to more general abuse containing non-specific threatening language. This is a rise of 27% from the 99 incidents of this kind reported from January to June 2025, making it the second-highest half-year total ever recorded in this category.
- ▶ CST recorded 1,572 cases of Abusive Behaviour in the first half of 2026, the second-highest January-to-June total in this category and an increase of 20% from the 1,307 instances of Abusive Behaviour reported over the same period in 2025. This figure alone eclipses the incident total recorded across all categories between January and June of all preceding years bar 2025, 2024 and 2021. These 1,572 incidents form 82% of the half-year total.
- ▶ There were 15 incidents reported to CST in the category of mass-produced antisemitic Literature during the first six months of 2026, falling by 29%



from 21 such incidents recorded across the same timeframe in 2025.

- ▶ The impact of war in the Middle East is evident in 787 antisemitic incidents – 41% of the six-monthly total – that referenced or were linked to Israel, Palestine, the Hamas terror attack or the subsequent outbreak of conflict. Each of these cases also showed evidence of anti-Jewish language, motivation or targeting. Although a smaller percentage than those logged in the first half of 2025 (51%) and 2024 (52%), the proportion of anti-Jewish hate incidents with discourse pertaining to the Middle East is still significantly higher than typically reported in periods unaffected by trigger events in the region. For example, between January and June 2023, just 16% of antisemitic incidents included Israel-related language or imagery. There were 676 antisemitic incidents that showed explicitly anti-Zionist motivation alongside anti-Jewish language or targeting in the first half of 2026, comprising 35% of the January-to-June total. This is also proportionally lower than the 46% of incidents in the first six months of 2025 that evidenced anti-Zionist motivation, but significantly higher than the 10% of incidents displaying this ideology over the corresponding period in 2023.
- ▶ Variations on the terms “Zionism” or “Zionist” were employed on 204 occasions, often as by-words for “Jewishness” and “Jew”, or alongside other antisemitic sentiments. This was the case in 216 incidents in the first six months of 2025. In the first half of 2023, a period unimpacted by a trigger event in the Middle East, 47 incidents involving this language were reported. Meanwhile, there were 105 instances wherein Israel, Israelis or Jewish people were compared to Nazi Germany or the Nazis, down from 187 incidents between January and June 2025, but again significantly more than the 28 such incidents recorded across the same period in 2023.
- ▶ Of the 1,926 instances of antisemitism reported to CST in the first half of 2026, 420 (22%) referenced Hitler, the Nazis, the Holocaust, and/or punctuated their abuse with a Nazi salute, the depiction of a swastika, or other related imagery. This is a decrease of 18% from the 511 incidents using this rhetoric in the first half of 2025, which comprised 32% of the January-to-June total. The data show that incident perpetrators are more likely to glorify and celebrate the Holocaust than to deny it occurred. In 39 of the 420 cases of Holocaust-related antisemitism in the first half of 2026, the perpetrator denied

either the scale of the Holocaust, the facts of the Holocaust, or its having happened at all, rising from 27 in the corresponding period in 2025. Meanwhile, 85 reports involved celebration of the Holocaust, the glorification of its architects and/or their ideas, or the expressed desire for the mass industrialised extermination of Jewish people to repeat, compared to 112 from January to June 2025.

- ▶ Forty-eight antisemitic incidents were reported to CST between January and June 2026 that referenced convicted child sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, twenty-eight of which occurred in February, following the United States Department of Justice’s publication of documents related to his conviction. Thirty-eight of these alleged that Epstein’s crimes are proof of a global, powerful, amoral Jewish elite acting to the detriment of everyone else; 19 claimed that his crimes were Jewish ritualistic child abuse; 34 viewed Epstein’s evil as an extension of Israel’s alleged evil, or vice versa.
- ▶ CST recorded 680 cases of online antisemitism in the first half of 2026, 35% of the 1,926 instances of anti-Jewish hate recorded in the first half of the year. This is the highest ever January-to-June total for online reports of anti-Jewish hate, and a rise in absolute terms, but not proportionately, from the corresponding period last year, when 605 online incidents constituted 38% of the six-monthly total. Online spaces continue to give people a more hospitable space to spout ideologically motivated and conspiratorial antisemitism: of the 680 online antisemitic incidents reported, 588 (86%) presented evidence of one or more political or ideological discourses, motivations, anti-Jewish tropes or conspiracy theories, compared to 55% of the ‘offline’ incidents (684 out of 1,247). Four hundred and sixteen (61%) of the online incidents referenced events in the Middle East, compared to just 371 (30%) of those that did not occur on virtual platforms.
- ▶ This total for online incidents is only indicative, as the actual amount of antisemitic content that is generated and disseminated on online platforms is much larger. In some cases, social media has been used as a tool for coordinated campaigns of antisemitic harassment, threats and abuse directed at Jewish public figures and other individuals. Where this is the case, CST will record a coordinated campaign as a single incident, even if it involves multiple tweets, posts, messages or comments. CST does not trawl the internet

Picture of Hitler stuck to public post in a Jewish area of London, April 2026



looking for online incidents to log and will only record online incidents that are reported to CST by a victim, witness or other third party, and where either the offender or the victim is based in the UK.

- ▶ In the first six months of 2026, 51 antisemitic incidents were reported that took place at Jewish schools. A further 53 incidents involved Jewish schoolchildren away from school, usually commuting to or from their place of education, often visibly Jewish due to their uniform. CST logged 74 antisemitic incidents involving schoolchildren or staff at non-faith schools, comprising a total of 178 cases of anti-Jewish hate affecting people and property in the school sector. This is a significant increase of 59% from the 112 school-related incidents reported from January to June 2025, and the highest total for incidents of this type ever recorded between January and June. A worrying aspect of school-related antisemitism is the proportion of physical violence. Twenty-one (12%) of the 178 incidents in the sector fell into the category of Assault, compared to 114 (7%) of the 1,748 antisemitic incidents that did not affect schools, pupils and staff.
- ▶ Twenty-eight antisemitic incidents were reported to CST in the first six months of 2026 in which the victims or offenders were students or academics, or which involved student unions, societies or other representative bodies. Of these, 17 took place on campus or university property, and seven occurred online. This is a drop of 22% from the 36 higher education incidents recorded in the first half of 2025, when 16 happened on campus and

14 were online. Of the 28 cases of anti-Jewish hate logged in the university sector, 16 (57%) contained rhetoric referencing Israel and the war in the region alongside anti-Jewish language, motivation or targeting. This was the case for 40% of the incidents that were not linked to the higher education sphere.

- ▶ There were 96 antisemitic incidents during the first six months of 2026 that targeted synagogues, including buildings, congregants and staff at synagogue premises. Congregants on their way to or from prayers were victims in a further 21, compared to 76 and 13 incidents respectively in the first half of 2025. This is a net rise of 31% in incidents affecting synagogues and the people travelling to, from, or already inside them, from 89 to 117 reports, the most ever recorded in the first half of a year.
- ▶ Nine hundred and ninety-four antisemitic incidents were reported to have taken place across Greater London in the first six months of 2026, rising by 24% from 800 over the same timeframe in 2025. CST recorded 222 antisemitic incidents in Greater Manchester between January and June 2026, an increase of 14% from the 194 incidents reported in

the corresponding area and period last year. These figures comprise 63% of the UK's six-monthly total, compared to 62% between January and June 2025. These communal hubs are home to the majority of the Jewish community in the UK. Of the 994 antisemitic incidents recorded across Greater London in the first six months of 2026, 469 took place in Barnet, the local authority with the largest Jewish population in the UK. There were 75 instances of anti-Jewish hate recorded in Westminster, 73 in Camden, 55 in Hackney and 25 in Haringey.

- ▶ Of Greater Manchester's 222 antisemitic incidents recorded between January and June 2026, 65 occurred in the City of Manchester, 54 in Salford, 49 in Bury, 13 in Stockport and eight in Trafford.
- ▶ The only mainland police regions where CST did not record a single incident in the first six months of 2026 were Dyfed Powys, Gwent and Northampton. Anti-Jewish hate exists and is expressed all over the country, and online platforms have given it the opportunity to reach its target regardless of an individual's proximity to Jewish life.

- ▶ Apart from Greater London and Greater Manchester, the police regions with the highest half-year antisemitic incident figures were Scotland (76 incidents, compared to 36 in the same timeframe in 2025); Hertfordshire (73 incidents, compared to 52 in the first half of 2025); West Yorkshire (64 incidents, decreasing from 74 in the first six months of 2025); Essex (58 incidents, up from 31 between January and June 2025); and Northumbria (39 incidents, rising from 20 in the first six months of 2025).¹⁴ The increases in Scotland and Northumbria are partly due to improved information sharing between police and CST in those areas.
- ▶ Other than Greater London and Greater Manchester's boroughs, the towns and cities with the highest number of reported antisemitic incidents from January to June 2026 were Leeds in West Yorkshire (37 incidents); Glasgow in Scotland (35 incidents); Borehamwood & Elstree in Hertfordshire (31 incidents); Gateshead in Northumbria (27 incidents); and Liverpool in Merseyside (22 incidents).

- ▶ The perceived ethnicity of 818 offenders was reported to CST among the 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded from January to June 2026. Of these, 434 (53%) were described as white – North European; 27 (3%) as white – South European; 84 (10%) as black; 78 (10%) as South Asian; two (<1%) as Southeast Asian; finally, 193 (24%) were described as Arab or North African. As noted in CST's Antisemitic Incident Report 2025, these percentages have reverted towards the breakdown of perpetrator ethnicities typical of periods less impacted by war in the Middle East: offenders described as white-North European comprise the majority within this data for the first January-to-June period since before 7 October 2023.¹⁵
- ▶ In addition to the 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first six months of 2026, a further 2,264 potential incidents were reported to CST that are not included among the report's statistics as, upon further investigation, they did not evidence antisemitic language, motivation or targeting. Many of these potential incidents involve suspicious activity or possible hostile reconnaissance at Jewish locations, and they play

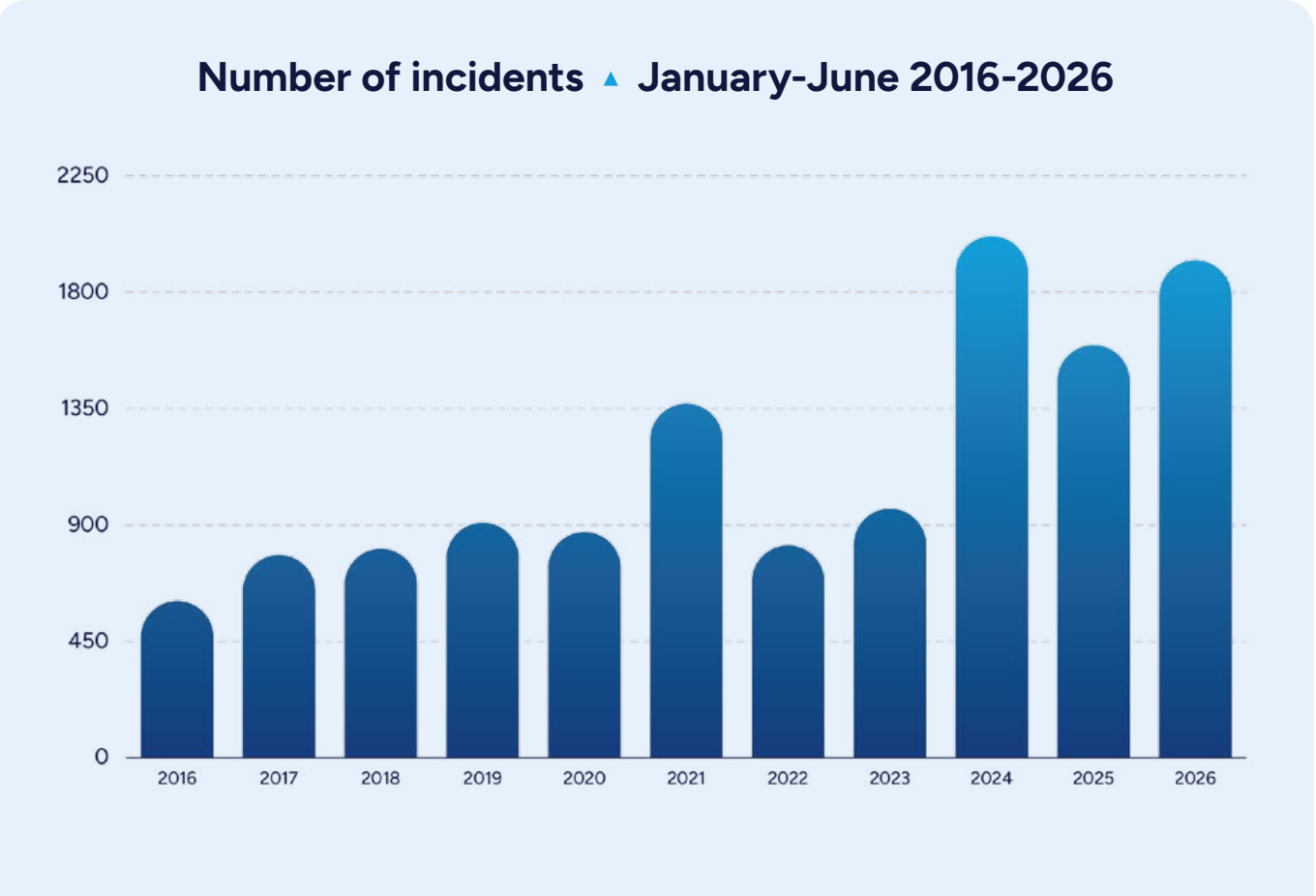
14 - Scotland is treated as a single geographical area due to Police Scotland being a single police service, but any comparisons of the incident total for Scotland with other much smaller geographical regions should be made with caution.

15 - [Antisemitic Incidents Report 2025 – CST Publications – CST – Protecting Our Jewish Community](#)

"HATE JEWS" graffiti under bridge in London, February 2026



"F**K JEWS" and swastika scrawled on bus stop in London, June 2026



an important role in informing CST’s provision of protection to the Jewish community. Others involve anti-Israel activity that did not include anti-Jewish language or targeting. It is the highest number of non-antisemitic incidents that CST has ever recorded in the first half of a year, and never before have non-antisemitic incidents outnumbered the antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the January-to-June period. This increase is likely to reflect increased vigilance and reporting of suspicious behaviour by people in the Jewish community and by the increased number of security guards at Jewish locations.

Antisemitic conspiracy theory written on poster in London, March 2026



“Joke” featuring antisemitic stereotype posted on Facebook, April 2026



Antisemitic incident numbers

CST recorded 1,926 antisemitic incidents across the UK in the first six months of 2026, the second-highest total ever reported to CST in the January-to-June period of any year.

This figure constitutes an increase of 21% from the 1,598 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2025. CST received a record 2,019 reports of anti-Jewish hate in the first six months of 2024, 965 in the first half of 2023, and 823 from January to June 2022.

The half-year figure of 1,926 antisemitic incidents demonstrates the longer-term consistency of the increased levels of anti-Jewish hate reported since 7 October 2023. While they have plateaued from the immediate spike observed in its aftermath, they have settled at a much higher rate than typically recorded prior to Hamas’ attack on Israel. The six-monthly figure of 1,926 antisemitic incidents is more than the total for the entire year of 2022 – the last full year preceding 7 October 2023. The ensuing war in the Middle East, and attacks on the Jewish community here in the UK, have continued to influence the quantity and nature of anti-Jewish hate throughout this time.

Over the first half of 2026, CST recorded an average of 321 antisemitic incidents per month, a 99% rise

from the monthly average of 161 incidents reported to CST across the six months prior to 7 October 2023. CST recorded monthly totals surpassing 200 incidents in every month between January and June 2026, and totals in excess of 300 in March, April, May and June. Before October 2023, monthly incident totals above 200 were only recorded on five occasions, including just two instances where they surpassed 300, each coinciding with periods of conflict involving Israel.

The sustained level of antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the first six months of 2026, and the increase in monthly figures from March onwards, happened in the wider context of war between Israel, the United States and Iran. This war began on 28 February with airstrikes on Iran. There was an immediate increase in reports of anti-Jewish hate, with 89 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the week following the airstrikes, a 71% rise from the 52 incidents logged in the week leading up to them. Taking a longer-term view, CST logged 527 cases of antisemitic hate in the 57 days between 1 January and 27 February and inclusive, and 656 incidents in the 57 days after and including 28 February: an increase of 24%. In this period, daily antisemitic incident averages rose from nine per day to 11 per day: an average held for the remainder of the January-to-June period. On 18 March, two men were charged

“GAZA HOLOCAUST” graffiti with false casualty number on wall in London, January 2026



for allegedly conducting hostile reconnaissance on Jewish community buildings in London for Iranian intelligence, further showing the potential consequences of war in the Middle East for Jewish diaspora communities.

Antisemitic activity believed to have been instigated by Iran escalated to physical attacks against the British Jewish community. On 13 July 2026, the UK Government designated the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and Harakat Ashab al-Yamin al-Islamia (HAYI) under the National Security Act 2023.¹⁶ HAYI had publicly claimed responsibility for seven attacks at UK locations linked to Jewish and Israeli communities, and Persian-language media. Among these were at least four acts of arson or attempted arson of synagogues and Jewish institutions in London that are counted within this report’s statistics.

On 23 March 2026, the first of these incidents took place when four ambulances belonging to Hatzola – a Jewish charity that provides an ambulance service for the Jewish and wider community – were set on fire. CST recorded 25 cases of anti-Jewish hate on the day of the attack, which was at the time the joint-highest daily total for antisemitic incidents in the first half of 2026. Eleven of these 25 incidents were online reactions to the arson, involving a wide variety of anti-Jewish discourses. There were claims that the attack was a false flag operation conducted by Mossad and Israel; outrage that a Jewish ambulance service should exist at all; demands that the gas chambers be reopened; statements of whataboutery referencing the suffering in Gaza; and assertions that the targeting of Jews throughout history in so many parts of the world must reflect their inherent evil. These sentiments are consistent with those recorded in the wake of previous significant attacks on Jewish people, both in the UK and abroad.

On 15 April 2026, Finchley Reform Synagogue was targeted in the second HAYI-linked attempted arson. On 17 April, HAYI claimed responsibility for a failed arson attempt at the former offices of a Jewish charity in Hendon. On 19 April, they claimed responsibility for a petrol bombing at Kenton United Synagogue. On 29 April, Essa Suleiman allegedly travelled to Golders Green in north London and stabbed two visibly Jewish men. This was formally declared a terrorist incident by police. On 5 May, a former synagogue in east London was targeted in another arson attack. In the three-week period after the attempted arson at Finchley Reform Synagogue, CST recorded 327 antisemitic incidents, an 83% rise

16- HAYI is also known as the Islamic Movement of Companions of the Right (IMCR).

Antisemitic caricature posted on X, March 2026



from 179 reports of anti-Jewish hate in the three weeks preceding the attack. The rapid succession of significant, potentially life-threatening antisemitic incidents is likely to have contributed to maintaining these high levels of anti-Jewish hate, resulting in the second-highest January-to-June total ever reported. CST’s previous analyses have outlined how notable assaults on Jewish life can excite antisemites and encourage them into acting on their hatred, leading to more antisemitic activity.

On 29 April, the day of the Golders Green stabbing, CST recorded 21 antisemitic incidents, the joint-fourth highest daily total in the first six months of 2026; 24 antisemitic incidents on the day after the attack, the joint-third highest daily total of the first half of the year; and 26 antisemitic incidents on the day following that, the highest daily total between January and June. Sixteen (23%) of the 71 combined reports across these three days involved antisemitic responses to the knife attack. There were four instances of in-person abuse targeting

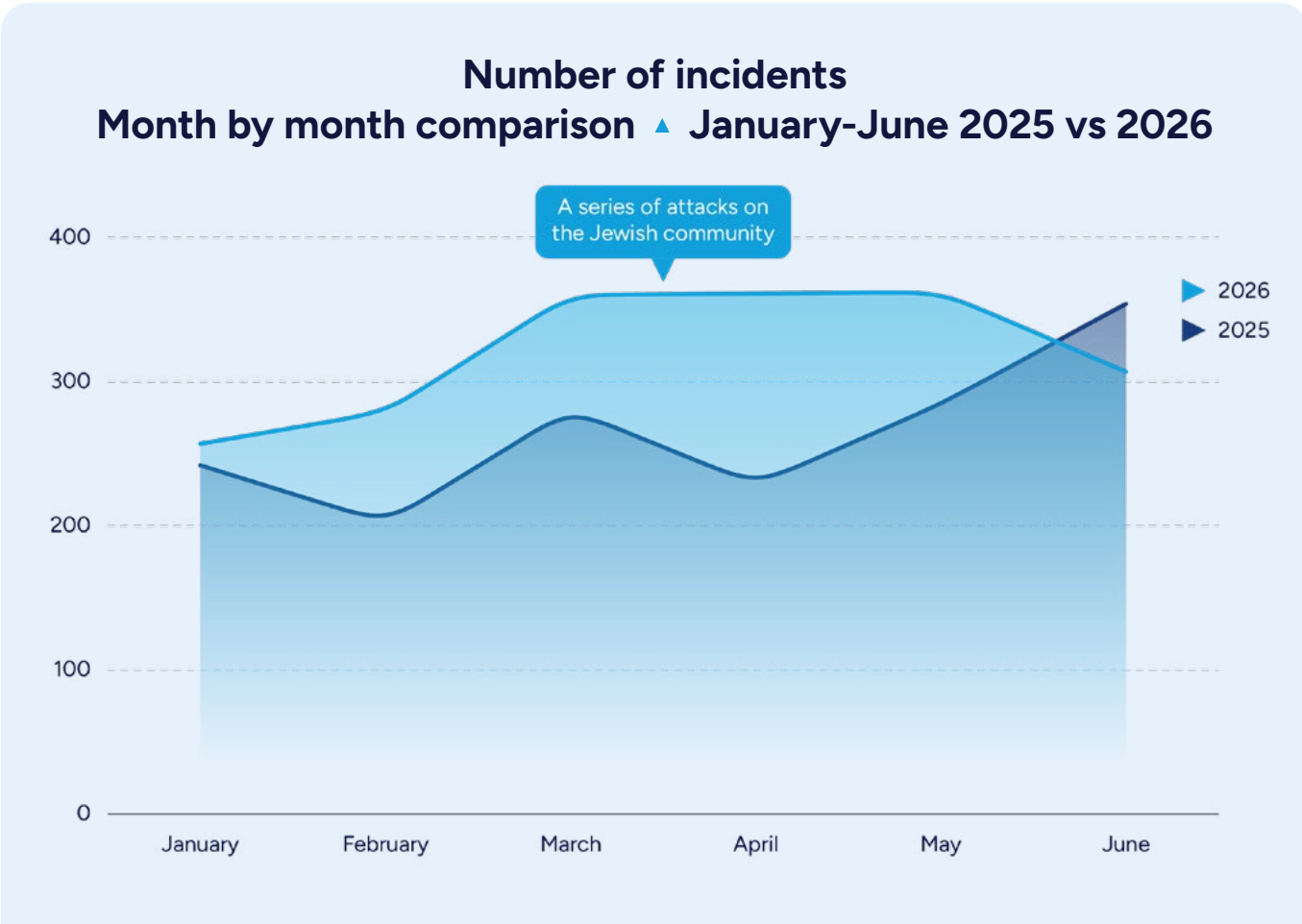
Jewish people in public spaces, including those who congregated to stand in solidarity with the Jewish community in Golders Green in the hours following the assault. Twelve incidents occurred on social media or via email.

The content of these reactions was typical of the anti-Jewish hate reported to CST in the wake of other major attacks on Jewish life, in the UK or elsewhere. There was outright celebration, and regret that more Jews had not been seriously hurt; there were allegations of Jewish control and manipulation of the government; there was anger that the Jewish community was receiving police support and protection instead of the “natives”; there was speculation that Jews would, in future, exaggerate the severity and number of victims of the attack, in a thinly veiled denial of the Holocaust; there was blame attributed to Jewish people and Israel for the rising tide of antisemitism that pre-empted this attack; there were accusations that this was merely a way for Jewish people to hog public sympathy away from Palestinians. The uptick in antisemitism following the Golders Green stabbing, regardless of whether these incidents were explicitly related to the knife attack, is further evidence of how anti-Jewish hate thrives when Jews are perceived to be vulnerable.

The context of war in the Middle East also affected the discourse evidenced in the antisemitic incidents

reported to CST throughout the first half of the year. Seven hundred and eighty-seven (41%) of the 1,926 reports of anti-Jewish hate referenced Israel, Palestine, the Hamas terror attack or ensuing war, alongside anti-Jewish language or targeting. Although smaller in number and proportion than the 809 Israel-related incidents recorded across the same timeframe in 2025 – 51% of that half-year figure – it is still substantially higher than the 16% of reports in the first half of 2023 that were linked to the region. This context is an important factor in the record 680 online antisemitic incidents reported during the first half of the year (35% of the total). This constitutes a rise of 12% from the first half of 2025, when 605 online incidents comprised 38% of all reports logged in that period.

Of these 680 cases of online antisemitism, 416 – 61% – employed narratives regarding Israel and the Middle East, compared to 371 – 30% – of the reports of antisemitism that took place ‘offline’. Meanwhile, at least one political, religious and antisemitic discourse, conspiracy theory, trope or ideology was found in 588 (86%) of the online incidents and 684 (55%) of the ‘offline’ incidents. Both are high percentages, but online platforms are disproportionately conducive to politicised and extremist forms of anti-Jewish hate. They provide spaces for antisemites to connect with like-minded peers, reinforce and amplify one



another’s prejudices, and disseminate hateful content anonymously and at scale, often without meaningful consequences from, or for, the platforms themselves.

There were 273 antisemitic incidents reported that took place on X; 148 on Facebook; 66 on Instagram; 65 via email; 38 on text or instant messaging services, including those associated with social media platforms; 18 on TikTok; 15 on YouTube; two on Zoom; one involved the hacking of a Jewish individual’s personal tablet to display antisemitic content; one involved an anti-Jewish comment posted below an online news article; and 53 occurred on a range of other virtual sites. These figures only reflect the number of reports to CST involving each platform or medium, rather than being an assessment of the relative amount of antisemitism on each.

Six hundred and forty-three of the 680 online cases of anti-Jewish hate reported in the first six months of 2026 fell into the category of Abusive Behaviour, while 28 were classed as Threats, eight as antisemitic Literature and one – the tablet hacking – as Damage

& Desecration to Jewish property. In 132 of these posts, the offender included antisemitic memes, images, graphics or cartoons.

CST records each specific targeted campaign as a single incident, because to record each piece of antisemitic online content as a separate incident would be unsustainable and cause extreme variations in CST’s incident totals, obstructing clear analysis. It is also worth bearing in mind that the number of online incidents in this report reflects the number of reports received by CST from victims, witnesses or other third parties, and does not include the vast amount of antisemitic material unearthed, sifted and investigated by CST’s researchers as part of its wider work protecting the Jewish community from potential attack. Given the vast array of material posted and the variety of platforms across which it is circulated, an accurate figure for the actual amount of antisemitic content on social media would be impossible to quantify. Instead, this total highlights that online platforms continue to be a fertile ground for public expressions of antisemitism, sometimes

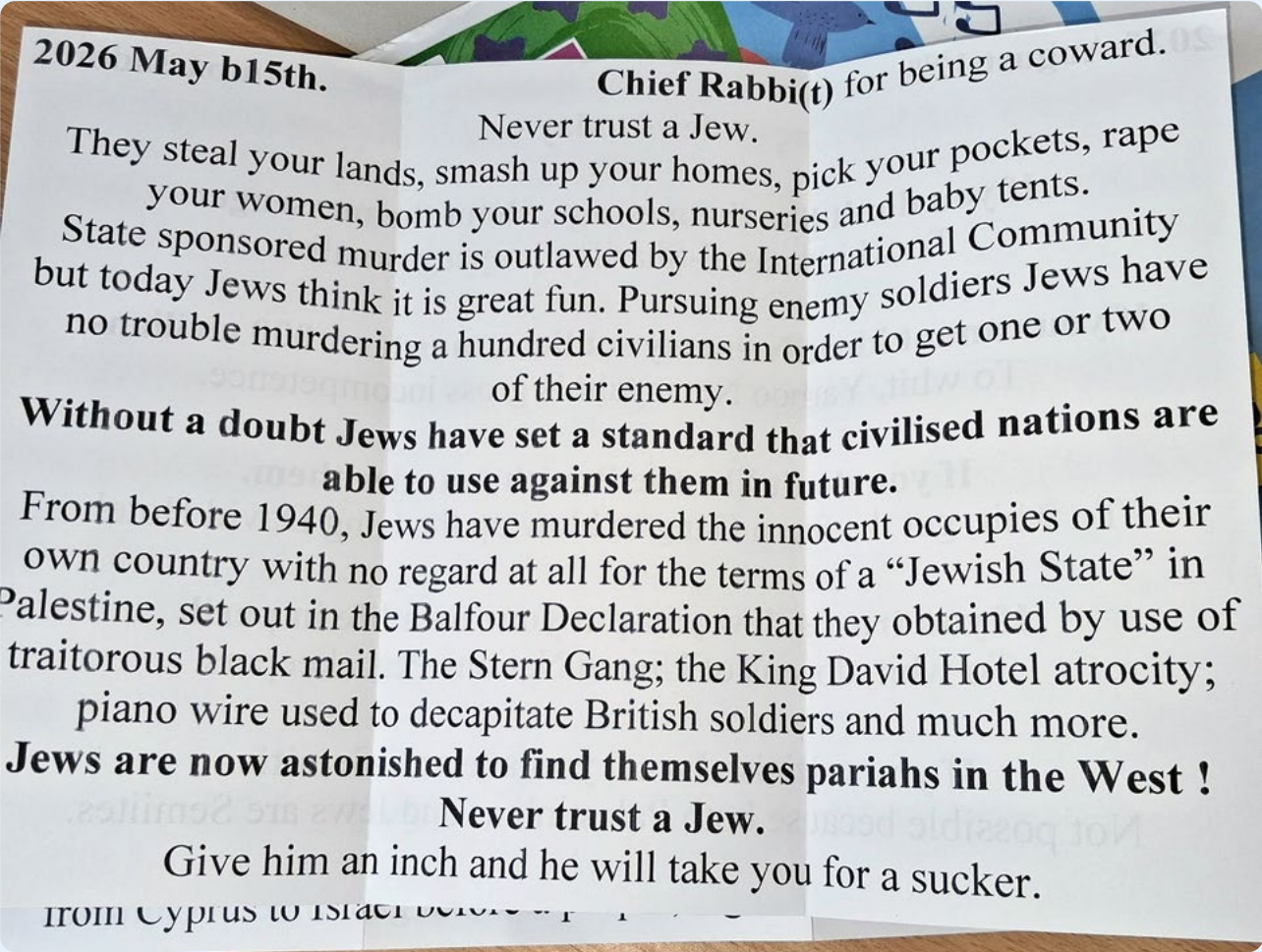
culminating in coordinated campaigns against Jewish public figures and institutions.

It is sometimes difficult to gauge whether these historically high antisemitic incident figures observed by CST are due to more incidents taking place in the UK, or the fact that people feel more comfortable, able, motivated and aware to report incidents to CST. The answer is likely to be a combination of both, although sometimes, as in the incident spikes recorded after each attack on the UK Jewish community described above, the specific content of the incidents shows that there has been a genuine rise in anti-Jewish hate. A less tangible factor behind the general increase is the possible impact that the prevalence of increased antisemitism, and media coverage and public debate about the subject, may inadvertently have on actual hate actors. If there is a perception that the taboo against articulating hostility about or towards Jewish people is weakening, then antisemites might feel that they are far from alone in this prejudice, and be more likely, perhaps, to have confidence in sharing their views. In other words, the more popular antisemitism seems to be, the more likely some people are to join in.

Despite improvements in reporting, it is expected that antisemitic hate crimes and hate incidents are underreported, especially where the victims are minors or the incident is considered of ‘lesser’ impact by the victim. The statistics contained in this report should therefore be seen as indicative of general trends, rather than absolute measures of the number of incidents that took place. Answering why antisemitic incidents take place is not simple. Victim or witness evidence for what may have been a brief, traumatic experience can be vague and disjointed. Many incidents do not have a specific victim and the offender is often unknown, but it is still possible to analyse the data contained in the individual reports received by CST, and the picture they show is complex. In short, there is no single profile of an antisemitic incident victim or offender, nor is there a single explanation as to why antisemitism persists in modern society.

In addition to the 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first six months of 2026, a further 2,264 possible incidents were reported that are not among the statistics analysed in this report because, upon examination, they did not evidence anti-Jewish motivation, language or targeting. These incidents involved suspicious activity or possible hostile reconnaissance at Jewish locations, non-antisemitic crime affecting Jewish people or property, or anti-Israel activity that did not meet CST’s threshold for classification as antisemitic. These other reports form 54% of the 4,190 potential incidents reported to CST. It is the highest number of non-antisemitic incidents that CST has ever recorded in the January-to-June period, and the first time that non-antisemitic incidents outnumbered the antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the first six months of the year. This is partly a reflection of the high volume of anti-Israel (but not antisemitic) activity witnessed since 7 October 2023, but much of it reflects an increase in reports of suspicious behaviour and potential hostile reconnaissance at or near to Jewish community premises. The terrorist attack on Heaton Park Synagogue on Yom Kippur last year demonstrated that terrorism is a reality that British Jews must now confront. The news in March 2026 that two men had been charged with allegedly spying on Jewish community buildings for Iranian intelligence, and the separate arson attacks on synagogues and community premises that were almost certainly directed by Iran’s IRGC, made clear the need for vigilance and the importance of reporting suspicious and potentially hostile behaviour. The Jewish community and the increased number of security guards who protect its institutions have subsequently been more proactive in alerting CST to any perceived danger. Although not included in this report’s data, many of these non-incidents are vital to CST’s provision of security protection to the Jewish community. Many required further investigation or a security-related response.

Antisemitic hate mail in London, May 2026



Incident categories

Extreme Violence¹⁷

CST recorded one incident in the category of Extreme Violence in the first six months of 2026: the knife attack in Golders Green in April, in which two visibly Jewish men were stabbed. Three incidents were reported in this category in the first half of 2025, one in the first six months of 2024, and none between January and June in both 2023 and 2022.

Assault

CST recorded 135 incidents in the category of Assault during the first half of 2026, an increase of 82% from the 74 incidents of this kind reported in the first six months of 2025. There were 125 Assaults reported from January to June 2024, 86 in the first half of 2023, and 75 in the first six months of 2022. This is the highest six-monthly total figure in this category ever reported to CST.

In 34 incidents of Assault logged in the first half of 2026, the victim was punched or kicked. In a further 34 instances, the offender threw eggs, stones, bricks, bottles or other objects. Seventeen attacks involved spitting, while the perpetrator stripped the victim of religious clothing or accessories (such as a kippah, a

CASE STUDY:

Assault on Jewish couple in park

In February, a visibly Jewish couple were walking in a north Manchester park. They were accosted by seven teenage boys on bikes wearing balaclavas, who sped up to them as if to run them over before stopping short. They attempted to grab the male victim's hat, threatened to take the female victim's head covering, and continued to taunt the couple. They threw stones and fallen branches at the couple, attempted to trip them up.

traditional skullcap) on 11 occasions. In nine cases, a non-lethal gun (such as a BB gun or water pistol) was discharged, while a vehicle was used to endanger pedestrians in eight instances. Sticks were used as weapons in two incidents. In 23 cases, weapons were thrown or discharged from passing vehicles. Seventy assaults were accompanied by verbal abuse, and 16 contained an element of intimidatory language.

Taken together with the instance of Extreme Violence, physical attacks on Jewish people comprise 7% of the January-to-June total, a notable increase from 4% in the first half of 2025. Additionally, 93 of these 136 violent incidents occurred in the 77 days between the arson attack on Finchley Reform Synagogue on 15 April and 30 June: meaning that 69% of incidents occurred during only 43% of the January-to-June period. Across the other categories, just 46% of incidents took place across this timeframe.

Of the 136 cases of Extreme Violence and Assault combined, 64 (47%) happened across five UK boroughs where some of the biggest and most identifiable Jewish communities reside: Barnet (29) and Hackney (10) in Greater London, Salford (9) and Bury (6) in Greater Manchester, and Gateshead (10) in Northumbria. Across other categories, 33% of antisemitic incidents took place in these areas. This suggests that physical attacks on Jews are more likely to occur where Jewish life is most visible and deeply established; or are more likely to be reported

17 - A full explanation of CST's antisemitic incident categories can be found in the leaflet [Categories of Antisemitic Incidents](#)

by those communities. Some antisemites may perceive the existence and embeddedness of Jewish life in the UK to be an existential threat to a culture and territory they believe to be theirs. Some may see Jews as a people so distinct from their own that they find it easy to dehumanise, degrade and desecrate them. Some may simply attack visibly Jewish people because it is easier to identify their targets. Indeed, in at least 80 (59%) of these 136 violent incidents, the victim was identifiably Jewish, usually on account of their religious insignia, traditional clothing or Jewish school uniform.

Within the categories of Extreme Violence and Assault, a worryingly high proportion of children were involved, both as victims and perpetrators. Of the 107 reports of physical violence wherein CST obtained the victim or victims' age, 41 (38%) targeted minors.¹⁸ Of the 96 assaults where the approximate age of the perpetrator or perpetrators was reported, 28 (29%) were described as being under the age of 18. Across CST's other categories of anti-Jewish hate, children were recorded as victims in 20% of incidents, and as offenders in 15%. Eighteen (13%) of the 136 physical antisemitic attacks logged from January to June 2026 involved children assaulting children.

Damage & Desecration

There were 77 instances of Damage & Desecration to Jewish property recorded by CST in the first half of 2026, a fall of 18% from the 94 incidents of this kind reported across the corresponding timeframe in 2025, which remains the highest ever January-to-June figure recorded in this category. There were 84 incidents of this kind reported over the first six months of 2024, 24 between January and June 2023, and 30 in the first half of 2022. Twenty-six of these saw damage done to the homes and vehicles of Jewish people, 19 to synagogues, ten to Jewish schools, seven to Jewish businesses and organisations, three to supermarket aisles displaying kosher food, two to an Eruv (a physical boundary that allows observant Jews to carry needed things in public on the Sabbath), and one to a Jewish cemetery.

In 25 of the 77 instances of Damage & Desecration, the offender used graffiti, daubing, stickers or posters of an antisemitic nature to deface the Jewish target, while eggs, stones, bricks, bottles or other projectiles were thrown at Jewish property to cause damage on 21 occasions. Seven incidents involved the destruction or removal of a mezuzah (a Jewish prayer scroll affixed to a building's entrance) and

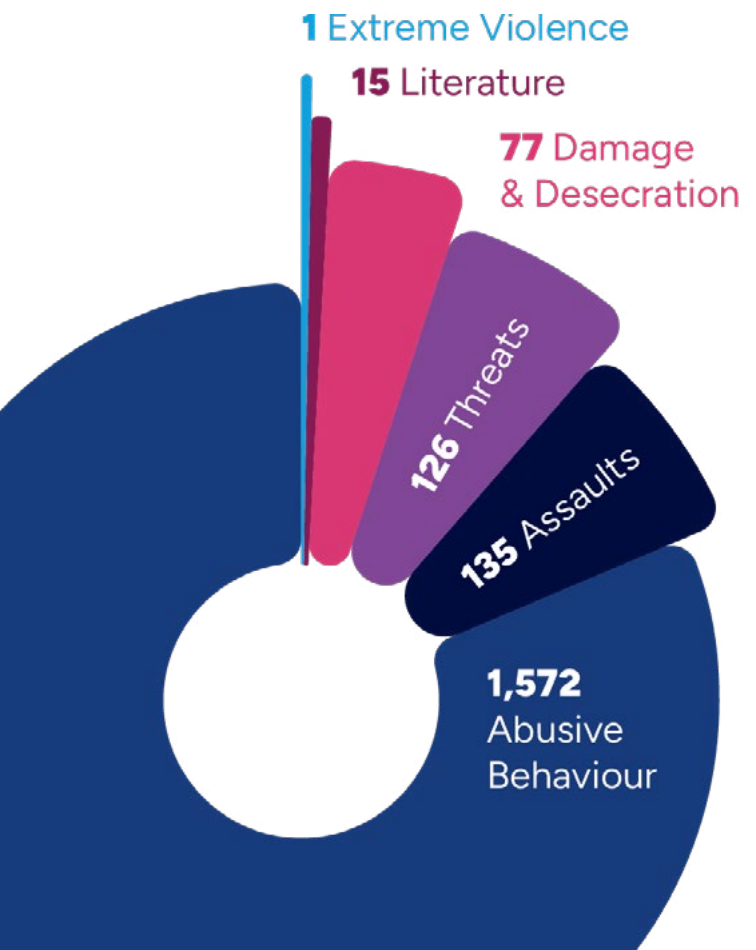
18 - These include attacks where mixed groups of adults and minors were targeted, as do all the figures in this paragraph.

there were seven cases of arson or attempted arson, including those claimed by the Iran-affiliated group HAYI. Doors at Jewish properties were punched or kicked on six occasions, windows were broken on a further six, while sticks were used in two instances. Perpetrators spat at Jewish buildings in two cases, two incidents involved pork products launched at or left on Jewish property, and there was one report of a Jewish person's tablet being hacked with antisemitic messaging. All included some element of

CASE STUDY:

Desecration of community ambulance

In April, "BOYCOTT ISRAELI GOODS" stickers were found on an ambulance belonging to Hatzola in Stamford Hill, north London. This was just weeks after ambulances belonging to Hatzola in Golders Green were targets of a major arson attack. It shows how Jewish organisations are targeted with anti-Israel activism.



anti-Jewish focus, language, targeting or imagery to be counted as antisemitic by CST.

Threats

CST recorded 126 direct antisemitic Threats against Jewish people between January and June 2026, an increase of 27% from the 99 incidents of this sort reported in the first half of 2025. One hundred and forty-six incidents were recorded for this category in the first half of 2024, 55 from January to June 2023, and 52 in the opening half of 2022.

Forty-seven of the 126 Threats were made in public, while eight were directed at Jewish businesses or organisations. Threats were directed at synagogues in nine instances while congregants were threatened on their way home from services on one occasion, and people were threatened in their homes on seven. A further seven Threats were directed at Jewish schools, four to schoolchildren on their way to or from their place of education, and three within the context of non-Jewish schools. Two Threats were made to public figures, and one occurred in higher education. Twenty-eight incidents in this category

CASE STUDY:

Threats to Jewish family on Underground

In April, a visibly Jewish family were on the London Underground when a male boarded the train. Upon noticing the father’s kippah (a Jewish skullcap), he began shouting “Free Palestine”. When confronted by the father, the offender said, “I’ll kill you. I have killed Jews before and I’ll do it again”.

were posted on online platforms, nine were delivered via phone call or message, one via post, and there were two bomb threats reported.¹⁹

Abusive Behaviour

There were 1,572 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the category of Abusive Behaviour in the first half of 2026, comprising 82% of the overall total of 1,926 incidents and a 20% rise from the 1,307 instances of Abusive Behaviour recorded between January and June 2025. Alone, it surpasses the half-year overall figure across all categories in all other

years aside from 2025, 2024 and 2021. There were 1,649 counts of Abusive Behaviour in the first half of 2024, 793 from January to June 2023, and 662 over the same timeframe in 2022. The umbrella of Abusive Behaviour spans multiple modus operandi, including the full range of written and verbal abuse (apart from direct threats), the latter of which can be in person or delivered through phone calls and voicemails. This category also includes antisemitic emails, text messages, direct messages, social media posts and comments, as well as targeted hate mail that is not produced and disseminated on a mass scale, and antisemitic graffiti on non-Jewish property.

In 338 of the Abusive Behaviour incidents reported, the victims were Jewish people in public, and visibly Jewish in at least 210 cases. Jewish businesses and organisations were the targets of 314 incidents in this category, while public figures – Jewish and not – were subjected to antisemitism on 72 occasions. One hundred and twenty-eight of these incidents related to the school sector, 25 to the university sector, and 75 incidents in this category related to synagogues or congregants travelling to or from their place of worship. Fifty-one Abusive Behaviour cases involved the harassment of victims in their own homes, 24 in sport-related contexts, and 19 in the workplace.

Among the 1,572 incidents in this category, 638 involved spoken abuse and 675 written abuse, while 100 contained intimidating language without making a specific threat to a Jewish person, institution or community. There were 192 instances of antisemitic graffiti, daubing, posters or stickers on non-Jewish property: 114 of these depicted a swastika or included Nazi-era references, 53 were related to Israel and the war in the Middle East, and these two discourses were combined in 23 cases of anti-Jewish vandalism. In 169 cases, antisemitic images, memes or cartoons were employed to cause upset, 57 of which portrayed Jewish people in a stereotypical or dehumanising way. One hundred and sixty-one incidents in this category involved offensive shouts or gestures in public, 121 of which emanated from passing vehicles. CST logged 40 abusive phone calls or voice messages, and a further 20 counts of hate mail that are not believed to have been mass-produced and distributed.

Of the 1,572 reports classed as Abusive Behaviour, 642 occurred online, comprising 41% of the category’s total and 95% of the record 680 cases of online anti-Jewish hate reported across all categories. These levels of online antisemitism

are instructive of the role that social media and instant messaging platforms play in contemporary anti-Jewish hate. They provide a stage upon which antisemites can meet, validate each other’s prejudice and disseminate it on a global scale, with the option of complete anonymity.

Every instance of cyber-based antisemitism carries the capacity to incite and inspire further anti-Jewish acts offline. When the taboo against spreading antisemitic hate is perceived to be weakening, it invites more people to participate in it, whether virtually or in person. The unceasing discourse, information, misinformation and heated discussion about Israel and the Middle East on social media has inevitably impacted the levels of antisemitism recorded by CST since 7 October 2023. Of the 680

CASE STUDY:

Abusive comments from work colleague

In March, at an after work social event, a colleague made various antisemitic remarks to the victim, whom she knew to be Jewish. Her claims included that only 300,000 Jews were killed in the Holocaust; Hitler was misunderstood, did nothing wrong and suffered from bad marketing; Jews did 9/11; Mossad is behind Hamas; America is controlled by Israel; and that she would be happy the day that Israel is wiped off the map.

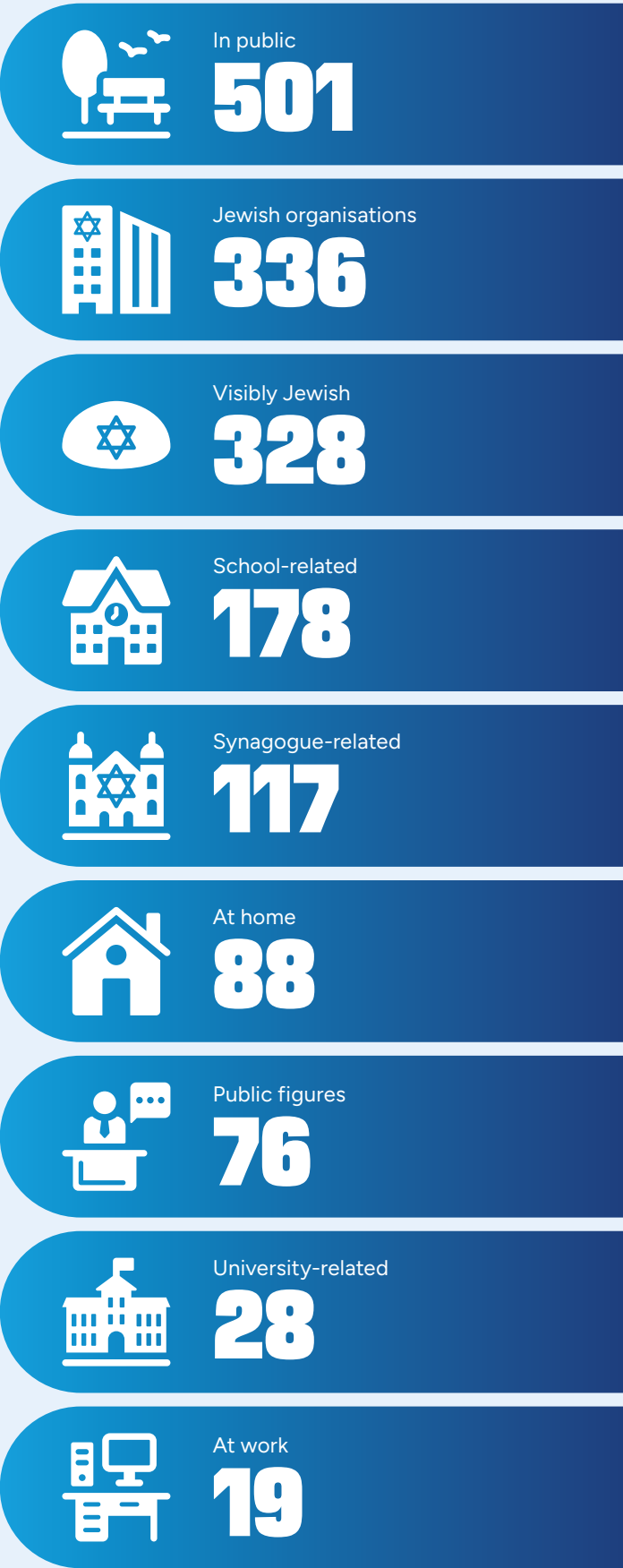
online cases of anti-Jewish hate reported in the first half of 2026, 61% were Israel-related (while also showing antisemitic language, motivation or targeting), compared to 30% of offline incidents.

Literature

There were 15 incidents reported to CST in the category of mass-produced antisemitic Literature in the first half of 2026, a decrease of 29% from 21 such incidents reported in the first six months of 2025. CST recorded 14 instances of Literature distribution in the first half of 2024, seven between January and June 2023, and four in the corresponding period of 2022.

On ten occasions, emails filled with antisemitic content went to multiple recipients, including synagogues, Jewish organisations, schools and high-profile individuals: three of these were

Victim types



19 - This figure includes bomb threats sent to multiple Jewish locations around the country simultaneously, which CST counts as a single incident

separate emails sent by a repeat offender who alleged Jewish responsibility for the Holocaust and various wars; three were sent by another serial perpetrator involving evangelical Christian content; one contained Islamist extremist language; one celebrated the Golders Green knife attack. CST logged three reports of mass-produced antisemitic posters made and distributed by far-right group the Goyim Defence League (GDL). There were two reports of mass anti-Israel leafleting, meeting the threshold for antisemitism because they targeted children exiting a Jewish school in one instance, and homes in a Jewish area in another.

“DIRTY JEW” written on slide in children’s play area in London, April 2026



CASE STUDY:
Email glorifying Golders Green knife attack

In May, several Jewish organisations were recipients of a mass email, celebrating the Golders Green knife attack. The email was long, rambling, and full of antisemitic language. The beginning of the email is pictured below.

keir starmer and sadist khan (no capital initials needed to name rats), you pair of seedy sodomites; the daring act at Golders Green was nothing but an act of JUSTICE!!!
It was not appalling at all, as you have declared to the press, you despicable pusillanimous subservient to the jews!!!

keir starmer, you evil sodomite who obstructed and misguided the investigation of the killing of Charles de Menezes, the Brazilian electrician who was killed with 6 shoots on his head in a London Underground station by the the MI5, because Charles de Menezes one night working overtime unsupervised, he saw what he shouldn't have seen. He saw MI5 operatives planting the bombs of the 7ht July 2005 London bombings, which was blamed on the terrorist Muslims to create the excuse for deeper surveillance of people. Evil sodomite rat keir starmer, WE DON'T FORGET ANYTHING!!!

There is nothing wrong with ANTISEMITISM and we need to reclaim that word as a word of all positive connotation and positive action. The definition of ANTISEMITISM is: Legitimate Goyims' self defence.

Incident victims

The victims of antisemitic incidents come from the whole spectrum of the Jewish community: from strictly orthodox to liberal, reform and secular Jews; from the largest Jewish communities to small, isolated communities across the UK; from Jewish schoolchildren to Members of Parliament. Occasionally, antisemitism will also be directed at people who do not identify as Jewish.

There were 501 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the first six months of 2026 in which the victims were ordinary Jewish individuals in public. In at least 328 incidents, victims were visibly Jewish on account of their traditional clothing, Jewish school uniforms, jewellery, insignia or other items bearing religious symbols, or by virtue of their presence at public Jewish events. From January to June 2025, this was true of 322 and 184 reports respectively. There was an element of spoken abuse in 791 of the 1,926 incidents recorded by CST in the first half of 2026, of which 139 incorporated threatening language. Anti-Jewish hate was conveyed through shouts or gestures by random strangers in public in 198 instances, of which 144 were perpetrated by the occupant of a vehicle. These modus operandi are broadly indicative of the most common single type of offline incident reported to CST since the organisation began compiling antisemitic incident data: the random, unprovoked, verbal or signalled harassment of individuals who are presumed for whatever reason to be Jewish, as they go about their daily lives in public spaces.

In at least 84 of the 791 instances of verbal abuse, the phrase “Free Palestine” was used, aimed at unsuspecting Jewish people in public on 53 occasions. This phrase is not inherently antisemitic and, in isolation, would not be classed as an antisemitic incident by CST. However, in these examples it was deployed to harass, intimidate and alarm Jewish people and institutions simply because they are Jewish, or were perceived to be in the moment. Under such circumstances, the deliberate anti-Jewish targeting transforms the phrase “Free Palestine” from an ordinary political slogan into a rhetorical weapon of antisemitic abuse. Meanwhile, the words “Baby Killers” were employed in 17 cases of verbal abuse and directed at Jewish people in public in 12 incidents. Again, these words are not necessarily antisemitic in isolation. However, when they are directed at unsuspecting Jewish people in the street, they take on an extra layer of anti-Jewish targeting while invoking the blood libel myth that

historically alleged that Jews deliberately murder children and ritualistically consume their blood.

In the first half of 2026, there were 51 antisemitic incidents recorded at Jewish schools, compared to 27 between January and June 2025. A further 53 incidents involved Jewish schoolchildren away from school premises, often on their commute to or from home, compared to 42 incidents of this type reported across the same period in 2025. CST recorded 74 incidents involving schoolchildren or staff at non-Jewish schools, falling from the 43 such cases logged in the first six months of 2025. This comprises a total of 178 incidents affecting people and buildings in the school sector, a January-to-June record, rising by 59% from the 112 such incidents reported in the first half of 2025.

Of the 178 antisemitic incidents affecting schools, pupils and staff, 21 came under the category of Assault (ten targeting schoolchildren on their way to or from school, seven in which children were attacked by classmates at non-Jewish schools, and four wherein pupils or guards were accosted directly outside their faith school); ten incidents were classified as Damage & Desecration to Jewish property at Jewish schools, and three to the property of teachers and pupils at non-Jewish schools; 14 involved direct Threats (seven to Jewish schools, four to schoolchildren on their commute, and three to Jewish pupils at non-faith schools);

Swastika and “F**K YOU” sprayed on fence of a Jewish residence in London, June 2026



there were 128 instances of Abusive Behaviour; and antisemitic Literature was sent to Jewish schools on two occasions. It is a cause for concern that Assault accounts for 12% of incidents in the school sector, but just 7% of reports from other environments. This trend correlates with the disproportionately high percentage of children involved as victims and perpetrators of antisemitic physical violence, covered in the Incident Categories chapter of this report.

While reports of school-related antisemitic incidents increased from last year, a fall was recorded in the higher education sphere. CST logged 28 antisemitic incidents throughout the first half of 2026 that affected Jewish students, academics, student unions or other student bodies, or that were perpetrated by individuals involved in the university sector. This is a fall of 22% from the 36 incidents of this type reported between January and June 2025. Of these 28 incidents, one was classed as Assault, one as Damage & Desecration to Jewish property, two in the category of Threats, and 25 as Abusive Behaviour. Seventeen of them took place on campus or university property (compared to 16 in the first six months of the previous year), while 11 occurred away from campus, of which seven were online (compared to 20 and 14 incidents respectively over the same timeframe in 2025).

Sixteen of the 28 cases of anti-Jewish hate in the university sector – 57% – involved Israel-related discourse alongside explicit anti-Jewish hate or targeting. This is a significantly higher proportion than its presence in 40% of incidents that took place in other settings. There is not a single reason for this disparity, but the longstanding tradition of anti-Israel student activism and generally politicised atmosphere of many university campuses may be factors, contributing to an environment which normalises the expression of strong anti-Israel sentiment through antisemitic language or targeting.

There were 96 antisemitic incidents recorded from January to June 2026 that targeted synagogues (including buildings, staff and congregants while at the location), an increase from the 76 incidents of this kind in the first half of 2025. An additional 21 incidents saw congregants or staff targeted on their way to or from prayer services, compared to 13 such incidents reported to CST in the first six months of 2025. This represents a 31% rise in instances of anti-Jewish hate impacting synagogues and the people travelling to, from, or already inside them, from 89 in the opening half of 2025 to 117 in the first six months



“ALL ROADS LEAD TO THE JEWS” written on anti-immigration banner in Glasgow, June 2026

Ten of these incidents were classed as Assault (eight targeting Jewish people on their way to or from services and two just outside synagogue grounds). Nineteen involved the Damage & Desecration of synagogue property. There were ten cases of direct Threats made (nine to Jewish places of worship and one to congregants in public), 75 incidents classified as Abusive Behaviour, and three as Literature sent to synagogues. Synagogues are places of prayer and communal activity, and identifiable signifiers of Jewish presence in any neighbourhood. As such, an attack on a synagogue is not a political statement against Israel but an attack on Jewish life in the UK. Counted within the 19 cases of Damage & Desecration to synagogue buildings are three of the arson attacks for which HAYI, a terrorist organisation linked to the IRGC, have claimed responsibility. It is both significant and revealing that synagogues have been among the targets for such attacks, particularly in the wake of the terror attack at Heaton Park Synagogue in October 2025 where the attacker mixed hatred of Israel with targeting of Jews. A synagogue is a place of Jewish prayer and community, and a marker of Jewish life in any neighbourhood. As such, an attack on a synagogue is not a political statement against Israel but an attack on – and an attempt to undermine and destabilise – the diversity of life in the UK. Two incidents – one of Damage & Desecration and one of Abusive Behaviour – occurred at Jewish cemeteries, the same as in the first six months of 2025.

Nineteen antisemitic incidents were related to the workplace, down from 21 incidents of this nature reported in the first half of 2025. Meanwhile, a January-to-June record 336 incidents targeted Jewish businesses and organisations – including one youth movement – rising by 25% from the 268 such incidents reported from January to June 2025. Seven of these 336 incidents fell into the category of Damage & Desecration (including three of the arson attacks for which HAYI claimed responsibility), eight were classed as Threats, 314 as Abusive Behaviour, and seven as Literature. Meanwhile, people of public prominence were targeted with anti-Jewish hate in 76 incidents throughout the first half of 2026, down by 8% from 83 such incidents from January to June 2025.

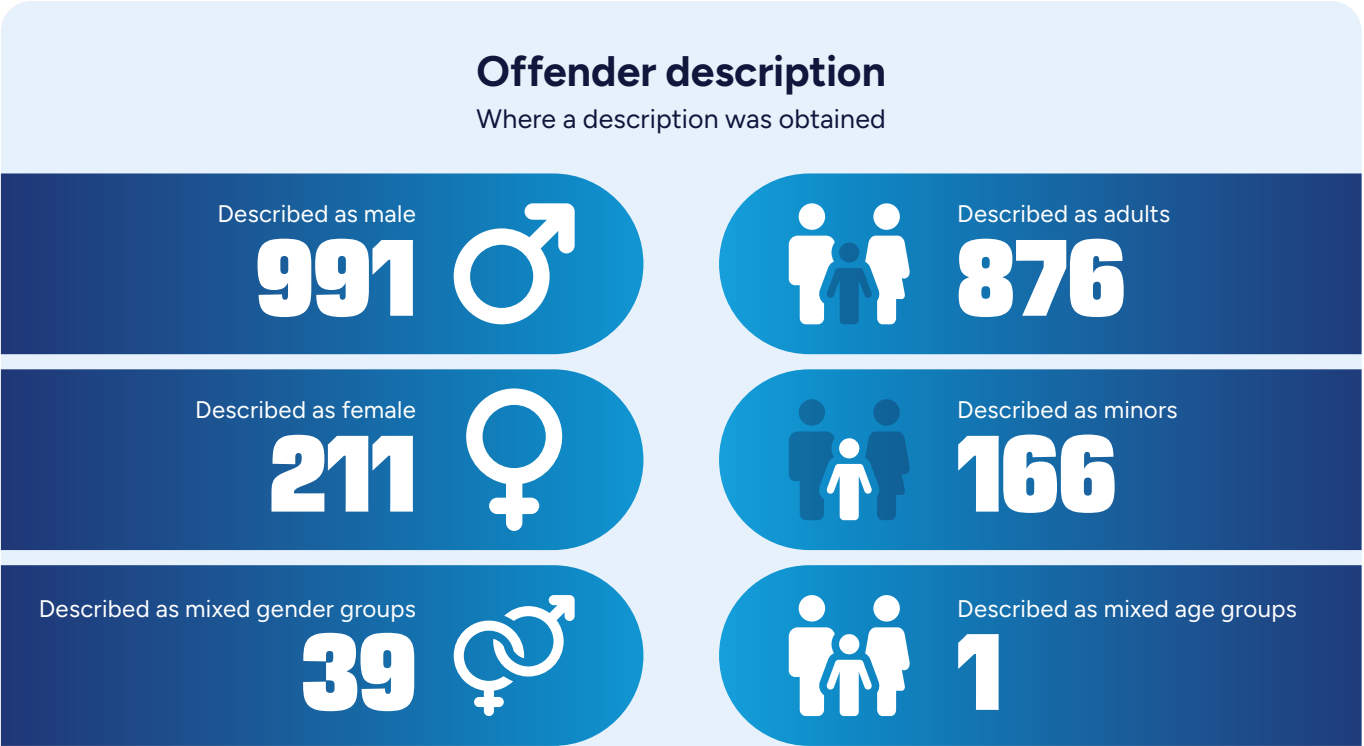
There is an overlap in the type of antisemitism that is usually directed at Jewish organisations and public figures. They are often held accountable for events in the Middle East, accused of wielding political and financial control over society, and these incidents tend to occur online. Of the 336 cases of anti-Jewish hate directed at Jewish organisations, 263 (78%) took place online, 241 (72%) involved Israel-related language, and 94 (30%) contained allegations of disproportionate power in the world. This was

respectively the case in 61 (80%), 58 (76%) and 30 (40%) of the 76 incidents targeting public figures.

Jewish institutions and public figures also tend to be targeted when the subject of antisemitism is prominent in the news cycle. For example, when CST’s Antisemitic Incident Report 2025 was published on 11 February 2026, Jewish organisations were the victims in 11 of 17 incidents reported on the day, more than on any other day in the January-to-June period, nine of which were online comments referencing the report.²⁰ Public figures were targeted in four incidents, all online and discussing the report, the joint-highest daily total for incidents with this victim type.

CST recorded 88 incidents that took place at people’s residential property or affected their parked vehicles in the first half of 2026. This is a rise of 9% from the 81 incidents of this kind that occurred in the first six months of 2025. Twenty-nine of these were perpetrated by a neighbour or someone known to the victim, forming part of the 139 instances of anti-Jewish hate wherein the victim and offender were known to each other prior to the incident. These “interpersonal” reports comprise 7% the antisemitic incident total for the January-to-June period, an increase from 121 such cases of antisemitism recorded over the same timeframe last year. The increase in antisemitism logged at non-Jewish schools is partly responsible for this rise.

20 - CST logs coordinated campaigns of anti-Jewish harassment as a single incident, even if it involves multiple posts, in order to preserve the integrity of CST’s published figures.



There were 17 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the first half of 2026 that were in some way related to professional football, compared to 13 such incidents recorded between January and June 2025. Of these, one involved racist abuse on stadium premises, seven were reports of anti-Jewish hate in a non-stadium environment (including one Assault involving spitting), and nine were online incidents. A further four incidents were reported in the context of amateur football, equal to the figure from the same timeframe in 2025. One incident was recorded in an amateur rugby setting. Meanwhile, there were five incidents that were related to other sports: one to basketball, one to horseracing, one to MMA, one to padel and one to table tennis.

CST received a description of the victim or victims' sex in 907 of the 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2026. Of these, 541 (60%) were male; 277 (30%) were female; and in 89 incidents (10%), the victims were mixed groups of males and females.

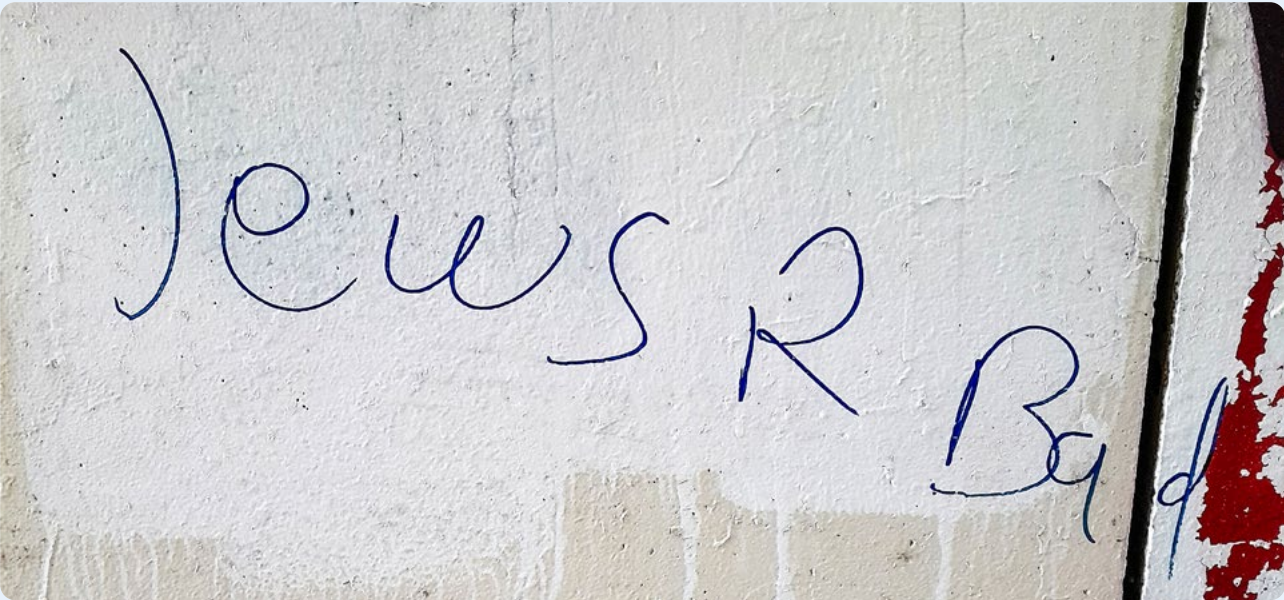
The victim or victims' age was ascertained in 898 of the 1,926 antisemitic incidents reported to CST from January to June 2026. Of these, 695 (77%) involved adult victims, of which 12 were over the age of 65; 157 (18%) involved victims who were minors; in 46 instances (5%), mixed groups of adults and minors were targeted. Alarming, of the 203 incidents in which there were victims under the age of 18, 41 (20%) were classified as Assault, whereas of



the 741 incidents with adult victims, 72 (10%) were physical attacks.

It is notable that of the incidents involving an offender confronting a victim in person – whether over or under the age of 18 – the proportion of Assaults exceeds 7%: the percentage that acts of violence comprise of the six-monthly total. Therefore, face-to-face antisemitic encounters are more likely to feature physical attacks than the overall breakdown of incident categories suggests.

“Jews R Bad” written on wall in Hertfordshire, March 2026



Incident offenders

It is not always easy to ascertain the ethnicity, gender or age of antisemitic incident offenders. Many face-to-face incidents involve fleeting, nonverbal, public encounters in which the offenders may not be fully visible or leave the scene quickly. Victim and witness testimonies may be vague and disjointed, which is understandable given the nature of the ordeal that they have experienced. Some incidents do not involve face-to-face contact, and it is therefore not always possible to obtain a physical description of the perpetrator. Furthermore, those who commit antisemitic offences online may choose to completely anonymise themselves, which makes it almost impossible to garner any information about the person behind the abuse. On the other hand, if social media profiles are not anonymised, they can provide some personal details of offenders, such as a name, photograph or approximate location.

While it is possible to collect data regarding the ethnic appearance of incident offenders, this data is not direct evidence of the offenders' religious affiliations. The content of an antisemitic letter may reveal the motivation of the offender, but it would be a mistake to assume the ethnicity or religion of a hate mail sender solely on the basis of the discourse they employ.

The perceived ethnicity of 818 offenders was reported to CST among the 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded from January to June 2026. Of these, 434 (53%) were described as white – North European; 27 (3%) as white – South European; 84 (10%) as black; 78 (10%) as South Asian; two (<1%) as Southeast Asian; finally, 193 (24%) were described as Arab or North African. As noted in CST's Antisemitic Incident Report 2025, these percentages have reverted towards the breakdown of perpetrator ethnicities typical of periods less impacted by war in the Middle East: offenders described as white – North European constitute the sole majority within this data for the first January-to-June period since before 7 October 2023. It is important to bear in mind that these details rely on the subjective and often momentary judgement of victims and witnesses, made in what can be brief, disorienting and distressing encounters.

A description of the sex of the offender or offenders was obtained by CST in 1,241 of the 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2026. Of these,

the offender was described as male in 991 incidents (80% of the incidents where the offender's sex was obtained); female in 211 incidents (17%); and mixed groups of males and females in 39 incidents (3%). These percentages have shifted slightly from the first half of 2025, when 77% of incident offenders were male and 20% were female, but not to the norm established before 7 October. For comparison, between January and June 2023, 84% of perpetrators were described as male and 14% as female. This may be another – albeit curious – impact of the war in the Middle East on the composition of antisemitism in the UK, although it is not clear why it would have this effect. Of the 211 incidents to feature exclusively female perpetrators, 55% contained language pertaining to Israel, Gaza and the conflict in the region, while 50% displayed anti-Zionist motivation. For the 991 incidents with exclusively male offenders, these figures were 43% and 36% respectively. There is no obvious reason why women might be more likely than men to engage in anti-Israel rhetoric or promote anti-Zionist views while expressing anti-Jewish hate, but there is some polling evidence suggesting that young women are more likely to hold radical left wing views, including in relation to Gaza, than young men.²¹

Post and AI image on X equating Netanyahu and Hitler, January 2026



21- [Young women are radicalising - New Statesman](#)

In 1,043 of the 1,926 reports of anti-Jewish hate between January and June 2026, CST was provided with a description of the approximate age of the offender or offenders. Of these, 876 (84%) involved adult offenders, of which 20 involved adults described as over the age of 65; in 166 cases (16%) the perpetrators were minors; and there was one instance (<1%) in which offenders were a mixture of adults and minors. These percentages are consistent

with those recorded since the end of the pandemic, and the record half-year incident count for school-related antisemitism in 2026 contributes to the continuation of this pattern. Concerningly, of the 167 incidents in which children were amongst the offenders, 28 (17%) were physical attacks on Jewish people. This was the case for 66 (8%) of the 877 incidents involving adult perpetrators.

Israel-Nazi comparison sticker in London, April 2026



Poster in residential window accusing Jews of committing a Holocaust, January 2026



Antisemitic or anti-Israel

CST is often asked about the difference between antisemitic incidents and anti-Israel activity, and how this distinction is made in the categorisation of incidents. The distinction between the two can be subtle and the subject of much debate. Clearly, it would not be acceptable to define all anti-Israel activity as antisemitic. Nevertheless, it cannot be ignored that contemporary antisemitism can occur in the context of, or be accompanied by, extreme feelings over the Israel/Palestine conflict, and that hostility towards Israel may be expressed via, or motivated by, anti-Jewish rhetoric, stereotypes and conspiracy theories. Discourse relating to the conflict is used by antisemitic incident offenders to abuse Jews, and anti-Israel discourse can sometimes repeat, or echo, antisemitic language and imagery. For example, the terms “Zionist” and “Zionism” will often be used in arguments about Israel and the Middle East; sometimes they are used accurately and legitimately, and at other times they are deployed in an antisemitic way. CST must distinguish between the occasions when these terms are used in a purely political or descriptive sense, and the times when they are abused as euphemisms for “Jews” and “Jewishness”. Similarly, the phrases “Zionist Lobby” and “Israel Lobby”, when they are deployed indiscriminately as a label for Jewish organisations and individuals regardless of whether they are relevant to the matter being discussed, connect the conspiracy theory that Jews have a disproportionate

political power and influence with the antisemitic trope that Jews are not to be trusted. Drawing out these distinctions, and deciding on where the dividing lines lie, is one of the most difficult areas of CST’s work in recording and analysing hate crime.

Sometimes the targeting of a particular incident can suggest an intention to intimidate or harass Jews on the part of the offender. For example, if anti-Israel posters or graffiti appear to have been deliberately placed close to a synagogue or other Jewish building, or in an area with a large Jewish population, then they are more likely to be classified as an antisemitic incident than if they are placed in a more general or neutral location. If anti-Israel material is sent unsolicited to a synagogue or other clearly Jewish venue at random, simply because it is Jewish, then it may well be recorded as an antisemitic incident (if the synagogue was targeted on the basis of it being Jewish and the offender has failed to distinguish between a place of worship and an organisation involved in pro-Israel political activity). Similarly, if cars draped in Palestinian flags are deliberately driven through the heart of Jewish communities, or shouts of “Free Palestine”, or comments and questions demanding an opinion on the Middle East are directed at Jewish people – simply because they are perceived to be Jewish – it will also be considered an antisemitic incident.

If, however, anti-Israel material (containing no antisemitic language) is sent unsolicited to specifically pro-Israel organisations, then this incident would not be classified as antisemitic. Similarly, if a Jewish individual or group engaging in public pro-Israel advocacy subsequently receives anti-Israel material, comments or questions, this would most likely not be classified as antisemitic (unless, again, it contains antisemitic language).

The political discourse used in an incident may also be the reason why it is accepted or rejected as antisemitic. In particular, incidents that equate Israel to Nazi Germany would normally be recorded as antisemitic because the comparison is so deeply hurtful and abusive, using Israel’s self-definition as a Jewish state, and the Jewish identity of the Holocaust’s primary victims, as the basis for the insult. This analogy, made with increasing regularity since 7 October 2023, is reflected in changes to anti-Jewish language, such as in the neologism “Zionazi”. However, language that compares Israel to, for example, apartheid South Africa would not

41%

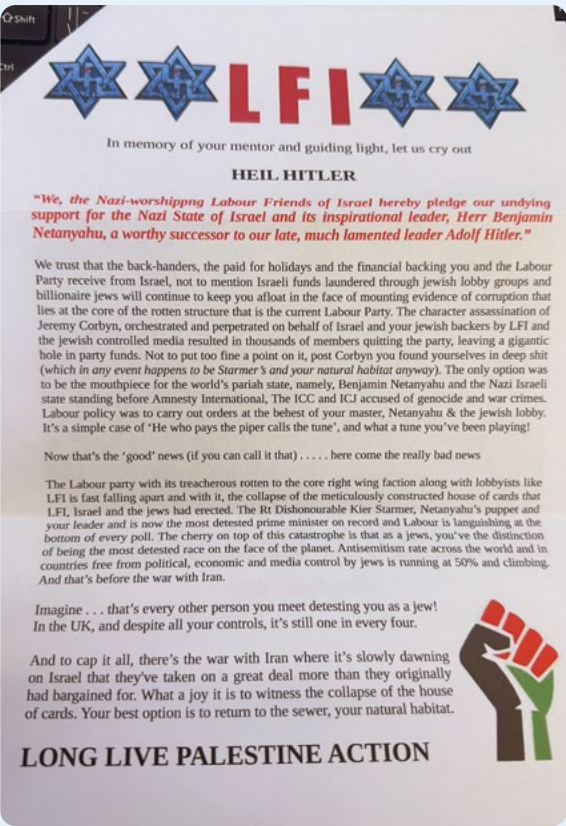
787 of 1,926 incidents referred to Israel, Palestine, the Hamas terror attack or subsequent war, alongside anti-Jewish language or targeting.

normally be recorded as an antisemitic incident by CST. While the charge that Israel practises apartheid upsets many Jews, it does not contain the same visceral capacity to offend on the basis of Jewish identity as the comparison with Nazism, which carries particular meaning for Jews because of the Holocaust; nor does it play directly and explicitly on Israel’s Jewishness as a way of causing hurt.

CST recorded 787 antisemitic incidents that, as well as showing anti-Jewish language or targeting, referenced or were related to Israel, Palestine and the war in the Middle East from January to June 2026. Six hundred and seventy-six incidents evidenced anti-Zionist political motivation that went beyond more superficial discourse about the region or the conflict, alongside explicitly antisemitic comments or abuse aimed at unsuspecting Jewish people. The terms “Zionist” or “Zionism” were employed in 204 instances, while the offender made a direct comparison between Israel and the Nazis on 105 occasions.

Irrespective of whether or not anti-Israel incidents are classified as antisemitic by CST, they are still relevant to CST’s victim support and security work as they may involve threats and abuse directed at Jewish people or organisations who work with – or in support of – Israel, and therefore have an impact on the safety of the UK Jewish community.

Letter comparing Israel with the Nazis and expressing support for since-proscribed group Palestine Action, London, March 2026



Discourse, motivation & ideology

CST attempts to assess the number and patterns of antisemitic incidents reported in the UK each year in which there is evidence of political, religious, or ideological discourse or motivation. CST also counts the instances where conspiracy-fuelled sentiments are present. Stereotypical tropes about Jewish people’s power, influence, and money – and of allegedly exaggerating or inventing the tragedies of the Holocaust – can be especially prevalent in online expressions of antisemitism. It is common for two or more of these discourses to exist within the same incident, even if they would seem ideologically incompatible. Such apparent contradictions perfectly capture the multifaceted nature of contemporary anti-Jewish hate. In total, 1,272 (66%) of the 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the first half of 2026 presented evidence of one or more political or ideological discourses or motivations. From January to June 2025, they were present in 1,213 (76%) of 1,598 incidents, 1,440 (71%) of 2,019 incidents over the same timeframe in 2024, an in 516 (53%) of 965 incidents in the first six months of 2023, a period unaffected by war in the Middle East.

Historic, simplistic prejudices have been manipulated and deployed by such a vast array of social, religious, cultural and political forces over such a long period of time, that a complex and layered landscape of antisemitic language, imagery and references now exists. Partly as a consequence of this, the use of a certain rhetoric does not necessarily evidence a specific motivation or allegiance: for example, a person who shouts “Heil Hitler” at a Jewish passer-by might align themselves with far-right ideology, or they might simply know that this phrase will cause upset and offence to Jewish people. Similarly, someone who shouts “Free Palestine” at people walking to synagogue may be a staunch campaigner for Palestinian rights, or perhaps they just consider it another weapon in their rhetorical arsenal to deploy against Jews.

Israel-related antisemitism

In the first half of 2026, the discourse most frequently used in incidents of anti-Jewish hate made reference, or was somehow connected, to Israel, Gaza, the Hamas terror attack on 7 October 2023 or the ensuing war in the Middle East (alongside antisemitic language or targeting). This narrative was present in 787 (41%) of the 1,926 instances of anti-Jewish hate reported to CST from January to June 2026. It is a fall of 3% from the first six months

of 2025, when 809 incidents – 51% of the half-year total – involved this rhetoric. However, in number and proportion, Israel-related antisemitism remains substantially more prevalent than has in the past been reported in periods of relative peace in the Middle East. In the first half of 2023, the last January-to-June timeframe before the 7 October attack, just 151 incidents were evidentially linked to Israel, 16% of the half-year figure. The context of war in the Middle East continues to impact the content of antisemitism in the UK as well. There were 676 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of the year that showed explicitly anti-Zionist motivation alongside anti-Jewish hate speech or targeting: 35% of all reports. From January to June 2025, this motivation was evident in 733 (46%) of incidents, and just 92 (10%) of the incidents logged in the corresponding period in 2023. Variations on the terms “Zionism” or “Zionist” were used on 204 occasions, often as bywords for “Jewishness” and “Jew” or alongside antisemitic ideas or targeting, fewer than the 216 such incidents in the first half of 2025, but far more than the 47 cases of this type logged in the first six months of 2023. In at least 111 instances, the phrase “Free Palestine” was employed, either in speech or writing, in the course of an antisemitic incident. CST does not regard this in itself to be an antisemitic phrase and would not log its usage as an incident on its own, but in each of these cases, it was targeted at Jewish people or institutions – who had not solicited discussion about the Middle East – simply for being Jewish or perceived as Jewish by the offender, or

Banner outside Parliament alleging Zionist control of UK politics, London, April 2026



Post and AI image on X comparing a religious Jewish man to a demon, March 2026



comprised part of a larger tirade that did include blatantly anti-Jewish hate.

Holocaust-related antisemitism

In 420 incidents – 22% of the 1,926 instances of antisemitism reported to CST in the first half of 2026 – the offender or offenders made reference to Hitler, the Nazis, the Holocaust, and/or punctuated their abuse with a Nazi salute, the depiction of a swastika, or other related imagery. This is a decrease of 18% from the 511 incidents using this rhetoric in the first half of 2025, which comprised 32% of the January-to-June total. Nazi-related language and imagery is typically the dominant narrative type during periods when antisemitism is less affected by events in the Middle East, but also remains a core reference point for incident perpetrators when it is affected in that way. This is shown in the 105 reported incidents in which the offender made a direct equivalence between Israel and Nazi Germany, falling from 187 such parallels drawn in the opening six months of last year. For comparison, just 28 incidents of this kind were reported in the first six months of 2023. Incidents involving this comparison are counted among the totals for both Israel- and Holocaust-related antisemitism, bridging the two most popular

22 - Far-right discourses that did not include Holocaust-related content involved The Great Replacement conspiracy theory, allegations of Jewish control of various British institutions, descriptions of Jews as being less human than white people, allegations of Jewish treachery and disloyalty to the UK, rejection of the idea that Jews can be British or white, arguments for Jewish expulsion from the country, and clear allegiance to modern far-right groups or ideology on behalf of the perpetrator.

discourses deployed by purveyors of anti-Jewish hate in the January-to-June window.

It is a feature of modern-day antisemitism that incident perpetrators are more likely to glorify and celebrate the Holocaust, than to deny it occurred. In 39 of the 420 cases of Holocaust-related antisemitism in the first half of 2026, the perpetrator denied either the scale of the Holocaust, the facts of the Holocaust, or its having happened at all, up by 44% from the 27 such cases recorded in the first six months of 2025. Eighty-five reports involved celebration of the Holocaust, the glorification of its architects and/or their ideas, or the expressed desire for the mass industrialised extermination of Jewish people to repeat, falling by 24% from the 112 incidents of this type logged between January and June 2025. Of these 85 incidents, 31 (36%) were also Israel-related, which claimed that Israel has shown Hitler to be right about the Jews, lamented his failure to fully wipe out the Jewish population and thereby prevent Israel's existence and military action, or wished for another Holocaust to rid the world of Israel, Zionism and, ultimately, Jews. On ten occasions, the offender simultaneously denied and celebrated the Holocaust, a paradox that conveys the confusion, contradiction and hypocrisy that often characterise antisemitic thought. In 126 of these 420 instances of Nazi-related hate, abuse was graffitied, daubed, scratched, stuck or printed on public or private property, usually incorporating the illustration of a swastika. There were 106 cases wherein far-right allegiance or political motivation were present, 58 of which were accompanied by Nazi-era references, decreasing from 111 and 74 such incidents respectively in the first half of 2025.²²

Religiously motivated antisemitism

CST recorded 84 incidents containing rhetoric relating to Islam, Muslims and Islamist groups alongside antisemitism in the first six months of 2026, increasing from 55 reported in the first half of 2025. There was also a rise in those involving Islamist extremist ideology, with 24 reported compared to 20 between January and June 2025. These discourses and ideologies are witnessed far more frequently in the content of anti-Jewish hate when Israel is at war: from January to June 2023, CST recorded nine incidents using Islam-related discourse and four displaying Islamist extremist ideology. Eight of the Islamist extremist incidents were in reference to the Middle East, five of which showed explicit support for

Hamas and one for the IRGC. Meanwhile, 13 of the 84 incidents that included mention of Islam were of far-right provenance, in which the offender expressed their hatred of both Jews and Muslims. Twenty-seven cases of anti-Jewish hate featured another religious ideology, most commonly evangelical Christianity, falling from 37 in the first six months of 2025.

Conspiracy theories

Antisemitic conspiracy theories were evident in 365 (19%) of the 1,926 incidents recorded in the first six months of 2026, marking a rise from 247 between January and June 2025, 15% of that half-year figure. Of these, 256 alleged Jewish influence, nationally or globally, over politics, media, finance, migration and other walks of life (up from 173 in the first half of 2025); 103 promoted falsehoods regarding religious rituals and practices, such as the ritual murder or 'Blood Libel' charge (an increase from 57 between January and June 2025); and three involved myths regarding the origins of Jewishness in attempts to undermine the legitimacy of any notion of a modern Jewish identity or nationhood (down from ten in the corresponding timeframe in 2025).

Antisemitism targeting customs & texts

There were 64 incidents in which specific aspects of Judaism were attacked or purposely mischaracterised in an antisemitic way, up from 50 such incidents reported in the first six months of 2025. Among these, 30 singled out religious literature and holy books (whereas 13 did in the first half of 2025); 18 focused on religious traditions and practices (double the nine such incidents from January to June 2025); and 16 manipulated ideas taken from religious scripture (more than the 28 recorded in the first six months of 2025). In 189 cases, the perpetrator resorted to anti-Jewish stereotypes, caricatures or dehumanising language and imagery, more than the 160 incidents of this type over the same period in 2025. There were seven examples of antisemitic abuse towards specific ethnic groups that exist within the Jewish community, just under the eight recorded in the first half of 2025.

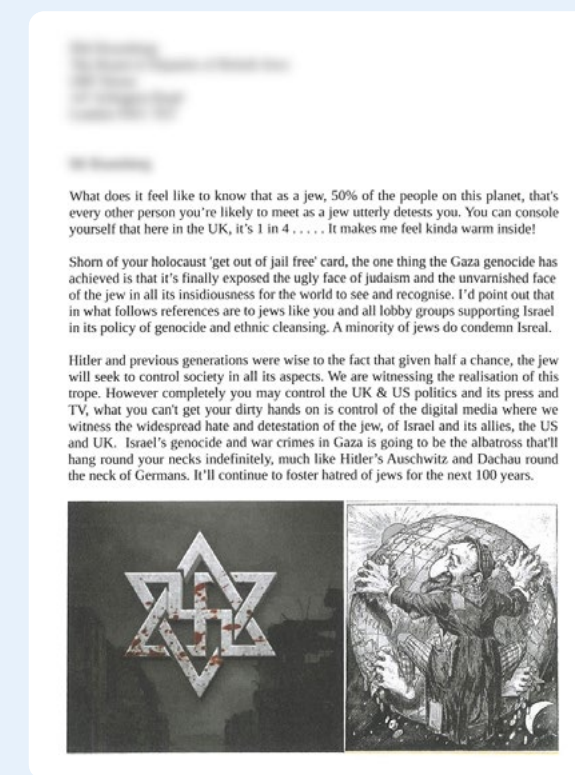
Politically motivated antisemitism

Antisemitic incidents are classified as related to specific political parties based on the offender's stated affiliation or support; because the abuse was targeted at, or expressed by, party members, activists or representatives; because its content directly related to a party's policies; or because an incident appeared to be motivated by news stories

Post on X containing Holocaust glorification, March 2026



Letter to a member of a national Jewish organisation, London, March 2026



related to that party. It is often not possible to ascertain whether the offenders are themselves party members or not; in some cases, they have

been expelled from their former party but continue to express antisemitism in relation to it. These caveats mean that these totals are not indicators of the relative amounts of antisemitism within, or tolerated by, each political party. With that in mind, 34 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the first half of 2026 were connected to specific political parties or their supporters, or to issues in mainstream politics. This is an increase of 36% from 25 incidents of this kind reported between January and June 2025. Twelve were linked to the Labour Party (compared to 11 in the first six months of 2025); seven to the Green Party, four of which singled out its Jewish leader Zack Polanski for abuse (none in January-to-June 2025); six to Restore Britain; two to the Conservative Party (four in January-to-June 2025); two to the Socialist Party (none in January-to-June 2025); two to independent council candidates (one in January-to-June 2025); two to Members of the Scottish Parliament whose affiliations were anonymised in police reports (none in January-to-June 2025; and one to Your Party.²³ Fifteen of the 34 politically-motivated incidents contained references to the Middle East, 12 alleged Jewish control over UK politics, and among these 27 incidents are eight wherein these narratives overlapped to allege Israeli, Zionist and Jewish power over British politics and policy makers. It is notable that Restore Britain and the Green Party show the biggest increases in related incidents from the equivalent period in 2025. These are the far right and far left of British politics, and both have experienced surges in popularity in local elections, and therefore higher profiles in general.²⁴

Since CST began recording antisemitic incidents in 1984, there has been a constant and consistent correlation between periods of war involving Israel and raised levels of antisemitism. In CST's Antisemitic Incidents Reports published since 7 October 2023, CST charted an initial spike of unprecedented scale and speed in anti-Jewish hate in the aftermath of Hamas' terror attack. This immediate escalation preceded a gradual plateauing of the antisemitic incident level at approximately double the rate typically recorded prior to October 2023. Across both 2024 and 2025, over half of the reported incidents involved discourse pertaining to Israel and the Middle East alongside anti-Jewish language or targeting. Israel-related antisemitism was evident in 41% of the anti-Jewish hate logged in the first half of 2026. A hatred of Israel, therefore is still clearly a

significant motivation behind, or factor in, hatred of Jews (and vice versa).

However, despite the antisemitic incident total increasing compared to the first six months of 2025, it is notable that the proportion of Israel-related incidents among the half-year total has dropped, alongside the proportion of incidents including any overtly political or ideological discourses or motivations at all. At the same time, the number and proportion of incidents in the Assault category have increased, as has the proportion of incidents involving verbal abuse in public. Taken together, these changes may indicate a shift in how anti-Jewish hate manifests. While caution is necessary in drawing conclusive trends from what might be natural fluctuations over a relatively short period, it may be the case that antisemitism is becoming more direct, aggressive and explicit in how it is expressed. One explanation could be that antisemites feel less need to disguise their prejudice or mitigate their anti-Jewish attitudes behind Israel-adjacent rhetoric; or that explicitly anti-Jewish attitudes are simply becoming more prevalent following 33 months of war, terrorism, hate crimes and the increasing normalisation of antisemitism in British society.

An interesting aspect of the discourse analysis is that, while the percentage of Israel-related anti-Jewish hate has fallen, the percentage of incidents involving antisemitic conspiracies – and particularly those that intersect with narratives about the Middle East – has risen. Of the 787 Israel-related incidents logged in the first half of 2026, 235 (30%) featured at least one conspiracy theory. From January to June 2025, this was the case in 176 (22%) of the 809 antisemitic incidents referencing the Middle East. Tropes about Jewish power and influence were present in 177 of these 235 incidents, alleging that this control is wielded through Israel's puppeteering of politicians and world leaders. These themes also collided in allegations that the attacks on Jewish community life were false flag operations choreographed by Israel and Mossad. Canards about Jewish religious rituals were implanted in anti-Israel discourse in 77 cases, most of which alluded to the centuries-old conspiracy of the Blood Libel, wherein the tragic death of innocent children in Gaza is repurposed as supposed evidence of the alleged Jewish lust for infant mutilation and blood. Whether or not the people who propagate these myths are aware of their origins and long history and antisemitic exploitation, their presence within contemporary

Israel-related anti-Jewish hatred demonstrates the enduring nature of these narratives, the extent to which they are embedded within the collective psyche, and the way antisemitism adapts to new contexts while retaining its core ideas.

This phenomenon is also apparent in the 48 antisemitic incidents reported to CST between January and June 2026 that referenced convicted child sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. Twenty-eight of these incidents occurred in February, following the United States Department of Justice's publication of documents related to his conviction. Thirty-eight incidents alleged that Epstein's crimes are proof of a global, powerful, amoral Jewish elite acting to the detriment of everyone else; 19 determined that his crimes evidence widespread Jewish ritualistic child abuse; 34 saw Epstein's evil as an extension of Israel's evil, and Israel's as an extension of Epstein's. It is a case study in contemporary anti-Jewish hate. It demonstrates how antisemitic ideas quickly

coalesce around a major news story and figurehead at its centre. It also displays how real, serious crimes function as evidence of fictional conspiracies, reduced to mere opportunities for antisemites to validate their fantasies about Jews.

The discourses, motivations and ideologies examined in this chapter illustrate the diversity of modern-day anti-Jewish hate and the complexity of tackling it. Antisemitism draws on a longstanding repertoire of myths, stereotypes and falsehoods. Its perpetrators, who would place themselves across the sociopolitical spectrum, deploy these narratives according to their worldview and the world around them, distorting and exploiting historic Jewish trauma to cause maximum harm. Of the 1,272 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST from January to June 2026 that featured at least one of the political, religious and racist discourses, conspiracy theories, tropes and ideologies explored earlier in this chapter, 92 (7%) combined two or more of them.

Post on X with Epstein-related antisemitism, February 2026



Antisemitic graffiti depicting stereotypically Jewish exaggerated features and religious identifiers on a mural in London, May 2026



23 - Restore Britain and Your Party were not formed at the time of the last reporting period

24 - [Local election results 2026 in England - BBC News](#); [The Norfolk party backed by Elon Musk that battered Reform - BBC News](#)

Geographical locations

Of the 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the opening six months of 2026, 1,216 occurred across Greater London and Greater Manchester, the two cities where the largest Jewish populations reside.

In the former, 994 incidents were reported, an increase of 24% from the 800 incidents recorded in Greater London from January to June 2025. Greater Manchester’s half-year total of 222 incidents is a rise of 14% from the 194 incidents that took place in the same area and timeframe last year.

CST recorded at least one incident in every London borough bar Lewisham, Merton and Sutton. Of the 994 incidents reported across Greater London between January and June 2026, 469 – 47% of London’s total – occurred in Barnet, the local authority that is home to the biggest Jewish community in the UK. There were 75 instances of anti-Jewish hate reported to have taken place in Westminster, 73 in Camden, 55 in Hackney and 25 in Haringey. These are boroughs where Jewish people live, work, pray and attend school, so it is no surprise that they would rank highest for reports of antisemitism. Westminster, however, has consistently ranked higher within this subset since October 2023 than it typically had previously. One reason for this change is the fact that Westminster has hosted many of London’s anti-Israel demonstrations. While most participants in these marches do not openly express antisemitic views, it is regularly the case that some demonstrators do express anti-Jewish hate in the context of anti-Israel protests. The frequency of these events has subsided somewhat in 2026, but the reports of antisemitism in Westminster remain disproportionately Israel-focused. Of the 75 incidents recorded in the borough, 61% referenced or were linked to the Middle East – while also displaying anti-Jewish language or targeting – compared to 40% of incidents reported outside the borough. Meanwhile, 13 antisemitic incidents targeted Jewish organisations in Westminster, 11 targeted synagogues, and five targeted high-profile individuals.

Within Greater London’s data, 81 incidents were reported to have taken place on the London transport network, 38 of which occurred on property that falls under the remit of the British Transport Police. A further 111 were online incidents where either the victim or offender is understood to be based in London, but a more specific location could

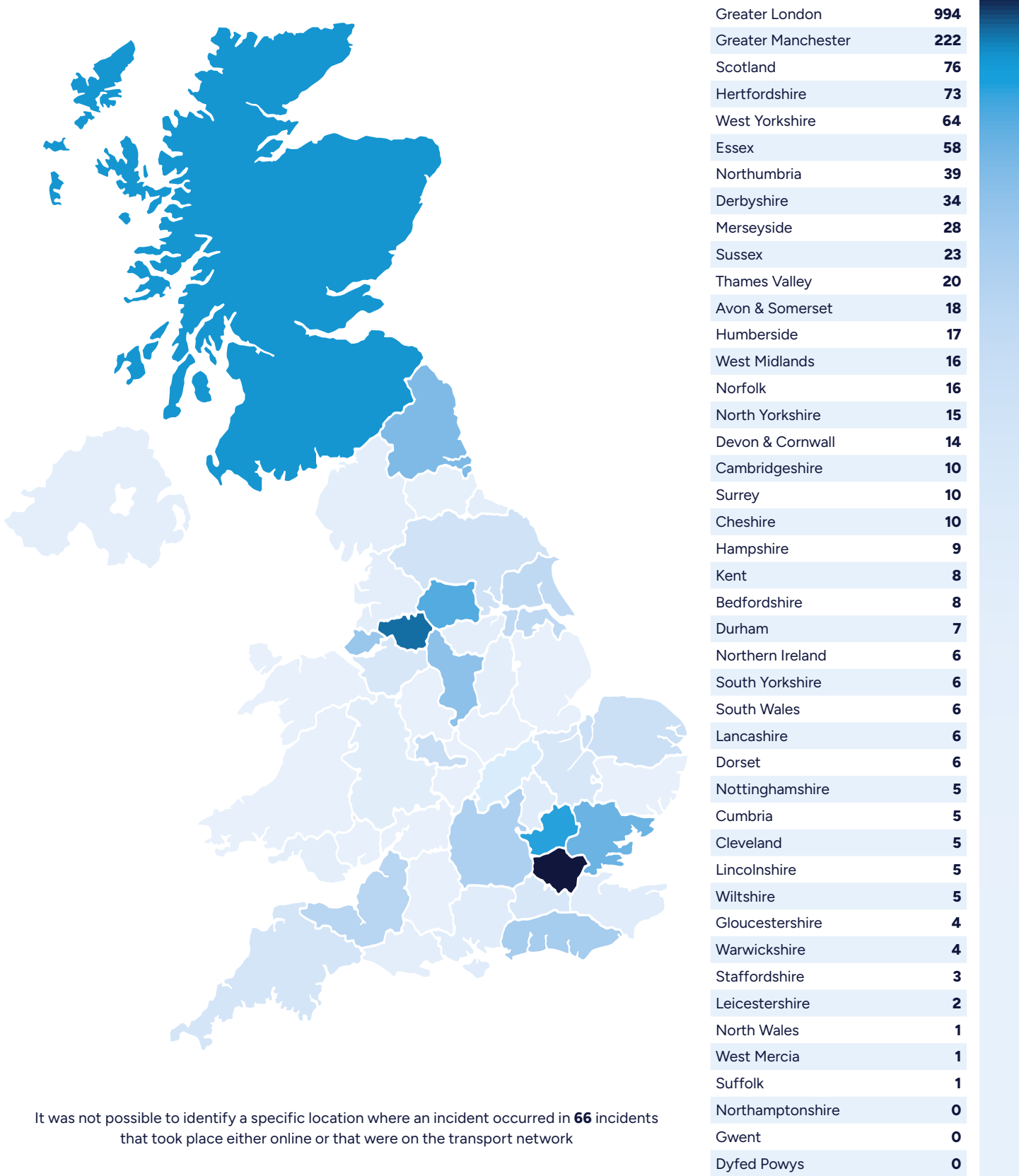
not be established. The figure for Greater London (and therefore also the national total) would be even higher, were it not for a technical problem since March 2024 that has disrupted the flow of reports received from the Metropolitan Police as part of CST’s information exchange with police forces. CST’s daily collaboration with the Metropolitan Police – and all police services across the country – remains a fundamental element of fulfilling CST’s mission to facilitate Jewish life and protect the Jewish community.

Of Greater Manchester’s 222 antisemitic incidents recorded between January and June 2026, 65 happened in the City of Manchester, 54 in Salford, 49 in Bury, 13 in Stockport and eight in Trafford. Included in Greater Manchester’s incident data are six incidents that occurred on the local transport network, and 11 online incidents where the victim or offender is known to be based in the region, but it was not possible to pinpoint a specific location.

The combined proportional contribution of Greater London and Greater Manchester to the overall six-monthly antisemitic incident tally rose slightly from 62% in the first half of 2025 to 63% from January to June 2026. While it is the case that anti-Jewish hate is reported most often in the areas where Jewish communities are largest, nevertheless the only mainland UK police regions where CST did not log a single antisemitic incident in the first six months of 2026 were Dyfed Powys, Gwent and Northampton. This broad geographical spread happens because Jewish people live and work in every part of the country and antisemitism follows them, even if they are not visibly Jewish or part of a large Jewish community in that area. It is also because antisemites live and work in every part of the country and use online platforms to easily express their prejudice, regardless of their proximity to Jewish people and communities.

In addition to Greater London and Greater Manchester, the police regions in which CST registered the highest six-monthly figures of reported antisemitic incidents were Scotland with 76 incidents (compared to 36 in the first half of 2025); Hertfordshire with 73 (an increase from 52 in the first six months of 2025); West Yorkshire with 64 (falling from 74 between January and June 2025); Essex with 58 (a rise from 31 recorded in the same timeframe in 2025); and Northumbria with 39 (rising from 20 in the first half of 2025). The notable increases recorded

Incident locations



Swastika and “F**k Jew” sprayed on wall in Nottinghamshire, May 2026



Swastika drawn on mattress in London river, May 2026



in Scotland and Northumbria are in part due to new or re-established data-sharing agreements with the police services in those regions that have led to a positive improvement in reporting. It is also worth remembering, when comparing the incident totals for different regions, that Police Scotland covers a much larger geographical area and population than most other UK police forces.

Aside from the boroughs in Greater London and Greater Manchester mentioned above, the towns and cities where reported half-year antisemitic incident totals were highest were Leeds in West Yorkshire (37 incidents); Glasgow in Scotland (35 incidents); Borehamwood & Elstree in Hertfordshire (31 incidents); Gateshead in Northumbria (27 incidents); and Liverpool in Merseyside (22 incidents).

Included within all the statistics in this chapter are 94 instances of antisemitism that took place on public transport or at public transport stations. Of these, 35 occurred on the London Underground, 42 on London buses, and 17 on other transport services. In addition to the 94 incidents on public transport, there were ten occasions where the victims were abused inside

a private taxi, and five incidents reported from UK airports. Fourteen of these 109 combined incidents on or at public transport were classed as Assault, six as Threats, and 89 as Abusive Behaviour.

Children were disproportionately over-represented amongst both victims and perpetrators of anti-Jewish hate reported on transport throughout the first half of 2026. Minors were targeted in 30 (48%) of the 63 incidents wherein CST obtained information about the victim or victims' age, compared to 173 (21%) of the 835 incidents that did not take place on transport for which CST received the victims' age profile. Seventeen of these 30 incidents affected children on their commute to or from school. Similarly, 23 (40%) of the 58 transport-related incidents where the offender or offenders' age was described to CST involved perpetrators under the age of 18. In the 985 incidents that took place in other environments wherein the perpetrators' approximate ages were provided, just 144 (15%) involved offenders who were minors.

Incident reporters

Not every incident recorded by CST has an identifiable victim. Not every incident recorded by CST has an identifiable perpetrator; but every incident recorded by CST has a reporter. Antisemitic incidents are reported to CST in a number of ways, most commonly by telephone, email, the CST website, via CST's social media profiles, or in person to CST staff and volunteers. Incidents can be reported to CST by the victim, a witness, or an individual or organisation acting on their behalf. In 2001, CST was accorded third party reporting status by the police. CST has a national Information Sharing Agreement with the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC), and similar agreements with a number of regional forces, which allow CST to share antisemitic incident reports, fully anonymised to comply with data protection requirements, so that both CST and the police can glean as complete a picture as possible of the number and nature of reported antisemitic incidents. CST began sharing antisemitic incident data with Greater Manchester Police in 2011, followed by the Metropolitan Police Service in 2012. Now, using the national agreement, CST shares anonymised antisemitic incident data with several forces around the UK. Any duplicate incidents that are reported to both CST and the police are excluded from this process to ensure there is no 'double counting' of incidents.

This collaboration continues to prove a core part of CST's work. From January to June 2026, 343 of the 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST were reported by police, representing 18% of the six-monthly total. This is an increase in both number and proportion from the corresponding period in 2025, when 303 of 1,598 incidents (13%) were reported by police. The figure would be even higher if there had not been a disruption to the flow of reports sent by the Metropolitan Police since March 2024, caused by an IT issue. CST is working closely with the Metropolitan Police Service to resolve this, and it remains a vital partner to CST and key collaborator in CST's daily work.

Greater Manchester Police provided 100 of the 343 incidents recorded through the Information Sharing Agreement. Meanwhile, 41 came from Police Scotland, 36 from West Yorkshire Police, 32 from Essex Police, 29 from Northumbria Police, 25 from Derbyshire Constabulary, and 80 from other police services around the UK. Whether these partnerships are longstanding or new, it is a testament to the work and time invested in developing and maintaining

them that the police contribute so considerably to CST's antisemitic incident data, informing CST's understanding and analysis of anti-Jewish hate in the UK.

During the first half of 2026, 590 of the 1,926 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST were reported by the victim, while 465 were reported by a witness to antisemitism, whether it was seen online or in a public space. In a further 120 instances, a friend, relative or support provider relayed details of the incident. Combined, victims, witnesses and those close to them reported 1,175 incidents, accounting for 61% of all antisemitic incidents recorded by CST during the period. These reports provide essential insight into the experiences of those directly affected by anti-Jewish hate and reflect the willingness and motivation of victims and bystanders to come forward and ensure incidents are recorded.

CST staff reported 260 instances of anti-Jewish hate, including online abuse directed at CST social media accounts and email addresses, while 37 incidents were reported by CST volunteers. A further 80 incidents came to CST's attention through private security guards at Jewish locations, a 158% rise from the 31 incidents reported by guards between January and June 2025. This probably reflects the record number of incidents affecting the school and synagogue sectors, and the heightened state of alert at Jewish communal sites in the wake of both the terror attack at Heaton Park Synagogue in October 2025 and arson attacks on community buildings in March and April 2026. Twenty-six incidents were reported by CST's partners in the hate crime sphere, while three incidents were recorded from reports in the media and two via university chaplaincies.

Every single report helps CST better understand the nature and scale of antisemitism in the UK. Every single report better enables CST to protect, support and facilitate Jewish life.

Antisemitic incident figures

Some of the numbers in the tables may differ from those previously published by CST, due to the late reporting of incidents to CST by incident victims and witnesses, or the recategorisation of some incidents due to new information.

Antisemitic incident figures by category, January-June 2016–2026

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Extreme Violence	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	3	1
Assault	45	80	62	85	52	89	75	86	125	74	135
Damage & Desecration	32	54	44	39	33	59	30	24	84	94	77
Threats	48	58	56	50	45	87	52	55	146	99	126
Abusive Behaviour	473	582	616	727	739	1,129	662	793	1,649	1,307	1,572
Literature	10	12	32	10	5	5	4	7	14	21	15
Total	608	786	810	911	875	1,371	823	965	2,019	1,598	1,926

Antisemitic incident figures by month, January-June 2016–2026

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
January	81	155	106	119	188	95	135	147	393	242	257
February	69	134	119	182	142	119	128	138	449	204	279
March	82	110	119	171	119	132	125	179	321	281	360
April	105	142	151	147	109	154	135	139	282	231	361
May	140	121	182	150	138	661	173	179	300	286	362
June	131	124	133	142	179	210	127	183	274	354	307
Total	608	786	810	911	875	1,371	823	965	2,019	1,598	1,926

Antisemitic incident figures full breakdown, January-June 2026

	Extreme Violence	Assault	Damage & Desecration	Threats	Abusive Behaviour	Literature	Month total
January	0	8	12	22	212	3	257
February	0	10	4	14	249	2	279
March	0	16	11	24	308	1	360
April	1	31	21	15	288	5	361
May	0	36	19	32	273	2	362
June	0	34	10	19	242	2	307
Category total	1	135	77	126	1,572	15	1,926

“JEWS OUT!!!” written on wall in Gateshead, April 2026



Illustration comparing Israelis to Nazis in London, May 2026





CST's Mission

- ▶ **Promote good relations** between British Jews and the rest of British society by working towards the elimination of racism, and antisemitism in particular.
- ▶ **Represent British Jews** on issues of racism, antisemitism, extremism, policing and security.
- ▶ **Facilitate Jewish life** by protecting Jews from the dangers of antisemitism, and antisemitic terrorism in particular.
- ▶ **Help those who are victims** of antisemitic hatred, harassment or bias.
- ▶ **Promote research** into racism, antisemitism and extremism; and to use this research for the benefit of both the Jewish community and society in general.
- ▶ **Speak responsibly** at all times, without exaggeration or political favour, on antisemitism and associated issues.

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