

Replying to [redacted]
Glad you're pretending not to notice that Gaza is a concentration camp with a sea view... run by Jews. Proves Jews & Nazis aren't quite as 'separate' as some would like us to believe, eh?

S...thole Israel 2019 🇮🇱



Replying to [redacted]
Gas them all and let Adolf decide

12:13 PM - 20 Mar 2019

Unholy Alliance: The US Has an Unhealthy Relationship With Israel



Replying to [redacted]
Omg - why oh why throughout history do Jewish people get verbally and physically attacked?
Maybe if it's happened for millennia Jewish people should look in there own doorstep. Ask - why is all the time

17:38 · 20/04/2019 · Twitter for iOS

Follow

Replying to [redacted]
F...k yeah lads DM me to co-ordinate super secret plans to finally get rid of all jews

8:49 PM - 20 Mar 2019

They can't be the change because they have become the problem.

Politics is broken. Let's change it.

44 39 183

Follow

Replying to @ChukaUmunna @TheIndGroup

I can hear the shekels rattling from here. You're nothing but a career motivated judas. You will stab anyone in the back to carry out your orders.

3:28 PM - 26 Feb 2019

ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

January–June 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- CST recorded **892 antisemitic incidents** across the United Kingdom in the first six months of 2019, which is **the highest ever total that CST has recorded in the January-June period** of any year. It is a **rise of ten per cent** from the 810 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first six months of 2018, which now constitutes the second highest total that CST has ever recorded for the January-June period, and formed part of a record annual total of 1,688 antisemitic incidents across the whole calendar year of 2018.
- CST recorded **over 100 antisemitic incidents in every one of the six months from January to June 2019 for the third consecutive year**, continuing a pattern of historically high monthly totals of more than 100 incidents in all but two months since April 2016. This is unprecedented: for comparison, CST only recorded monthly totals above 100 incidents on six occasions between 2006 and 2016.
- This surge in incident totals can partly be attributed to **increasing reports of online expressions of antisemitism**. So far this year, **CST has already logged 323 reports of online antisemitism** out of the overall total of 892 incidents. To compare, **CST recorded 384 online antisemitic incidents in the whole of 2018**. To draw further comparisons, there were 221 reports of online antisemitism in the first six months of 2018. This 46 per cent increase in recorded online incidents from the first half of last year to the first half of this year may reflect **rising engagement in and intensity of arguments on social media**, as well as a **greater capacity and motivation to report online antisemitism** to CST. These totals are only indicative, as the

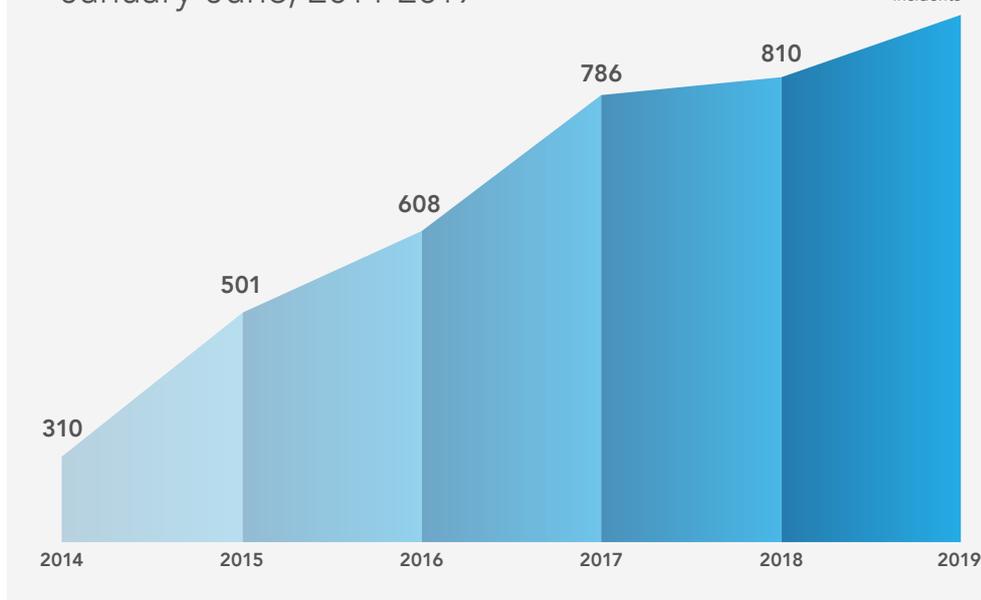
actual amount of antisemitic content that is generated and disseminated on online platforms is much larger. In some cases, social media has been used as a tool for coordinated campaigns of antisemitic harassment, threats and abuse directed at Jewish public figures and other individuals. It is difficult to assess whether the increase in online incidents in 2019 reflects a genuine rise in the amount of antisemitic expressions online; an increase in the reporting of online antisemitism to CST; or a combination of the two. CST does not trawl the internet looking for online incidents to log, and will only record online incidents that are reported to CST by a member of the public, and where either the offender or the victim is based in the UK.

- **The highest monthly totals in the first half of 2019 were February and March, with 182 and 169 antisemitic incidents respectively.** These are the joint-fourth and sixth highest monthly totals ever recorded by CST. They occurred when issues relating to **Jews and antisemitism were prominent in news and politics due to the continuing controversy over antisemitism in the Labour Party**. February saw several MPs leave the Labour Party, some of whom cited antisemitism as a prominent reason for their decision. CST recorded 25 antisemitic incidents in February and 30 in March that were examples of, or related to arguments over, alleged antisemitism in the Labour Party. These 55 Labour-related incidents from February and March comprised over half of the 100 such incidents recorded by CST during the first six months of 2019. For comparison, in the whole of 2018 CST recorded 148 antisemitic incidents that were linked to the issue of antisemitism in the Labour Party in this way.

Cover image: Antisemitic tweets reported to CST in 2019, showing various political and ideological discourses or motivations.

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS January-June, 2014-2019

Record high of
892
incidents



- CST recorded **85 incidents in the category of Assaults** during the first six months of 2019, an increase of 37 per cent from the 62 incidents of this type recorded in the first half of 2018. This is the highest number of incidents in this category ever reported to CST in the first half of a year. None of the 85 antisemitic assaults recorded in the first six months of 2019 were serious enough to be classified as Extreme Violence, which would involve an attack that constituted grievous bodily harm (GBH) or posed a threat to life.
- CST recorded **710 incidents in the category of Abusive Behaviour** over the first half of 2019, an increase of 15 per cent from the 616 instances of Abusive Behaviour recorded between January and June 2018, forming 80 per cent of this year's total so far.
- Sixty five per cent of the 892 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the first six months of 2019 occurred in the UK cities with the largest Jewish populations, Greater London and Greater Manchester.** Four hundred and fifty-three incidents were reported to have taken place in the former, comprising a fall of one per cent from 2018's total of 459 incidents in London across the same time period in 2018. CST recorded 123 antisemitic incidents in Greater Manchester in the first six months of 2019, a decrease of less than one per cent from the 125 incidents in the corresponding timeframe and area last year. In 2018, London and Greater Manchester's shared total of 584 incidents comprised 72 per cent of the UK's reported half year total (810). Conversely, the 576 antisemitic incidents recorded in the opening half of 2019 form 65 per cent of the January

to June total of 892. The fall in these hubs' proportional contribution to the UK's total half-year number of antisemitic incidents could be in part down to the diluting effect of the multiplying online incidents, which do not require physical proximity to Jewish populations. Hence, there is the potential for a wider spread of antisemitic expressions across the country. In this vein, there has been significant regional increase in Hertfordshire (from 28 to 43 incidents, of which six were online), Merseyside (from seven to 34 incidents, of which 12 were online) and Wales (from one to 11 incidents, of which ten were online). The increases in antisemitic incidents observed in these areas are also related to **better reporting, and improved data sharing between CST and the Police.** For example, 23 of the 34 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in Merseyside in the first six months of 2019 came via the sharing of anonymised incident reports between CST and Merseyside Police.

- In addition to the 892 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2019, **a further 270 potential incidents were reported to CST though, upon investigation, appeared not to show evidence of antisemitic motivation, language or targeting.** They are therefore not included in the statistics in this report.

ANTISEMITIC INCIDENT NUMBERS

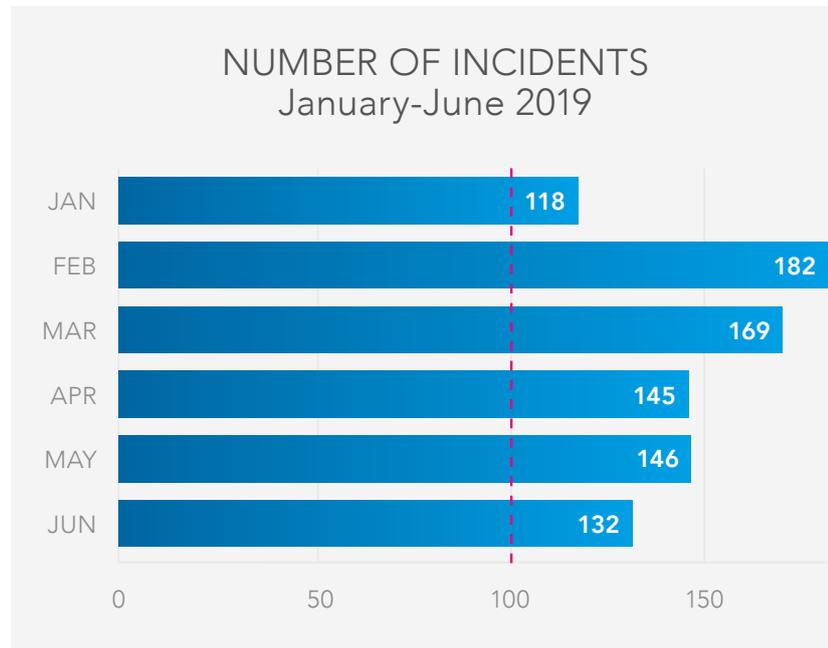
CST recorded 892 antisemitic incidents across the United Kingdom in the first six months of 2019, which is the highest ever total that CST has recorded in the January-June period of any year.

This is a rise of ten per cent from the 810 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first six months of 2018, which now constitutes the second highest total that CST has ever recorded for the January-June period, and formed part of a record annual total of 1,688 antisemitic incidents across the whole calendar year of 2018. It continues the sustained period of historically high incident totals recorded by CST over the past three years. CST recorded 786 antisemitic incidents in the first half of 2017, 608 in the first half of 2016, 501 in the first half of 2015, and 310 in the first half of 2014. CST has been recording antisemitic incidents since 1984.¹

In addition to the 892 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2019, a further 270 potential incidents were reported to CST that, upon investigation, appeared not to show evidence of antisemitic language, motivation or targeting. These incidents were therefore not adjudged to be antisemitic and are not included among the statistics in this report.

Many of these rejected incidents, comprising 23 per cent of the total number of 1,162 potential incidents reported to CST, involved possible hostile reconnaissance or suspicious behaviour near to Jewish locations, non-antisemitic crime affecting Jewish property or people, or anti-Israel activity that did not involve antisemitic

¹ The incident totals for past years and months in this report may differ from those previously published, due to the late reporting of some incidents to CST by victims, witnesses or other sources. Figures published in this report are subject to change should CST receive late reports of incidents, or further information about incidents already recorded during this period.



language, imagery or targeting. Most of these 1,162 potential incidents required some degree of investigation or a security-related response by CST staff or volunteers, irrespective of whether or not they subsequently appeared to be antisemitic in nature.

In 2019 CST recorded over 100 antisemitic incidents in every one of the six months from January to June for the third consecutive year, perpetuating a pattern of historically high monthly totals above 100 incidents in all but two months since April 2016. This is unprecedented: for comparison, CST only recorded monthly totals above 100 incidents on six occasions in the decade prior, from 2006 to 2015.

The highest monthly totals in the first half of 2019 were February with 182 antisemitic incidents and March with 169 incidents. These are the joint-fourth and sixth highest monthly totals ever recorded by CST. They occurred at a time when issues relating to Jews and antisemitism were prominent in news and politics due to the continuing controversy over antisemitism in the Labour Party, and specifically the decision of several Labour MPs to leave the party, some of whom cited the problem of antisemitism amongst their reasons for leaving.

In February, 25 of the 182 antisemitic incidents were examples of, or related to arguments over, allegations of antisemitism in the Labour Party. In March, 30 of the 169 incidents recorded were linked to the issue of Labour Party antisemitism. These 55 Labour-related incidents comprised over half of the 100 such incidents recorded by CST during the entire six-month period. For comparison, in the whole of 2018 CST recorded 148 antisemitic incidents that were linked to the issue of antisemitism in the Labour Party in this way.

It is hard to precisely disaggregate the impact of the continuing Labour antisemitism controversy upon CST's statistics: but it clearly has an important bearing. The trend for monthly totals above the 100 figure began in April 2016 following controversial comments by Ken Livingstone and it has only fallen below 100 twice since then (in November and December 2017). In this context, the dynamics of antisemitism are similar to other forms of racism or political violence: expressions of hatred worsen when perpetrators feel motivated or emboldened to act, due to their perception of the target group and surrounding societal attitudes. By comparison, the monthly antisemitic incident total exceeded 100 just twice in 2009 and three times in 2014, all coinciding with wars involving Israel. January 2015 also saw over 100 incidents, following an anti-Jewish terrorist attack in Paris.

What cannot be ignored is the contribution of online platforms to the record number of antisemitic incidents reported in the first half of 2019. Social media in particular has proven an essential and convenient vessel, through which those who wish to harass, abuse and threaten Jewish individuals and institutions, as well as those who simply wish to disseminate their prejudice, are able to freely express their antisemitism. The 323 reports of online antisemitism comprise 36 per cent of the 892 incidents recorded so far this year. To compare, there were 221 reports of online antisemitism in the first six months of 2018, constituting 27 per cent of all incidents during that period, and 384 in the whole of last year. The 46 per cent increase in recorded online incidents

Antisemitic graffiti on a residential fence reading "Jew Ghetto" with a Star of David, London, January



from the first half of last year to the first half of this year may reflect rising engagement in and intensity of arguments on social media, as well as a greater capacity and motivation to report online antisemitism to CST.

These totals are neither able nor aiming to communicate the actual amount of antisemitic content that is generated and spread on social media. An accurate figure would be impossible to quantify, given the vast array of material posted and platforms across which it is circulated, and would be meaningless in the context of CST's regular antisemitic incident reporting. Instead, they illuminate the reality that online forums continue to flourish as fertile ground for public and visible expressions of antisemitism, occasionally culminating in coordinated campaigns against Jewish public figures and institutions, which in turn are more likely to be reported. CST may record each specific targeted campaign as a single incident, even though it involves hundreds of tweets or posts, because to record each separate piece of antisemitic content as a separate incident would be administratively crippling and would cause such extreme variations in CST's overall incident totals as to obstruct clear analysis of other, offline antisemitic incidents.

It is difficult to gauge whether the rising, record rates of antisemitism observed by CST in the first half of 2019 is attributable to more incidents taking place across the UK, or a society that feels more comfortable and incentivised to report, as sensitivity to the issue increases in tandem with its prominence in public discourse. The answer likely lies somewhere in a combination of the two.

INCIDENT CATEGORIES²

CST recorded 85 antisemitic assaults in the first six months of 2019, a 37 per cent increase from the 62 assaults recorded from January to June 2018. None of these 85 antisemitic assaults were serious enough to be classified as Extreme Violence, which would involve an attack that constituted grievous bodily harm (GBH) or posed a threat to life. This is the highest number of assaults that CST has recorded in the first half of any year.

There were 80 antisemitic assaults recorded by CST in the first half of 2017 and 45 in the first six months of 2016, with no incidents being classified as Extreme Violence. Of the 47 antisemitic assaults reported in the first half of 2015, two were classified as Extreme Violence. The 85 antisemitic assaults recorded in the first six months of 2019 make up almost ten per cent of the overall total of 892 incidents. Twenty-five of the reported assaults involved punching or kicking of the victim; 23 involved stones, bottles, eggs or other objects being thrown; and 53 contained an element of antisemitic verbal abuse. At least two incidents resulted in the victim needing to attend hospital.

In this time period, there were also 38 instances of Damage & Desecration of Jewish property recorded by CST, a fall of 14 per cent from the 44 incidents of this type reported in the first half of 2018. To compare, there were 54 instances recorded in this category over the first six months of 2017, 32 between January and June in 2016, and 36 in the first half of 2015. Five of the incidents in this category involved damage to Jewish schools, five saw the desecration of synagogue buildings and eighteen affected the vehicles and homes of Jewish people. All involved some element of antisemitic targeting, language or imagery in order to be recorded as antisemitic by CST.

CST recorded 49 direct antisemitic threats (categorised as Threats) during the first half of

2019, dropping 13 per cent from the 56 incidents of this type reported from January to June in 2018. Fifty-eight incidents were recorded in this category in the first half of 2017, 48 in the first half of 2016 and 39 in the first half of 2015. Of these 49 incidents, 25 involved the offender verbally abusing the victim, 28 were made face-to-face, and 15 were conducted through online platforms.

There were 710 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the category of Abusive Behaviour in the first half of 2019, signalling a rise of 15 per cent from the 616 instances of Abusive Behaviour recorded between January and June 2018, and forming 80 per cent of this year's overall total. This is the highest number of incidents classed as Abusive Behaviour that CST has ever recorded in the first six months of a year. There were 582 counts of Abusive Behaviour in the first half of 2017, 473 from January to June 2016, and 374 in the same period in 2015. Beneath the umbrella of Abusive Behaviour crowd a wide range of incident types, including antisemitic verbal abuse, antisemitic graffiti on non-Jewish property, hate mail and online incidents that are not threats. Among the 710 incidents of this kind, 318 involved verbal abuse; there were 106 instances of antisemitic graffiti on non-Jewish property; 26 occurrences of threatening language (without a direct threat being made); and 308 occasions of antisemitic abuse via the medium of online platforms.

A significant driver behind the surge of 15 per cent in Abusive Behaviour (94 more incidents in the first half of 2019 than in the same period in 2018) is increasing reports of online antisemitism. Of the 710 instances of Abusive Behaviour recorded by CST in the first half of 2019, 308 occurred online. When counted alongside the threats that were made on these same forums, CST recorded 323 antisemitic incidents as having taken place online from January to June, which is 84 per cent of the total online incidents recorded in the entirety of 2018 (384 incidents). By this time last year, there had only been 221 occurrences of online antisemitism

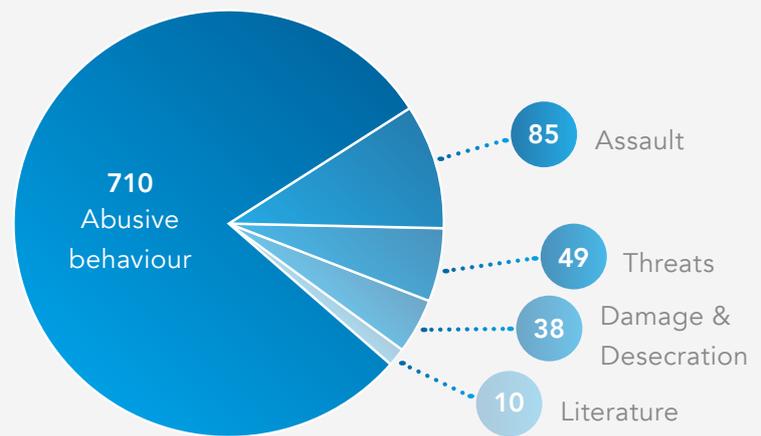
² A full explanation of CST's antisemitic incident categories can be found in the leaflet *Definitions of Antisemitic Incidents*, available on CST's website at www.cst.org.uk

reported to CST, indicating a rise of 46 per cent in recorded online incidents from the first six months of 2018 to the first half of 2019. CST recorded 81 counts of online antisemitism in the first half of 2017, 163 in the first six months of 2016, and 54 from January to June 2015. From the incidents reported to CST, Twitter appears to be the favoured web-based ground for spreading antisemitic hatred, with 214 of the 323 incidents reported to CST having occurred on that particular social media outlet. These totals are only indicative, as the actual amount of antisemitic content that is generated and disseminated on online platforms is much larger. It is difficult to assess whether the increase in online incidents in 2019 reflects a genuine rise in the amount of antisemitic expressions online; an increase in the reporting of online antisemitism to CST; or a combination of the two.

CST does not trawl the internet looking for online incidents to log, and will only record those that are reported by a member of the public, and where either the offender or the victim are based in the UK. 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.

Conversely, there has been a significant drop of 69 per cent in mass-produced or mass-emailed antisemitic literature – classed as Literature – with just ten reports of incidents in this category in the first six months of 2019, compared to 32 over the course of the corresponding period in 2018. CST recorded 12 instances of Literature distribution in the first half of 2017, ten from January to June in 2016, and five in the first six months of 2015. The unusually high number of Literature incidents in the first half of 2018 – the second highest CST has ever recorded during this period – was largely due to the distribution of an antisemitic and conspiracy-laden leaflet, called *Tip of the Iceberg*, to Jewish homes in north London and Hertfordshire. Seven of the ten incidents of antisemitic Literature reported so far this year concerned the distribution of the same leaflet, but the dwindling reports of antisemitic incidents in this category suggest that its circulation is not as frequent as it was last year.

ANTISEMITIC INCIDENT CATEGORIES



It is curious that a record number of antisemitic incidents have been reported to CST for the January to June period, and yet incident figures have dropped in the majority of categories from the corresponding time period in 2018. The boom in social media incidents may provide an insight into why this is. Social media represents an easily accessible, distant platform for people to be antisemitic. It makes sense that those inclined to share their Jew hatred, but who do not seek to physically attack or directly abuse a Jewish person, would use this convenient, far-reaching and potentially anonymising platform. This possibly symbolises an easier, but more lasting, method of spreading a message than damaging Jewish property or delivering antisemitic literature en masse, where the impact is deep but often much more localised. If this is the case, then events are consequently polarised: offline incidents become more extreme and violent in nature, leading to spikes in the category of antisemitic Assault, while Abusive Behaviour figures soar, propelled by the migration to online platforms. Additionally, and consequently, Jewish people are more likely to encounter antisemitism online, and the platforms' communicative purpose facilitates reporting to CST or to other bodies. These dual phenomena may have contributed to the acute upwards trajectory of online incidents recorded. It is very difficult to statistically prove – this is a theory that would require more substantive research – and changes to incident totals over a six-month period can easily be influenced by other, short term factors, but it does offer a possible explanation for the trends observed.

INCIDENT VICTIMS

There were 225 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the first six months of 2019 in which the victims were random Jewish individuals in public. In at least 110 incidents, the victims were visibly Jewish, on account of their religious or traditional clothing, Jewish school uniforms, or jewellery and insignia bearing religious symbols. Of the 892 incidents recorded by CST from January to June 2019, there was an element of verbal abuse in 402: 50 involved threatening language, and antisemitic abuse was shouted or gestured from a vehicle in 39 instances. All of the above is broadly reflective of the most common single kind of offline antisemitic incident reported: random, spontaneous, verbal abuse of strangers who are believed for whatever reason to be Jewish, as they go about their lives in public spaces.

There were 26 antisemitic incidents recorded at Jewish schools in the first six months of 2019, compared to 19 incidents recorded at Jewish schools in the first half of 2018. An additional 29 incidents involved Jewish schoolchildren away from school, often on their way home, compared to 24 incidents of this type recorded across the same period in 2018. There were 11 incidents reported to CST wherein the victims were Jewish schoolchildren or staff at non-faith schools; a slight increase from the eight recorded in the first six months of 2018. This results in a total of 66 antisemitic incidents affecting people and buildings in the school sector, constituting a rise of 29 per cent from the 51 such incidents from January to June 2018. Of these 66 incidents, 13 came under the category of Assault, nine of which involved Jewish schoolchildren away from the school premises; five incidents were classified as Damage & Desecration of Jewish property; there were seven direct threats made to schools, staff or children; and 41 incidents were classed as Abusive Behaviour. Unlike in the first half of last year, which saw two such counts, there has not been any mass-mailed antisemitic literature aimed at schools in 2019. There were 13 antisemitic incidents affecting Jewish students,

Antisemitic graffiti on a footbridge stating "Gas the Jews", Liverpool, April



academics, student unions or other student bodies in the first half of 2019, three fewer than the 16 incidents of this type recorded in the first half of 2018. Eight of these incidents took place on campus, and five off campus. Among these, there was one instance of physical assault, two threatening emails, one incident involving graffiti on non-Jewish property, and nine with an element of spoken or online abuse.

In the first half of the year, 48 antisemitic incidents reported to CST took place at people's residential property, and 16 were related to the workplace. There were 102 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST that targeted Jewish organisations and events, rising by 59 per cent from the 64 such incidents reported between January and June 2018. This increase can largely be accounted for in the online response to Jewish leadership organisations issuing statements on social media regarding antisemitism in the Labour Party. Many of these antisemitic reactions were in the wider context of 'smear' accusations, spoke of conspiracy and attempted to delegitimise clear evidence of antisemitism; while others specifically targeted the social media accounts of Jewish organisations to respond to statements about antisemitism in the UK by holding these British Jewish organisations responsible for the actions of the Israeli government.

The rising number of incidents in which the victim was a prominent Jewish individual or public figure is related to this phenomenon.

From January to June 2019, CST recorded 62 instances wherein a high-profile Jewish person was targeted with antisemitic sentiment, compared to 25 in the corresponding timeframe in 2018. This rise of 148 per cent, like the significant increase in antisemitism targeted at Jewish organisations, correlates in no small part to the upsurge in social media activity reacting to political events in the UK; and the wider intertwined discourse concerning allegations of institutional antisemitism within the Labour Party. Jewish celebrities who engage in online discussion about these issues are also regularly subject to antisemitic abuse. If the prominent Jewish person who is being targeted is a woman, then sexist abuse often accompanies the antisemitic sentiment.

There were 22 antisemitic incidents recorded during the first six months of 2019 that targeted synagogues (buildings, congregants and staff while on location), dropping by 39 per cent from 36 incidents of this type in the first half of 2018. A further 16 incidents saw synagogue congregants or rabbis targeted on their way to or from prayer services; 11 such incidents were recorded from January to June last year.

CST received a description of the victim or victims' gender in 429 of the 892 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2019. Of these, 245 (57 per cent) were male; 159 (37 per

cent) were female; in 25 incidents (six per cent) the victims were mixed groups of males and females.

The victim or victims' age was obtained in 406 of the antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the opening six months of 2019. Of these, 320 involved adult victims, 24 of which involved victims over the age of 65 (79 per cent); 68 (17 per cent) involved victims who were minors; in 18 instances (four per cent) the victims were mixed groups of adults and minors.

CASE STUDY

Antisemitic burglary

In April, CST received a report of an elderly couple, both Holocaust survivors, who had returned from holiday to find their home burgled, ransacked and desecrated, with abusive antisemitic graffiti "C**T Jews" scrawled in large letters across their living room wall. This was reported to the Police, and CST provided support to the victims.



WHO AND WHAT IS BEING TARGETED



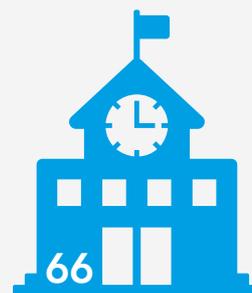
Individuals in public



Visibly Jewish individuals



Jewish community organisations, communal events, commercial premises



Schools, schoolchildren and staff



Public figures

INCIDENT OFFENDERS AND MOTIVES

It is not always easy to ascertain the ethnicity, gender and age of antisemitic incident offenders. Many face-to-face incidents involve fleeting 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. Many 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. This section of the report should be read with these caveats in mind.

CST received a description of the ethnic appearance of the offender or offenders in 245 of the 892 antisemitic incidents reported during the first six months of 2019. Of these, 158 (64 per cent) were described as white – north European; nine (four per cent) were described as white – south European; 28 (11 per cent) were described as black; another 28 (11 per cent) were described as south Asian; just two (one per cent) were described as east or south-east Asian; finally, 20 (eight per cent) were described as Arab or north African. These proportions have fluctuated very little from the first half of 2018, and are broadly typical of a period that does not include a trigger event from the Middle East.

For comparison, in the first six months of 2018 CST received a description of the ethnic appearance of the offender or offenders in 232 of the 810 recorded antisemitic incidents. Of these, 134, or 58 per cent, were described as white – north European; five, or two per cent, were described as white – south European; 31 (13 per cent) were described as black; 32 (14 per cent) were described as south Asian; none as east or south-east Asian; and 30 (13 per cent) as Arab or north African.

The offender or offenders' gender was reported to CST in 447 of the 892 antisemitic incidents recorded from January to June 2019. Of these, 364 (81 per cent) were male; 73 (16 per cent) were female; lastly, in ten of these incidents (two per cent) the offenders were mixed groups of males and females. Once again, this is statistically consistent with previous averages in terms of the gender breakdown of the perpetrators.

In 378 of the 892 reports of antisemitism during the first half of 2019, the approximate age of the offender or offenders was included. Among these, 315 (83 per cent) involved adult offenders; in 61 cases (16 per cent) the perpetrators were minors; there were only two incidents (less than one per cent) in which the offenders were a mix of adults and minors.

CST also attempts to monitor the number of antisemitic incidents that take place in the UK each year behind which there is evidence of political, religious, or ideological discourse or motivation. CST now also monitors the number of instances where conspiracy-fuelled sentiments are present: stereotypical tropes about Jewish people's power, influence, money, and exaggerating or inventing the tragedies of the Holocaust can be especially prevalent in online expressions of antisemitism. It is common for the same incident to combine two or more of these discourses, even if they would appear ideologically incompatible. It should be made clear that the use of political rhetoric and evidence of political motivation are not synonymous; for example, a person who shouts "Heil Hitler" at a Jewish passer-by might be motivated by far right extremist ideology, or they might simply know that this phrase will cause offence and upset to Jewish people.

In 168 incidents – 19 per cent of the 892 incidents reported to CST in the first six months of 2019 – the offender or offenders made reference to Hitler, the Nazis, and/or punctuated their abuse

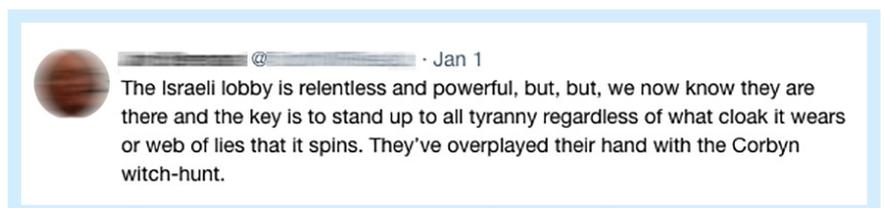
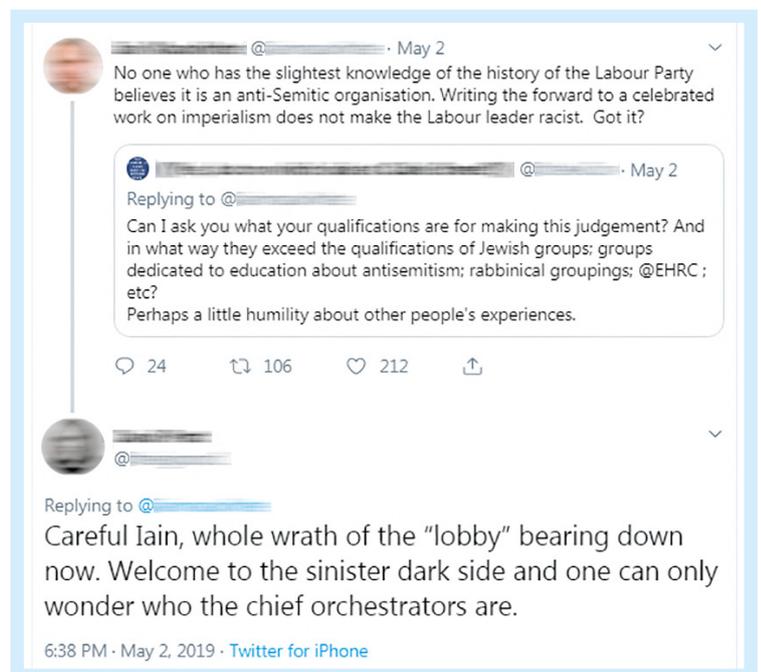
with a Nazi salute or the depiction of a swastika. There were 67 instances in which far right political motivation was evidenced, wherein alignment with far right extremist ideology or beliefs was expressed beyond the simple use of Nazi-era references. In 145 cases, some kind of conspiracy theory or trope regarding Jewish people was employed as a vehicle for the perpetrator or perpetrators' antisemitism.

CST does not consider criticism of Israel or Zionism inherently antisemitic; all of the incidents recorded as such and included in this report have shown antisemitic sentiment, language or images alongside any political motivation.

There were 203 allusions to Israel, the Middle East or Zionism, used in antisemitic incidents recorded by CST, of which 18 directly compared or equated Israel with the Nazis. In 100 cases – 11 per cent of all antisemitic incidents recorded by CST from January to June 2019 – the offender or offenders, and the abuse they expressed, were related to the Labour Party or the incidents occurred in the context of arguments about alleged Labour Party antisemitism. Nine incidents showed evidence of Islamist motivation, 12 contained extreme discourse pertaining to other religions, and five were related to withdrawal from the European Union.

Of the 892 incidents reported to CST in the first half of 2019, 158 (18 per cent) involved two or more of the above political, ideological and religious discourses. For comparison, this was only the case in 56 incidents throughout the first half of 2018. The fact that within a single incident there can be so many sources of hatred indicates that antisemitism can be layered and multifaceted, so that even many offenders are not clear on the basis for their often-confused prejudice. This illustrates the growing difficulty in establishing and analysing how, where and why antisemitic feeling – and subsequently action – takes place. These tweets (right) include examples of antisemitic incidents recorded by CST that were related

to the Labour Party – either by the expressed affiliation or support of the offenders, the context of the incident, or the language or other content used – but that employed tropes, conspiracies, propaganda and rhetoric that have historically been used and propagated by the far right. These are classified by CST as having more than one type of discourse, which does not quite convey the disparity and incoherence of the ideas and language that often appear within the same social media post.



GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS

Of the 892 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the opening six months of 2019, 576 occurred across the regions of Greater London and Greater Manchester; the UK cities where the largest Jewish populations reside.

In the former, 453 incidents were reported to have occurred, comprising a fall of one per cent from 2018's January to June total of 459 in Greater London. The latter's recorded figure of 123 is a fall of less than one per cent from the 125 incidents that took place in the Greater Manchester area during the same time period in 2018.

CST recorded antisemitic incidents in 30 of the 33 Metropolitan Police boroughs of London. Of the 453 incidents recorded across Greater London in the first six months of 2019, 151 occurred in Barnet, the borough with the largest Jewish population in the country; 64 took place in Westminster, partly reflecting the extent of abuse to which Jewish politicians were subjected. There were 45 instances of antisemitism recorded in Hackney; 33 in Camden; 19 in Haringey; 14 in Harrow; 11 in Islington; and ten in Brent. A further three incidents were reported to have taken place in London that fell under the jurisdiction of the British Transport Police, and one in the City of London. Twenty eight counts of antisemitic behaviour are known to have transpired in London but the exact whereabouts remains unidentified. Most of these were online incidents, and it was not feasible to establish a more specific location.

Of Greater Manchester's 123 antisemitic incidents recorded from January to June 2019, 39 happened in Bury, 37 in Salford, and 20 in the city of Manchester. Of all the Police regions in which ten or more antisemitic incidents were reported in the first half of 2019, only Northumbria saw a higher proportion of assaults than Greater Manchester: four of the 24 incidents recorded in Northumbria fell into this category, while 20 of the 123 Greater Manchester incidents were direct physical attacks.

Perhaps more significant than the minimal drops in individual antisemitic incident numbers in the two main hubs of Jewish life is the decrease in their proportional contribution to the UK total for the first half of the year. In 2018, Greater London and Greater Manchester's shared total of 584 incidents comprised 72 per cent of the UK's reported half year total of 810 incidents. Conversely, the 576 antisemitic incidents recorded in the opening half of 2019 made up 65 per cent of the January to June total of 892. A possible factor in this is the increasing use of online forums as a medium for sharing antisemitic feelings and hatred. The accessibility of social media gives a wider demographic the opportunity to vent their prejudice where it is more likely to be seen and reported. This could explain why there have been significant regional increases from the first six months of 2018 in areas with historically much smaller Jewish communities. Outside Greater London and Greater Manchester, 316 antisemitic incidents from 87 different towns and cities around the UK in the first six months of 2019 were reported to CST, compared to 226 antisemitic incidents from 65 different towns and cities in the same period last year. These 316 incidents included 43 in Hertfordshire, of which 27 were in Borehamwood (compared to 28 incidents in Hertfordshire in the first half of 2018); 34 in Merseyside, compared to just seven in the first six months of 2018; 18 in Gateshead (Northumbria) – equal to the 18 Northumbria incidents reported from January to June 2018; and 11 in Wales, up from just one in the first half of 2018. It is also possible that these increases reflect CST's ongoing and deepening relationship with police forces around the UK, which includes the exchange of anonymised antisemitic incident reports under a national data sharing agreement.

In total, CST recorded antisemitic incidents in 32 of the 41 police service regions in the United Kingdom, plus British Transport Police, in the opening half of 2019.

REPORTING OF INCIDENTS

CST classifies an antisemitic incident as any malicious act aimed at Jewish people, organisations or property, where there is evidence that the victim or victims were targeted because they are (or are believed to be) Jewish. Incidents can take several forms, including physical attacks on people or property, verbal or written abuse, or antisemitic leaflets, posters and graffiti. CST does not include the general activities of antisemitic organisations in its statistics, nor does it include offensive placards or mass antisemitic chanting at political demonstrations. Antisemitic material that is permanently hosted on websites is not recorded as an incident, and CST does not proactively trawl through online platforms in search of antisemitic comments to add to the incident tally. However, CST does record antisemitic comments posted on social media, messaging services, blogs or internet forums if they have been reported to CST by a member of the public who fulfils the role of victim or witness; if a comment made online shows evidence of antisemitic content, motivation or

targeting; if the offender is based in the United Kingdom, or has directly targeted a UK-based victim. Examples of antisemitic expressions that fall outside this definition of an antisemitic incident can be found in CST's *Antisemitic Discourse Report*, available on the CST website.

The inclusion of the number of incidents from social media recorded by CST is not intended to reflect the real number of antisemitic comments on social media, which is likely to be so large and widespread across different platforms as to be effectively impossible to calculate, but rather to reflect the reality that social media platforms have become increasingly prominent as arenas for public expressions of antisemitism that Jewish people are more likely to view and to report, whether or not they are the intended audience. Social media is also increasingly used as a tool to facilitate coordinated campaigns of antisemitic harassment and abuse directed at Jewish public figures and other individuals. Where social media is used for targeted campaigns of that nature directed at UK-based

ONLINE ANTISEMITISM, JANUARY-JUNE



victims, CST may record each campaign as a single incident, although that campaign may involve hundreds or even thousands of antisemitic tweets, posts or images.

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, the witness, or by 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, which allows CST to share antisemitic incidents 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 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 has proved increasingly valuable. In the first half of 2019, 285 of the 892 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST were reported by the Police as part of CST's national information sharing agreement. This makes the Police service the most prolific type of reporter of antisemitic incidents from January to June 2019, comprising 32 per cent of the total for this time, compared to 40 per cent for the first half of 2018 (when the Police was also the principal single type of reporter). Of these 285 reports, 186 came via the Metropolitan Police, 62 from Greater Manchester Police, and 37 from other police services around the UK. The 23 antisemitic incidents reported by Merseyside

Police, eclipsing the total number of Merseyside incidents reported by anyone in the opening six months of 2018, is testament to the relationship development between CST and the Police across the UK.

From January to June 2019, 241 of the 892 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST were reported by somebody who had witnessed the incident take place or seen antisemitic content online or daubed in a public place, whereas 184 incidents were reported directly to CST by the victims themselves, and 47 incidents were related by a relative or friend of the victim. In 111 instances, CST staff reported antisemitism. The sizeable increment of 141 per cent in this area from the 46 incidents reported by CST staff in the first half of 2018 is largely due to the increase of social media incidents in which CST has been tagged by the perpetrator. There were nine incidents reported by security guards or officers at Jewish premises, seven incidents reported by Shomrim (the security service for Stamford Hill's Charedi community), six incidents via a media report, and two incidents reported by a CST volunteer.

CASE STUDY

Swastikas in a Jewish building

A series of swastikas were drawn onto the walls and benches inside a Jewish building in London by visiting schoolchildren (image below). The perpetrators, who were there on an educational trip to learn about the history and persecution of Jewish communities, were identified and their school took disciplinary action. Staff from the building also went into the school to work with the students responsible and their peers.



ANTISEMITIC INCIDENT FIGURES, JANUARY–JUNE

Antisemitic incident figures by category, January–June 2009–2019

Category	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Extreme Violence	2	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Assault	77	45	42	34	29	22	45	45	80	62	85
Damage and Desecration	64	47	35	29	20	27	36	32	54	44	38
Threats	34	19	15	20	18	19	39	48	58	56	49
Abusive Behaviour	408	211	197	223	154	238	374	473	582	616	710
Literature	44	3	5	4	2	4	5	10	12	32	10
TOTAL	629	325	294	312	223	310	501	608	786	810	892

Antisemitic incident figures by month, 2009–2019

Month	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
January	289	30	45	39	33	53	109	81	155	106	118
February	114	48	54	52	38	43	88	69	134	119	182
March	73	54	49	75	23	39	83	82	110	119	169
April	52	61	45	48	44	58	75	105	142	151	145
May	52	50	58	44	48	51	60	140	121	182	146
June	49	82	43	54	37	66	86	131	124	133	132
TOTAL	629	325	294	312	223	310	501	608	786	810	892

Antisemitic incident figures, full breakdown, 2019

Month	Category	Extreme Violence	Assault	Damage and Desecration	Threats	Abusive Behaviour	Literature	MONTH TOTAL
January		0	8	6	4	97	3	118
February		0	14	8	11	149	0	182
March		0	16	4	14	135	0	169
April		0	11	5	6	119	4	145
May		0	19	8	7	111	1	146
June		0	17	7	7	99	2	132
CATEGORY TOTAL		0	85	38	49	710	10	892

CST'S MISSION

- To work at all times for the physical protection and defence of British Jews.
- To represent British Jews on issues of racism, antisemitism, extremism, policing and security.
- To promote good relations between British Jews and the rest of British society by working towards the elimination of racism, and antisemitism in particular.
- To facilitate Jewish life by protecting Jews from the dangers of antisemitism, and antisemitic terrorism in particular.
- To help those who are victims of antisemitic hatred, harassment or bias.
- To promote research into racism, antisemitism and extremism; and to use this research for the benefit of both the Jewish community and society in general.
- To speak responsibly at all times, without exaggeration or political favour, on antisemitism and associated issues.



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CSTmedia



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Manchester (Northern Regional Office) **0161 792 6666**

