

Executive summary

- 640 antisemitic incidents were recorded by CST in 2012, a 5 per cent increase from the 608 antisemitic incidents recorded in 2011 and the third-highest annual total ever recorded by CST.¹ The highest ever annual total recorded by CST was in 2009, when 929 antisemitic incidents were recorded.²
- The 640 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in 2012 include 100 anonymised incident reports provided by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) as part of an incident data exchange programme introduced between CST and MPS in London in 2012. Removing these 100 'extra' incidents – which had been reported to MPS but not directly to CST – to give a 'like for like' comparison with 2011, suggests an 11 per cent fall in real terms in the UK-wide antisemitic incident total in 2012.
- The number of antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the Greater London area increased by 55 per cent, from 203 incidents in 2011 to 314 in 2012. This is mostly explained by improved reporting via the introduction of the CST/MPS incident exchange programme.
- In Greater Manchester, where an incident exchange programme has existed between CST and Greater Manchester Police (GMP) since 2011, the number of antisemitic incidents recorded by CST fell by 34 per cent, from 256 incidents in 2011 to 169 in 2012. There has been no obvious change in CST's recording systems or patterns of reporting from the Jewish community in Greater Manchester during that period. This suggests that the fall in the number of recorded incidents represents a significant and welcome reduction in the number of antisemitic incidents taking place in the Greater Manchester area, and reverses the trend of steadily increasing incident totals in Greater Manchester over the past decade.
- 161 of the 640 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST nationally came via the incident exchange programmes with Police

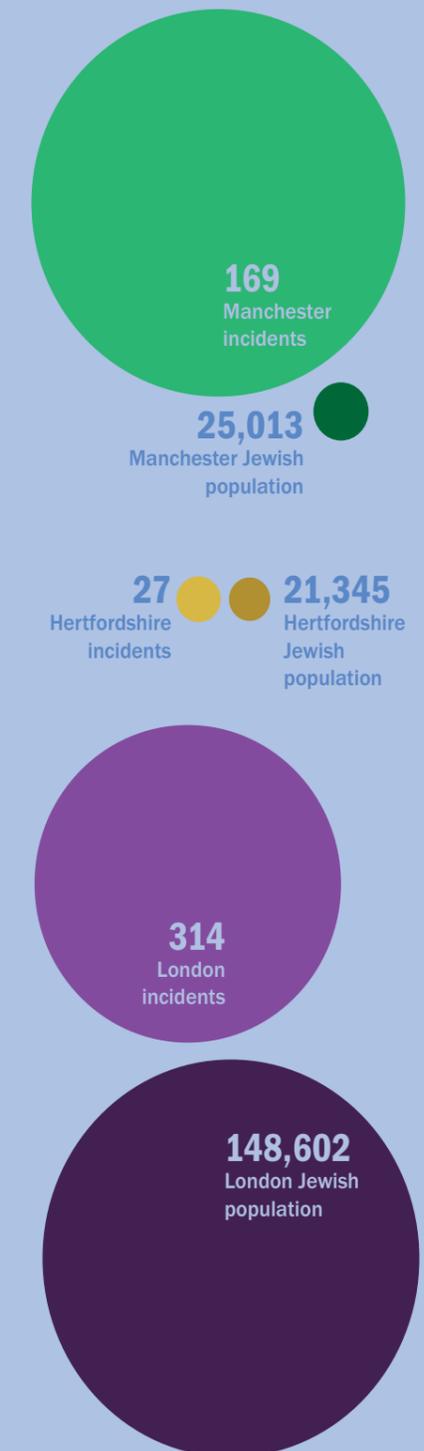
in Manchester and London, and a further 18 antisemitic incidents were reported to CST by Police in other parts of the UK. In total, Police forces provided reports of 179 antisemitic incidents, or 28 per cent of the total number of incidents recorded by CST. Three hundred and sixty-seven incidents, or 57 per cent, were reported directly to CST by the victims of, or witnesses to, antisemitic incidents, or by a friend or family member of an incident victim or witness. Sixty-eight incidents (11 per cent of the total) were reported by CST staff or volunteers, or by the security officers at Jewish buildings and organisations. Twelve antisemitic incidents were recorded by CST during 2012 on the basis of media reports.

- The two highest monthly totals during 2012 came in March and November, which saw 75 and 82 antisemitic incidents respectively. Both of these monthly totals included temporary 'spikes' in recorded incidents caused by reactions to external events: the terrorist shooting at the Ozar Hatorah Jewish school in Toulouse, France, in March; and the escalation of conflict in southern Israel and Gaza in November. However, the context and detail of the 'extra' incidents recorded during these two spikes suggests they were driven by different phenomena: the March spike probably reflected a temporary increase in reporting rates from the UK Jewish community rather than an increase in the number of incidents taking place; whereas the spike in November appeared to show a genuine increase in the number of antisemitic incidents occurring.
- CST recorded 80 antisemitic incidents that involved the use of internet-based social media in 2012, compared to just 12 in 2011. This reflects the growing relevance of social media as a place where Jews encounter antisemitism and the ease with which it can be reported from there directly to CST online, rather than being an absolute measure of the amount of antisemitism on social media platforms. Of the 80 antisemitic incidents of this type recorded in 2012, 74 were in the

category of Abusive Behaviour and 6 were in the category of Threats.

- There were 69 violent antisemitic assaults reported to CST in 2012, a fall of 27 per cent from the 95 violent assaults recorded in 2011. This is the third year in a row that the number of violent incidents has fallen and it is the lowest number of violent antisemitic assaults reported to CST since 2003, when 54 assaults were recorded.
- The 69 violent antisemitic incidents included two incidents categorised as Extreme Violence, meaning that it involved grievous bodily harm (GBH) or a threat to life. CST recorded two incidents of Extreme Violence in 2011, and none in 2010.
- Violent antisemitic assaults made up 11 per cent of the total of 640 antisemitic incidents recorded in 2012, compared to 16 per cent of the overall total in 2011; 18 per cent in 2010; and 13 per cent in 2009. The proportion of incidents that were violent in 2012 is, at 11 per cent, the lowest proportion recorded by CST in over a decade. As the number of violent incidents reported during that period has fluctuated from year to year, the decrease in the proportion of the overall total made up by violent incidents may indicate a growing willingness of incident victims to report 'lesser' types of antisemitic incidents, such as those involving verbal abuse or graffiti.
- Incidents of Damage and Desecration to Jewish property fell by 17 per cent, from 64 incidents in 2011 to 53 incidents in 2012. This is the lowest number of incidents recorded by CST in this category since 2005, when 48 such incidents were recorded.
- There were 467 incidents of Abusive Behaviour reported to CST in 2012, an increase of 13 per cent compared to the 412 antisemitic incidents of this type recorded in 2011 and the highest total since 2009, when 609

Antisemitic incidents and the Jewish population



Population statistics are based on the Jewish population of England and Wales, from the 2011 Census

1. CST has been recording antisemitic incident statistics since 1984.

2. The incident totals in this report may differ from those previously published by CST, due to the late reporting of incidents to CST by incident victims, witnesses or other sources, or the re-categorisation of incidents due to new information.

incidents were recorded in this category. This category includes verbal abuse, hate mail and antisemitic graffiti on non-Jewish property. The increase in the number of incidents in this category in 2012 was partly fuelled by the increase in the number of social media-based incidents reported to CST.

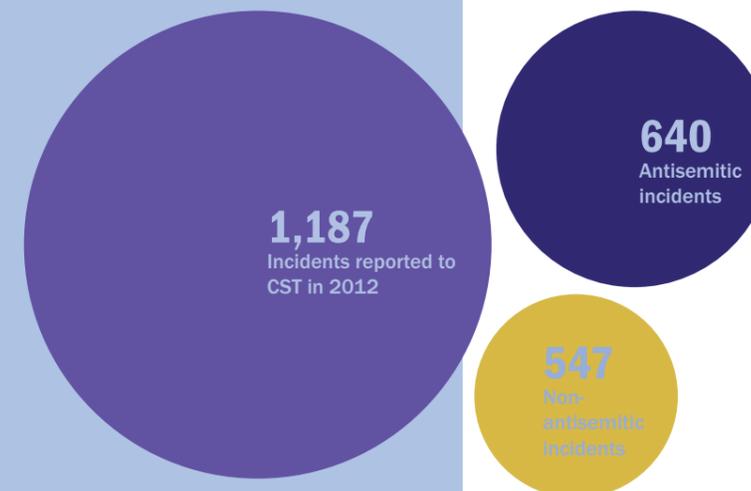
- There were 39 incidents reported to CST in the category of Threats, which includes direct threats to people or property rather than more general abuse. This is an increase of 30 per cent from the 30 such incidents reported to CST in 2011.
- There were 12 incidents recorded in the category of Literature in 2012, which covers mass-produced antisemitic mailings and emails rather than individual hate mail. This is a 71 per cent increase from the 7 incidents of this type recorded in 2011, an increase largely due to a cluster of 6 incidents perpetrated by a single offender across the course of the year.
- The most common single type of incident in 2012 involved verbal abuse randomly directed at visibly Jewish people in public. In 291 incidents, the victims were ordinary Jewish people, male or female, attacked or abused while going about their daily business in public places, compared to 300 such incidents in 2011. In 126 of these incidents, the victims were visibly Jewish, usually due to their religious or traditional clothing, school uniform or jewellery bearing Jewish symbols, compared to 170 such incidents in 2011.
- 43 antisemitic incidents targeted synagogues, and a further 41 incidents targeted synagogue congregants on their way to or from prayers, compared to 46 and 38 incidents respectively in 2011.
- In 46 incidents, the victims were Jewish community organisations, communal events, community leaders or other high-profile individuals, compared to 68 such incidents in 2011 and 92 incidents in 2010.
- In 32 antisemitic incidents, the victims were Jewish students, academics or other student bodies, an increase of 19 per cent from the 27 campus-related incidents recorded in 2011. Of the 32 incidents of this type recorded in 2012, 18 took place on campus, while there were 14 incidents which affected students, academics or student bodies off campus. One of the 18 incidents that took place on campus was in the category of Assault and 15 were in the category of Abusive Behaviour, of which 5 involved the use of social media.
- 55 incidents targeted Jewish schools, schoolchildren or teachers in 2012, compared to 54 incidents relating to schools and schoolchildren in 2011. Of the 55 incidents of this type recorded in 2012, 24 affected Jewish schoolchildren on their journeys to or from school; 18 took place at the premises of Jewish faith schools; and 13 involved Jewish children or teachers at non-faith schools.
- There were 196 antisemitic incidents which showed far right, anti-Israel or Islamist beliefs or motivations in 2012, making up 31 per cent of the overall total of 640 antisemitic incidents, compared to 176 incidents showing such ideas or motivations (29 per cent) in 2011. Of the 196 antisemitic incidents in 2012 showing ideological motivation or beliefs as well as antisemitism, 133 showed far right motivation or beliefs; 47 showed anti-Israel motivation or beliefs; and 16 showed Islamist motivation or beliefs.
- CST received a physical description of the incident offender in 169, or 26 per cent, of the 640 antisemitic incidents recorded during 2012. Of these, 86 offenders (51 per cent) were described as 'White – North European'; 3 offenders (2 per cent) were described as 'White – South European'; 10 offenders (6 per cent) were described as 'Black'; 51 offenders (30 per cent) were described as 'South Asian'; 1 offender (1 per cent) was described as 'East or South East Asian'; and 18 offenders (11 per cent) were described as 'Arab or North African'.

- There is no clear correlation between the ethnicity of incident offenders and the antisemitic language they use; contemporary antisemitic incident offenders will select from a range of Jewish-related subjects, using, for example, insults related to the Holocaust or Israel, for language or imagery with which to abuse, insult or threaten their Jewish victims.
- In addition to the 640 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in 2012, a further 547 reports of potential incidents were received by CST but not included in the total number of antisemitic incidents as there was no evidence of antisemitic motivation, targeting or content.
- The 547 potential incidents reported to CST that were not included in the annual total included 204 cases of potential Information

Collection and Suspicious Behaviour at Jewish locations. These included 60 incidents of photography or videoing of Jewish buildings, while in 38 cases suspicious people tried to gain entry to Jewish premises. These types of incidents are not categorised as antisemitic by CST as it is often not possible to determine their motivation, and many are likely to have innocent explanations. However, identifying and preventing the potential hostile reconnaissance of Jewish buildings or other potential terrorist targets is an important part of reducing the possibility of future terrorist attacks.

- In total, there were 1,187 incidents, including antisemitic incidents and those of a non-antisemitic security-related nature, which required a response from CST staff and volunteers during 2012.

1,187: Total number of potential antisemitic incidents reported to CST which required a response from CST staff and volunteers.



54 per cent of these reports were deemed antisemitic by CST.