

Antisemitic Incidents



• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

January-June 2022



EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- CST recorded **786 antisemitic incidents** across the UK in the first six months of 2022, **the joint-fifth-highest total reported to CST in the January to June period of any year**, equalling 2017's half-year figure. This is a decrease of 43% from the 1,371 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the first half of 2021, which was the highest ever figure reported to CST in the January to June period. CST recorded 875 antisemitic incidents in the first half of 2020, 911 from January to June 2019, and 810 in the first six months of 2018.¹
- The decrease reflects the magnitude of the spike in anti-Jewish hate observed in May and June 2021, during and in the aftermath of the escalation of violence in Israel and Palestine. The 661 incidents reported to CST in May 2021 was the highest monthly total ever recorded, brought about by the volume of antisemitic reactions to war in the Middle East.² In comparison, the highest monthly total recorded from January to June 2022 was 165 incidents, in May. **Without such a seismic trigger event in the first half of 2022, the antisemitic incident total was always likely to drop.**
- **The half-year total of 786 anti-Jewish hate incidents is still significant.** This is the first time since 2017 that no single trigger

event of some kind has occurred in the first six months of the year that could directly affect the number and nature of antisemitic incidents reported in the UK. In 2021 there was the intensification of conflict between Israel and Hamas, while in 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak gave antisemites new avenues and strands of discourse through which to express their prejudice.³ In 2019 and 2018, allegations of antisemitism in the Labour Party led to spikes in antisemitic incidents that appeared to be linked to those who wished to defend the party and its then-leader, Jeremy Corbyn. This action often took place online, and was often itself antisemitic.

- **More than 100 antisemitic incidents were recorded in each month from January to June 2022**, continuing the pattern of historically high antisemitic totals recorded in recent years. For reference, CST recorded monthly totals exceeding 100 incidents on just six occasions between January 2006 and March 2016.⁴ Without a trigger event to prompt it, **the 786 figure may represent a 'new normal'** – a baseline of antisemitism in the UK – which far exceeds the half-year totals reported to CST before 2017.
- There were **638 offline incidents** out of the overall total of 786 instances of antisemitism reported to CST in the first half of 2022. This is the third-highest number of offline incidents

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 An in-depth report on the extent of the antisemitism reported during and in the aftermath of the escalation of violence in the Middle East can be found in CST's research briefing, [The Month of Hate: Antisemitism & extremism during the Israel-Gaza conflict](#).

3 An in-depth examination of coronavirus and antisemitic discourse can be found in CST's publication, [Coronavirus and the Plague of Antisemitism](#).

4 On five of these six occasions when the monthly total surpassed 100, it was mainly due to reactions to Israel-related conflicts. The outlier of this group, January 2015, was the month of an anti-Jewish terrorist attack in Paris.

Cover image: "Yido" written on a pub mural in Islington

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

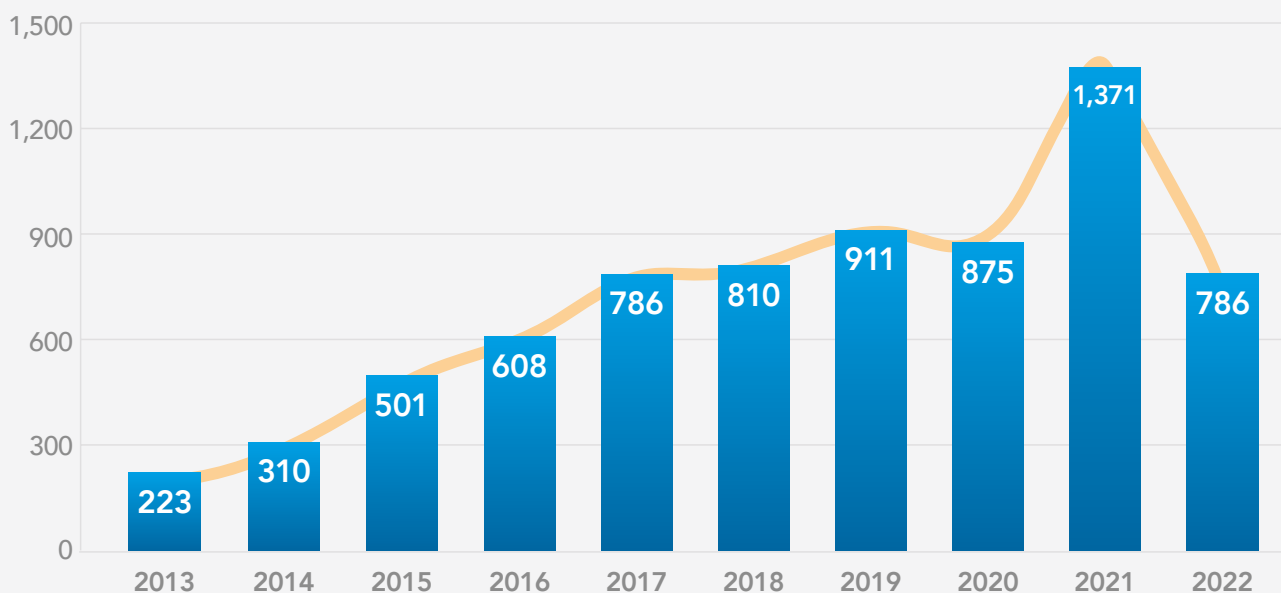
ever recorded between January and June, behind 2021's total of 993 and 2017's figure of 641. They form 81% of the half-year total. This suggests that, even in a year without a significant trigger event, **in-person antisemitic activity has returned to and surpassed the volume typically reported before the pandemic began.** These incidents include face-to-face verbal abuse, assault, threats, graffiti and hate mail.

- There were **12 incidents** reported to CST in the first half of 2022 that referenced or were in some way **inspired by the war in Ukraine**. Within these 12 cases were a range of antisemitic discourses: conspiracy theories accusing Jewish people of causing and bankrolling the war, and of Jews being behind every aspect of the conflict, filling positions of power and pulling the strings on both the Ukrainian and Russian sides; pro-Putin and pro-Russian sentiment that favourably compares the Russian President to Adolf Hitler and Russia to Nazi Germany; attacks on "Zionist" Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy for his Jewish identity;

and comparisons between Russia's aggression and Israel's actions. The emergence of these strands of rhetoric perpetuates a trend observed in previous antisemitic incident reports: established antisemitic ideas, theories and stereotypes that are embedded within the wider social consciousness are repurposed in response to whatever topic happens to be prevalent in the news and media by antisemites looking for a new and relevant channel for their hatred.

- CST recorded 13 antisemitic incidents at Jewish schools from January to June 2022. An additional 25 incidents involved Jewish schoolchildren away from school, often on their way to or from home, identifiable as Jewish by their uniform. Twelve incidents involved Jewish schoolchildren or staff at non-faith schools, resulting in a total of **50 antisemitic incidents affecting people and buildings in the school sector**. This marks a decrease of 64% from the 137 such incidents recorded in the first six months of 2021. Last year's sizeable figure, however, is an outlier, due to the extent to which

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS, JANUARY-JUNE, 2013-2022



• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

schoolchildren and teachers were targeted with antisemitism when the conflict in the Middle East flared up. The 50 instances of school-related anti-Jewish hate in the first half of 2022 mark a return to the level reported pre-pandemic. Between January and June 2019, CST recorded 68 antisemitic incidents in the school sector. This dropped to 20 incidents in the corresponding timeframe in 2020 (when schools were closed for much of the relevant period). The first half of 2022 is the first time since 2019 that the January to June period was unaffected by lockdown-induced school closures.

- The weighting of the different types of school-related incidents also shifted back to the norms observed in years without a significant trigger event involving Israel. **While in the first six months of 2021 63% of cases occurred at non-Jewish schools, just 24% did between January and June 2022.** This figure was 30% in the first half of 2020, and 19% over the same period in 2019. It highlights how the conflict's escalation in 2021 uniquely exacerbated tensions in educational environments where Jewish people and non-Jewish people coexist. When Israel is not at war, these hostile feelings are not as active, or not publicly expressed.
- Nevertheless, a worryingly high proportion of incidents involved victims or offenders under the age of 18. **Of the 422 antisemitic incidents recorded where the victim or victims' age was ascertained, 68 (16%) involved victims who were minors.** The percentage split between adult and minor victims is narrower than it was in the first half of 2021, when 81% of victims were adults and 15% were minors. This breakdown – a consequence of the rise in school-related anti-Jewish hate incidents in response to Israel's actions – was itself a departure from the first six months of 2020, when 88% of victims were adults and 9% were minors, which had generally been the standard up until last year.
- In 83 (21%) of the 387 cases in which the approximate age of the offender or offenders was provided, the perpetrators were minors. This age distribution of offenders continues a concerning trend established in the first six months of 2021, when 80% of antisemitic incident offenders were adults and 20% were minors, which was also due to the rise in antisemitic incidents that occurred in UK schools. However, over the same timeframe in 2020, 91% of perpetrators were adults and 9% were minors: a ratio that had been broadly consistent with previous recorded averages.
- The fact that a higher proportion of young people are increasingly being sought out as the target of anti-Jewish hate than was the case before the escalation of violence between Israel and Hamas is concerning, even though the volume of incidents in the school sector diminished in the first half of 2022. From the increase in the percentage of offenders who are minors, it is possible to infer that **the surge in antisemitism perpetrated by a younger demographic, while initially a reaction to events in the Middle East, runs deeper than the desire to blame Jewish people for wars involving Israel.**



Graffiti in an underpass, Wandsworth

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

- Incident figures in higher educational facilities followed a similar pattern to those observed in schools. From January to June 2022, there were **25 antisemitic incidents in which the victims or offenders were students or academics, or which involved student unions or other student bodies**. Of these, eight events took place on campus or university property. It is a sharp fall of 70% from the 84 such incidents recorded in the first six months of 2021 when, like schools, universities proved a hotbed of antisemitism, with circumstances in the Middle East dominating social discourse across different societal age groups and sectors. The fact that seven of these 25 incidents contained reference to Israel and/or Palestine possibly indicates a legacy left by last year's upswing in antisemitic discourse in the university sector. Nevertheless, as a total, these 25 campus-related antisemitic incidents reported in the first half of this year is closer to the figures reported in years without such trigger events, with 28 incidents of this kind reported between January and June 2020, and 13 in the corresponding timeframe in 2019.
- Twenty-one antisemitic incidents recorded during the first six months of 2022 targeted synagogues, including buildings, congregants and staff at synagogue premises. A further 12 targeted congregants on their way to or from prayers, compared to 34 and 14 incidents respectively during the first half of 2021.** This is a net decrease of 31% in incidents affecting synagogues and the people travelling to, from, or already inside them. Once again, the total reported between January and June 2021 should be considered within its own context, when synagogues symbolised an easy and visible target for those looking to direct their extreme anger over Israel towards Jewish communities. The 33 such incidents reported in the opening six months of 2022 is certainly an increase from the corresponding period in 2020, when 20 incidents affecting synagogues, staff and congregants were recorded at a time when places of worship were closed as part of the initial COVID-19 lockdown in the UK. As with school-related incidents, it signifies a return to the pre-pandemic incident levels observed in the synagogue sector, with 38 reported from January to June 2019.
- CST recorded 73 incidents in the category of Assault in the first six months of 2022**, a decrease of 20% from the 91 incidents of this type reported in the first half of 2021. They constitute 9% of the overall figure, signalling that physical attacks on Jewish people have reached the proportion of the incident total that was typical pre-pandemic. From January to June 2021, assaults formed 7% of the overall figure, and 6% of the total reported in the first six months of 2020. Meanwhile, 9% of the half-year antisemitic incident total for 2019 fell into the category of Assault. Given that the first half of 2022 is the first January to June period in three years in which general activity and the potential for public interaction in the UK were not impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, it is not a surprise that antisemitic physical altercations have returned to the proportional levels recorded before the pandemic's outset.
- Cases of Damage & Desecration of Jewish property fell by 49%, from 59 incidents in the first half of 2021 to 30 between January and June 2022.** Eleven of these involved damage done to the homes and vehicles of Jewish people, four to synagogues, three to Jewish businesses and organisations, three to Jewish schools, and two to Jewish cemeteries.
- There were 49 incidents reported to CST in the category of Threats from January to June 2022**, which include direct threats to people, institutions or property, as opposed to general abuse containing non-specific threatening language. This marks a decrease of 44% from the 87 incidents of this type reported in the first half of 2021.

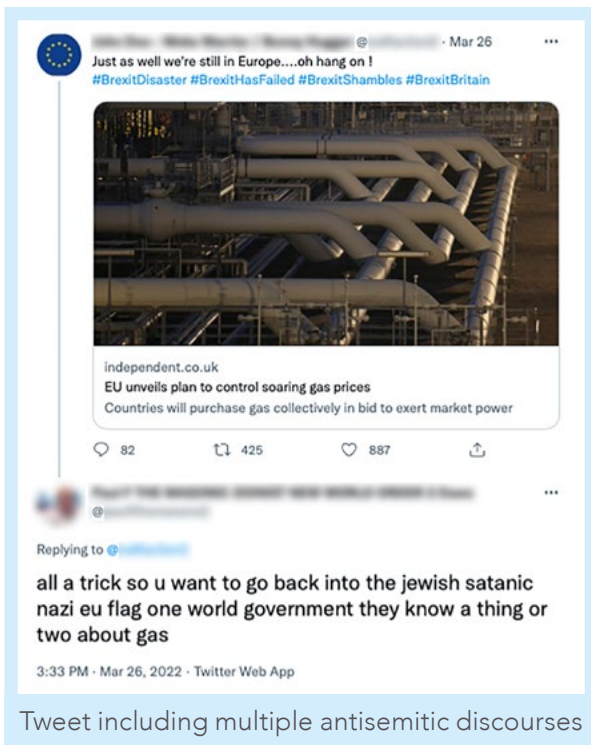
• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

- **CST recorded 630 incidents in the category of Abusive Behaviour from January to June 2022**, a decrease of 44% from the 1,129 instances of Abusive Behaviour recorded across the same period in 2021. Eighty per cent of all antisemitic incidents reported in the first six months of 2022 were in this category.
- **There were four incidents reported to CST in the category of mass-produced antisemitic Literature** in the first six months of 2022, slightly fewer than the five such incidents recorded between January and June 2021.
- Just as the lack of COVID-19 regulations increased the possibility for offenders to perpetrate antisemitic assaults, it had an impact on other trends that emerged as soon as the pandemic changed the realities of everyday life. During the first lockdown in March 2020, antisemites almost instantly took advantage of the new reliance on videoconferencing platforms, hijacking online events with anti-Jewish material. CST recorded ten such incidents between January and June 2020, and 13 in the first half of 2021. In the first six months of 2022, with dependence on these platforms reduced, **CST recorded just one act of antisemitic 'Zoombombing'**.
- Similarly, the pandemic proved a fertile environment and topic for antisemitic tropes and conspiracy theories, both old and new, to surface. **During the first six months of 2020, 26 incidents were reported to CST that contained antisemitic rhetoric alongside reference to COVID-19, rising to 41 over the same period of 2021. From January to June 2022, this figure fell to just six incidents.** It suggests that the volume of pandemic-related antisemitic incidents recorded in the previous two years was largely a response to a novel and uncertain situation, which included frustration at the restrictions placed on daily activity, or simply reflected the way that hate crime perpetrators will use language that is inspired by whatever is in the news. Many of these incidents reported since March 2020 involved offenders equating lockdown parameters, the vaccination rollout and the idea of COVID-19 passports to the conditions of Nazi-era Germany. The fact that these rulings were not enforced at any point in the first half of 2022 may be a factor in the drop in reports of antisemitic incidents involving these discourses.⁵
- **In 232 incidents – 30% of the overall total of 786 antisemitic incidents recorded from January to June 2022 – the offender or offenders made reference to Hitler, the Nazis, the Holocaust or employed discourse and imagery related to that period in history.** Fifty of these involved evidence of far-right extremist beliefs, beyond the simple and superficial appropriation of Nazi-era references. It is striking that incident offenders more commonly celebrate the Holocaust than denied its existence: 36 incidents glorified the Nazi extermination of European Jewry, whereas eight incidents involved denial of the facts or scale of the Holocaust. **CST recorded 102 antisemitic incidents that referenced or were related to Israel, Palestine and the situation in the Middle East.** Sixty-six of these evidenced anti-Zionist motivation alongside antisemitic language or targeting. Antisemitic conspiracy theories were evident in 70 of the 786 incidents recorded by CST from January to June 2022, 65 of which alleged Jewish influence over global politics, media, finance and other areas of life.
- **The 148 online incidents of antisemitism are the fifth-highest total for online incidents that CST has ever recorded in the first six months of a year**, constituting a decrease of 61% from the 378 incidents of this kind reported from

⁵ These discourses have far from vanished. They remain abundant on fringe online platforms, as documented in CST's latest report, [Covid, Conspiracies & Jew-hate: Antisemitism in the Covid Conspiracy Movement](#)

EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01

January to June 2021. They form 19% of this year's total so far, compared to 28% of 2021's six-monthly figure, and 42% of 2020's total.



Tweet including multiple antisemitic discourses

- **While the falls in number and proportion of online incidents are stark, they can perhaps be partly explained by the changing contexts of the last three years.** When lockdown restrictions were implemented at the pandemic's outset in 2020, the ability to communicate antisemitism online was, unlike many other modus operandi, unchanged: 211 of the 364 online incidents recorded from January to June 2020 occurred between April and June, after in-person activity was limited by law. Meanwhile, in 2021, much of the antisemitic commentary regarding events in Israel and Palestine happened on social media platforms: 228 of the 378 online incidents reported to CST in the first six months of 2021 occurred in May and June, when the war escalated. The first half of 2022 lacked these factors which, in their respective years, are likely to have affected both the volume of online antisemitism recorded, and its proportion of the total figure.
- 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 looking for online incidents to log and will only record online incidents that are reported to CST, and where either the offender or the victim is based in the UK.

- **Four hundred and sixty-three antisemitic incidents were reported to have taken place in Greater London in the first six months of 2022**, falling by 39% from 2021's total of 759 incidents across the same timeframe. **CST recorded 104 antisemitic incidents in Greater Manchester between January and June 2022**, a decrease of 43% from the 181 incidents reported in the corresponding area and period last year. Their combined proportional contribution to the UK's half-year total has risen, from 69% in 2021 to 72% in 2022. This increase re-emphasises a fact of antisemitism in the UK, observed since CST began compiling statistics: these communal hubs, home to the largest Jewish populations in the UK, remain the regions where reported antisemitism is most active. The fact that offline incidents amount to 81% of the six-monthly total – as great a proportion as they have held since January to June 2017 – aligns with the idea that a **higher percentage of incidents occurred in the areas of greatest opportunity for offenders to direct their hatred.**
- Of the 463 incidents recorded across Greater London in the first six months of 2022, 159 occurred in Barnet, the local authority that is home to the biggest Jewish population in the UK. There were 60 instances of antisemitism reported to have taken place in Hackney, 37 in Westminster, 21 in Camden and 18 in Tower Hamlets.

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

- Of Greater Manchester's 104 antisemitic incidents recorded for January to June 2022, 30 happened in Bury, 30 in Salford, 21 in the City of Manchester, five in Stockport and five in Trafford.
- While it is expected that the majority of incidents take place in areas where Jewish life is most visible and widely established, antisemitism's broad spread across the UK continued. **Antisemitic incidents were reported in all police regions bar Cleveland, Lincolnshire, Humberside, Gloucestershire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Suffolk and Surrey in the first half of 2022.** While between January and June 2021 only Cleveland, Derbyshire, Dorset and Suffolk did not record an antisemitic incident, this year's figures continue to illustrate an unfortunate fact of contemporary antisemitism: it exists and is expressed in most parts of the country, regardless of the visible presence of a Jewish community.
- Several explanations for this spread are possible. Although online incidents fell compared to the first half of 2021, they remain a significant part of modern-day anti-Jewish hate and do not require physical proximity to Jewish populations. **CST's social media footprint has grown, and with it the ease for the public to report online antisemitism.** CST has improved its own ability to establish the locations within the UK of either the offender or victim of online incidents, reflected in the decrease of incidents for which the location was recorded as 'Online Unknown', from 15 between January and June 2021 to seven in the first six months of 2022.
- Likewise, the ever-developing relationship with police services around the country has played a significant role in painting a more accurate landscape of antisemitism in the UK. CST benefits greatly from data-sharing agreements with many police services around the country. **Three-hundred and sixty-one of the 786 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST were received from the police,** making up 46% of all the incidents reported to CST. Of these 361 reports, 208 came from the Metropolitan Police Service, 47 from Greater Manchester Police, 26 from British Transport Police, 24 courtesy of Devon & Cornwall Police, 13 via Merseyside Police, and 43 from other police services around the country.
- After Greater London and Greater Manchester, the police regions with the highest number of recorded antisemitic incidents from January to June 2022 are Hertfordshire (30 incidents, compared to 38 in the first half of 2021), Devon & Cornwall (26 incidents, compared to 22 from January to June 2021), Northumbria (20 incidents, compared to 45 in the same timeframe in 2021), Merseyside (18 incidents, down from 26 in the first six months of 2021) and Thames Valley (13 incidents, compared to 20 between January and June 2021).
- Apart from Greater London and Greater Manchester's boroughs, the towns and cities where reported antisemitic incident totals were highest were Borehamwood & Elstree in Hertfordshire (21 incidents), Gateshead in Northumbria (11 incidents), Liverpool in Merseyside (ten incidents), Leeds in West Yorkshire (seven incidents), Birmingham in the West Midlands (six incidents), Brighton & Hove in Sussex (six incidents), and Oxford in Thames Valley (also six incidents).
- In addition to the 786 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first six months of 2022, a further **272 potential incidents were reported to CST that are not included in this report's statistics as, upon investigation, they did not evidence antisemitic motivation, language or targeting.** Many of these potential incidents involve suspicious activity or possible hostile reconnaissance at Jewish locations, and they play an important role in CST's provision of protection to the Jewish community.

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

ANTISEMITIC INCIDENT NUMBERS

CST recorded 786 antisemitic incidents across the UK in the first six months of 2022, the joint-fifth-highest total ever reported to CST in the January-to-June period of any year.

This total constitutes a decrease of 43% from the 1,371 antisemitic incidents reported in the first half of 2021, which was the highest ever total recorded by CST between January and June. CST received 875 reports of antisemitic incidents in the first half of 2020, 911 from January to June 2019, and 810 in the first six months of 2018.

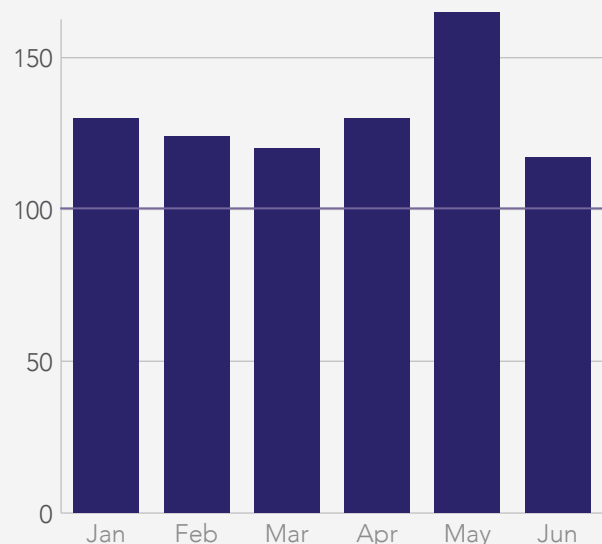
In addition to the 786 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first six months of 2022, a further 272 potential incidents were reported to CST that are not included in this report's statistics as, upon examination, they did not evidence antisemitic motivation, language or targeting. These reports, forming 26% of the 1,058 potential incidents recorded by CST, 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 classifying as antisemitic. Although not included in this report's figures, they are important in CST's provision of protection to the Jewish community. Most required further investigation or a security-related response, whether or not they were deemed antisemitic in nature.

The fall in anti-Jewish hate from the first half of last year to this reflects the scale of the surge in anti-Jewish hate observed in May and June 2021, due to antisemitic responses to the intensification of conflict in the Middle East. The 661 incidents reported to CST in May 2021 was the highest monthly total ever recorded. Meanwhile, the highest monthly total recorded in the first six months of 2022 was 165 incidents, in May. This difference and the overall decrease illustrate the difference in UK antisemitism levels between a year with a seismic trigger event involving Israel, and a year without.

The January-to-June total of 786 antisemitic incidents, while the lowest half-year figure recorded since 2017 (also 786), remains substantial. This is the first time since 2017 that no single trigger event of some kind took place in the opening six months of the year that could have direct implications for the quantity and content of antisemitic incidents reported in the UK. Last year's spike was a consequence of the escalation of violence in the Middle East, while the pandemic's outbreak and its impact on the realities of daily life generated new channels and vocabulary through which offenders were able to voice their anti-Jewish hate. In 2019 and 2018, ongoing allegations of antisemitism in the Labour Party led to upswings in (often online) antisemitic incidents perpetrated by those purporting to defend the party and Jeremy Corbyn, its leader at the time.

For the fifth time since 2017, CST recorded more than 100 antisemitic incidents in each month between January and June, perpetuating the pattern of historically high anti-Jewish hate

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS,
JANUARY-JUNE 2022



• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

incidents reported in recent years. Within this period, the only month in the first half of a year with an incident figure lower than 100 was January 2021 (95 incidents), when the UK was under national lockdown and the country had reached a then-high point in confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths.⁶ By way of comparison, monthly totals exceeding 100 incidents were only reported on six occasions from January 2006 to March 2016, five of which were the result of antisemitic reactions to previous conflicts in the Middle East. Without a trigger event to provoke it, the 786 total in the first half of this year may simply signify a 'new normal' for anti-Jewish hate in the UK, which well surpasses the six-monthly figures recorded by CST prior to 2017.

Of the 786 cases of antisemitism reported to CST from January to June 2022, 638 took place offline, making up 81% of the total. This is the third-highest figure for offline incidents recorded in the first half of a year, after the 993 reported in 2021 and the 641 in 2017. It appears that, even in a year without a significant trigger event, in-person antisemitic activity has returned to and exceeded the average ordinarily observed before the pandemic, when limitations on social interactions reduced the opportunity for offenders to target Jewish people in public. These incidents include face-to-face verbal abuse and threats, physical assault, graffiti and damage to property, and hate mail.

The inverse of this is that 148 antisemitic incidents were reported to CST in the first six months of 2022 that took place online, a decrease of 61% from the 378 such incidents recorded in the first half of 2021. It is the fifth-highest six-monthly total of online incidents that CST has ever recorded, comprising 19% of this year's total so far, compared to 28% of 2021's January-to-June total, and 42% of that reported in 2020. In the first half of 2019, 332 online incidents were reported (36% of the total), and 221 over the same period in 2018 (28%).

⁶ [The United Kingdom: WHO Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Dashboard With Vaccination Data | WHO Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Dashboard With Vaccination Data](#)

While the decreases in volume and proportion of online incidents are striking, the shifting contexts of the last few years can at least partly explain them. In 2021, social media platforms hosted much of the antisemitic outbursts relating to events in the Middle East: 228 of the 378 online incidents recorded by CST in the first half of the year happened when hostilities between Israel and Hamas intensified in May and June. In 2020, the ability to express antisemitic views and abuse online was unimpeded by lockdown parameters, unlike many other potential modus operandi. In total, 211 of the 364 online incidents recorded from January to June 2020 occurred between April and June, when these restrictions limited in-person activity. The six-monthly online figures in 2019 and 2018 were partly produced by the rise in Labour Party-related antisemitic incidents reported, many of which took place on virtual forums, in response to the allegations of institutional antisemitism within the party. These factors, lacking in 2022, are all likely to have raised the volume and percentage of online antisemitism observed in their respective years.

The changing circumstances of post-pandemic social regulations in the UK are especially mirrored in the fluctuation in the number of antisemitic incidents reported on videoconferencing platforms. In the first half of 2020, CST recorded ten cases of 'Zoombombing' as antisemites instantly took advantage of the sudden dependence on video calls for communication. This rose to 13 instances involving the hijacking of online events with anti-Jewish material between January and June 2021. In the first six months of 2022, with reliance on these platforms reduced, CST recorded just one act of antisemitic Zoombombing. Seventy-five of the 148 online cases of antisemitism reported so far in 2022 occurred on Twitter; 24 through text or instant messaging services; 15 via email; seven on Facebook; four on Instagram; four were abusive comments on online articles; three took place on TikTok; two were recorded on Snapchat; and 13 happened on a range of other social media.

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

They are predominantly in the category of Abusive Behaviour (in 141 cases), but also include seven Threats, while 17 of these posts included antisemitic memes, images or cartoons. Online forums provide antisemites with the space to share political, ideological and extremist ideas, both simple and nuanced, with the security of potential anonymity and distance from their victim. Abuse, threats and graphic content can be preserved on these platforms, spread globally in an instant and reach their target – specific or indiscriminate – easily, often without meaningful ramifications for the offender.

CST records each specific targeted campaign as a single incident, because to record each piece of antisemitic content as a separate incident would be unsustainable and cause extreme variations in CST's incident totals, obstructing clear analysis of offline incidents. 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 sifted 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 forums continue to be a fertile ground for public expressions of antisemitism, sometimes culminating in coordinated campaigns against Jewish public figures and institutions.

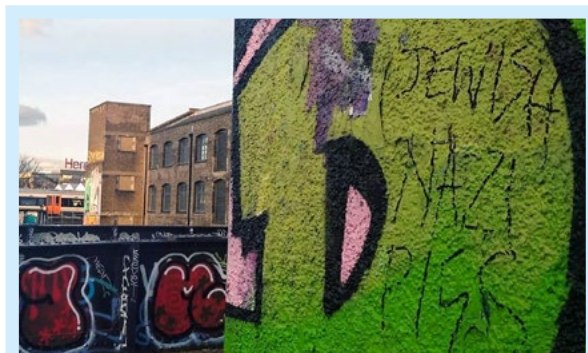
It is difficult to gauge whether the pattern of historically high antisemitic incident figures observed by CST since 2016 is due to more incidents taking place in the UK, or a society that feels more comfortable to report. The answer is likely to be a combination of both. A less tangible aspect of the general increase observed is the possible impact that the prevalence of antisemitism in public debate may have on actual hate acts. If there is a perception

that the taboo against articulating hostility about or towards Jewish people is weakening, if antisemites begin to realise that their prejudice is shared and communicated by others, then they are more likely to feel emboldened in expressing their own anti-Jewish hatred.

Despite improvements in reporting, it is expected that antisemitic hate crime 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.

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,



Antisemitic graffiti, Hackney, May

EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01

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 sense, and the times when they are abused as euphemisms for “Jewishness” and “Jews”. Similarly, the phrase “Zionist Lobby”, when it is deployed indiscriminately as a label for Jewish organisations and individuals regardless of whether they engage in political lobbying in support of Israel, walks the line between the conspiracy theory that Jews have a disproportionate political power and influence, and 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 then it may well be recorded as an antisemitic incident (because the synagogue was targeted on the basis of it being Jewish and the offender has failed to distinguish between a place of worship and 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 the incident 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 as the basis for the insult. However, incidents that compare Israel to, for example, apartheid South Africa, would not normally be recorded as antisemitic incidents. While the charge that Israel practises apartheid upsets many Jews, it does not contain the same visceral capacity to offend as the comparison with Nazism, which carries particular meaning for Jews because of the Holocaust; nor does it play on Israel’s Jewishness as a way of causing hurt.

CST recorded 102 antisemitic incidents that referenced or were related to Israel, Palestine and the situation in the Middle East. Sixty-six antisemitic incidents evidenced anti-Zionist motivation, while the terms “Zionist” or “Zionism” were employed in 36. In 17 cases, the offender made a direct comparison between Israel and the Nazis. Irrespective of whether or not anti-Israel incidents are classified as antisemitic by CST, they are still relevant to CST’s 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.

• • **EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01** • •
INCIDENT CATEGORIES⁷

Assault

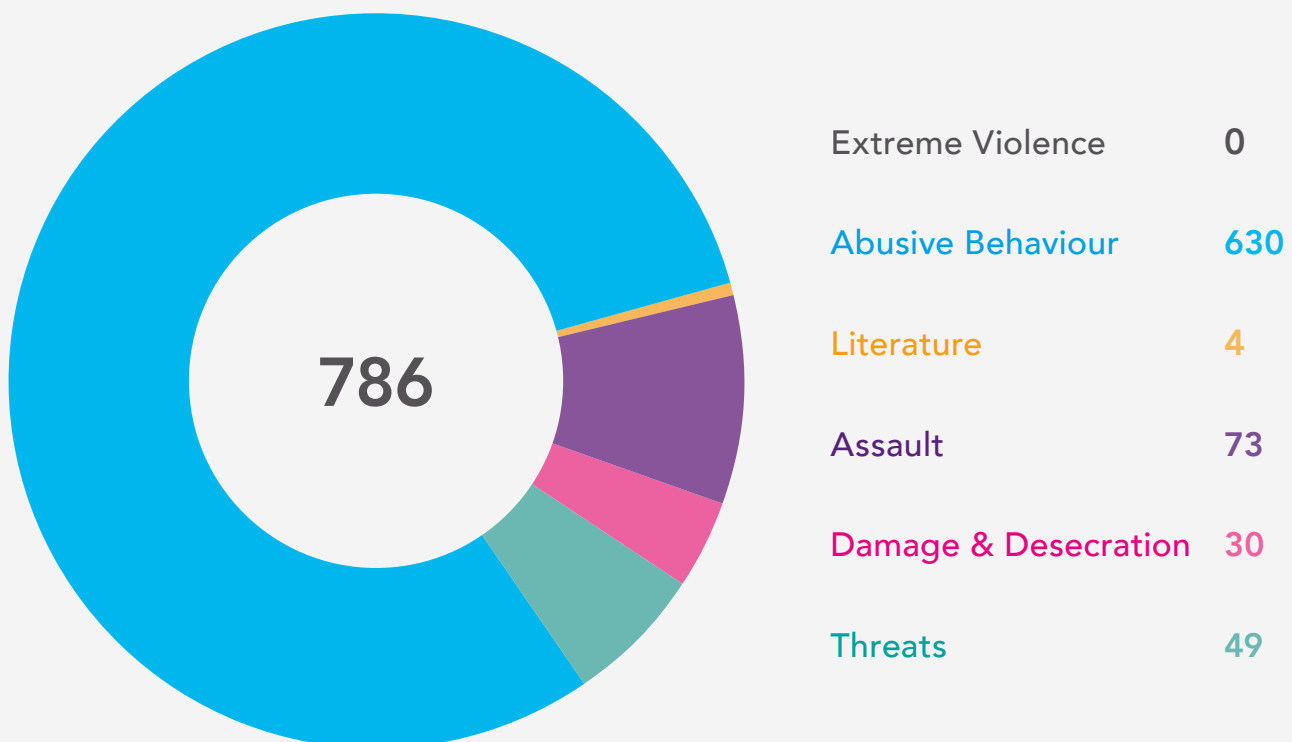
CST recorded 73 incidents in the category of Assault during the first half of 2022, a 20% decrease from the 91 incidents of this type reported in the first half of 2021. None of these 73 antisemitic assaults were severe enough to be classed as Extreme Violence, compared to two in the first six months of 2021. There were 53 assaults reported to CST in the first half of 2020 (one of which was Extreme Violence), 85 from January to June 2019, and 62 in the first half of 2018. Of the recorded assaults, 24 involved punching or kicking the victim; 15 involved stones, eggs, bricks, bottles or other objects being thrown, on nine occasions from a passing vehicle; on eight occasions, the offender

stripped the victim of religious clothes or accessories; in three cases, the victim was spat at; in three instances, a miscellaneous weapon was used; two assaults involved sticks or metal bars; on two further occasions, a vehicle was used to physically endanger pedestrians; in one assault, a window was broken onto the victim. Thirty-four of these attacks were accompanied by verbal abuse, and eight contained an element of threatening language.

The 73 assaults on Jewish people form 9% of the antisemitic incident total, taking the proportion of incidents involving violence back up to the average proportion reported before the pandemic. For comparison, the 91 assaults reported in the first six months of 2021 constituted 7% of the overall figure, and 6% of 2020's January-to-June total. Both of these periods were at some point impacted by the

⁷ A full explanation of CST's antisemitic incident categories can be found in the leaflet [Categories of Antisemitic Incidents](#)

ANTISEMITIC INCIDENT CATEGORIES



• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

constraints of lockdown, limiting the possibility for confrontation and the number of potential victims in public spaces. By contrast, 9% of 2019's half-year antisemitic incident total fell into the category of Assault. It is unsurprising that antisemitic physical altercations have returned to the percentage share typically recorded before COVID-19 restrictions diminished public activity and, in turn, opportunities for physical attacks.

As has always been reflected in CST's statistics, the opportunities for these physical attacks were greatest in the regions with established, sizeable, visibly Jewish populations throughout the first half of 2022. Of the 73 antisemitic incidents classed as Assault, 47 (64%) took place across just five boroughs: Barnet (24), Hackney (nine) and Haringey (five) in Greater London, and Salford (five) and Bury (four) in Greater Manchester. These areas are where some of the largest and most visibly Jewish communities in the UK reside. Jewish visibility – whether individual or communal – seems to correlate with the likelihood of antisemitic assault. It could be that the markers of difference may be interpreted by the offender as a challenge to what they perceive to be their own culture and/or territory, or as something so distinct from their own lived experience that it becomes easier to dehumanise and degrade. They may also find a certainty in who and what they are attacking, and a gratification in the opportunity for maximum public humiliation in stripping their targets of symbols of their identity, as they did in eight assaults from January to June 2022.

At least 31 (43%) of these 73 violent incidents involved victims understood to be visibly Jewish, usually on account of their religious insignia, traditional clothing or Jewish school uniforms. A sad theme of 2021's analysis was exacerbated in the first six months of 2022: Assault is the antisemitic category with the highest proportion of both victims and offenders who are minors. In 23 (32%) of the assaults recorded, the victim was known to be a minor, while this was the case for the offenders in 21 assaults (29%). Between January and June 2021, these figures were 25% and 19% respectively. In the case of Assault

victims, this was a significant increase from the first half of 2020, when just 13% were minors. This rise was related to the volume of anti-Jewish hate that was expressed in school environments as conflict in the Middle East intensified during May and June 2021. The fact that this trend has persisted is concerning, suggesting that antisemitic violence involving children is becoming more commonplace, relative to overall incident totals. Fourteen of the 73 assaults were perpetrated by minors against minors.

CASE STUDY

In May, a group of Jewish girls were on the London Underground on the way home from school in Barnet. They were approached by two other girls, who began to harass them with abuse, calling them "dirty Jews" and spitting on the floor. This escalated into physical violence, with the offenders vaping in the victims' faces, pulling on their hair and noses, and lying across them in their seats. One of the victims had her glasses broken. One of the victims called the police from the carriage and was told to get off at the next station where officers would be waiting for them. The perpetrators were arrested and cautioned.

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

Damage & Desecration to Jewish Property

There were 30 instances of Damage & Desecration to Jewish Property recorded by CST in the first half of 2022, a fall of 49% from the 59 incidents of this kind reported in the corresponding timeframe last year. There were 33 incidents recorded in this category over the first six months of 2020, 39 between January and June 2019, and 44 in the first half of 2018. Eleven of these incidents saw damage done to the homes and vehicles of Jewish people, four to synagogue buildings, three to Jewish schools, three to Jewish businesses and organisations, and two involved the desecration of Jewish cemeteries.

In 12 of the 30 instances of Damage & Desecration, the offender used graffiti, daubing or stickers of an antisemitic nature to deface the Jewish target (seven of which depicted swastikas or made reference to the Holocaust), while eggs, stones, bricks or other projectiles were thrown to cause damage on six occasions. CST recorded three cases involving the destruction or theft of a mezuzah (a Jewish prayer scroll affixed to a building's entrance), two in which windows were broken, two involving the punching or kicking of Jewish property, one where non-kosher foodstuffs were left on Jewish premises, and one involving arson. All included some element of anti-Jewish focus, language or imagery to be recorded among these figures by CST.

CASE STUDY

From April to June, CST received reports of a spate of swastikas and antisemitic graffiti in the Hertfordshire area. There were six incidents in total that are thought to be related, three of which fall into the category of Damage & Desecration as the abuse was daubed onto the fence of a synagogue. Two of these involved the drawing of swastikas and, in the other case, the words, "Bacon F*ck Jews" were written on the metal gate.



• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

Threats

CST recorded 49 direct antisemitic Threats between January and June 2022, decreasing by 44% from the 87 incidents of this sort reported in the first half of 2021. Forty-five incidents were recorded in this category in the first six months of 2020, 50 from January to June 2019, and 56 in the opening half of 2018.

Twenty-four of the 49 threats were targeted at victims in public spaces, while six were aimed at Jewish people at their own homes; five were school-related and three were made to Jewish businesses or organisations; two were directed at public figures, and one was made to a Jewish university student. Seven of the incidents in this category were written on online platforms, four via phone call or message, and there was one bomb threat delivered via mail.

CASE STUDY

In January, a couple was walking to a train station in London when a man approached them and started shouting, *"I hate you f*cking Jews with your hooked noses, I want to beat you up"*. The victims ignored the abuse and continued walking, but the offender pursued them. When he caught up to them, he placed his hand under his belt as if to pull out a knife and said, *"I will shank you"*.

Abusive Behaviour

There were 630 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the category of Abusive Behaviour in the first half of 2022, signalling a fall of 44% from the 1,129 instances of Abusive Behaviour recorded between January and June 2021. This category comprised 80% of all 786 antisemitic incidents reported so far this year. There were 739 counts of Abusive Behaviour in the first half of 2020, 727 from January to June 2019, and 616 over the same timeframe in 2018. The umbrella of Abusive Behaviour spans multiple incident types, including everything encompassed by written and verbal abuse, the latter of which can be face-to-face or spoken through telephone calls and voicemail

messages. This category also includes antisemitic emails, text messages, social media posts and comments, as well as targeted hate mail that is not mass-produced and disseminated, and antisemitic damage to non-Jewish property.

In 153 of the Abusive Behaviour incidents reported, the victims were Jewish people in public, and visibly Jewish in at least 46 incidents. Thirty of these cases were related to the school sector, and 22 to the university sector. Jewish businesses or organisations were the target of 55 incidents in this category, while public figures – Jewish and non-Jewish – were subjected to antisemitic abuse on 27 occasions. In 27 instances, this abuse was directed at synagogues and/or congregants travelling to or from their place of worship. Thirty-two cases of abuse were directed at people while at home.

Among the 630 incidents in this category, 263 involved spoken abuse and 131 written abuse, while 21 contained threatening language without making a direct threat to the victim. There were 145 instances of antisemitic graffiti, daubing, stickers or posters on non-Jewish property, 95 of which included the depiction of swastikas or other references to Hitler, the Nazis or the Holocaust. Sixty-nine involved offensive shouts or gestures in public, of which 42 emanated from passing vehicles. Twenty-three abusive phone calls or voice messages were made, and there were 13 examples of hate mail sent to personal or professional addresses.

Of the 630 instances of Abusive Behaviour, 141 occurred online, forming 22% of the category's total. These comprise the majority of the 148 online antisemitic incidents reported which, although substantially diminished from the 378 such instances recorded in the first half of 2021, remain a significant facet of contemporary antisemitism in the UK. Social media and instant messaging services, the number of which is expanding, allow space for the cultivation, expression and reaffirmation of anti-Jewish hate. Antisemitic abuse and ideas can be shared at the click of a button, either indiscriminately or with a specific target,

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

near or far. The online incidents demonstrate the role that virtual forums play in hosting and enabling hateful, often extremist content, allowing antisemites to spout their prejudice with the option of anonymity, without fear of meaningful reproach.

What this report cannot capture is the way that online antisemitism feeds into offline incidents. The antisemitic rhetoric that exists on these platforms, with its capacity for global reach, is a potentially dangerous tool for incitement to in-person action. In the eyes of those who are exposed to them, every anti-Jewish post, comment or message has the potential to weaken the taboo against expressing hostility or intolerance towards or about Jews. Antisemitism consequently manifests itself more freely. This is particularly acute as the proportion of minors involved in reported antisemitic incidents – both as victims and offenders – increases.

CASE STUDY

In April, during a Students Union vote over whether to support the campaign to boycott Israel, a student at a university in Merseyside posted antisemitic content on his Instagram page. One of these posts included a picture of a cake he had made with a swastika on it, captioned, “I am a chef...a nazi chef”. Another involved an image of Israel’s flag crossed out, with the words, “Say yes to antisemitism”, and, “PS this doesn’t only go to Zionists this also goes to all kinds of Jews Hitler did yall right” [sic]. He also pinned a Jewish student’s Instagram account to his own Instagram story, writing, “knew he was a Zionist”.

Literature

There were four incidents reported to CST in the category of mass-produced antisemitic Literature in the first six months of 2022, a slight drop from the five such incidents recorded between January and June 2021. CST recorded five instances of Literature distribution in the first six months of 2020, ten in the first half of 2019, and 32 in the corresponding period of 2018.

The abnormally high number of incidents in the category recorded between January and June 2018 was in large part due to the circulation of an antisemitic, conspiracy theory-laden leaflet titled *Tip of The Iceberg*, posted around homes in north London and Hertfordshire. CST was still receiving reports of its distribution – albeit at a much slower rate – in 2021, but there were no such reports made in the opening half of 2022.

Instead, all four incidents that fall into this category include the dissemination of other leaflets: two of them belonged to the far-right group *Patriotic Alternative*, one contained antisemitic language and was handed out at a church, and one left at addresses in Sussex titled, “Every Single Aspect of the Ukraine-Russia War Is Jewish”.

CASE STUDY

In May, an antisemitic leaflet was left in plastic bags on the driveways of homes in Sussex. It bears the title, “Every Single Aspect of the Ukraine-Russia War Is Jewish”, with pictures of the Ukrainian and Russian leaders wearing kippot (a religious skullcap) and lists of people who hold positions of power in the two countries with a Star of David next to their names. There was also the image of a yellow Star of David with “Jude” written inside it, representing the badge that Jewish people were forced to wear in areas under Nazi occupation. At the bottom of the flyer is a link to a website that hosts antisemitic video content. This was one of 12 antisemitic incidents reported in the first half of 2022 involving discourse relating to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.



• • **EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01** • •

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 237 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the first six months of 2022 in which the victims were ordinary Jewish individuals in public. In 88 incidents, they were visibly Jewish on account of their traditional clothing, Jewish school uniforms, or jewellery and insignia bearing religious symbols. Of the 786 incidents recorded by CST from January to June 2022, there was an element of verbal abuse in 333 cases. In 48 incidents, this spoken abuse incorporated threatening language. Antisemitic abuse was shouted or gestured in public on 77 occasions, 47 of which came from the occupant of a vehicle. All of this is broadly indicative of the most common single type of offline incident reported to CST since the organisation began compiling statistics: the random, unprovoked, verbal harassment of strangers who are presumed for whatever reason to be Jewish, as they go about their daily lives in public spaces that often have a large footfall of Jewish people.

In the first six months of 2022, there were 13 antisemitic incidents recorded at Jewish schools, compared to 22 in the first half of 2021. A further 25 incidents involved Jewish schoolchildren away from school premises, often on their way to or from home, compared to 29 incidents of this type reported across the same period in 2021. CST recorded 12 incidents wherein the victims were schoolchildren or staff at non-faith schools, falling substantially from the 86 reported from January to June 2021. This constitutes a total of 50 incidents affecting people and buildings in the school sector, decreasing by 64% from the 137 such incidents recorded in the first six months of 2021.

Last year's figure, however, is an outlier, due to the extent to which schoolchildren and teachers were targeted with antisemitism when the hostilities in the Middle East intensified. The total of 50 school-related incidents of antisemitism reported in the first six months of 2022 signals a return closer to the volume recorded before the COVID-19 outbreak. In the first half of 2019, CST recorded 68 instances of anti-Jewish hate in the school sector but only 20 over the same period in 2020, when schools were closed in the first lockdown. The opening six months of 2022 is the first time since 2019 that schools have remained open throughout the January to June timeframe.

It is not just the overall figure that has reverted towards the standard typically observed in years without an Israel-related trigger event. While 63% of school-sector incidents reported between January and June 2021 took place at non-Jewish schools, this fell to 24% in the first half of 2022: a proportion more comparable with the 30% recorded in the first six months of 2020, and the 19% across the same period in 2019. It shows the impact of the conflict's escalation on how and where anti-Jewish hate was expressed during that period, uniquely aggravating tensions in educational spaces where Jewish people and non-Jewish people coexist on a daily basis.

Of the 50 antisemitic incidents affecting schools, pupils and staff, 12 came under the category of Assault (11 targeting schoolchildren on their way to or from school, and one in which the victim was waiting at the gate of his school's premises); three incidents were classified as Damage & Desecration to Jewish property; there were five direct Threats made, two of which were to Jewish schools; finally, there were 30 cases of Abusive Behaviour.

A similar pattern was observed in the sphere of higher education. In the first half of 2022, 25 antisemitic incidents affected Jewish students, academics, student unions or other student bodies, or were perpetrated by people involved in

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

the university sector. It is a drop of 70% from the 84 such incidents reported from January to June 2021 which, like the school-sector figure, stands as a record half-year total, sparked by the surge in antisemitic reactions to events in the Middle East that manifested in campus settings. Seven of these 25 cases of anti-Jewish hate from January to June 2022 included references to Israel and/or Palestine, potentially signifying that the way in which this came to dominate student discourse last year has had a legacy beyond that specific period. However, the total of 25 university-related incidents is more aligned with those recorded in years without such a major trigger event: there were 28 incidents of this kind recorded in the first six months of 2020, and 13 in the corresponding timeframe in 2019.

Meanwhile, 11 (44%) of these 25 university-related incidents occurred online: significantly higher than the 19% proportion that online incidents form of the overall half-year total. This, too, is an extension of a trend seen in last year's figures, when 59% of higher-education incidents were online, whereas just 28% of the overall total took place on these virtual forums. It indicates that these platforms are particularly used as a tool for interaction – hostile or otherwise – by a student demographic that has grown up with social media and is perhaps generally more likely to spend time on and use it as a resource. These 11 online incidents form part of the 17 reports of anti-Jewish hate in this sector that occurred off campus, while eight took place on campus or university property. Among them, two fall into the category of Assault, one into Threats, and 22 into Abusive Behaviour.

There were 21 antisemitic incidents recorded during the first six months of 2022 that targeted synagogues (including buildings, staff and congregants while at the location), falling from the 34 incidents of this type in the first half of 2021. A further 12 incidents saw congregants or staff targeted on their way to or from prayer services, dropping slightly from the 14 such incidents reported to CST from January to June last year. This comprises a net decrease of 31% in cases of antisemitism affecting synagogues and the people travelling to, from, or already inside them, from 48 in the opening half of 2021 to the 33 incidents of this kind recorded so far this year. As with the figures reported in the education sphere, the synagogue-related incident total reported between January and June 2021 should be considered within the context of the violence in the Middle East, when synagogues represented an easy and visible target for those who wished to channel their apparent anger over Israel towards Jewish communities and communal spaces. The 33 cases of this kind recorded in the opening half of 2022 is a rise compared to the equivalent timeframe in 2020, when 20 incidents in this sector were reported during a period when places of worship were closed due to COVID-19 restrictions. Levels of incidents affecting synagogues, staff and congregants have instead returned to the pre-pandemic norm, when 38 incidents were reported in the first six months of 2019. An additional two acts of anti-Jewish vandalism targeted Jewish cemeteries, equal to the two recorded from January to June 2021.

CST recorded 54 incidents that took place at people's residential property in the first half of 2022. This is a fall of 43% from the 94 incidents

VICTIMS where the age and gender are known



280

victims were **male**



135

victims were **female**



21

victims were **groups of males and females**



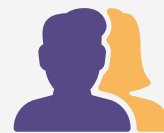
334

victims were **adults**



68

victims were **minors**



20

victims were **mixed age groups**

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

of this kind in the first six months of 2021. Like those reported for synagogue- and school-related incidents, this is a total that has settled back down towards the average typically seen before the pandemic. Both last year's figure and 2020's half-year figure of 69 such incidents were partly due to neighbour disputes enhanced by the fact that people across the country were forced to spend more time at home than they ordinarily would have in times without lockdown restrictions. It is possible that these local frustrations were heightened in these circumstances, and more regularly spilled over into acts and speech of a hateful nature directed at those in closest proximity. Without these conditions, the number of incidents at peoples' homes diminished in the opening six months of 2022 and is closer to the 50 reported over the corresponding period in 2019. With that said, 27 of the 54 cases of antisemitism affecting people at their homes were perpetrated by those known to the victim. These are 27 of 66 instances – 8% of the January-to-June total of 786 incidents – wherein the victim and offender had some kind of prior relationship. CST observed a proportional increase in such incidents last year when 10% of the six-monthly total were classed as interpersonal, partly due to incidents in schools.

Six antisemitic incidents were related to the workplace, down from the ten incidents of this nature reported in the first six months of 2021, while there were 61 incidents that targeted Jewish organisations and businesses, dropping by 31% from the 88 such incidents recorded between January and June 2021. Forty-three of these 61 incidents occurred online, and nine via phone calls or voice messages. Meanwhile, prominent individuals or public figures were victims in 29 incidents, falling 42% from 50 instances from January to June 2021. Of these, 20 were online incidents. The comparatively high proportion of online incidents where the victim was either a Jewish business, organisation or person of public prominence highlights the fact that these targets' presence on virtual forums makes them more directly available to antisemites than they might otherwise be. It is a level of access that was much more difficult to gain before the social

media age, demonstrating part of the reason why these platforms have become so popular among people who wish to spread their prejudice.

There were 27 antisemitic incidents reported to CST in the first half of 2022 that were in some way related to the world of professional football, rising by 69% from the 16 such incidents recorded between January and June 2021. It is an increase that can be quite simply explained by the fact that supporters have been allowed back in stadia since the summer of 2021, when COVID-19 restrictions on crowded events were lifted. In the first six months of 2021, professional football was, for the most part, played behind closed doors.

CST received a description of the victim or victims' gender in 436 of the 786 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2022. Of these, 280 (64%) were male; 135 (31%) were female; in 21 incidents (5%), the victims were mixed groups of males and females.

The victim or victims' age was ascertained in 422 of the 786 antisemitic incidents reported to CST between January and June 2022. Of these, 334 (79%) involved adult victims, of which 17 were over the age of 65; 68 (16%) involved victims who were minors; in 20 instances (5%), mixed groups of adults and minors were attacked. The percentage split between adult and minor victims is slightly narrower than it was in the first half of 2021, when 81% of victims were adults and 15% were minors. This breakdown – a consequence of the rise in school-related anti-Jewish hate incidents – was itself a departure from the first six months of 2020, when 88% of victims were adults and 9% were minors, which had generally been the standard up until last year. It is a worrying carryover from 2021 that a higher proportion of young people are being harassed with anti-Jewish hate than was the case before the intensification of hostilities between Israel and Hamas, even though the volume of incidents in the school sector diminished in the first half of 2022. It suggests that antisemitic incident offenders – many of whom are themselves minors – are increasingly seeking out children as the target for their abuse.

EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01

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.

CST received a description of the ethnic appearance of the offender or offenders in 260 of the 786 antisemitic incidents recorded in the

first six months of 2022. Of these, 137 (53%) were described as white – North European; 12 (5%) as white – South European; 48 (18%) as black; 23 (9%) as South Asian; one (less than 1%) as Southeast Asian; finally, 39 (15%) were described as Arab or North African. This breakdown is typical for periods without an intensification of violence in the Middle East. It signals a reversion to the norm from the corresponding timeframe in 2021 and the context of Israel's war with Hamas, when 35% of perpetrators were of North African or Arab origin, and 16% of South Asian origin. It is important to bear in mind that these details rely on the subjective and often fleeting judgement of witnesses and victims.

A description of the gender of the offender or offenders was obtained by CST in 410 of the 786 antisemitic incidents recorded in the first half of 2022. Of these, the offender was described as male in 340 incidents (83%); female in 62 incidents (15%); and mixed groups of males and females in eight incidents (2%).

In 387 of the 786 reports of antisemitism between January and June 2022, the approximate age of the offender or offenders was provided. Among them, 304 (79%) involved adult offenders; in 83 cases (21%) the perpetrators were minors; on one occasion (less than 1%) the offender was over the age of 65. This age distribution of offenders continues a concerning trend established in the first six months of 2021, when 80% of antisemitic incident offenders were adults and 20% were

OFFENDERS where the age and gender are known



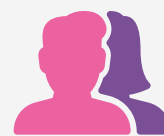
340

offenders were **male**



62

offenders were **female**



8

offenders were **groups of males and females**



304

offenders were **adults**



83

offenders were **minors**

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

minors, which reflected the rise in antisemitic incidents that occurred in UK schools in response to Israel's actions. However, over the same timeframe in 2020, 91% of perpetrators were adults and 9% were minors: a ratio that had been broadly consistent with previous recorded averages.

It is possible to infer that the surge in antisemitism perpetrated by a younger demographic, while initially a reaction to events in the Middle East, runs deeper than the desire to blame Jewish

people for wars involving Israel. Indeed, only three of the 83 anti-Jewish hate offences committed by minors from January to June 2022 contained discourse relating to Israel and/or Palestine. The fact that the proportion of incident offenders described as minors actually increased in the first half of 2022, when the number of incidents taking place in school contexts dropped significantly, may suggest a wider trend of growing antisemitism amongst younger people.

DISCOURSE, MOTIVES & IDEOLOGY

CST attempts to assess 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 also monitors the number of instances where conspiracy-fuelled sentiments are present: stereotypical tropes about the Jewish people's power, influence, and money – and 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.

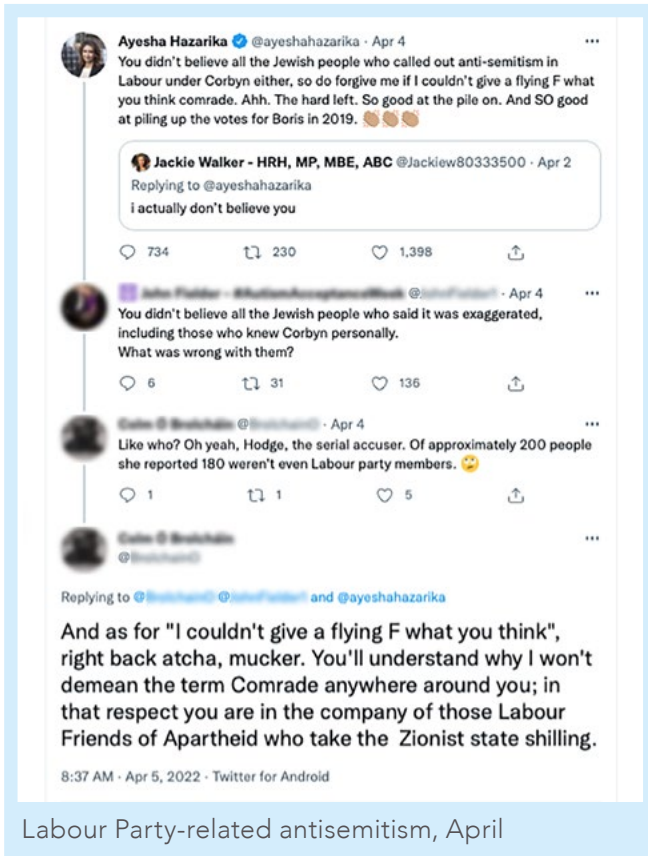
Historic, simplistic prejudices have been manipulated and deployed by such a vast array of social, religious, cultural and political forces over such a long period of time, that a much more complex and layered landscape of antisemitic language, imagery and references has emerged. Partly as a consequence 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 extremist ideology, or they might simply know that this phrase will cause upset and offence to Jewish people.

In the first six months of 2022, CST recorded 14 antisemitic incidents connected to specific political parties or their supporters.⁸ Twelve were linked to the Labour Party, one to the Conservative Party, and one to the British National Party. This figure is slightly lower than the 15 incidents associated to political parties reported between January and June 2021, and significantly diminished from 2020's half-year total when 101 cases of antisemitism linked to political parties were recorded, 98 of which were Labour Party-related. The comparatively low volume of such incidents is due to the fact that the issue of alleged antisemitism in the Labour Party has not carried the same virulence, or attracted the same level of prominence in news, media or public consciousness over the last two years, as it did in the two preceding years. One further incident was recorded in the first six months of 2022 in connection with the UK's withdrawal from the European Union.

There were seven incidents in which aspects of Judaism were attacked or purposely mischaracterised in an antisemitic way, almost half of

⁸ Antisemitic incidents affiliated with specific political parties are classed as such for the offender's stated affiliation of support; because the abuse targeted or was expressed by the party's members, politicians or representatives; or because it appeared to be motivated by news stories related to that party.

EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01



Labour Party-related antisemitism, April

January and June 2022, compared to 110 in the opening six months of 2021. From these, 65 alleged Jewish influence over global politics, media, finance and other walks of life (compared to 89 in the first half of 2021); and two involved falsehoods regarding religious rituals and practices (dropping from 12 recorded from January to June 2021).



Conspiracy theory blaming Jews for 9/11, Belfast, January

the 13 such incidents reported from January to June 2021. Of these, five focused on religious traditions (compared to one in the first half of 2021); and two manipulated ideas taken from religious scripture (fewer than the six from January to June 2021). In 38 cases, the offender laced their abuse with anti-Jewish stereotypes, caricatures or dehumanising language and imagery, decreasing from 60 such incidents over the same timeframe in 2021.



Antisemitic, anti-Israel tweet, February

Antisemitic conspiracy theories were evident in 70 (9%) of the 786 incidents reported between

In 232 incidents – 30% of the 786 cases of antisemitism reported to CST in the first half of 2022 – the offender or offenders made reference to Hitler, the Nazis, the Holocaust, employed discourse aligned with the period of Nazi rule, and/or punctuated their abuse with a swastika or other related imagery. This is a decrease in volume but an increase in proportional contribution from the 291 incidents employing these references between January and June 2021, which constituted 21% of last year's 1,371 six-monthly total. It is striking that antisemitic incident offenders more commonly celebrated the Holocaust than denied its existence. Thirty-six incidents glorified the Holocaust, its perpetrators and/or their ideas, or expressed a desire for the mass extermination of Jews to happen again (falling from 54 in the first half of 2021). Eight incidents contained the denial of either the scale of the Holocaust, or its having happened at all (a drop from the 12 such incidents recorded from January to June 2021). In 105 of these 232 incidents containing Nazi-related discourse, abuse was graffitied, daubed, scratched, stuck or printed

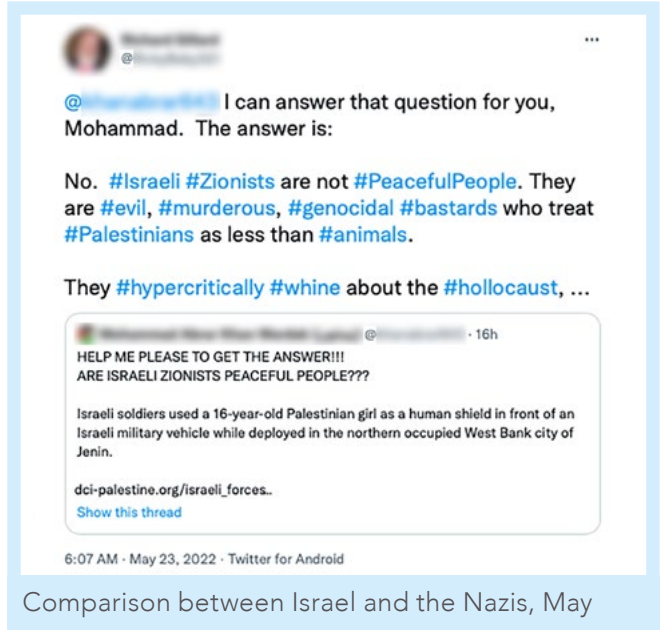
• • **EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01** • •

onto public or private property: in the majority of these cases, a swastika formed part of the desecration. There were 50 instances in which far-right motivation was evidenced, wherein the offender displayed subscription to far-right extremist beliefs beyond – though often alongside – the simple and superficial appropriation of Nazi-era references, whereas 63 incidents displayed this in the opening six months of 2021.



Holocaust glorification, January

Of the 786 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the first half of 2022, 102 (13%) referenced Israel, Palestine or the conflict in the region. In 66 incidents, there were explicit anti-Zionist beliefs or motivation present, while the terms “Zionism” or “Zionist” were used in 36 incidents, often as by-words for “Jewishness” and “Jew”. Holocaust-related incidents and those referencing the Middle East were connected together on 17 occasions in which the offender directly compared Israel to the Nazis. Overall, incidents containing or combining these discourses and motivations have dropped considerably from the 693 such incidents reported between January and June 2021, returning to a level that is broadly typical for a period without a significant trigger event in the Middle East. The same can be said of the decrease in antisemitic incidents containing discourse relating to Islam or Muslims, from 32 in the first six months of 2021 to eight in the January-to-June period this year, and in those that showed evidence of Islamist extremist ideology, from 14 to five over the same timeframes.



Comparison between Israel and the Nazis, May

In a further nine cases of anti-Jewish hate, another religious ideology was demonstrated, falling from 13 in the opening half of last year.

The fact that incidents containing the rhetoric and ideologies discussed in the previous paragraph decreased in the first half of 2022 reflects a trend of contemporary antisemitism that has been consistent in CST’s analysis in recent years: anti-Jewish hate follows the news cycle, and stereotypes and ideas are expressed in response to whichever topics are dominating public discourse at the time. This is apparent not only in the decrease in antisemitic incidents motivated by anti-Israel feeling compared to a year when tensions in the Middle East escalated, but also in the drop in incidents related to COVID-19. During the first six months of 2020, as the realities of the pandemic began to take hold, anti-Jewish narratives surfaced, and CST recorded 26 incidents containing them. These included conspiracy theories about Jewish involvement in creating and spreading COVID-19 (or creating and spreading the myth of COVID-19) for malevolent ends; rehashed tropes of Jews being disease carriers; and hopes that Jewish people would catch the virus and die from it. Between January and June 2021, 41 incidents were reported to CST that employed antisemitic discourse linked to the pandemic although, by this point, the rhetoric that evolved in 2020 had increasingly given way

• • **EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01** • •



Pandemic-related sticker, Manchester, January

to the equation of lockdown restrictions, vaccine rollouts and vaccine passports to the persecution and genocide of Jews in the Holocaust. In the opening half of 2022, just six COVID-19-related instances of antisemitism were recorded. The scale of the drop-off from the two previous years illustrates how the previous totals were largely a response to a frightening and disorientating new situation, and a frustration at the limitations placed on the daily activity that had previously been taken for granted. These regulations were not implemented at any point between January and June this year and the pandemic has not been as much at the forefront of the news cycle: linked considerations that are likely to be factors in the decrease in reports of pandemic-related antisemitic incidents.

In contrast, the Russian invasion of Ukraine has held prominence in news, media and the public consciousness. There were 12 incidents reported to CST in the first six months of 2022 that referenced or were in some way inspired by the war in Ukraine. Even within a small sample size of cases, the antisemitic discourses around this matter are varied. They include conspiracy

theories accusing Jewish people of causing and bankrolling the war, and of Jews being behind every aspect of the conflict, filling positions of power and pulling the strings on both the Ukrainian and Russian sides; pro-Putin and pro-Russian sentiment that favourably compares the Russian President to Adolf Hitler and Russia to Nazi Germany; attacks on “Zionist” Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy for his Jewish identity; and comparisons between Russia’s aggression and Israel’s actions, or “*what the Jew dogs are doing to Muslims*”, as one offender put it in an email to a Jewish organisation. None of these are particularly original in the realm of antisemitic rhetoric. They involve deep-rooted concepts of disproportionate Jewish power, of the uniquely Jewish evil of Israel and Zionism, and of the virtues of Nazi Germany in their persecution and murder of Jewish people. They have just been repackaged to fit the story of the day by antisemites

opportunistically looking for the latest vessel through which to channel their anti-Jewish hatred.



Defacing of a Ukraine-related mural with antisemitic imagery and conspiracy theory, Greater London, May

One of the core themes discussed in this report is the growing proportion of antisemitic incident offenders who are minors, higher than in any

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

previous half-year analysis conducted by CST. This was the case in 21% of the 387 incidents in which the approximate age of the offender or offenders was provided. While any potential explanation for this concerning spike would need more research, there is an intriguing aspect to the breakdown of perpetrators behind incidents featuring the rhetoric, ideologies and motivations covered in this chapter. Of the 83 incidents reported to CST between January and June 2022 where the offender is understood to be a minor, 44 (53%) involved one of these discourses. By way of comparison, this was true of 145 (48%) of the 304 incidents where the perpetrator is known to be over 18 years old.

It is striking that, in more incidents with child offenders than not, antisemitic abuse was littered with at least one example of an anti-Jewish narrative or ideological motivation. This may suggest that the rising percentage of offenders

who are minors is happening within a wider context of an increased exposure to extremist beliefs and conspiracy theories among this generation, possibly linked to the numerous and varied social media platforms on which many of this demographic are active. It is possible that this type of material is both inspiring and appearing in the harassment of Jews. In 38 of the incidents in which under-18s were the culprit, Holocaust- or Nazi-related rhetoric was present. Of these, nine involved the celebration of the Holocaust and its architects, or the desire to see the mass-murder of Jews repeated. On seven occasions, there was evidence of far-right motivation. The deployment of these three overlapping strands of discourse – the most frequently cited in cases of anti-Jewish hate perpetrated by minors – may indicate, at least superficially, that a possible driving force behind the proportion and content of antisemitism among minors is extreme right-wing ideology. To reiterate, this is a hypothesis that needs further investigation.

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS

Of the 786 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in the opening six months of 2022, 567 occurred across the regions of Greater London and Greater Manchester; the UK cities where the largest Jewish populations reside.

In the former, 463 incidents were reported, marking a fall of 39% from the 759 Greater London incidents recorded from January to June 2021. Greater Manchester's total of 104 incidents is a decrease of 43% from the 181 incidents that took place in the same area over the equivalent period in 2021.

CST recorded at least one antisemitic incident in all but two of the 33 Metropolitan Police boroughs of London. Of the 463 incidents recorded across Greater London in the first six months of 2022, 159 occurred in Barnet, the local authority that is home to the biggest Jewish population in the UK. There were 60 instances

of antisemitism reported to have taken place in Hackney, 37 in Westminster, 21 in Camden and 18 in Tower Hamlets. Barnet, Hackney and Camden are all areas where significant portions of London's Jewish community live, so it is not a surprise that a significant portion of London's anti-Jewish hate incidents continue to happen in those places. Westminster's high total, meanwhile, has several potential explanations. Located at the city centre, its high footfall means that, inevitably, people of different walks of life will simultaneously pass through, including Jewish people and antisemites. Since 2012, Westminster has recorded a higher total of all racial and religious hate crime than any other borough.⁹ Meanwhile, as the UK's political hub, antisemitic abuse of high-profile people or institutions is often directed at the offices

⁹ [Hate crime or special crime dashboard | Metropolitan Police](#)

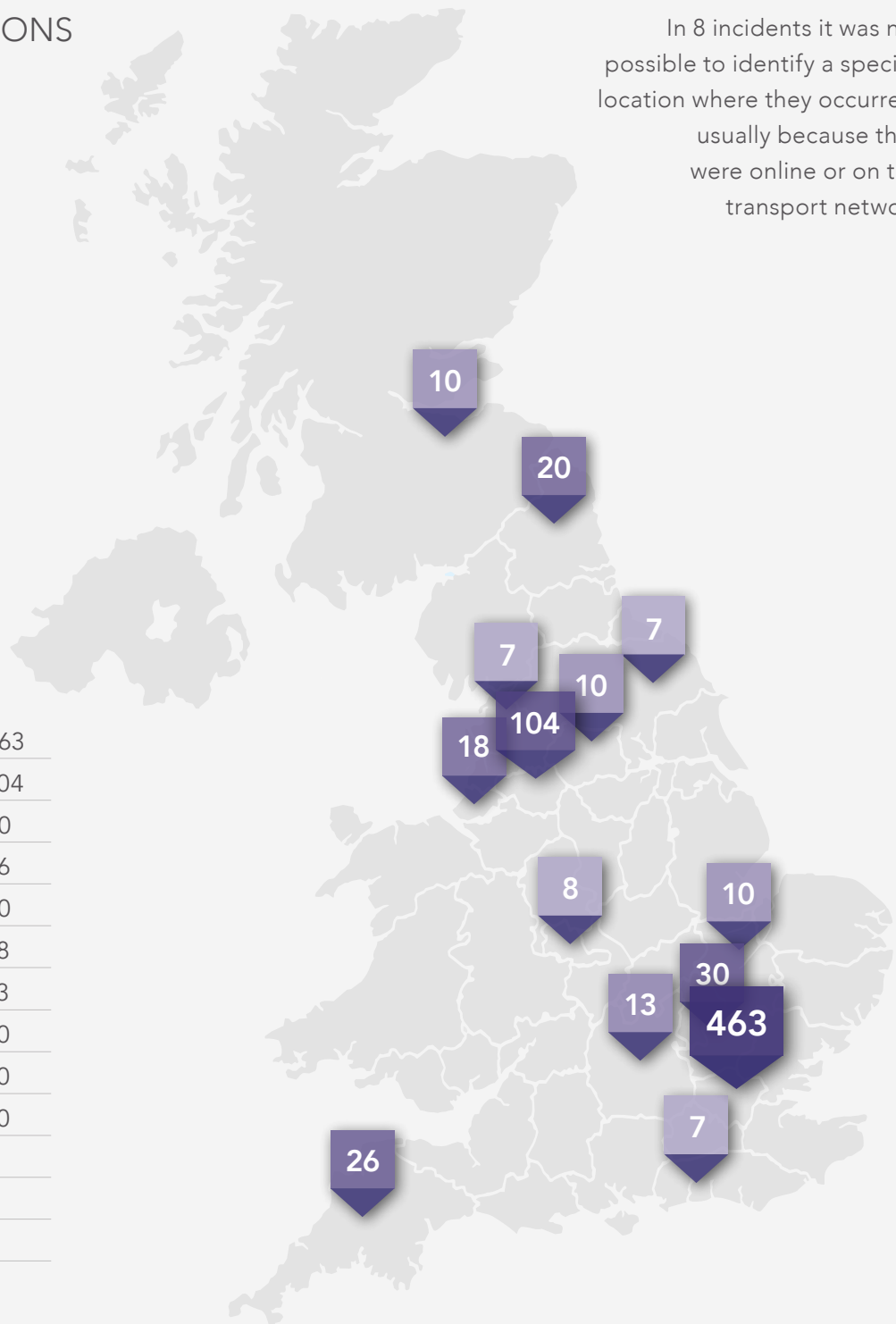
EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01

that are based there: Members of Parliament or politically active organisations were the victims in six of the 37 incidents reported in Westminster. Additionally, Westminster, as a political centre, is an area where many people are inclined to make their public political statements, including those who wish to share their opinions about Israel and Palestine, whether through protest or graffiti or

other methods. In some instances, these opinions cross over into antisemitism. As for Tower Hamlets, CST has continued to receive reports of antisemitic, conspiracy-laden, anti-Zionist graffiti, which has been appearing in the area for more than two years. Ten of the Tower Hamlets incidents involve antisemitic criminal damage to public property.

INCIDENT LOCATIONS

In 8 incidents it was not possible to identify a specific location where they occurred, usually because they were online or on the transport network



London	463
Manchester	104
Hertfordshire	30
Devon & Cornwall	26
Northumbria	20
Merseyside	18
Thames Valley	13
Cambridgeshire	10
Scotland	10
West Yorkshire	10
West Midlands	8
Lancashire	7
North Yorkshire	7
Sussex	7

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

Within Greater London's statistics, 22 incidents were reported to have taken place on property that falls under the jurisdiction of the British Transport Police. A further 13 were online incidents where it is known that either the victim or offender was based in the capital, but a more specific location could not be established.

Of Greater Manchester's 104 antisemitic incidents recorded for January to June 2022, 30 happened in Bury, 30 in Salford, 21 in the City of Manchester, five in Stockport and five in Trafford. In Greater Manchester, the boroughs of Bury and Salford are where the largest, most visibly Jewish communities reside. Within Greater Manchester's data, five of the recorded incidents occurred on property over which the British Transport Police has jurisdiction. An additional five were online incidents where either the victim or offender is known to be based in Manchester, but it was not possible to pinpoint a specific location within the region.

Although the incident numbers reported in these communal hubs have diminished in comparison with the first half of 2021, the combined proportional contribution of Greater London and Greater Manchester to the national incident total has grown, from 69% in 2021 to 72% in 2022. This increase reinforces a trend that has remained consistent throughout the years that CST has been compiling data about anti-Jewish hate: these centres of Jewish life are the regions where reported antisemitic hate incidents occur the most. The fact that offline incidents amount to 81% of the six-monthly total – as great a proportion as they have held since January to June 2017 – tallies with the idea that a higher percentage of incidents occurred in the regions where the opportunity for offenders to direct their hatred is maximised.

Although it is to be anticipated that most of the reported antisemitic incidents occur in the areas where Jewish life is most established, there was still a geographically broad spread of anti-Jewish hate across the UK, with incidents recorded in all but eight police regions from January to June 2022 (Cleveland, Lincolnshire, Humberside,

Gloucestershire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Suffolk and Surrey). While this is double the number of constabularies (Cleveland, Derbyshire, Dorset and Suffolk) where no instances of antisemitism were reported to have occurred in the first six months of 2021, this figure nonetheless illustrates another unfortunate truth of modern-day anti-Jewish hate: it exists and is articulated throughout the country, irrespective of the visible presence of Jewish people and communities.

One possible reason for this spread is the ongoing role that online forums play as a medium for the easy dissemination of antisemitic content, even if the volume of reported online antisemitism has reduced in comparison to the first half of 2021. Social media and instant messaging platforms are accessible and convenient channels for hate and have granted a wider demographic the opportunity to vent their prejudice far beyond their immediate environment, rendering their physical proximity to Jewish spaces irrelevant. As online incidents have become a constant reality of contemporary anti-Jewish hate, CST's own social media footprint has widened and, with it, the capacity for the public to report antisemitism, whether it occurs online or offline. CST has also worked to improve its precision in determining the location within the UK of either the victim or perpetrator of online incidents. Just seven of the 148 online incidents reported from January to June 2022 were recorded as 'Online Unknown', compared to 15 in the corresponding period last year.

Furthermore, the deepening relationship with police services spanning the UK has enabled CST to record incidents from around the country that may not have otherwise been reported. These data-sharing agreements are immensely beneficial and play a vital role in developing a more detailed understanding of where and how antisemitism happens in the UK.

Aside from the aforementioned locations, the police regions with the highest reported antisemitic incident totals were Hertfordshire with 30 incidents (compared to 38 in the first

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

half of 2021); Devon & Cornwall with 26 (rising from 22 between January and June 2021); Northumbria with 20 incidents (a decrease from the 45 recorded in the same timeframe in 2021); Merseyside with 18 incidents (down from the 26 reported in the first six months of 2021); and Thames Valley with 13 (compared to 20 from January to June 2021).

Apart from Greater London and Greater Manchester's boroughs, the towns and cities where reported antisemitic incident totals were highest were Borehamwood & Elstree in Hertfordshire (21 incidents), Gateshead

in Northumbria (11 incidents), Liverpool in Merseyside (ten incidents), Leeds in West Yorkshire (seven incidents), Birmingham in the West Midlands (six incidents), Brighton & Hove in Sussex (six incidents), and Oxford in Thames Valley (also six incidents). Included within all the figures in this chapter are 58 instances of antisemitism that took place on public transport or at public transport stations (12 on London buses, 12 on the London Underground and 34 on other transport services) that fall under the authority of the British Transport Police, and five instances where the victims were in private taxis when subjected to abuse by the driver.

REPORTING OF INCIDENTS

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 immensely valuable. From January to June 2022, 361 of the 786 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST were received from the police, making up 46% of all the incidents reported to CST. Of these 361 reports, 208 came from the Metropolitan Police Service, 47 from Greater Manchester Police, 26 from British Transport Police, 24 courtesy of Devon & Cornwall Police, 13 via Merseyside Police, and 43 from other police services around the country. Some of these partnerships are long-standing, others are much more recently established, and it is a testament to the work invested in developing and maintaining these relationships that the police are able to contribute so much to CST's antisemitic incident data and resulting analysis of anti-Jewish hate in the UK.

In the first six months of 2022, 143 of the 786 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST were reported by the victim, while 127 were reported by a witness to antisemitism, whether exhibited in a public space or online. In 44 cases, a friend,

EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01

relative or support provider related details of the incident, accounting for 6% of all incidents reported to CST. While a slight proportional decrease from January to June 2021, when 8% of incidents were reported by close associates of the victim, it remains higher than the figures recorded in the first half of 2020, when 2% of incidents were reported from this source. It is indicative of how the proportional increase in the targeting of minors with anti-Jewish hate, which rose during the escalation of hostilities between Israel and Hamas in May and June last year, has been sustained in 2022, with parents often reporting on behalf of the children involved. CST staff reported 68 occurrences of antisemitism, which includes online abuse directed at CST social media accounts, while 16 antisemitic incidents were reported by security guards at Jewish premises. An additional 16 incidents

came to CST’s attention through CST volunteers, five through media reports, while three were forwarded by the Community Alliance To Combat Hate (CATCH), a partnership of community organisations to whom victims who report hate crime to the police can be referred if they want specialist support.¹⁰ A further two incidents came to CST from partners who work to combat non-antisemitic hate crime, while one report was made by Manchester Shomrim.

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.

¹⁰ Several more incidents were forwarded to CST by CATCH but had already been reported to CST by the victim, a witness, or via another reporting source.

INCIDENT REPORTERS



361
Police



143
Victims



127
Witnesses



68
CST Staff



44
Friend/Relative/Support



16
CST Volunteers



16
Security Guards



5
Media Reports

• • EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01 • •

ANTISEMITIC INCIDENT FIGURES, JANUARY–JUNE

Antisemitic incident figures by category, January–June 2011–2022

Category	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Extreme Violence	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0
Assault	42	34	29	22	45	45	80	62	85	52	89	73
Damage & Desecration	35	29	20	27	36	32	54	44	39	33	59	30
Threats	15	20	18	19	39	48	58	56	50	45	87	49
Abusive Behaviour	197	223	154	238	374	473	582	616	727	739	1,129	630
Literature	5	4	2	4	5	10	12	32	10	5	5	4
TOTAL	294	312	223	310	501	608	786	810	911	875	1,371	786

Antisemitic incident figures by month, 2011–2022

Month	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	45	39	33	53	109	81	155	106	119	188	95	130
February	54	52	38	43	88	69	134	119	182	142	119	124
March	49	75	23	39	83	82	110	119	171	119	132	120
April	45	48	44	58	75	105	142	151	147	109	154	130
May	58	44	48	51	60	140	121	182	150	138	661	165
June	43	54	37	66	86	131	124	133	142	179	210	117
TOTAL	294	312	223	310	501	608	786	810	911	875	1,371	786

Antisemitic incident figures, full breakdown, 2022

Month	Category	Extreme Violence	Assault	Damage & Desecration	Threats	Abusive Behaviour	Literature	MONTH TOTAL
January		0	12	8	7	102	1	130
February		0	10	5	9	100	0	124
March		0	15	7	6	92	0	120
April		0	10	2	6	110	2	130
May		0	14	3	10	137	1	165
June		0	12	5	11	89	0	117
CATEGORY TOTAL		0	73	30	49	630	4	786

• • **EMBARGO UNTIL THURSDAY 4 AUGUST 2022 AT 00.01** • •

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.



Published by Community Security Trust © 2022

The text and illustrations may only be reproduced with prior permission of Community Security Trust



Scan the QR code to visit CST's social media accounts

www.cst.org.uk

National Emergency Number (24-hour) **0800 032 3263**

London (Head Office) **020 8457 9999**

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

CST is a registered charity in
England and Wales (1042391)
and Scotland (SC043612)