COMMUNITY SECURITY GROUP
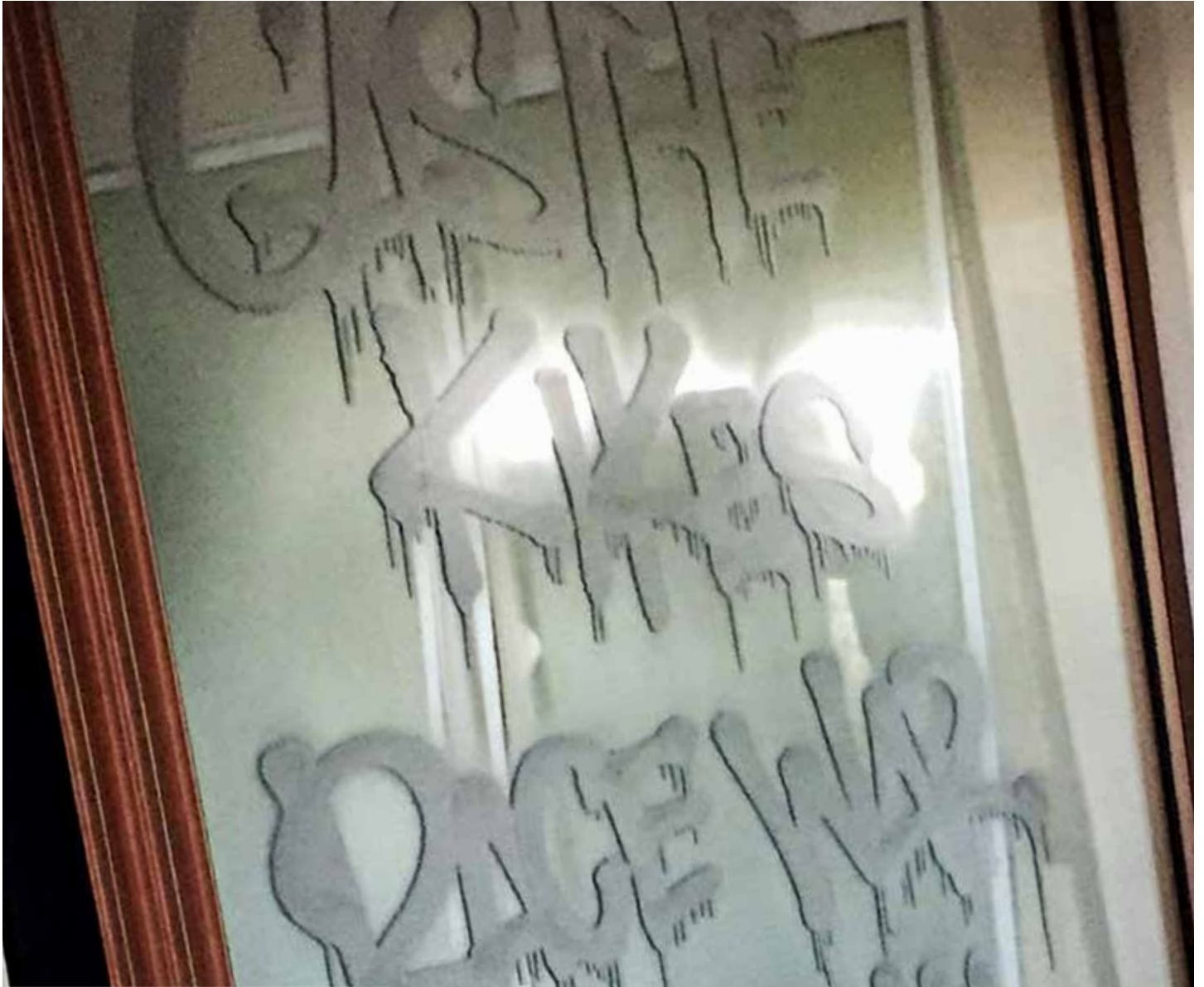
A CSG ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS IN AUSTRALIA 2018

This Report has been authored by CSG for reference by relevant stakeholders.
It is not intended for broad public distribution.

COMMUNITY SECURITY GROUP

This publication is a specialist analysis by the CSG. It is different in purpose and scope to that of the Annual Report on Antisemitism in Australia which is researched and published by the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ), the elected national representative body of the Australian Jewish Community. The ECAJ Antisemitism Report is a comprehensive report of antisemitic incidents and public antisemitic discourse in Australia. This CSG publication complements the ECAJ Antisemitism Report and provides additional analysis specifically of antisemitic incidents that have been reported to the CSGs in Australia for use in the provision of security protection to the Australian Jewish Community. Because they serve different purposes, the ECAJ Antisemitism Report and this publication cover different time periods, and apply different collection methods and different classifications of incidents.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report will statistically review antisemitic incidents in the 2018 calendar year, reported to the Community Security Group (CSG) across Australia.

This is the first published report by CSG on antisemitic incident statistics, albeit CSG has been recording antisemitic incidents since its inception.

CSG recorded 343 antisemitic incidents in Australia in 2018. This included one act of Extreme Violence, meaning an act of violence potentially causing loss of life or grievous bodily harm.

KEY FINDINGS

» The single highest category of antisemitic incident reported was Abusive Behaviour at 290 incidents (85%), followed by 21 incidents of Damage & Desecration, 14 Threats, 10 incidents of Literature, 7 Assaults and 1 act of Extreme Violence.

» New South Wales (NSW) experienced the highest reported antisemitic incidents at 216 (63%), followed by 90 incidents in Victoria (26%), 16 in Queensland, 12 in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT), 6 in Western Australia, 3 in South Australia, and no incidents reported in Tasmania or the Northern Territory.

» The highest recorded target location of antisemitic incidents was Synagogues with 96 reported incidents (28%), followed by 86 incidents in public places (25%), 54 at Jewish organisations, 49 at private properties, 26 at Jewish schools and 18 at Jewish homes, businesses or properties.

» Fourteen threats were reported to CSG in 2018 including a hoax Improvised Explosive Device (IED), a vehicle being used in a threatening manner, and a letter containing a bullet.

» Four of the 7 assaults reported in Australia targeted Jewish persons walking to or from Synagogue. Assaults included physical violence, projectiles including eggs and bottles, and visibly Jewish people chased on foot and in vehicle.

» A large portion of incidents took place during a Jewish festival period or the Jewish Sabbath, constituting 135 incidents (39%). Notably, 11% of incidents took place during the Jewish High Holy Day festival period (9 September – 2 October 2018).

» Twelve incidents involved schoolchild victims, 3 of which occurred at a non-Jewish school, 2 at a Jewish school, 2 on school excursions, 2 on public transport, and 3 others in a public area.

» Extreme right discourse was reported in 36% of incidents. This includes neo-Nazi language or symbology such as Sieg Heil gestures and swastika graffiti.

» Five offenders in total were charged (1.5%), and an additional offender arrested, all in NSW, and all adult males.

» Police were notified of 217 incidents (79%). Separately, CSG were notified by various Australian law enforcement bodies of an additional 19 antisemitic incidents.

29
The average number of antisemitic incidents every month in 2018

In addition to the 343 antisemitic incidents reported to CSG in 2018, a further 537 incidents of suspicious activity were reported, as well as 132 activity reports that neither qualified as antisemitic nor suspicious. In total, the CSG workforce reported, processed and assessed 1012 reports, as part of CSG's role in the provision of security protection to the Australian Jewish Community.

"It is highly likely that there is significant under-reporting of antisemitic incidents to CSG and law enforcement in Australia. As a result, the number of antisemitic incidents is likely to be much higher than recorded in this report. CSG encourages the Jewish Community to report these incidents in future through the CSG Alert app or the CSG National Emergency, Advice & Assistance Hotline (1300 000 274) and to local Police."

CONTENTS

ABOUT CSG

The Community Security Group (CSG) oversees the specialised and specific security needs of the Jewish Community in NSW, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia and these organisations work closely with their associated Jewish Community Council or Jewish Board of Deputies, under the auspices of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ).

In each representative state, CSG works closely with Government and law enforcement to ensure oversight of the Jewish Communities' security and emergency management programs and policies.

DEFINITION OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

CSG has defined an antisemitic incident as any malicious act aimed at Jewish people, organisations or property, where there is evidence that the act has antisemitic motivation or content, or that the victim was targeted because they are, or are believed to be, Jewish.[1.] Antisemitic motivation, language or targeting must be demonstrated for the incident tobe classified as antisemitic. This definition is not dictated by Commonwealth or state legislation, with both non-criminal and criminal incidents included in this report.

The general activities of antisemitic organisations have not been included in this statistical assessment, as these activities are far-ranging, significantly unpublicised and in some cases, so voluminous that the data would be substantially and improperly skewed.

Antisemitic incidents may occur in a variety of forms, including physical force against people or property, verbal or written abuse, and antisemitic posters, leaflets or stickers. A large amount of antisemitic activity also takes place online, particularly on social media platforms. CSG statistically records all formally reported antisemitic online activity, but excludes proactively located antisemitic material hosted online. Antisemitic incidents online are recorded only when the victim and/or the offender is located in Australia.

A large amount of antisemitic activity also takes place online, particularly on social media platforms.

Incidents that are strictly anti-Israel are not classified as antisemitic. However, incidents containing some anti-Israel component have been classified as antisemitic where the incident has involved antisemitic discourse, evident antisemitic motivation and/or the targeting of a victim because they are, or are believed to be, Jewish or associated with the Jewish Community.

An incident involving neo-Nazi symbology, specifically including the swastika, is categorically considered antisemitic where there is an intended public audience or victim.

[1.] CSG has based this publication on the model of the Community Security Trust's (CST) annual and biannual publication on antisemitic incidents; 'Antisemitic Incidents Report 2018', Community Security Trust, 2019.
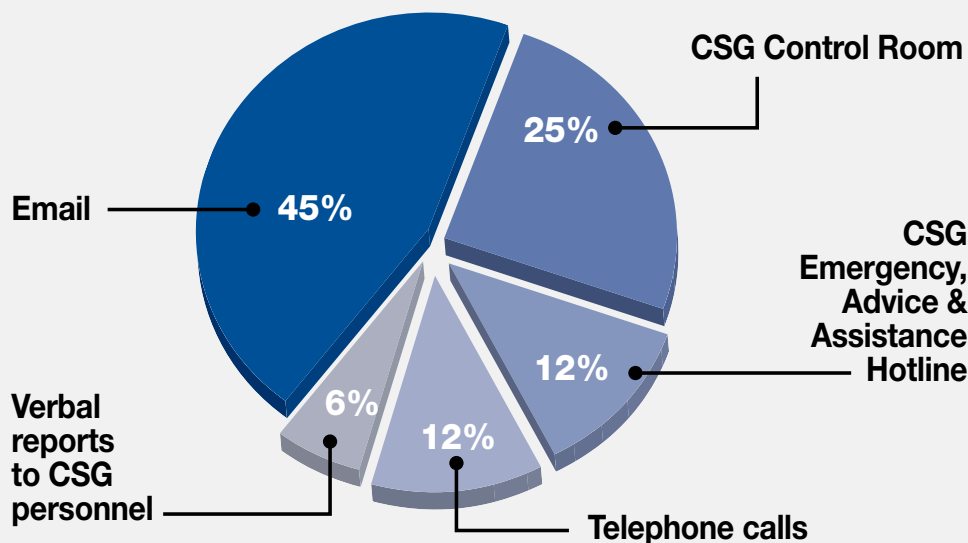
REPORTING

Antisemitic incidents are reported to CSG from an array of sources, including from victims and their family or friends, witnesses, the CSG workforce, commercial security operating at Jewish sites, other Jewish organisations and law enforcement.

The highest reporter type to CSG in 2018 was the victim themselves, in 103 incidents (30%). Fifteen additional incidents were reported by the victim's family, friend or other representative. The second highest reporter type was the workforce of CSG, who reported 92 incidents, followed by 43 reports by other Jewish organisations and 19 reports by commercial security at Jewish sites.

An additional 19 incidents were reported by law enforcement to CSG. Separately, Police were notified of 217 incidents (79%). [2.]

REPORTING METHOD TO CSG:

Email **45%**

CSG Control Room **25%**

CSG Emergency, Advice & Assistance Hotline **12%**

Telephone calls **12%**

Verbal reports to CSG personnel **6%**

CSG staff have undergone specialist training to professionally respond to, assess, record and triage antisemitic and other security incidents, and provide specific security and incident advice to victims and witnesses. CSG respects the wishes and needs of incident victims including victim confidentiality and liaison with law enforcement.

CSG encourages the Australian Jewish Community to report all incidents through the CSG Alert app or the Hotline as preferred reporting methods.

It is highly likely that there is significant under-reporting of antisemitic incidents to CSG and law enforcement in Australia, likely making the actual number of antisemitic incidents substantially higher than recorded.

A 2017 statistical report of Australian Jewish experience, 'The Gen 17 Survey', found that 'almost one in ten Jews (9%) indicated that they had witnessed or experienced [antisemitic] verbal insults and harassment over the previous 12 months, with the highest level being among Strictly Orthodox Jews aged under 40 (31%)'. [3]

With a population of approximately 113,000 Jewish persons living in Australia, the number of reported antisemitic incidents is therefore extremely low. An additional proportion indicated they 'had witnessed (2%) or experienced (0.5%) physical attack over the last twelve months'. Under-reporting of antisemitic incidents is not confined to the Australian public, with a 2018 survey by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights finding that 'only 21 per cent of British Jews who had experienced antisemitic harassment over the previous five years had reported it to the Police or to any other organisation'. [4.]

[2.] All incidents were reported to Police in Victoria, 107 incidents were reported in NSW, 9 incidents were reported in Queensland, 8 were reported in the ACT, and 3 were reported in Western Australia.

[3.] Graham, David & Markus, A, 'Gen17 Australian Jewish Community Survey: Preliminary Findings', Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation, Monash University, 2018.

[4.] 'Antisemitic Incidents Report 2018', CST, 2019, p. 7.

INCIDENT CATEGORIES

Antisemitic incidents have been classified into six categories: Extreme Violence, Assault, Threat, Damage & Desecration, Abusive Behaviour and Antisemitic Literature.[5]

CSG RECORDED INCIDENTS

Damage & Desecration: **21**

Threats: **14**

Literature: **10**

Assaults: **7**

Extreme Violence: **1**

Abusive Behaviour: **290**

EXTREME VIOLENCE

Extreme Violence is considered the most severe category of antisemitic incident, and is defined as any attack potentially causing loss of life or grievous bodily harm.

There was one recorded act of Extreme Violence in Australia in 2018.

Example

» A religious Jewish woman, aged 20, was stabbed in the neck and her younger brother punched in the head, outside their home, 130 metres from a nearby Synagogue. The incident took place during the Jewish festival of Shavuot. Both victims were dressed in Jewish religious clothing. The offender walked past the siblings, before turning around to engage in violence. The offender was not apprehended (Melbourne, 19 May 2018).[6]

5. 'Antisemitic Incidents Report 2018', CST, 2019, p. 18; These are the categories adopted by the CST in their classification of antisemitic incidents in the United Kingdom.

6. While there was no apparent motive in this incident, the victims were wearing religious clothing and the incident took place on a religious festival nearby a Synagogue, so it has been deemed highly likely antisemitic.

ASSAULT

Assault is any actual or attempted physical attack against a person that constitutes actual bodily harm or common assault. This includes violent use of force, chasing a target with a perceived intention to cause harm, and projectiles, even when the target is missed.

Seven assaults were reported to CSG in 2018. These included an incident of common assault, 3 incidents involving projectiles including eggs and bottles, and 3 incidents involving offender/s chasing visibly Jewish people on foot and in vehicle.

Six assaults were reported as random attacks targeting visibly Jewish people in public places. Of note, 4 assaults targeted Jewish persons walking to or from Synagogue on either a Jewish festival period and/or Sabbath. The majority of assaults took place in Victoria with 5 incidents, and 2 in NSW. In 3 assaults the victims were minors, and in a separate assault the offender was a minor.

Examples

» A visibly Jewish minor was chased by a man while walking to Synagogue for Sabbath services. The man chased the minor for two blocks, yelling 'Where are all the Jews?', 'Where do the Jews pray?' and 'Where do they live?', and then grabbed the minor's jacket (Melbourne, 12 January 2018).

» A man and woman sitting in a vehicle screamed antisemitic abuse towards a Jewish family walking home from Synagogue. They then exited their vehicle, and started chasing the father while threatening to physically assault him. The offending man was described as heavily tattooed with a shaved head. This assault took place on the Jewish festival of Simchat Torah (Melbourne, 2 October 2018).

» Eggs were thrown at visibly Jewish children walking on the street on a Friday night, during the Sabbath (Melbourne, 21 September 2018).

THREAT

A threat is classified as any directly communicated intent to inflict a violent or hostile action.

A threat may be verbal, written or physical, including hoax Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) where the item does not actually contain any dangerous or hazardous material. A threat is distinct from general abuse in that there is a direct insinuation of future violent or hostile action towards people and/or property.

Fourteen threats were reported to CSG in 2018. The most serious threat was a hoax IED, followed by an incident involving a vehicle being used in a threatening manner, and a letter containing a bullet. The other incidents included 7 verbal threats of violence in-person, 2 written letters, and 2 threats delivered via social media. Five threats contained extreme right discourse.

6

threats took place at Synagogues

Eight threats targeted identifiably Jewish individuals, and 3 were directed towards uniformed security personnel immediately outside identifiably Jewish sites. The threats to security personnel included a threat to stab personnel and a threat to run personnel over with a vehicle. Six threats took place at Synagogues, 3 in public places, 2 on Jewish private property and 1 at a Jewish school. Of note, 29% of threats took place either on Sabbath or on a Jewish festival. One incident involved a female minor who received neo-Nazi threats from an adult male not known to her.

The majority of threats took place in NSW with 8 incidents (57%), followed by 3 in Western Australia, and 1 each in Victoria, ACT and Queensland.

Examples

» A man deliberately placed two objects designed to resemble IEDs at the back door of a Synagogue. Emergency services attended and the man was later arrested and charged (Sydney, 4 December 2018).

» Three letters were received by a Rabbi and a prominent Jewish figure from the same sender. The content of the letters included a threat to shoot the victim, a bullet, and neo-Nazi material (Perth, April & July 2018).

» A man approached a Jewish school in his vehicle and stated 'I'm here to blow up the school', and 'I have bombs and machetes inside my car' (Sydney, 21 February 2018).

» A teenage Jewish girl received neo-Nazi messages from an adult male over social media, including threats to gas her family. The man was unknown to her (Canberra, October 2018).

» A vehicle with high-beam lights accelerated aggressively towards visibly Jewish congregants crossing the road as they walked to Synagogue for Sabbath services on a Friday evening. The congregants ran out of the way to avoid being hit (Sydney, 4 May 2018).

» A man called a Synagogue and warned that 'something may happen', before posting on social media that he would 'destroy' the Synagogue's staff (Gold Coast, 16 December 2018).

The most serious threat was a hoax IED, followed by an incident involving a vehicle being used in a threatening manner, and a letter containing a bullet.

DAMAGE & DESECRATION TO JEWISH PROPERTY

Damage & Desecration is defined as any adverse material act against Jewish-owned property, or property perceived to be associated with Jews. The act must be directed against property, with no potential harm to people. This category includes antisemitic graffiti, vandalism, postering and hacking.

Twenty-one incidents of Damage & Desecration were reported to CSG in 2018. Incidents included 1 act of arson, 11 acts of vandalism, 5 acts of graffiti, and 4 incidents of postering and/or stickering. Vandalism included rocks and metal bars thrown through the windows of Jewish preschools and schools, as well as gates, vents and lights ripped off and/or stolen from Synagogues. Ten incidents targeted Synagogues, 3 targeted Jewish schools, 4 targeted Jewish homes, 2 targeted vehicles owned by identifiably Jewish persons, and 1 targeted a Jewish business (a kosher bakery).

Fifty-two per cent of all Damage & Desecration incidents involved extreme right discourse, including 6 swastikas spray painted, carved, burned or materially placed on Jewish property, and an additional 4 posters and stickers advertising neo-Nazi organisations on Jewish property.

Most incidents took place in NSW with 13 incidents, 3 in Victoria, 3 in ACT, 1 in Queensland and 1 in South Australia.

21
incidents of Damage & Desecration were reported to CSG in 2018.

Examples

» A handmade, felt swastika was placed inside the personal vehicle of an identifiably Jewish person (Sydney, 20 June 2018).

» The front lawn of a Jewish home was poisoned in the shape of a swastika. The home was identifiably Jewish, with a mezuzah (Jewish ornament) on the front doorpost (Sydney, 21 November 2018).

» A metal bar was thrown through a window of a Jewish preschool (Canberra, 28 August 2018).

» Posters advertising a neo-Nazi organisation were placed on a Synagogue on the anniversary of Hitler's birthday (Adelaide, 20 April 2018).

» Four rocks were thrown at night through the window of a Jewish school (Melbourne, 22 February 2018).

» A swastika was spray painted on the fence of a Synagogue (Newcastle, 8 March 2018).

» Graffiti was spray painted on four Jewish-owned vehicles. The graffiti included swastikas, phallic imagery and words including 'Rapist' (Sydney, 7 January 2018).
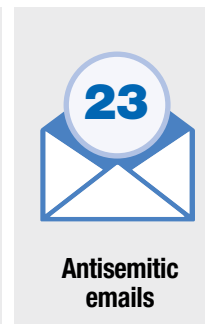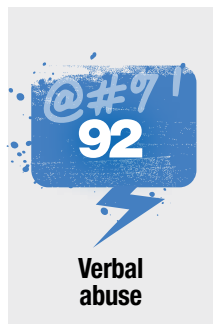
ABUSIVE BEHAVIOUR

Abusive Behaviour is insulting or offensive antisemitic activity. The behaviour may be directed towards a victim or be broadly offensive, and may include verbal or written abuse and antisemitic gestures.

Abusive Behaviour constituted the largest category of reported antisemitic incidents in 2018. Two hundred and ninety reports of Abusive Behaviour were received, comprising 85% of all antisemitic incidents.
'Verbal abuse constituted the largest type of abuse with 92 incidents reported, followed by 56 incidents of antisemitic graffiti on non-Jewish property, 38 incidents of abuse over social media, 24 antisemitic gestures and 23 antisemitic emails. Other incidents included antisemitic telephone calls, stickering, postering, web enquiries and letters.

Examples

» Large swastikas were carved into the Woollahra Golf Course (Sydney, 18 April 2018).

» A Jewish child experienced antisemitic harassment at a high school by other students including the Sieg Heil salute towards the Jewish child. The abuse continued for over a month (Sydney, June 2018).

» A man yelled antisemitic abuse, including 'Sieg Heil', outside a Jewish bakery. The man was wearing a t-shirt with a large black swastika, and had neo-Nazi tattoos on his face, head and arms. The same man was seen two weeks later outside a Synagogue, performing the Sieg Heil salute towards the building (Melbourne, 3 & 19 January 2018).

ABUSIVE BEHAVIOUR INCIDENTS

92	56	38	24	23
Verbal abuse	Antisemitic graffiti	Abuse over social media	Antisemitic gestures	Antisemitic emails

Forty per cent of Abusive Behaviour occurred on Sabbath and/or a Jewish festival period. Eighty incidents were directed towards Synagogues, 59 of which targeted Jewish persons and/or security personnel immediately outside a Synagogue. A further 74 incidents took place in a public place, 54 incidents took place at a Jewish organisation, 41 on private property, 21 at a Jewish school, and 8 at Jewish homes, businesses or property. Overall, 70 incidents were directed towards identifiably Jewish individuals.

Ninety-nine incidents involved extreme right discourse, including Sieg Heil gestures and neo-Nazi statements towards Jewish persons. Separately, 4 incidents involved persons yelling 'Allahu Akbar' towards Jewish persons.

A large portion of incidents took place in NSW at 187 incidents, followed by 77 reported in Victoria, 14 in Queensland, 7 in ACT, 3 in Western Australia and 2 in South Australia.

74
incidents took place in a public place

Abusive behaviour constituted the largest category of reported antisemitic incidents in 2018. Two hundred and ninety reports of Abusive Behaviour were received, comprising 85% of all antisemitic incidents.

Examples continued

» Antisemitic graffiti including caricatures of Jews, swastikas and the phrases 'Jews Drink Goyim Blood', 'Gas The Kikes Race War Now', 'RAHOWA' (Racial Holy War) and 'Jews Can Eat Shit' was spray painted at an uninhabited property nearby a Jewish school (Sydney, 14 September 2018).

» A man standing on a train station platform yelled that he was a 'soldier of ISIS' (Islamic State) and was going to 'Kill the Yehudim' (Jews) and 'cut their heads off, clean slice' (Melbourne, 5 April 2018).

» A man yelled 'I saw you coming out of the Synagogue, you f-cking Jew' towards a Jewish congregant travelling home from Synagogue (Perth, 2 January 2018).

» Graffiti of a swastika and the phrase 'Jew Scum' was spray painted on private property (Melbourne, 16 April 2018).

LITERATURE

Literature is defined as antisemitic literature that is distributed in multiple quantities, with each piece identical in content. It is often applicable in incidents of mass produced antisemitic posters and stickers that are widely distributed over a geographic area, or identical antisemitic emails or letters sent to multiple recipients.

Such a distribution would count as one incident to reflect that it is one act by one offender or group.

10
incidents of Literature were reported to CSG in 2018

This also avoids inflating the overall statistics. In addition, CSG excludes from statistical review proactively sought antisemitic literature that reflects the general activities of antisemitic organisations.

Ten incidents of Literature were reported in 2018. Nine of these incidents were posters and stickers from neo-Nazi organisation, Antipodean Resistance, and 1 incident was an antisemitic letter sent to multiple recipients.

ANALYSIS

INCIDENT VICTIMS

Antisemitic incidents in 2018 targeted a large cross section of the Jewish Community in Australia, including Jewish people, sites, events and property.

40% of reported victims were female

Eighty-two incidents were directed at identifiably Jewish individuals and 64 incidents were directed towards uniformed security personnel immediately outside Jewish sites or events. Twenty victims were reported as walking to or from a Synagogue, although it is likely the actual number is significantly higher due to considerable under-reporting.

The most common type of site targeted was Synagogues with 94 incidents reported, followed by 86 incidents reported in public places, 54 at Jewish organisations, 26 at Jewish schools, 49 on private property, and 16 at Jewish homes, businesses or property.

Nine incidents occurred on a university campus, with 4 incidents involving university students as victims.
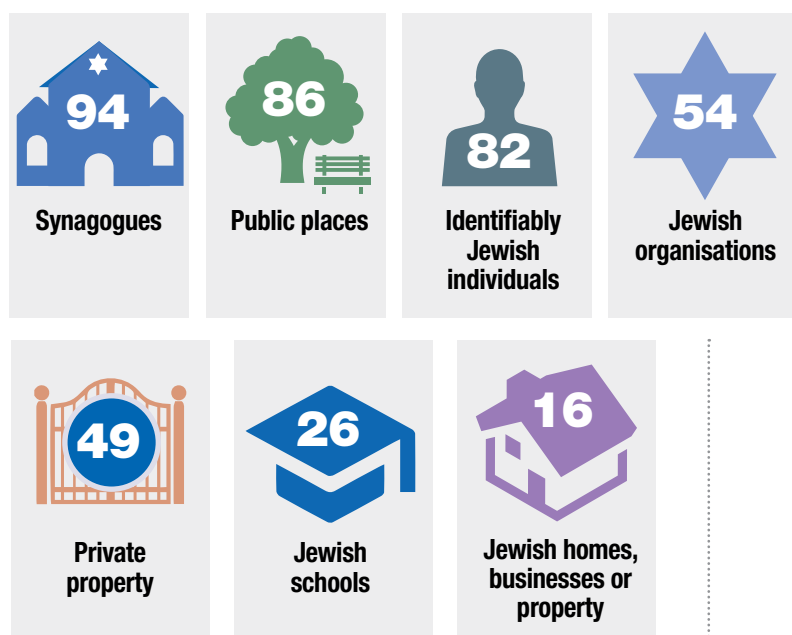
Victims were reported as female in 40% of cases where information on the victim was available.

INCIDENT OFFENDERS

Where possible, CSG has recorded the age, gender and appearance of incident offenders. Notably, in 34% of incidents the offender provided either their name, self-presented a unique identifier such as a social media profile name, or were already known.

CSG received an approximate age of the offender/s in 182 of the 343 incidents (53%), with offenders described as adults in 173 incidents, minors in 8 incidents and both adults and minors together in 1 incident. Minors were involved in 8 incidents of Abusive Behaviour (7 verbal abuse and 1 graffiti) and 1 incident of assault. All minors were reported as male where gender was recorded.

A physical description of the offender was obtained in 115 incidents, with offenders described as 'Caucasian' appearance in 86 incidents (75%). Offenders were described as 'Middle Eastern' appearance in 26 incidents (23%), 'Asian' appearance in 2 incidents, 'South Asian' appearance in 2 incidents and of 'dark complexion' in 2 incidents.

In 55 incidents there was either more than one offender or the offender was accompanied by other people.

SITES BEING TARGETED

94 Synagogues	**86** Public places	**82** Identifiably Jewish individuals	**54** Jewish organisations
49 Private property	**26** Jewish schools	**16** Jewish homes, businesses or property	

Nineteen incidents involved victims who were minors. Twelve incidents involved schoolchildren, 3 of which occurred at a non-Jewish school, 2 at a Jewish school, 2 on school excursions, 2 on public transport, and 3 others in a public area. Seven of the 12 incidents involved female victims.
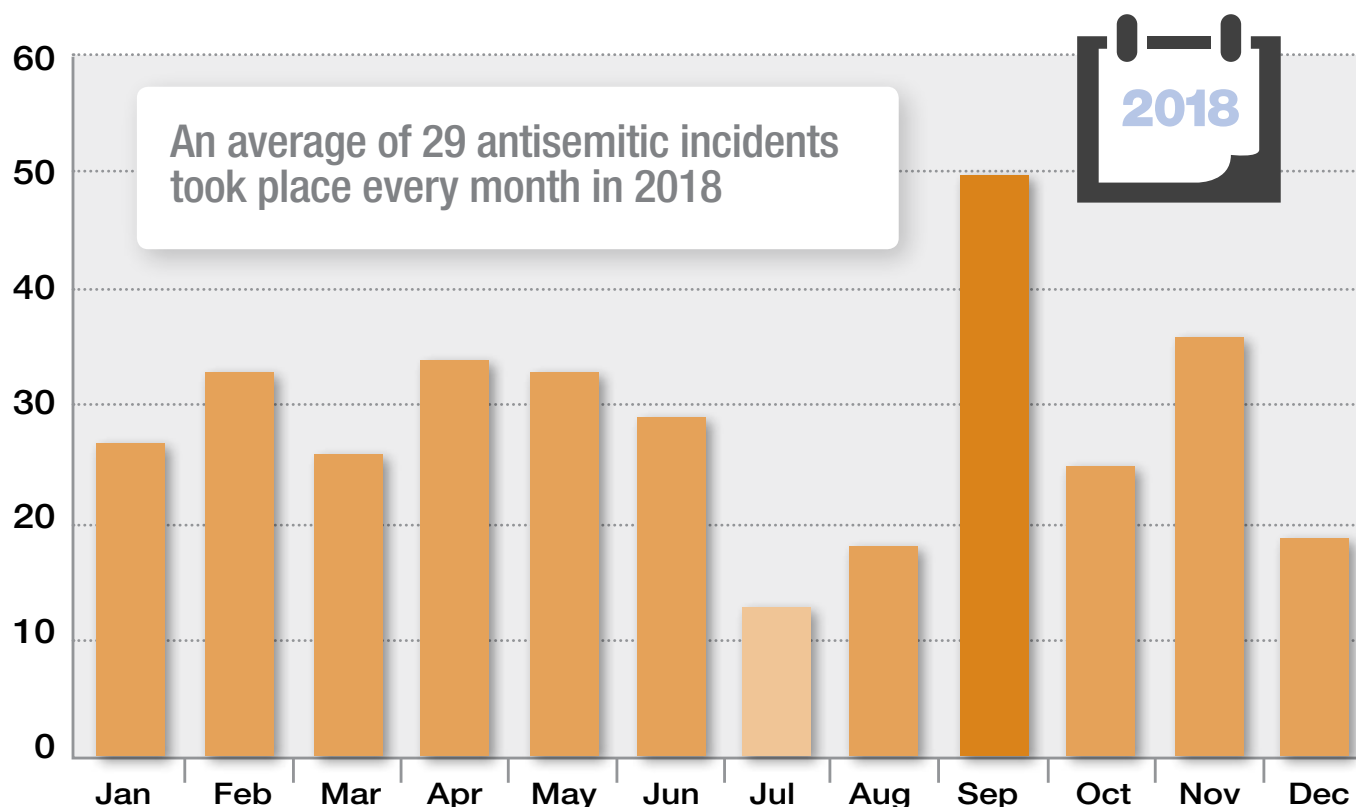
A description of the gender of the offender was obtained in 182 incidents, with offenders described as male in 167 incidents, female in 8 incidents and a group of males and females in 7 incidents.

MONTHLY BREAKDOWN

An average of 29 antisemitic incidents took place every month in 2018. A large spike occurred in September with 50 incidents reported. This is likely due to the Jewish High Holy Days festival (9 September – 2 October 2018) where members of the Jewish Community are more overtly present in the public domain, including when walking to and from Synagogue.

Overall the monthly number of incidents is generally evenly distributed. The lowest monthly incident total was 13 in July, with no explanation attributable to this minor decline.

An average of 29 antisemitic incidents took place every month in 2018

2018

(Bar chart showing monthly antisemitic incidents for 2018. Y-axis from 0 to 60. Months Jan–Dec. Values approximately: Jan 26, Feb 32, Mar 25, Apr 33, May 32, Jun 28, Jul 13, Aug 18, Sep 50, Oct 25, Nov 36, Dec 18.)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Forty of the 343 antisemitic incidents involved the use of social media in 2018 (12%). Nearly half of these incidents were directed towards Jewish organisations with 19 reported incidents. Thirty-eight of the 40 incidents were Abusive Behaviour, and 2 were threats.

However, these figures only marginally reflect the volume and scope of antisemitism on social media. A large amount of antisemitic content is frequently posted indiscriminately and anonymously by diverse social media users worldwide. CSG only statistically records formally reported antisemitic online activity where the victim and/or the offender is located in Australia. Proactively located antisemitic material hosted online is excluded unless it specifically targets a Jewish site or person in Australia.
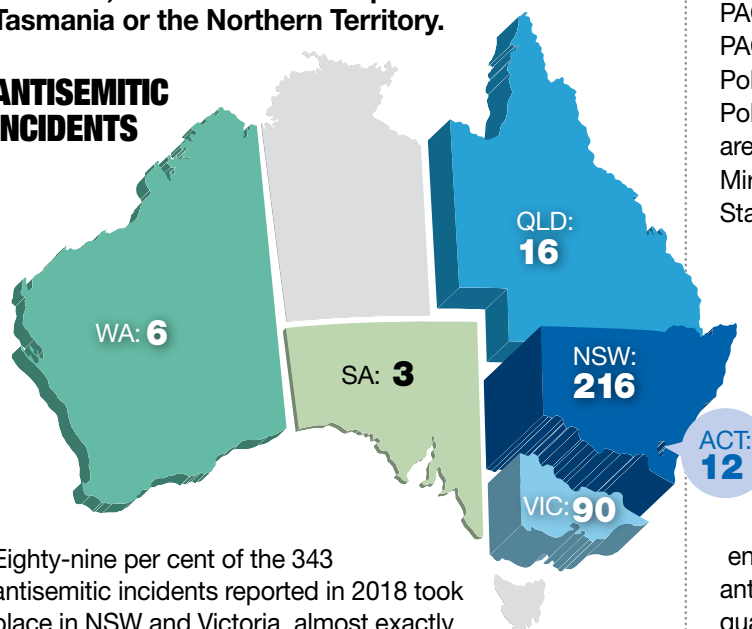
A large amount of antisemitic content is frequently posted indiscriminately and anonymously by diverse social media users worldwide.

GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

NSW experienced the highest reported number of antisemitic incidents at 216 (63%), followed by 90 incidents in Victoria (26%), 16 in Queensland, 12 in the ACT, 6 in Western Australia, 3 in South Australia, and no incidents reported in Tasmania or the Northern Territory.

ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

WA: **6**

SA: **3**

QLD: **16**

NSW: **216**

ACT: **12**

VIC: **90**

Eighty-nine per cent of the 343 antisemitic incidents reported in 2018 took place in NSW and Victoria, almost exactly reflecting the proportion of the Australian Jewish Community residing in those two states (87%). Reported incidents per state may also be indicative of the size, dominion and reach of the CSG workforce and other representative organisations.

Incidents were concentrated in the suburbs most heavily populated by the Jewish Community. In NSW, 87 incidents occurred in the 'Eastern Suburbs'[7] totalling 40% of all NSW incidents, including 38 incidents in the Bondi hub (Bondi, North Bondi, Bondi Beach and Bondi Junction). An additional 37 incidents occurred in Sydney's northern suburbs where another Jewish Community hub resides.[8] In Victoria, 68 incidents occurred in the combined suburbs of Balaclava, Bentleigh, Bentleigh East, Brighton, Caulfield, Caulfield North, Caulfield South, Elsternwick, Elwood, Malvern, St Kilda and St Kilda East. In Western Australia, incidents were confined to the three suburbs of Noranda, Menora and Balcatta, and in the ACT, 7 of the 12 incidents occurred in Forrest and Giralang.

In NSW, Darlinghurst was the most targeted suburb totalling 27 incidents (12.5%). Twenty-three of these incidents targeted the Sydney Jewish Museum and organisations located in the adjoining Jewish War Memorial Building, considered Sydney's Jewish communal organisational hub. Notably, 91% of incidents directed at this site involved targeted antisemitic correspondence, including emails, web enquiries and telephone calls. This is distinct from other areas in Sydney, where verbal abuse was the most common form of antisemitic incident reported.
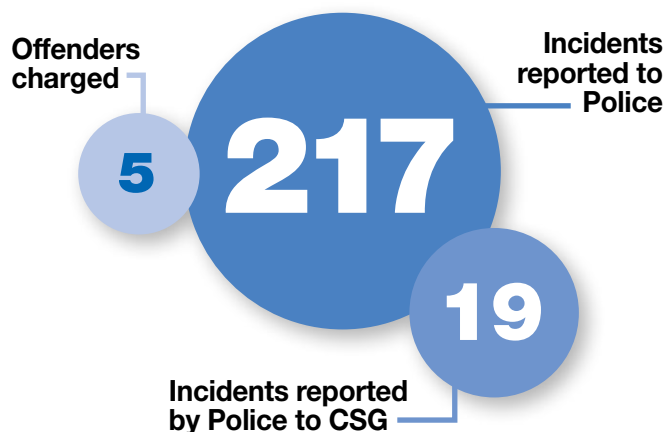
The concentration of the Australian Jewish population in particular suburbs in Australia has also meant that antisemitic incidents are generally confined to a select number of Police Area Commands (PACs) and Districts. In NSW, 79% of incidents occurred in 6 PACs, with 71 incidents reported in Eastern Suburbs PAC, 25 in Kings Cross PAC, 22 in Ku-Ring-Gai PAC, 21 in Sydney City PAC, 17 in Eastern Beaches PAC and 15 in North Shore PAC. In Victoria, 80% of incidents occurred in 2 local Police station areas, with 116 incidents in the Caulfield Police Station area, and 103 in the St Kilda Police Station area. In Western Australia, all incidents occurred in the Mirrabooka Police District, with 4 in the Morley Police Station area and 2 in the Mirrabooka Police Station area.

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION

An offender was charged in 5 of the 343 incidents (1.5%) and an additional offender was arrested but not charged. All of these 5 incidents occurred in NSW, and all 5 offenders were adult males. One offender engaged in threatening behaviour, and 4 engaged in Abusive Behaviour. Note, a large number of antisemitic incidents reported in Australia would likely not qualify as criminal offences.

In each representative state, CSG works closely with Government and law enforcement to ensure oversight of the Jewish Communities' security and emergency management programs and policies. Police were notified of 217 incidents (79%). Separately, CSG were notified by various Australian law enforcement bodies of an additional 19 antisemitic incidents.

Bias-motivated crime statistics are actively recorded by law enforcement in Australia. NSW Police recorded a total of 38 antisemitic incidents as bias-motivated in 2018, of which 18 were reported by NSW CSG to Police.

Offenders charged

5

217

Incidents reported to Police

19

Incidents reported by Police to CSG

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7. The Eastern Suburbs district adopted was the area allocated by the Australian Bureau of Statistics for 'Sydney – Eastern Suburbs (SA4) (118)'.

8. Suburbs include St Ives, Lindfield, Chatswood, Cremorne, East Kilara, Ryde, St Leonards, Gordon, Macquarie Park and Mosman.
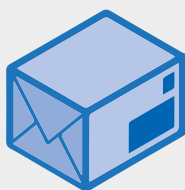
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTS

A critical function of CSG is to identify, respond to and assess incidents of suspicious activity. This forms a vital part of CSG's role in overseeing the specialised and specific security needs of the Jewish Community. Detecting and reporting potential hostile reconnaissance is critical in thwarting violent and/or planned terror activity. Individuals or groups seeking to perpetrate harm will often visit their target prior to carrying out their intended action.

INCIDENTS OF SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

142 Persons observing Jewish sites or people

122 Suspicious correspondence

111 Photo, video or note taking

88 Denials of entry based on suspicion

65 Suspicious interactions with unknown persons

8 Suspicious objects

The Jewish Community continues to be a chosen target of terror actors worldwide. As recently as Saturday 27 October 2018, eleven Jewish people were shot dead during a Sabbath morning Synagogue service in Pittsburgh, United States by a man with neo-Nazi ideology.

Antisemitic terrorism continues with at least 46 antisemitic terror attacks publicly reported as planned and/or perpetrated against Jewish targets worldwide in the last four years (2015 - 2018) in cities including Paris, Copenhagen, Barcelona, Berlin, Moscow, New York City, Kiev, Los Angeles, Milan, Istanbul, Miami, Rio de Janeiro and London.

Five hundred and thirty-seven incidents of suspicious activity were reported to CSG in 2018. Of the 537 incidents of suspicious activity, there were 142 reports of persons observing Jewish sites or people, 122 reports of suspicious correspondence, 111 reports of photo, video or note taking, 88 denials of entry based on suspicion, 65 suspicious interactions with unknown persons, and 8 suspicious objects. In addition, a further 132 activity reports that neither qualified as antisemitic nor suspicious were processed by CSG.

The CSG workforce have undergone specialist training in identifying suspicious indicators, enacting emergency procedures and response, collecting and assessing threat intelligence, and providing law enforcement with specific detail and evidence to assist in their identification and investigation, including closed-circuit-television (CCTV). CSG encourages community awareness and resilience, and provides training to staff at Jewish sites to recognise and report suspicious activity to Police and CSG.

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