

Executive summary

- 639 antisemitic incidents were recorded by CST in 2010. This is the second-highest annual total since CST began recording antisemitic incidents in 1984.
- The total of 639 incidents is a decrease of 31 per cent from the 2009 record high of 926¹ incidents. The year 2009 saw a record number of antisemitic incidents as a consequence of reactions to the Gaza conflict at the beginning of that year, which acted as a 'trigger event' affecting the incident totals for January, February and March 2009.
- The total of 639 antisemitic incidents in 2010 is 17 per cent higher than the 2008 total of 546 incidents, and continues the long-term trend of rising antisemitic incident levels during the past decade.
- The only significant trigger event in 2010 occurred when Israeli forces boarded a flotilla of ships bearing pro-Palestinian activists who were trying to break the Israeli naval blockade of Gaza; nine activists were killed during the subsequent on-board clashes. Reactions to this episode led to a monthly total of 81 antisemitic incidents in the UK in June 2010, compared to 49 in June 2009, when there was no comparable trigger event.
- September saw the highest monthly total in 2010 with 82 antisemitic incidents. This was mainly due to the high number of visibly Jewish people in public during the High Holy Day period, rather than any particular trigger event. Forty of these 82 incidents took place on the five days of the month covering Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year), Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement).
- There was a 46 per cent fall in the number of antisemitic incidents showing political motivation, from 442 in 2009 to 234 in 2010. Of the 234 antisemitic incidents in 2010 showing political motivation as well as antisemitism, 149 showed far-right motivation; 53 showed anti-Zionist motivation; and 32 showed Islamist motivation.
- CST received a physical description of the incident perpetrator in 214, or 33 per cent, of the 639 antisemitic incidents during 2010. Of these, 113 (53 per cent) were described as white; 16 (seven per cent) were described as black; 63 (29 per cent) were described as Asian; and 21 (10 per cent) were described as of Arab appearance.
- There were 114 violent antisemitic assaults in 2010, a fall of eight per cent from the 124 violent assaults in 2009. However, the number of violent assaults rose as a proportion of the overall total, from 13 per cent in 2009 to 18 per cent in 2010. CST recorded 88 incidents of violent antisemitic assault in 2008 and 117 in 2007.
- The 114 violent antisemitic incidents did not include any incidents categorised as Extreme Violence, which would include incidents that involved a threat to life or grievous bodily harm (GBH). This is the first time since 2003 that CST has not recorded any incidents in this category.
- Incidents of Damage and Desecration to Jewish property fell by seven per cent, from 89 incidents in 2009 to 83 incidents in 2010. There were 76 incidents of Damage and Desecration to Jewish property recorded in 2008.
- There were 385 incidents of Abusive Behaviour reported to CST in 2010, a fall of 36 per cent from the 606 incidents of this type recorded in 2009. This category includes verbal abuse, hate mail and antisemitic graffiti on non-Jewish property. The 2009 total of 606 Abusive Behaviour incidents was the highest ever recorded in this category, largely because of the trigger event of reactions to the Gaza conflict. There were 317 incidents of Abusive Behaviour reported to CST in 2008.
- There were 32 incidents reported to CST in the category of Threats, which includes

¹ The incident figures in this report may differ from those previously published by CST, due to the late reporting of incidents by victims and witnesses.

direct threats to people or property, rather than more general abuse. This is a fall of 29 per cent from the 45 incidents reported to CST in 2009. There were 28 incidents recorded in this category in 2008.

- There were 25 incidents recorded in the category of Literature in 2010, which covers mass-produced antisemitic mailings and emails rather than individual hate-mail. This is a fall of 60 per cent from the 62 incidents in this category in 2009. The high 2009 total was largely due to a series of hostile or abusive emails sent to one victim, probably by a single perpetrator. However, the 25 incidents recorded in this category in 2010 is also a fall from the 37 incidents of this type recorded in 2008.
- 59 antisemitic incidents targeted synagogues, and a further 52 incidents targeted synagogue congregants on their way to or from prayers.
- In 92 incidents, the victims were Jewish community organisations, communal events, community leaders or other high-profile individuals.
- In 44 incidents the victims were Jewish students, academics or other student bodies, a 55 per cent fall from the 97 campus-related incidents recorded in 2009. The 2009 figure of 97 incidents was abnormally high, due to a cluster of 38 incidents that year involving hostile or abusive emails sent

to an individual Jewish academic, probably by a single perpetrator. However, the 2010 total of 44 campus-related incidents is also a fall of 35 per cent from the 68 campus-related incidents reported to CST in 2008. Twenty-six of the 44 incidents recorded in 2010 took place on campus, all of which were in the category of Abusive Behaviour, and there were 18 incidents which affected students off campus.

- 58 incidents targeted Jewish schools, schoolchildren or teachers in 2010, a 15 per cent fall from the 68 incidents relating to schools and schoolchildren recorded in 2009. Of the 58 incidents in 2010, 28 were against Jewish schoolchildren on their journeys to or from school, 16 took place at Jewish school premises and 14 involved Jewish children or teachers at non-faith schools.
- Of the 639 incidents recorded by CST, 219 took place in Greater London, compared to 460 incidents in Greater London in 2009 and 236 in 2008; 216 took place in Greater Manchester, compared to 206 in Greater Manchester in 2009 and 125 in 2008; and 204 were reported to CST from 58 other locations around the country. This continues the pattern whereby a higher proportion of the antisemitic incidents reported to CST occur in Greater Manchester than should be the case, given the relative sizes of the Jewish communities



1011: Total number of potential antisemitic incidents reported to CST which required a response from CST staff and volunteers.

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



in Manchester and in London. The year 2010 was the first year in which the number of incidents recorded by CST in Greater Manchester constituted more than 30 per cent of the national total.

- The relatively high number of incidents in Greater Manchester, and the year-on-year rise in that area, is explained by various factors, including an increasingly visible Jewish community which is suffering higher numbers of antisemitic incidents; high reporting rates to CST from those parts of the community suffering incidents; and an excellent relationship between CST and Greater Manchester Police, which includes exchange of information between the two agencies about antisemitic incidents.
- In addition to the 639 antisemitic incidents recorded by CST in 2010, a further 372 reports of potential incidents were received by CST, but not included in the total number of antisemitic incidents as there was no evidence of antisemitic motivation, targeting or content.
- The 372 potential incidents reported to CST that were not included in the annual total included 147 cases of potential Information Collection and Suspicious Behaviour at Jewish locations. These included 46 incidents of photography or videoing of Jewish buildings, while

in 28 cases suspicious people tried to gain entry to Jewish premises. These are not categorised as antisemitic by CST as it is often not possible to determine their motivation and many are likely to have innocent explanations.

However, identifying and preventing the potential hostile reconnaissance of Jewish buildings or other potential terrorist targets is an important part of reducing the possibility of future terrorist attacks.

- In total, there were 1011 incidents, including antisemitic incidents and those of a non-antisemitic security-related nature, which required a response from CST staff and volunteers during 2010.