2019 ADL AUDIT OF ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS: NEW YORK

Each year, ADL's Center on Extremism tracks incidents of antisemitic harassment, vandalism, and assault in the United States. Since 1979, we have published this information in an annual Audit of Antisemitic Incidents. In 2019 ADL tabulated **2,107** antisemitic incidents throughout the United States, a **12%** increase from the **1,879** recorded in 2018 and the highest number on record since ADL began tracking incidents.

2019 Antisemitic Incidents

In New York in 2019, there were **430** reported antisemitic incidents, representing a **26%** increase from **340** reported incidents in 2018.
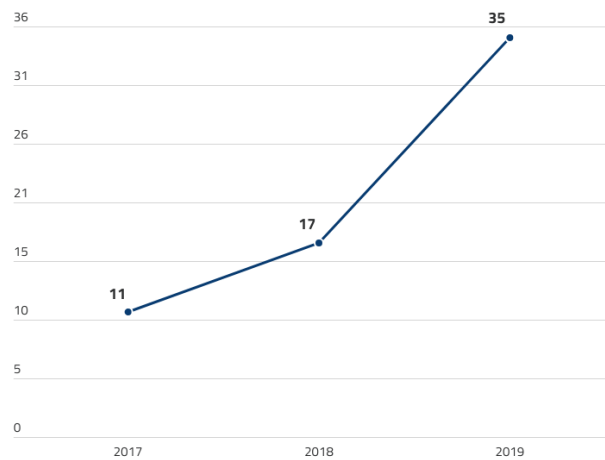
Attack in Monsey, New York

According to police reports, Grafton Thomas entered a rabbi's home in Monsey, New York, during a Hanukkah party on December 28, 2019, attacking attendees with a large knife. The attack left five injured, including Josef Neumann, who died of his injuries on March 29, 2020, three months after the attack.

The attack began just as the rabbi was preparing to light the menorah to mark the seventh night of Hanukkah. Monsey, a town in Rockland County, outside New York City, is home to a significant Jewish population. According to police and media reports, Thomas entered the home on Saturday just before 10 pm, screaming, "I'll get you." It is alleged that he fled the scene after stabbing multiple people. He was apprehended two hours later in Harlem, reportedly covered in blood and smelling of bleach.

On December 29, police in Ramapo, New York, charged Thomas with five counts of attempted murder and one count of burglary, to which Thomas pleaded not guilty. The following day, on December 30, federal prosecutors filed hate crimes charges against Thomas. According to news reports, the Rockland County District Attorney announced that he would seek to charge Thomas with murder following the death of Josef Neumann.

Antisemitic Assaults in New York

106% Increase Between 2018 and 2019

	2017	2018	2019
Value	11	17	35

Assaults in Brooklyn: December 2019

During 2019, New York State documented a disturbing 35 incidents of antisemitic assaults. During the month of December alone, ADL documented eight in Brooklyn, all taking place within an eight-day span, between December 23rd and December 31st.

These assaults were documented taking place primarily in the neighborhoods of Williamsburg and Crown Heights, home to large Orthodox Jewish communities. All eight of these documented assaults were perpetrated against individuals who were visibly Jewish. Objects were thrown at victims, antisemitic slurs were yelled, and at least three victims were hit or punched in their heads or faces. Three of these documented assaults took place *on one day* in Crown Heights.

Seven of the eight documented assaults occurred during the holiday of Hanukkah. All took place very shortly after the deadly attack in Jersey City, NJ and immediately before the deadly attack in Monsey, NY.
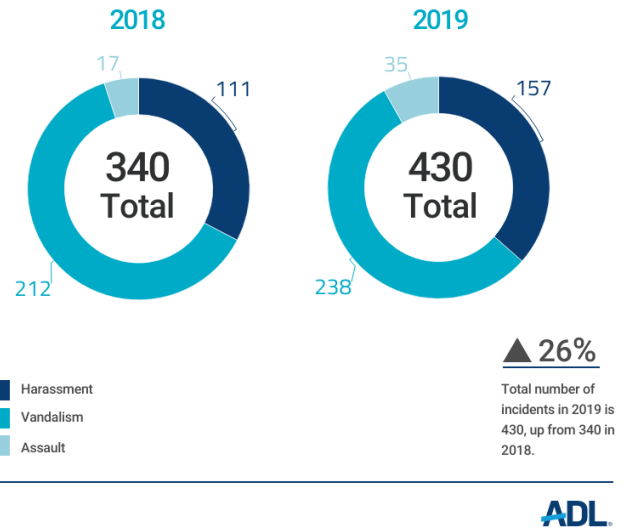
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Extremist Group and Propaganda Activity

White supremacist groups continued to maintain an active presence in New York in 2019, primarily convening online or in private locations, and then using propaganda distributions to communicate their hateful messages in public spaces.
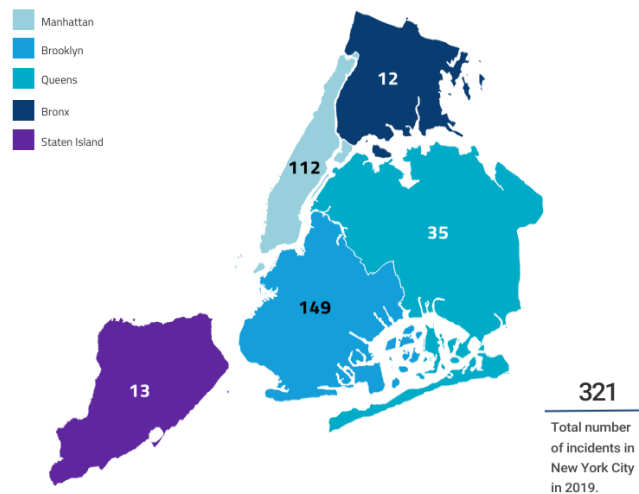
In 2019, there was a staggering 157% increase in propaganda distribution, with ADL documenting 172 incidents, up from 67 incidents documented in New York State in 2018. Although only 18 of them were overtly antisemitic and were included in the Audit, the potential for all types of white supremacist activity to provoke fear and anxiety in Jewish communities should not be discounted.

The most active white supremacist groups in New York State were Patriot Front and New Jersey European Heritage Association.

Antisemitic Incidents in **New York** are up 26% from 2018 to 2019

2018 — 340 Total
17 / 111 / 212

2019 — 430 Total
35 / 157 / 238

▲ 26%
Total number of incidents in 2019 is 430, up from 340 in 2018.

- Harassment
- Vandalism
- Assault

Anti-Semitic Incidents: New York City 2019

- Manhattan
- Brooklyn
- Queens
- Bronx
- Staten Island

Bronx: 12
Manhattan: 112
Queens: 35
Brooklyn: 149
Staten Island: 13

321
Total number of incidents in New York City in 2019.

K-12 Schools

Forty-three antisemitic incidents were documented in New York State K-12 schools in 2019. This is a 19% increase compared to the prior two years — with 36 reported in both 2017 and 2018. Most incidents were acts of vandalism, which nearly doubled, from 17 to 35, a 106% increase from 2018. In addition to one reported incident of assault, there were seven documented incidents of harassment. Thirty-seven of the 43 documented incidents involved swastikas.

Campus and University

New York State's universities and colleges experienced a decrease in antisemitic incidents, from 32 incidents in 2018 to 22 incidents in 2019. 10 of these were incidents of harassment and 13 were incidents of vandalism.

ADL encourages all members of the public to report incidents of antisemitism to local law enforcement and directly to ADL here: www.adl.org/reportincident

To learn more and take action against antisemitism in your community:, visit: www.adl.org/audit2019

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