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2016

POLICE-REPORTED HATE CRIME IN CANADA

INTRODUCTION

The infographic on the following page was created for internal briefing purposes by the Policy Research Group, Department of Canadian Heritage as it is a clear, effective and artistic way of presenting complex data, while keeping the attention of the viewer. It is a visual representation of data from Police-reported hate crime, 2016 released by Statistics Canada on November 28, 2017. The official release can be found here:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/171128/dq171128d-eng.htm>.

Canadian Heritage is committed to sharing its internal research products as a commitment to open research, one of the pillars of its Open Government Strategy. The Policy Research Group would appreciate your comments and feedback on this product. Please contact us at pch.groupe.recherchesurlespol-polresearchgroup.pch@canada.ca.

POLICE-REPORTED HATE CRIME IN CANADA - 2016

WHAT IS A HATE CRIME?

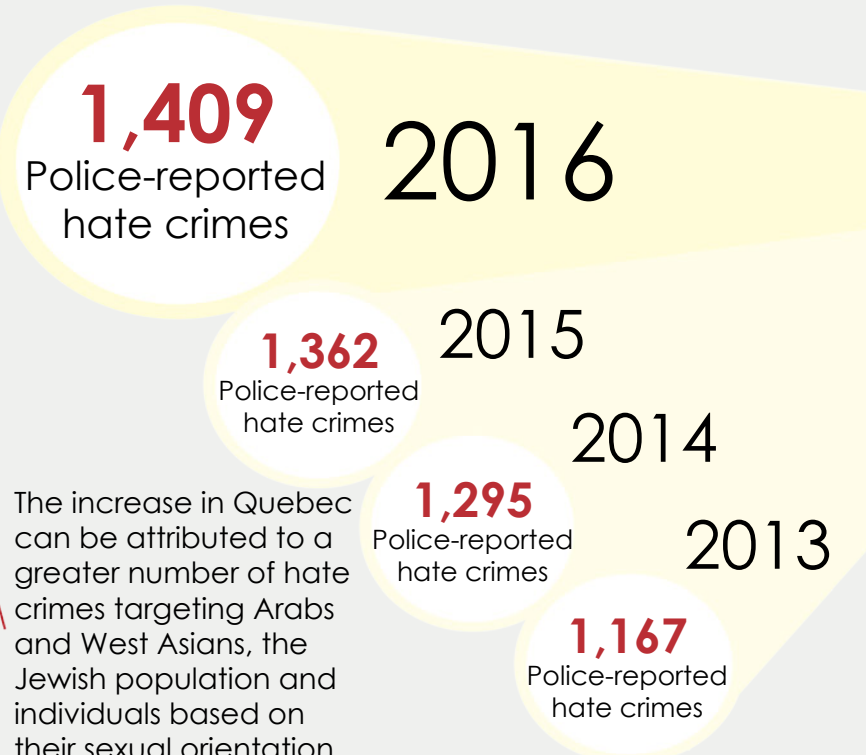
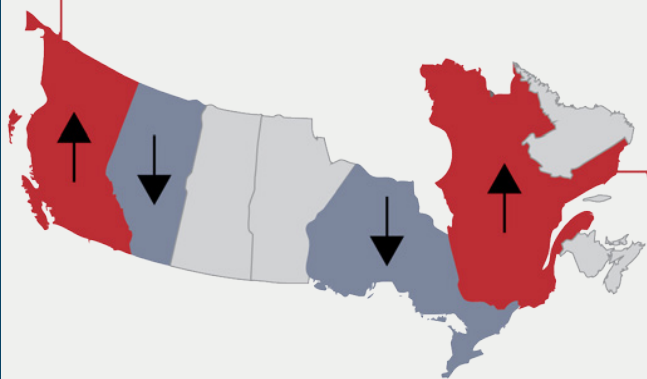
A hate crime is a criminal offence committed against a person or property, where there is evidence that the offence was motivated by hate, based on:

Gender identity
Language
Age
Sex
Religion
Race or Ethnicity
Disability
Sexual Orientation

HATE CRIMES IN CANADIAN PROVINCES

The number of police-reported hate crimes **increased** in Quebec and British Columbia and **decreased** in Ontario and Alberta between 2015 and 2016.

In British Columbia, crimes against the East or Southeast Asian and South Asian population, which doubled between 2015 and 2016 (from 15 to 32 and from 11 to 24 respectively) are attributed to this increase.



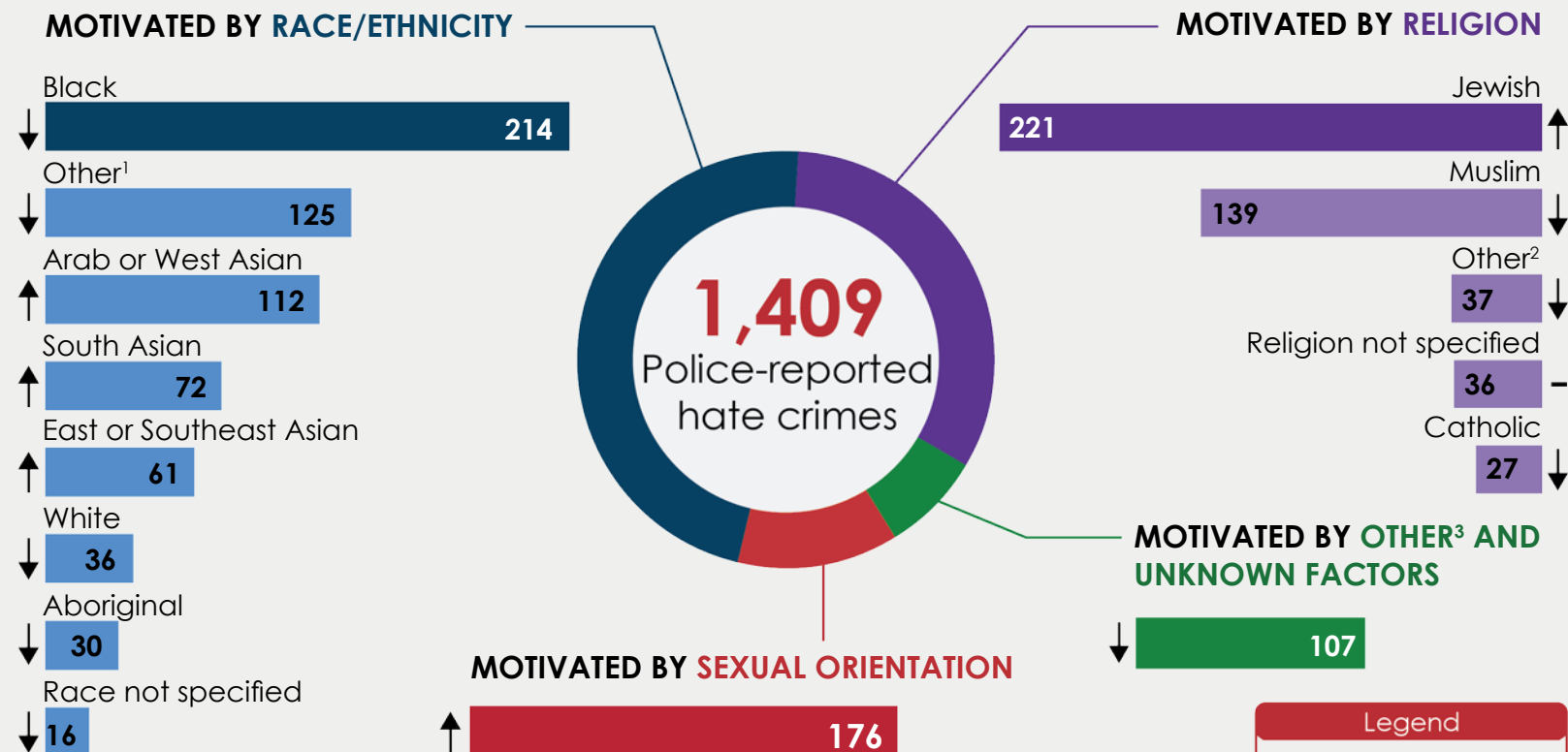
The increase in Quebec can be attributed to a greater number of hate crimes targeting Arabs and West Asians, the Jewish population and individuals based on their sexual orientation.

KEY FINDINGS

- In 2016, police reported 1,409 hate crimes, 47 more than in 2015. The **3% increase** in hate crimes was a result of more incidents targeting:
 - Jewish
 - Sexual Orientation
 - South Asians
 - Arabs or West Asians
- Following a notable increase in hate crimes against the **Muslim population** in 2015, police reported 20 fewer in 2016 for a total of 139.
- Hate crimes were **more violent** in 2016.
 - 43% of hate crimes were violent in 2016.
 - 38% of hate crimes were violent in 2015.

In 2016, 71% of hate crimes motivated by hatred of the victim's sexual orientation were violent crimes. By comparison, 27% of hate crimes targeting religion and 45% targeting race or ethnicity were violent.

POPULATIONS TARGETED



SOME IMPORTANT CAVEATS RELATED TO HATE CRIME DATA

METHODOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Reporting of hate crimes is sensitive to changes to **reporting practices** (awareness campaigns, initiatives).
The hate crime is classified by the **perception of the accused** (even if this perception is inaccurate), not by the victim's characteristics.



THE HATE CRIME REPORTING GAP

This infographic presents information on hate crimes that were reported to the police and therefore does not account for unreported crimes. According to the 2014 General Social Survey on Canadians' Safety (Victimization), approximately two-thirds of individuals who said they had been victims of hate-motivated incidents did not report the incidents to the police.

For more information on hate crime data, consult the online **Statistics Canada** November 28, 2017 Daily article.

1. Includes motivations based upon race or ethnicity not otherwise stated (e.g. Latin American, South American) as well as hate crimes which target more than one race or ethnic group.
2. Includes motivations based upon religions not otherwise stated (e.g. Sikh, Hindu, Buddhist).
3. Includes mental or physical disability, language, sex and other similar factors (e.g. occupation or political beliefs).